

Section - A

Q No: 2 Similarities and differences in Plato and Aristotle political ideas. How are they relevant today?

Answer:

Introduction

Plato was born in an aristocratic Athenian family. He was disappointed after the disastrous effects of war and the thirty rule of tyrants and the execution of his mentor Socrates. He founded **The Academy** in Athens which was his forum until his death and was the first of the great school of philosophy and was an educational center. Many of Plato's ideas appear in his **Republic, Protagoras, Phaedo** and other dialogues. Most of these are in negative form as an attack on Athenian system. His positive and constructive effort begins with his **Republic**. Aristotle was the student of Plato. He was born in **Stagira** on the borders of **Macedonia** to the parents of Ionian origin. He remained at Plato's academy for twenty years and was thirty-seven when he left Academy. Aristotle developed a political philosophy which emphasize constitutionalism and

rule of law, he was closer to Athenian democratic ideal than were those of Plato and Socrates.

Similarities and differences between Aristotle and Plato's political thought

Similarities

1) Both encouraged justice

Plato and Aristotle are both great advocates of Justice. Their whole idea of political thought and state was based on the basic principle of Justice. According to Plato, justice is the product of class division and specialization. And on this principle he wrote his whole Republic.

According to Plato;

$$\text{Justice} = \text{Class division} \times \text{Specialty}$$

Aristotle was also an advocate of Justice. He said that the measure of society's goodness and justness is in its capacity to serve the general interest.

2. Both are against democracy

Plato and Aristotle,

both philosophers were against democracy.

Plato said that state should be justice

based and there should be communism of wives and property for the ruling class^{and auxiliary}. He

gave the theory of communism for the ruling

class and auxiliary. Aristotle's analysis of the

democratic and oligarchic states leads him to

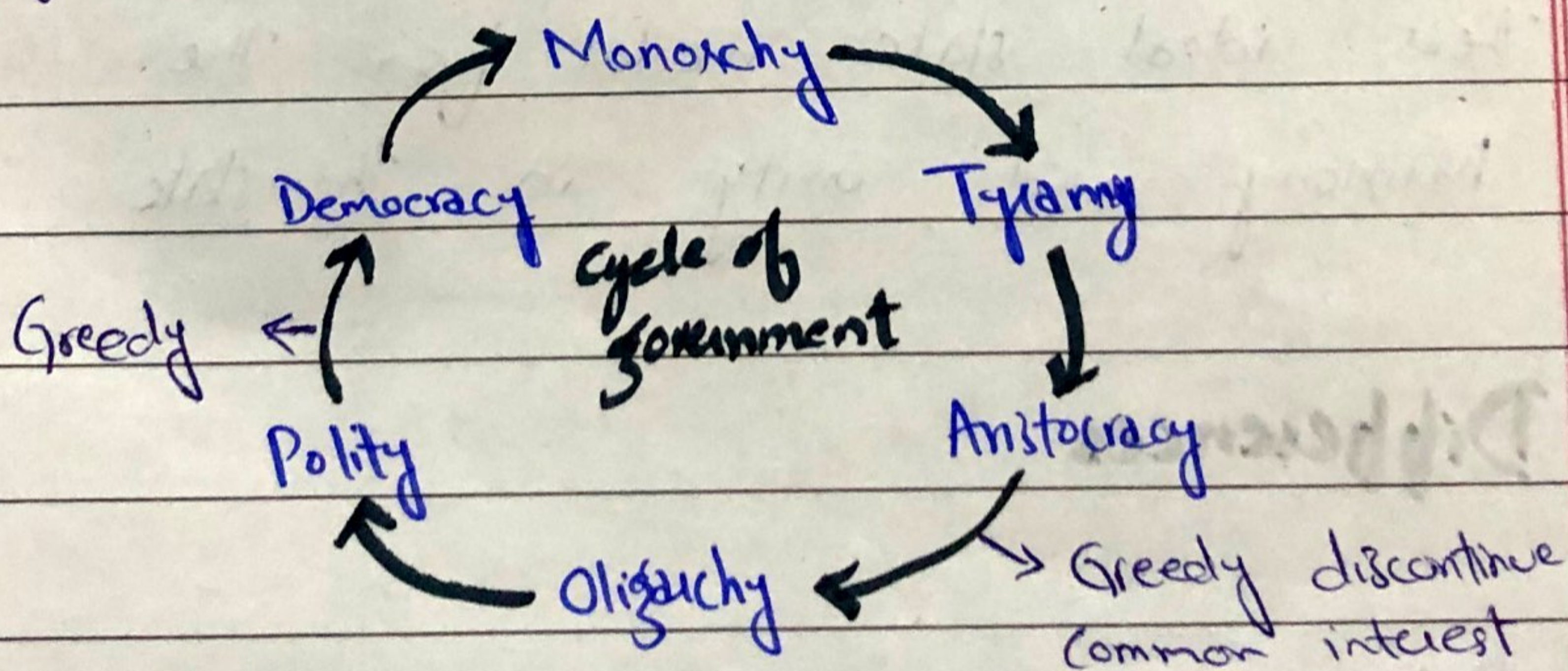
an important conclusion. The best practicable

state must be based upon a balance

of democratic and oligarchic principles.

According to him ^{Tyranny} democracy is the worst form

of government and Monarchy is best form of government.



3. Both have favored education

Plato and Aristotle

have both talked about the importance of

education for progress of the state.

4. Classification of Society

Both have classified the society. Plato divide society into three classes ① Philosopher king/ ② Soldiers ③ Artisan class. Aristotle ^{Ruler} also divided the society. He divide society into citizens and slaves.

5. Both upheld Slavery

Both philosophers upheld the slavery in their political thought.

6. Unity and harmony

Both were concerned for the unity and harmony of the society and state. Both have proposed their ideal state model for the harmony and unity in the state.

Differences

1. Differences in views about the property and family.

Plato was of the view of communism of wives, children and property. While, Aristotle was not

in the favour of communism of
wives, children and property. He advocated
the right to property and said it is
basic human need to get married,
have shelter and family so in his
ideal state there's no sharing of
wives and property.

2. Aristotle believes in constitutionalism while Plato does not

Aristotle believed in constitutionalism
and talked about constitution. Any constitution
serving general interest of people is **good
constitution**. Any state, government or constitution
not serving the general interest is **bad constitution**.
Whereas Plato did not believe in constitutionalism.

3. Plato believes in equality of men and women, Aristotle does not believe so

According to Plato
men and women are both equal.
Anyone from them can become philosopher
king if she/he has the skills to do so.

According to Plato:

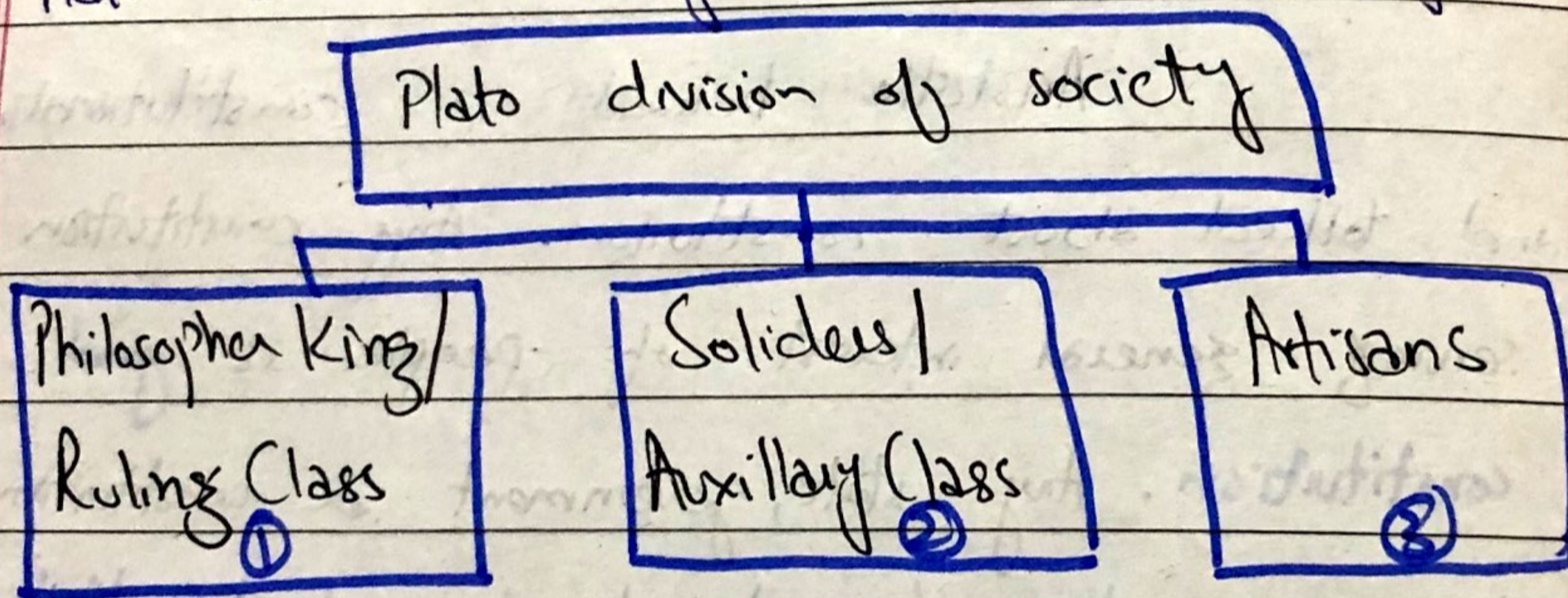
Men = Women

Whereas Aristotle does not believe in the equality of Men and women.

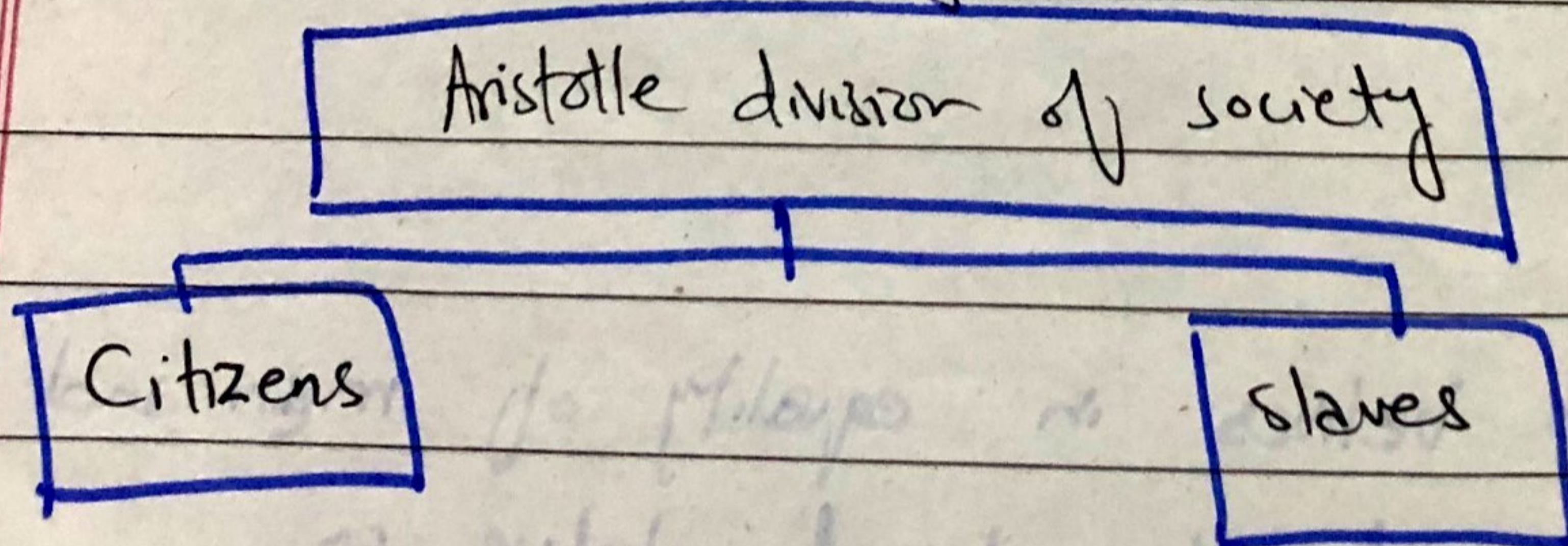
4. Plato believed in totalitarianism while Aristotle believed in polity

5. There are differences in the division of society of Plato and Aristotle

Plato divide society into three categories.



Aristotle divided society into two classes:



Relevancy of Plato and Aristotle political ideas today

Aristotle:

The ideas of Aristotle

are

done

which

today

ign

He

a

work

P

to

o

are not so relevant today. He has done undue criticism to democracy which is the general will of people. In today's society it is not possible to ignore the general will of people. He has also unduly supported Monarchy and has done overgeneralization of world constitution.

Plato :

Plato's political thought is not applicable to modern states. His ideal state is a myth and a utopian concept. There is rule of king but no rule of law which is not applicable in today's society. Communism of marriage and property is a basic need it cannot be avoided so his concept of theory of communism is also not very relevant today and so are his thoughts on basic democratic values. His imaginative theory has nothing to do with the reality.

Conclusion :

Plato and Aristotle both are great names in the political science. Both have talked about the ideal state and how state should be acting and on what principals it should be based. Both have some similarities and some differences. However, these political ideas due to many reasons are not very applicable and relevant to the modern concept of the state as the modern democratic principals and basic human needs do not allow it.

Q No: 3. If Machiavelli is considered the citizen of all states and ages, how his principles of politics are relevant to the present day populism? Describe.

Answer:

Introduction:

Machiavelli timeperiod was from 1469 - 1527. He wrote three books

① Art of war ② The Prince ③ Discourses

His timeperiod was of thirty years

Holy wars. There were two sets in Christianity,

① Catholics

② Protestants

Church was participating in politics and

it was believed that church should stay

away from politics. Even today most of

the modern philosophers of the same view

Machiavelli stated to keep the church

away from the politics. In his book

The Prince he has talked about the

qualities of the prince.

An overview of Machiavelli political thought and his work

In the prince he gave "Theory of Preservation of state".

If you want to preserve the state you should know the art of the:

- ① Acquisition of power
- ② Expansion of power
- ③ Maintenance of power

If the prince wants to acquire these qualities he should have to fulfill these rules of guidance, he should

have

- ① Ferocity of Lion
- ② Cunning of fox
- ③ Ruthless use of force
- ④ Fear is better to be loved
- ⑤ Maintenance of a strong army
- ⑥ Expertise of art of war
- ⑦ Implementation of decisions without hesitation
- ⑧ Popularity among masses
- ⑨ Pose as courageous
- ⑩ Belief on Balance of Power
- ⑪ Extreme in friendship and war

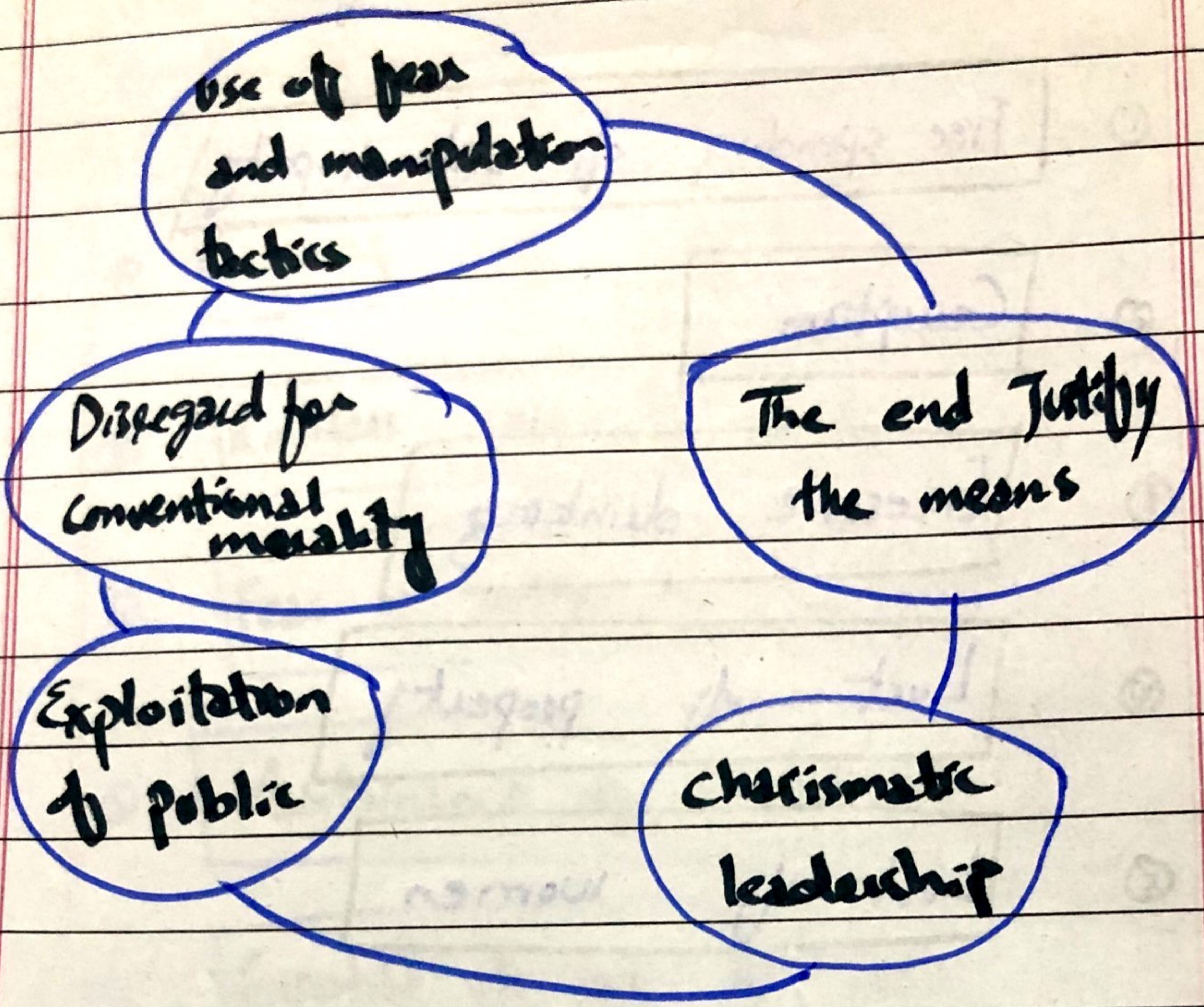
The Prince should abstain from

- ① Free spending of state property
- ② Corruption
- ③ Excessive drinking
- ④ Lust of property
- ⑤ Lust of women

Realism and power politics also talk about the same

Machiavelli political thought relevance today

He is regarded as a timeless figure in political thought, emphasized pragmatism, power dynamics and the necessity of maintaining power in prince. His ideas remains highly relevant in analyzing modern-day populism. Following are the reasons why his ideas are relevant in modern day populism.



Exploitation of public sentiment

Machiavelli:

believed rulers should adapt to changing circumstances and manipulation of public.

Similarly, populists skillfully tap into economic grievances, cultural anxieties, and social frustrations to consolidate their influence.

Disregard for conventional morality

Machiavelli:

argued that rulers must be prepared to

act immorally if necessary for political survival. Many populist leaders dismiss conventional moral or legal constraints positioning themselves as disruptors of the status quo to appeal to disillusioned voters.

The End Justify the Means

Machiavelli's

principle of prioritizing the outcomes over ethical constraints resonates with how populist leaders justify controversial policies. They claim to act in the "greater interest of the people" even if it involves bypassing democratic norms.

Use of Fear and Manipulation tactics

Machiavelli advocated fear over being loved, as fear ensures compliance.

Modern populist leaders often employ fear-mongering tactics, targeting perceived threats like immigrants, global elites, or political institutions. This creates the narrative of "us versus them", galvanizing

support,

Conclusion:

Machiavelli's principles provide lens to understand the strategies employed by modern populists. His pragmatic, results-oriented approach to politics mirrors the methods used by populist leaders to gain and retain power, often at the expense of established norms and institutions.

Section - B

Q8:

b. Political Parties and Pressure

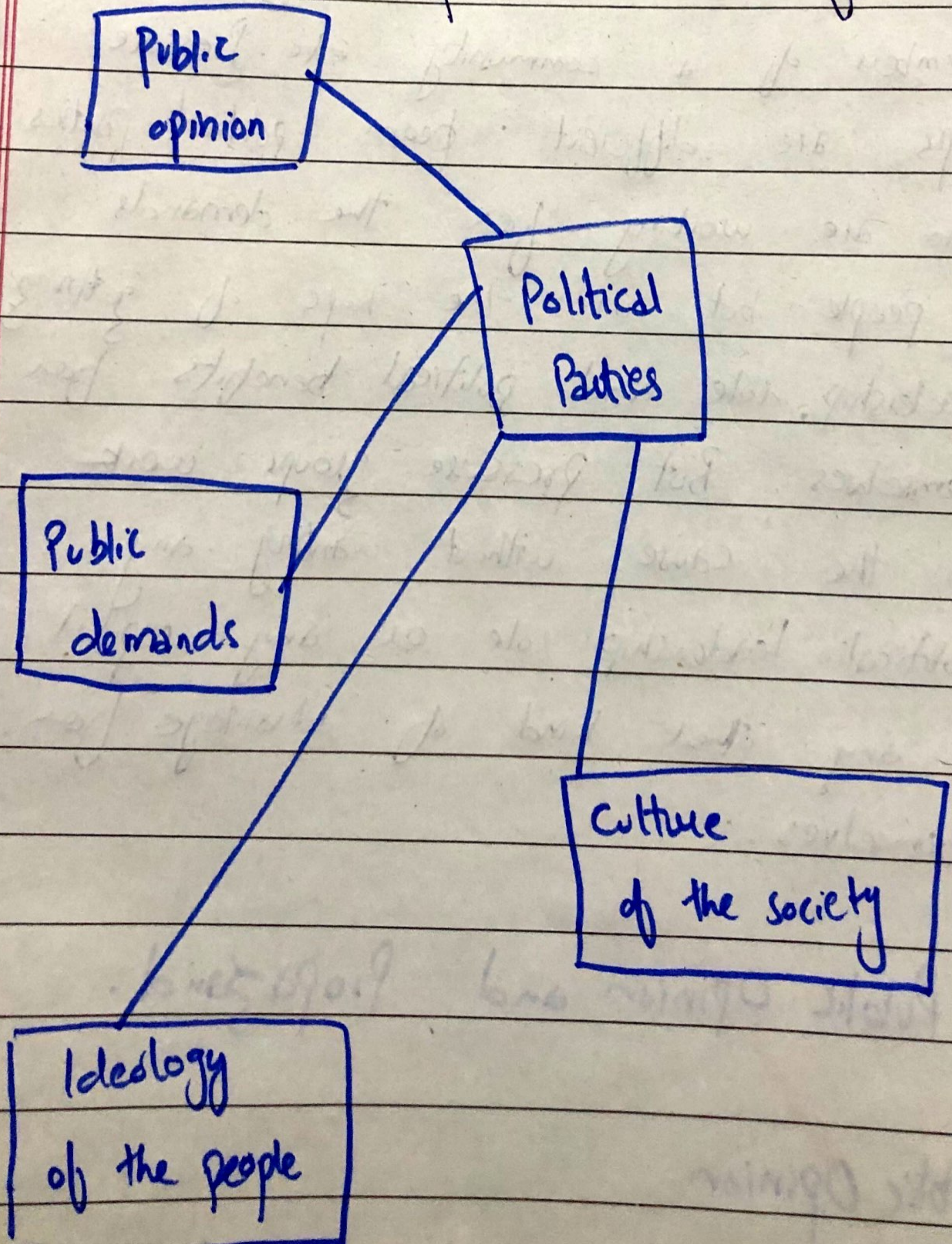
Groups

Political Parties

Political parties are the active members of the society that group on the basis of having same ideology as other members of the group and are ready to represent the

masses with the same ideology and culture and to work for the demands of the masses.

Political parties ensure that they are there to help public and solve their matters and to send their demands to the government so that they can be fulfilled and in this way they'll also get political representation and benefits.



Pressure Groups

Pressure groups are the groups that put pressure on the government to ensure that their political demands are met by the government and in this way it gets the progress going in the society and ensures its demands are fulfilled. It includes some social activist groups, members of a community etc. Pressure groups are different from political parties who are working for the demands of people but in the hope of getting leadership role and political benefits for themselves. But pressure groups work for the cause without wanting any political leadership role or any capital or any other kind of advantage for themselves.

a. Public Opinion and Propagand.

Public Opinion

Public opinion is the opinion

of the public which has some intensity. It is not the opinion of the masses but the opinion which has some intensity, which keeps people active and they can fight for it without any fear or consequences. It can be the opinion of a minority group if they are demonstrating it on daily basis by staying active and intensifying. The opinion of majority might not be a public opinion because they were sleeping and they are not heard. And they didn't do anything to intensify it.

Propaganda

Propaganda is the wave that is created to defame someone by using different mediums and tactics by spreading false ~~info~~ information about someone or accusing someone for something that is never done by that person or state, just for the purpose of shaming and defaming

them in front of everyone. Pakistan is mostly defamed by Indian propaganda against her. India created propaganda many times in the history of Pakistan to defame Pakistan. India plotted terrorist attack in India and blamed Pakistan so that Pakistan reputation could be destroyed and world will see Pakistan as a terrorist country. Similarly, USA also did propaganda about nuclear weapons in Iraq in the era of Bush but later it was found that USA did this to destroy the progress of Iraq by propaganda and accusing her of false information.