

READING COMPREHENSION

Democracy was invented as a device for reconciling government with liberty. It is clear that government is necessary if anything worthy to be called civilization is to exist, but all history shows that any set of men entrusted with power over another set will abuse their power if they can do so with impunity. Democracy is intended to make men's tenure of power temporary and dependent upon popular approval. In so far as it achieves this it prevents the worst abuses of power. The Second Triumvirate in Rome, when they wanted money with a view to fighting Brutus and Cassius, made a list of rich men and declared them public enemies, cut off their heads, and seized their property.

This sort of procedure is not possible in America and England at the present day. We owe the fact that it is not possible not only to democracy, but also to the doctrine of personal liberty. This doctrine, in practice, consists of two parts, on the one hand that a man shall not be punished except by due process of law, and on the other hand that there shall be a sphere within which a man's actions are not to be subject to governmental control. This sphere includes free speech, free press and religious freedom. It used to include freedom of economic enterprise. All these doctrines, of course, are held in practice with certain limitations. The British formerly did not adhere to them in their dealings with India. Freedom of the press is not respected in the case of doctrines which are thought dangerously subversive. Free speech would not be held to exonerate public advocacy of assassination of an unpopular politician.

In the history of social evolution, it will be found that almost invariably the establishment of some sort of government has come first and attempts to make government compatible with personal liberty have come later. In international affairs we have not yet reached the first stage, although it is now evident that international government is at least as important to mankind as national government.

Questions:

1. What is the difference between democracy and other forms of government?
2. What is not possible in America and England at present day? And why?
3. What are the elements of personal liberty?
4. Why did the British not adhere to the doctrine of personal liberty in their dealings with India?
5. Have we achieved personal liberty in international affairs? Give justification from the para.
6. Explain the meanings of the underlined words/phrases.

Date: 3-5-24

Comprehension

Day: _____

Question No. 1

Democracy ensures liberty while other forms of government do not talk about liberty of people. In addition, in democracy elected leaders are accountable for their actions and they are dependent on masses for power. Their tenure is also temporary in democracy. While in other forms of government stakeholders are not accountable for their actions and they have long tenure.

Question No. 2

At present for day in England and America no one has the right to

declare the richest people
malign and seize their
wealth for their national
interest. Because these both
are democratic countries.
In democratic countries
the leaders are accountable
for their actions and
they are dependent on people
for their citizens.

Question 3

The main element
of personal liberty is
that no one has the
right to declare someone
criminal and punish
him except due process
of law. Moreover, freedom
of speech, press, religion
and trade are also
elements of personal
liberty.

Question 4

Because in British the freedom of press and free speech were considered a deplorable act. According to them these both caused instability in the country and undermined popularity of politicians.

Questions 5

In international affairs people have not achieved liberty in true sense.

Because every country has given liberty to its citizens according to its own wishes is not considered real liberty.

- A- Impunity : Exemption from punishment.
- B. Popular Approval: A person, idea or action is well-liked by the general public.
- C Seized: To take hold of something suddenly and forcibly.
- D Subversive
Something that is seeking to subvert an established system.
- E Exonerate: To clear from blame for a fault or wrongdoing.
- G Invariably: Something occurs consistently.
- H Compatible with: Something that is harmonious.