

State (1)

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Three Forms of Political Authorities

| Authority | Based on | Succession |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Traditional | Customs and convention; deep-rooted folk or religious believes or myth | Family lineage |
| charismatic | Personal qualities (real or perceived) | Unstable; degenerate into other forms |
| Legal- Rational | Law and formal rationality; or legality | Legal procedure |

Examples of Rational-Legal Authority

- ▶ Representative democracy: inherent stable; the succession of government & succession of regimes (Juan Linz)
- ▶ Modern bureaucracy: Organized into a hierarchy; Technical qualifications for the incumbents of the positions; Separation of incumbents and the position; control by written rules and moral discipline; German model and US model

State: Various Theoretical Perspectives

- ▶ Class perspective: ultimately states serve capital accumulation and class regulation
- ▶ Pluralist perspective: state as a place or field where party and interest groups contest for power; the state is permeable; social interests radiate inward to control state;
- ▶ Elitist perspective: emphasize the distributive power of state elites *over* society
- ▶ Institutional statism: state as multiple, possibly incoherent institutions; autonomy over all political actors

Modern State Vs. Other Forms Of Political Organizations

- ▶ 1. The state is a differentiated, hierarchical and rationalized set of institutions and personnel
- ▶ 2. embodying centrality, in the sense that political relations radiate from a center unrivalled by other possible centers of power, to cover a
- ▶ 3. territorially demarcated area over which it exercises
- ▶ 4. sovereignty, considerable degree of authoritative, binding rule making, backed up by legitimized monopoly of physical force (usually take the form of state-financed standing army and national police system) and a monopolized tax system.
- ▶ It penetrates, regulates and reshapes social life to a much higher degree than any other pre-modern forms of political organizations; its power and resources are highly concentrated

Modern State Vs. Other Forms Of Political Organizations

| Forms | Way of control | Defects |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Empire | Control through trade and organized violence; legal system; terrorism | Lack of bureaucratic apparatus; unable to reform the political, social and economic relations of colonies; centrifugal forces of civil war, insurgence and internal division; Fiscal crisis; indirect rule and heterogeneity |
| Feudalism | Systematize personalized social relations among the highly autonomous elites | Decentralization of political rule; extraction capacity is super weak; overlapping layers of jurisdiction, authority and military power; highly individualized rights and obligations; lack of sovereign, a final source of authority and jurisdiction |
| City-state | Urban aristocracy; control of trade route and financial industry | Inability to amass considerable resources and manpower; interstitial position made them susceptible to invasion, economic recession and fiscal crisis; |
| Catholic church | Ideological and institutional apparatus; | Universalism was against territorial requirement |