{ Political science }

Question # 1

Explain Karl popper's Idea of open society. Why did he opposed totalitarian systems

1) Introduction

Karl popper was born in Hungry. He belonged to a middle class family. During his early days of education, he was inspired by Maxism. However, he later on rejected it. Karl popper gave the concept of open society. He criticized totalitarian thinkers and declared them enemies of open society. His notable works include:-

a) Logic of science
b) Open society and its enemies

2) Popper's idea of open society.

Karl popper was a great supporter of individualism

He believes that individual freedom is essential for growth of personality. He opposed marixsm later in life because it supports totalitarianism.

According to Popper open society is a hypothetical concept where all the individuals are free and equality prevails in the society. Following are the characteristics of open society.

3) Characteristics of open society

a) Freedom of expression

In an open society, all the individuals are equal. They all have freedom of speech, action, and expression. It contrast totalitarian states which individuals are deprived of all these rights.

b) Rule of law

In open society, rule of law prevails. Open society is democratic

in nature. Transparency and accountability are the main features of open society.

c) Absence of violence

Popper envisioned that there would be no violence in open society. Peace and tranquility shall prevail. In addition to that there would no be no use of force to subjugate individual rights.

d) Against Totalitarianism

According to popper open society would be an antithesis of Totalitarian society. He was against totalitarianism. He opposed any type of totalitarian authority in open society.

e) Growth of individual personality

Due to the freedom of action, speech, and expression, individual personality shall flourish

minimum description under a heading should be 5 lines.

4) Criticism on open society

Popper's theory of open society attracted much criticism on following grounds

a) Impractical concept

Critics argue that it is an impractical concept. It does not take into account real life complexities. It also neglects complex relations between various institutions.

b) Over emphasized individualism

Popper laid too much emphasis on individual. It may be noted that excessive individual freedom may result in conflict of interest and anarchy.

c) Neglected the important of state

Popper prohibited the use of force in open society. However certain amount of force is required to implement laws and enfor uphold the writ of state.

5) Opposition of totalitarian systems

Popper opposed totalitarian systems. He criticized totalitarian thinkers. He criticized plato for his theory of philosopher King. He criticized Hegel's belief that thoughts influence reality. He also criticized marxism because of its support to violence. Furthermore popper opposed totalitarian system on the following grounds

a) Dogmatic thinking

He opposed totalitarian regimes because of their dogmatic thinking and neglect of individual rights

add and highlight references/examples against these arguments.

b) Lack of individual rights

In totalitarian regimes, the state is considered all in all. Individuals are expected to follow the commands of state at all cost. The individual personality and rights are suppressed within a totalitarian state.

c) Violence

do not use one word headings. they should be elaborate and self explanatory.

Totalitovian system often use and support violence. It is against the will of people and violence is the only path for totalitavion systems to establish their dom it's dominance.

d) State absolutism

Totalitovian regimes result in state absolutism. Totelitovian thinkers like Hegel believe that individual can attain maximum freedom by absorbing in state. Popper following this footsteps of locke supports individualism and criticize totalitovion regimes due to state absolutism. Popper believe that state should provide maximum opportunity to individual for the growth of his personality.

6) Conclusion

Popper believed that in an open society, the presence of democratic government, rule of law, freedom of expression, and absence of violence is essential for proper growth of

individual. He opposed totaliterian regimes because of violence, neglect of individual rights, and state absolutism.

Question #2

What is John Rawls concept of veil of ignorance? How does it help create fairness in society

Introduction

John rawl was born in USA. He belonged to a middle class family. Notable event which deeply effected Rawls was the death of his 2 brothers due to a disease contracted by Rawls. The concept of viel of ignorance was given by John Rawals in order to promote fairness in the society.

Viel of ignorance

According to this concept a person is placed behind a hypothetical viel. He would

be required to frame the rules of justice without knowing their consequences. In this way the individual would frame neutral rules of justice. These rules would be applicable on society present on other side of the viel.

Rawls believed that everyone would be equal in the society. Inequality would only be allowed under 2 condition

a) Inequality would be applied for everyone.

b) Inequality would only be allowed if it favoured least advantaged members of society

Viel of ignorance and justice in society

The hypothetical concept of viel of ignorance promotes justice and creates fairness in society in following manner.

a) Provides impartial rules

Behind the viel of ignorence, an individual is unable to know the consequvence of rules or laws framed. It would reault in the formation of impartial laws.

b) Provides equality

The laws formed from behind the viel would be impartial. They would promote equality and would not favour any class in society.

c) Help in fairness and justice

17 laws are made in such a way that they do not give priviledge to any class, then they will help to promote justice and fairness.