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COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

By: Dheeraj

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QUESTION PAPER

(June – 2019)

(Solved)

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Time: 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks: 100

- Note:* (i) Section I — Any **two** questions to be answered.
(ii) Section II — Any **four** questions to be answered.
(iii) Section III — Any **two** parts of question No. 13 to be answered.

SECTION - I

Answer the following questions:

Q. 1. Write an essay on China's development strategies.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-12, Page No. 59, 'The Chinese Strategies'.

Q. 2. Describe the factors behind the acceptance of New Globalisation.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-29, Page No. 167, 'Factors Behind the Acceptance of New Globalisation'.

Q. 3. Write an essay on the definition and the problem of identifying the peasantry.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-24, Page No. 119, 'Definition and the Problem of Identifying Peasantry'.

Q. 4. Describe Women's Suffrage Movements.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-25, Page No. 127, 'Introduction' and Page No. 128, 'Women's Suffrage'.

SECTION - II

Answer the following questions:

Q. 5. Describe the functions of political parties.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-20, Page No. 96, 'Functions of Political Parties'.

Q. 6. Write a note on any two forms of proportional representation.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-22, Page No. 105, 'Proportional Representation'.

Q. 7. Write a note on judicial review and judicial activism.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-17, Page No. 83, 'Judicial Review and Judicial Activism'.

Q. 8. Trace the changing nature of federalism.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-18, Page No. 87, 'Changing Nature of Federalism'.

Q. 9. What do you understand by social stratification? Explain.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-9, Page No. 49, 'Social Stratification'.

Q. 10. Elaborate upon the corporatist theory of power.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-11, Page No. 56, 'Corporatist Theory'.

Q. 11. Examine the role of Christian missionaries in the context of national movements.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-6, Page No. 36, Q. No. 2.

Q. 12. Write a note on expansion of colonialism in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-8, Page No. 43, 'Colonialism in and Scramble for Africa'.

SECTION - III

Write short notes on the following:

Q. 13. Write short notes on the following:

(a) Utility of Comparative Study of Politics.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 4, 'Comparative Study of Politics : Utility'.

(b) Statistical Method

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 11, 'Statistical Method'.

(c) Historical Context of the Systems Approach

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-4, Page No. 22, 'Historical Context'.

(d) Andre Gunder Frank on Dependency.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-5, Page No. 28, 'Development as Under-development and Dependency'.



QUESTION PAPER

(December – 2018)

(Solved)

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Time: 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

- Note:* (i) Section I– Any two questions to be answered.
(ii) Section II– Any four questions to be answered.
(iii) Section III– Any two short notes to be written.

SECTION – I

Answer the following questions:

Q. 1. Discuss the inter-relationship of comparative politics and comparative government.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 2, 'Comparative Politics and Comparative Government'.

Q. 2. Examine case study as a method of comparative study.

Ans. Comparisons form part of our daily lives which are criss-crossed by numerous other lives. Our own experiences and observations of our environment get shaped and influenced by those of others in many ways. People and events are connected in a network of relationships which may be close or emotionally bound as in a family, or as the network expands in the course of our daily lives, professional or impersonal. It may be observed that these relationships or inter-connectedness may show regularity or a pattern or a recurrence, and may also themselves be regulated by norms and rules.

Also Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 9, 'Case Study'.

Q. 3. Describe the social bases of national movements in the colonial era.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-6, Page No.34, 'Social Bases of National Movements' and Page No. 33, 'Causes of Growth of National Movement'.

Q. 4. Write an essay on the features and functions of the colonial state.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-8, Page No. 44, 'The Features and Functions of the Colonial State'.

SECTION – II

Answer the following questions.

Q. 5. What is the Functionalist Approach to social stratification? Explain.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-9, Page No. 49, 'The Functionalist Approach' and Page No. 50, Q. No. 5.

Q. 6. Write a note on Agrarian class formation.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 51, 'Agrarian Class Formation'.

Q. 7. Examine the reasons for the decline of the legislature as an institution in recent times.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-17, Page No. 83, 'Decline of Legislature' and Page No. 84, Q. No. 6.

Q. 8. Describe some federal political arrangements.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-18, Page No. 88, Q. No. 4 and Page No. 86, 'Example of Federal Political Arrangement'.

Q. 9. Compare a two-party system with a multiparty system.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-20, Page No. 97, 'Two Party vs. Multi-Party Systems'.

Q. 10. Describe some among the various types of pressure groups.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-21, Page No. 101, 'Types of Pressure Groups'.

Sample Preview of The Chapter

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COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

COMPARATIVE METHODS AND APPROACHES

Nature, Scope and Utility of Comparative Study of Politics



INTRODUCTION

Comparative politics deals with comparing political phenomena for which comparative method of inquiry is used. Both the methods as well as the substance i.e. political phenomena is given due emphasis. In the later chapters, we will learn that the comparative method is also used in other disciplines as well, for example, Sociology and Psychology. The changes in the subject-matter, vocabulary and political perspective have determined the nature and scope of comparative politics. In order to know where, why and how these changes took place, we need to look at what is the focus of study at a particular historical period, what are the tools, languages or concepts being used for the study and what is the vantage point, perspective and purpose of enquiry. Therefore, we look at the manner in which comparative politics has evolved; the continuities and discontinuities which have informed this evolution; the ways in which this evolution has been determined in and by the specific historical contexts and socio-economic and political forces. In addition to this, we see how radical changes have been brought about in the manner in which the field of comparative politics has been envisaged in the context of globalization of the late 20th century.

CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF POLITICS: NATURE AND SCOPE

In the light of above information, it may be asked if at all there is a distinct field of comparative political analysis or it is a sub-discipline subsumed within the larger discipline of Political Science. It may be noted that the three aspects of subject-matter, language, vocabulary, and perspective are inadequate in establishing the distinctiveness of comparative politics within the broad discipline of Political Science. This is

largely because comparative politics shares the subject-matter and concerns of Political Science, i.e. democracy, constitutions, political parties, social movements etc. Thus, within the discipline of Political Science the specificity of comparative political analysis is marked out by its conscious use of the comparative method to answer questions which might be of general interest to political scientists and students.

Comparisons: Identification of Relationships: Some scholars have emphasized the comparative method as defining the character and scope of comparative political analysis to dispel frequent misconceptions about comparative politics as involving the study of foreign countries. Thus, while studying a country other than your own, you would be called a comparativist. In most of the cases, this misconception simply means the gathering of information about individual countries with little or at the most implicit comparison involved. In the eyes of most comparativists, the distinctiveness of comparative politics lies in a conscious and systematic use of comparisons to study two or more countries with the purpose of identifying, and eventually explaining differences or similarities between them with respect to the particular phenomena being analyzed. In comparative politics, scholars have, for a long time, studied similarities and differences, and directed this towards classifying, dichotomizing or polarizing political phenomena. However, comparative political analysis is not simply about identifying similarities and differences only. Many scholars find that the purpose of using comparisons is going beyond identifying similarities and differences or the compare and contrast approach, to ultimately study political phenomena in a larger framework of relationships. According to them, this would help deepen our

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understanding and broaden the levels of answering and explaining political phenomena in proper context.

Comparative Politics and Comparative Government: According to Ronald Chilcote, the common notion that comparative politics involves a study of governments arises from conceptual confusion. The field of comparative government is limited to comparative study of governments but comparative politics is concerned with the study of all forms of political activity, governmental as well as non-governmental. Thus, the field of comparative politics has an 'all encompassing' nature and comparative politics specialists tend to view it as the study of everything political.

At the same time, it may be noted that for long comparative politics concerned itself with the study of governments and regime types in Western countries. Later, the process of decolonization particularly in the wake of the Second World War, generated interest in the study of emerging nations. This was accompanied also by the urge to formulate abstract universal models, which could explain political phenomena and processes in all the unit nations. There was also an expansion in the sphere of politics so as to allow the examination of politics as a total system, including not merely the state and its institutions but also individuals, social groupings, political parties, interest groups and social movements.

Certain aspects of institutions and political process were particularly emphasized for what was seen as their usefulness in explaining political processes. Often, these systemic studies were built around the concern with nation-building. The presence of divergent ideological poles like Western capitalism and Soviet socialism, the rejection of Western imperialism by most newly liberated countries and the non-aligned movement, gradually led to the irrelevance of most modernization models for purposes of global or large level comparisons. During the 1950s and 1960s attempts to explain political reality were made through the construction of large scale models, while the seventies was the period of the assertion of Third World-ism and the rolling back of these models. During the Eighties, the constriction of the levels of comparison with studies based on regions or smaller numbers of units became prevalent. During the period of globalization, the imperatives for large level comparisons increased and the field of comparisons has diversified with the proliferation of non-state, non-governmental actors and the increased interconnections between nations due to economic linkages and information technology.

**COMPARATIVE POLITICS:
A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW**

The changes which have occurred historically in the subject-matter of comparative politics have determined its nature and scope. We can see that the geographical space or countries and regions as well as the dominant ideas concerning social reality and change

which shaped the approaches to comparative studies have determined the subject-matter of comparative politics. Similarly, the thrust or the primary concern of the studies kept changing in different historical epochs.

The Origins of Comparative Study of Politics: In its earliest incarnation, the comparative study of politics comes to us in the form of studies done by the Greek philosopher Aristotle. Aristotle studied the constitutions of 150 states and classified them into a typology of regimes classification was presented in terms of both descriptive and normative categories i.e. he not only described and classified regimes and political systems in terms of their types e.g. democracy, aristocracy, monarchy etc., he also distinguished them on the basis of certain norms of good governance.

On the basis of this comparison he divided regimes into good and bad—ideal and perverted. These Aristotelian categories were acknowledged and taken up by Romans such as Polybius (201-120 B.C.) and Cicero (106-43 B.C.) who considered them in formal and legalistic terms. Concern with comparative study of regime types reappeared in the 15th century with Machiavelli (1469- 1527).

The Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century's: The preoccupation with philosophical and speculative questions concerning the 'good order' or the 'ideal state' and the use, in the process, of abstract and normative vocabulary, persisted in comparative studies of the late 19th and early 20th century's.

The late nineteenth and early twentieth century's signified the period when liberalism was the reigning ideology and European countries enjoyed dominance in world politics. The 'rest of the world' of Africa and Latin America were either European colonies or under their sphere of influence as ex-colonies. Comparative studies during this period.

Modern Democracies (1921), Herman Finer's Theory and Practice of Modern Governments (1932) and Carl J. Friedrich's Constitutional Government and Democracy (1937), Roberto Michels, Political Parties (1915) and M. Duverger, Political Parties (1950)) the distribution of power, and the relationship between the different layers of government.

These studies were Eurocentric i.e. confined to the study of institutions, governments and regime types in European countries like Britain, France and Germany. It may thus be said that these studies were in fact not genuinely a comparative in the sense that they excluded from their analysis a large number of countries. Any generalisation derived from a study confined to a few countries could not legitimately claim having validity for the rest of the world.

It may be emphasized here that exclusion of the rest of the world was symptomatic of the dominance of Europe in world politics a dominance which however, was on the wane, and shifting gradually to North

America. All contemporary history had Europe at its centre, obliterating the rest of the world:

(a) As 'people without histories.

(b) Whose histories were bound with and destined to follow the trajectories already followed by the Nature, SC and Utility or advanced countries of the West. Thus the above mentioned works manifest their Comparative rootedness in the normative values of western liberal democracies which carried with it the baggage of racial and civilisational superiority, and assumed a prescriptive character for the colonies/former colonies.

The Second World War and After: The end of the Second World War marked a number of significant developments, including the waning of European, particularly British hegemony, the emergence and entrenchment of United States of America as the new power in world politics and economy, and the bifurcation of the world into two ideological camps – western capitalism and eastern socialism. It was the time when the majority of the 'rest of the world' had liberated itself from European imperialism. Now, the notions of development, modernization, nation-building, state-building and other issues evinced a degree of legitimacy and even popularity in 'new nations'. However, ideologically these 'new nations', were no longer compelled to tow the western capitalist path of development.

While socialism had its share of sympathizers among the new ruling elite of the Asia, America and Latin America, quite a number of newly independent countries made a conscious decision to distance themselves from both the power blocs, remaining non-aligned to either of the blocs.

In the light of the above developments, a powerful critique of the institutional approach emerged in the middle of 1950s. The root of the critique could be found in behaviouralism which aimed at providing scientific rigour to the discipline and develop a science of politics. This movement was concerned with developing an enquiry which was quantitative, based on survey techniques involving the examination of empirical facts separated from values, to provide value-neutral, non-prescriptive, objective observations and explanations. These scholars tried to study social reality by seeking answers to questions such 'why people behave politically as they do, and why as a result, political processes and systems function as they do'. These questions changed the focus of comparative study from the legal-formal aspects of institutions. In 1955, Macridis criticized the existing comparative studies for privileging formal institutions over non-formal political processes, for being descriptive rather than analytical, and case-study oriented rather than genuinely comparative study.

The emphasis on the study of formal political institutions was rejected and there was the broadening of concerns in a geographic or territorial sense also

accompanied by a broadening of the sense of politics itself. The idea of politics was broadened by the emphasis on 'realism' or politics 'in practice' as distinguished from mere 'legalism'. Moreover, there was simultaneously a decline in the centrality of the notion of the state itself. This gave rise to inclusive and abstract notions such as the political system. This notion of the 'system' replaced the notion of the state and enabled scholars to take into account the 'extra-legal', 'social' and 'cultural' institutions which were critical to the understanding of non-western politics. Further, it had the added advantage of including in its scope 'pre-state'/ 'non-state' societies and also the roles and offices which were not seen as overtly connected with the concept of state as such.

The emergence of 'new nations' gave an opportunity to study what western comparatives perceived as economic and political change. Moreover, the universal frameworks of systems and structures–junctions enabled western scholars to study a wide range of political systems, structures, and behaviours, within a single paradigm. According to Wiarda, it was in this period of the 1960s that most contemporary scholars of comparative politics came of age. During this period, the mushrooming of universalistic models such as Easton's political system, Deutsch's social mobilization and Shil's centre and periphery could be observed. At the same time, the theories of modernization by Eisenstadt, Apter, Rokkan and Ward and the theory of political development by Almond, Coleman, Pye and Verba also gathered universal significance. These theories were claimed to be applicable across cultural Nature, Scope and Utility of and ideological boundaries and to explain political process everywhere. The comparative study or development of comparative political analysis in this phase coincided with the international involvement of the United States through military alliances and foreign aid. Developmentalism was perhaps the dominant conceptual paradigm of this period. The interest in developmentalism is said to have emanated to a large extent from US foreign policy interests in 'developing' countries, to counter the appeals of Marxism-Leninism and drive them towards a non-communist way to development of the countries.

The 1970s and Challenges to Developmentalism: Many criticized developmentalism in 1970s for favouring abstract models, which flattened out differences among specific political-social-cultural systems, in order to study them within a single universalistic framework. The ethnocentrism of these models was main contention. These critics emphasized the need to concentrate on solutions to the backwardness of developing countries.

Dependency and corporatism were the two main challenges to developmentalism which arose in the early 1970s. Under the dependency theory, the dominant model of developmentalism was criticized for ignoring

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domestic class factors and international market and power factors in development. Critics were particularly critical of US foreign policy and multinational corporations and suggested that the development of the already-industrialized nations and that of the developing ones could not go together. Andre Gunde Frank's *Capitalism and Underdevelopment in Latin America* (1967), Walter Rodney's *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa* (1972) and Malcolm Caldwell's *The Wealth of Some Nations* (1979) stressed the idea that the diffusion of capitalism promotes underdevelopment and not development in many parts of the world. Moreover, Marxist critics of the dependency theory argued that the nature of exploitation through surplus extraction should not be seen simply on national lines since the metropolitan bourgeoisie of the core centre and the indigenous bourgeoisie of the periphery satellite operated in a worldwide capitalist system. The corporatist approach criticized developmentalism for its Euro-American ethnocentrism and indicated that there was an alternative way or ways to organize the state.

The 1980s: The Return of the State: The resistance to developmentalism gave way to a number of theories and subject-matters into the field of comparative politics in the later 1970s and into the 1980s. The new focus included bureaucratic-authoritarianism, indigenous concepts of change, and transitions to democracy, the politics of structural adjustment, neoliberalism and privatization. Many scholars criticized this change as undermining and breaking the unity of the field but others saw them as adding healthy diversity, providing alternative approaches and covering new subject areas. According to Almond (late 1950s), the notion of the state should be replaced by the political system, which was adaptable to scientific inquiry, and Easton (1980s) argued on the importance of political system as the core of political study. However, the state received its share of attention in the 60s and 70s in the works of bureaucratic-authoritarianism in Latin America, particularly in Argentina in the works of Guillermo O'Donnell as in *Economic Modernisation and Bureaucratic Authoritarianism* (1973). Moreover, Ralph Miliband's (1969) Nicolas Poulantzas (1978), and some others continued the focus on state well into the 1980s.

The Late Twentieth Century: Globalization and Emerging Trends/Possibilities

(a) Scaling Down of Systems: During the 1960s to 1980s, most of the development of comparative political analysis may be observed as an ever widening range of countries being included as cases, with more variables being added to the models. However, with the 1980s there has been a move away from general theory to emphasize the relevance of context. Moreover, there has been a shying away from models to a more in-depth understanding of particular countries and cases where more qualitative and contextualized data can be assessed

and where account can be taken of specific institutional circumstances or particular political cultures. Thus, scholars are found to focus more cultural specific studies. The emphasis on specific contexts and cultures has meant that the scale of comparisons was brought down. Moreover, the stress on 'grand systems' and model building declined.

(b) Civil Society and Democratization
Approach(es): The notion of the 'end of history' after the disintegration of Soviet Union. Francis Fukuyama coined the concept of 'The End of History' (1989) and argued in his book 'The End of History' and the 'Last Man' (1992) that the history of ideas had ended with the recognition and triumph of liberal democracy as the 'final form of human government'. This concept emphasized the predominance of western liberal democracy. It is in a way reminiscent of the 'end of ideology' debate of the 1950s which emerged at the height of the cold war and in the context of the decline of communism in the West. Especially, the U.S. sociologist, Daniel Bell (1960) that in the light of this development there was an ideological consensus, or the suspension of a need for ideological differences over issues of political practice. Later, in the 1980s, the idea of the 'end of history' was coupled with another late 1980s phenomenon of globalization which refers to a set of conditions, scientific, technological, economic and political. This has linked together the world in a manner so that occurrences in the one corner of the world are bound to affect or be affected by what is happening in another corner. Thus, in the wake of the so called triumph of capitalism, the approaches to the study of civil society and democratization have gained currency. There is, however, another significant trend in the approach which seeks to place questions of civil society and democratization as its primary focus. Now, the comparative analysis has gained a new dimension with the concerns on the issues of identity, environment, ethnicity, gender, race, etc.

(c) Information Collection and Diffusion: One of the main aspect and determinant of globalization has been the unprecedented developments in the field of information and communication technology with the advent of the Internet. This has led to the easier production, collection and analysis of data and has also assured their faster and wider diffusion in the world all around. The diffusion of ideas of democratization is an important result of such networking. For instance, the Zapatista rebellion in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas used the Internet and the global media to communicate their struggle for rights, social justice and democracy. Human right is another issue of importance in this era.

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF POLITICS: UTILITY

The degree of usefulness and relevance for enhancing our understanding of political reality is the