

# Compare and Contrast Jeffersonian and Jacksonian Democracy

## 1. Introduction:

Thomas Jefferson was the third President of U.S.A. He belonged to Virginia and was highly qualified. He was also a draftsman of Declaration of Independence of U.S.A. Moreover, he was also responsible for the Louisiana purchase. While Andrew Jackson was the seventh president of U.S.A. He belonged to South Carolina and was uneducated. His father died before his birth and spent life as an orphan. The era of Andrew Jackson is called 'The Era of Common Man'. Jackson and Jefferson both belonged to the Anti-Federalists party and Jackson was said to be a follower of Jefferson. Their way of democracy share some similarities and also have certain contrast. However both worked for the rights of common men.

Give a brief overview

## 2. Comparison between Jeffersonian and Jacksonian Democracy

### (a) Extension of Universal White Manhood Suffrage:

- According to Jefferson property requirement was a test of character every man should meet to gain the right of vote.
- Jackson, however, eliminated the requirement of property to acquire the right to vote.

### (b) Eligibility for Holding Public Office:

- Jefferson believed educated elites should rule. Education should be for all to prepare poorer individuals for public office.
- Jackson held the view that all men qualified should hold the office, position should be rotated.



For instance, Jackson himself jettisoned the people of his cabinet and introduced spoils system.

### (c) Nature of Presidential election:

- Jefferson believed President should be chosen by caucuses in some U.S. states)

• On the other hand, Jackson introduced nominating conventions.

### (d) Concepts of "Chosen Class"

- Yeoman (middle class farmers) were the only chosen class for Jefferson.

• Jackson widened the scope of chosen class. He included frontier farmers, labourers, mechanics in it.

### (e) Industrialization:

P.T.O

- Jefferson feared the consequences of industrialization

- Jackson accepted industrialization as essential for American economy. He introduced a number of tariffs and duties to benefit home industry.

#### (4) Point on 'National Bank'

Both Jefferson and Jackson were against the central bank of U.S.A. Jackson vetoed the resolution of creating second National Bank of America. He strongly held that the bank had failed to protect the interests of the common man and pledged to establish a uniformity currency in the country.

#### (5) Issue of Slaverys

- Jefferson was against slavery and called it evil. But, he himself owned slaves.

On the other hand, Jackson was not interested in the abolition of slavery.

## (h) Equality for Indians and Women:

Jefferson neither saw women or Indians as equal to white men.

Jackson disliked Indians. He forced Indians to migrate to Trans-Mississippi valley.

During his presidency of eight years thirty four treaties were concluded either to recognize them or force them to migrate.

However, he did not have any animosity towards women. In Eaton's affairs he completely supported Mrs Eaton.

## (i) Role of Education:

Jefferson emphasized the importance of education and necessity to hold the office.



- Jackson himself was uneducated so called education as unimportant. He said Economic progress was important for social mobility.

### (J) View regarding corporate charters:

- Jefferson granted corporate charters to favourite persons.
- Jackson believed that corporate charters should be available to all who chose to risk starting a business.

### (K) Religious Reforms:

- Jefferson was interested in proposing religious reforms.
- Jackson disagreed with religious reforms.

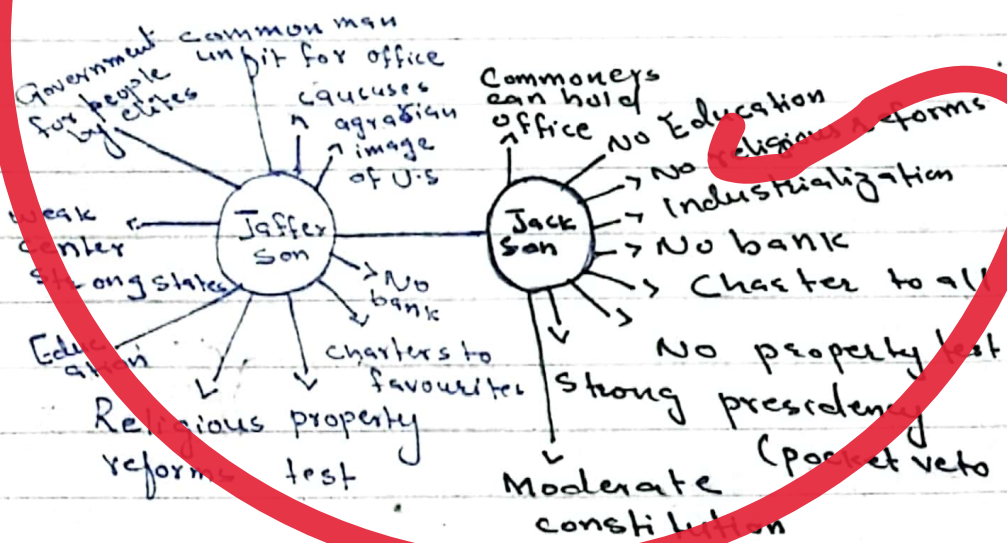
### (L) Support to common man:

A.T.O.

- Both Jefferson and Jackson supported common man and "Bill of Rights".
- The Jackson gave full freedom to press and speech.

"The great can protect themselves, but the poor and humble require the arm and shield of the law" - Andrew Jackson

Elaborate properly



"America is the world's best hope" - Thomas Jefferson

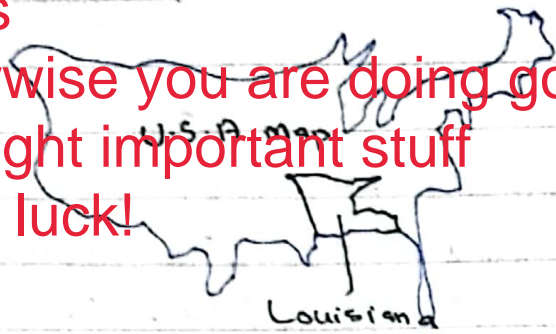
"My Presidency is the second American Revolution" Thomas Jefferson



### (m) Geographical expansion:

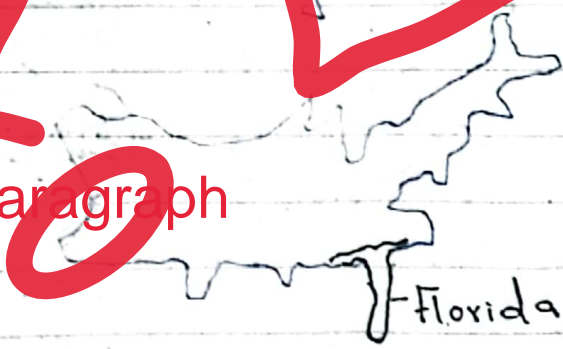
- Jefferson purchased Louisiana from France for 15 million dollars.

You have got potential  
You need to add references from books  
Otherwise you are doing good  
Highlight important stuff  
Good luck!



- Jackson also called for geographical expansion and defended manifest destiny.
- He acquired Florida from Spain in 1819 through Adams-Onís Treaty.

Add a paragraph here



### 3. Conclusion:

The names of President Jefferson and Jackson are taken in for the same breath and there is even Jefferson Jackson day celebrated by Democrats. They both had similar views and great similarities. However, they also had some difference. But, they were supporters of common men, their rights, and less government intervention in market.