

→ 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

### Thomas Hobbes

### John Locke's

1. Thomas Hobbes was an English philosopher.

2. He was greatly influenced by Machiavelli and the conditions of his country during his life time.

3. He saw the reigns of James 1<sup>st</sup>, Charles 1<sup>st</sup>, and Charles 2<sup>nd</sup>.

4. This was the most turbulent period of his country because there was a tussle between Parliament and the king for supremacy.

5. He also saw civil war in England.

6. He opens his theory Human nature.

1. John Locke's was an English philosopher

and Professor.

2. He was an active person of Whig Party which supported the parliament in the struggle for power.

3. During his life time he saw the Glorious Revolution 1688, which led to the growth of democracy.

4. He saw the Progression Period of England during his life time.

5. He opens his theory with human nature.

## → Similarities between Thomas Hobbes and

### John Locke's philosophies:

1. Both believe in the social contract theory.
2. Both recognize the importance of government in maintaining order.

### ⇒ Human Nature by Thomas Hobbes :-

Hobbes was basically pessimistic and he drew a very dark picture of human nature. According to him, man is essentially selfish, self-seeking, fearful, cunning and competitive to the point of combativeness. Man shows no sympathy towards his fellow beings. He always wants to satisfy his own interest even at the cost of others. Man is lust for power and he does not believe in others. He is emotional and is always led by emotions to take actions.

### ⇒ Human Nature by John Locke :-

John Locke's views on human nature have been expressed in his book "An Essay concerning Human Understanding" which was published in 1690. He takes a bright picture of human nature. He says that every human being wants to get rid of the pains. Hence, the object of all human action is to

Substitute pleasure for pain. Man has been endowed with the power of his reason which Locke termed as "The spark of divine nature". It includes man towards the sanctions of any government.

On the basis of these agreements, Locke says that man in the state of nature was social as well as rational. He is sympathetic towards his fellow beings. Man is capable of recognizing a moral order and he also knows how to live in such an order. He is cooperative and not driven by his emotions. In short, Locke presents a very bright picture of human being.

## Human Nature

### Thomas Hobbes

- ① Selfishness: Human prioritize personal interests over collective well-being.
- ② Competition: Innate desire for power, recognition and security drives conflict.
- ③ Equality: Humans are naturally equal, leading

### John Locke

- ① Rationality: Humans are ~~enjoyed~~ rational beings, capable of reasoning.
- ② Equality: Humans are born equal, with equal rights and freedoms.
- ③ Sociality: Humans are social creatures, inclined to live

## Thomas Hobbes

## John Locke

to competition and conflict in community.

④ Fear and Insecurity: Fundamental human emotions.

⑤ Reason: Secondary to emotion and instinct.

④ Self-Preservation: Humans seek to preserve themselves and their property.

⑤ Moral Agency: Humans have free will, accountable for their actions.

### → Nature of state by Thomas Hobbes:

Hobbes After describing a very dark picture of human nature, Hobbes describes the state of nature as a state of endless struggles and continuous war. In the state of nature, every man was the enemy of other and there was no common authority to check them. There were natural laws but those laws were written nowhere, and there was no single authority to enforce those laws. Every man was interpreting those laws according to his own interest. Man also enjoyed natural rights but actually those were natural powers. In the state of nature, no distinction was made between right and wrong or justice and injustice. In other words, might was right and life in the state of nature was solitary,

Poor, nasty, brutish and short.

→ State of Nature by John Locke :-

According to Locke, the state of nature has two characteristics. First, it is a state of "Perfect freedom" wherein men do as they choose within limits imposed by the law of nature. Second, it is a state of equality for its inhabitants. He says that original state of nature was one of peace, good will, mutual assistance and preservation. There was no jungle war of every man against other man. Life in the state of nature was not pre-social, it was rather pre-political. There was law of nature and under this law men were equal and possessed equal natural rights. The right included right of life, property and liberty. In the state of nature property was common in the sense that every man had the right to draw subsistence from whatever nature had to offer. In one sentence, Locke's state of nature was an ideal moral order.

## State of Nature

Thomas Hobbes

John Locke

④ Equality: All individuals

④ Right to Revolt: Citizens

## Thomas Hobbes

Possess equal strength, intelligence, and abilities.

### ② War of All Against All:-

Humans are in constant conflict, driven by self-interest, competition, and fear.

③ No central Authority:- Absence of a governing body or laws to regulate behavior.

④ No Property Rights:- Resources are scarce, and ownership is nonexistent.

⑤ No Morality:- No concept of right or wrong, just or unjust.

## John Locke

can overthrow tyrannical government.

② Voluntary Agreement:- Individuals consist to form a government.

### ③ Limited Government:-

Government's purpose is to protect natural rights.

### ④ Separation of Powers:-

Prevents abuse of power.

### ⑤ Protection of Natural

Rights:- Life, Liberty, and Property.

## ⇒ Social Contract by Thomas Hobbes :-

The conditions in the state of nature might have continued indefinitely except for two factors inherent in men, i.e. reason and fear of violent death. Man is reasonable and he can understand that unless they are willing to accept the discipline imposed upon them by a superior authority, their possessions and their very lives may be forfeit.

According to Hobbes, in order to escape and this ceaseless struggle, all men

decided to enter into a contract. Each man in this gathering uttered the following words.

"I authorize and give up my right of myself to this man or his assembly of men on conditions that thou give up your right to him or them and authorize all his actions in right manner."

According to Hobbes, this was the beginning of great Leviathan. In a nutshell, all men surrendered their rights to a person, and the person to whom the ~~rights~~ rights were surrendered became the sovereign an absolute sovereign.

→ **Social Contract by John Locke** :-

Locke says that in order to get rid of the state of nature, men make a contract to enter into civil society. This is a political contract because it establishes a civil society. Locke's contract is two folded. In first step, people establish a trust. People having formed a society must then institute a government. The government is the trustee of the people and it functions for them and responsible to them. It has obligations

to those who create it and for whom it acts as an agent. It was responsible to secure the rights of life, liberty and property. If it failed to secure these rights, it would be a breach of trust and would call for revolution.

### ⇒ How the Political Policies of Hobbes implemented in Present day Political Systems and Policymaking?

Thomas Hobbes' political policies, have significantly influenced present-day political systems and policymaking. His ideas on absolute authority, national security, and the social contract continue to shape governments worldwide, including Pakistan.

In Pakistan, Hobbes' policies are evident in the country's strong central government and emphasis on national security. The nation's constitution, adapted in 1973, grants considerable powers to the executive, reflecting Hobbes' idea of absolute authority. Pakistan's military, which has historically played a significant role in the country's politics, also embodies Hobbes' notion of a strong central authority maintaining



Law and orders, often at the expense of individual liberties, aligns with Hobbes' prioritization of security over personal freedoms.

Pakistan's foreign policy, particularly its relations with neighboring countries, reflects Hobbes' realist approach to international relations. The country's focus on national interest, sovereignty, and security in dealings with other nations resonates with Hobbes' views on the importance of state power and self-preservation.

However, critics argue that Pakistan's implementation of Hobbes' policies has led to authoritarianism, human rights abuses, and suppression of individual freedoms. The country's history of military rule and restrictions on civil liberties, such as freedom of speech and assembly, raise concerns about the balance between security and liberty.

The 18th Amendment to the constitution, passed in 2010, aimed to reduce the President's powers and increase parliamentary oversight, reflecting a shift towards a more Lockean approach to governance.

## ⇒ - How Political Policies of John Locke implemented in Present day Political Systems and Policymaking :-

John Locke's Political Policies have had a Profound impact on present-day Political Systems and Policymaking.

1. Constitutional Government.
2. Separation of Powers
3. Protection of Individual rights.
4. Consent of the Governed.

⇒

### Conclusion :-

The Political Philosophies of Thomas Hobbes and John Locke have had a Profound and lasting impact on modern politics.

Hobbes' emphasis on absolute authority, national security, and social contract has influenced authoritarian regimes, national security policies, and strong executive power. Locke's focus on individual rights, constitutional government, and the separation of powers has shaped liberal democracies, human rights laws and Policymaking. Hobbes ideas Prioritize security and order, Locke's emphasize individual liberties and democratic values.