

1

DEMOCRACY IN CONTEMPORARY WORLD

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The word democracy comes from two Greek words, which together means people's power. A democracy is a system of government that involves all the citizens sharing power. The people are supreme and sovereign and nobody is above them. Through the medium of election they can change any government they like. Abraham Lincoln has given the best definition of democracy according to him :-

Democracy is the government of the people, by the people and for the people. Democracy originated in the Greek city of Athens. Later in the 19th and the 20th centuries the idea of democracy further developed in new directions. The expansion of democracy has not been smooth and straight. The chapter begins with different stories which are meant to give a sense of what it means to experience democracy and its absence.

Knowledge Based Question :

- The citizens do not have any say in this type of government
(A) Constitutional monarchy (B) Dictatorship
(C) Democracy (D) All of these
- Where did Democracy originate first?
(A) U.S.A (B) U.K. (C) France (D) Greece
- Who give the famous definition of democracy?
"Democracy is the government of the people, for the people and by the people" :
(A) John F. Kennedy (B) Abraham Lincoln
(C) George Washington (D) Thomas Jefferson
- In which system the religious leaders hold power :
(A) Theocracy (B) Monarchy (C) Dictatorship (D) Democracy
- In which form of government there is clear division of power ?
(A) Unitary (B) Federal (C) Dictatorship (D) Monarchy
- Who all the given the right to vote in Greece?
(A) Women (B) Man (C) Slaves (D) Foreigners

7. The president is elected directly in a :
(A) Parliamentary form of government (B) Presidential form of Government
(C) Monarchy (D) Dictatorship
8. _____ is a democracy in which people elect their representatives who form their government?
(A) Representative (B) Direct
(C) Soviet (D) None of these
9. In which of the following the monarch has total control over a state?
(A) Theocracy (B) Democracy (C) Dictatorship (D) Absolute Monarchy
10. Which of the following is one of the largest democracy in the world?
(A) India (B) China (C) Pakistan (D) Bangladesh

IMPORTANT TERMS :

1. **Coalition** : An alliance of people, associations, (political) parties or nations. This alliance may be temporary or a matter of convenience.
2. **Conspiracy** : A secret plan by a group to do something unlawful or harmful.
3. **Convention** : A body set up by agreement to deal with a particular issue. (or) An agreement between states, especially one less formal than a treaty.
4. **Coup** : A coup, is a sudden overthrow of a government illegally. It may or may not be violent in nature. The term is French for 'a sudden blow or strike to a state'.
5. **Disintegration** : Breaking (of a country) into many small parts (states) and is destroyed.
6. **Democratisation** : Introducing a democratic system or democratic principles, etc
7. **Federation** : A federal group of state within which smaller division have some degree of international autonomy.
8. **Martial Law** : A system of rules that takes effect when a military authority takes control of the normal administration of justice
9. **Monarch** : A sovereign head of state, especially a king, queen, or emperor.
10. **Referendum** : A direct vote in which an entire electorate is asked to either accept or reject a proposal.
11. **Treason** : The crime of betraying one's country by killing or overthrowing the king or government.
12. **Universal Adult Franchise** : The right of adults to vote in a political election.

IMPORTANT PERSONALITIES :

1. **Alberto Bachelet** : General of Chile Air force. He refused to join the coup. He was tortured and killed. His wife and daughter were put in prison.
2. **Augusto Pinochet** : Military General in Chile led the coup with the help of USA. Ruled in Chile for 17 years
3. **Kwame Nkrumah** : He was the son of a gold smith and was a teacher. He helped in the independence of his country. When Ghana got independence in 1957 he became the first prime minister and then the president. In 1966 he was over thrown by the military
4. **Michelle Bachelet** : Daughter of Alberto Bachelet. She was a doctor and a moderate socialist. She was the first women to be the defence minister in Latin America. She was elected president of Chile in January 2006.
5. **Lech Walesa** : An electrician, a trade union leader who became president of Poland in 1990.
6. **Aung Sang Suu kyi** : She led the national league for democracy in Myanmar.

Two tales of democracy :

Salvador Allende was then the President of Chile, a country in South America. Allende was the founder leader of the Socialist Party of Chile and led the Popular Unity coalition to victory in the presidential election in 1970.

After being elected the President, **Allende had taken several policy decisions to help the poor and the workers.** These included (i) reform of the educational system, (ii) free milk for children and (iii) redistribution of land to the landless farmers. He was opposed to foreign companies taking away natural resources like copper from the country. The landlords, the rich and the Church opposed his policies. Some other political parties in Chile also opposed his government.

Military Coup of 1973 :

On the morning of 11 September 1973, the military took over the seaport.

The military commanders asked the President to resign. Allende refused to resign or leave the country. Then the military surrounded the President's house and started bombing it. President Allende died in the military attack.

A government elected by people was overthrown by the military through conspiracy and violence.

What took place in Chile on 11 September 1973 was a military coup. General Augusto Pinochet (pronounced Pinoshe), an Army general, led the coup. The government of the United States of America was unhappy with Allende's rule and is known to have supported and funded activities that led to the coup. Pinochet became the President of the country and ruled it for the next 17 years.

Thus a military dictatorship was established in Chile. Pinochet's government tortured and killed several of those who supported Allende and those who wanted democracy to be restored. These included General Alberto Bachelet of the Chile Air Force and many other officers who refused to join the coup. General Bachelet's wife and daughter were put in prison and tortured. More than 3,000 people were killed by the military. Many more were reported 'missing'. No one knows what happened to them.

Restoration of Democracy :

Pinochet's military dictatorship came to an end after he decided to hold a referendum in 1988. He felt confident that in this referendum, the people would say 'yes' to his continuing in power. Their vote was a decisive 'no' to Pinochet. This led to Pinochet losing first his political and then his military powers. Political

freedom was restored. Since then Chile has held four presidential elections in which different political parties have participated. Slowly, the army's role in the country's government has been eliminated. The elected governments that came to power ordered enquiries into Pinochet's rule. These inquiries showed that his government was not only very brutal, but also very corrupt.

Michelle Bachelet (pronounced Mishel Bashelet), was elected President of Chile in January 2006. A medical doctor and a moderate socialist, **Michelle became the first woman to be a Defence Minister in Latin America. In the presidential elections she defeated one of Chile's richest men.**

Democracy in Poland :

In 1980. At that time Poland was ruled by the Polish United Workers' Party. This was one of the many communist parties that ruled in several countries of East Europe at that time.

The people could not freely choose the leaders of the communist party or the government. Those who spoke against the leaders or the party or the government were put in prison. The government in Poland was supported and controlled by the government of the Soviet Union (USSR), a vast and powerful communist state.

On 14 August 1980, the workers of Lenin Shipyard in the city of Gdansk went on a strike.

The strike began with a demand to take back a crane operator, a woman worker, who was unjustly dismissed from service. This strike was illegal, because trade unions independent of the ruling party were not allowed in Poland.

Walesa soon emerged as the leader of the striking workers. The strike began to spread across the whole city.

They wanted the right to form independent trade unions. They also demanded the release of political prisoners and an end to censorship on press.

The workers led by Walesa signed a 21-point agreement with the government that ended their strike.

After the Gdansk agreement was signed, a new trade union called Solidarity (Solidarnosc in Polish) was formed.

Revelations of widespread corruption and mismanagement in the government made matters worse for the rulers. The government, led by General Jaruzelski, grew anxious and imposed martial law in December 1981. Thousands of Solidarity members were put in prison. Freedom to organise, protest and express opinions was once again taken away.

Another wave of strikes, again organised by Solidarity, began in 1988.

Another round of negotiations with Walesa resulted in an agreement in April 1989 for free elections. Solidarity contested all the 100 seats of the Senate and won 99 of them. In October 1990, Poland had its first presidential elections in which more than one party could contest. Walesa was elected President of Poland.

Differences :

Let us compare the two nondemocratic governments in these stories.

There were many differences between Pinochet's rule in Chile and the communist rule in Poland.

- (i) Chile was ruled by a military dictator, while Poland was ruled by a political party.
- (ii) The government of Poland claimed that it was ruling on behalf of the working classes. Pinochet made no such claim and openly favoured big capitalists.

Common Features :

The people could not choose or change their rulers.

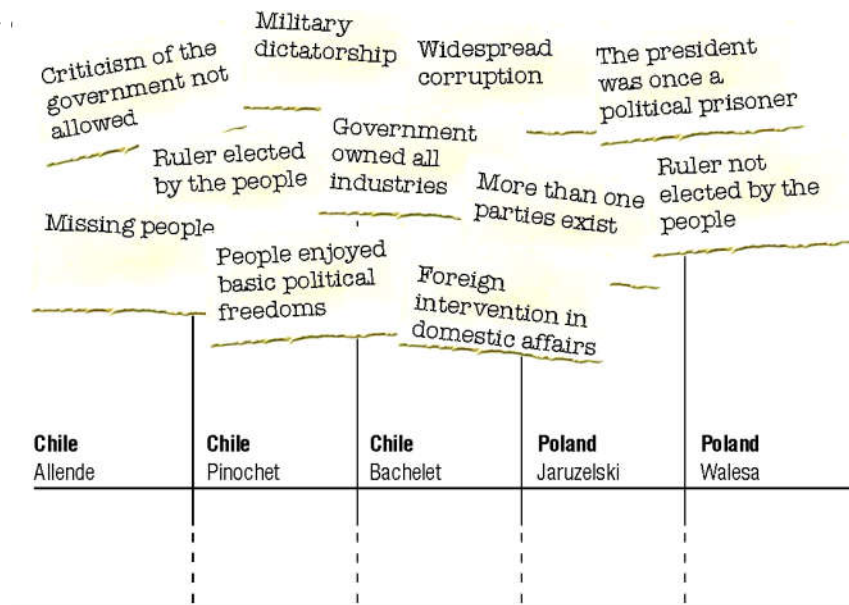
There was no real freedom to express one's opinions, form political associations and organise protests and political action.

The three democratic governments identified above — Allende's Chile, Walesa's Poland and Michelle's

Chile are different in their approach towards social and economic matters. Allende preferred government control on all big industries and the economy. Walesa wanted the market to be free of government interference. Michelle stands somewhere in the middle on this issue.

Democracy is a form of government that allows people to choose their rulers. In a democracy : only leaders elected by people should rule the country, and people have the freedom to express views, freedom to organise and freedom to protest.

Illustration 1 :



- Why did president Allende himself oppose foreigners? Why were they so unhappy with him ?
- Did the army have any legal right to arrest the defence minister of the country? Should the army have the power to arrest any citizens ?
- Locate Chile on the map. ? Which state in our country has a shape similar to Chile ?

Solution : (i) He addressed the workers because they were his biggest supporters. He had taken several policy decisions at President to help the poor and the workers. The rich were against him because of his policies, which supported the poor and taxed the rich.

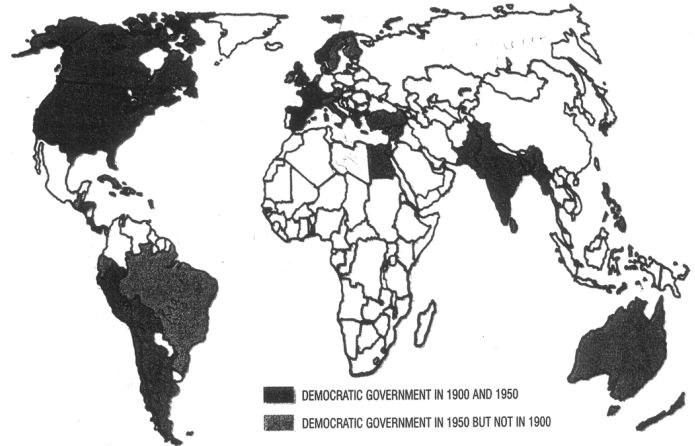
- Whenever a military coup occurs, it is the military dictator who takes decisions. All rules, regulations and laws become inoperative. Therefore, there is no scope for debate as to whether the army had the right or not to arrest the Defence Minister.

In normal times, the conduct of army did civic authorities is governed by the laid-down law. More generally, army is responsible for maintaining security on the external borders. Internal law and order in the responsibility of the civic authorities. Therefore, army does not have power to arrest any citizen; this power vests with the police.

- Kerala

Try yourself :

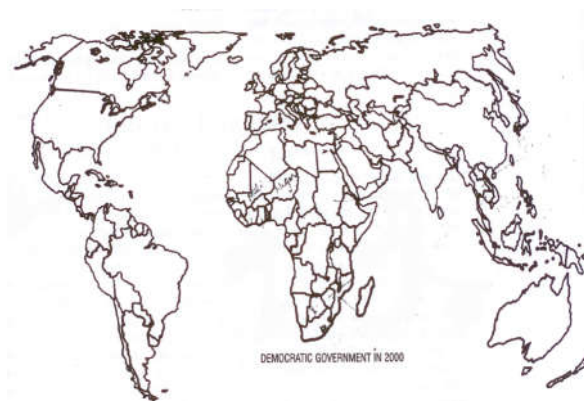
1. Which other East European countries were ruled by communist parties in the 1980's?
2. Make a list of political activities that you could not have done in poland in 1980's but you can do in our country.
3. Why was an independent trade union so important in poland ? Why trade unions are necessary?

**Map 1 : Democratic Governments in 1900–1950**

The first map depicts the countries that were democratic in 1950 a few years after the end of the second world war. This map also shows countries from this set that had already become democratic by 1900.

**Map 2 : Democratic Governments in 1975**

This map presents a picture of democratic regimes in 1975 after most of the colonies had gained independence.



Map 3 : Democratic Governments in 2000

We look at democracies in the year 2000 at the beginning of the twenty-first century.

Illustration 2 :

- (i) *On the basis of these maps identify up to three countries (in some cases you won't find three countries) that were democratic in these continents for the given years and make a table as given below.*
 - (a) *Identify some countries from map 1.1 that became democratic between 1900 and 1950.*
 - (b) *Identify some countries from map 1.1 and 1.2 that were democratic in 1950 and 1975.*
 - (c) *Identify some European countries from map 1.2 and 1.3 that were democratic in 1975 and 2000.*
 - (d) *Identify some countries in Latin America that became democratic after 1975.*
 - (e) *Make a list of big countries that were not democratic in 2000.*
- (ii) *Answer the following question on the basis of maps.*
 - (a) *What do these maps show*
 - (b) *How has the democracy marched through the 20th century ?*
 - (c) *Is there a clear pattern of expansion ?*

Solution :

- (i)
 - (a) India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Burma, Australia, West Indies, Brazil etc.
 - (b) USA, UK, India, Australia, France, Holland etc.
 - (c) USA, UK, India, Australia, France, Holland, West Indies etc.
 - (d) Brazil, Bolivia, Uruguay, Paraguay, Rio de Janeiro
 - (e) China, Pakistan, Peru, Myanmar, many countries in Africa etc.
- (ii)
 - (a) Map 1 depicts the countries that were democratic in 1950, i.e. a few years after the end of the Second World War. This map also shows countries from this set

that had already become democratic by 1900.

Map 2 depicts a picture of democratic countries in 1975, i.e. after most of the colonies had gained independence.

Map 3 presents democracies in the year 2000, i.e. at the beginning of the 21st Century.

- (b) Democracy has expanded throughout the 20th century. In each of the time frames presented in the maps, the number of countries with democracy has been gradually rising.
- (c) Democracy did not spread evenly in all parts of the world. It was established first in some regions and then spread to other regions. A large part of the continents of America, Europe and Australia were mainly democratic in 1900 and 1950. Democracy was almost totally absent in Africa and Asia in 1900. By 1950, it began to appear e.g. in India in Asia.

Try yourself :

4. When did the expansion take place ?
5. In which regions did the expansion take place ?
6. Which regions in the world account for most of the countries that were not-democracies in 2000 ?
7. Looking at these maps. which period do you find most important in the expansion of democracy ? why?
8. On the basis of these maps identify upto three countries (in some cases you won't find three countries) that were democratic in these continents for the given years and make a table as given below:

Year	Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America
1960				
1975				
2000				

SUMMARY :

- (i) Democracy has expanded throughout the twentieth century.
- (ii) Democracy did not spread evenly in all parts of the world. It was established first in some regions and then spread to other regions.
- (iii) While a majority of countries are democratic today, there are still large parts of the world that are not democratic.

1.2 phases in the expansion of democracy

The story of modern democracy began at least two centuries ago. You may have read the chapter on the French Revolution of 1789. This popular uprising did not establish a secure and stable democracy in France. Throughout the nineteenth century, democracy in France was overthrown and restored several

times. Yet the French Revolution inspired many struggles for democracy all over Europe.

In Britain, the progress towards democracy started much before the French Revolution. But the progress was very slow. Through the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries, series of political events reduced the power of monarchy and feudal lords. The right to vote was granted to more and more people. Around the same time as the French Revolution, the British colonies in North America declared themselves independent in 1776. In the next few years these colonies came together to form the United States of America. They adopted a democratic constitution in 1787. But here too the right to vote was limited to very few men.

In the nineteenth century struggles for democracy often centred round political equality, freedom and justice. One major demand was the right for every adult citizen to vote. Many European countries that were becoming more democratic did not initially allow all people to vote. In some countries only people owning property had the right to vote. Often women did not have the right to vote. In the United States of America, the blacks all over the country could not exercise the right to vote until 1965. Those struggling for democracy wanted this right granted universally to all adults — men or women, rich or poor, white or black. This is called ‘universal adult franchise’ or ‘universal suffrage’.

End of Colonialism :

For a very long time most countries in Asia and Africa were colonies under the control of European nations. People of the colonised countries had to wage struggles to achieve independence. They not only wanted to get rid of their colonial masters, but also wished to choose their future leaders.

Many of these countries became democracies immediately after the end of the Second World War in 1945

Ghana, a country in western Africa, illustrates the more common experience of former colonies. Ghana used to be a British colony named Gold Coast. It became independent in 1957. It was among the first countries in Africa to gain independence. It inspired other African countries to struggle for freedom. Kwame Nkrumah

After independence, Nkrumah became the first prime minister and then the president of Ghana. He got himself elected president for life. Soon after, in 1966, he was overthrown by the military. Like Ghana, most countries that became democracies after gaining independence had a mixed record. They could not remain democracies for long.

Recent Phases

The next big push towards democracy came after 1980, as democracy was revived in several countries of Latin America. The disintegration of the Soviet Union accelerated this process.

Poland and several other countries became free from the control of the Soviet Union during 1989-90. They chose to become democracies. Finally the Soviet Union itself broke down in 1991. The Soviet Union comprised 15 Republics. All the constituent Republics emerged as independent countries. Most of them became democracies.

India and Neighbours

Pakistan and Bangladesh made a transition from army rule to democracy in 1990s. In Nepal, the king gave up many of his powers to become a constitutional monarch to be guided by elected leaders. However, these changes were not permanent. In 1999 General Musharraf brought back army rule in Pakistan. In 2005 the new king of Nepal dismissed the elected government and took back political freedoms that

people had won in the previous decade.

This phase still continues. By 2005, about 140 countries were holding multi-party elections. This number was higher than ever before.

Myanmar gained freedom from colonial rule in 1948 and became a democracy. But the democratic rule ended in 1962 with a military coup. In 1990 elections were held for the first time after almost 30 years. The National League for Democracy, led by Aung San Suu Kyi (pronounced Soo-chi), won the election.

- (i) But the military leaders of Myanmar refused to step down and did not recognise the election results.
- (ii) Instead, the military put the elected pro-democracy leaders, including Suu Kyi, under house arrest.
- (iii) Political activists accused of even the most trivial offences have been jailed.
- (iv) Anyone caught publicly airing views or issuing statements critical of the regime can be sentenced up to twenty years in prison.
- (v) Due to the coercive policies of the military-ruled government in Myanmar, about 6 to 10 lakh people in that country have been uprooted from their homes and have taken shelter elsewhere.

Her struggle has won international recognition. She has also been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Yet the people in Myanmar are still struggling to establish a democratic government in their country.

Illustration 3 :



Democratic Politics

- (i) Do you think it is good to elect someone presided for life ? or is it better to hold regular elections after every five years.
- (ii) The Kwame Nkrumah memorial park in Accra, was commissioned in 1992, twenty years after Nkrumah passed away ? what might have caused this delay.
- (iii) Why were women given voting rights much later than men in most countries ? why did this not happen in India ?

Solution :

- (i) No, Yes so the people can choose the leader of their choice.
- (ii) The delay in the commission of the Kwane Nkrumah Memorial must be due to the fact that in 1966 Nkrumah was overthrown by the military in Ghana. It was only after the return to democracy in 1992, that a tribute to the first democratic leader in Africa was paid in the form of this Memorial.
- (iii) Tradionally, division of Labour within the families had been such that men were expected to go out of home, and earn livelihood for the family. Women were expected to look after household affairs.
Out of this division of labour a belief developed that men would have more social interaction; they could be expected to form a more informed view. Conversely, women would lack these capacities and hence it was though correct to limit voting right only to male adults.

The Constitution of India adopted in 1950 prohibited any type of discrimination, hence it granted universal adult franchise.

Try Yourself :



9. This cartoon appeared in 2005 when Aung. San-Sukyi turned 60. What is the cartoon saying here ? Will the army rulers feel happy with this cartoon ?
10. Locate Myanmar in an outline map. which Indian states border this country.
11. What should be the policy of the government of India towards military rulers of Myanmar ?

1.3 Democracy at the global level

There is a government of India, a government of the United States of America, and so on. But there is no government of the world. No government can pass any law that will apply to all the people of the world. If there is no such government, if there are no rulers and ruled, how can we apply the two features of democracy here? These two features, you would recall, were that the rulers should be elected by the people and that people should have basic political freedoms.

There is no single World Government, but there are many institutions in the world that perform partially the functions of such a government. These organisations cannot command countries and citizens in a way a government can, but they do make rules that put limits on what governments can do

The **United Nations (UN)** has evolved many Conventions on these questions that are now binding on most countries of the world. The UN is a global association of nations of the world to help cooperation in international law, security, economic development and social equity. The UN Secretary General is its chief administrative officer.

The **UN Security Council**, an organ of the UN, is responsible for maintaining peace and security among countries. It can put together an international army and take action against the wrongdoer.

The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** does so. The **World Bank** also gives loans to the governments. Before lending they ask the concerned government to show all its accounts and direct it to make changes in its economic policy.

Everyone of the 192 member countries of the UN has one vote in the UN General Assembly.

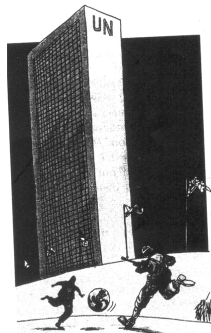
General Assembly is like the parliament where all the discussion takes place. In that sense the UN would appear to be a very democratic organisation. But the General Assembly cannot take any decision about what action should be taken in a conflict between different countries.

The fifteen-member Security Council of the UN takes such crucial decisions. The Council has five permanent members – **US, Russia, UK, France and China**. Ten other members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms. The real power is with five permanent members. The UN. Each permanent member has veto power. It means that the Council cannot take a decision if any permanent member says no to that decisional organisations take decisions. The World Bank has a similar system of voting. **The President of the World Bank has always been a citizen of the US.**

Twenty years ago there were two big powers in the world: the US and the Soviet Union. The competition and conflict between these two big powers and their allies kept a certain balance in all the global organisations. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the US appears to be the only superpower in the world. This American dominance affects the working of international organisations.

Over the last few years the people of different countries have come together without their governments' support. They have formed global organisations against war and against domination of the world by a few countries and business companies. As in the case of democracy within the nations, the initiative for democracy among nations has come from the struggles of the people.

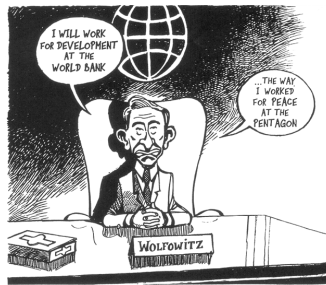
Illustration 4 :



This cartoon was published in Maxico in 2005 and was titled 'international games'. Which games is the cartoonist talking about here? What does the ball symbolize? Who are the players.

Solution : 'International games' refer to the acts of terrorism that are sweeping the globe. The ball symbolizes that the globe is being badly hit by these acts. People throughout the globe are the victims of these acts. Terrorists and the security forces are the players in this game. People are silent suffering spectators.

Try yourself :



12. What does the cartoon tell us about the relationship between the world bank and the us.
13. Should there be a world government. If yes who should elect it. And what powers it should have

1.4 DEMOCRACY PROMOTION

Recently, many powerful countries in the world, particularly the United States of America, have taken on the task of democracy promotion in the rest of the world. They say that propagating the values of democracy is not enough. Existing democracies should directly intervene in countries that are non-democratic to establish democracy there.

Let us see what happened in Iraq. Iraq is a country in Western Asia. It became independent from British rule in 1932. Three decades later there were a series of coups by military officers. Since 1968, it was ruled by Arab Socialist Ba'th Party (the Arabic word Ba'th means renaissance). Saddam Hussein, a leading Ba'th party leader, played a key role in the 1968 coup that brought the party to power.

The US and its allies like Britain, alleged that Iraq possessed secret nuclear weapons and other 'weapons of mass destruction' which posed a big threat to the world. But when a UN team went to Iraq to search for such weapons, it did not find any. Still the US and its allies invaded Iraq, occupied it and removed Saddam Hussein from power in 2003. The US installed an interim government of its preference. The war against Iraq was not authorised by the UN Security Council. Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary General, said that the US war on Iraq was illegal.

Illustration 5 :



The cartoon 'Cactus of Democracy' was published in 2004.

- (i) What does the cactus look like here ? Who is gifting it and to whom? What is the message.
- (ii) What were the reasons originally offered for the Iraq invasion by the president of U.S. and P.M. of U.K.? What were the reasons offered after the war.

Solution :

- (i) The Cactus is like the Statue of Liberty in New York. It represents the present strong democracy in US.
It is being presented by US to Iraq. Supposedly, US is bringing democracy to Iraq, but it is running out to be a tree of thorns that causes pain all over Iraq.
- (ii) The US and its allies like Britain, alleged that Iraq possessed secret nuclear weapons and other 'weapons of mass destruction' which posed a big threat to the world. The reasons offered was the restoration of Democracy.

Try Yourself :

14. Even if internal intervention leads the establishment of democracy in country would it last long ? would it enjoy the support of its citizens ?
15. Is the use of internal force to gift democracy to the people in keeping with the spirit of democracy.
16. Is this the right way to promote democracy should a democratic country wage a war and invade other countries for establishing democracy there ?
17. Does internal help work in every case ? or does it work only when the people of a nation are actively engaged in a struggle to make their societies democratic.
18. Helping democracy was a comment on the presence of the U.S. forces during the election in Iraq. Do you think this cartoon applies to many other situations. Identify some examples from this chapter which this cartoon can help understand ?

SOLVED EXAMPLES

Example 1 *Who Helped the Military coup in Chile ?*

Solution U.S.A.

Example 2 *Why did U.S.A. and its allies attack Iraq ?*

Solution The US and its allies like Britain, alleged that Iraq possessed secret nuclear weapons and other 'weapons of mass destruction' which posed a big threat to the world.

Example 3 *What are the two most common features of democracy mentioned in the chapter ?*

Solution : Democracy is a form of government that allows people to choose their rulers. In a democracy: Only leaders elected by people should rule the country, and people have the freedom to express views, freedom to organise and freedom to protest.

Example 4 *What is United Nations ?*

Solution : The UN is a global association of nations of the world to help cooperation in international law,

security, economic development and social equity.

Example 5 *What happens when a country attacks another country in an unjust manner ?*

Solution : The UN Security Council, an organ of the UN, is responsible for maintaining peace and security among countries. It can put together an international army and take action against the wrongdoer.

Example 6 *How did military dictatorship come to an end in Chile ?*

Solution : Michelle Bachelet was elected President of Chile in January 2006.

Example 7 : *Why did the workers of Lenin shipyard went on a strike ?*

Solution : The worker demanded to take back a crane operator, a woman worker, who was unjustly dismissed from service.

Example 8 : *What is meant by Solidarity?*

Solution : The agreement and support resulting from shared interests, feelings or opinions.

Example 9 : *Who imposed martial law in Poland in 1981?*

Solution : The government led by General Jaruzelski.

Example 10: *How many members constitute the security council of the U.N. ? who has the real power in it?.*

Solution : 15 members, 5 permanent members

Example 11 *What are the organisations which lend money to Governments in need ?*

Solution The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Example 12 *Mention any two reasons that lead to the spread of democracy.*

Solution (i) People's desire for freedom (ii) End of colonialism.

ASSIGNMENT - 1

Q.1 What are the difficulties people face in a non-democratic country? Give answers drawing from the examples given in this chapter.

Ans.

- (i) **Non-responsible Government :** Non-democratic Governments are not answer able to the people or any other institution. It can do as it wishes, and no one can question it. Pinochet's government in Chile tortured, and killed several citizens who wanted democracy to be restored. More than 3000 people were killed by the military.
- (ii) **Non-Sovereign :** Most of the non-democratic governments are non-sovereign. The Government of Pinochet, who became the president of Chile through military coup, was totally dependent of USA for its foreign policy.
- (iii) **No political party or single party :** Another major problem for the people of non-democratic countries is that they have little choice. In Poland, only the Polish United Workers' Party was allowed to function. Those who spoke against the leaders or the party were put in prison.
- (iv) **No freedom rights :** People of non-democratic government don't enjoy basic freedoms like freedom of speech, freedom to move freely, freedom to form unions or associations, etc.
When in Poland, Solidarity (a trade union of Poland) started exposing widespread corruption in the Government, thousands of Solidarity members were put in prison.

Q.2 Which freedom are usually taken away when a democracy is overthrown by the military?

Ans.

- (1) Freedom to move freely.
- (2) Freedom of speech and expression.
- (3) Freedom to assemble peacefully.
- (4) Freedom to form associations and unions.
- (5) Freedom of religion.
- (6) Freedom of equality before law.

Q.3 Which of the following positions can contribute to democracy at the global level? Give reasons for your answers in each case.

- (i) My country gives more money to international institutions. Therefore, I want to be treated with more respect and exercise more power.
- (ii) My country may be small or poor. But my voice must be heard with equal respect because these decisions will affect my country.
- (iii) Wealthy nations will have a greater say in international affairs. They cannot let their interests suffer just because they are outnumbered by poor nations.

- (iv) Big countries like India must have a greater say in international organisations.

- Ans.** (i) It would only mean 'might is right'. Those who have strong muscles, in the form of heavy moneybags would rule others. This is not democratic.
- (ii) This is a right democratic tradition. Everyone gets a chance to say and be heard. Whatever decision is taken should show considerations for the poor and the weaker.
- (iii) It is not a democratic tradition. One must hear and pay consideration to what others are saying.
- (iv) Same as (a) and (c)

Q.4 Here are three opinions heard in a television debate on the struggle for democracy in Nepal. Which of these do you agree with and why?

Guest (i) : India is a democracy. Therefore, the Indian government must support the people of Nepal who are struggling against monarchy and for democracy.

Guest (ii) : That is a dangerous argument. We would be in the same position as the US was in Iraq. Remember, no outside force can promote democracy.

Guest (iii) : But why should we bother about the internal affairs of another country? We should be worried about our business interests there, not about democracy?

Ans.

- (i) India has no right to interfere in a sovereign nation's internal matters.
- (ii) True
- (iii) No. Nepal is our Immediate neighbour and is strategically placed. We need to closely monitor developments there. And if sought, we should be ready with our counsel to the rulers. Any decisions or action should be left to the rulers there.

ASSIGNMENT - II

Q 1. Mention two steps which were taken by Augusto Bachelet that led to a military Coup?

- Ans.**
1. Redistribution of land to the landless farmers which was not liked by the landlords.
 2. He was against foreign companies taking away natural resources.

Q 2. Mention two limitations of people in non democratic country?

- Ans.**
1. People cannot change their ruler if they are not satisfied.
 2. There is no freedom of speech

Q.3 Describe any three major features of the communist party rule in Poland.

- Ans.**
- (1) No other political party was allowed to function.
 - (2) The people could not freely choose the leaders of the communist party or the, government.
 - (3) Those who spoke against the leaders or the party or the government were put in prison.

Q 4. Name three events that led to establishment of democracy in he world

- Ans.**
1. Glorious revolution of 1688 in England
 2. Declaration of Independence in USA
 3. French Revolution of 1789 - 1815 which gave the principles of liberty equality and fraternity

Q 5. Who is Anug San Suu Kyi?

- Ans.** Anug San Suu Kyi is the political leader of Mayanmar. She has struggled for a long time to restore democracy in Mayanmar. In 1990 her political party, i.e. the National League of Democracy won the election but the military leader refused to step down. She is under house arrest. She has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her struggle to establish a democratic government in the country.

Q.6 'Walesa soon emerged as a leader of the striking workers in Poland'. Identify three values that helped him to lead the strike.

- Ans.**
- (1) **Justice :** Walesa became famous in Poland because of his fight against the unjust ruling communist government. He was un~ustly dismissed from the service in 1976 for demanding higher pay. People supported him.
 - (2) **Freedom :** Under his leadership, the strike demanded more freedom. They wanted the right to form independent trade unions, release of political prisoners and the end to censorship on press.
 - (3) **Solidarity :** He was a former electrician. The poor and workers saw a hope in him. Waleea organised the 'Solidarity', the first independent trade union in Poland. He made the agreement and support resulting from shared interesta. feelings or opinions.

Q.7 State any three features of 21-point agreement signed by the striking workers in Poland.

- Ans.**
- (1) Workers got the right to form independent trade unions and right to strike was also recognised.
 - (2) New trade union, 'Solidarity' was formed. It was the first indepelident trade union that was formed in any of the communist states.
 - (3) Revelations of widespread corruption and mismanagement in the government made matters worse for the rulers.

Q 8. What do you know about solidarity? Why was it popular in 1990 ?

- Ans.**
1. Solidarity was a trade union of Poland.
 2. It was the first independent union which was formed in any of the communist countries.
 3. It Revealed widespread corruption and mismanagement in the non democratic government of Poland.
 4. When in 1989, democratic elections were held, it won 99 seats out of 100.

Q 9. Do you think the UNO works democratically? Give reasons for your answer?

- Ans.** No the UNO is not working democratically.
1. There are about 193 members of the general assembly, and each member has one vote, but the General Assembly cannot take any decision when there is a conflict between different countries.
 2. The five permanent members, i.e. the US, Russia, UK, France and China have the veto power in the Security Council.
 3. Countries like India which are one of the most powerful democracies of the world have no say in the Security Council.
 4. The Security Council is dominated by the big powers like Russia and USA.

Q 10. Give four suggestions to promote democracy in the world?

- Ans.**
1. The international organizations like the UN and the World Bank should be given more power.
 2. There is a need of change in the working of the world organization.
 3. The working of the Security Council needs a big change. Veto power should be abolished and decisions should be taken by majority.
 4. Use of external force to restore democracy should be minimized

Q 11. Distinguish between democratic and non - democratic conditions?

Ans. Democratic :

1. **Government:** A democratic government is elected by the people and it works for the people. It is also answerable to the people
2. **Basic Rights:** Under democracy people are given basic rights like freedom of speech, freedom of movement, freedom of forming associations or unions etc.
3. **Regular Elections:** Under this, there are regular elections through which people can change their government.
4. **Constitution:** Under democracy the government works within the constitution
5. **Parliament is supreme:** All the leaders or even the government is answerable to the parliament.

Non Democratic :

1. **Government:** A non democratic government is not elected by the people. The ruler may be hereditary or a military general, who has come to power by force.
2. **No basic rights:** Under non democratic conditions, people are not given basic rights
3. **No regular elections:** Under this there are no regular elections.
4. **Constitution:** Some of the non democratic countries may have constitution, but it can be changed according to the wishes of the dictator.
5. **The Ruler is supreme:** Under non democratic conditions it is the ruler who is supreme.

Q.12 Write any one difference and one similarity between Pinochet's rule in Chile and the Communist rule in Poland.

Or

Highlight any two differences between Pinochet's rule in Chile and the Communist rule in Poland.

Ans. (1) Differences :

- (i) Chile was ruled by a military dictator, but Poland was ruled by a political party.
- (ii) The government of Poland claimed to rule on behalf of the working class, but Pinochet's rule in Chile made no such claim and openly favoured the big capitalists.

(2) Similarities :

- (i) In both the countries people could not choose or change their rulers.
- (ii) There was no freedom to express one's opinion, form political associations and organize protest and political action.

Q.13 Trace the Democratic Movement in Myanmar.

- Ans.**
- (1) Myanmar was previously known as Burma. It gained independence from the British colonial rule in 1948 and became a democracy.
 - (2) But the democratic rule in the country came to an end in 1962 with a military coup.
 - (3) In 1990, free and fair elections were held for the first time after almost three decades.
 - (4) The National League for Democracy won the election. It was the political party led by Aung San Suu Kyi, a great freedom fighter.
 - (5) But the military leaders of Myanmar refused to step down. They did not recognize the election results. Instead, they put Suu Kyi and other pro-democracy leaders under house arrest. Myanmar still has no democratic government.

SECTION-A

ASSIGNMENT - III**Fill in the blanks :**

1. A direct vote in which the elector is asked to either accept or reject the proposal is called _____.
2. On _____ the government of president Allende was overthrown by military?
3. _____ emerged as the leader of striking workers in Chile.
4. In 1990 the National League for Democracy led by _____ won the elections.
5. The _____ an organ of UN is responsible for maintaining peace and security among the Nations.

SECTION-B**Multiple choice question with one correct answers :**

1. Which of the following does not lead to the spread of democracy?
(A) Struggle by the people (B) Invasion by foreign countries
(C) End of colonialism (D) People's desire for freedom
2. Which of the following statement is true about today's world?
(A) Monarchy as a form of government has vanished
(B) The relationship between different countries has become more democratic than ever before.
(C) In more and more countries rulers are being elected by the people.
(D) There are no more military dictators in the world
3. Which of the following is not reason for the spread of democracy in the first decade after 1945 :
(A) Demand by the people (B) Imposition by foreign countries
(C) Collapse of the foreign rulers? (D) None of these
4. Which of the following would you consider as sure effect of democracy:
(A) People making choice for good items (B) People making choice of their rulers
(C) People making choice of their army men? (D) None of these
5. Which of the following statements is true about today's world:
(A) There are more people living under kings rule (B) There are more people appointed by the kings
(C) There are more rulers elected by the people (D) None of these
6. Which of the following statements is true about the world now:
(A) There are more people living in the democracies (B) There are no more kings in the world
(C) There are no more military dictators in the world (D) None of these

7. One of the following statements is true. To have a global democracy in the international organisations means:
- (A) to be treated as a special country because a lot of people in our countries are poor.
 - (B) all countries that are ruled by a democratic government should be treated equally.
 - (C) all countries that have a population above 10,00,000 should be given equal treatment.
 - (D) all countries in the world should be treated equally.
8. Who amongst the following leaders declared himself the President for lifetime?
- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (B) Kwame Nkrumah
 - (C) Michelle Bachelet
 - (D) Aung San Su Kyi
9. Which organ of UN is responsible for maintaining peace and security in the world.
- (A) General Assembly
 - (B) Trusteeship Council
 - (C) Security Council
 - (D) International Court of Justice
10. Which country gave voting right to every adult citizen in 1893.
- (A) New Zealand
 - (B) France
 - (C) Britain
 - (D) Japan
11. Salvador Allende led the popular Unity Coalition to victory in the presidential election in :
- (A) 1960
 - (B) 1970
 - (C) 1975
 - (D) 1965
12. General Augusto Pinochet became the president of the country and ruled it for the next ____.
- (A) 20 years
 - (B) 17 years
 - (C) 25 years
 - (D) 30 years
13. The workers led by Galesa signed a _____ agreement with the government which ended their strike.
- (A) 12 points
 - (B) 20 points
 - (C) 25 points
 - (D) 21 points
14. The government led by General Jaruzelski grew anxious in December 1981 and imposed :
- (A) Martial law
 - (B) Red alert
 - (C) President's rule
 - (D) Curfew
15. The government of Poland claimed that it was ruling on behalf of the :
- (A) capitalists
 - (B) working class
 - (C) nobility
 - (D) people
16. An organ of the UN responsible for maintaining peace and security among countries was the :
- (A) World Bank
 - (B) General Assembly
 - (C) UN Security Council
 - (D) International Monetary Fund
17. _____ is a system of rules that takes effect when military authority takes control of the normal administration of justice.
- (A) Martial law
 - (B) Military Dictatorship
 - (C) Democracy
 - (D) Autocracy
18. _____ an Army General, led the military coup on 11th September 1973 in Chile.
- (A) General Augusto Pinochet
 - (B) Albert Bachelet
 - (C) Allende
 - (D) Alberto Bachelet
19. _____ was elected President of Chile in January 2006.
- (A) Michelle Bachelet
 - (B) General Alberto Bachelet
 - (C) Allende
 - (D) General Augusto Pinochet

20. _____ inspired many struggles for democracy all over Europe.
 (A) French Revolution (B) American war of independence
 (C) Russian Revolution (D) Indian Independence Struggle
21. The United States of America adopted a democratic constitution in _____.
 (A) 1787 (B) 1776 (C) 1789 (D) 1917
22. In 1999, _____ brought back army rule in Pakistan.
 (A) Nawaz Shriiff (B) General Musharraf (C) General Bhutto (D) Zia-ul-Haque
23. “A direct vote in which an entire electorate is asked to either accept or reject a particular proposal” is related to which of the following concepts?
 (A) Veto (B) Coup (C) Strike (D) Referendum
24. To which statement will you support? Here are some suggestions to strengthen world democracy.,
 (i) More nations should become permanent members of the Security Council.
 (ii) UN General Assembly should become like a World Parliament with representatives from each country in proportion to the population of the country.
 (iii) Individual countries should not have armies. The UN should maintain task forces to bring about peace in case of conflict between countries/nations.
 (iv) A UN President should be elected directly by all the people of the world.
 (A) (i) and (iii) (B) (i) and (ii) (C) (iii) and (iv) (D) (ii) and (iii)
25. In Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf led a coup in October :
 (A) 2000 (B) 1998 (C) 1999 (D) 2001

SECTION-C

Multiple choice question with one or more than one correct answers :

1. Who lends money to the governments when they need it
 (A) IMF (B) ILO (C) World Bank (D) UNESCO
2. Who amongst the following the permanent members of U.N. Security council?
 (A) U.K. (B) USA (C) Saudi Arabia (D) France
3. Which countries were the superpower twenty years ago
 (A) USA (B) UK (C) USSR (D) Germany
4. Which two Neighbouring countries of India made transition from army rule to democracy in 1990?
 (A) Nepal (B) Bangladesh (C) Pakistan (D) Srilanka
5. What were the demands of the striking workers in Poland?
 (A) Right to form independent trade union (B) Release of Political prisoners
 (C) End to Censorship on press (D) Change the existing government

SECTION-D

Match the following (one to one) :

Column-I and **column-II** contains **four** entries each. Entries of column-I are to be matched with some entries of column-II. Only One entries of column-I may have the matching with the same entries of column-II and one entry of column-II Only one matching with entries of column-I

1. Column I

- (A) Kwame Nkrumah
- (B) Aung San Su Kyi
- (C) Pervez Mushshraf
- (D) Michelle Bachelet

Column II

- (P) brought back military rule in Pakistan in 1999
- (Q) First president of independant Ghana
- (R) Leader of National League for democracy
- (S) Elected president of chile in Jan 2006

Match the following (one to many) :

Column-I and **column-II** contains **four** entries each. Entries of column-I are to be matched with some entries of column-II. One or more than one entries of column-I may have the matching with the some entries of column-II and one entry of column-II may have one or more than one matching with entries of column-I.

2. Column I

- (A) Michelle Bachelet
- (B) Augusto Pinochet
- (C) Pervez Mushshraf
- (D) Saddam Hussain

Column II

- (P) Military dictator
- (Q) President of Chile
- (R) Led the Military Coup
- (S) President of Iraq

ANSWER KEY

Knowledge base questions :

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 1. (A) | 2. (D) | 3. (B) | 4. (A) | 5. (B) |
| 6. (B) | 7. (B) | 8. (A) | 9. (D) | 10. (A) |

Try Yourself :

- Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Romania, USSR.
- Criticise the ruling party, its leaders or government
Criticise government policies
Organize any form of protest, strike, demonstration, peaceful march, wearing black bands, sit-down, rasta roko, non-cooperation, etc.
- Poland had only one workers union controlled by the Polish United Workers' Party. So there was autocratic rule of this party. People could not form independent unions which voiced their grievance. There was no freedom of speech.
Trade unions are necessary as they help in maintaining or improving the conditions of the workers. They represent the workers' views and demands to the management and fight for their rights.
- Expansion of democracy took place after 1975, when
(i) most of the colonies had secured their independence from the foreign rule and
(ii) communist parties lost power in Europe.
- Democracy expanded fast after 1975 in Europe, Africa and Latin America.
- While a majority of countries are democratic today there are still large parts of the world that are not democratic; these dominate in Asia and Africa.
- The most important period from the point of view of expansion of democracies is post 1975.
The number of countries becoming democratic increased phenomenally. It expanded throughout Asia, Europe, Latin America and Africa.
-

Year	Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America
1950	1. Tunisia 2. Egypt 3. Morocco	India Pakistan Sri Lanka	England France Holland	Chile Brazil Argentina
1975	1. Botswana 2. Algeria 3. Egypt	India Pakistan Sri Lanka	England Italy Belgium	Colombia Guyana Argentina
2000	1. South Africa 2. Namibia 3. Botswana	India Sri Lanka Nepal	Austria Germany Poland	Uruguay Paraguay Argentina

- Suu Kyi was born in 1945; she turned 60 in 2005.
She led the National League for Democracy to victory in 1990 elections.

She was not allowed to form the government by the military rulers. Instead she has been put under arrest. She has not tracked back from her struggle for democracy in spite of her advancing age.

She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her struggle.

10. Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram
11. The Government of India can support Suu Kyi in all international forms, demand her freedom without interfering in the domestic affairs of the government of Myanmar. It must fight for her freedom under Human Rights.
12. This cartoon comments on the appointment as the president of world bank. Wolfowitz was a senior official in the department of defence in the c/s. He was aggressive supporter of the invasion of Iraq.
13. Yes a world government like the UN. It should have representatives of all the nations, with each nation given the same status. Each nation should send its own representatives, elected by the people. They should have powers to fight for Human Rights and Democracy.
14. Any system transplanted from above fails to find its roots. It cannot assure a stable and lasting democracy.
15. Democracy is against the use of force, whether internal or external. Hence, it can not be justified.
16. No. No other nation, howsoever powerful, has a right to invade another nation. Such an act is totally against the tenets of democracy.
17. No external help can substitute domestic will. It is only when the people themselves wage a struggle for a cause it invites popular participation. This is only sure recipe for success in a democratic way.
18. Yes this cartoon gives an indirect message to all. External force can never establish democracy in any country. The presence of the US Armed forces have forced people to vote. But this kind of election cannot be sustained for long. Any government, imposed on the people by external force, cannot last long. Democracy can be established only when people of the country want it and struggle for it.

ASSIGNMENT - II

SECTION-A

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Referendum | 2. 11 sept. 1993 | 3. Leckwalesa |
| 4. Aang San Su Kyi | 5. Security Council | |

SECTION-B

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 2. C | 3. B | 4. B | 5. C |
| 6. A | 7. D | 8. B | 9. C | 10. A |
| 11. B | 12. B | 13. D | 14. A | 15. B |
| 16. C | 17. A | 18. A | 19. A | 20. A |
| 21. A | 22. B | 23. D | 24. A | 25. C |

SECTION-C

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. A,C | 2. A,C | 3. A,C | 4. B,C | 5. A,B |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

SECTION-D

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. (A)-(Q), (B)-(R), (C)-(P), (D)-(S) | 2. (A)-(Q), (B)-(P,Q,R), (C)-(P,R), (D)-(P,R,S) |
|---------------------------------------|---|

ASSIGNMENT - III

1. The American War of independence broke out in :
(A) 1767 (B) 1761 (C) 1771 (D) 1776
2. Which two measures were passed by the Saddam Hussain government.
(i) Imposition of traditional Islamic Law. (ii) Women were given the right to vote.
(iii) Only wealthy men could vote. (iv) Abolition of traditional Islamic laws.
(A) (i) and (ii) only (B) (iii) and (iv) only (C) (ii) and (iv) only (D) (ii) and (iii) only.
3. Aung San Sui Kyi of Myanmar was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in:
(A) 1990 (B) 1996 (C) 1991 (D) 1992
4. Who was the first woman to become the defence minister and later elected as President of Chile ?
(A) Michelle Bachelet (B) Michelle Niomi (C) Lech Walesa (D) Aung San Sui Kye
5. Saddam Hussain was the Leader of which party
(A) Solidarity (B) Arab Socialist Party
(C) Arab Socialist Ba'th Party (D) Ba'th Party.
6. How did the French Revolution pave the way for democracy in Europe?
7. What is house arrest ? Can the army put an elected leader house arrest ? Explain with examples.
8. Why is democracy considered the best form of government?
9. Who was Kwame Nkrumah ? State two of his achievements. How did he deviate from the path of democracy ?
10. How did Poland become a democracy ? Name four countries surrounding Poland.
11. Differentiate between Democracy and Dictatorship by giving examples.