

# Evaluate Aristotle's Classification of Government in detail.

## 1. Introduction

Aristotle was a practical man. He was more realistic than idealist. Aristotle criticise his teacher; Plato, on his nature discription of state of nature and form of government. Aristotle classify his government into Six classes:

Monarchy, tyranny, oligarchy, Aristocracy, polity and democracy. While classifying his government, he keeps in mind the historical prespective, nature of man. Although, he also want an ideal state, like



Plato, but he emphasize to accept the nature of men according to what actually it is.

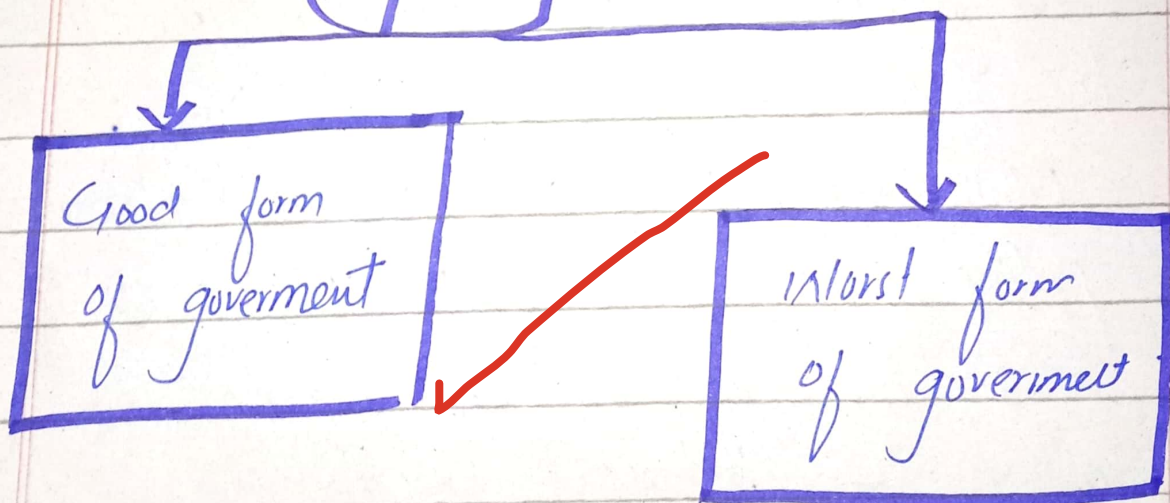
## 2. Aristotle's Classification of government

"There are six form of government, that can exist in society, based the way of people they live in society."

- politic

Aristotle Six form of government classify into two categories.

### Categories of government

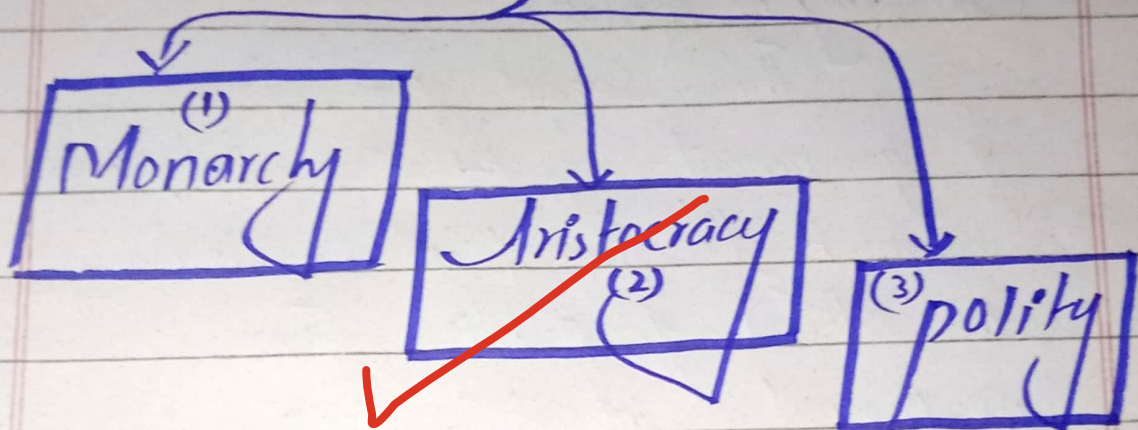


Aristotle in his book "The



politics " further classify its government into three three categories.

## Good form of government



1. Monarchy: A Single ruler, Serve for the interest of their masses.

According to Aristotle:-

Monarchy is a good form of government in which the monarch or king serve for public interest. There is only a single ruler.

According to John Locke, in his two treaty of government, the monarch



or King serve for the welfare  
peace of their masses, there will  
be no personal interest of ruler."

## 2. Aristocracy: government by few for public interest.

According to Aristotle:

The second good form  
of government is Aristotle's Aristocracy  
in which the few people rule for  
the interest of public. There is  
no personal interest.

## 3. Polity, best among all, government by many people.

According to Aristotle:

Best among all six forms of  
government is polity. In  
this form of government many people  
serve for the public interest.  
There is no personal interest.



Worst form of  
government

(4) ↓  
(Tyranny)

(5) ↓  
(~~Oligarchy~~)

(6) ↓  
(Democracy)

4. Tyranny : Rule by single  
ruler for personal interest

Aristotle in his book "The politics"  
said that :-

Tyranny is the worst form of  
government in which the ruler  
serve for ~~the~~ personal interest. He  
does not give prosperity to



his masses.

### 5- Oligarchy, government by few for personal interest.

According to Aristotle:-

Oligarchy is government by the few in which few people rule for the personal interest. They just give benefit to themselves.

According to Ibn-e-Khaldun's

Theory of Asabiya:-

"few people form government, they have weak asabiya they just serve for their own interest rather than welfare of people."

### 6- Democracy, Worst among all, government of many people for the sake of personal interest.

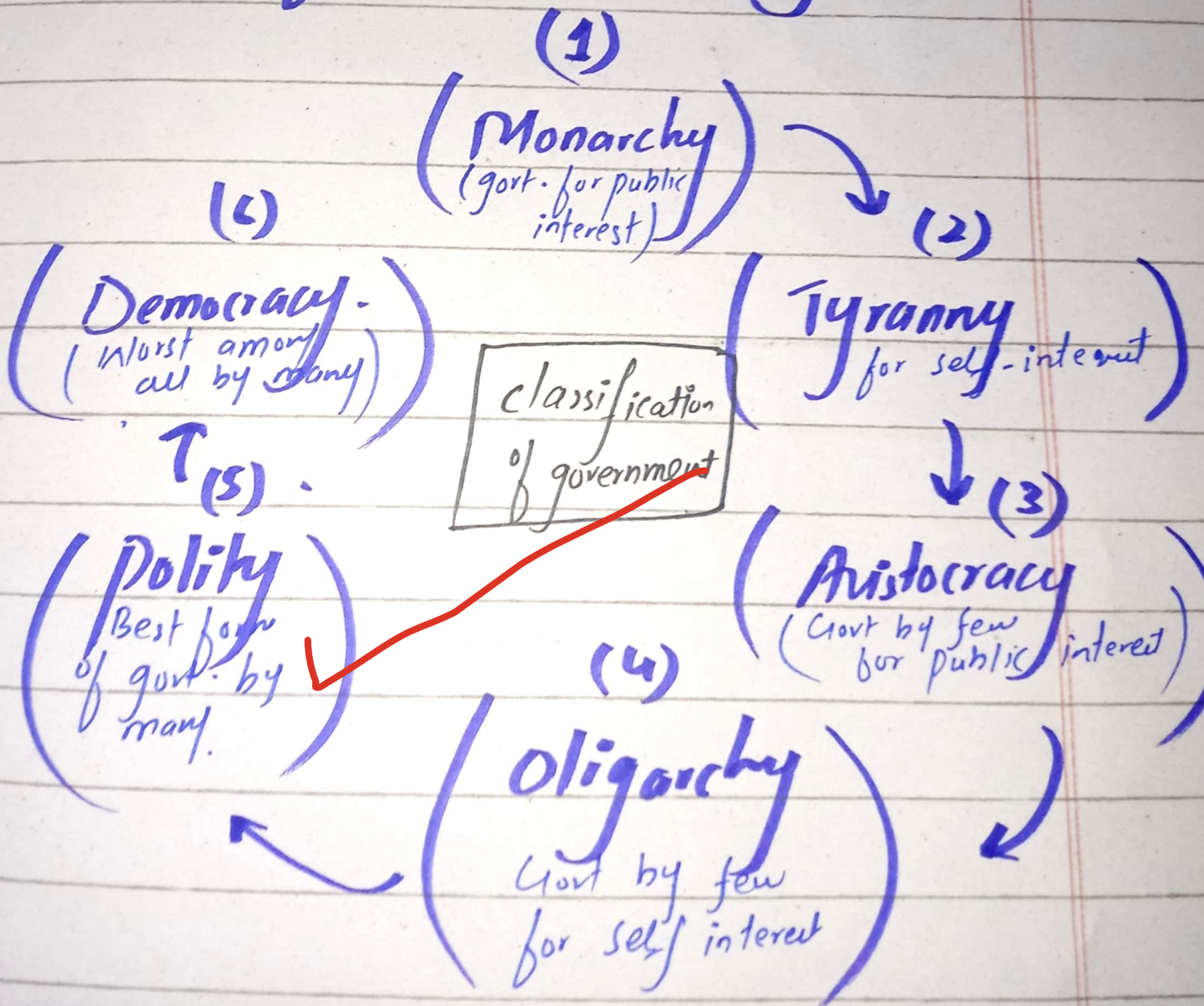
According to Aristotle There is worst form of government which is



democracy. In democracy, many people collaborate to form the government. They serve their own interest.

"As on the criticism of Rousseau's theory of social contract, in the name of general will, will of majority, the individual rights are compromised."

## Cycle of Aristotle's government



discuss this in detail as well.



### 3. Conclusion

Aristotle, a practical man, describe the more practical form of government. He criticized the plato's Theory. Also, he sets

intent an ideal state, but in

a practical way. He classify a

government into six classes.

He give the practical approach of government and emphasize that accept the way the man actually possess qualities.

also discuss the critical analysis part as well, mentioning the pros and cons of this classification.