

QNO 2

Critically examine Machiaveli concept of power, and its relevancy in contemporary statecrafts and international politics.

Answer

1- Introduction:

Machiaveli-an Italian statesman and political philosopher - was greatly influenced by the political and intellectual tendencies of his age. He became acquainted with numerous rulers, and then concluded his political philosophy based on the powerful ruler. The wicked nature of human - according to Machiaveli - is controlled by the powerful and diplomat ruler. Thus, his concept of power is more relevant in contemporary statecraft and international politics.

2. Machiaveli concept of power:

Machiaveli presented his concept of power on the basis of wicked nature of human.

2.1- Machiaveli concept on the nature of man:

- All humans are wicked and selfish by nature. They stand by you when you serve their interest and they will turn against you when you do not serve their interests.
- Some men desire to own more, and some men ~~defear~~ fear to lose what they have.
- Wealth and property are more motive to human.
- Wealth and material propriety form the basis of political science among men. They are compelled to form society to

protect their property.

2.2 Machiaveli concept of power to protect state and subjects right:

For Machiaveli,
State is an end, and the
end justifies everything.
Machiaveli's concept of power
are given:

Features of Machiaveli concept of power

The king should be
above everything to
protect the state

The ruler should be
feared than to be
loved to protect
interests of state

The king should be
as courageous as a lion and
as cunning as a fox



The king should be
rigid to suppress rebellion
thoughts in its subject



The king should have
its own well-trained
army to protect the
state from external
affairs.



The religion should be
used in the hand of
state to promote
unity.



The king can use illegal
methods to protect state, but
should act innocent before subjects.

3- Critically examine the Machiavelli concept of power.

3.1- Positive aspects:

- Protection of public property by state as people are more vulnerable to their belongings.
- The state should have its own army to protect from external affairs.

3.2 Negative aspects:

- The king should not have too much power as it would lead to tyranny.
- Killing of person is illegal be it is done by state or an individual.
- The king should be ethical; he

should not do immoral tasks.

4. Relevance of Machiaveli concept of power in contemporary world:

Machiaveli
concept of power is relevant
in today's world.

4.1. Machiaveli known as father of modern utilitarianism:

Today, the
statecrafts and international
politics work on the same
principle presented by Machiavelli
in his book "Prince." Therefore,
Machiaveli is known as
"father of modern utilitarianism."

4.2. Contemporary politics work on the same

principle of might is right:

Machiavelli principle is based on the protection of state in which state is the end, and its subjects are its mean.

Today's world also works on the same principle. The international laws are being sidelined and the state's hegemony are being forced.

Below are manifestation of Machiavelli concept of power:

Israeli

→ Palestine

UAE

→ Sudan

America

→ Venezuela

Russia

→ Ukraine

5. Conclusion:

To conclude,
Machiavelli presented his concept of power based on the wicked and selfish nature of human. To control people's selfish nature, the king should be rigid and be feared. Moreover, the Machiavelli concept of power is relevant in today's world. The contemporary statecrafts and international politics, to protect their state, also adopted the same principles.
