

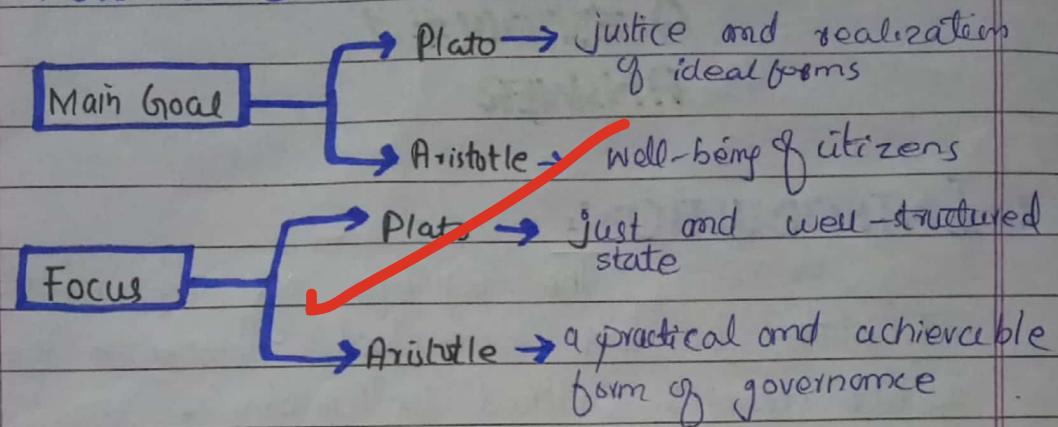
## QUESTION # 1 ANSWER

### 1. INTRODUCTION:

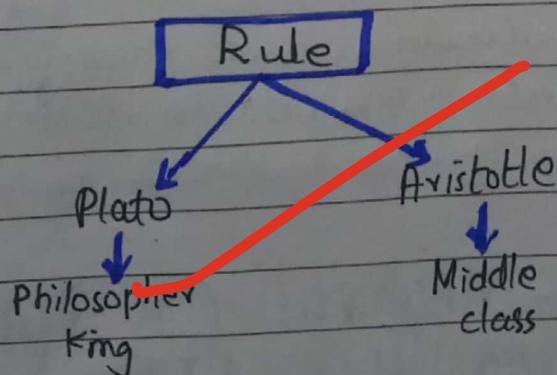
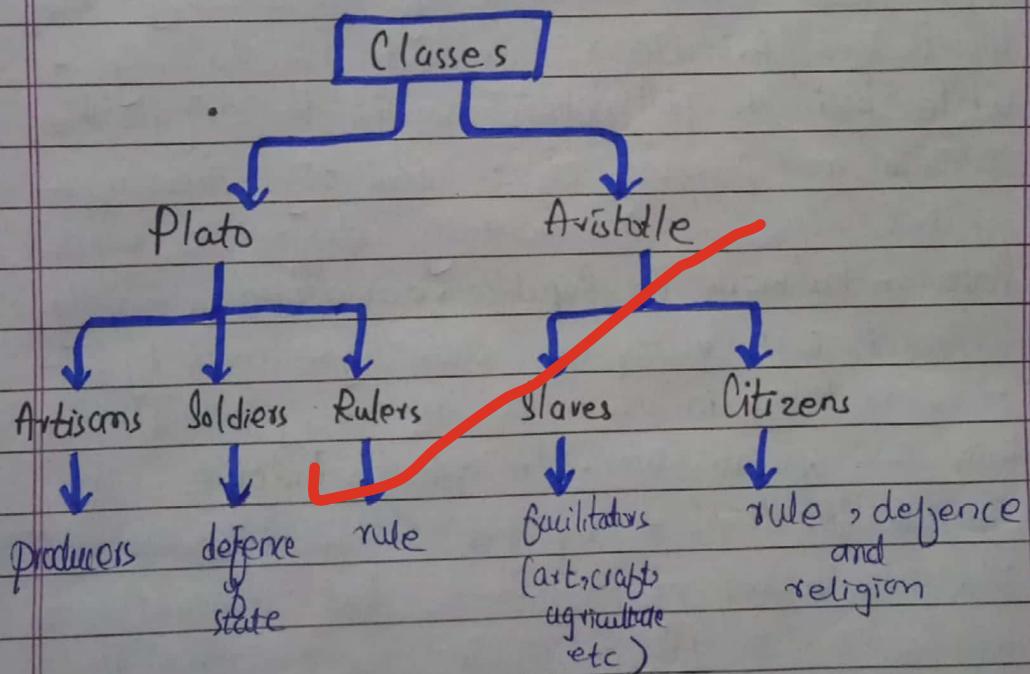
The concept of an ideal city-state has been a central theme in the ancient Greek's political philosophy, most notably in the works of Plato and Aristotle. Plato was the first philosopher to introduce the concept of ideal city-state. His student (Aristotle) followed his legacy. While both the philosophers sought to define the structure and purpose of an ideal city, their approaches reflect fundamentally different views. Plato, in his work *The Republic*, envisioned a highly structured and utopian state governed by philosopher kings in order to achieve justice through unity and specialization. In contrast, Aristotle, in his book 'Politics', proposed a balanced and attainable model of governance that emphasizes the role of middle class, private property, and the moral development of citizens. Purpose and structure of ideal state, education, private property and family, democratic views, basis for division of society etc are the differences highlighted through comparative analysis.

### 2. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PLATO'S AND ARISTOTLE'S IDEAL CITY-STATE:

## (i) PURPOSE OF THE CITY-STATE:



## (ii) STRUCTURE OF STATE:



try to give the essence of the differences in the heading.

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### (iii) Private Property & Family:

Plato gave his communism of property and family. He abolished the private property and family concept for upper class (soldiers and rulers) but retained it for the lower class (artisans).

On contrary, Aristotle considered the ownership of private property as essential for personal freedom and responsibility. He also supported the idea of private family life strongly and saw Plato's idea as unnatural.

### (iv) Education:

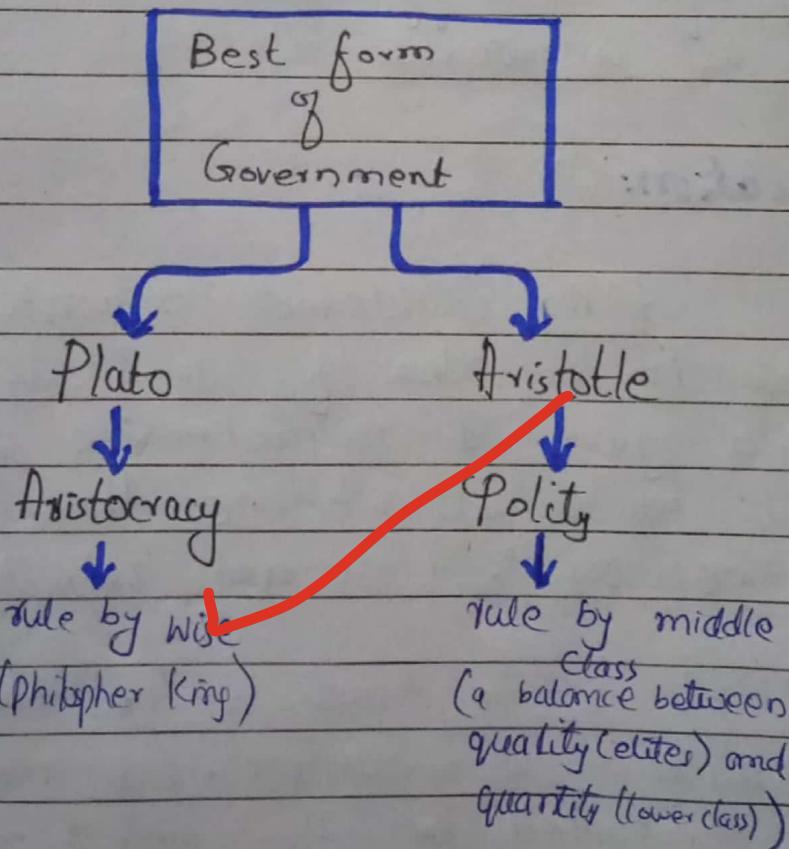
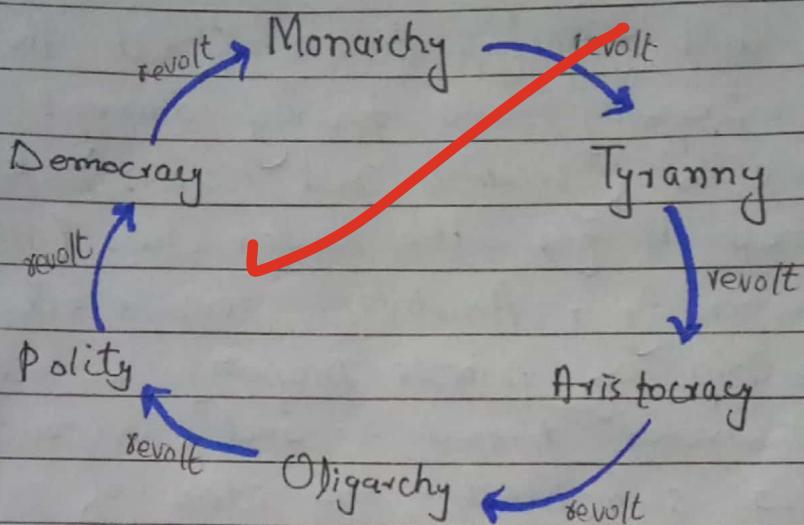
Plato considered education central to the idea of ideal city-state. He also gave a comprehensive state owned educational scheme that will determine one's class and role in the state.

On the other hand, Aristotle said that education is important, but man should be guided by the aim of moral and civic virtue.

### (v) Forms Of Government:

Plato gave the only form of government called Aristocracy (rule by the wise).

While Aristotle gave a classification of different forms of government in Aristotle Cycle :



## (vi) VIEWS ON DEMOCRACY:

Both criticized the Greek Democracy. Plato emphasized and justified the rule of wise instead of ignorant masses.

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Aristotle considered democracy as worst form of government. He declared democracy ruled by ignorant masses as mobocracy.

### (vii) Views On Gender Equality:

Plato's principles of ideal state applied to both genders equally. He ensured the equal participation of both genders in all classes of state through his education scheme. In contrast, Aristotle showed discrimination on gender and racial basis. For example: He gave the right of education to men only. Later, Aristotle's strong influence became one of the reasons why women in West struggled to get their due rights.

### (viii) Basis Of Division Of Society:

Plato's division of society was based on three factors: Hunger, Courage and Wisdom. He believed that in every human, one of these three factors is dominant. So, he divide the society into classes; citizens having hunger as a dominant factor, soldiers having courage dominant and rulers with wisdom as a dominant factor.

Unlike Plato, Aristotle divided the society into two classes; slaves and citizens. He supports his division of classes by considering slaves as natural institution. He says that "some are born to rule and some are born to be ruled."

### (ix) MERITOCRACY:

Plato strongly believed in meritocracy. He believed in the "tripartite soul" and assigned tasks to people based on their natural qualities. According to Plato, rulers should be based on their ability, wisdom and excellence, not birth or wealth. But Aristotle excluded women, slaves and non-citizens from politics, so meritocracy applied only within a limited group.

### (x) RULE OF LAW:

Plato preferred rule of king to rule of law. He says:

"Until philosophers are kings--- cities will have no rest from evils."

On the other hand, Aristotle favoured the rule of law.

### (xi) POPULATION:

Plato suggests that the population of an ideal state can be 5040 citizens (excluding women, children, slaves). While Aristotle says that population should be moderate, ranging (between) from 15k to 100k.

### (ii) TERRITORY:

Both agreed on the limited size of territory. Plato said that it should be limited, self-sufficient and manageable, so, rulers can know the people and maintain justice. However, Aristotle believed that too large state becomes difficult to manage and too small state lacks resources and security. He supported a territory that is manageable and easily overseen. "It should be of a size that is easily surveyed."

### (iii) LOCATION:

Both supported the idea that state should not be landlocked. It should be near to a sea but at a defensible distance and in a good climate region.

### (iv) PHILOSOPHICAL APPROACH:

Plato used idealism while Aristotle used realism to give the concept of ideal state.

### 3. CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Aspect	Plato	Aristotle
Ideal state	Too utopian and authoritarian	ethically flawed and socially limited
On Democracy	Strongly opposed	failed to support equal political rights
On class	Rigid and unchangeable	flexible but limited participation
On Freedom	Suppresses individual freedom	Allows, but not for all
On Education	too lengthy	prefers ethics and virtue more

improve the headings quality.

### 4. CONCLUSION:

Although, the works of the two philosophers and their differences in opinions were criticized, it remains an irrefutable fact that their contributions to ideal city state not only provided basis for existing city states but also paved the way for foundation of modern political states.

good structure and arguments.