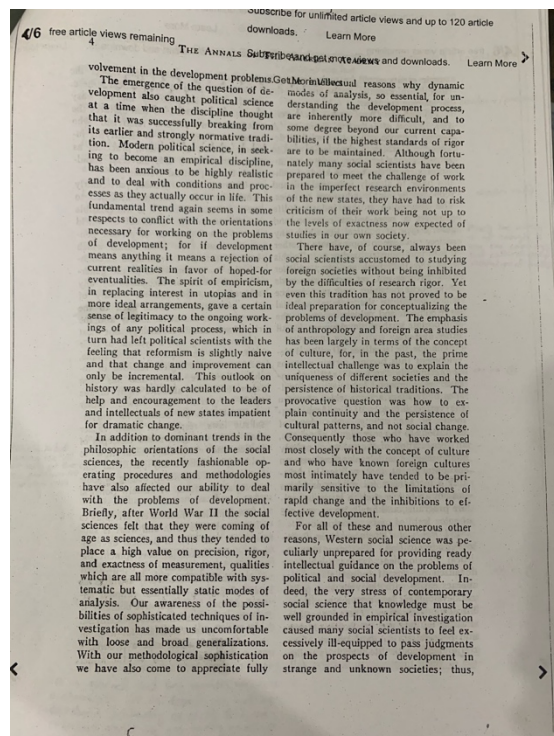
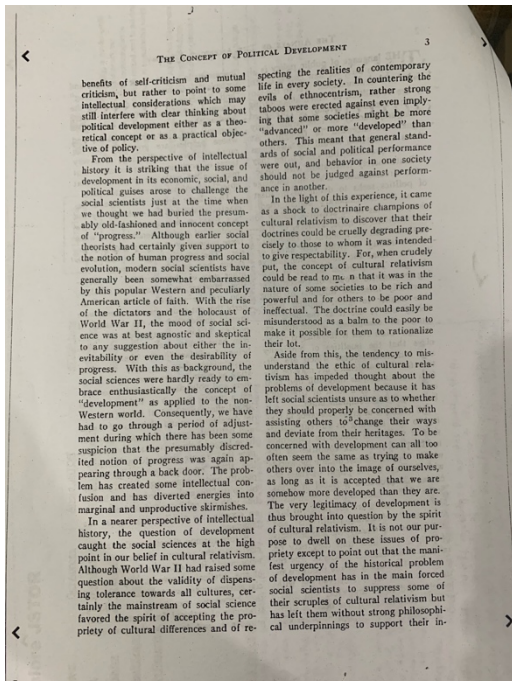
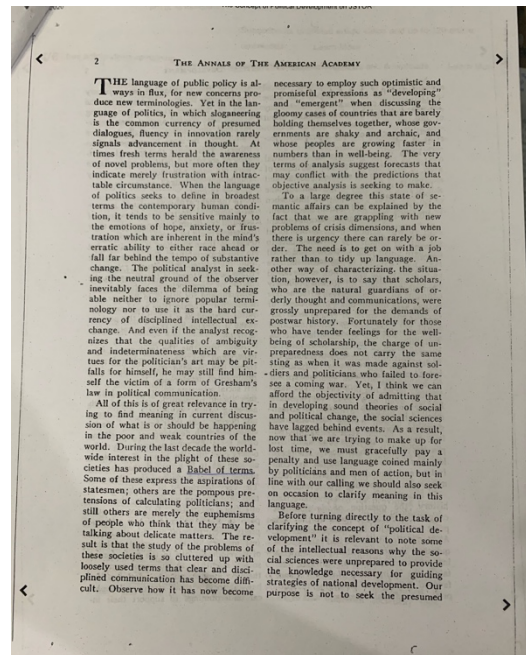
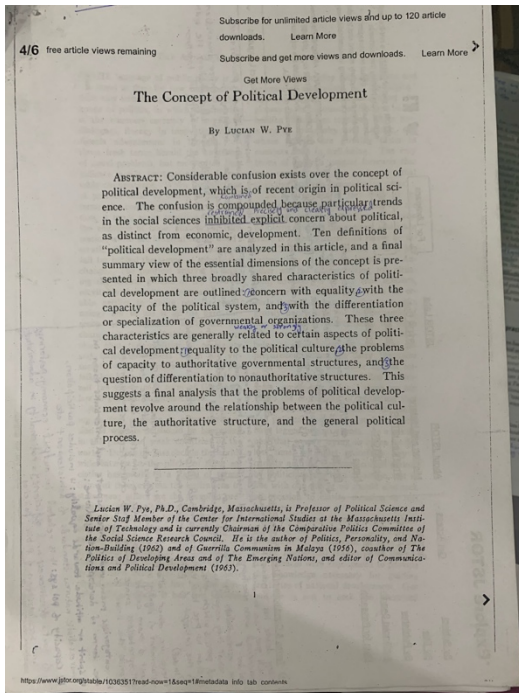


WEEK 1: Political Development; definitions and common characteristics



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paradoxically, men who considered themselves realists above all the others felt appropriate to drift along with the almost euphorically optimistic view of the possibilities for rapid development in the new state which were so common a few seasons ago. Since many of the guiding considerations which had given a sense of direction and discipline to the social sciences were directly challenged by the emergence of the problems of development, there is still considerable ambiguity and imprecision in the use of the term "political-development."

DIVERSITY OF DEFINITIONS

It may therefore be helpful to elaborate some of the confusing meanings which are frequently associated with the expression political development. Our purpose in doing so is not to establish or reject any particular definitions, but rather to illuminate a situation of semantic confusion which cannot but impede the development of theory and beyond the purposes of public policy.

(1) Political Development as the Political Prerequisite of Economic Development. When attention was first fixed on the problem of economic growth and the need to transform stagnant economies into dynamic ones with self-sustaining growth, the economists were quick to point out that political and social conditions play a decisive role in promoting or facilitating economic growth. In per capita income, and thus it was appropriate to conceive of political development as the state of the polity which might facilitate economic growth.

Operationally, however, such a view of political development tends to be established that any country which is economically developed can not be developed politically as well. But he criticized this view as many countries which do not possess good economy but possess good politics.

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It is, however, precisely the too easy acceptance of this view that equated the defenders of cultural relativism who question the propriety of identifying industrial, that is, Western, practices as the contemporary and universal standards view of the typical kind of political life in industrialized and economically highly advanced societies.

The assumption is that industrial life produces a more-or-less common and generic type of political life which any society can seek to approximate whether it is in fact industrialized or not. In this view the industrial societies, whether democratic or not, set certain standards of political behavior and performance which constitute the state of political development and which represent the appropriate goals of development for all other societies.

The specific qualities of political development thus become certain patterns of presumably "rational" and "responsible" governmental behavior (an avoidance of reckless actions which threaten administrative and legal procedures) and acknowledgment that politics is rightfully a mechanism for solving problems and not an end in itself. It stresses welfare programs and finally an acceptance of some form of mass participation.

(3) Political Development as Political Modernization. The view that political development is the typical or idealized politics of industrial societies merges easily with the view that political development is synonymous with political modernization. The advanced industrial nations are the fashion-makers and pace-setters in most phases of social and economic life, and it is under these countries which follow that the political development of other countries has to be sought. But he says that only countries which have a certain culture can get political development.

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hand, importance is attached only to the performance of certain substantive functions; then another difficulty arises in that all political systems have, historically, in one fashion or another, performed the essential functions expected of these modern and Western institutions. Thus, what is to distinguish between what is more and what is less "developed"? Clearly the problem of political development—when thought of as being simply political "modernization"—runs into the difficult of differentiating between what is "Western" and what is "modern." Some additional criteria seem to be necessary if such a distinction is to be made.

(4) Political Development as the Organization of a Nation-State. To some degree these objections are met by the view that political development consists of the organization of political life and the performance of political functions in accordance with the standards expected of a modern nation-state. In this point of view there is an assumption that, historically, there have been many types of political systems and that all communities have had their form of politics; but that with the emergence of the modern nation-state a specific set of requirements about politics came into existence. Thus, if a society is to perform as a modern state, its political institutions and practices must adjust to these requirements of state performance. The politics of historic empires, of tribe and ethnic community, or of colony must give way to the politics necessary to produce an effective nation-state which can operate successfully in a system of other nation-states.

Political development thus becomes the process by which communities that are nation-states only in form and by international countries become nation-states in reality. Specifically, this involves the development of a capacity to mobilize resources for a specific range of collective enterprises, and to make and uphold effectively types of international commitments. The test of political development would thus involve, first, the establishment of a particular set of public institutions which constitute the necessary infrastructure of a nation-state, and, second, the controlled expression in political life of the phenomenon of nationalism. That is to say, political development is the politics of nationalism within the context of state institutions.

It is important to stress that from this point of view nationalism is only a necessary but far from sufficient condition to ensure political development. Development entails the translation of the diffuse and unorganized sentiments of nationalism into a spirit of citizenship and, equally, the creation of state institutions which can translate into policy and programs the aspirations of nationalism and citizenship. In brief, political development is nation-building.

(5) Political Development as Administrative and Legal Development. If we divide nation-building into institution-building and citizenship development we have two very common concepts of political development. Indeed, the concept of political development as organization-building has a long history and it underlies the philosophy of much of the more enlightened colonial practices. Historically, when the Western nations came in contact with the societies of the rest of the world, one of the principal sources of tension was the discovery that such societies did not share the same Western concepts about law and the nature of public authority in the adjudication of private disputes. Wherever the European went one of the first revealing queries was: "Who is in charge here?" According to the logic of the European mind, every territory should fall under some sovereignty, and all people in the same geographic location should have a common loyalty and the same legal obligations. Also, in these early clashes of the European response was to search for legal orders and the absence of a recognizable legal order made life uncomfortable for these early Europeans. The Western mind, in groping for a means to carry out day-to-day relations with what appeared to be "barbaric" and "irrational" cultures, naturally turned to the law as a means for achieving order and predictability; and in doing so it established the notion that political development rested upon the existence of an orderly legal process.

In time, however, it was discovered that the smooth operation of an explicit and formalized legal system depended upon the existence of an orderly administrative system. The realization of law and order thus called for bureaucratic structures and the development of public administration, and throughout the colonial period the concept of development was closely associated with the introduction of rationalized institutions of administration. And certainly one of the principal heritages of the colonial era for the area of nation-building was that it left behind, in varying degrees, administrative structures which have become the important elements in the infrastructures of now independent nation-states. Indeed, it is now common to evaluate the relative successes of various colonial governments according to the extent to which they succeeded in leaving behind workable administrative systems.

Today, the tradition continues, as most newly independent countries consider the strengthening of bureaucracies to be a first task in political development.

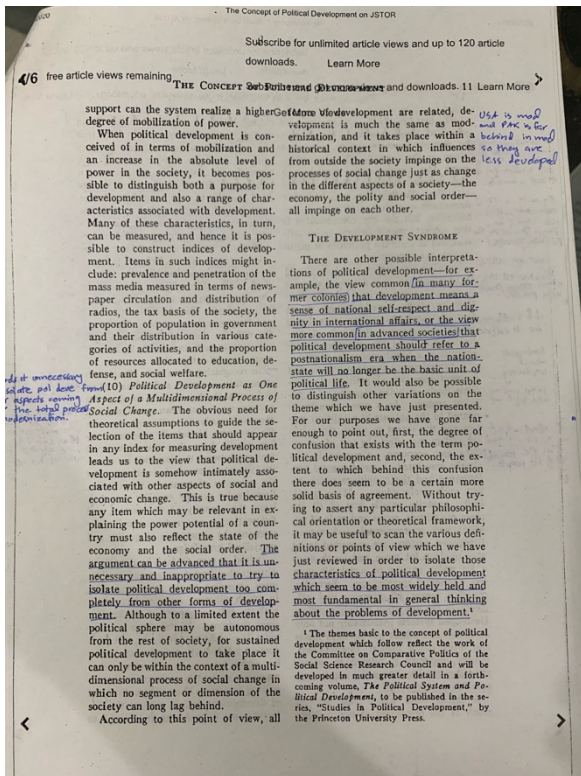
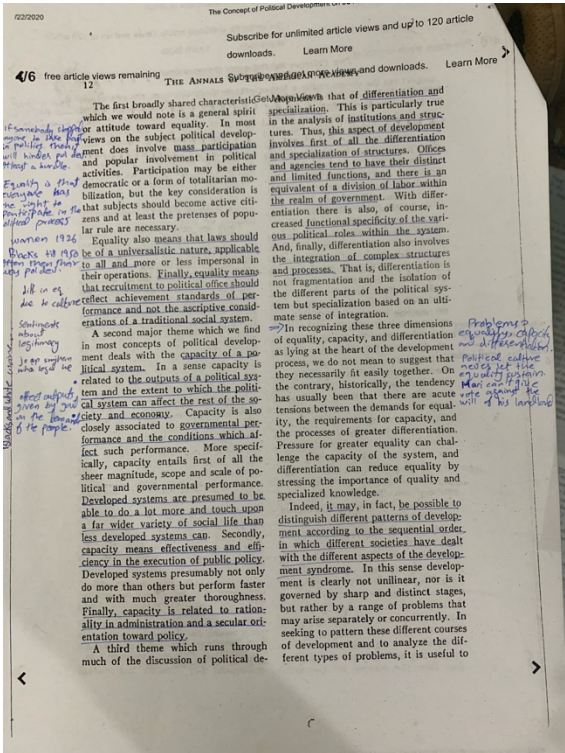
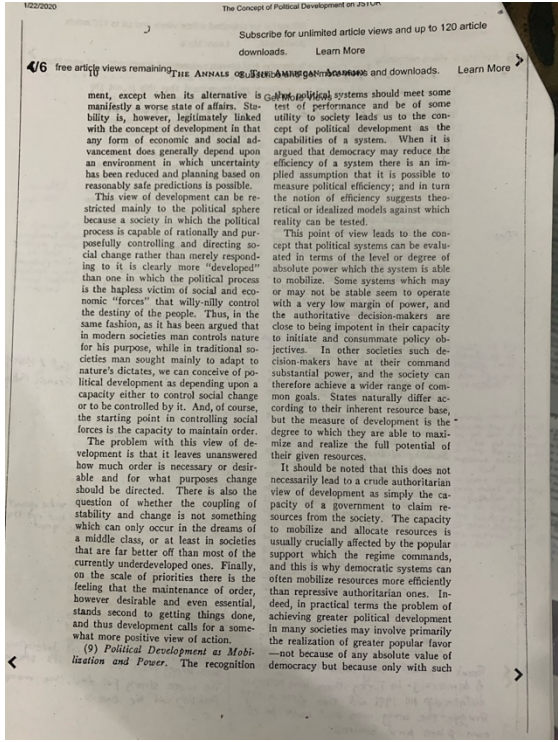
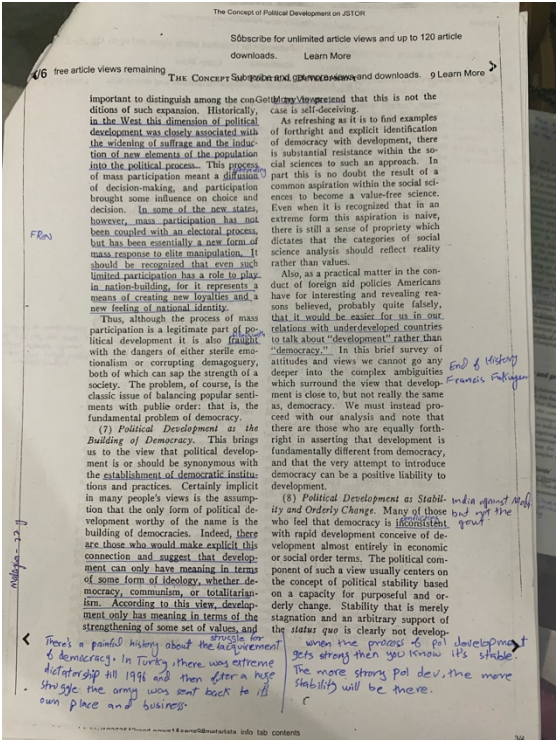
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note that the problems of equality are generally related to the political culture and sentiments about legitimacy and commitment to the system; the problems of capacity are generally related to the performance of the authoritative structures of government, and the questions of differentiation touch mainly on

the performance of the nonauthoritative structures and the general political process in the society at large. This suggests that in the last analysis the problems of political development revolve around the relationships between the political culture, the authoritative structures, and the general political process.

- 2) **legitimacy crisis:** People must accept their judiciary system, instructive system of their country. People must acknowledge that what ever the rules or laws are made by the legal systems are good for them and so they must respect.
- 3) **Penetration crisis:** Governments must visit the villages or rural areas of the country and contact the grassroot level population and listen to their problems and must try to solve them. Usually, people living far from govt get no opportunity to get their prob. solve.
- 4) **Participation crisis:** People do not get part in casting votes, so it's important to make the people cast a vote. Participate actively in politics.