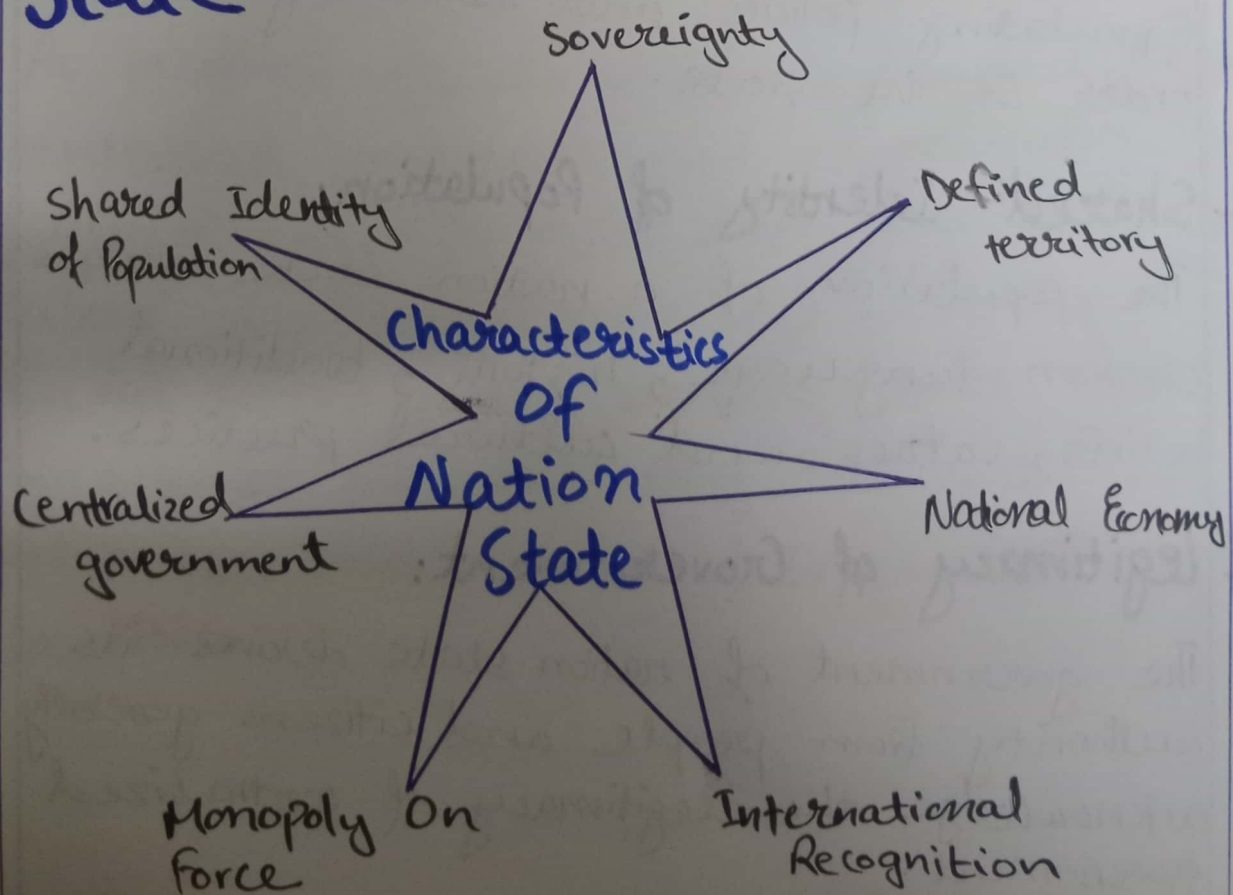


Discuss the development of nation state.

Explicating Nation State

Nation state is a political entity that is characterized by a defined territory, centralized government and nation which shares common national identity. The concept of nation state emerged in 17th century and developed gradually through industrial revolution, colonialism and globalization. Nationalism plays a key role in the formation of nation state.

1. Characteristics Of Nation State



i- Sovereignty:

One of the primary characteristics of a nation state is sovereignty. The state exercises full control over its territory and internal or external affairs without any intervention of external powers.

ii- Defined Territory:

A nation state has full recognized borders and geographical boundaries within which state exercises its full authority. This territory is associated with national identity.

iii- Centralized government:

A nation state has unified political system and ^{centralized} government which is responsible for formulating policies and maintaining law and order in the state.

iv- Shared Identity of Population:

The population of a nation state shares common language, history, traditional beliefs, values and cultural practices.

v- Legitimacy of Government:

The government of nation state derives its authority from people and citizens generally acknowledge the legitimacy of centralized government.

vi- International Recognition:

The nation state is recognized by other nation states and international organizations, legitimizing it as a sovereign state of the world.

vii- National Economy:

A nation state has its own economy which is handled by the government of state. The state formulates policies for budget, trade and taxation to stabilize national economy.

viii- Monopoly On Force:

The nation state authorizes its centralized government to use force, standing armies and administrative structure for maintaining law and order in state.

ix- Citizenship:

Another characteristic of nation state is citizenship. All the individuals living in state are known as "citizens" of state with certain rights and duties, often tied to their national identity.

2. Development Of Nation State

The ^{development of} nation state is driven by historical, social, political and economic forces. Following stages show development of nation state.

i. Treaty of Westphalia:

This treaty was signed in 1648 and is often cited as the "birth of nation state".

It ended "thirty years war" in Europe and introduced the principles of ~~modern~~ sovereignty of territories. This laid the foundation of modern statehood.

ii. Centralization of Power in Medieval:

As medieval feudal structures waned, the centralized monarchies and administrative systems began to take shape. Kings and rulers consolidated power by subduing feudal lords, creating standing armies and bureaucracies for establishing their control over entire territories instead of fragmented localities.

iii. Rise of Nationalism in Europe:

In 18th and 19th century, nationalism was fueled in Europe and it led toward creation of various nation states. Unification of Italy in 1861 and Unification of Germany in 1871 are examples in this regard.



iv. Industrial Revolution:

The industrial revolution of 19th century increased the necessity of centralized and efficient governments for managing ^{the} expanding economies. People became more integrated into national economy.

v. Colonialism and Imperialism:

The colonialism and imperialism initiated the independence movements in Asia, North Africa and various colonized territories in 19th and 20th century. This led toward creation of various nation states.

Figure : Formation Of Nation States In 19th, 20th Century



vi- Struggle for Modern Nation States In Contemporary Era :

Migration and globalization has also triggered struggle for modern nation states in contemporary era. For instance, Taiwan is a de facto independent state with its own government and economy.

Conclusion

Nation state is a political entity characterized by defined territory, centralized government, monopoly on use of force and national economy. The development of nation state is influenced by several historical, political and economic forces. Nationalism contributes to the struggle of modern nation states in contemporary era.