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Political Science & International Relations
Crash Course & Test Series - 2023

Test 1

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

Name Shalch Dubey
Test Date 17th Aug 2023
Email Address _____
UPSC Roll No 0218002

Instructions:

1. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS and candidate has to attempt five questions in all.
2. Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any three are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each section.
3. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. Write the test in exam atmosphere.
9. Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.

S. No.	a	b	c	d	e	Total
1						
2				X	X	
3				X	X	
4				X	X	
5				X	X	
6				X	X	
7				X	X	
8				X	X	
Grand Total						

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	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Understanding of Questions					
Structure & Flow					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Conclusion					
(c) Overall					
Subject Knowledge					
Presentation					
(a) Underline					
(b) Paragraph					
(c) Overall					

Overall Remarks:

Dear Student,

All the best for next test...!!!

ue.1 (a)

"There is no science of politics any more than there is a science of aesthetics-for the line of politics are not the lines of mathematics". (Burke)
Comment. (10 Marks)

Aristotle is known as father of political science, who calls it an architectonic science because other sciences take cue from his.

The concept of political science as a normative discipline has been challenged but some scholars who have tried to incorporate scientific method to the study of politics.

Scholars like Aristotle, Hegel, Marx, etc have repeatedly called their method or approach as scientific based on

observation and empiricism and have given importance to world of matter along with idea

Especially after the use of behaviouralism, the discipline was made more scientific than normative which has led to decline of political science as highlighted by David Easton

As a result scholars like Theda Skocpol have focussed on centrality of state in the realm of political science and have called for use of normative approach along with scientific method, because political science is a social science not mathematics



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ue.1(b)

Critically Evaluate the significance of Rawls concept of veil of ignorance. (10 Marks)

Rawls has given theory of justice, which was based on the idea of just initial redistribution of goods. His theory is based on the concept of social contract (Locke).

He states that a social contract entered by rational people who are under the veil of ignorance and in original position is an outcome of a just procedure and hence leads to equality.

The concept of justice given by Rawls is focussed to ensuring the benefit even

to the least advantaged section which is possible only when the principle of redistribution is chartered out by people who are unaware of their position & are under veil of ignorance

Thus they will ensure to just procedure keeping in mind if they are to be the least advantaged the system shall be just for them.

Thus Rawls idea of justice is based on the concept of atomistic man which has been criticised by communitarian who consider man to be a situated self

Que.1(c)

Analyse Kymlicka's theory of multicultural citizenship. (10 Marks)

Will Kymlicka has given a theory of multicultural citizenship or differentiated citizenship, this is in line with Aristotle's justification to his theory of citizenship according to this Aristotle has stated that — only those who are capable of fully participating in political sphere are deemed to citizens & thus excludes — women, children, slaves, old person from being citizens

Will Kymlicka has similarly divided the minorities of the country into three types :-

- (i) National minorities
- (ii) Immigrants, migrant, refugees, etc
- (iii) Women, transgenders, etc

Lyndia states that national minorities are disadvantaged not because of their own fault & must must be compensated by providing - say governing rights (eg! - Kashmir) and special representative rights while for second class of minorities we say no special rights shall be provided as they had choice & for third category we only prescribe special representative rights.

This classification of Lyndia has been criticised by Amartya Sen who is of view that Lyndia has not given proper justification for differentiated citizenship & Sen argues for equal rights to all minorities.

ue.1(d)

M.N Roy conceived of humanism as scientific, integral and a radically new worldview. Comment. (10 Marks)

MN Roy was a radical political theorist and a prominent personality in the Indian national movement. His ideology has undergone evolution a several times during his political course.

One of the most important ideology of MN Roy was Radical humanism. He was of view that both socialism & liberalism are exploitative & only deal with superficial freedom. & thus he gave his idea of Radical humanism

His concept keeps humans at the centre of

any school of thought. The ideal deals with emancipation of man, that is possible through freedom.

He does not use freedom just in political sense rather in spiritualistic sense i.e., man should not just be free at level of state but also at individual level.

He has considered the concept of Radical Humanism as scientific, integral and radically new which holds huge significance in current time because man is not free in true sense, rather is a victim of his own desires



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ue.1(e)

Critically Analyze Hannah Arendt's view on ideology. (10 Marks)

Hannah Arendt is one of the most influential scholars of 20th century, who belong to age of Hitler. She called herself as political theorist instead of political philosopher because she gave more importance to action (Praxis) over reason & ideas (Sophia).

Hannah Arendt has called "Ideology" as a metanarrative which is used by totalitarian leaders to conceal the truth and justify their authoritarian rule.



In her book "On Totalitarianism" she has defined ideology as instrument of manufacturing consent by the state that is being used by Totalitarian leaders like Hitler, Mussolini, etc to justify the authority and violence.

She calls totalitarianism as a novel feature that has emerged in modern time. She does acknowledge authoritarian rule in ancient times but back then violence was used as a means to gain power but in contemporary time violence is used as an end in itself.

Q.3(a)

The general aim of deliberative democracy is to provide the most justifiable conception for dealing with moral disagreement in politics. Explain with reference to the views of Habermas. (20 Marks)

Democracy as a concept is central to the political science discipline, in narrow sense it can be seen a form of government, while in broad sense it is a way of life.

The concept of democracy is not new, it traces its origin to the ancient times - eg:- Athens in Ancient Greece, Mauvryan period in India, etc. The concept of self democracy has thus evolved over the period of time.

Western political scholars like Aristotle, Machiavelli, Macpherson, Habermas, etc have



dealt with the concept of democracy in a very comprehensive manner

There are various models of democracy, eg:- Deliberative Democracy, representative democracy, direct democracy etc

Deliberative democracy is based on the idea that laws and regulations are a result of rational debates and discussion.

Thus, the most important right is considered to be the Fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression that involves freedom to form association and also to



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dissent against the government

There is no need for hyper-
ation between deliberation &

democracy as the idea of delib-
eration is inherent in the idea

of democracy itself.

Whatever be the model - be it
representative or participative,
deliberative democracy is an
essential component

The purpose of ^{deliberative} democracy
as highlighted by Habermas
is to ensure that the govern-
ment does not face crisis of
legitimacy. As in deliberative
democracy rule and laws are



made with due debates and discussion, which ensure the consent of the governed and hence it reduces the scope of conflict between the state and its citizens.

Thus Deliberative Democracy is being considered as an ideal model of governance as it involves peoples participation either directly eg:- Referendum, public opinion etc or indirectly eg:- Through election.

It ensures legitimacy of the government and also reflects consent of governed

e.3(b)

How does feminists conceive state and its role when it comes to overcoming the subordination of women? Discuss (15 Marks)

Feminism in political science is considered as an meta ideology. This philosophy or rather ideology looks at various concepts through feminine perspective.

Feminist scholars are of view that there is no feminist perspective of state because feminism is a social ideology and not a political ideology. However, certain political scholars like Carole d Pateman, Susan Mollerokin, etc have provided feminine perspective towards political concept like liberalism,

Marxism, state, etc.

If we examine the feminine perspective of state, we find that their position is ambivalent, which means some feminist scholar considers state as an important instrument to ensure the upliftment of women, while others consider state as a masculinist institution.

Carole Hanish, a prominent feminist scholar has criticised Aristotelian concept of dividing human life into two spheres i.e. personal and political. In this regard she suggests "Personal is Political" and hence



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state must take measure to ensure the betterment of women not just in public but also personal sphere, because the maximum violation of human rights / women rights takes place within the four walls & closed doors

while other scholar like Susan Mollerokken states that "whenever I look at state, the state appears men to me". Thus she considers state as an instrument for perpetuating patriarchy, which has always worked in interest of ensuring the ~~into~~ masculinist tradition.

Thus in feminism there is no clear stand on role of state rather we observe ambivalent position

Q) With reference to the Asian values debate, critically evaluate cultural relativistic perspective of human rights. (15 Marks)

To quote Laske -

"Rights are that condition of human life without which no man can seek to be at it's best"

Human rights are those rights that are available to man by virtue of being human and hence are considered as inviolable.

Human Right is considered to be a modern & secular version of Natural rights (Given by Locke)

This concept a post 2nd world war phenomena that emerged in the backdrop of atrocities that were committed on certain section of population eg:- Nazism,

fascism, etc.

The human rights are considered to be a universal concept that is available to every person irrespective of race, class, creed, religion and even nationality, which means even if a constitution of a country does not provide for these rights the state is still bound to preserve it.

In case of violation, international communities can intervene in the domestic policies of state, this is based on the concept of political liberalism which considers man is prior to state.

Cultural relativist lib
Lee Kuan Yew and Manabhai

Mohammad have contradicted this idea. because they consider it as a new method by west to impose western values and establish the hegemony of liberal world order. they are of view that human right is a western value based on concept of right, equality, justice etc while Asian value system is based on solidarity, duty, discipline etc and hence the idea of human right is incompatible with Asian value.

This view has contradicted by Amartya Sen who states that the idea of human right is universally applicable to all societies as it ensures human dignity



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ue.4(a)

"Aristotle differs from his master Plato, much more in the form and method than in the substance of his thought" (Dunning). Critically examine. (20 Marks)

Aristotle and Plato are two important personality of the western political thought. Both belong to the Socratic tradition. It is considered that "Aristotle is the biggest disciple as well as one of the biggest critics of Plato".

If we look at their thoughts we observe that they differ just in form and methods, however the basic underlying thought & its substance is just the same.

Plato is known as father of political philosophy and he considers the world of idea to be



real and considers matter as illusion, where Aristotle gives equal importance to world of matter along with the world of idea.

Thus Plato is idealist, while Aristotle is pragmatic. Plato considers rule of philosopher king as the ideal rule while Aristotle equates monarchy as an idealist form of government but considers polity as best practicable form.

Plato gives extreme suggestion example - communism of property and families, while Aristotle opts for madhyam marg or golden mean.



Though Plato gives importance to reason in man in order to ensure an ideal state, whereas Aristotle considers that "Rulers must be worldly wise" rather than being wise in world of ideas"

The above mentioned differences that we see are mere ~~cosmetic~~ cosmetic, in reality the two political philosophers have common substance in their thought

They both belong to Socratic Tradition that emerged as a criticism to Sophist tradition. They both equate politics with ethics and hence focus on idealism.



Both Plato and Socrates Aristotle believes in purity of means and hence are followers of deontological tradition.

They consider state as an enlarged version of individual i.e., gives primary to whole over part. To quote Plato:-

"State is individual writ large"

Thus, Plato & Aristotle though differ in their methods the essence of their political philosophy remains more or less the same. It is true rightly said that - "Entire political science is footnote of Plato & Aristotle"



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ue.4(b)

With reference to Foucault's concept of Governmentality, explain why Foucault says "Power is everywhere"? (15 Marks)

Power is a contested concept in political science that has been interpreted differently by different scholars. To quote Robert Dahl

"Power is a method of getting things done by others either willingly or unwillingly"

Generally ~~for~~ scholars of liberal, marxist, feminist school, etc have considered power to be concentrated

in a single central authority giving rise to Monistic

Theory of Power, (Wilfredo Pareto, Mosca, etc) which have been

contradicted by Pluralist theory of power (C. Wright Mills,



Robert Dahl, etc).

The idea of power has been revolutionised by Theory of power given by Foucault. He has given a decentralised view & has shifted the focus from state to society, i.e. he provides for micro analysis of power.

According to him power can be held, it only operates and thus can't be seen to be concentrated in hands of few rather it flows ^{through} the society in form of blood through capillaries of network and thus we can say that power is everywhere.

He has stated that with increase complexity of nation



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state in modern times it's not possible for state to keep a check on every individual, then he comes up with an idea of "disciplinary power" which is more economic and efficient.

Foucault ~~thus~~ gives the concept of governed mentality and bio power and to explain this he has given the idea of panopticon.

He says that the world is like a panopticon, where we are continuously keeping a check on each other to ensure order & peace in society.

Thus, he justifies that power can't be concentrated that it flows through the society.

Que.4(c)

The Ambedkar-Gandhi debate although has a special place in the academic discourse has become a redundant debate. Discuss (15 Marks)

Ambedkar and Gandhi are two prominent figures of Indian National Movement, while Gandhi is considered as architect of Indian nationalism.
Ambedkar is considered as architect of Indian constitution.

Arundhati Ray has called Gandhian approach as spiritual & thus labels him as saint, while she considers Ambedkar's approach as clinical and calls him a Doctor,

The basic debate between Gandhi and Ambedkar has been with respect to the concept

of social Justice. While Gandhi
favoured varna system as division
of labour and considered caste
system as it's perverted form,
Ambedkar is of view that varna
system is the theoretical aspect
and it's practical manifestation
is caste system and calls for
Annihilation of caste system.

The method used by Gandhi
is quite ~~pe~~ idealistic as he considers
appealing to conscience of upper
class Brahmins a way of alleviating
the suffering of depressed
classes whom he calls as Harijans.

Ambedkar is of view that
Gandhi approach is misleading
and thus he uses the term
depressed classes and is of



view that class in itself, shall
rise ~~to~~ as class for itself.

Thus we see contradicting
views on the idea of social justice
and Gandhi can be called as
traditional intellectual while
Ambedkar is organic intellectual
(Gramsci)

However, if we see it
clearly this debate seems
redundant because there is
more of continuity than change
in their ideologies.

which means where the
task of Gandhi ends, the
task of Ambedkar begins. Thus
instead of contradiction we
observe continuity.



ie.5(a)

"History repeats itself, first as tragedy, second as farce". (Marx)
Comment. (10 Marks)

Marx is one of the most prominent scholars of Western political tradition who has taken a cyclical view of history, which is also similar to Machiavellian tradition.

Just like Marx, Machiavelli also suggest prince to have knowledge of history & human psychology, because what is about to come can be better understood by what has already happened.

Marx has given the concept of historical materialism and is of view that

"History of future existing societies has been the history of class

Struggle"

Thus he is of view that to understand the progression of society one must understand the progression of history.

In every age there has been conflict between different classes and this in the modern era of capitalism conflict between capitalist & workers is bound to occur which will lead to progression of society towards socialism and finally communism will be established which according to him is a state of perfect Happiness
Equality
freedom



Write a short note on Overlapping Consensus. (10 Marks)

re.5(b)

Rawls in his 'Theory of Justice' provides for the concept of overlapping consensus as he wanted to create a Grand theory of justice just like Plato which is absolute, universal and widely acceptable.

Like he talks about the idea of overlapping consensus which has been criticised by communitarians. They have criticised Rawls's concept of original position which according to them is not possible because they reject the concept of abstraction.



man and considers man to be a situated self.

Similarly, they consider that the communities differ in function, culture, structure, etc and hence a single theory cannot be equally applicable across human existence. This view has also been supported by cultural relativist.

Thus in backdrop of communitarian criticism Rawls has modified ~~overlapping~~ the overarching consensus into overlapping consensus because though societies may differ but certain functions remain common — (Structural functional Approach)



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What do you understand by 'Differentiated citizenship'? (10 Marks)

ie.5(c)

Citizenship is a method to define the relationship between man and state. The concept of citizenship has evolved over the time

Universal citizenship → Multicultural / Differentiated citizenship

The earliest theory of citizenship has been put forward by Aristotle, who excluded huge chunk of population from being considered a citizen~~ship~~ which include - women, children, slave, old person, etc

Similarly with Lyndee has given the concept of multicultural

real citizenship, he has categorised minorities into three types -

(1) National minorities - who are disadvantaged not out of choice & must be given - special representative right & right of self governance

(2) Immigrants/migrants - no special rights

(3) Women, transgender, etc - must be only given special representative right

This theory has been criticised by Bhikhu Parekh who says that

this differentiated citizenship is unjustified and hence equal rights should be given to all.



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Q.5(d)

Compare Austin's theory of Sovereignty with that of Pluralists (10 Marks)

Austin has given monist theory of sovereignty. Sovereignty is the supreme authority to make laws. According to the monist theory there is just one centre of authority i.e. the state which has right to make laws and this has been criticised by pluralist scholars.

Pluralist theory of sovereignty considers more than one centre of power & authority. They have criticised monistic theory.

for not giving importance to international government. Pluralist scholars like Robert Dahl are of view that there is not single authority, rather with advent of globalisation the power structure has been fractured and hence it has impacted the sovereignty of state.

on the other hand structuralists are of view that despite plural power structure, the state remains the most powerful entity (Bonapartist state)

Write a short note on 'Legitimation crisis'. (10 Marks)

The concept of legitimation crisis has been given by Habermas which leads to crisis of governability. Robert Dahl has defined power as the ability to get things done by others either willingly or unwillingly.

However a state can never rule with naked power, rather it must rule through a proper authority. legitimacy is thus a tool that converts power into authority.

In absence of legitimacy it can lead to resentment.

which is then reflected in form of protests, strikes, hartal etc. it leads to legitimation crisis

Thus in this regard Habermas gives the concept of participatory democracy in order to ensure that the laws, rules & regulations are made with due deliberation and discussion.

Thus scholars like - Hannah Arendt, JS Mill, etc have also given importance to people's participation so as to ensure legitimacy of the government which reflects consent of governed

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Que.8(a)

Ambedkar is not a doctrinal Marxist or socialist. He evolves his own brand of socialism in which not only the economic aspects but also the social aspects are emphasised. Elaborate. (20 Marks)

Socialism is a pro-poor ideology that has emerged from failure of classical liberalism. It is ideology for the working class against capitalism.

There is no single accepted definition of socialism as it has been defined differently by different scholars as thus we see several variants of socialism like Fabianism, Guild Socialism, Syndicalism, Gandhian Socialism, etc.

To quote Lord :-

"Socialism is a hat that has lost its shape because everyone

wears it"

Ideally socialism and Marxism are economic concepts that deals with upliftment of the working class. However in Indian context Ambedkar's idea of socialism not just deals with economic aspect but also emphasised on social aspect.

Ambedkar is a leader of Depressed class and hence 'he advocates of equality as well as a life of dignity for the people in the lower strata'. ~~Because~~ ~~the~~

Ambedkar equates the social condition with economic condition. He is of view that

poor social condition of the depressed class is one of the major reason for their economic hardships.

Indian caste system not just provides for division of labour rather division of labourers and thus imposes permanent disabilities on them along with preventing social mobility.

The socio-economic caste census, 2011 has clearly highlighted that the people below the poverty line and people in the lower strata of caste system were quite related to each other.

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Thus to ensure their socio-economic upliftment - Ambedkar while drafting constitution as ensured to abolish social disability (A-17) imposed on depressed classes along with ensuring economic upliftment through affirmative action (A-15, 16, 21, etc).

Thus we can say that Ambedkar is not a doctrinal Marxist or socialist who advocate violent revolution by the depressed classes, rather he talks about affirmative action by state to support their upliftment.



ue.8(b)

What do you understand by Affirmative action? What could be the limitations of affirmative action? (15 Marks)

Affirmative action is a concept of welfare state which emerged in the backdrop of economic criticism of classical liberalism thus giving rise to modern liberalism.

Affirmative action are the steps taken by state in order to ensure that the weakest in the chain is also strengthened. This is in line with Gandhi's Talisman and Deen dayal Upadhyay Antyodaya.

This is a method of ensuring level playing field for



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all as it acknowledges the fact that there exists social, economic as well as political inequalities among the people

Indian constitution provides for affirmative action in favour of women, children, socially and economically backward class and other backward classes in form of reservation and ensuring their representation

The idea of affirmative action has been criticised by liberals - who believe in "survival of the fittest" and a meritocratic society.



To quote Sumner,

"Amirkand in the gutter is where he is supposed to".

They consider affirmative action violates individuality. As Aristotle say - "It is unjust to treat equals unequally, similarly, it is unjust to treat unequals equally".

The Marxist scholars have also criticised Affirmative Action as it is a method used by state to create hegemony in favour of capitalists.

Neo-liberals like Nozick has also criticised the welfare approach. They consider human dignity to be as important as individuality thus the people in the upper strata should not be burdened with responsibility of lower strata.



Que.8(c)

The path and judicious ways shown by Sir Syed are still relevant for the new generation. Discuss. (15 Marks)

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan is a Muslim scholar and a social reformer, he is considered to be one of the most controversial figure not just among Muslims but also Hindus.

During his time, the Muslim community was passing through a phase of frustration and stagnation because British considered them to be the main conspirators of Revolt of 1857.

He was against the orthodox and religious tradition of Muslims and thus wanted to incorporate



Rationalism.

He was of view that Muslims should carry book of science in on hand and a book of holy quran in other i.e., he wanted a synthesis of Rationality of the west and spiritualism of east (i.e. Islam)

Thus he suggested Muslims to give up the idea of British resistance and rather focus on gaining western education

The teaching of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan holds relevance even today for guiding the Muslim Youth & looking at instance of their radicali

sation into groups like JLF, BIS, etc

According to Sachar Committee report - only 4% of Muslims forms the part of All India services,

Their literacy rate is 5% less than the national average and if we look at the various social and economic indicators they are behind even some of the backward classes.

Thus looking at the condition of the Muslim population ideologies of Syed Ahmad Khan to focus on development via education holds significance like never before