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Q: Throw light on the Aristotle's Theory of ~~State~~ Constitution

@ Introduction:-

Aristotle ~~was~~, a Greek philosopher known as one of the influential thinkers in the western history. He was the student of Plato and ^{later} become the tutor of Alexander the great. Aristotle was really disturbed by instability and frequent changes in the government.

Therefore he sought to create a new model ~~govt.~~ constitution that would ensure political stability and good governance.

Aristotle emphasized on empirical observation and argued that the stability of a ^{state} ~~nature~~ depends on the nature of constitution after studying 158 constitutions in Greece. He analyzed the nature of different constitutions

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and argued that constitutions defines the nature of the government or state and determines who hold the power. For this reason Aristotle divided the form of governments in to two types. Which are normal form and perverted form.

② Aristotle's division of constitution

Aristotle divided the constitution into two forms.

① Normal (right form of constitution):

This form work in the interest of community.

② Perverted (Wrong form of constitution)

This form serves in self interest.

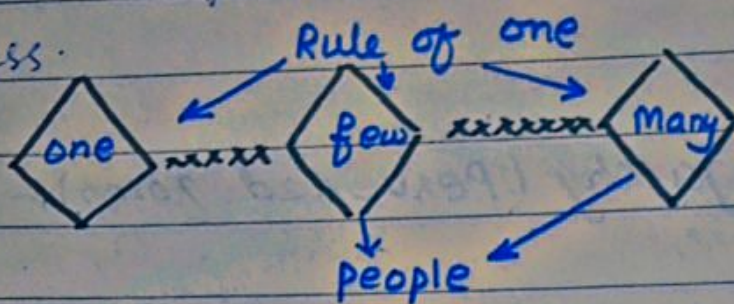
Aristotle's classification of Constitution:

Aristotle classified the

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constitution on the basis of
three categories of ruling
class.



① Rule of one.

① Monarchy (Right form):-

monarchy is the rule of one virtuous leader who serve for the welfare of the community.

② Tyranny: (perverted form):-

When that one ruling person becomes corrupt and serve for his self interest, monarchy degenerates to Tyranny.

② Rule of few:-

① Aristocracy (Right form):-

Aristocracy is a small group of ruling class, where power is held by a small privileged

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class, often based on birth. They prefer the interest of people in the society.

② Oligarchy (Perverted form):-

When that small group of people become corrupt and prefer self-interest over their interest, aristocracy turns into oligarchy.

③ Rule of many:-

① Polity: (Right form):-

Polity is a form of government that blends the element of democracy and oligarchy. It is a shared group of people where middle class play a significant role. To prevent extremes, ~~rule~~ of democracy (mob rule) and oligarchy (elite rule).

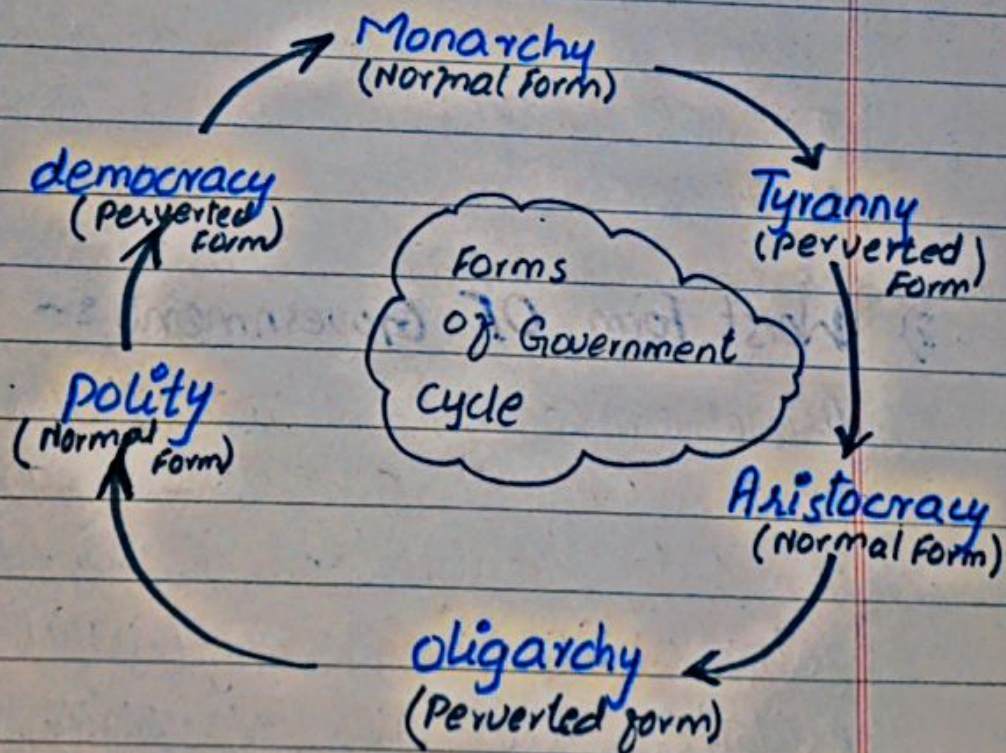
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ii) **Democracy (Perverted form)**:-

Democracy is rule of many where power exercises in many hands. According to Aristotle, democracy is a deviant or corrupt form of government when it becomes a mob rule or unchecked majority rule.



According to Aristotle Best
And Worst Form of Government:

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① Best Form Of Government:

Aristotle considered "Polity" as the best form of government because he believed that the middle is the most stable class, preventing the extremes of tyranny (rule of one) and mob rule (pure democracy). Unlike democracy where the poor may exploit the rich, or oligarchy where the rich oppress the poor, polity maintains "balance of power".

ii) Worst Form OF Government :-

Aristotle considers "tyranny" ^{as} the worst form of government as it rules only for personal gain. Unlike monarchy (which Aristotle saw as potentially just). Tyranny is a corrupt version where the ruler has unchecked power.

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Forms of Government According to Aristotle

Best Form

(Polity)



(Practicable)

Worst Form

(Tyranny)



(Oppressive)

Critical Evaluation of Aristotle's Theory of Constitution:

① Strengths of the Theory

① Balanced government:

Because it combines democracy and oligarchy for stability

② Classification of Governments:

It is a clear distinction between

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good and corrupt forms.

iii) Middle-class Rule:

Because it prevents extremes of tyranny and mob rule.

iv) Focus on the common Good:

It prioritizes collective welfare over individual power.

v) Political Realism:

Because it is Based on practical observation not just theory.

vi) Rule Of law :-

Because it emphasizes law over personal rule to ensure justice.

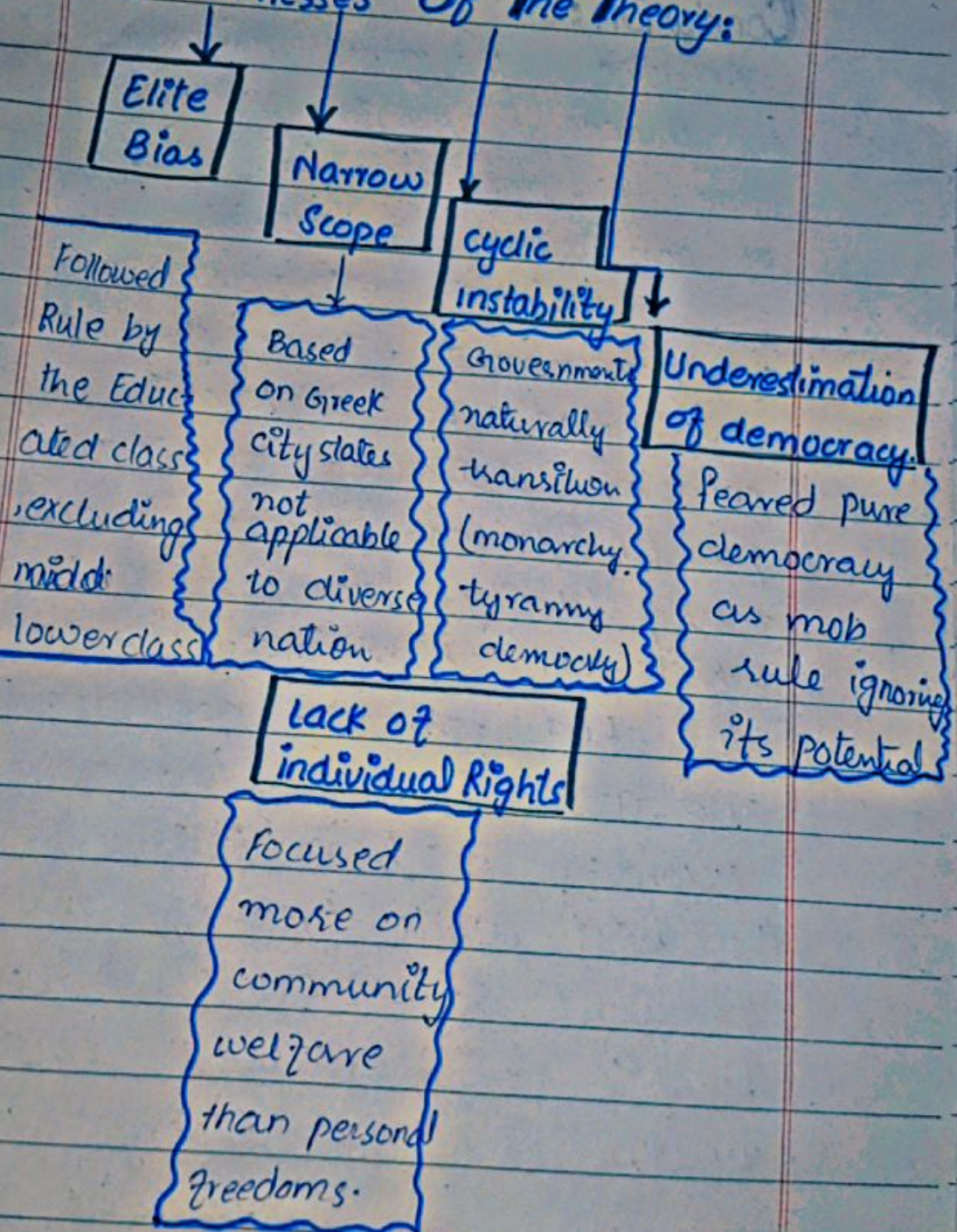
vii) Prevention Of corruption:-

Because mixed government prevents power concentration.

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Weaknesses Of The Theory:



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Conclusion:

Aristotle, the great philosopher and thinker in western history gave a master piece theory of constitution in which he explained different forms of government. Those governments were ruled by different classes including one (monarchy) few (Aristocracy, oligarchy), and many (Polity, democracy) in which he highlighted both, -the best form of government and worst form of government. According to him polity is the best while tyranny is the worst form of government. Despite criticism and some weaknesses the theory remain an influential for all the time in the history.