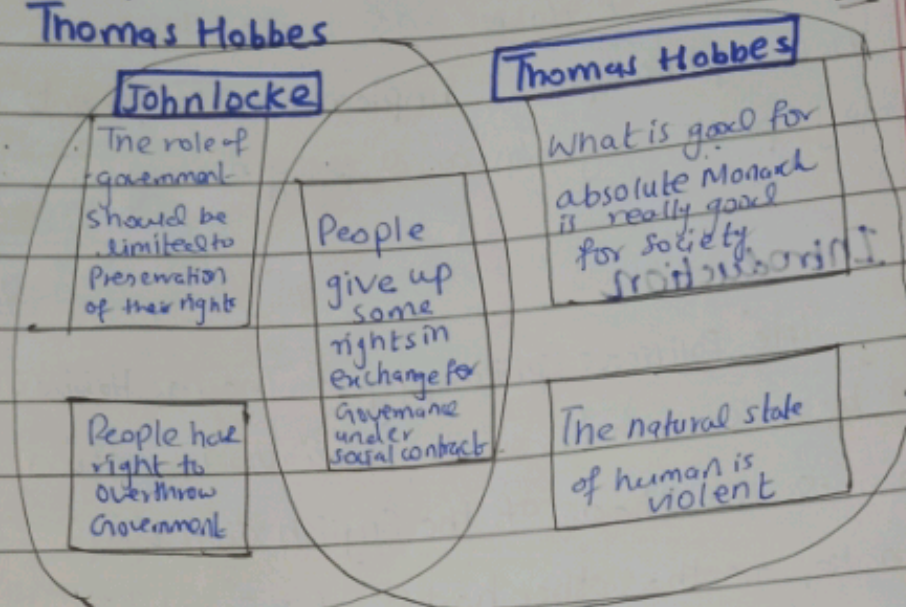


Date: _____ Day: _____
Q. Compare and contrast the different political philosophies of Hobbes and Locke. How are these philosophies implemented in present day political systems and policy making?

Introduction

The Political philosophy of Thomas Hobbes is best seen in his work *Leviathan*, written amidst the chaos of the English Civil War. Locke, on the other hand, laid out his political philosophy in his *Two Treatises on Government*, published in 1689, just after the Glorious Revolution, but written a few years earlier. Both the philosophers argue that Government is based on Social contract in which the people, desiring security for their property and their persons give up some of their liberties in return for the protection afforded by Government. There are differences in their theories of social contract including individual rights, role of Government and State of Nature. Both theories look towards the security of an individual as well as that of the state.

2) Comparison of John Locke and Thomas Hobbes



→ The similarity in the teachings of Thomas Hobbes and J. Locke

Thomas Hobbes and J. Locke were the famous philosophers of the theory of social contract. According to this theory, before the emergence of a state, people were in the natural state. They considered individuals as an essential elements and interpreted the state as a result of the social contract between the individuals, concluded to stop the natural state. Their theory of social contract is theory of nature of the state, not the theory of origin of state. T. Hobbes and J. Locke

human nature

Basic human Right

Soc Con

R

shared natural rights & civil liberties

→ The Differences in the Teachings of Thomas Hobbes and John Locke

	Hobbes	Locke
human nature	People are inherently evil and need to be protected from themselves with a government.	People are inherently good but corrupted by society -
Basic human Rights	Natural rights go only so far as if necessary for survival	All people are born equal and right to basic natural laws of life.
Social Contract	People give up some of their rights for Government protection of order.	Government offers services but the people have the right to change it if the government does not serve the people
Role of State	The state prevents chaos	The state protects a person's natural rights
Best type of Govt	Monarchy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Representative Government o Republic Democracy o Constitutional Monarchy

1- Views on Human Nature

John Locke and Thomas Hobbes have different views on human nature.

1a) Locke's Perspective on Human Nature

According to Locke, humans are born as blank slates, with no inherent knowledge or instincts. He believed that our experiences shape our understanding of the world, and that our ideas come from our senses. Locke's optimistic and liberal outlook emphasized individual freedom and the potential for a good society to produce good people. It is important to note that Locke rejected the idea that humans are limited by their nature.

1b) Hobbes Perspective on Human Nature

Thomas Hobbes, held a contrasting view on human nature. Unlike Locke, Hobbes believed that human nature is driven by self-interest and competition. Hobbes saw human beings as inherently selfish and prone to violence. Hobbes' cynical view led him to advocate for a strict monarchy, believing that a powerful ruler was

necessary to prevent society from descending into chaos.

2) Theory of Government

2a) Locke's theory of Government:

Locke's theory of government, also known as liberalism is based on the idea that humans are born as blank states and acquire knowledge through experience. According to Locke, individuals have certain fundamental rights, including life, liberty and property. According to Locke, individuals have certain fundamental rights, including life, liberty and property. These rights are inherent and cannot be taken away by governing authority.

2b) Hobbes theory of Government

Hobbes theory of Government, also known as "authoritarianism" presents a starkly different view of human nature and role of government. He argues that the natural state of humanity is "war of all against all" the only way to protect this chaotic state of affairs is through a powerful and absolute monarchy. Hobbes argues that by surrendering ruler with total control

3. Implication of Locke's philosophy:

John Locke laid the groundwork for liberal democracy, with its emphasis on representative governments. Locke's philosophy has had a profound impact on modern democratic societies, including constitutional frameworks, separation of powers, and the protection of individual rights.

3a) Countries operate on principles align with John Locke's philosophy:

The United States political system, with its representative democracy and respect for individual liberties, reflects Locke's emphasis on consent of governed and limited government. As his birthplace, the United Kingdom has historically been influenced by his ideas. Australia's legal system and political institutions emphasize democratic principles, including free and fair elections, rule of law. These countries demonstrate how elements of Locke's philosophy are reflected in their political system. While no country perfectly embodies Locke's idea, they serve as examples of nations that have incorporated

his principles into their governance structures.

4) Hobbes implication of philosophy

His work, particularly outlined in "Leviathan" argues for an absolute sovereign with extensive powers to keep society in check. While modern democracies may not adopt Hobbes' absolute monarchy, his ideas of importance of a centralized authority and the need for social order have influenced various political systems.

4a) Countries adhere to ideas of Hobbes:-

The totalitarian regime in North Korea, under the leadership of Kim dynasty, exercises strict control over all aspects of society.

While China has undergone significant economic reforms and has elements of state-led capitalism, the CCP maintains tight control over political power.

Under the leadership of Putin, Russia under the leadership has seen a consolidation of

powers in hands of President and the

ruuling elite. These examples illustrate

how authoritarian regimes exhibit

characteristics that aligns with hobbesian principles of centralized control and order.

5 Conclusion:

In a nutshell, both Locke and Hobbes explored the origins and nature of Government, they had different views on human nature, the social contract, the role of government and natural rights. Hobbes advocated for a strong, centralized government to maintain order, while Locke argued for a limited government to protect individual rights. Understanding their divergent theories is crucial for examining the foundations of modern political thought. However, it is essential to recognize that no country strictly adheres to the political philosophy of any single thinker, and political systems often incorporate a mix of various ideologies and principles.

Both theories of government are based on individual