

Pol-Science

DATE: ___/___/___

Q1: Critically Analyze the Salient Features of Plato's Republic. Do you think that some of its features are valid, even today?

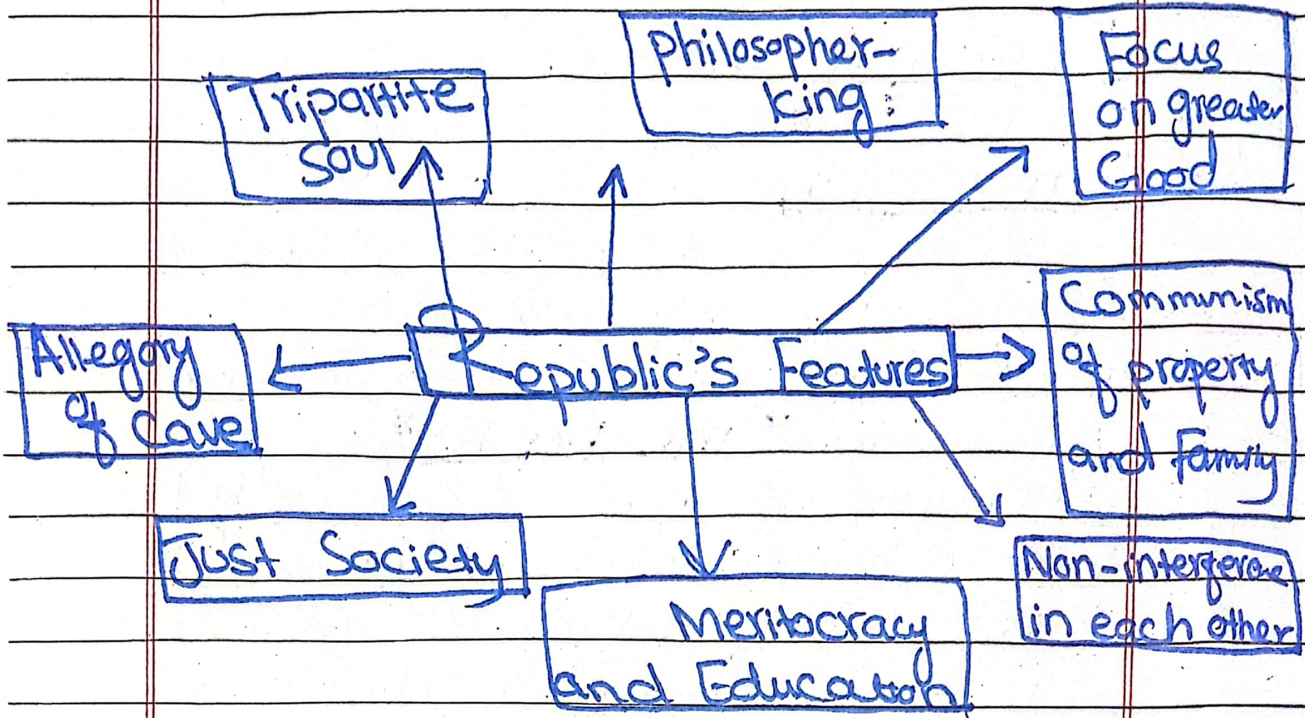
Answer

1- INTRODUCTION

Plato was the great philosopher of Greek. His contribution to the philosophy is commendable and among his works "The Republic" is the most famous and widely studied book. He emphasizes on the concept of justice, philosopher-king, tripartite soul, meritocracy and education etc, in this book, Republic. Moreover, these all concepts are the salient features of the Republic. Through his efforts, he presented the concept of an ideal state for a Greek city-state. However, his concept some ^{of these} concepts are even valid to the present day like the concept of philosopher-king is valid in the country Iran even today. Likewise, allegory of the cave depicts the understanding and enlightenment of the human mind. Hence, Plato's Republic is still alive among states in today's era.

2- Salient Features of Plato's Republic

There are some salient features of Plato's Republic.



(a) Philosopher-king

Plato considers the only person to create ^{just} and rule a society is the philosopher. He has the potential to bring prosperity in the state and to control the people under him. He says that the rule of philosopher is eradication of social evils.

(b) Tripartite soul

According to him, human mind is divided into three parts. Which includes, Reason, spirit and appetite. These are the three group existed in a state and the ruler would be -

the one who possesses the ability of king.

(C) Allegory of the cave

Plato uses the example of people in a cave in order to describe the process understanding and enlightenment. Moreover, it also focuses the characteristic of a philosopher that let him to rule the state.

(d) Just Society

His book mainly focused on the concept of justice. He considers justice is the important source of happiness and harmony in a society. He is the favour of justice for all and harm for none.

(e) Meritocracy and Education

His system of education was lengthy and based on merit. The intelligent can proceed studying until reach to be a ruler, and the dull can be a peasant or a warrior. Everyone can be given the jobs according to their capability and training.

(F) Communism of property and family

Plato was against of giving the guardian class the wealth and family. He counts them as the source of distraction for —

the rulers. Therefore, for an honest and dedicated ruler can be deprived of private wealth and family system.

(g) Focus on greater deed

Plato always ^{work} for the collective group rather than a single person. He, which is why in everywhere included all the section of the society. Many philosophers presented the concept of justice for individuals, so he rejected their theories and his theory he promotes the well-being of the whole society.

(h) Non-interference in each businesses

Plato says that the key of success is the harmony of a society. And the peace of society can be achieved when the all people work on their own business and don't interfere with other's work.

3- Implication of Plato's Republic in today's world

(i) Philosopher-king

In Iran the ruler of the state is a Supreme leader, he has been choosed on the base of his wisdom and knowledge. Therefore, this concept is valid today.

(ii) Tripartite soul

The physce of human on this sort of division is still relevant but that sort of dominancy of those three group is not existed. So, it is partially valid.

(iii) Allegory of cave

The concept of plato for explaining the struggle to reach the right distination through the allegory of Cave is still prevailing in the world.

(iv) Just society

Justice is the most prominent concept in today's world. Developed nations have achieved it but the developing world is still struggling.

(v) Meritocracy and Education

Although, the concept of plato's education is not implement exact same life his, but the importance and merit of education is very high. Competition and merit based society is more success today.

(vi) Communism of property and family

The feature of plato's Republic is not valid in today's world. Instead, the rulers ~~are~~ across the globe are so materialistic and own many properties. For this reason, this not valid in present time.

vii) Focus on greater good

This is valid even today because the world tries to bring equality on earth. Through, SDGs and many other collective benefits and well-being are being executed to avail good for all people.

iii) Non-interference in each other business

This implication of this feature is depend^{on} the country to country. Some countries are succeed to work separately and independently. On the other hand, some are not on the same pace.

4- Conclusion

To bring it all together, the Republic of plato is the mesmerising work. He presented about the good government and governance that leads to an ideal state. The features of Republic like philosopher-king, tripartite^{soul}, allegory of cave, communism of property and family and meritocracy and education etc are not all fully implicable in today's world but some of them valid completely and other are partially and remaining not valid. Due to the the great philosophy of plato the praises and attributes of plato is alive.