Maynaguri College
Department of Political Science
Paper- Advanced Political Theory (7th Sem Major)

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1. **Who introduced the concept of Governmentality?**

   Ans-Michel Foucault introduced the concept of Governmentality.

2. **Who defined the state as having a monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force within a given territory?**
   Ans- Max Weber.

3. **Who authored A History of Political Theory?**

   Ans- George H. Sabine.

4. **What is Governmentality?**

   Ans: Governmentality refers to the art and techniques of governing the conduct of individuals and populations.

5. **What is disciplinary power?**

   Ans: Disciplinary power is a form of power that controls individuals through surveillance, examination, training and discipline.

6. **Who developed the concept of Panopticism?**

   Ans: Michel Foucault developed the concept of Panopticism based on Jeremy Bentham's Panopticon.

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10. **What is the Panopticon?**

    Ans: The Panopticon is a model of surveillance in which individuals behave as if they are constantly being watched.

11. **What is biopolitical power?**

    Ans: Biopolitical power refers to the regulation and management of human life and populations by political authorities.

12. **What is the difference between disciplinary power and biopower?**

Ans: Disciplinary power controls individual bodies, whereas biopower regulates populations and collective life.

13. What is neoliberalism according to Foucault's analysis?

Ans: Neoliberalism is a form of governmentality that encourages individuals to act as entrepreneurs of themselves.

14. What does the term 'Power/Knowledge' mean?

Ans: Power/Knowledge means that power and knowledge are interconnected and mutually produce and reinforce each other.

15. How is the subject formed according to Foucault?

Ans: The subject is formed through power relations, knowledge systems and social practices.

16. What is meant by the 'conduct of conduct'?

Ans: It refers to the ways in which authorities shape, guide and regulate people's behaviour.

17. What is the main objective of governmentality?

Ans: Its main objective is to manage and regulate the conduct of individuals and populations.

18. Who is associated with the theory of the Public Sphere?

Ans: Jürgen Habermas is associated with the theory of the Public Sphere.

19. What is the Public Sphere?

Ans: The Public Sphere is a social space where citizens freely discuss public issues and form public opinion.

20. Which book did Habermas write on the Public Sphere?

Ans: The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere (1962).

21. What is Communicative Action?

Ans: Communicative Action is a form of social interaction based on mutual understanding through rational communication.

22. What is communicative rationality?

Ans: Communicative rationality refers to achieving understanding through reasoned discussion and argument.

23. What is rational discourse?

Ans: Rational discourse is a discussion in which participants exchange arguments freely and critically.

24. What is the Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere?

Ans: It refers to the historical transformation of the public sphere from a space of rational debate into one increasingly influenced by commercial and political interests.

25. What is the bourgeois public sphere?

Ans: It was a public space in which private individuals gathered to discuss matters of common concern.

26. What is the ideal speech situation?

Ans: It is an ideal condition of communication where participants have equal opportunities to speak without coercion.

27. What is legitimacy according to Habermas?

Ans: Legitimacy refers to the acceptance of political authority through rational justification and democratic participation.

28. What is deliberative democracy?

Ans: Deliberative democracy is a democratic system in which decisions are justified through public discussion and reasoned debate.

29. What is the relationship between democracy and the Public Sphere?

Ans: The Public Sphere strengthens democracy by enabling citizens to participate in public debate and decision-making.

30. Who is associated with the theory of Recognition?

Ans: Axel Honneth is associated with the theory of Recognition.

31. What is recognition according to Axel Honneth?

Ans: Recognition refers to the social acknowledgement and respect necessary for individuals to develop their identity and self-esteem.

32. What are the three forms of recognition identified by Honneth?

Ans: Love, legal rights and social esteem.

33. What does recognition through love provide?

Ans: It provides self-confidence through emotional support and personal relationships.

34. What does recognition through legal rights provide?

Ans: It provides self-respect by treating individuals as equal rights-bearing members of society.

35. What does recognition through social esteem provide?

Ans: It provides self-esteem by valuing an individual's abilities and contributions to society.

36. What is social pathology?

Ans: Social pathology refers to social conditions and institutions that damage human freedom, recognition and social relationships.

37. What is meant by justice beyond distribution?

Ans: It means justice involves not only the fair distribution of resources but also recognition, dignity and equal social status.

38. What is intersubjectivity?

Ans: Intersubjectivity refers to the mutual recognition and understanding between individuals.

39. How does misrecognition affect individuals?

Ans: Misrecognition damages individuals' identity, self-respect and self-esteem.

40. Who introduced the concept of Necropolitics?

Ans: Achille Mbembe introduced the concept of Necropolitics.

41. What is Necropolitics?

Ans: Necropolitics refers to the power of the state or sovereign authority to determine who may live and who must die.

42. Which famous essay introduced the concept of Necropolitics?

Ans: Achille Mbembe's essay Necropolitics (2003).

43. What is the relationship between sovereignty and the right to kill?

Ans: Sovereignty involves the power to decide over life and death, including the authority to expose certain populations to death.

44. How does colonialism influence Necropolitics?

Ans: Colonialism established systems of domination, racial discrimination and violence that continue to shape postcolonial power relations.

45. What is a postcolonial state?

Ans: A postcolonial state is a state that emerged after colonial rule but often continues to experience colonial institutional and political legacies.

46. What is the meaning of the right to kill?

Ans: It refers to the sovereign power to decide which lives are protected and which populations are exposed to death.

47. What is meant by freedom in a planetary context?

Ans: It refers to understanding freedom in relation to global interdependence, ecological justice and shared human existence.

48. How is Necropolitics different from Biopolitics?

Ans: Biopolitics focuses on managing and regulating life, whereas Necropolitics focuses on the power to expose people to death.

49. What is the central concern of Mbembe's political theory?

Ans: Its central concern is how sovereignty, colonialism, racism and violence determine the conditions under which people live and die.

Important thinkers and their key concepts for quick revision

Thinker	Major Concept	Key idea
Michel Foucault	Governmentality	Art of governing conduct
Michel Foucault	Disciplinary Power	Control of individual bodies
Michel Foucault	Biopolitics	Regulation of population
Michel Foucault	Power/Knowledge	Interconnection of power and knowledge
Jürgen Habermas	Public Sphere	Space for public discussion
Jürgen Habermas	Communicative Action	Communication for mutual understanding
Jürgen Habermas	Deliberative Democracy	Democracy through rational debate
Axel Honneth	Recognition	Social acknowledgement and respect
Axel Honneth	Social Pathology	Social conditions damaging freedom
Achille Mbembe	Necropolitics	Power over life and death

Important books written by the four major thinkers

Michel Foucault-

1. Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison (1975)
2. The History of Sexuality, Volume 1: An Introduction (1976)
3. Security, Territory, Population (1977–78 lectures)
4. The Birth of Biopolitics (1978–79 lectures)

Jürgen Habermas-

1. The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere (1962)
2. The Theory of Communicative Action(1981)
3. Between Facts and Norms (1992)

Axel Honneth

1. The Struggle for Recognition: The Moral Grammar of Social Conflicts (1992)
2. Freedom's Right: The Social Foundations of Democratic Life (2011)
3. Redistribution or Recognition? (2003)

Achille Mbembe

1. On the Postcolony (2001)
2. Necropolitics (2019)
3. Critique of Black Reason (2013)
4. The Politics of Enmity (2016)