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Class 9 Political Sci. Notes

What is Democracy, Why Democracy

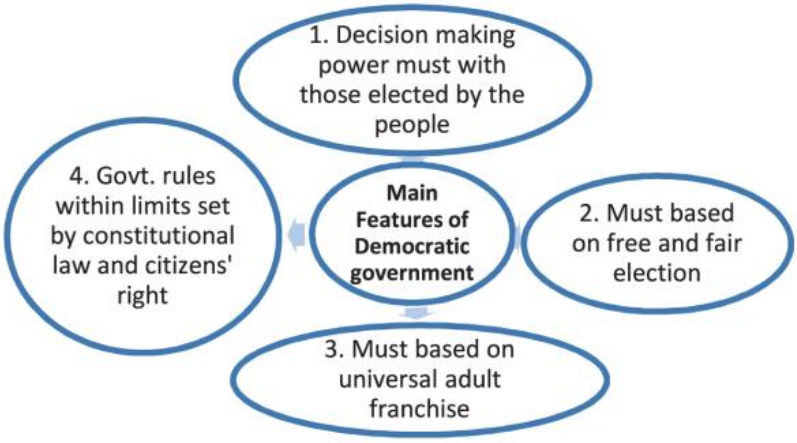
Key Notes and Important Questions with Answers

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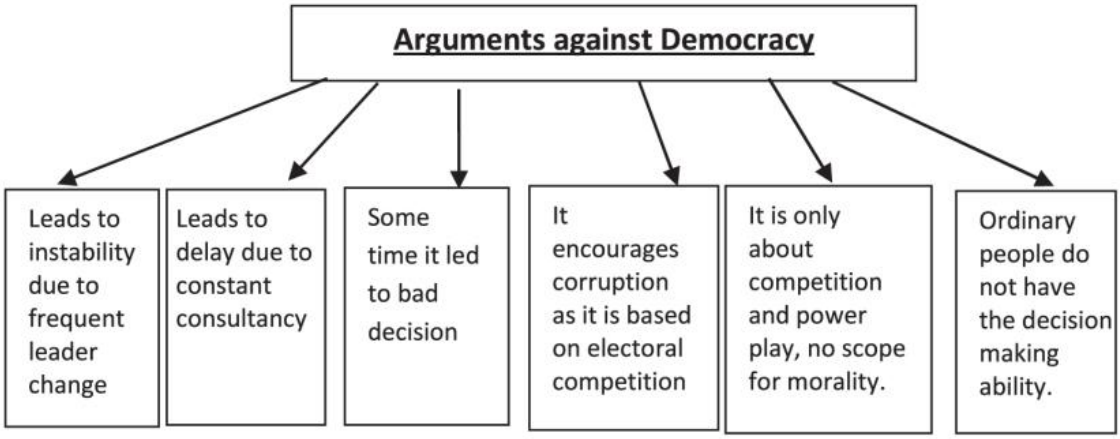
CHAPTER- 1
WHAT IS DEMOCRACY, WHY DEMOCRACY

POINTS TO REMEMBER :-

- Democracy is taken from a **Greek word- 'Demokratia'** or **Latin word- 'Democratia'**
- In Greek- Demos means 'people' and Kratia means 'rule'. i.e. democracy means rule of people.
- In fact Democracy is said to be a form of government in which people elect their own ruler.
- "Democracy is a form of government of the people, for the people, by the people.- **Abraham Lincoln**.
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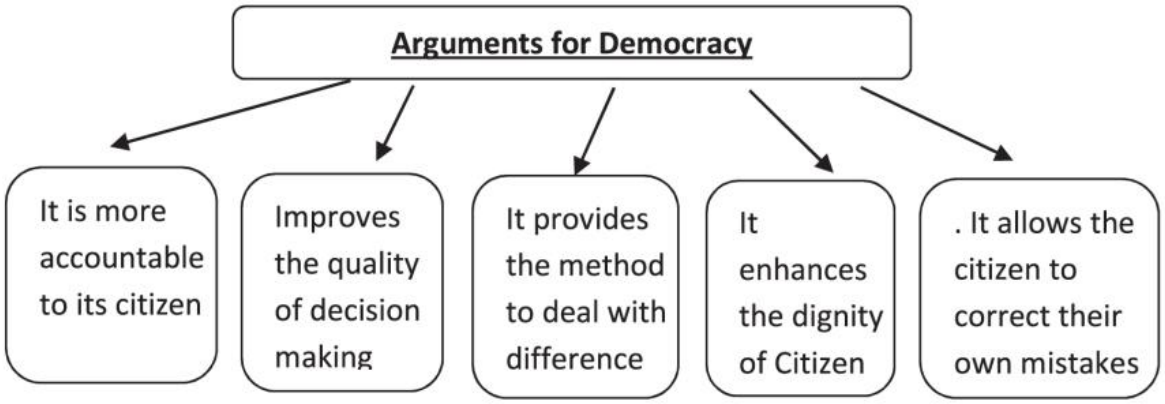


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- Chinese parliament is called-***National People's Congress*** which chooses its president.
- Every candidate has to take approval from Chinese Communist Party to contest election.
- In Pakistan **Genral Parvej Musharaff** led a military coup in October 1999.
    I. In 2002 he issued a "Legal Framework Order" and changed the constitution of Pakistan.
    II. According to this order President can dismiss the national and provincial assemblies.
    III. Moreover work of civilian cabinet is supervised by a National Security Council which is dominated by military officers.
- Though Democratic form of government may not be a perfect form of government but it still is better than any other form of government.
- Democracy is not just a form of government or just some form of institution but in broader sense it is a principle which should be inculcated in every sphere of life.

1 Mark Questions

1. Who led the Military coup in Pakistan in October 1999?
2. Who should have the ultimate decision making power in democracy?
3. From where the term 'democracy' came from?
4. Which section of society doesn't have the right to vote in Saudi Arabia?
5. Write any one democratic work.
6. Write any one undemocratic work.
7. Name the leader who tried to bring dictatorship in Germany?
8. Who said- "democracy is of the people, for the people and by the people."?
9. Which of these is not a democratic country-

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(a) England (b) India (c) Myanmar (d) America

10. In which of these country only the ruling party is allowed to contest in election-
    (a) France (b) America (c) Mexico (d) Germany

3/5 Marks Question

1. Can Pakistan be called a democratic country after General Parvej Mushraff issued Legal Framework order?
2. Why election in Maxico were not called democratic even if they were held at regular interval of six years?
3. List the characteristics of democracy.
4. Define the term 'democracy' on the basis of its Latin origin.
5. What are the characteristics of a democratic government?
6. List few characteristics of an un-democratic form of government?
7. Give five arguments in support of democracy.
8. List any five arguments against democracy.
9. Will Change of leader strengthen democracy? Give argument in support of your answer.
10. Explain the broader meaning of democracy?

Answers

1 Mark questions

1. Genral Parvej Musharaff
2. Representatives chosen by the citizen.
3. Latin
4. Female
5. Collective decision making/agree to disagree etc.
6. Taking unilateral decision/anguish over disagreement etc.
7. Hitler
8. Abraham Lincoln.
9. (c) Myanmar
10. (c) Mexico

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3/5 Mark Questions

1. No. Pakistan won't be called a democratic country as decision making authority had been captured by the General even though these parliament was functioning.
2. Elections were held in every six year to elect President even though maximum election were not democratic because-
   (a) PRI use dirty tricks.
   (b) People were forced to vote for PRI
   (c) PRI candidate were allowed to spend large sum of money influence the votes.
3. Basic features of democracy are-
   (a) Political freedom
   (b) Equality of citizenship
   (c) Separation of powers
   (d) Pluralism
   (e) Consciousness
4. (a) Democracy is taken from a Latin word- 'Demokratia'.
   (b) In Latin Demos means 'people' and Kratia means 'rule'. i.e. democracy means rule of people.
   (c) Thus Democracy is a form of government in which people elect their own ruler.
5. The characteristics of democratic government are-
   (a) Decision making power must with those elected by the people
   (b) It must be based on free and fair election at fixed interval
   (c) It must be based on universal adult franchise
   (d) Govt. should rule within limits set by constitutional law and citizens' right.
   (e) Freedom of press and citizen rights
6. The characteristics of a non democratic government are-
   (a) Only a few has the power of decision making
   (b) Elections are absent or are not fair
   (c) No place for opposition
   (d) Curb on people's right
   (e) Censorship
7. Argument in support for Democracy are-
   (a) It is more accountable to its citizen
   (b) Improves the quality of decision making
   (c) It provides the method to deal with difference and conflict

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(d) It allows the citizen to correct their own mistakes
(e) It enhances the dignity of Citizen

8. Arguments against democracy are-
   (a) Leads to instability due to frequent leader change
   (b) Leads to delay due to constant consultancy
   (c) Some time it led to bad decision
   (d) It encourages corruption as it is based on electoral competition
   (e) It is only about competition and power play, no scope for morality.
9. Yes ,change of leader will strengthen democracy as
   (a) Leader will have moral obligation to work for the citizen.
   (b) If there won't be a fear of change it might led to irresponsible decisions
   (c) It could even lead to the downfall of democracy as seen in the past.

OR

No, change of leader will not strengthen democracy as-
   (a) It will lead to political instability
   (b) Political leadership will be reluctant to take any strong decision and will take only populist decision
   (c) They may sometime get disinterested to work for the people

   (**Note**: students should be encouraged to think both the positive as well as negative aspect of a situation before making decision.)

10. (a) Democracy is considered the best available form of government.
(b)However in its broader sense is not just a political institution but a way of life.
(c)It is rooted in our day to day life functioning where decision are made that involves consultation with and consent of all those who are affected by that decision
(d)This apply to a family, a community or even a government
(e)Thus it enables us to judge the present situation and its weaknesses and encourages marching towards betterment.

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