

Is it correct to say that Machiavelli was an apostle of Power Politics?

## Introduction

It is said that Machiavelli was an apostle of Power Politics and it is true. Machiavelli gave the theories of state and nature of humans. In these theories, Niccolo Machiavelli also suggested some methods to govern a state. He advised some measures to ruler, king or prince to run the state by using his own power. He is the first person in his time who separated the religion from state. According to his views, the prince should not depend on Divine Right, instead he should <sup>rely on</sup> use his own power. Niccolo Machiavelli also suggested that Pope would also not take part in the matters of state. He gave numerous tips and tricks to Prince how to run a state. He is also given a title. Due to his intense theory on state, it is correct to say that Machiavelli was an apostle of Power Politics.

## Niccolo Machiavelli's Power Politics

Niccolo Machiavelli defined or explained many theories and one of them is theory on state. According to him, state is end and "Ends justify means". He said that man was nothing without state. State became first and man became latter. He is very possessive about state and according to him, state is everything. He said that man was naturally selfish and man loves more state than by his family. State is a platform that

keeps men connected and integrated. A state is run by the ruler namely Prince and he should have power and potential to run the matters of state wisely and carefully according to Niccolò Machiavelli. He must be able to govern the state with his own power rather than Divine Right or with the help of Pope. The prince should be brave and encourage to deal with the people of state. He must have wisdom and rational to know about the state. Niccolò Machiavelli gave numerous suggestions to Prince in his theory which are discussed as given below which shows that he is an apostle of Power Politics.

### i Crush opponents

Niccolò Machiavelli favoured monarchy because according to his views, Prince is everything for state and he has ability to run the state correctly. For this purpose, he advised Prince to crush all his opponents so that he has keep authority throughout the state. If there are opponents of Prince live in state, then Prince may not run state in good manners because he feel the threat of opponents. and may not mange time accordingly. So, in this way he may lost his power.

use elaborate and self explanatory headings.

### ii Make army

Niccolò Machiavelli suggested to make a comprehensive army because there are also chances of external threat to state. He said that Prince should make army consists of persons that belongs to his own state, because they will be loyal and affectionate

with the Prince and state. The army cannot consist of foreign mercenaries because they will not fight ~~enthusiastically~~ and may share the secret of state with another else. The purpose to build an army is to keep power and authority in state and it shows Power Politics.

### iii Prince should be seen as a religious person

Niccolo Machiavelli advised that the Prince of the state should be seen a religious person in front of people of state in order to increase his power among these people. When people see Prince as a religious person, he will respect him and in this way the power of the Prince will increase ultimately. Machiavelli, on the other side, said that the Prince should not adopt any kind of religion. In fact, he should not pay attention to religion. But, he may use religion as a tool in the matters of state for his power.

### iv Prince behave like lion and fox

Nicolo Machiavelli suggested Prince, ruler of state, to behave and act like lion and fox. Prince should be brave like lion so that he <sup>may</sup> use his power in an appropriate manner. Also, the Prince should be cunning and active like fox in order to keep an eye on the matters of state. Both these methods are suggested by Machiavelli to increase power of Prince.

add sayings of machiavelli as references against these arguments.

## v Prince should be feared and <sup>love/</sup> respected by people.

Prince may have abilities such that people should respect him and they also feel threat from him. Prince should create strong fear among people so that they cannot consider him a granted person. It is necessary that people feel threat or fear of king so that anyone cannot take action against him. On the other side, Prince should also have potential that people love him. In this way, people respect Prince and cannot conspire against him. The sense of fear and love is obligatory to increase power in accordance with Niccolo Machiavelli.

## vi Keep an eye on the matters and affairs of state

Niccolo Machiavelli said that Prince should keep an eye on the matters of state. According to Machiavelli, state is end. Therefore, Prince should remain alert on the affairs of state to know about everything in the state. It would be done because it is necessary to increase power and this is a unique method to increase power in terms of Power Politics.

## vii Boundary of state enhanced

Niccolo Machiavelli advised that boundary of the state continue to increase. This perspective will be useful because power of the Prince will be enhanced with respect to territory. The more land on which Prince rules, the more power he has. So, it is absolutely

good to increase the boundary of state because if a Prince of a specific state cannot do it, then other Prince of another state may increase boundary and it is not benefited for the first one. The Prince have chances to increase power by increasing boundary of state.

### viii Prince should use his own power

In the time of Machiavelli, there was a trend of Divine Right and the rule of Pope in a state. But Machiavelli thought distinctively, so he suggested Prince to use his own power to run the state rather than Divine Right. It shows that Machiavelli was in favour of monarchy. Hence, power of Prince will be increased by adopting his own skills and power. It is a clear message of Power Politics.

### ix Prince have not permanent friends and enemies

Prince of the state should not have permanent friends and enemies. According to Machiavelli, friends and enemies are dangerous to power of Prince. So, he would avoid this habit. As friends know everything about a life other friends like secret, plans etc. So, if any friend reveal a secret or plan of Prince, it may not benefit Prince. On the other side, enemies are also not suitable for Prince.

Enemies want to destroy a person's life. Hence, they have a potential to ruin the power of Prince. Niccolò Machiavelli advised Prince to avoid permanent friendship and opponents due

to these threats. To keep a power, Prince should avoid to make permanent friends and enemies.

#### x Prince do everything for the sake of state

Niccolò Machiavelli gave theory of human nature and according to him man is selfish. In another theory, he advised ruler namely Prince to maintain and increase power in the state. So, Prince <sup>can</sup> do everything for the sake of his power and state. Even, he <sup>can</sup> uses selfish interest to gain power. Everything is suitable and possible for Prince in order to boost his power according to desired level in view of Niccolò Machiavelli. So, it shows that power keeps a too much importance for any ruler and Power Politics is a useful method to enhance power.

add more arguments.

**Conclusion** 20 marks answer should have around 15 arguments.

Niccolò Machiavelli was not a political person but he gave numerous ideas and principles in the perspective of politics. In modern era, many politicians and others are using his techniques to gain power. In his theory, he clearly explained the terms and conditions to govern a state. According to him, power was required to run the affairs of state. Machiavelli considered that everything was possible appropriate to get power and Prince would be strong and brave so that he used his power in good manners.

His theory and suggestions shows that Machiavelli was favourable to power. He encouraged ruler to manage power by all means. As Niccolò

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improve the references, paper presentation and the headings quality part.