

Q. 4 Compare and contrast the theories of government held by the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists (2022)

Ans:

1. Introduction

The two party system came after the end of Washington administration. The both parties supported different ideas. The federalists were in favour of the strong centralized government, whereas the Anti-federalists wanted the states to be more powerful. However, the policies that were adopted by the Federalists

had disappointed the people of Southern colonies. As a result of it, the new party (the Democratic-Republican) was started. It came into being with different aims and theories. Anti-federalist Govt gave favour to the common people and was in favour of agrarian system. So, the federalist government and anti-federalist government were two different part governments.

2- The Federalist Government

a- Background

It emerged out as the sole party of the country after the independence. The party was belonged to elite class people. It played a pivotal role in the independence of United States of America from Britain. However, the first three governments in the country

3- Anti-Federalist government

a- Background

The party appeared in Adams administration. It was advocating the rights of common. The party was led by Jefferson. It had different purposes and aims. Jefferson was of the view that common people should be given place in official posts, which were only held by elite people in the federalist government. However, the Anti-Federalists emerged out in opposition to the taxes of the federalist government. So, it was second party in the United States.

b- Powers of presidents

The Anti-Federalists party was against the president as a supreme power. The opinioned that it could misuse his powers.

like monarchs. Instead, they favoured the states to be given more powers.

c- Balance of power

Anti-Federalists party wanted the strong confederation. The people of southern colonies feared the exploitation of powers by the federalists, who advocated strong federal system. They argued that the strong federal government could act like monarch system of bygone British period. Government, in which intolerable laws were passed without their consent.

d- Establishment of Central Bank

The establishment of central bank was denounced by the federalist party. They stated that it would be dominated by the North. Besides, the resources of south, which they believed would come

in the exploitation of the Central Bank.

e- Currency System

Unlike the Federalist party, the Anti-Federalists stated that there should be own currency of every states.

They opposed single currency, saw it as an attempt of domination of the North.

f- The structure of Judiciary

The Anti-Federalists party threw down the gauntlet to the Federalist party against their structure of judiciary. The judiciary system of the country contained ~~several~~ had mostly judges of one side.

John Adams had seated his own judges to strengthen his party. So, this had earned in the strong criticism by the Anti-Federalists.

Federalists Anti-Federalists

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong President• Population based Congress• Common people not competent• Elite based Party• Central Bank• High tariffs• Opposed BOR• Judiciary power• Neutral in French issues | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong States• Based on equality• Powers to ^{people} common• The Party of common people• Diff. State currencies• Against High tariffs• Support BOR• Opposed Judiciary powers• Support to pro-French |
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Conclusion

So, the Federalist Party and the Anti-Federalist Party were two main and different parties in that time. The Federalist Party favoured strong federal government, strong president with veto power, advocate of central bank system and single currency of all states. In contrast, the Anti-Federalist Party was advocate of the powers be vested states, weak president, state banks and currencies. However, the Federalist government party was the party of highly educated and rich people, whereas the Anti-Federalist party was the party of common people and led by Jefferson.