

- ① Critically analyze salient features of Plato's Republic. Do you think that some of its features are valid, even today?

Answer- Introduction

"Plato is dear,  
but truth is dearer."  
(Aristotle)

Plato described his ideal republic as justice republic. In fact, Plato explained his ideal republic in certain features that were criticized with some views. However, Plato's salient features of republic are even valid today.

## 2. Plato's Ideal Republic of Justice

"Justice is equal  
to all."

(Plato)



Plato described his ideal republic with concepts of two great philosophers. In fact, he compared ideas of his teachers, Socrates, and Cephalus with respect to justice.

"Justice is telling truth and is paying debt."

(Cephalus)

Socrates disagreed with the concept of Cephalus as:

"Justice is not to harm one's enemy and to profit one's friend."

(Socrates)

Therefore, Plato led to equal justice in his republic.

### 3- Salient features of Plato's Republic

Following are features:

#### a) Supremacy of justice

Plato gave supreme



many to justice. In fact, he advocated great justice in his republic.

"Justice is the root  
of the Republic."  
(-Plato)

Hence, Plato advocated just republic.

b) Division of society with the state

Moreover, Plato also supported division of society. According to him, society is divided into three classes.

"Every state has division  
of society as ruler  
class, as labor class,  
and guardian class  
of the state."  
(Plato)

Hence, Plato supported division of society as well.



### c) Specialization of nature of work

Plato described nature of work in his republic. In fact, he pointed particular work is associated with a particular person.

"Artisan class prepares

food for the state;

Rulers maintain

law within the state,

and

Guardians protect civilians

and the state."

(-Plato)

Therefore, Plato describe nature of working class.

### d) Non-interfering in republic

Further, Plato described non-interference concept in his republic. Plato explained separa-



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tion in working affairs of republic.

"All classes are independent in their working."  
(-Plato)

Thus, Plato promoted concept of non-interference in society.

e) Concept of absolutism in republic

Further, Plato told absolutism exist in republic.

In fact, powers remain in hands of the supreme authority.

"Rulers are as the wisest class in republic."  
(-Plato)

Therefore, Plato encouraged absolutism in his republic.

f) Quality of education for public  
Further more, Plato

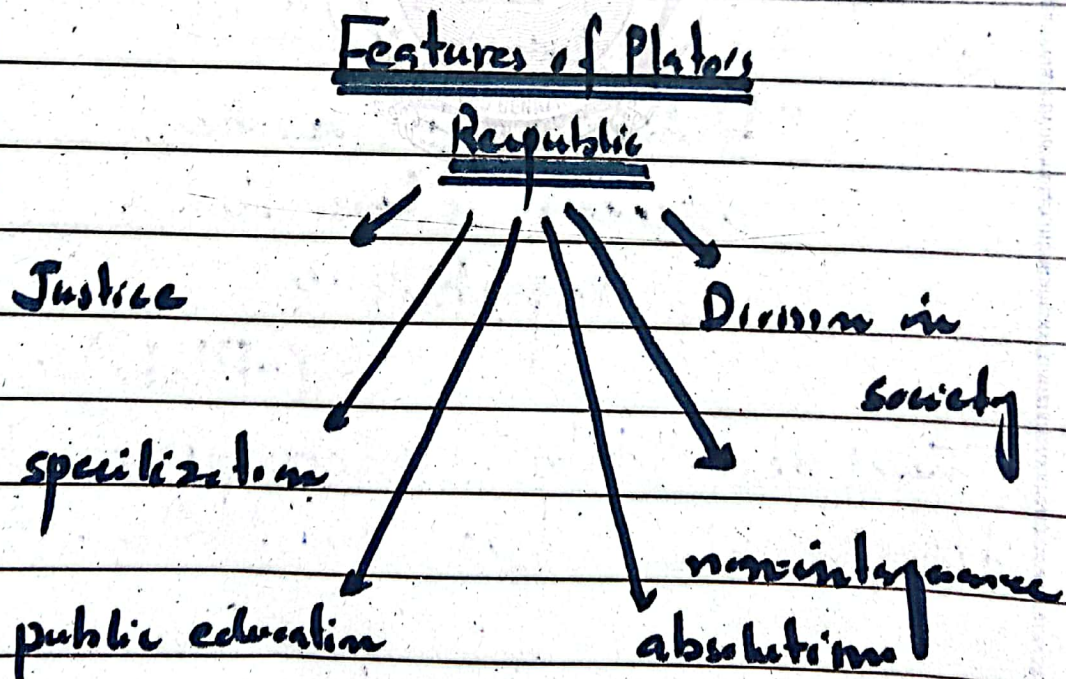


was a great proponent of public education. According to Plato, public education will maintain equal justice in republic.

"Public education should have preference over private in republic."

(- Plato)

Thus, Plato supported public education in his republic.





## h Criticism on Plato's republic

Following are criticisms

### a) Impossible division of society

Division of society is not possible in any republic. In fact, people are inter-dependence and inter-linked for their survival.

"Division of society makes back

growth in republic.

(- Aristotle)

Hence, division of society is impossible.

### b) Nature of specialization in work is impossible

Further, specialization in work is also impossible.

People are capable to perform all types of work in society.

"Working principles are varying time to time, place to place,



and people to people  
(- Hermonius)

Therefore, specialization of working  
is also impossible.

c) Non-interference in society does  
not exist

Further, non-interference  
in society is also impossible.  
People are more interfering  
in social affairs of society.

• Man is a social  
animal and is  
linked with one another.

(- Aristotle)

Therefore, non-interference in  
society never exist.

By the way, it is present day system of govt.

5- Features of Plato's Republic give its  
existing today. To country are  
existing features of Plato's  
republic today.

give its  
suggestions  
and taking  
hand.



a) Concept of justice in republic

Justice is also an essence of every republic even today. Without justice there is no stability of the state.

"Justice denied is  
republic denied."

(- Cicero)

Therefore, justice is even an important feature of the republic.

b) Public education in republic

Public education is also an important feature of republic today. In fact, all healthy republics promote norms of public education.

"Public education is  
an essence of the  
state."

(- Aristotle)

Hence, public education also



exist in the state today

↳ Conclusion

"Plato was the  
authority of every  
generation"

(-Murray)

Plato was a great  
advocator of ideal republic. In  
fact, he presented ideal of  
ideal justice republic with  
certain salient features. Some of  
features were criticized. But,  
some of features of Plato's republic  
are also existing even today.  
Therefore, Plato expressed ideal  
republic in his philosophy.