

Part II

Q2. Give a critical analysis of Aristotle's classification of governments. How are these classifications relevant in present day politics system?

Introduction :

Aristotle was an ancient Greek philosopher who is well known for his extensive contribution to various fields including politics and government. His thoughts on government are mentioned in his book "Politics" where he discusses different types of governments, their strengths and weaknesses. His government system offers valuable insights such as importance of mixed governments and the rule of law, it is also criticized because of become exclusionary practices, slavery and potential pitfall that could leads to Oligarchy. His mixed government system and certain other ideas are still relevant in modern times.

Aristotle's Constitutional state

OR

Classification of Government by Aristotle :

Aristotle classified the government based on number of people who will constitute the government as well as its form i.e either good or bad form. According to Aristotle, his system of government exists in the form of cycle called Aristotle cycle.

No. of rulers

Good form

Bad form

1

Monarchy

Tyranny

Few

Aristocracy

Oligarchy

Many

Polity

Democracy

1. Monarchy :

According to Aristotle, a state is first run by a king or monarch. Power is completely in the hand of one person. If he uses it for the interest of public, this state would be a stable state.

2. Tyranny :

If a monarch becomes corrupt or he use his power for promotion of self-interest. He neglects the rules and rights of people. It is unstable state, the ruler is considered as tyrant.

3. Aristocracy :

To remove the tyrant, few people or nobles in the society becomes representatives by removing the tyrant. Power will be in the hand of few.

4. Oligarchy :

The worst form of Aristocracy is Oligarchy where few people who had power become involved in corrupt practices.

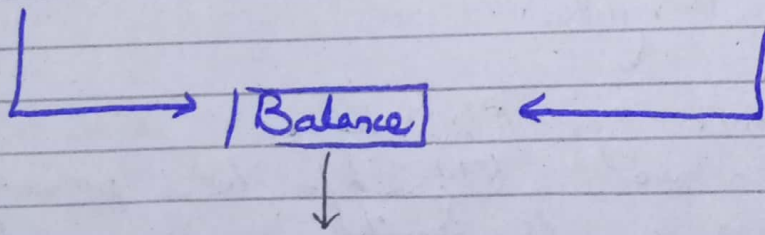
5- **Polity:** Oligarchy will be replaced by the government of many people and ^{classes in} society. According to Aristotle, Polity is the best form of government.

6. **Democracy:** Worst form of polity is democracy which can lead to monarchy again. So, this is a cycle which would continue.

According to Aristotle, there are two classes in the society and they are forces to run the politics:

Quality:
Elites
want dominancy over poor.
Want power
Characteristics = Wealth, education etc

Quantity:
Great in number
dominated by elites
Jealous of elites
Lawlessness is their quality



Middle Class
-- not so rich and not so poor
-- Look at both
-- Create balance in the society
-- Give power to them.

Polity will mix these two forces in the society.

Criticism of Aristotle's Government:

Though work of Aristotle government's classification is recognized by many well known scholars and philosophers, however his work is subjected to criticism as well.

1. Limited Citizenship:

One of the significant drawback of Aristotle's system is the exclusive of certain groups from the citizenship. Women, slaves and non-greeks were not considered citizens as thus had no rights or influences.

2. Endorsement of slavery:

According to Aristotle,

"Slavery is natural, some are bound to rule while some are bound to be ruled."

This unjust system denies the fundamental human rights.

3. Potential for Oligarchy:

To avoid Oligarchy, he promoted mixed system of government, his government system could still lead to Oligarchic tendencies. The wealthy and the powerful could manipulate the political processes, skewing decisions in the favour of their own.

4. Lack of separation of powers:-

Aristotle did not advocate the separation of power between the different branches of government.

5. **Homogeneity and Diversity:**
Aristotle's vision of ideal state involves a relatively homogenous society. Such division might suppress diversity, limiting the potential for new ideas and cultural richness.

System of Aristotle's Government in Contemporary World:

Despite of differences in his certain ideas, some of the relevance exists in modern system of today's government:

1. Mixed Government:

Aristotle gave the concept of mixed government which combines the elements of Oligarchy and Aristocracy, and still holds some relevance. Many modern democracies adopt elements of mixed government through representative systems, checks and balances, the division of power among different branches of government.

2. Rule of Law:

Aristotle emphasized that governance should be based on "rule of law." In modern era, governments still ensure that all are equal and subject to law and are subjected to accountability for justice and fairness in the society.

3. Political Participation:

Aristotle's idea of encouraging citizens to actively participate in the political process is relevant today.

Conclusion :

In modern world, Aristotle contributions are considered of great importance. Modern democracies strive for richness, equality and human rights which were not fully embraced in Aristotle's system. Therefore while one can learn from Aristotle's insights, but the implementation of Aristotle's government as a whole is not suitable for today's world.

Q. What is Islamic concept of state? Identify the main principles, how these principles can be opted in the modern day democratic system.

Introduction :

An Islamic state is a system of government which is based on the principles of Shari'ah set by Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W).

The first "Islamic State" was established by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in Medina in 622 A.H., he himself migrated from Makkah to Medina and all residents and migrants mutually accepted him as their ruler. Usually a state is constituent of four elements:

- i. Population
- ii. Territory
- iii. Government
- iv. Sovereignty

Difference between a state is Islamic state is "state is governed by the rules formed by government according to their rational. A person or a group become their ruler." While in an Islamic state,

"The ruling aspects will be based on Quran and Sunnah, ultimate sovereign is God and human is the Caliph of God."

Principles of Islamic State :

Islamic state is a unique state that is different from other states due to its following attributes or principles :

1- Sovereignty belongs to Al-mighty Allah :

In an Islamic state, there is no concept of totalitarianism or dictatorship. The total sovereignty belongs to Allah and elected representatives are caliphs on this earth. They will use power for creating stability.

The Constitution of Pakistan declares that sovereignty of Allah is over the entire universe and man will exercise the authority within limits.

ii. Governing rules are Islamic :

In Islamic state, the government system and institutions work according to the rules and regulations provided by Quran and Sunnah.

3. Political Consensus :

In Islamic states, political consensus is given immense importance. In the era of Muhammad (PBUH), he used to discuss issues with other Sahabas and usually take their consent. e.g. The idea of Treaty was given by Hazrat Salman

Farsi (RA).

4. Justice :

Justice is central in an Islamic state. There are many Quranic verses in which Allah Al. mighty asked to do justice in every aspect.

5. Principles of Equality :

Islam gave rights of ~~princ~~ equality to everyone. There is no concept of racism in Islam. All are equal, if they are Muslims.

Prophet Muhammad SAW considered Muslims as one body:

“Muslims are like a single body, if there is pain in one part, entire body feels it.”

6. Concept of Zakat :

For equal distribution of wealth among rich and poor, Islam gave principle of Zakat which is 2.5% of wealth, Jewellery and property annually, for those who can afford. In Quran, Allah says:

“O believers! pray Salah and give Zakat.”

7. Rights of Women :

In Islamic state, the women's rights are ensured and protected. In Quran, Allah revealed a whole Surah dedicated to women (Nisa). She has given right to education, right of inheritance, right to

marriage etc

8. Obedience to ruler :

Obedience to ruler is compulsory in an Islamic state, if he stands by rules of Islam. Citizens of Islamic state have to obey their Khelifa in all matters that are not contrary to Islamic Shariat. They have rights to submit their complaints and doubts against their Khelifa.

9. Social Welfare of Society :

An Islamic state works for the welfare of its society. As in the time period of pious caliph Hazrat Umar, he had made various contributions for the social welfare of his society e.g. Introduction of police department, concept of pension and Bait-ul-Mal.

10. Rights of Minority :

﴿كُلِّمُوا دِينَهُمْ﴾ (Quran)

"For you, your religion and their religion for them."

Islam ensures the rights of the minorities, they have liberty to spend their life according to their religion and state has to protect their rights.

11. Amar Bil Maroof Wa nahi Anil Munkar :

An Islamic ruler has to abide by the concept of Amar Bil Maroof wa Nahi Anil Munkar (order for good and to stop from doing wrong). He has to persuade people to live in harmony and avoid evil.

Inculcation of Islamic Principles in Modern Democracies:

Constitutional Governments

As, in Islam, Quran and Sunnah constitutes the governing principles. State can design constitution, in which do's and don'ts should be mentioned.

As in Islam, sovereignty belongs to Allah only, but non-muslims also have rights. Other states can follow such mechanisms and are doing that in modern times.

Accountability

Accountability of those who are ruling and who are to be ruled.

It creates fairness.

Characteristic of Islamic system could be opted.

Participation

Islam believes in democracy for rights of people. This system best ensures the rights and supremacy of public. Other democracies can follow it, to ensure stability in their country.

Separation of Powers :

In the time of caliphs, different responsibilities were given to different people which were separated from each other.

Today system of separation of power is prevalent in many states e.g. US.

Protection of Fundamental Right

It was Islam that gave concepts of fundamental rights. West adopted this system in 1200s.

Today fundamental rights are part of constitution of every country, e.g. Articles 8-28 of Pakistan's Constitution.

Conclusion :

In short, the Islamic system that was given 1400 years back is prevalent in many parts of the world. Many non-muslim states have adopted the Islamic principles as part of their constitution.

Q.5. a) Contributions of Al-Mawardi to political thought.

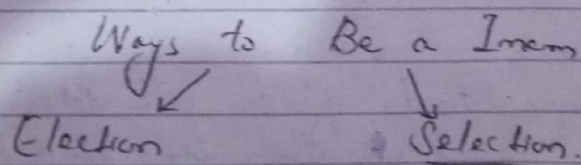
Abu-Hassan Al-Mawardi was born in Basrah, which was then of the principal seats of learning and education in the world of Muslims. He became judge and served at various places in Baghdad. He left a great and valuable treasure of knowledge and philosophy. His books are following:

- i- Ordinances of Government
- ii- Advice to Kings
- iii- Control of War for facilitating victory

Bringing Constitutional Theory of Islam in Line with Political Reality:

He was founder of science of politics in Islam. He used political opinions and traditions of past and transformed them into a logical system. His book "Al-Ahkam" becomes a standard work of reference on political practices.

According to Al-Mawardi, Imam or Khalifat is essential in government to achieve peace and tranquility. An Imam is the representative of entire states, he can be the Imam through 2 ways.



a. Election:

Election is a way in which Imam is elected through an electoral college.

Qs.

After becoming an Imam, he has choice to consult or dictate his rulings. It is often criticized that dictatorship is not valid in Islam.

2. Khalifah Tullah:

He will be known as "Khalifah Tullah" that literally means Khalifah of Allah. From Islamic perspective, it is considered a very prestigious title.

Power and Functions of Imam:

Along with privileges, he enjoys many powers and their are few responsibilities of him.

i. Protection and Defense:

He is responsible for protection and defense of his state. He has to take necessary steps to defend his state against internal and external enemies.

ii. To impose criminal course of Quran:

For dealing, criminal issues he can impose the criminal course according to Quran and Sunnah. For Example Qisas. (Q163)

iii. To declare religious wars:

He can impose religious war to prevent Islam from any terror.

iv. To impose taxes and generate revenue:

For the welfare of states, he can impose taxes and can generate revenues to help the

poor and needy.

v. To appoint ministers and officers:

To carry out different operations in his states he can appoint ministers purely according to his choice or through consensus.

Conclusion:

Al-Mawardi was the first person who built science in politics and his contribution in the Muslim political science is well known and widely accepted.

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b) Importance of Religious Harmony in the State

Religious Harmony is defined as the social cohesion among different religions in a state. It is fundamental aspect of a peaceful, inclusive and progressive state.

T W Arnold in his book "The Preaching of Islam" mentioned that:

"Islam was spread through the peaceful means, not by the sword."

Religious harmony is of paramount importance in the state because of following reasons:

1- Social Cohesion:

Religious harmony fosters a sense of unity and solidarity among diverse communities. It encourages people from different religious backgrounds to coexist peacefully, promoting social stability and

reducing conflicts.

Ikht-e-Khuldoon theory of Asabiyah specifies importance of solidarity in society.

2. Peace and Stability :

When there is social cohesion among different religions, state will be less prone to external and internal conflicts. This will maintain peace and stability in the society.

3. Economic Progress :

Religious cohesion among people of various backgrounds can bring them at same table. They will work together for betterment of country. This can lead to boost or progress in economy.

4. Cultural Richness :

Religious harmony among different religions bring different cultures, practices and festivals that increase the diversity in the state. Moreover, it attracts the tourists and foster vibrant exchange in culture.

5. Freedom of Belief :

Harmony and in religion will bring freedom of belief i.e. everywhere can practice their religion without fear of discrimination or persecution. eg. In Chitral, Khatkhat Tribe is living among Muslims.

6. National Unity :

Religious harmony promotes national unity. Here all the people does not differentiate among each other on

religious differences, rather they accept each other as one citizens.

7. International reputation:

Countries that promote religious harmony are often perceived more positive influence internationally. Such states are seen more attractive for investments and collaborations.

8. Tolerance and empathy:

Religious harmony promotes tolerance and empathy in the state. People accept each other belief system and break stereotypes.

9. Conflict Resolution:

In the times of conflicts, religious leaders can play their part in mediating the issues and finding their solutions.

10. Personal well being:

For individual citizens living in a society with religious harmony can improve the mental and emotional well being of its individuals.

So, religious harmony induces peace and stability in the society by neglecting the differences among them, makes the state a better to live in.