

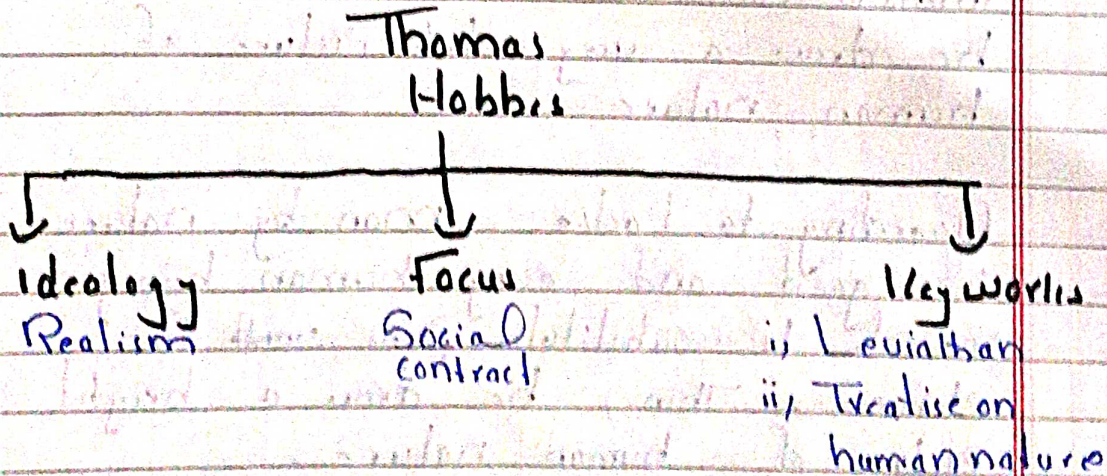
Q Compare and contrast different philosophies of Hobbes and Locke. How are these philosophies implemented in Present day Political system and Policy making?

Ans

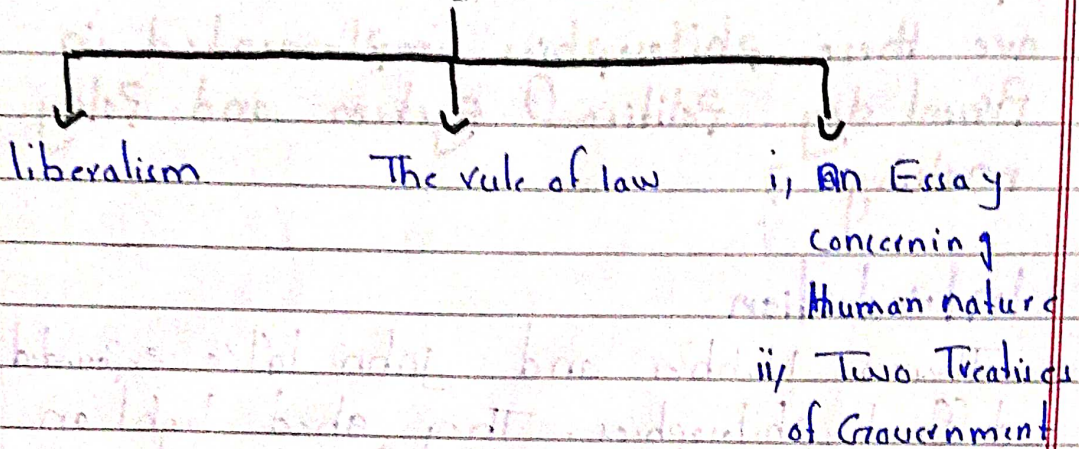
1) Introduction

Thomas Hobbes and John Locke expounded different philosophies. They shed light on human nature, state of nature, Social contract, and the purpose of government through different lens. However, there are some similarities between the views of these two philosopher. Furthermore, these philosophies have significantly influence contemporary politics and policy making.

2, Thomas Hobbes and John Locke in context



John Locke



3) Differences between the philosophies of Hobbes and Locke

a) State of

a) Human Nature

According to Hobbes, man is essentially selfish, self-seeking and fearful. He always wants to satisfy his own interests even at the cost of others. Thus, he drew a very dark picture of human nature.

According to Locke, man by nature is good and every human being wants to substitute pains with for pleasures. Thus, he drew a bright picture of human nature.

b, State of Nature

Hobbes describes the state of nature as a state of endless struggle and war. According to him, life in the state of nature was 'solitary', 'poor', 'nasty', 'brutish', and 'short'. Therefore, there was a need for a sovereign to handle this situation.

Locke describes the state of nature as one of peace, good will, and preservation. Wherein humans enjoyed perfect freedom within the limits imposed by nature.

c, Social Contract

According to Hobbes, in order to escape the brutish conditions of the state of nature, all men decided to enter into a contract in which they surrendered all their rights to a sovereign — an absolute sovereign.

According to Locke, people entered into an agreement to form a civil society. Unlike Hobbes, he states that man surrendered the

The government is responsible to secure the rights of life, liberty, and property.

d) Role of Government

Hobbes advocated for a strong and centralized government with absolute authority.

Locke's vision of government was fundamentally different. He argued for a limited government with separated powers and checks and balances.

4, Similarities between the philosophies of Hobbes and Locke

a) Both advocate value of law

Both philosophers believed in the importance of value of laws to maintain order and protect individual rights within a political society.

b) Both held that political society is established through a contract

Both Hobbes and Locke acknowledged the concept of the social contract.

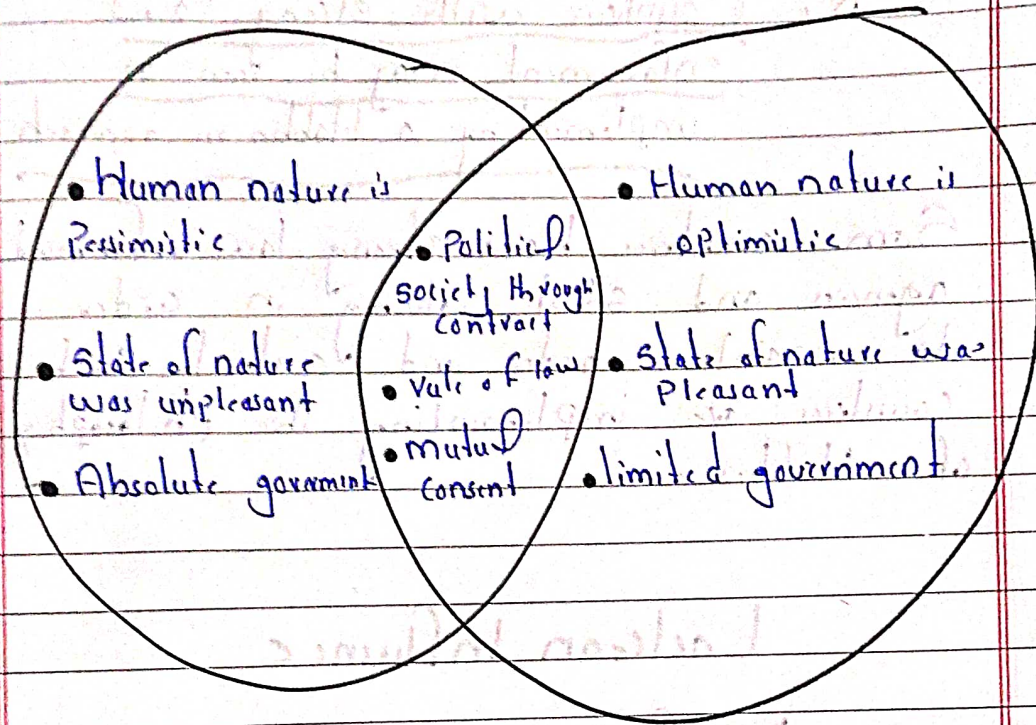
They both recognized that individuals in a state of nature come together to form a political society through contract.

c) Both argued that the contract was through mutual consent

Both Hobbes and Locke believed that the legitimacy of government rested on the consent of governed in some form.

Hobbes

Locke



5) Implications of these philosophies on Present-day Political Systems

Hobbesian influence

a) Authoritative regimes reflect the philosophies of Thomas Hobbes.

Countries like North Korea, where power is highly centralized, ~~government~~ follows the principles of Hobbes. In such countries, government's priority is often maintaining order and control over its citizens at the expense of individual freedom.

b, Countries with strong law enforcement may be seen as implementing a Hobbesian approach

Some countries have strong law enforcement agencies and strict policing in order to maintain order and control. Such countries are implementing the philosophy of Hobbes.

Lockean Influence

a, Liberal democracies are the manifestation of Lockean philosophy

Democratic countries such as Pakistan, UK, and USA are founded on Lockean principles. They have democratic systems based on limited government power through constitutional mechanisms.

b, System of checks and balances

In the United States, the separation of powers and along with checks and balances, reflects Lockean principles.

6) Implications of these philosophies on Present day Policy making

Hobbesian influence

During times of crises, countries often make policies based on Hobbesian. Though e.g. USA Patriot Act passed in the US after 9/11 attacks expanded government powers in the name of national security. Furthermore, operations like Zarb e Azab and Rad ul Fasad are also in Pakistan are also manifestation of such principles in order to maintain law and stability.

Lockean Influence

Many laws are passed and policies are made in democratic countries to safeguard the life, liberty and property of citizens reflect Lockean influence e.g. Article 8 to 28 in the constitution of Pakistan guarantees fundamental human rights.

7) Conclusion

In short, the philosophies presented by Hobbes and Locke have some similarities and differences. These philosophies have far-reaching impacts on present-day politics and policy making.

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