

Political Science - II

Section - I

Q: No. 3

The System of Checks and Balances
in the Trichotomy of Powers

Introductory Remarks :

Though the idea of ^{checks} separation and balances discussed by Plato and Aristotle indirectly, but in a more structured and organised manner, it was given by Montesquieu in his famous book, 'The Spirit of Laws'. While discussing the idea of separation of power, Montesquieu also provided the theory of checks and balances. Under the theory power is distributed in such a way that each organ of state has some checks on the other to check counter-balance the checks of other organs. The system can be validated with the help of U.S. federal presidential structure where the system is perfectly running under this system. For example, judiciary has a great check on

On legislative branch while executive has the power to veto the legislative branch laws. Similarly, the appointment of judges in the U.S. federation is kept in the hands of legislative branch coupled with the consent of senate - the upper house of legislative branch. Similarly, Article 3 empowering Judiciary of the U.S. with judicial power also substantiates the system of checks and balances.

Decoding the Meaning of Trichotomy of Powers:

The word trichotomy literally means 'set of three'.

In the given context, it is used for the three fundamental organs of the government within a state. The organs are as following:

- 1- Legislative Branch: Main job is to make laws.
- 2- Executive Branch: It is mandated with task of implementation of laws and policies.
- 3- Judicial Branch
 - ↳ The branch basically deals with the interpretation of laws.

System of Checks and Balances

with Examples:

To justify the system of checks and balances, the U.S. federation is the best case study as across the globe no country has such an inherited setup.

1- Legislative, and Checks and Balances:

There are certain checks on the legislative branch, and for sure it has also some checks on other branches of state-machinery.

No Long Tenure

First of all, legislative is bound to contest elections. Both house of legislative branch come under this check in the U.S.

U.S. Congress as an example

Be it the House of Representatives or the Senate of the U.S., both houses' members are unable to enjoy the stay in house with the same vote. Thus it is a great check on their arbitrary rule law-making.

Another check on the legislative power is the President's Executive Veto.

In U.S. Federation, the idea of presidential veto along with Pocket Veto has always been a great check against the legislative branch. Legislative organ is aware of the fact if they make some unhealthy laws or which are not in favor of people, they will be declared null and void by the President.

On the same pattern, Judicial review also gives the power to judiciary that it may discard the laws violating the Bill of Rights. Rejection of famous Sex Amendment during Nixon's era is a glaring proof.

2- Executive, and System of Checks and

Balances:

As the legislative branch has checks, it has also a chance to counterbalance those checks. The same balances are actually the checks of executive branch.

For instance, if the executive can veto the laws made by legislative then, legislative branch also has the ability to override the veto with absolute majority. Once, it is done the president is bound to accept the law.

Similarly, executive cannot sign foreign

→ legislative branch as a court of Impeachment in Nixon, and Trump cases.

treaties or appoint supreme court judges without the consent of the Congress in the form of U.S. senate. Blocking of Trump-backed executive proposals is a glaring proof of it. Trump only succeeded to sign treaties with King Salman of KSA ~~per~~ he got consent from the U.S. Congress.

3- System of Checks and Balances, and Judiciary

On the same pattern, ^{if} Judiciary is empowered with the ~~power~~ Judicial Review, it has also been countered by some checks of legislative

For instance, judges appointment ~~cannot~~ be is not in the hands of judiciary itself.

The decision to nominate judges is in the hands of the POTUS - the President of the United States of America.

Similarly, final appointment can only be sought if the Senate approves the President's nomination.

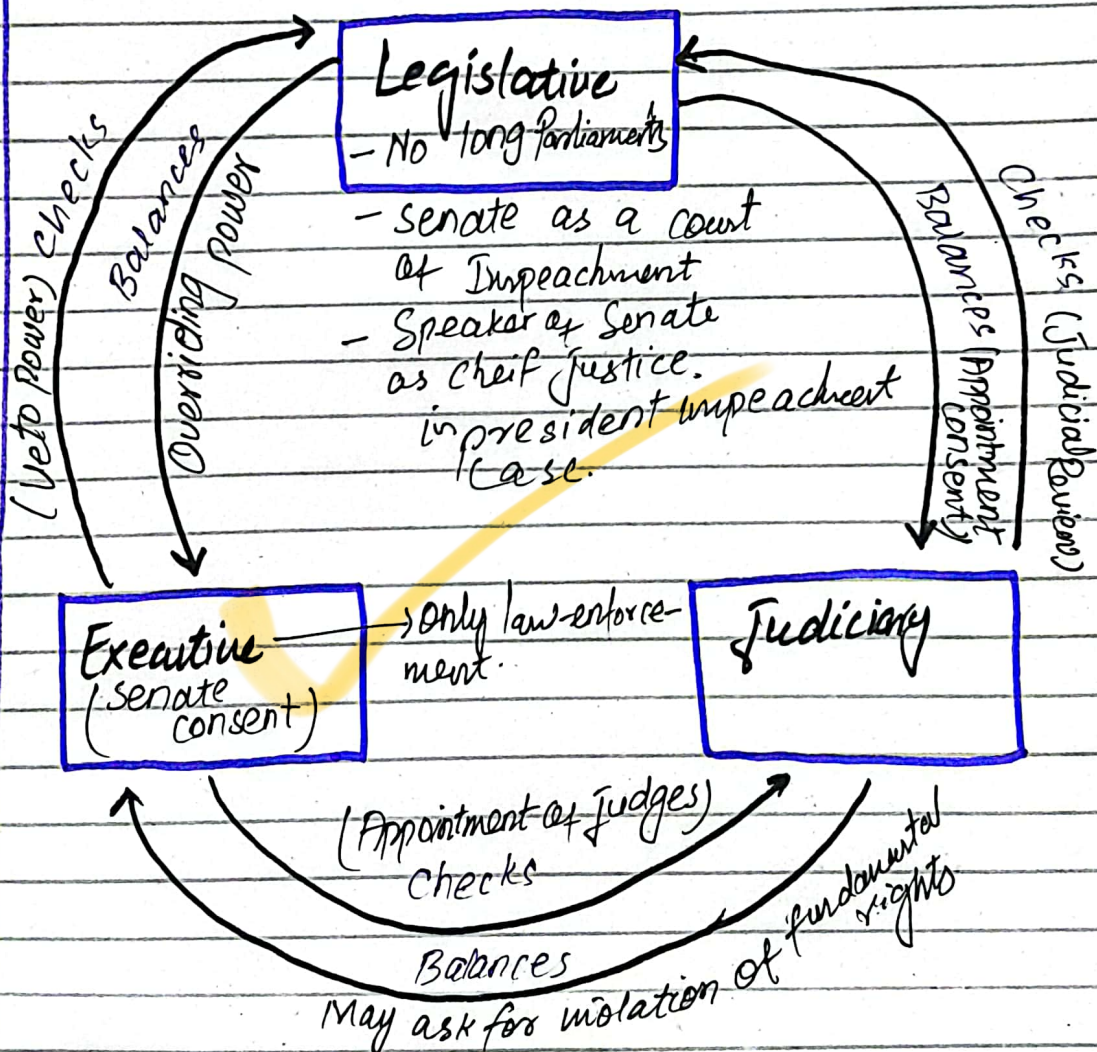
Example: Even Trump has gone, yet the 4 judges in judiciary are

Similarly, his appointed while the rest were not accepted as Senate was not agreed to all nominations of Trump.

Similarly, judiciary cannot exercise its powers randomly. The great check of judiciary is

Diagrammatic View of System of Checks and Balances:

The diagram presents a clear view how all branches in the U.S. federation have some checks and balances.



Critical Analysis:

No doubt, the system of checks and balances in the U.S. Federation is working brilliantly, yet loopholes can easily be found. For instance, it is considered that President of the U.S. cannot do things without consent of Senate; nevertheless, recently Biden's decision to send arms to Israel by using Arms Export Act, which empowers the POTUS to take decision in emergency without consent of the U.S., is a violation of system of checks and balances.

No doubt, the system of checks and balances in the U.S. have played a vital role in balancing the trichotomy of powers. Simply put, if judiciary is mandated with judicial review, then legislative has the power to approve the appointment of judges. If President exercises the power of veto, then the Congress also has the power to override his veto-power. In a nutshell, the system of checks and balances work in the trichotomy of power brilliantly and perfectly.

Section - B

Q: NO: 4

Necessity of a Strong Political System for a Strong Political Economy; and Compatibility Between Capitalism and Democracy.

Introduction:

History backs with facts that for a strong political economy there must be a strong political system. Certainly, the rise of Japan, Singapore, and Scandinavian countries back the veracity of above-stated words. The question, however, rises what is the necessity of a strong political system. The answer is simple and candid: A strong political system demands decentralisation of power. Where real power rests in the people of the land. Where decisions are made while keeping fair well 1st priority. Similarly, a strong political system also seeks opening of markets and protection of individual rights and freedoms. Thus, keeping in the view the above-given characteristics of a strong political system, it can easily be asserted that capitalism and democracy are

completely congruent to each other. Simply as Capitalism places its trust in Laissez Fair and Market Forces along with the idea of Liberalism - individualism. Thus, it would be unjust to say that capitalism and democracy can't function together.

Salient Features that are the Necessity of a strong political system:

There are certain characteristics of a strong political system. Major ones are:

Visionary leadership: A sine qua non for strong political system

There is no denying the fact that a strong political system is one where leadership is visionary. A leadership which can see beyond the nearby walls. Abraham Lincoln and Quaid are great examples of it.

Examples: The rise of Singapore is not an overnight success but the life-long struggle of Lee Kuan Yew's visionary leadership and skills.

On the other hand, the downfall of the Middle East nations like Syria, ^{and} Egypt starts when visionary leadership do not have ~~strong~~ positions in political standings.

Rule of law: One of the Pillars of strong political systems.

Similarly, a strong political system is always built upon rule of law. A system in which no one is above the law. Either it's an ordinary citizen or the state head is bound to face law if he commits wrong.

Example: Two Western nations have grown even after the deadliest wars of the past. The reason is simple: they respected the rule of law. 'U.S' is a glaring proof.

Decentralisation of Power at Grassroots to integrate general will of people.

A strong political system also advocates the theory of decentralisation of power to avert the dilemma of 'power corrupts absolute power corrupts absolutely'.

Example Kerala Model in India is a glaring evidence; the region is excellently comparatively faster as the system is more empowering.

Informed and vigilant Citizenry: The backbone of strong political system.

Another necessity for a strong political system that ensures a strong political economy is that people must be informed of their rights and duties.

Elections: A mandatory part to ensure peaceful transition of power.

Without giving people right to choose among choices, there can be no strong political system. In other words, elections are a prerequisite for a strong political systems.

Example: Afghanistan fails to ensure elections, thereby, political system is not upto mark. Hence, economy is also stagnant.

How Capitalism and Democracy can Function Together:

Following traits of capitalism prove that it can work with democracy. Capitalism's Laissez fair theory and

Democracy believe in the will of people. Synonymous with each other.

Capitalism strictly adhere to the policy of free-market where state does not regulate. As Capitalism believes in invisible hands of market. Thus, it promotes the idea that state is means to achieve the end. Similarly, Democracy also does the same.

Individualism ~~and~~ in Capitalism and

Democracy:-

Capitalism also agrees with democracy as both the ideologies believe in individualism. Democracy speaks of protection of individual freedoms and liberties. Similar is the case with capitalism. Hence both are compatible.

Private Property Ownership and Democracy

Capitalism strictly advocates the philosophy private property which is also one of fundamental principles of democracy. Democracy be the version given by Aristotle or John Locke private property has always been a chief concern for democracy. Thus, it can be

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claimed that democracy and capitalism

are compatible.
Critical Analysis:

An critical evaluation, it becomes clear that a strong political system is a sine qua non for a strong political economy. ~~but~~ However, it is also true that some of the traits of strong political system may vary state to state. To convince, China is a glaring proof where even centralism has delivered a lot.

Conclusion:

Need better structure and substantiation

To give the finishing touch to the debate it is pertinent to say that a strong political system believes in the will of people. It ensures decentralisation of power and authority. It advocates the liberties and freedoms of individuals. From the given, it can be deduced confidently that capitalism and democracy are compatible with each other. As capitalism espouses the ideas of free-market, individualism and private property ownership which is also the cornerstones of democracy. Thus, it can be said that democracy and capitalism can work together.

Q: no: 6

Electoral System and Elections: A Sine Qua Non for Political Socialization

Introduction:

En Gabriel Almond in his famous book 'Comparative Politics...' while talking of political socialization says:

“Political socialization is not an overnight phenomenon but a struggle of years; and the struggle is at its peak during the days of elections.”

The above-stated words clearly depict that electoral system and elections are the ~~pre~~ essential conditions required for political socialization. Certainly, during the days of elections, each TV programme, print-media outlets only talk about elections. They discuss parties and their manifestos. Political rallies and speeches of politicians become the drug in the market during elections. All this ends up with the political

socialization of masses. They come to know the norms and values of political system of the country. Similarly electoral system also paves path for better socialization of people politically. Simply, proportional system of elections has different outcomes while non-proportional such as First Past the Post has a different impact on political socialization of people.

An overview of political socialization and Electoral System :

David Easton defines political socialization in these words:

“ Political socialization is a process of learning through which masses acquire the political norms, and values of the political culture of their land. ”

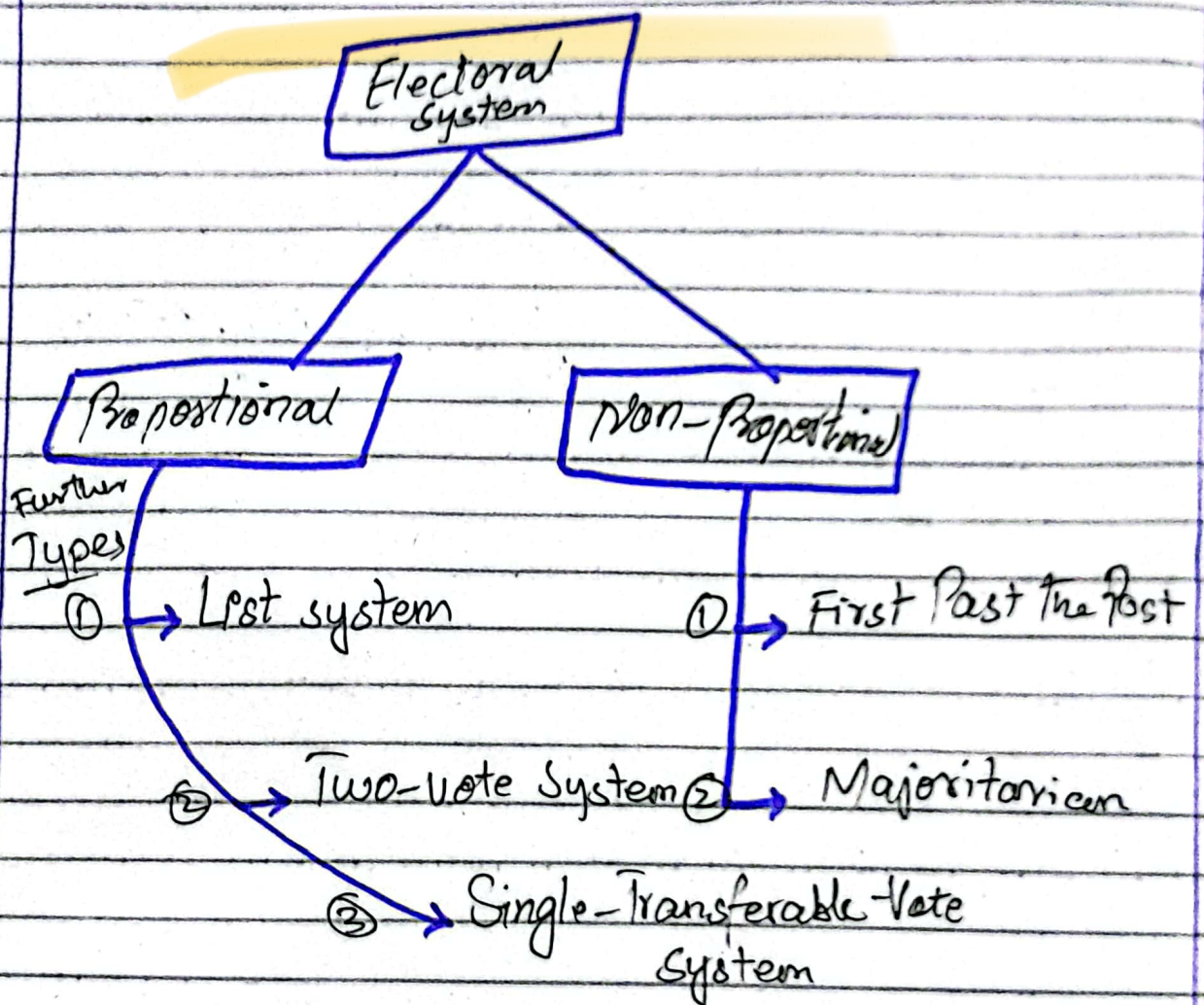
From the given definition, it is

clear that political socialization is the process of instilling political norms and values.

To do so, elections and electoral systems are necessary.

Basically a system through which elections are conducted is called electoral system.

Broadly, there are two types of electoral system



Hence, depending on the system, elections

set different nature of political reforms.

How ... are sine qua non.

Electoral system and elections are necessary for political socialization in following ways:

1- ~~During~~ Before

Elections, Political Parties ~~visits to~~ introduce their manifestos. A Great Source of Educating Masses.

There is no doubt that elections play a vital role in educating masses. Elections-days are a chance to tell the people what have been done in the past. Thus, they become a great source of education and information. One party says else while other claims otherwise. Hence, people get more informed.

Politicians Visiting Their Constituencies

Telling people about the National Ideology.

Another thing that happens is politicians visits to their local constituencies. Thus, electoral system and elections are necessary for political socialization.

Without Elections: Peaceful Transition of Power becomes a distant dream.

Elections are also a means to ensure peaceful transition of power which helps a lot in the promotion of political culture. Hence, it can be said elections are necessary for political socialization. Elections are mandatory as they transfers values of political systems.

During elections days media outlets tell people continuously how to cast their vote. What is the value of their vote. Hence, elections are a sine qua non for political socialization.

People actively engage during elections; thereby, these are mandatory.

Another reason is that people themselves actively engage in the process of socialization. Hence, these are Critical Analysis: necessary.

Though the above-debate places a great emphasis on elections and electoral system for political socialization, yet one may differ. As USA and countries like Qatar, UAE do not have elections yet people are socialized politically.

Conclusion:

Nothing seems more appealing than the words of Samuel P. Huntington to conclude the debate 'Electional System and Elections are the sine qua non for political socialization,

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Barely can the citizens be socialized politically in ordinary days the way the days of election do. 99

Q: No. 7

The National Interests: Key Determinant of the Foreign Policy of Pakistan

Introduction:

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If national policy is the defense against internal threats, foreign policy is the 1st defense-line against the external threats. 99

(Maleeha Lodhi)

No doubt, foreign policy acts a

bulwark against the external threats and protects the national interests of a state. That is the reason that Pakistan has always formulated its foreign policy depending on its national interests. From the decision of aligning with the West and joining the CEATO and SEATO to the decision of joining hands with the U.S in the War on Terrorism (WOT), all were motivated by national interests of Pakistan. Even in present era, the foreign policy of Pakistan is a clear reflection of the country's national interests.

Manifestations justifying that Pakistan's Foreign policy's key determinant is National Interests.

1950s Foreign Policy and Impact of National Interest of Protecting the Land

From India and Kashmir issue Resolution

Pakistan due to its national interests joined the western nations. Being a nascent state and

alarming threats coming from Indian side

Pakistan joined western defence alliances SEATO and CENTO.

1960s Ayub's Era and Impacts on Foreign

Policy:

Ayub Khan shown a great tilt towards the U.S to meet ~~its~~ the country's defence interests.

1970s to 1990s — Cold War Era and

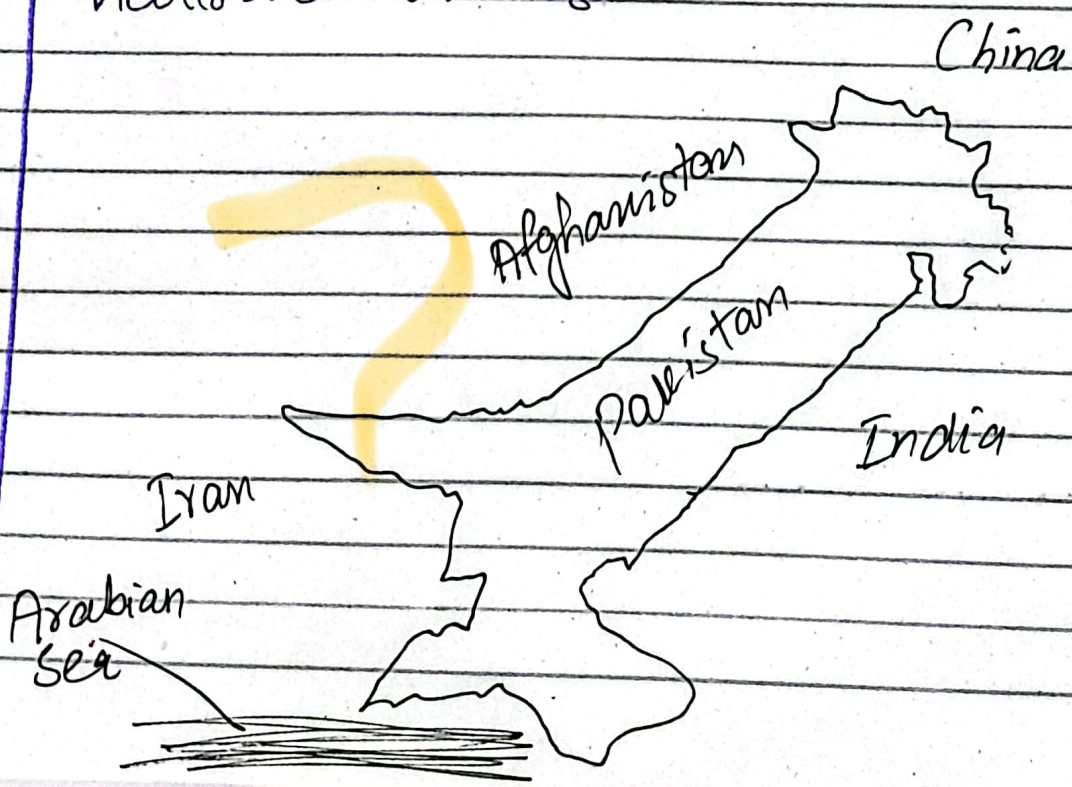
Pakistan's Foreign Policy Due to National

Interests

Pakistan once again to fulfill
USS economic interests supported
to US despite knowing ^{two former} Russia
is a neighborhood USSR

National Interest of Geographic and geo-strategic Influence leading to Tilt towards China

To enhance Pakistan economic and strengthen political muscles, Pakistan secured good ties with China — another national interest.



Relations with Muslim States and
Pakistan's Foreign Policy:

Relations with Iran, Afghanistan
and raising voice against Israel's
brutal settlements have always
a national interest so the foreign
policy is not immune to it.

War on Terrorism and Post-9/11 Foreign Policy

Pakistan confronted the rise
of terrorism at home. To
address the dilemma, Pakistan
once again joined hands with
U.S.A.

From Geopolitics to Geo-economics:

Recent shift is also
due to
national interests of the
country.

Critical Analysis:

Historically analyzing the foreign policy of Pakistan, things became crystal clear that no doubt Pakistan's foreign policy has always been revolving around its national interests. Yet it is true to assert that Pakistan's policy makers have not attained the higher level of pragmatism and neutrality the way India does.

Conclusion:

The debate clearly validate that national interests have been the key determinant of the foreign policy of Pakistan. Be it about relations with the Muslim countries or supporting the oppressed and suppressed nations, it is clear that Pakistan always focused its national interests as the 1st priority.