

Seminar-13

A. Title of the Seminar - What is Politics? A Comparative Analysis of Western and Non-Western Perspectives

B. Type of the Activity- Seminar on Political Theory

C. Organizing Department/Committee - Department of Political Science in Association with IQAC, GGDC CHAPRA.

D. Date of the Activity: 06/04/2022

E. Number of Participants: 28

F. Name of Speakers and their affiliation: Sri Arindam Debnath,

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Chakdaha College.

Rabindranagar, Palpara, Chakdaha, Nadia -741222.

G. Flyer:

The flyer is for a seminar titled "What is Politics? A Comparative Analysis of Western and Non-Western Perspectives" held at Government General Degree College, Chapra. It is organized by the Department of Political Science in collaboration with IQAC of GGDC, Chapra. The resource person is Sri Arindam Debnath, Assistant Professor at Chakdaha College. The seminar took place on 06th April, 2022, at 12 pm in Seminar Hall 1, GGDC, Chapra. The flyer lists the Patron (Dr. Subhasis Panda, Principal, GGDC, Chapra), the IQAC Co-ordinator (Sri Sudipta Das, HOD of Physics, GGDC, Chapra), and the Convenor (Sri Rudra Sekhar Basu, HOD of Political Science, GGDC, Chapra).

GOVERNMENT GENERAL DEGREE COLLEGE, CHAPRA (Affiliated to Haldia University)		
A State Level Seminar on		
What is Politics? A Comparative Analysis of Western and Non-Western Perspectives		
Organized by Department of Political Science in Collaboration with IQAC of GGDC, Chapra		
Resource Person: Sri Arindam Debnath , Assistant Professor, Chakdaha College		
Date: 06 th April, 2022	Time: 12 pm	Venue: Seminar Hall 1; GGDC, Chapra
Patron Dr. Subhasis Panda Principal GGDC, Chapra	IQAC Co-ordinator Sri Sudipta Das HOD of Physics GGDC, Chapra	Convenor Sri Rudra Sekhar Basu HOD of Political Science GGDC, Chapra

H. Outcome of the Seminar:

The seminar was conducted successfully by the Department of Political Science, Government General Degree College, Chapra. The students participated enthusiastically in the same. They were acquainted with the following concepts and discussions in the Seminar,

1. Politics is the way that people living in groups make planned decisions. Politics is about making agreements between people so that they can live together in groups such as tribes, cities, or countries. In large groups, such as countries, some people may spend a lot of their time making such agreements. These people are called politicians. Politicians, and sometimes other people, may get together to form a government. The study of politics in universities is

called political science, public affairs, government, political studies, or public administration. In everyday life, the term "politics" refers to the way that countries are governed, and to the ways that governments make rules and laws to manage the human society properly. Politics can also be seen in other groups, such as in companies, clubs, schools, and churches.

2. The Greek philosopher Aristotle wrote that humans are a political animal and that ethics and politics are closely linked. Niccolò Machiavelli wrote, in his 1532 book, *The Prince*, that politics was firstly about having and keeping power. He said that without power, a leader could do nothing. In 1651, Thomas Hobbes wrote *Leviathan*, a book about politics. Hobbes wrote that people living in groups often give up some of their rights in exchange for some protections from a government. This is the basis of the social contract theory. In the 1800s, John Stuart Mill developed the "liberal" idea of politics. Mill said that democracy is the most important political development of the 1800s. He said that there should be more protection for individual rights against the government. Bernard Crick wrote a list of the political virtues, which were about best practices of politics itself.

3. Western political thought began with the ancient Greeks. Greek philosophers like Plato and Aristotle discussed justice, good governance and the state. Western political thought is based on Greek philosophy. The Ancient Romans extended the ideas of the Greeks. They valued ideas like the rule of law and representative government. The Roman concept of natural law also influenced Western political thought.

4. Greek and Roman ideas were adopted by Christian thinkers during medieval times. During medieval times, Christian thinkers emphasised the idea of natural law and natural rights. Saint Thomas Aquinas combined Aristotelian philosophy with Christianity.

5. The Renaissance period saw the revival of interest in the ideas of Ancient Greece and Rome. Renaissance thinkers emphasised ideas of human reason and individual liberty. They broke from Church domination and stressed the importance of secular authority.

6. Modern Western political thought began in the 17th and 18th centuries. Thinkers like Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau shaped modern political ideas based on the social contract, natural rights and republicanism. Thomas Hobbes focused on the social contract in his work '*Leviathan*'. He talked about the need for people to transfer some rights to a sovereign authority to establish political order. John Locke advocated the idea of natural rights and consent in his work '*Two Treatises of Government*'. He talked about individual rights to life, liberty and property. He believed people consent to the government to protect these rights. Jean Jacques Rousseau discussed the idea of the general will and republican government in works like '*The Social Contract*'. He believed people should come together to form popular sovereignty based on the citizens' general will.

7. The Age of Enlightenment thinkers valued reason and scientific thought. They criticised irrational traditions and absolutism. They talked about ideas like self-interest, separation of powers and limits on government. The 19th century saw a debate between classical liberalism and conservatism. Liberals valued individual freedoms and limited government. Conservatives believed in traditions and institutions.

8. 20th-century Western political thought was shaped by socialism, fascism, welfare capitalism and liberal democracy. Thinkers debated the role of the state in the economy and society. The idea of human rights became important. In short, western political thought evolved from

ancient Greco-Roman ideas to liberal democracy and human rights ideas prevalent today. Key values shaped by Western political thought are individual liberty, the rule of law, limited government, consent of the governed and democracy.

9. Western political thought laid the base of political systems in Western countries like the USA, European countries and other liberal democracies. It values ideas like liberty, equality, property rights and representation which form the basis of the Western style of governance.

I. Attendance of the Seminar:

Government General Degree College, Chapra

Attendance sheet of the seminar on
What is Politics? A comparative Analysis of Western and non-Western Perspectives
 by _____
 the Department of Political Science on 02-09-2022

Sl.No.	Name with initial and date	Sl.No.	Name with initial and date
1.	Amrita Halder / A.H.	38.	
2.	Amit Khatun / A.K.	39.	
3.	Bismita Ghosh / B.G.	40.	
4.	Bikram Chakrabarty / B.C.	41.	
5.	Lakshmi Khatun / L.K.	42.	
6.	Chaitali Saha / C.S.	43.	
7.	Bina Saha / B.S.	44.	
8.	Samriddip Ghosh / S.G.	45.	
9.	Karuna Sultana / K.S.	46.	
10.	Sonika Khatun / S.K.	47.	
11.	Ruksana Khatun / R.K.	48.	
12.	Saketa Khatun / S.K.	49.	
13.	Bina Khatun / B.K.	50.	
14.	Bina Khatun / B.K.	51.	
15.	Madin Mandal / M.M.	52.	
16.	Mondul Shaha / M.S.	53.	
17.	Sourav Ghosh / S.G.	54.	
18.	Lakshmi Halder / L.H.	55.	
19.	Bani Biswas / B.B.	56.	
20.	Papri Halder / P.H.	57.	
21.	Sandeep Bandyopadhyay / S.B.	58.	
22.	Nipari Mondal / N.M.	59.	
23.	Jaydeb Mondal / J.M.	60.	
24.	Sonika Khatun / S.K.	61.	
25.	Lalita Halder / L.H.	62.	
26.	Supriya Mondal / S.M.	63.	
27.	Rajalipriya / R.P.	64.	
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J . Photographs of the Programme:



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