

Dated:

24/10/2024

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Thursday

Sociology

Short Note: (10 marks)

Q. Write down short note on the following:

### Communism:

Communism is a political and economic ideology that advocates for a classless society where all property and means of production are owned collectively, eliminating private ownerships. The primary goal is to establish a society where wealth and resources are distributed equally, ensuring that everyone's needs are met.

This concept was largely developed by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, who argued that capitalism leads to class struggles between the bourgeoisie (capital owners) and the proletariat (working class).

"Communism is the doctrine of the conditions of the liberation of the proletariat"

## I. State-Controlled Economy and Historical Rise of Communism:

In a communist society, the state controls and plans the economy, aiming to eradicate inequalities in wealth and power. Historically, communism gained prominence in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, particularly after the Russian Revolution in 1917 which led to the establishment of the Soviet Union. Other countries such as China, Cuba and Vietnam also adopted communist systems.

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## II. Key Aspects of Communism:

### 1. Classless Society:

A classless society is a key goal of Communism where all social classes are eliminated, ensuring that no group holds economic or political dominance over others. It aims to achieve equality by distributing resources and wealth collectively, removing class-based hierarchies.

"The working class in every country must first of all settle matters with its own bourgeoisie" - (Karl Marx)

### 2. Collective Ownership:

Collective ownership in Communism means that all property and resources are owned and managed by the community or the state, rather than by individuals. This system aims to eliminate private property to ensure equal distribution of wealth and resources.

"During the Great Leap Forward, China established People's Communes, where rural communities collectively owned land, tools and livestock"

(China People's Communes) (1958-1983)

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### 3. Abolition of Capitalism:

The abolition of Capitalism in Communism seeks to eliminate private ownership and profit-driven economies, replacing them with a system of collective ownership and planned production.

"The goal of socialism is Communism"  
(Vladimir Lenin)

### 4. Centralized Planning:

Centralized planning in Communism involves the government making all economic decisions, directing production and allocating resources to achieve societal goals and eliminate market inequalities.

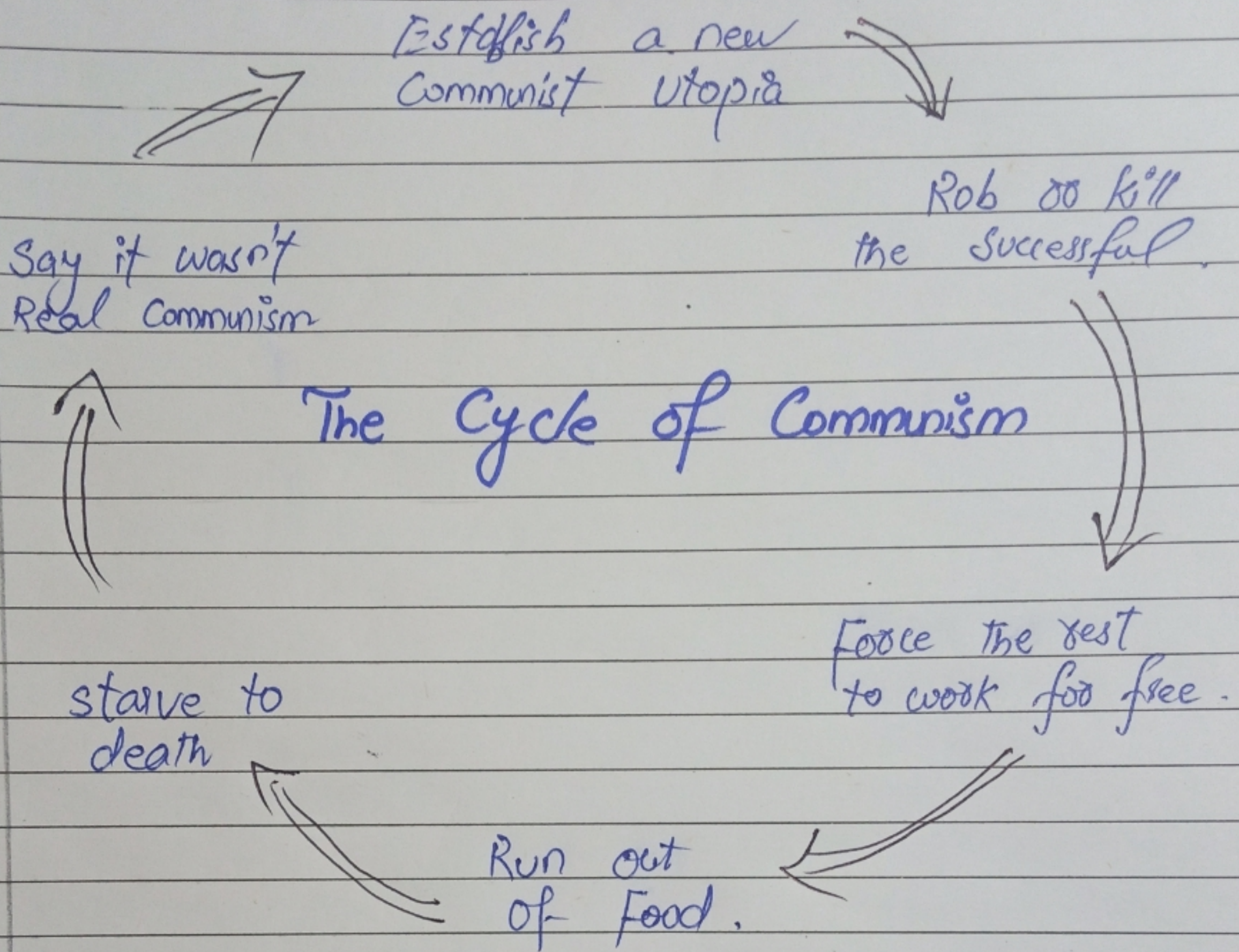
### 5. Focus on Equality:

The focus on equality in Communism aims to eradicate disparities in wealth, power and social status among individuals. By promoting collective ownership and state-controlled resources, the ideology strives to ensure that everyone has access to the same opportunities and basic needs, fostering a more just society.

"The people, and the people alone are the motive force in the making of world history"  
(Mao Zedong)

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### Concluding Thought :

Despite its ideals of equality, Communism has faced criticism for leading to authoritarian governance limited personal freedoms and economic inefficiencies while it has diminished in practice, the ideology still influences political thought and movements around the world.

