

—(Question)—

Discuss Plato's contribution to the History of political thought.

Thesis Statement: Plato's political thought provides blueprints for just society, which consist of concept of ideal state, tripartite system and justice system.

Introduction: Plato: A Greek Philosopher

Plato was student of Socrates and the death penalty of Socrates by democratic states hurts the sentiments of Plato. Ultimately, he proposed his political views. Following events: death of Socrates is catalyst for the Plato's ideals.

Q Peloponnasia war

! Athens lost by sparta

Q Death of Socrates

O. Democracy Failure

Reasons: concept of justice

Plato believed that

"Masses are not capable to rule, only philosophers holds the potential to rule."

(II)

Plato's Contributions to the History of Political thought

Plato propose the idea of state where the king rule on the principle of reasoning.

a. Plato's First Contribution: The Ideal State: Kollipolis

Plato introduced a system in his ideas in which a state should be run by a philosopher king, who holds the wisdom,

Knowledge and experience. In his Book Republic, he stated that

"Until philosophers become kings, cities will not get rid of evils."

Relevance of his concept:

Currently, technocrats who hold more knowledge are part of government as per his ideas. Though all of his ideas cannot be practically implemented in the contemporary world, yet its blueprints can be observed in many areas.

b - Tripartite Theory: State as a soul

According to Plato, State like soul comprised of 3 parts.

→ Courage

→ Appetite

→ Reason.

On the basis of these principles, a society can work a scheme

its goals on reasoning -

Relevance to the Islamic Political thoughts

In Islam, the reasoning is encouraged and supports the goodness in a society. The words of Majma' Al Fataweh perfectly resemble here

"Reason and Shariah are never in contradiction. Shariah guides reason to its right function."

B. Theory of Justice:

His theory was based on integration and social harmony. It focuses on meritocracy. The son/daughter of producer can be a king and vice versa. His claim was that

"Justice in the state is Justice in Soul."

The Republic, Book IV

It's Influence on current Standards in Society

HIS concepts of meritocracy and justice are still encouraged and can be observed in different forms.

- ↳ selection of civil servants.
- ↳ Military tests

Id- The Allegory of The cave - Importance of Enlightenment:

In his book, the allegory of The cave symbolizes the darker time period having no awareness. The knowledge makes a big difference and brings awareness.

Integration with Islamic principles

Similarly Islam encouraged education, prophets come and

enlightens the society by their guidance and knowledge of Shari'ah. In Surah Nur, Allah (S.W.T) Quoted

"Allah is the Light."
of heaven and Earth

e- Plato's Idea of Education System:

Plato encouraged education with practical knowledge and on the basis of capabilities of the person. His system gives blueprints but was utopia. Burnet Russel criticized the plato in following words

"Plato was the
First utopian in
the world history."

(III)

Critical Analysis and Comparison

with other philos-
ophers

Plato's concepts were considered as complete utopia but it encourage other philosophers.

Aristotle: Realist state, ruled by middle class

Montesquieu: Separation of power.

John Rawls: Justice as Fairness

He criticizes democracy due to the situation and he was later criticized by that. Karl Popper in his book The open society and its enemies criticized Plato and called him totalitarian.

add more arguments.

a 20 marks answer should have around 15 arguments and be on 7-9 pages.

Conclusion:

Plato was considered as an utopian. However, his ideas of justice was encouraged. He supported elementary education with secondary education. Bertrand Russell stated that

"Plato was the first Western philosopher to imagine a complete society governed by reason."