

Q6. Examine the philosophical and practical differences between direct democracy and representative democracy. Which system offers a more effective means of ensuring political accountability and citizen participation in the modern world?

Q7. Examine the evolution of federalism as a political system. Discuss how federal structures contribute to

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Introduction

Direct democracy and Representative democracy are types of democracies with contrasting features. One type can be preferable over the other depending on certain factors like population size, land size and type of governance structure. For example, if the size of the land is large enough that it would be difficult to have vote of all the citizens regarding the law, then representative democracy is preferable. So, depending on such factors a country can decide which type of democracy they would prefer in terms of political accountability and citizen participation.

Difference between Direct Democracy and Representative Democracy

Philosophical Difference

Direct Democracy

⇒ People will directly vote for the implementation of law

⇒ People votes for the law

⇒ No intermediary involved

⇒ Confidence on people's choice is high.

Representative Democracy

⇒ People votes for a representative and then he will represent people's issues.

⇒ People votes for the representative

⇒ Intermediary in form of representative

⇒ Considers that general public might not be aware about technicalities of the laws.

Practically:

Direct Democracy

⇒

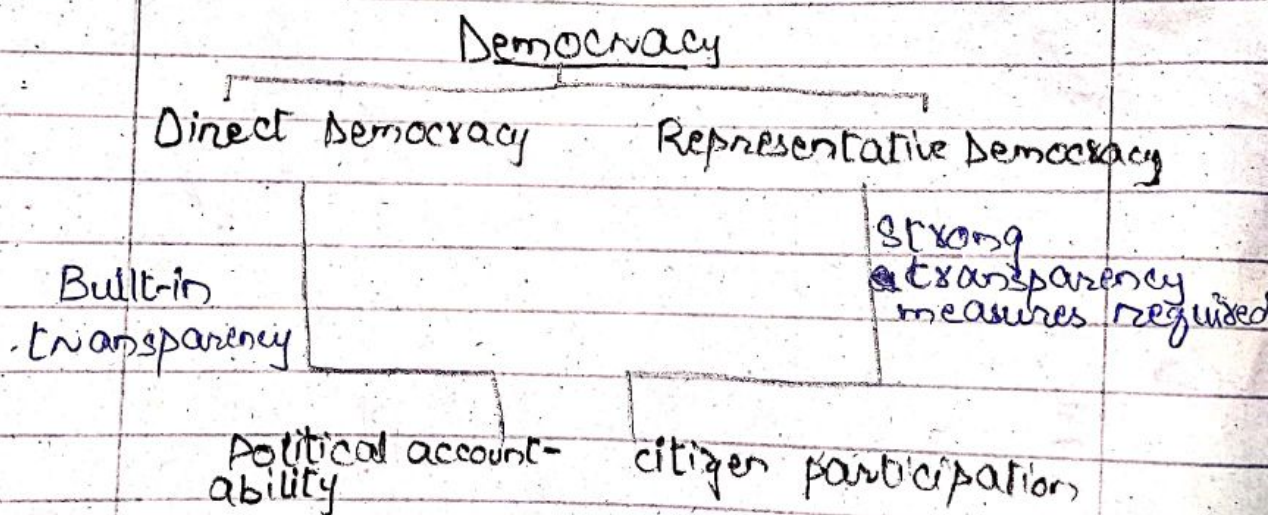
⇒ Only applicable when country size, population and such factors are manageable and less complicated.

Representative Democracy

⇒ Useful for larger and complex systems of countries.

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| ⇒ less costly and time taking | ⇒ Costly and time taking. |
| ⇒ It ensures public's say in law making | ⇒ corruption and elite dominance may hinder and suppress public interest. |
| ⇒ Accountability and transparency measures are not much required | ⇒ Strong accountability measures need to be adopted to ensure representative's integrity. |



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which system offers political accountability and public's participation. Both systems have its significance in ensuring accountability and public's participation. One system might be efficient under some factors while and conditions while other system may not be efficient under same conditions. Following are the factors and conditions that effects the efficiency of systems in different settings,

For Direct Democracy:

Population Size: The population size of a country is a crucial factor that determines type of system to be followed. For a country with smaller population size, direct democracy is favorable as it will ensure the accountability of political processes and citizen participation too.

Example: Switzerland's population is just 0.4% of total world population.

ation. & For such a small population direct democracy is preferable and this is the reason Switzerland uses direct democracy.

Smaller land size is payable:

Smaller land size ensures that land is manageable or not.

& When the land size is small then it is easy to manage the process of voting.

Applicable for Federation type

of political system: Federation

means that provinces or units will be subordinate to the

central government. Since all the & units will operate under one entity so ~~as~~ direct democracy can be applicable.

For Representative government

Applicable for larger population:

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Larger population means that not everyone someone may miss out in the voting process of law which will create chaos. So, representative democracy is suitable for such system populations. This will ensure that public participation is done adequately.

For example: India has a large population and so they have representative democracy. They have party representatives like Narendra Modi and Rahul Gandhi.

Suitable for large territories:
Large territories are difficult to manage and so the process of law voting will be immense challenging for the government. Hence, representative democracy is suitable to ensure that people voted for adequate representative who will put forth their issues to the government.

For example: Pakistan has 4 provinces which makes it easier ~~difficult~~ to manage only under representative democracy. Every province votes for the party of their choice.

Suitable for Confederation:
In confederation type of political system, the provinces or units are ~~a~~ autonomous bodies. This means all states will have own unique laws and process and culture. So, people will also have differing preferences and needs that is why representative democracy is suitable. ~~To save people~~

For example: US has 50 autonomous states and so they have representative democracy.

Representative Democracy for the modern world:

Representative democracy is suitable ~~for~~

in the modern world because of the complexity of the nature of state process, ~~constit~~ constitution, social issues, culture and other such factors.

But, certain measures need to be in place to ensure political accountability and citizen participation. The measures include transparent external auditing institutes to ensure the accountability of citizens representatives and to ensure that state revenues are invested at right place. For the ~~accoun~~ ensuring public participation, the election process should be free of corruption.

Application of Thomas Hobbes's Theory: Thomas Hobbes was a British philosopher. He gave the concept ruler and state public. As per Thomas, people without a ruler or a representative will spread chaos,

as people are selfish when it comes to securing or owning the minimum resources. This implies that there should be a representative who will speak about people's issues on their behalf. and

Conclusion:

Direct democracy and representative democracy are two distinctive forms of democracy with their advantages and limitations. Depending on certain factors like population size, land size etc, the democracy type will be chosen. To ensure accountability and public participation. In the modern world, public participation, the complexity of the political system and other factors renders only representative democracy to be applicable. While, the political accountability and public participation can be ensured

by systems of check and balance
on the representative and
political processes.