

# **Victoria University of Bangladesh**

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Ans. to the Q. No. (1)

Democracy is defined as a form of government where power is ultimately held by the citizens and exercised either directly or through elected representatives. It is based on the principles of political equality, freedom and operates with the aim of promoting the well-being and liberty of all members of society.

The basic principles of democracy —

1. Political equality : All citizens have an equal say in the political process and equal access to power.
2. Freedom : Citizens enjoy individual



liberties such as freedom of speech, religion and assembly.

3. Majority rule: Decision are made

based on the will of the majority, but with consideration for majority rights.

4. Representation: The people are

represented by elected officials who are accountable to them.

5. The rule of law: Laws and policies

are established through a fair and transparent legal process, and everyone is held accountable to them.

6. Responsiveness: The government is



responsive to the needs and will of the people and operates with the aim of serving the common good.

7. Transparency: The workings of government are ~~are~~ open and transparent to the public, promoting accountability and trust.

There are several forms of democracy, including:

1. Direct democracy: A system where citizens directly participate in decision making through voting on laws and policies.



2. Representative democracy: A system

where citizens elect representative to make decision on their behalf

3. Parliamentary democracy: A system

where the executive is accountable to the legislative branch.

4. Presidential democracy: A system

where the executive branch is separate from the legislative branch and the head of government is elected directly by the people.

5. Federal Democracy: A system where

power is divided between a central



government and smaller, regional governments.

6. Hybrid democracy: A system that combines elements of different forms of democracy, such as parliamentary-presidential system.

Each form of democracy has its own strengths and weaknesses and the specific form chosen depends on the political, social and cultural context of a particular country. Regardless of the form, the principles of political equality, freedom, and majority rule remain central to all democracies.



## Am. to the Q. No-2

Democracy and totalitarianism are two fundamentally different political systems -

1. Origin of power: Democracy is based

on the idea that political power should be held by the people, either directly or through elected representatives.

Totalitarianism, on the other hand, is characterise by a single individual or party having complete control over all aspects of society.



2. Nature of the state: In democracies, the state exists to serve the will of the people, whereas in totalitarian regimes, the state is seen as an instrument of the ruling party or individual to control and regulate all aspects of society.

3. Individual Rights: In democracies, individual rights such as freedom of speech, religion, and assembly are protected, while totalitarian regimes heavily regulate or repress these rights.



4. Political participation: In a democracy,

citizens have the right to participate in the political process through free and fair elections, freedom of speech, and the right to form political parties. In a totalitarian state, political participation is limited or non-existent, and opposition is suppressed.

5. Ideology: In a democracy, there is a

diversity of political ideologies,

while in a totalitarian state, there

is a single, state-mandated ideology

that is imposed on all citizens.



6. Power structure : In a democracy, power is distributed among various branches of government, with checks and balance in place to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful, in a totalitarian state, power is concentrated in the hand of one person or a small group of individuals.

So, we can say that democracies are characterised by political ~~free~~ freedom, individual rights and



the rule of law, while totalitarianism states are characterised by absolute control, repression and the suppression of dissent.

### Ans. to the Q No-3

The difference between formal organization and informal organisation -

1. Structure: Formal ~~into~~ organisations have a clear and defined structure while informal organisations have a more relaxed and unstructured approach.

2. Recognition: Formal organisations

have a clear and defined structure, while informal organisations have a more relaxed

Formal organisations are officially recognised by the company or organisation, while informal are not.

3. Communication: Formal organisations

have a structured approach to communication, while informal organisations rely on personal ~~relationships~~ ~~relationships~~ relationship ~~re~~ and informal communication.

4. Rules and regulations: Formal



organisations have established rules, procedures and policies while informal organisation operate outside of these regulations.

Relationships: In formal organisations have established rules, procedures and ~~poti~~ relationships between individuals are based on their roles and responsibility while in informal organisations relationships are based on personal connections and trust.



G. Decision making : Formal organisations

have clear chain of command for decision-making, while in informal organisations, decision are made based on consensus or informal agreement.

While both formal and informal organisations have their advantages and disadvantages, the key differences between them lies in their

structure, recognition, communication and relationships.

These are some of the significant



Contrasting points between formal and informal organisations. Both these organisations work together to achieve short-term and long-term goals.

Am. to the Q. No-4

Culture is everything which is socially shared and learned by the members of a society.

characteristics of culture has been cited below.

1. Culture is learned: Culture is not



inherited biologically but it is learnt socially by man in a society. It is not an inborn tendency but acquired by man from the association of others.

Example - drinking, eating, dressing, walking, behaving, reading are all learnt by man.

2. Culture is social: It is not an individual

phenomena but it is the product of society. It develops in the society through social interaction. Deprivation of a man from his company is the deprivation of human qualities.



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3. Symbolic : Culture is composed of

symbolic, such as language, rituals and art, that hold meaning for a

group of people. E.g. American flag is a symbol of freedom.

4. Dynamic : Culture is ~~some~~ constantly

changing and evolving over time.

For example, the culture practices

and beliefs of a remote indigenous

tribe can be vastly different from

those of a major urban center.

5. Values : Culture reflects a society

beliefs about what is important.



Culture can also encompass language, religion, education, social habits and economic system.

Culture is adaptive and dynamic, once we recognise problems, culture can adapt again, in a more positive way, to find solutions!

Examples of cultural characteristics -  
respect of elders, equality, individualism  
spirituality, materialism etc.



6. Integrative: Culture helps to bring people together by providing a common identity and sense of belonging.

Example: Religious practices, such as attending church, can bring people together and help to integrate them into a larger cultural community.

7. Adaptive: Culture changes and evolves over time in response to internal and external factors.

Example: The changing fashion trends in a society reflect the adaptive nature of culture.