

Q no: 02:

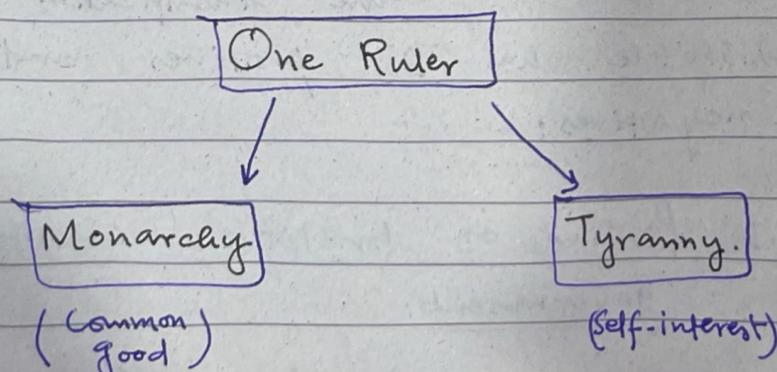
Give a Critical Analysis of Aristotle's Classification of Governments:

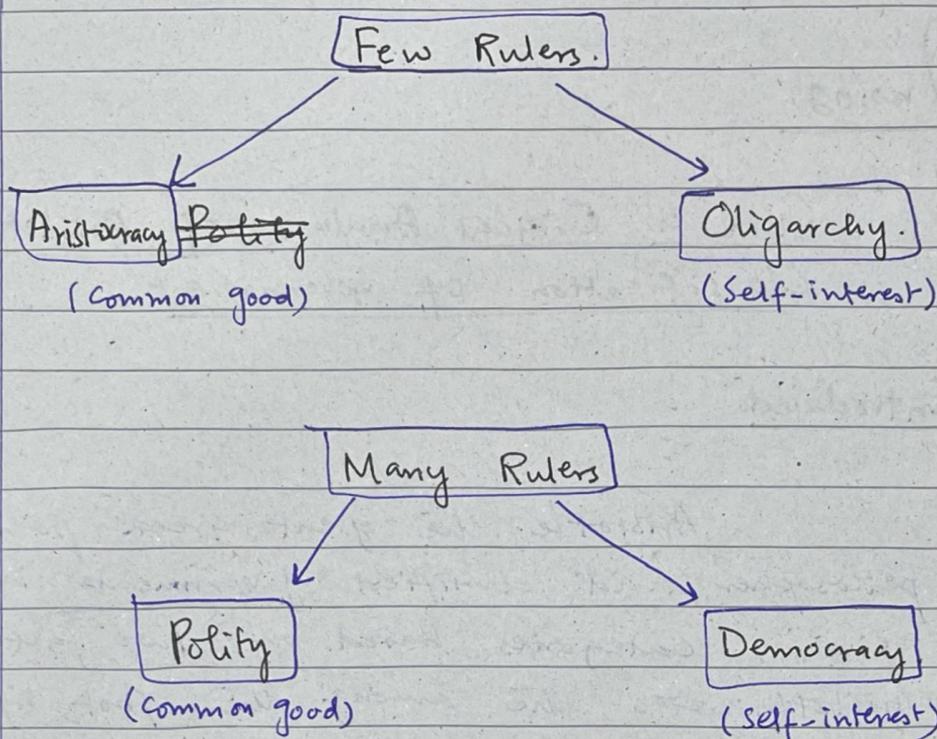
1. Introduced:

Aristotle, the great Greek political philosopher, had classified governments into six categories based on two factors. Aristotle was the among the first, after Plato, to draw such a sketch of divisions. However, his forms of government had its positives, and simultaneously its negatives.

2. Aristotle's classification of governments:

Aristotle had classified governments into six categories based on two factors: number of rulers and Common good or self-interest.





Aristotle preferred "polity" above all forms of governments because he believed that "Unless people are corrupt to their cores, their collective decisions will be far better than decisions taken by any other form of government."

3. Critical Analysis of Aristotle's ^{classification} forms of governments:

The classification of Aristotle has its positives and its negatives:

3.1: Positives of Aristotle's classification of governments:

a) Scientific principles of classification of government:

Aristotle scientific the classification of government based on two principles:

- Number of rulers.
- Nature of rule: common good v.s. self-Interest.

b) Aristotle's classification had a paramount role of "middle class":

Aristotle classification had a strong middle class ~~and~~ who was the primary of the stable government in Aristotle's forms of governments.

c) Aristotle embedded "justice" in his classification of government:

Justice was another principle of Aristotle's classification of government. He proposed two types of justice in his governments:

- Distributive justice: Justice in distribution of resources.
- Corrective justice: Justice application in correction of injustices.

d) Democratic elements in Aristotle's forms classification of governments:

Aristotle's forms of government had democratic elements embedded. Aristotle reflected Rousseau's "General will", where people made their own decisions through active participation.

e) Aristotle's governments was ^{for the} betterment of its people:

Aristotle claimed that states formed for the happiness of the people and for the purpose of not just living, but living well - Theory of eudaimonia.

3.2: Negatives of Aristotle's Classification of government:

a) Aristotle preferred a government of elite:

In Aristotle's classification of government, only elite had the privilege to rule over the state.

b) Aristotle preferred even uninformed citizens for government, polity, who are not always good:

Aristotle in his forms of government preferred uninformed masses

to rule, who can be devastating for the state as their decisions will not be pragmatic.

c) No place for labour class ~~and~~ in Aristotle's government:

Aristotle deemed the labour class incompatible to rule because of their lack of time. However, this is against the principles of equality.

d) No place for women in leadership roles:

According to Aristotle, women lacked the capability to rule and make effective decisions - ~~totally~~ undemocratic and patriarchal.

e) Aristotle's classification kept democracy as the worst form of government:

Aristotle classified democracy as the worst form of government, however, in modern time period, democracy has performed better than all the other forms of government.

4. Summed up analysis of Aristotle's classification of government:

Aristotle's classification of government is rational and progress only if seen with the lens of his time period. His patriarchal, slavery favouring, and unequal principles of state are incompatible with the modern times.

5. Conclusion:

Aristotle, the great Greek philosopher, divided government into six types. According to him, polity is the best form of government. His state had democratic elements such as consensual decision making, however, he excluded slaves, labour, and women from it.