

**GUJARAT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY
GANDHINAGAR**

Course: Political Theory
Semester- II (Batch: 2020-25)

End Semester Online Examination: July-August 2021

Date: 08th August, 2021

Duration: 8 hours

Max. Marks: 50

Instructions:

- The respective marks for each question are indicated in-line.
- Indicate correct question numbers in front of the answer.
- No questions or clarification can be sought during the exam period, answer as it is, giving reason, if any.
- Word Limit: 600-700 Words.

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| Q.1 The theory of the State in 'The Republic' culminates in the conception of justice. Plato has treated justice as the bond which holds a society together and regards education as a means to achieve justice. Examine the statement and the relationship between education and the structure of the republic in attaining justice. | (10) |
| Q.2 The social and political structure have evolved in a manner that systematically discriminates against women. How have the various waves of feminism addressed the various socio-political questions to inform our understanding of the existing gender relations? Also discuss whether the movement has helped women to realise their goals. | (10) |
| Q.3 In the last few years scholars have discovered that some of the concepts contained in the Arthashastra are worth investigation. In the field of foreign policy, Kautilya's mandala theory stands out as a nuanced exposition of alliances while the six attributes of foreign policy provide a sound conceptual basis for a country's foreign policy. Discuss the statement with contemporary illustrations and with reference to India's foreign policy posture. | (10) |
| Q.4 Political discourse in India today seems to invite the full gamut of safeguards and restrictions on free speech. There have been many instances that have stretched the envelope of what we define as freedom of expression. The most famous defence of free speech as well as other freedoms in the Western philosophical canon is, undoubtedly, the argument from John Stuart Mill's essay <i>On Liberty</i> . Discuss the statement in the light of the views espoused by John Stuart Mill. | (10) |
| Q.5 a) Discuss the nature and relevance of political theory in contemporary time.
b) If one aims to situate a text in its 'historical context', what does one examine and how? Discuss the question in the light of the method championed by Gadamer. | (5x2=10) |
