

## Question No: 2

### Introduction:

Both Aristotle and Plato were the great philosophers of their time. Both formulated their political theories to solve the existing problems of their state. However, there are some similarities and difference in their theories. The theory given by Plato was ideal and utopian while the Aristotle's theory is based on study that he did by studying constitutions of the other countries. Moreover, there are many more difference between them. Besides, there are also some similarities. Both upheld slavery and condemned democracy. The detail of their differences and similarities are given below.

### Similarities:

There are following similarities



in Plato and Aristotle.

### (1) Both Upheld Slavery:

Both upheld and justified slavery. They justified its continuation in true spirit for the uplifting of Greek city state. They considered slaves as an indispensable part of the community for the manual performance and overall development of the state.

### 2) Condemned Democracy:

They both were hostile toward democracy. Plato was of the opinion that it can't tolerate dissent of the people. He argued that it can't be a good system because it executed a great teacher like Socrates. Similarly, Aristotle was also hostile towards democracy. He placed democracy as unlawful.



form of government in his classification.

③ Both gives classification of state.

Both Aristotle and Plato give their own classification of state. Plato divided states into lawful states and unlawful states. Lawful states of Plato were Monarchy, Aristocracy and constitutional Democracy. While unlawful includes Tyranny, oligarchy & unconstitutional democracy. Similarly, Aristotle divided states on the basis of number of rule and the end of state. For him best states were Monarchy, Aristocracy and polity while ~~were~~ unlawful were Tyranny, oligarchy and Democracy.

④ Both Focus on virtue & justice:

Both philosophers emphasized that the



Ultimate goal of politics is to promote virtue and justice within the society. They both viewed politics as a mean to achieve the good life for individual and the community.

### Differences between Aristotle and Plato:

① Plato is idealist and Aristotle is Realist:

The theory given by Plato is ideal and impracticable. Because the watertight division between the citizens is not possible. On the other hand, Aristotle studied 158 constitutions of different states and he deduces a theory.

② Difference on theory of communism:

Plato was of the opinion that the upper class in his ideal state



would not any property nor they will have monogamous relation.

On contrary, Aristotle argue that state can't deprived anyone from his property. He said that communism is against the human nature.

③ Plato believe on Rule of man while Aristotle on Rule of law:

Plato was the strong proponent of rule of man. He believed that in his ideal state everyone will follow the commands of Philosopher King. No one can question the Philosopher King. While Aristotle believes on rule of law. He argues that in the state no man is above the law. All citizen must follow and upheld the role of law.

④ Differences of Senses:

Plato believed that



Senses could fool a person. But Aristotle was of the opinion that senses were needed to properly determine reality.

Relevance of Plato in Today's world.

### ① Supreme leader in Iran:

Supreme leader institution in Iran and concept of vilayat-e-faqih which states that the Faqih or jurist which the wisest in religious teaching should rule the country. It is similar to the concept of philosopher king given by the Plato.

Relevance of Aristotle in today's world:

Rule of law:

The main of focus of Aristotle theory was on the rule of law. Similarly in today's



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world almost every country try to ensure the role of law in the state.

add more arguments in this part.

Conclusion:

Plato and Aristotle, despite their differences, shaped the way people think about politics and society. Plato dreamed of a perfect world lead by wise rules, while Aristotle focused on practical solutions that fit human nature. Their ideas are still relevant in today's world, helping us think about good leadership, fair laws and the role of government.

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