

**GUJARAT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY
GANDHINAGAR**

Course: Political Theory
Semester- II (Batch: 2021-26)

End Semester Online Examination: May 2022

Date: 14th May, 2022

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: 10 Marks: Approx 600 words, 5 Marks: Approx 300 words.

Part: A

(Answer Any Four)

Marks

- Q.1 Individually justice is a 'human virtue' that makes a man self-consistent and good, and socially it is a social consciousness that makes a society internally harmonious and good."(Plato) Discuss the statement while addressing the below issues. (10)
- Plato's concept of Justice and how justice is ensured through the division of the soul as well as the scheme of education;
 - The need for philosopher king.
- Q.2 In the current discussions of the problems of liberty, perhaps no other work possesses the authority still maintained by John Stuart Mill's essay, 'On Liberty'. Justify the statement by discussing Mill's view on the different types of liberty; the importance of such liberties; and, the type of government that would ensure such liberty. Also discuss the statement in the light of contemporary issues plaguing the nation. (10)
- Q.3 Kautilya's *Arthashastra* has a twofold aim; a) guidelines to king on governance and managing internal administration; and b) military strategy and foreign policy. Discuss the duties and role of the king toward his citizens and the foreign policy strategy adopted to promote national interest. Do you think the work has contemporary relevance with reference to India? (10)
- Q.4 Social justice is based on such values which aim to minimize the inequity in the society and create an environment for fair equality of opportunity for all which enable all humans to live with dignity. In his work, John Rawls establishes social justice as an essential requirement for a just society and thus the important assumption was that the basic structure of society which is the primary subject of justice needs to be rearranged. Thus in order to ensure justice Rawls proposed a model of basic political and economic structure. Discuss the principles of justice and its application to the basic political, social and economic structure. (10)
- Q.5 Feminist political philosophy is an area of philosophy that is in part focused on understanding and critiquing the way political philosophy is usually construed. Later (10)

feminist has conceptualised oppression and debates as to how gender is enacted through cultural norms and social interactions and its complex intersection with other social, cultural, and biological categories.

Justify the statement by addressing the following aspect:

- a) The history, explaining the main perspectives and how the various waves of feminist have deconstructed gender relation;
- b) Your reflection on what you think about the fourth wave of feminism and how it will ensure gender equality or gender neutral society.
- c) How political theory can or has advanced the feminist concerns.

Part: B

- Q.6
- a) Hans-Georg Gadamer is the outstanding figure of philosophical hermeneutics, which is an important interlocutor for everyone seeking orientation in the field of political thought and political theory. Discuss how Gadamer's theory, especially the concept of fusion of horizon provides a methodology towards a better understanding of social issues. (5x2=10)
 - b) Discuss Plato's and Aristotle's key objection to democracy as a form of government. Does the texts anticipate the several problems which modern democracies have actually encountered?
