

UNIT - II

Democracy, Liberty, Equality, and Justice:

I . [VSTA] Questions

1. What is the meaning of the Greek word 'demos'?

Ans - The Greek word demos means “people”.

2. Who has called the present world as 'a world of democratic confusion'?

Ans- Giovanni Sartori .

3. Who said, "Democracy is an ambiguous concept which seems to be everywhere but nowhere"?

Ans- George Bernard.

4. From which language is the word 'democracy' derived?

Ans- The word democracy is derived from the “Greek language”.

5. Who defined democracy as "a government in which everyone has a share"?

Ans- John Seeley .

6. Who said, "Voice of the people is the voice of God"?

Ans—Rousseau.

7. Who defined democracy as "a government of the people, by the people and for the people"?

Ans-- Abraham Lincoln .

8. Who has defined democracy as "a government by discussion"?

Ans-- John Stuart Mill .

9. Who defined democracy as "a form of government in which the governing body is comparatively a large fraction of the entire nation"?

Ans- A . V . Dicey .

10. Which day is celebrated as International Day of Democracy?

Ans- September 15 is celebrated as the International Day of Democracy.

11. Name the country where democracy originated first.

Ans- Democracy originated in “ Ancient Greece “ .

12. In which year was women franchise introduced in England?

Ans- Women's franchise was introduced in England in “1918 “.

13. Which Revolution is famous for the slogan of 'Liberty, Equality and Fraternity'?

Ans-The French Revolution is famous for this slogan.

14. What is direct democracy?

Ans- Direct democracy is a form of government where citizens directly participate in decision-making processes.

15. What is social justice?

Ans- “Social justice” refers to the fair and equal distribution of opportunities, resources, and rights within a society.

16. In which country was direct democracy prevalent?

Ans- Direct democracy was prevalent in “ Ancient Greece, particularly in Athens “.

17. Name the country where direct democracy is present today.

Ans-Direct democracy is present in “Switzerland”.

18. What is plebiscite?

Ans- A “plebiscite “is a direct vote by the electorate on a specific issue or question, often to decide sovereignty or constitutional matters.

19. Who said, "Democracy is the least unsatisfactory of all forms of government"?

Ans-- Winston Churchill .

20. Who said, "Of all forms of government, democracy is by far the best and the wisest"?

Ans- Leslie Lipson .

21. Who is famous for the principle of 'greatest good of the greatest number'?

Ans- Jeremy Bentham.

22. Was Aristotle a supporter of democracy?

Ans- No , Aristotle was critical of democracy and classified it as a perverted form of government.

23. Who classified democracy as a perverted form of government by many?

Ans- Aristotle .

24. Which democracy is known as plutocracy?

Ans- Plutocracy is not a democracy but refers to a system where wealth dictates political power.

25. Who said, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty"?

Ans-Thomas Jefferson .

26. Which Declaration said, "Men are born and remain free and equal in rights"?

Ans- The French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen .

27. From which Latin word the word 'liberty' originated?

Ans- The word "liberty" originated from the Latin word "liber" .

28. Who said, "Liberty is a product of rights"?

Ans- J.S Mill.

29. Who said, "Liberty is the opposite of over-government"?

Ans- John Roberty Seeley.

30. Who is called the champion of individual liberty?

Ans- John Stuart Mill .

31. Who wrote "Two Concepts of Liberty"?

Ans- Isaiah Berlin .

32. Who said, "Where there is no law, there is no freedom"?

Ans- John Locke .

33. Who said, "Over himself, over his own body and mind, the individual is sovereign"?

Ans- John Stuart Mill .

34. Which political philosopher distinguished between 'self-regarding' and 'other-regarding' actions of the individual?

Ans- John Stuart Mill .

35. Which French philosopher suggested the principle of separation of powers?

Ans- Montesquieu .

36. Who is the author of "On Liberty"?

Ans- John Stuart Mill .

37. Who said, "All men are by nature equal"?

Ans- Plato .

38. Which Declaration proclaimed that "all men are created equal"?

Ans- The American Declaration of Independence .

39. Who said, "Political equality is never real unless it is accompanied by economic equality"?

Ans- Harold Laski .

40. Who defined justice as "a synthesis of the principles of liberty, equality and fraternity"?

Ans- Laski .

41. Who is the author of "A Theory of Justice"?

Ans- John Rawls .

42. Who defined justice as "one class, one work"?

Ans- Plato .

43. Who has given first the concept of 'distributive justice'?

Ans- Aristotle .

44. Who said, "Oh, disrespectful democracy! I love you"?

Ans- George Bernard Shaw .

45. Which Article of the Indian Constitution says, "No person shall be deprived of his life or liberty except according to procedure established by law"?

Ans - Article 21 .

46. What is referendum?

Ans- A referendum is a direct vote in which an entire electorate is invited to vote on a particular proposal or policy.

47. In which year the French Revolution took place?

Ans- 1789 .

48. What type of equality is emphasized by the Marxists?

Ans- Economic equality .

49. Define democracy.

Ans- Democracy is a system of government where power is vested in the hands of the people, who rule either directly or through freely elected representatives.

50. From which word the term 'justice' is derived?

Ans- The term "justice" is derived from the Latin word justitia.

51. Mention one kind of economic equality

Ans- Equal distribution of wealth.

53. What is the origin of the word 'democracy'?

Ans-The word "democracy" comes from the Greek words demos, meaning "people", and kratos, meaning "power".

54. Write one feature of social justice .

Ans -One key feature of social justice is equity.

II. [STA] Questions.

1. Mention two safeguards of democracy.

Ans- Free and fair elections.

Rule of law and protection of fundamental rights.

2. Mention any two modern devices of direct democracy.

Ans-Referendum.

Initiative.

3. Write any two conditions for the success of democracy.

Ans -Educated and aware citizens.

A strong and independent judiciary.

4. Mention any two merits of democracy.

Ans -Ensures accountability and transparency in governance.

Protects individual freedoms and rights.

5. Define democracy.

Ans -Democracy is a system of government in which power is vested in the people, who rule either directly or through freely elected representatives.

6. What is liberty?

Ans -Liberty is the state of being free to act, speak, or think without undue restrictions or oppression, as long as it respects others' freedoms.

7. Mention any two safeguards of liberty.

Ans -Protection of fundamental rights by the Constitution.

Separation of powers among the executive, legislative, and judiciary.

8. Name any two kinds of equality.

Ans -Political equality.

Social equality.

9. Write a note on Gender Equality.

Ans -Gender equality refers to equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities for individuals of all genders. It emphasizes eliminating discrimination and ensuring access to education, healthcare, and employment for both men and women.

10. Mention any two features of John Rawls's Theory of Justice.

Ans -The principle of equal liberty: Everyone has an equal right to basic liberties.

The difference principle: Social and economic inequalities should benefit the least advantaged members of society.

11. Name any two principles of procedural justice.

Ans -Impartiality in decision-making.

Transparency in processes.

12. What is social justice?

Ans -Social justice is the concept of creating a fair and equal society by addressing inequalities and ensuring access to resources, opportunities, and rights for all individuals.

13. What is Economic Justice?

Ans -Economic justice refers to the fair distribution of wealth, opportunities, and resources to ensure everyone can meet their basic needs and enjoy a dignified standard of living.

14. Discuss the significance of the French Revolution.

Ans -The French Revolution (1789–1799) marked the end of monarchy and the rise of democracy in France. It promoted ideas of liberty, equality, fraternity, and laid the foundation for modern democratic principles.

15. Discuss different types of democracy.

Ans -Direct Democracy: Citizens directly participate in decision-making (e.g., referendums). Representative Democracy: Elected representatives make decisions on behalf of

citizens (e.g., parliamentary democracy) Constitutional Democracy: Governance is based on a constitution that limits government power.

16. Write the origin of the term 'democracy'.

Ans -The term "democracy" originates from the Greek words demos (meaning "people") and kratos (meaning "power" or "rule"), signifying "rule by the people." It was first practiced in ancient Athens.

III. Broad Type Question

1 . Point out three merits and two demerits of democracy ?

Ans - Merits of Democracy

1. Best Form of Government

Democracy is accepted by almost all as the best form of Government . Winston Churchill describe democracy as "the least unsatisfactory of all forms of government ". Leslie Lipson said , " of all forms of government , democracy is by far the best and the wisest.

2. Welfare Of All

Democracy aims at the Welfare of all .Its aim is to bring about , what Jeremy Bentham Said , "the greatest good of the greatest number of people ".

3. Liberty , Equality and Fraternity

The ideals of democracy are liberty, equality and fraternity. All are treated as equal they can enjoy rights and freedoms.

Demerits of democracy

1. Expensive

Democracy is expensive. Election signifies huge expenditure . Further, rich people alone can contest elections .So ,power is exercised by the rich people. The American democracy is dubbed as ' plutocracy' .

2. Delay in Decision – Making

A democratic government cannot take quick decision during National Emergencies .Much time is wasted in decisions. GB Shaw branded the British Parliament as a "talking shop ".

3. Exploitation in Capitalist Democracy

Marxists criticise capitalist democracy as democracy for the rich. They opine that workers are always exploited in a capitalist democracy.

2. What are the necessary conditions for the success of democracy?

Ans-

1. The people of a country must be willing to accept democracy as a form of government.
2. The people must be ready to protect the democratic ideals.
3. The citizens must be properly educated.
4. The citizens must do their duties sincerely and seriously.
5. A strong public opinion is essential for the success of democracy.
6. Good leadership is another condition for the success of democracy. A good leader can lead a democracy to success.
7. A written, Constitution is a condition for the success of democracy. The government has to work within the limits fixed by the Constitution.
8. A strong opposition party also helps in the success of democracy. The opposition is regarded as the watchdog of democracy. About the role of the opposition in the British parliamentary democracy, GB Shaw remarked, "The British Prime Minister is more afraid of the leader of the opposition than he is of his own wife".

3. How can Liberty be safeguarded?

Ans- Safeguarding liberty involves ensuring that individuals' freedoms are protected while maintaining social order and justice. Here are several key ways to safeguard liberty:

1. Rule of Law: A system where laws apply equally to all citizens, and the government itself is subject to those laws. This prevents arbitrary actions by the state and protects individual rights.

2. Checks and Balances: A government structure that divides power across different branches (executive, legislative, judicial) to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful and infringing on individual liberties.
3. Civil Liberties Protections: Legal safeguards for rights such as freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, and the right to a fair trial. This includes both written constitutions and judicial review to protect these freedoms.
4. Public Participation and Accountability: Ensuring that citizens can engage in the political process (voting, speaking out, petitioning) and hold government officials accountable through mechanisms like elections, transparency, and oversight.
5. Education and Awareness: Educating citizens about their rights and responsibilities fosters active participation in defending liberty and ensures individuals are aware of attempts to undermine freedoms.
6. Peaceful Resistance: In cases where liberty is threatened, nonviolent protest and civil disobedience can serve as powerful tools for holding governments accountable without resorting to violence.
7. Strong Civil Society: A vibrant civil society with independent media, non-governmental organizations, and community groups can monitor government actions, provide a voice for marginalized groups, and push for the protection of individual freedoms.

In essence, safeguarding liberty requires a combination of legal, political, and social mechanisms that ensure both the protection of individual rights and the ability to challenge any encroachments on those rights.

4. Discuss John Rawls' theory of justice.

Ans- John Rawls' theory of justice, often referred to as "justice as fairness," is a central contribution to political philosophy, particularly in the realm of distributive justice. Rawls presents his theory in his influential work *A Theory of Justice* (1971), where he aims to provide a framework for creating a just society based on fairness and equality.

Key Elements of Rawls' Theory:

1. The Original Position:

Rawls asks us to imagine a hypothetical scenario where individuals come together to design the basic principles of justice for their society. These individuals are behind a "veil of ignorance," meaning they do not know their own personal characteristics—such as gender,

race, wealth, talents, or social status. This ignorance ensures that they will choose principles of justice that are fair to all, because no one can design a system that disproportionately benefits any particular group they may belong to.

2. The Veil of Ignorance:

The veil of ignorance is a thought experiment meant to eliminate bias and self-interest in the process of selecting principles of justice. By imagining they could be anyone in society, individuals will make decisions that protect the most vulnerable and ensure fairness for all, rather than decisions that favor their current position or identity.

3. The Two Principles of Justice:

Rawls proposes two principles to guide the structure of a just society:

- First Principle (Equal Basic Liberties): Each person should have the same basic rights and liberties, such as freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, and the right to participate in the democratic process. These rights should be guaranteed equally to all citizens, and they should not be infringed upon for the sake of social or economic efficiency.

Second Principle (Difference Principle and Fair Equality of Opportunity):

- 1. Fair Equality of Opportunity: Social and economic inequalities are permissible only if they provide fair opportunities for all individuals to achieve success, regardless of their social background. This principle ensures that people with different social origins have the same chances to succeed.

- 2. Difference Principle: Inequalities in wealth and resources are justified only if they benefit the least advantaged members of society. This principle suggests that economic inequalities should be arranged in such a way that they improve the situation of the poorest and most disadvantaged, even if they do not directly help the rich.

4. Justice as Fairness:

Rawls' approach is characterized by its focus on fairness in the distribution of rights and resources. His theory seeks to balance individual liberty with the need for social and economic arrangements that promote the well-being of all members of society, especially the most disadvantaged. This is in contrast to utilitarian theories, which might justify unequal distributions of wealth and opportunity if they lead to the greatest overall happiness.

The Importance of Rawls' Theory:

Rawls' theory of justice provides a way of thinking about justice that avoids both the extremes of strict equality and laissez-faire capitalism. His emphasis on the veil of ignorance and the difference principle aims to create a society where everyone, particularly the disadvantaged, can have a fair shot at a good life, while respecting individual freedoms. The theory has had a lasting impact on political philosophy and has influenced debates on social justice, welfare, and economic inequality.

In summary, Rawls' theory of justice combines the protection of basic liberties with a system that allows for economic inequalities, provided they help the least well-off in society. It offers a framework for thinking about justice that aims to be fair, impartial, and compassionate to all members of society.

5. Define liberty. Discuss the major forms of liberty.

Ans - Liberty is the condition in which an individual has the freedom to act, think, and express themselves within the constraints of social and legal norms, without being subjected to unnecessary or arbitrary restrictions. It is often considered a fundamental human right and a key concept in political philosophy, particularly in liberalism and democratic theory.

Liberty is typically defined in relation to the absence of oppression or coercion, allowing people to pursue their own interests and make their own choices. It is the opposite of being under the control of others in ways that limit one's autonomy and freedom of action.

Major Forms of Liberty:

1. Negative Liberty:

Negative liberty refers to freedom from external interference or constraints. It emphasizes the absence of obstacles or restrictions placed by other people, institutions, or the government. In other words, individuals are free to do whatever they want, as long as they do not harm others or violate the rights of others. The classic example of negative liberty is the idea of non-interference: "freedom from" interference by others.

2. Positive Liberty:

Positive liberty refers to the freedom to achieve one's potential and pursue personal goals. It is concerned not just with the absence of interference, but with enabling individuals to take control of their lives, exercise their autonomy, and fulfill their potential. This form of liberty often involves access to education, economic resources, and opportunities that empower individuals to make meaningful choices and exercise self-determination.

3. Civil Liberty:

Civil liberty refers to the protections and freedoms provided by law, particularly in relation to individual rights. These rights include freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, and the right to a fair trial. Civil liberties are typically enshrined in constitutions or legal frameworks to protect individuals from arbitrary government power and ensure that citizens can express themselves and live their lives without undue government interference.

4. Political Liberty:

Political liberty refers to the ability of individuals to participate in the political process, such as the right to vote, the right to run for office, and the freedom to form political associations. It is a central aspect of democratic societies, as it ensures that individuals have a say in how their government is run and can influence the policies that affect their lives.

5. Economic Liberty:

Economic liberty involves the freedom to own property, engage in business, and participate in the market. It encompasses the rights to enter into contracts, engage in trade, and pursue one's economic interests without undue restrictions. Economic liberty is often associated with capitalist economies, where individuals can accumulate wealth and make choices about their labor and resources.

6. Social Liberty:

Social liberty relates to the freedom to live in society without oppressive social norms, discrimination, or restrictions on one's lifestyle choices. It includes the right to form personal relationships, express sexual orientation, or adhere to any chosen identity without fear of stigma or legal punishment. Social liberty is often intertwined with the notion of civil rights and human dignity.

6. What is equality? Discuss different types of equality.

Ans- Equality refers to the principle that all people should have equal rights, opportunities, and treatment, regardless of their inherent differences such as race, gender, economic status, or other characteristics. The concept of equality is central to political philosophy, ethics, and social justice, advocating for fairness in social, economic, and political arrangements.

Different Types of Equality:

1. Legal Equality (Equality Before the Law): Legal equality refers to the idea that all individuals, regardless of their social status, wealth, or identity, should be treated equally by the law. This

means that laws should apply uniformly to everyone, ensuring that no one is above the law and that individuals are not subject to discrimination or preferential treatment based on irrelevant characteristics such as race, gender, or nationality. "Equality before the law" ensures that everyone has the same legal rights and obligations.

2. Political Equality:

Political equality focuses on equal participation in the political process. It involves the right of all citizens to vote, run for office, and have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives. Political equality is foundational to democratic societies, where each citizen's political opinion and vote are supposed to carry equal weight, ensuring that no one has disproportionate influence over government decisions. Universal suffrage (the right to vote), freedom of political participation, and equal representation in political processes.

3. Economic Equality:

Economic equality is concerned with the distribution of wealth and resources in a society. It seeks to reduce or eliminate disparities in income, wealth, and opportunities for economic advancement. Economic equality can be understood in two ways:

Equality of Outcome Ensuring that everyone achieves a similar standard of living or financial status.

Equality of Opportunity: Ensuring that everyone has an equal chance to access opportunities, education, and resources that can lead to economic success.

4. Social Equality:

Social equality refers to the equal treatment of individuals within society, regardless of factors like race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or social class. It focuses on dismantling social hierarchies, prejudices, and discriminatory practices that marginalize certain groups. Social equality emphasizes equal access to social goods like education, healthcare, and housing.

5. Gender Equality:

Gender equality is the principle that people of all genders should have equal rights, opportunities, and treatment. It involves addressing disparities in areas such as employment, pay, education, and political representation between men and women, as well as recognizing and dismantling gender-based discrimination and societal norms that perpetuate inequality.

6. Racial Equality:

Racial equality focuses on eliminating racial discrimination and ensuring that individuals are not treated unfairly based on their race or ethnicity. It involves addressing the social, political, and economic disparities that arise from racial hierarchies and prejudices, promoting the idea that all races should have equal access to opportunities, rights, and respect.

7. Equality of Merit:

Equality of merit refers to the idea that individuals should be rewarded or recognized based on their talents, efforts, or achievements rather than on irrelevant factors such as birth status or personal connections. This concept is often associated with meritocratic systems, where individuals have equal chances to succeed based on their abilities and hard work, rather than their social background.

8. Equality of Respect:

This form of equality emphasizes treating all individuals with equal dignity and respect, regardless of differences in social, economic, or cultural backgrounds. It recognizes the inherent worth of every person and aims to foster a society where all individuals are treated with fairness and consideration.

Equality is a complex and multifaceted concept, encompassing various domains such as legal, political, economic, social, and cultural spheres. While it is broadly supported as a fundamental value, the ways in which equality should be pursued—whether through equal opportunities or equal outcomes—remain subjects of significant debate in political and social philosophy. Ultimately, striving for equality aims to ensure that all individuals are able to enjoy their rights and freedoms, and to participate fully in society, irrespective of their background or identity.

7. Discuss the elements and forms of justice.

Ans - Justice is a core concept in philosophy, law, and politics, often understood as the principle of fairness, ensuring that individuals receive what they are due, whether in terms of rights, duties, or distribution of resources. Justice involves balancing competing interests and values to maintain social harmony, uphold rights, and ensure fairness across all individuals.

Elements of Justice:

1. Fairness:

Justice is closely tied to the idea of fairness—treating people impartially and without bias, ensuring that no one is unfairly advantaged or disadvantaged. This involves both procedural fairness (fair processes for decision-making) and distributive fairness (ensuring equitable outcomes in the distribution of goods and services).

2. Equality:

An essential element of justice, equality refers to ensuring that all individuals are treated with the same degree of respect and fairness, particularly in terms of rights and opportunities. Different interpretations of equality lead to debates about whether justice requires equal treatment (same benefits for all) or equal outcomes (compensating for unequal starting points).

3. Rights:

Justice often entails protecting individual rights, whether civil, political, economic, or social. Rights-based justice ensures that individuals' freedoms and entitlements (such as freedom of speech, property rights, or access to education) are respected and upheld.

4. Responsibility and Accountability:

Justice involves holding individuals accountable for their actions, ensuring that people who break the law or violate moral norms face appropriate consequences. This concept links justice with the rule of law and the ethical responsibility that individuals and institutions have toward each other.

5. Restoration:

Justice is not only about retribution but also about restoration. In some theories, justice is seen as restoring individuals to a state of fairness or balance, particularly after a wrong has been done, through mechanisms like compensation, rehabilitation, or reconciliation.

Forms of Justice

1. Distributive Justice:

Distributive justice is concerned with the fair allocation of resources, benefits, and burdens within a society. It addresses the question of how goods, wealth, opportunities, and responsibilities should be distributed among individuals. Theories of distributive justice often focus on the principles of need, equality, or desert (what people deserve based on their contributions or circumstances).

2. Retributive Justice:

Retributive justice is focused on the punishment of wrongdoers and the proper response to violations of the law or moral codes. It aims to ensure that offenders face consequences proportional to the severity of their actions. The idea is that punishment serves both as a

deterrent to future wrongdoing and as a way to restore balance by giving the wrongdoer their "just deserts."

3. Restorative Justice:

Restorative justice seeks to repair the harm caused by criminal or wrongful behavior. Rather than focusing solely on punishment, it emphasizes healing for both the victim and the offender, involving dialogue and reconciliation. Restorative justice may include apologies, restitution, or community service as ways to make amends and restore social harmony.

4. Procedural Justice:

Procedural justice focuses on the fairness and transparency of the processes used to make decisions, allocate resources, and resolve disputes. It emphasizes the importance of having fair procedures, ensuring that all individuals are treated equally before the law and that their rights are respected during legal or institutional processes. Even if the outcome of a process isn't perfectly equal, procedural justice emphasizes fairness in how decisions are made.

5. Social Justice:

Social justice is a broad concept that deals with creating a fair and equitable society by addressing the systemic inequalities that exist based on factors such as class, race, gender, and economic status. It seeks to ensure that everyone has equal access to resources, opportunities, and rights, and that structural injustices are dismantled to allow for equal participation in society.

6. Global Justice:

Global justice concerns the application of justice on a global scale, particularly with respect to international relations, human rights, and global inequalities. It focuses on ensuring that individuals and communities around the world are treated fairly and that issues such as poverty, war, and environmental justice are addressed globally.