

**INTRODUCTION TO**

**“POLITICAL SCIENCE”**

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# POLITICAL SCIENCE

“The branch of social sciences that control people, elect leaders, opinion their voters and also help citizens to know their responsibilities in the society is called political science”

“Great Greek political philosopher, Aristotle was the first thinker to use the term ‘politics’”

According to Aristotle “Man was a social animal”



# LITERAL MEANING

- ◉ **What is Political Science?**

Politics from “Polis” = city; sovereign state

Science from “Scire” = to know; study

Political science is the study of state and government

- ◉ Political Science is a social science regarding the practice and theory of politics, the analysis of political systems, and the study of political behavior.

- ◉ Political science is the study of politics. Some particular areas that political scientists study include public policy, national politics, political theory, and international relations.

# DEFINITIONS

- ◉ The Greek thinker, Aristotle, defined political science as the study of the state.
- ◉ Political Science deals extensively with the analysis of political systems, the theoretical and practical applications to politics, and the examination of political behavior.
- ◉ According to Paul Janet “ Political science is that part of social knowledge which discusses the basic principles of Government and treats foundations of the state”

# POLITICS AND POWER

- ◉ **According to Harold Lasswell, politics is “who gets what, when, and how” and that political science is the study of “the shaping and sharing of power.”**
- ◉ **Power is the ability to have others do something, whether they like it or not. It often connotes sanctions for those who will not abide.**

# SCOPE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

- The scope of political science is vast and experts have divided the field of political science into different sub-disciplines:-
  - 1- Analysis of the Past,
  - 2- Study of Present,
  - 3- Understanding the future course,
  - 4- Political Ideology and Organization,
  - 5- Study of state,
  - 6- Study of Power Process
  - 7- Study of Political Behavior
  - 8- Study individual liberty and rights
  - 9- Political Science and International relations

The scope of the political science has now been broadened to include the realm of the study of the democratic elections across the world.

# NECESSITY OF STUDY

- ◉ Education for citizenship
- ◉ Essential part of liberal education
- ◉ Knowledge and understanding of government

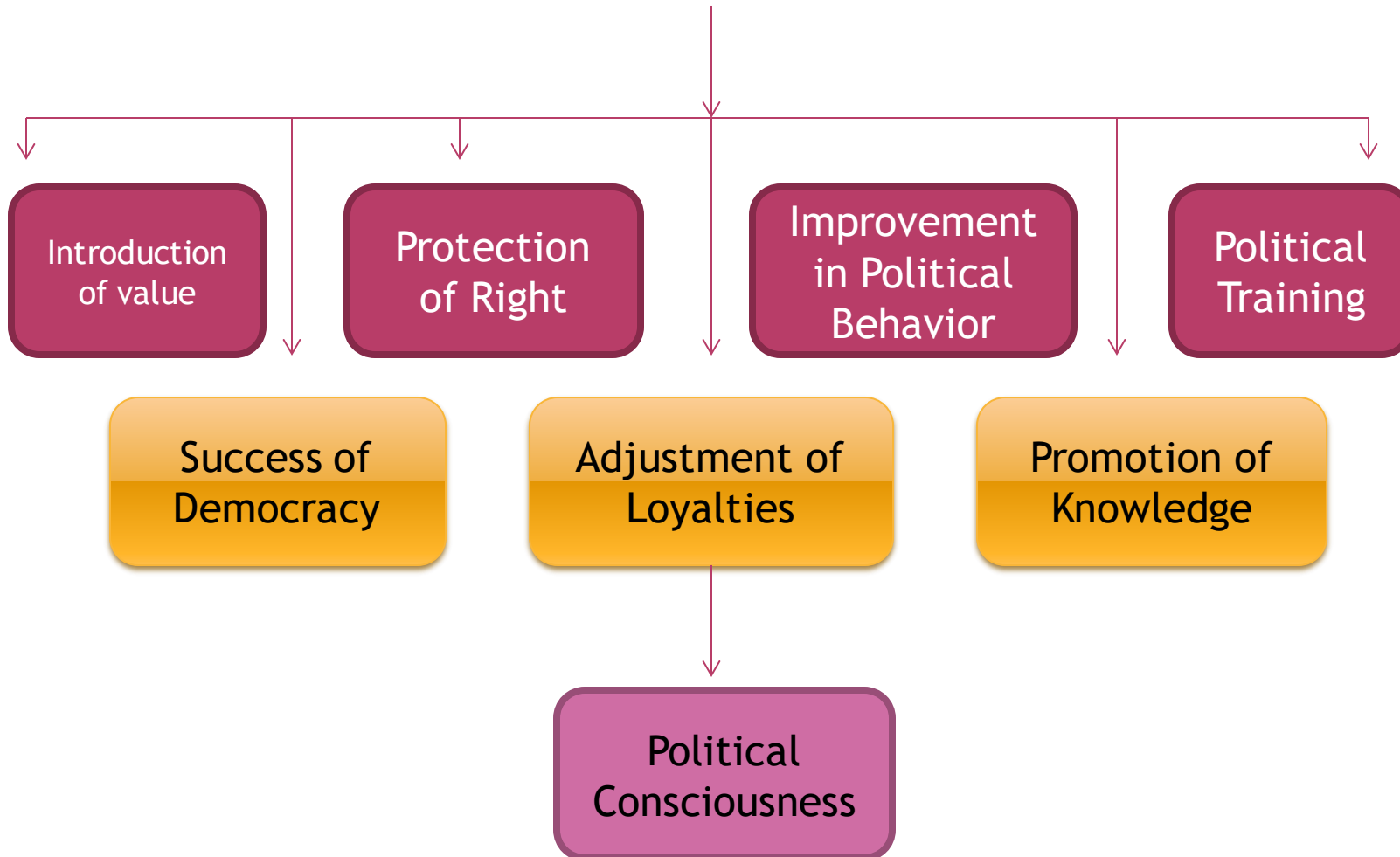
# FUNCTION & IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

“The function of political science is to discover the principles that should be adhered to in public affairs that eventually would serve as a model that can be applied to matters of urgent concern to public officials and to private citizens.”



# IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

## Importance



# GOALS IN THE STUDY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

- Education for citizenship
- The primary objective of the political science curriculum is to equip students to discharge the obligations of democratic citizenship
- Essential parts of liberal education

# POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES

- **Communism**: This is where every member of the community owns all the wealth, shall take part to attain this wealth, and shall be given on the share according to his needs.

Practicing Country: China, Vietnam etc:

- **Liberalism**: This belief recognizes the role of the community in promoting, protecting, and controlling the value of rights and liberty of every citizen in the development and improvement of the community.

Practicing Country: UK, Norway, Spain, Australia, Japan etc

- **Conservatism**: Ideology of keeping systems largely unchanged.

Practicing Country: UK, Canada, Germany, France etc

# POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES

- **Anarchism**: A belief that governmental rules and policies are against the exercise of liberty and interest of every member of the society and thus aptly become a community without a rule of law.

Practicing Country: Small minority political movement in Iceland

- **Islamism**: Muslim religion turned into a political ideology.

Practicing Country: Saudi Arabia, Iran, Yemen, Oman etc (where Islam is politically defined state religion)

- **Fascism**: Extreme form of nationalism with elements of racism, socialism, and militarism.

Practicing Country: Italy, Japan, Austria are the past examples. India is emerging fascist state.

# POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES

- **Socialism:** A belief that governmental rules and policies are against the exercise of liberty and interest of every member of the society and thus aptly become a community without a rule of law.

Practicing Country: Sri Lanka, Vietnam etc

- **Secularism:**
- Dictionary meaning:- the principle of separation of the state from religious institutions.
- Definition of secularism as per Japan Constitution:-  
“Freedom of religion is guaranteed to all. No religious organization shall receive any privileges from the State, nor exercise any political authority. No person shall be compelled to take part in any religious act, celebration, rite or practice.

Practicing Country: UK, France, Nepal etc