Essay:　AI : A Double-Edged Sword
　　　　　　for Democracy.

A. **Introduction:**
   a) Referring to '21 Lessons for the 21st Century' by Yoval Noah Harari.
   b) Relationship between AI and Democracy.
   c) Thesis statement.

B. **Changing dynamics of Political Ideologies from Past to Present with respect to AI.**
   a) Democracy from Past to Present.
   b) 'The Nexus' by Noah Harari.

C. **The Positive Impact of AI on Democracy.**
  1. Improving the flow of information.
   a) spreading awareness and flourishing democracy.
   b) AI for News Verification.
   c) 'The Nexus' by Noah Harari.
   d) Rakesh Dubbudu launched "tagore.ai"
  2. AI assits when dictatorial or autocratic regimes attempt to rig the elections.
   a) Imran Khan, PTI founder, published the Economist article.
   b) PTI re-recognized Bat symbol during February 8 Polls, 2024.
  3. AI and transparent elections.
   a) Modi's speech translated in 'Tamil' by an application i.e. 'Bhashini'.
   b) Imran Khan's audio clips generated from AI.
  4. Technology is giving voice to the voiceless.
   a) Quoting Senthil Nayagam, a startup founder based in Chennai.

b) 'All Eyes on Rafah' — An AI generated photo trend to speak against oppressive rulers.

c) Social media amplification — hashtages, online campaigns.

5. Surveillance and Censorship.
   a) london CCTV cameras use AI for crime prevention.
   b) 2020, Black Lives Matter protest in U.S. (AI drone system for maintaining law and order)
   c) Health Surveillance e.g. china during COVID.
   d) Curbing hate speech e.g Germany. the Network Enforcement Act (Net3DG)
   e) Combating corruption.

6. Enhance State's Security under New Technological warfare.
   a) Enhancing cybersecurity during elections
   b) US Department of Denfense (DOD)
   c) US 2020 Presidential Elections.

7. Improving Public Services.
   a) Estonia's e-Residency Programme.
   b) AI candidate 'Steve' in UK.

8. Fostering Civic Participation.
   a) Brazil's Porto Algre , over 44,000 citizens participated in budget decision in 2020.
   b) Denmark and Sweden voters turnout rates above 80% (Democracy Index)

D. The Negative Impact of AI on Democracy.
   1. Rise of digital dictatorship: Surveillance and Censorship.

a) The Infallable flow of information.

b) The Great wall of china

c) 'Silicon Curtain' — 'The Nexus' by Noah Harari.

2. **Empowering the Authoratarian Rulers.**

   a) Referring 'the Nexus' by Harari

   b) Authorative rulers dependence on AI.

   c) Rise of Populist Leaders e.g. Trump and Modi

3. **Deepfakes increases Political polarisation and undermines democracy.**

   a) UN Report

   b) Trump and Biden deepfakes (Biden robocalls during elections)

   c) Influencing voters choice

   d) Case study: BREXIT

4. **Misinformation and Propaganda.**

   a) WEF 'Global Risk Report', 2024.

   b) March 2024, South Korea President Yoon Sook Yeol Statement at the opening Summit for Democracy in seoul.

   c) 'The biggest threat of AI is hallucination', Said Dabbudu.

5. **Digital Repression.**

   a) Undermines Freedom, Equality and Fraternity of individuals.

   b) The FOTN; freedom on the Net report 2023.

6. **Technological Warfare.**

   a) Infringes human rights.

   b) Rising International conflicts

   c) Used by Bad actors for terrorism and extremism.

7. AI and Gender-Based Violence.
   a) Infringes women rights.
   b) Deepfakes of politicians damage their status.
   c) Pew Research study: 26% of women experience cyberstalking).

E. How AI can be used to Flourish Democracy?
   i) Regulatory Mechanisms and global policies.
   ii) Basic ingrediants of the sound democracy : transparency, rule of law, accountability, respect for human rights, equality, and inclusions.
   iii) Enhancing digital literacy, implementing stringent content modulation policies, and fostering the informed electoralion that can sift fact from friction.
   iv) Prioritizing robust data profeetim for citizens.

F. Conclusion.

Essay.

The world is hurtling towards an era where artificial intelligence is reshaping our reality. In democracies worldwide, a new age of political propaganda has been ushered in with the proliferation of AI-driven tools. **Yoval Noah Harari** in his famous book **'21 Lessons for the 21st Century'** had revealed the three major dangers that our Earth is facing right now. These are: Nuclear war, technological revolution, and climate change. He also explained that how democratic governance is becoming the victim of reversal and backsliding. Furthermore, the scientific and technological revolution in the shape of Infotech and Bio-tech are posing significant risks for the contemporary liberal democracies. Democracy cannot counter these risks. Here, the Hegel's philosophy can be perfect for such context. He was of the view that everything exist on the basis of its goodness and badness. Nothing can exist without its opposite qualities. Just like For Instance, just like a coin has two sides; artificial intelligence also has its two sides: the positive and the negative one. The new age of information technology in the form of artificial intelligence cannot only provide

benefits by its effective use, but also it can pose palpable challenges to democracy around the world, if it is used by wrong means. Thus, it can result in power concentration, erosion of privacy and disseminate misinformation and propaganda which undermines the very foundations of democracy. However, its positive use can benefit the whole humanity as it improves the flow of information, preserves the basic human rights, ensures transparent democratic elections, gives voice to the voiceless against the oppressive regimes etc. Moreover, the role of AI is reshaping the world. It creates huge inequalities among the developed and the developing world. Harari in his book surely stated that the 3rd world war would be on technological basis, not on the economic basis. Therefore, we are surely truely entering a new age where AI's impact can be found almost everywhere. It acts as a double-edged sword for democracy. The world where these technological advancements need to be celebrated, there is also a dark and malicious side of AI that needs to be watched carefully. Nations cannot, and should prohibit or ban AI, but this doesn't means that this Leviathan should be allowed to run amok. It must

be shackled. Hence, AI can serve as a double-edged Sword for democracy, offering transformative benefits while simultaneously posing significant risks. This may challenge the very foundations of democratic governance. The risks can be mitigated by its ethical use and proper regulatory mechanisms.