

Third axis : Political science relationship with other sciences

Political science is the study of the theory and practice of politics, the institutions and processes of governance, and the analysis and evaluation of political behaviour and outcomes. Political science is closely related to other disciplines in the social sciences and humanities, such as sociology, anthropology, history, economics, ethics, psychology, jurisprudence, geography, and cultural studies .

➤ Political Science and History

The relationship between Political Science and History is very close and intimate. The political science deals with state and institutions related with it which have their roots in history and in order to understand them fully one has to trace their historical evolution. History through its vast resources provides good scope for comparative analysis of political structures and institutions of different times to arrive at the best possible ideal.

The writings of historians, in brief, form a vast reservoir of material that a student of Political Science can analyze into meaningful patterns and guide him in understanding the present and outlining the future. Moreover, with its chronological treatment, history offers a sense of growth and development, thereby providing a base or an insight into the social changes.

➤ political science and Sociology

Sociology is the parent science of all the social sciences. It is the science of society viewed as an aggregate of individuals or men's science in their associated process. Sociology may thus be defined as the science of the origin and development, Structure and functions of social groups, their forms, laws, customs, institutions, modes of life, thought and action, and their contribution to human culture and civilization.

Sociology depends very much on political science in every respect. The state and governments make laws for the welfare of the society; the government

removes social evils such as poverty, unemployment, dowry and so on from the society.

The laws which are formed by the government are based on the social customs, traditions, mores, norms, etc. of the society. Most of the changes which have been taken place in the political theory, during the past times have been possible due to sociology.

➤ **Political Science and Psychology**

Psychology deals with the behavior of man and elucidates what he actually does. It enquires into man's mind and behavior, both as an individual and in groups, and explains human action's motives. It seeks to determine how far human conduct is rational or instinctive, or traditional. Political Science, which deals with human beings' political relationship, cannot ignore the psychological effects.

The State and its political institutions are the human mind products and can best be understood in mind. Theories about political conduct that are not grounded in adequate psychology are apt to be defective. This has been well shown in some of the contributions that modern social psychology has made to Political Science.

➤ **Political Science and Ethics**

Ethics is concerned with normative questions such as „what ought to be“, although political science too deals with the normative issues in the pursuit of an ideal political order but it is not confined to them alone. Though both Political Science and Ethics aim at the noble and righteous life of man, yet the former is primarily concerned with the political governance of man whereas the latter refers to man's conduct and morality; that is, whereas Political Science deals with political order, Ethics deals with moral order. Moral laws prescribe absolute standards of right and wrong, justice and injustice, but the laws of the State follow standard of expediency.

➤ **Political science and Jurisprudence**

No less close and no less ancient is the connection between Political Science and Jurisprudence, the science of law. The former is the study of the State and government, whereas the latter is the study of law. If human beings are to live a life of togetherness and safeguard the community's existence, they must accept certain conduct rules. The rules governing society may be few or many.

➤ **Political Science and Economics**

The scholars of ancient Greece regarded economics as a sub-division of political science. Both political science and economics is concerned with the welfare of mankind and his relationship with the society and hence Adam Smith regarded them as parts of the same subject.

Harold Laswell defined politics as the process of deciding who gets what, when and how whereas economics deal with distribution of scarce resources deciding what to produce, how to produce and for whom to produce.

➤ **Relationship of political science with Geography:**

Certain writers maintain that geographical and physical conditions greatly influence the character, people's national lives, and political institutions. Aristotle thought that without geography, neither political, strategical wisdom could go far.

Bodin was the first modern writer who dwelt upon the relationship between Political Science and Geography. Rousseau tried to establish a relationship between climatic conditions and forms of government. He argued that warm climates are conducive to despotism, cold climates to Barbarism, and moderate climates to a good polity.