

# Niccolo Machiavelli.

Factors influence his thinking.

1- Conditions in Italy

2- Renaissance Movement:

Machiavelli

Born in Florence, Italy, on 11th, 3 May

Died on 21 June 1527

Notable work

1- The Prince

2- Discourses on Livy

## Introduction

~~Yes it is correct to~~

Niccolo Machiavelli was a citizen of all states and contemporary of all ages. This phrase statement reflect the various ideas of machiavelli regarding state and Politics. Citizens of all states refer to his idea about human nature, power and governance. Contemporary of all ages refer to his exploration of political realism, ethics in Politics and complexities in human behaviour. His ideas remain pretinent in all discussions of modern governance and strategy even in modern times.

## Machiavelli as modern thinker.

He was a modern thinker only in sense that he used certain new ideas which are symbolic of modern age. Some of them are discussed below.

- I. He rejected the idea of natural law and created his entire thinking basically on the nature of human being.
- II. He completely rejected the fundamentals placed by medieval thinkers. He considered state to provide security and peace to the people. He made the use of constructive method along with historical method. He separate ethics from politics.
- III. He supported the idea of national territorial state that was independent of pope.
- IV. He essentially mention to all those factors features of the state which were progressed during the next two or three centuries like state is a secular institution and church should



be sub-ordinate to it.

No need to write paragraphs in notes. Just use bullets

## Political Ideas of Machiavelli.

He was not a methodical political thinker, he uttered separate views in his work we can associate his ideas in a systematic manner and study them.

## Machiavelli on Human Nature (the Prince)

The various ideas of Machiavelli regarding human nature are as follows.

I. Human beings are very selfish, wicked and opportunists. Man is not social but anti social and tries to encourage his own interest everytime.

II. He says that men love their property than their kiths and kins, a person can readily pardon ~~and~~ the murder of his father than the seizure of his patrimony.

III. Most men are stupid and irrational, just like animals. Human beings are governed by emotions not by reasons.

iv - Man is ambitious by nature. Man desires everything but is unable to attain it, as his faculties being limited.

v. Man also desires liberty, man want to be free to lead their own lives and to follow their own inclination.

His description of human nature is wrong. Human beings all are not wicked.

They are neither completely good nor completely bad. He said that human beings are not reformed at all. Antisocial elements criminals can be mitigated.

## Machiavelli's State

Machiavelli's political writing less belong to political theory than to the class of diplomatic literature. His main subject matter is the cause of rise and decline of state and means by which statesman can make them permanent. Following are the nature of ideas of Machiavelli about the state.



- I. State is the highest form of human association which has to be created as the human beings are selfish, egoistic and ambitious but weak and fickle.
- II. State is not something natural to human being, it is an artificial creation.
- III. State was established to create and promote materials of prosperity to the people. The prosperity of people signifies the success or failure of the state.
- IV. A successful state was originated by single man and laws which were made by him replicates national character of state he favoured Monarchy and completely disliked Aristocracy.
- V. He classified state into two types.
  1. Normal and 2. Perverted. According to him normal state was the one in which citizens were faithful and law abiding. They were ready to safeguard their motherland because they have spirit of patriotism. In the perverted state above qualities would not be present.

## Suggestions to the prince for Retention of power.

His suggestions to the prince for the retention of powers are as follows.

- I- The prince should crushed all opposition to his authority with an ironhand and should make use of aggressive force.
- II- He holds that a thoughtful use of these device can avoid that need to force. He wants to rule to be both fox and lion.
- III- A good prince try to uphold peace in the country so that the people can lead a comfortable contended life.
- IV- Prince must try to uphold his popularity with the people and earn their love and affection.
- V The prince must maintain utmost secrecy in the conduct of state's affairs.
- VI- It is not important for prince to be honest always. The prince should



not mind in violating his promises for the good of the state

vii = The prince should not touch the property and women of his subjects, because people are very touchy about these things.

viii Prince should avoid the company of Praises because it effect his sense of judgement.

ix He should not have permanent friends and enemies

x The prince must collect information about strenghts of his enemy.

In addition to above he made number of other suggestions for statecraft.

He is the most universally reprobated figure in the history of political literature which are regularly followed in practice

Also discuss the power politics concept separately in detail

## Criticism:

Some of his contradictions and defects are here under:

- 1- There is contradiction about his hypothesis about the nature of human and reasons which monitor him as sketch in "Prince" and "Discourses". He said in the Prince, man is selfish fundamentally and not able to do good unless appreciative to do so. Whereas in Discourses, he said man are neither absolutely bad nor faultlessly good, human character is more complex. If we think that man is selfish it is very difficult to clarify how he works with others to form a state. He also prefer the republic form of government because it can work successfully if the people ready to sacrifice their selfish government because it can work successfully if the people ready to sacrifice their selfish ends for the upliftment of the society.



2- He gave unnecessary status to the sole of force in keeping people united. He did not estimate the importance of willing co-operation of the people forcing unity to work effectively in the state.

3- He is unable to recognize that <sup>the</sup> prince, as a human being may try to encourage his self interest at the cost of public interest.

MCCQs.

## Political Culture:

Political culture can be defined as the commonly shared goals and commonly accepted rules regarding government and politics.

According to Sidney Verba political culture is the system of empirical beliefs, expressive symbols and values which defines the situation in which political actions take place.

## Comparison and Contrast of the political <sup>culture</sup> system of USA and Pakistan.

The political <sup>cultures</sup> system of Pakistan and the United States are shaped by their unique history, social structures and values. Here's a detailed comparison and contrast.

### 1- Historical Context

#### United States.

- 1- Founded on principles of democracy



individual rights and freedom following the American revolution.

2- The constitution adopted in 1787 established a framework for democratic governance.

3- Civil rights movements have significantly influenced political culture, advocating for equality and justice.

### Pakistan:

1 Established in 1947 as a result of partition of British India primarily to create a separate state for Muslims.

2 Political culture has been shaped by period of military rule, political instability and conflict with India.

3- The struggle for democracy has been ongoing, leading to fluctuating governance between civilian and military rule.

## 2. Political Ideology:

### United States:

- 1- Emphasizes liberal democracy, capitalism and individualism.
- 2- Political discourse often centres on issues of freedom, rights and the role of government in economic regulation.
- 3- Major Political parties (Democrats and Republicans) reflect a spectrum of ideologies from liberal to conservative.

### Pakistan:

- 1- Influenced by a mix of Islamic principles and democratic ideals.
- 2- Political Parties often have strong ideological roots with some advocating for Islamic governance (e.g. Jamaat-e-Islami) and others promoting secular democracy (e.g. PPP).
- 3- The political landscape is marked by identity-based politics often revolving around ethnicity and religion.



### 3 Public Participation:

#### United States:

- 1- High level of political engagement with regular elections, voter participation and activism.
- 2- A strong civil society and numerous interest groups advocate for various causes.
- 3- Political campaigns are highly organized, with significant funding and media involvement.

#### Pakistan:

- 1- Voters turnout can vary significantly, influenced by factors like security, political awareness and access to information.
- 2- Civil society is active but faces challenges such as censorship and political repression.
- 3- Political mobilization often occurs through community and religious networks rather than formal organizations.

## 4- Role of Institutions.

### United States:

- 1- Strong emphasis on checks and balances among the executive, legislative and judicial branches
- 2- The rule of law is a cornerstone of political culture, with an independent judiciary making a key role.
- 3- Political institutions are generally stable and well defined.

### Pakistan:

- 1- Political institution often faced challenges related to corruption, inefficiency and interference from military and judiciary
- 2- The Judiciary has at time been a battleground between political forces and affecting its independence
- 3- Political parties may struggle with internal democracy and leadership issues

Add references/examples against these arguments



## 5- Media and Communication:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### United States:

- 1- A diverse and relatively free press that play a ~~crucial~~ crucial role in shaping public opinion and political discourse.
- 2- Social media has transformed political campaigning and engagement, allowing for real-time communication.

### Pakistan:

- 1- Media is vibrant but often faces censorship and pressure from the government and military.
- 2- Journalist may face threats for reporting on sensitive issues, impacting the overall freedom of the press.
- 3- Social media usage is growing, particularly among youth, influencing political conversations.

## 6- Social values and Attitudes:

### United States:

- 1- Strong emphasizes on individual

sights, freedom of expression and political pluralism.

- 2- Public opinion is diverse, reflecting varied perspectives on issues like healthcare, immigration and foreign policy.

### Pakistan:

- 1- Political attitudes are often shaped by religious and cultural values, with a strong emphasis on community and family.
- 2- Issues like gender equality, minority rights and social justice are increasingly becoming part of the political discourse but face resistance.

Add more arguments

### Conclusion:

The political culture of USA and Pakistan reflect their distinct historical, social and ideological contexts. The United States is characterized by strong traditions



Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

of democracy and individual rights. While Pakistan's political culture is influenced by its Islamic heritage, ongoing struggles for democratic governance and complex social dynamics. Understanding these differences help in appreciating each country's unique political landscape and the challenges they face.