

SOS POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION
M.A POLITICAL SCIENCE II SEM
POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: MORDAN POLITICAL
THOUGHT, THEORY & CONTEMPORARY
IDEOLOGIES
UNIT-III

Topic Name-Socialism

Introduction

- **Socialism** is a political, social and economic philosophy encompassing a range of economic and social systems characterised by social ownership of the means of production and workers' self-management of enterprises. ... Social ownership can be public, collective, cooperative or of equity

Definition

- In the simplest language democratic socialism means the blending of socialist and democratic methods together in order to build up an acceptable and viable political and economic structure. To put it in other words, to arrive at socialist goals through democratic means. It also denotes that as an ideology socialism is preferable to any other form such as capitalism or communism.
- The word socialism has been defined as “such type of socialist economy under which economic system is not only regulated by the government to ensure, welfare equity of opportunity and social justice to the people.”

Who invented socialism?

- The Communist Manifesto was written by **Karl Marx** and **Friedrich Engels** in 1848 just before the Revolutions of 1848 swept Europe, expressing what they termed scientific socialism. In the last third of the 19th century, social democratic parties arose in Europe, drawing mainly from Marxism.

Types of socialism

- **Anarcho-socialism**
- **Utopian socialism**
- **State-Communism**
- **Democratic socialism**
- **Libertarian socialism**
- **Social democratic socialism**
- **Christian socialism**

What is the main purpose of socialism?

- Socialism is a political movement that centers on changing the economic means of ownership and production. Its main objective is to foster a cooperative economy through the creation of cooperative enterprises, common ownership, state ownership or shared equity. There are many different philosophies of socialism and no one definition can encompass all of the nuances of this political movement. While these approaches differ in the type of social ownership they advocate as well as the degree to which the government is involved in the socialist system, the political movement as a whole does share some key goals.
- **Critique of Waste**
- **Abolition of Private Property**
- **Overcoming Social Deficiencies**
- **Overcoming Classism**

What are the 5 main characteristics of socialism?

- The main features of socialist economy are as follows:
- (i) Collective Ownership:
- (ii) Economic, Social and Political Equality:
- (iii) Economic Planning:
- (iv) No Competition:
- (v) Positive Role of Government:
- (vi) Work and Wages According to Ability and Needs:

Which countries are socialist?

- As a sovereign state is a different entity from the political party that rules that state at any given time, a country may be ruled by a socialist party without the country itself claiming to be socialist, occurring in both one-party and multi-party political systems. In particular, there are numerous cases of social democratic and democratic socialist parties winning elections in liberal democratic states and ruling for a number of terms until a different party wins the elections. While socialist parties won many elections around the world and most elections in the Nordic countries, they did not adopt socialism as the state ideology.
- Several countries with liberal democratic constitutions mention socialism. India is a liberal democracy that has been ruled by non-socialist parties on many occasions, but its constitution makes references to socialism. Certain other countries such as Croatia,^[1] Hungary,^[2] Myanmar^[3] and Poland^[4] have constitutions that make references to their communist and socialist past by recognizing or condemning it, but without claiming to be socialist in the present.

Origin and Development:

- **. Evils of Capitalism**
- **Capitalism Encouraged its Rise:**
- **Democratic Socialism was Thought more Suitable:**

difference between a 'socialist' and a 'democratic socialist'

- Sanders' has been decried as a radical and unelectable over his policy proposals as well as his association with socialism.
- "Socialist" remains a dirty, and often misunderstood, term in the realm of US politics. Nearly 21% of Americans consider socialism to be a threat to the US, an Insider poll found last summer.
- In general, socialists believe the government should provide a range of basic services to the public, such as health care and education, for free or at a significant discount.
- Democratic socialism is related, but what politicians like Sanders are pushing for is not akin to the authoritarian-style socialism in places like Venezuela.

Main Features of Socialism:

- **Socialism is Social or Collective Ownership of Resources:**
- **It is a Fully Planned Economy:**
- **It is the Responsibility of the Central Planning Authority:**
- **It has Definite Aims and Objectives:**
- **Specific Long-Term Plans:**
- **Central Control and Ownership**
- **Much Less Importance of Price Mechanism:**
- **People's Co-operation is Essential**

Merits of Socialism:

- **Social Justice is Assured:**
- **Rapid Economic Development:**
- **Production According to Basic Needs**
- **Balanced Economic Development**
- **It has Economic Stability**
- **It has More Flexibility**
- **Conservation of Natural Resources**
- **Equitable Distribution of Wealth and Income**
- **No Exploitation and Class Struggle**
- **Social Welfare Activities**
- **There is no Wastage of Competitive Advertisement**
- **Foresightedness**

Demerits of Socialism

- **No Suitable Basis of Cost Calculation**
- **Choice of Working Incentives**
- **It Becomes Lack of Incentives**
- **There is Loss of Economic Freedom**
- **Lack of Data, Experts and Administrators for Planning**
- **Loss of Economic Freedom and Consumer Sovereignty**
- **Imperfections in Planning Lead to Dis-satisfaction on a Big Scale**
- **Too Much Power is Concentrated in the State**
- **There is Loss of Personal Liberty**
- **Bureaucracy and Red-Tapism**

Conclusion

- Whatever the difficulties of running a socialist economy, the appeal for socialism was great especially, in less developed countries. For over populated countries having national problems, socialism seemed to be the only hope of the masses. Free market economy in its pure form is a thing of the past.
- Mixed Capitalist Economy is already the order in all the western countries. In the Less Developed Asian Countries Government has not only to regulate economic activity but positively direct it by active participation for the fast development of the country. As for the difficulties, they exist and can be eliminated through co-operation between the administration and the people. As the country develops economic planning gets a stronghold and difficulties wear away

THANK YOU