

Political Science and International Relations Syllabus

PAPER - I - Political Theory and Indian Politics

Political Theory

- **1. Political Theory**: meaning and approaches.
- 2. Theories of the State: Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluralist, Post-colonial and feminist.
- **3. Justice**: Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawl's theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.
- **4. Equality**: Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.
- 5. Rights: Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; concept of Human Rights.
- **6. Democracy**: Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy representative, participatory and deliberative.
- **7. Concept of power**, hegemony, ideology and legitimacy.
- **8. Political Ideologies**: Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism.
- **9. Indian Political Thought**: Dharamshastra, Arthashastra and Buddhist traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M.K. Gandhi, B.R. Ambedkar, M.N. Roy.
- **10. Western political thought**: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, J S Mill, Locke And Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt

Indian Government and Politics

- 1. Indian Nationalism (a) Political strategies of Indian freedom struggle: From constitutionalism to Mass Satyagraha, Non Co-operation, Civil disobedience; Militant and Revolutionary movements, Peasant and workers' movements. (b) Perspectives on the nationalist movement: Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical Humanist and Dalit.
- **2. Making of the Indian Constitution:** Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.
- **3. Salient Features of the Indian Constitution**: The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; federalism, parliamentary system and amendment procedures; judicial review and basic structure doctrine.
- **4. (a) Principal organs of the Union Government**: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court. **(b) Principal organs of the State Government**: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.
- **5. Grassroots democracy**: Panchayati Raj and municipal government; significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments. Grass root movements.
- **6. Statutory institutions/commissions** Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for women; National Commission for Scheduled castes, National Human Rights Commission; Minorities



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Commission, National Backward Classes Commission.

- **7. Federalism:** Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centre-state relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; inter-state disputes.
- **8. Planning and Economic Development**: Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; role of planning and public sector; Green revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalisation and economic reforms.
- 9. Caste, religion and ethnicity in Indian politics
- **10. Party system:** National and Regional political parties; ideological and social base of parties; patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups; trends in electoral behaviour; changing socioeconomic profile of legislators.
- **11. Social movements:** Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements.

PAPER - II - COMPARATIVE POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

World Politics

- **1. Approaches to the study of comparative politics**: traditional approaches; political economy and political sociology perspectives; limitations of the comparative method.
- **2. Comparative politics**: Nature and Major approaches; political economy and political sociology perspectives; limitations of the comparative method.
- **3. State in comparative perspective**: Characteristics and changing nature of the state in capitalist and socialist economies and advanced industrial and developing societies.
- **4. Politics of representation and participation:** Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.
- **5. Globalisation:** Responses from developed and developing societies.
- **6. Approaches to the study of International politics** Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems Theory.
- **7. Key Concepts in International relations**: National interest, Security and Power, balance of power and deterrence, trans-national actors and collective security; world capitalist economy and globalization.
- **8. Changing international political order (a)** Rise of super powers; strategic and ideological bipolarity, arms race and cold war; nuclear threat. **(b)** Non-aligned movement: aims and objectives. **(c)** Collapse of the Soviet Union; unipolarity and American hegemony; relevance of non alignment in the contemporary world.
- **9. Evolution of the international economic system** From Bretton woods to WTO; socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance), Third world demand for new international economic order, Globalisation of the world economy.



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- **10. United Nations:** Envisaged role and actual record; specialised UN agencies- aims and functioning; need for UN reforms.
- 11. Regionalisation of world politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, SAARC, NAFTA
- **12. Contemporary Global Concerns**: Democracy, Human Rights, Environment, Gender Justice, terrorism, nuclear proliferation.

India and the World

- **1. Indian Foreign Policy**: determinants of foreign policy; the institutions of policy-making; continuity and change.
- 2. India's contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement: Different phases and current role.
- **3. Major issues in Indian foreign policy**: Sino-Indian Border War (1962); Indo-Pakistan War (1971) and the liberation of Bangladesh; IPKF in Sri Lanka; India as military nuclear power (1998).
- **4. India and South Asia**: **(a)** Regional co-operation: SAARC past performance and future prospects. **(b)** South Asia as a free trade area **(c)** India's "Look East" policy **(d)** impediments to regional co-operation: river water disputes; illegal cross-border migration; ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; border disputes.
- **5.India and the Global South**:Relations with Africa and Latin America; leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.
- **6. India and the Global centres of power**: USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.
- **7. India and the UN System**: India's role in UN Peace Keeping; demand for permanent seat in the Security Council.
- **8. India and the nuclear question**: Changing perceptions and policy.
- **9. Recent developments in Indian foreign policy**: India's position on the recent crisis in Afghanistan, Iraq and west Asia, growing relations with US and Israel; vision of new world order.