Chapter-2

DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

"Democracy is the government of the people, by the people, for the people"

- Abraham Lincoln¹

2.1. Introduction

The term ‘democracy’ is derived from Greek the term “demokratia”. It means power of the people or rule of the people. In the Greek, ‘demos’ means the people and ‘kratia’ means power or rule. Therefore, the meaning of democracy is the rule or power of the people. Similarly, ‘System’ is an English word, which means way of working or doing something which follows a fixed plan or set of rules or principles. It is also a method or an organized scheme which follows rules or principles for doing something. Hence, democratic system is one of the political systems in which people have a source of power to rule with the help of direct or freely elected representatives from among the common people.

Abraham Lincoln, the former President of the United States, has defined democracy in a very simplest and easiest form as “The government of the people, by the people, and for the people”.

It is unanimously accepted that the concept of democracy has originated in Ancient Greece. The City State of Athens, adopted direct form of democracy, which had two features; first, the random selection of members of the Government and second to allow citizens to take part in policy making as well as making laws of the city. But it was not a true democracy in the real sense as it exists today.

During the medieval period, different political systems existed which conducted elections to its established Assemblies.

¹ U.S. The President, (1809-1865).
towards the close of the medieval ages, the people realized that they have certain rights and they are enforceable. In 1215 AD King John of England signed the famous ‘Magna Carta’ which established, for the first time, the principle of rule of law. It also gave all ‘free men’ the right to justice and fair trial. It recognized certain fundamental rights of the people. Some of the core principles enshrined in the Magna Carta are manifested in all the modern democratic Constitutions as well as Universal Declaration of Human Right. Later on Bill of Rights 1689 in England, U.S. Constitution of 1787, Declaration of Rights of Men and Citizens of 1789 in France etc. are some of the countries that adopted the spirit of Magna Carta in the world.

Basically, two types of democracies are exist in the world. First one is direct democracy and the second is representative democracy. In direct democracy people are ruled directly and people vote to the policies directly for instance Switzerland. In the representative democracies, people elect representatives. The elected representatives make decisions and vote on policies on behalf of the people. Representative democracy has two types which are Parliamentary democracy and presidential democracy. Besides, there are also other types of democracies existing the world such as: Constitutional Monarchy, Republic, Liberal Democracy, Socialist, Anarchist, Sortation, Consociation, Consensus Democracy, Supranational democracy etc.

One who believes in democracy pays respect to the essential elements of democracy such as human rights, fundamental freedom of individuals and periodical election by universal suffrage. There must be separation of power between the basic organs of the State for good governance.

Foundation stone of the democratic rule in India was laid by Government of India Act.1935, through the efforts for political freedom or independence for India had started much earlier. After India had won Independence in 1947 the leaders of the nations adopted democracy as the base of governing the nation.
India is a developing country, and also pluralistic, in which diversity is found on the basis of the religion, race, caste, language, culture, socio-economical concerns and so on. Indian democracy survived in all odd circumstances, and entered 21st century accepting the new challenges and dimensions. Its consisting federal States are playing very effective role in the political structure, transformation of party system to single major or different party government in the Center. Federal market system existing in India has resulted in economic reforms and growth. A social revolution securing the right to equality and equal opportunity, irrespective of different class, religion, race, caste, sex, birth of place etc. It is the determination of a people due to this self governing political community and acceptance of self responsibility of citizens.

2.2. **Meaning and Definition**

Democracy, a word familiar to everyone, was originated in Greece in the 5th century BC which was an antonym ‘toaristokratia’ i.e. rule of elite. But it is a concept, still, misunderstood and misused by dictators, single-party regimes, and military corp leader’s alike, asserting popular support by claiming the mantle of democracy. Yet, the democratic ideas have prevailed through a long and turbulent history and democratic governments, despite continuing challenges, continued to evolve and flourish throughout the world. The democracy is “a system of government in which all the people of State or polity... are involved in making decisions about its affairs, typically by voting to elect representatives to a parliament or similar assembly.”

The classical theory of democracy has given the stress on the triple meaning of democracy.

The first, Democratic State gets source of authority from the people, secondly, in the democratic system the purpose of government is always the welfare of the people or to achieve common goals of the people. And thirdly,

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democracy is an established method or a procedure for electing political leaders by the people.

The meaning of ‘democracy’ can be summed up in the phrase ‘government by the people’. A democracy is the political system in which the people are not only entitled to make basic determining decisions but, also actually make such decisions. It is by virtue of this feature one can distinguish the systems that are not in fact democracies, despite the presence of some elements of democracy. The possession of the entitlement and the ability to make the basic determining decisions constitute supreme power.⁴

Aristotle says in his work Politics: “The most pure democracy is that which is so called principally from the equality which prevails in it: for this what the law in that State directs; the poor shall be in no greater subject of these, but that both shall share it. For if liberty and equality, as some persons suppose, are chiefly to be found in a democracy, it must be so by every department of government being alike open to all; but as the people are in the majority, and what they vote is law, it follows that such a State must be a democracy.”⁵

John Locke observed that, “When any number of man have, by the consent of every individual, made a community, they have thereby made that community one body, which only by the will and determination of the majority and, The majority having, upon men’s first uniting into society, the whole power of the community naturally in them may employed all that power in making laws for the community from time to time”.⁶

Subsequently, Rousseau opined, “There is but one law which, from its nature, needs unanimous consent. This is social contract…apart from this primitive contract, the vote of majority always binds all the rest… this presupposes, indeed, that all the qualities of the general will still reside in the

⁶. Locke, John, Two Treaties on Civil Government (1690)
majority; when they cease to do so; whatever side a man may take, liberty is no longer possible”.

Similarly, Jefferson said “The first principle of republicanism is that the lex majoris partis is the fundamental law of every society of individuals of equal rights; to consider the will of the society announced by the majority of a single vote, as sacred as if unanimous, is the first of the lessons in importance…”

The three basic concepts of democracy are popular sovereignty, equality and self government. Popular rule postulates that all are equally sovereign. Therefore, postulates equality; can also be inferred from popular sovereignty that self-government has to replace government over the people.

2.3. Origin and Development of Democratic System

Democratic system has originated and developed through the various stages throughout the world in different countries. For the better understanding democracy, it is necessary to see its origin and development in the ancient, middle and modern periods. Around 2500 years ago in Greece, the people of the city State Athens developed a way of decisions that was different from the autocratic ways of the past.

In an autocratic system of government one person or a small group makes all the decisions on behalf of the people in the State. Citizens of the State have no say in infusing decisions.

2.3.1. Ancient origin

First time the concept of ‘democracy’ was found in Greek Philosophy which is propounded by the Cleisthenes in the city of Athens in the year 508-507 BC. Various political Jurists, also, have agreed that the Cleisthenes is the Father of Athenian democracy.

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Athenian adopted direct form of democracy which had two features, first was random selection of members of the Government, judicial officers and members of legislative assembly, and the second was Athens State to allow ordinary citizens, to take part in policy making for the City State Athens. They were allowed to speak and vote in the Assembly for the setting of the laws of the City.

In reality, Athens was not accepted as a true democracy, because women, foreigners, non landowners, male under 20 years of age and slaves, or freed slaves were not included in it. Due to the exclusion of large population one can understand the concept of citizenship. Also according to the rules of citizenship, both the parents must be Athenian citizens to take part in the Assembly. The democracy, therefore, was enjoyed by only a very small minority of the people living in Athens. It was, however, the only State that had a democratic society at this span of time.

2.3.2. Middle Ages

During the medieval period, various political systems accepted Assemblies through the elections, although, very small part of the population involved in the process of elections.

- The frostating in Norway,
- The althing in Iceland,
- Scandinavian things
- The election of Uthman in the Rashidum caliphate,
- The south Indian Kingdom of Chola in the State of Tamilnadu in the Indian Subcontinent an election system at 920 AD.
- Cartania, old Slavic/Slovenian Principality, the Ducal Inauguration from 7th to 15th century.

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- The Upper Caste elections of the Gopala in the Bengal region of the Indian Subcontinent,
- Frisia in the 10th -15th century (weight of vote based on landownership)
- The polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (10% of the population)
- Certain medieval Italian city-States such as Venice, Genoa, Florence, Pisa, Lucca, Amalfi, Siena and San Marino,
- The Tuatha system in early medieval Ireland,
- The Veche in Novgorod and Pskov Republics of medieval Russia,
- The States in Tirol and Switzerland,
- The autonomous merchant city of Sakai in the 16th century in Japan,
- Volta-Nigeric Societies such as Igbo
- The Mekh-Khel system of the Nakh people of the North Caucasus, by which representatives to the Council of Elders for each teip (clan were popular elected by that teip’s members.
- The 10th Sikh Guru Gobind Singhji (Nanak X) established the world’s first democratic republic State ending the aristocracy on 1st Vasakh 1699 and Gurbani as sole Constitution of this Sikh republic on the Indian subcontinent

The middle age was a period of European History. The period from the fall of the Roman Empire (476 AD) to the fall of Constantinople 1453 AD, is known as Dark Age. During the middle Age, there was not direct democracy in existence. Christianity was widely followed and so many democratic ideas were understood and followed by many of the people because Christianity taught to the people that all men are created equal.

Another form of government, known as Feudalism, developed during this time. In Feudalism, people had no rights and were treated as serfs in the States of feudal lords.
In medieval England in 1215, King John had total control and his subjects had no freedom, what so ever. The Magna Carta took some of the Kings power away and gave some rights and freedom to the people.

Magna Carta is a historical document that means ‘Great Charter’ in English. It was written by the boron’s of England who were unhappy because the king was abusing his power and increasing taxes. Magna Carta contains 63 clauses promising all freeman access to the Courts and a fair trial, eliminating unfair fines and punishment and giving power to the Catholic Church in England instead of the king. Magana carta was an important milestone in British law. It has become the core guideline for many international Constitutions and convention, including Indian Constitution.

The American Revolution is an important event in the history of the mankind. It marked a turning point in the democratic system. The ‘Declaration of Independence’ was drafted by Thomas Jefferson in 1776, which contained the ideas taken from two famous philosophes of the time, Jean Jacques Rousseau and John Locke, contained outlined freedom and equality.

2.3.3.1 Early modern period

Modern democracy has developed throughout the 20th century. Democracies have resulted in the forms of wars, revolutions, decolonization, and economic circumstances. The number of democracies continued to grow. It has been speculated that this trend may continue in the future.

During the early modern period, the power of the parliament of England continually increased due to the passing of Petition of Rights, 1628 and Habeas Corpus Act, 1679. These two Acts established certain liberties to the citizens and remained in effect. During the Putney debates of 1647, the idea of political party took form and groups started freely debating the right to political representation.

English Civil war took place during the years 1642- 1665, and the Glorious Revolution, took place in the year 1688 due to which the Bill of
Rights 1689 was enacted with the object of codification of certain rights and liberties still in effect. Bill of Rights contains the provision for requirement of regular election, freedom of speech in parliament and limited power of monarch.

Representative Government began in North America at Jamestown, Virginia, with election of Houses of Burgesses in the year 1619. English puritans migrated from 1620. They established colonies in New England whose local governance was democratic. English puritans contributed to the democratic development of the United States.

Although these local assemblies had some small amount of developing power, the ultimate authority was held by the Crown and English parliament. The puritans (Pilgrim Fathers) Baptists and Quakers founded colonies and applied the democratic organization for congregations in administration of their communities in worldly matters.

2.3.3.2. 18th and 19th Centuries

In the year 1848, France established Universal Suffrage, which was a great achievement and a milestone in the history of democracy.

In the year 1707, the first Parliament of Great Britain was established, by merger of the Kingdom of England and The Kingdom of Scotland under the Act of Union as a result monarch became a figurehead. Members of the Parliament were elected by a few percentage of the total population which was an indication of only a small part of whole population actually had a voice.

During the years 1718-1772 in Sweden, during the Age of liberty, power shifted from monarch to Parliament which was resulted in expansion of civil rights. The taxed peasantry was represented in Parliament. Although with little influence, commoners without taxed property had no suffrage.

10. “Citizenship 1625-1789”. The National Archives

11. “Getting the vote” The National Archives
In the year 1755, the Corsican Republic marked the first nation in the modern history to adopt a democratic Constitution which contained provisions all men and women above age of 25 years could vote. This was first based on Enlighten principles and include female suffrage which was not granted in most of other democracies until the 20th century.

During the American colonial period, before and after 1776, only adult white male property owner could vote, slaves and most of the women were not extended the franchise. On the American frontier, democracy became a way of life with more widespread social economic and political equality. Although not described as a democracy by the founding fathers, they shared a determination to root the American experiment on the principles of natural freedom and equality.

After the American Revolution, Constitution of United States was adopted in the year 1787 which was the oldest surviving and still active governmental codified Constitution. The United States Constitution contains the provisions of election of government and guarantees civil rights and liberties for some American people only, as such the United States Constitution did not end existing slavery nor extend voting rights beyond white male property owner.

17. “Expansion of Rights and Liberties, the Right of Suffrage”, Online Exhibit: The Charters of Freedom, National Archives
By the ratification of Bill of the Rights in the year 1871, set the limits on governmental power to personal freedom, but very little impact on Judgments by courts during first 130 years.\textsuperscript{18}

In 1789, revolutionary France adopted the Declaration of rights of Man and of the Citizen and, although short-lived, the National Convention was elected by all males in 1792.\textsuperscript{19} However, in the early 19\textsuperscript{th} century, little of democracy as theory, practice, or even as word remained in the North Atlantic world.\textsuperscript{20}

Slavery remained as a part of social and economical institution around the world during thesaid period. The United States was divided into two and literally fought a Civil War on the issue of slavery. In reconstruction of United State after the Civil War, newly freed slaves become citizens with a nominal right to vote for men. Only after the African American Civil Rights Movement in the years 1955-1968, full enfranchisement of citizens was secured by passage by United States Congress of the Voting Rights Act of1965\textsuperscript{21}

The United Kingdom’s slave Trade Act 1807 banned the trade across the British Empire, which was enforced internationally by the Royal Navy under treaties Britain negotiated with other nations.\textsuperscript{22} As the voting franchise in the U.K. was increased, also was made more uniform in a series of reforms beginning with the Reform Act of 1832. In 1833, the United Kingdom passed the slavery Abolition Act which took effect across the British Empire.

Universal male suffrage was established in France in March 1848 in the wake of the French Revolution of 1848.\textsuperscript{23} In 1848, several revolutions broke

\textsuperscript{18} “The Bill of Rights, A Brief History”, ACLU.
\textsuperscript{19} “The French RevolutionII”Mars.wnec.edu
\textsuperscript{20} Michael Denning, Culture in the Age of Three Worlds, Verso, p. 212.(2004)
\textsuperscript{21} Transcript of Voting Rights Act (1965) U.S. National Archives, the Constitution: The 24th Amendment Time.
\textsuperscript{23} French National Assembly, Désormais Le Bulletin De Vote Doitremplacerle fusil ”, (1848)
out in Europe as the rulers were confronted with popular demands for liberal Constitutions and more democratic government.24

According to census carried in the year 1860, population of slaves had reached to four million in United State25.

2.3.3.3. 20th and 21st Centuries

The number of nations from 1800-2003, scoring 8 or higher on polity IV scale, other widely used measures of democracy, 20th century transitions to liberal democracy have come in successive “waves of Democracy”, variously resulting from wars, revolutions, decolonization, and religious and economic circumstances.26

The creation of new nations from Europe were nominally democratic due to World War I and dissolution of the Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian empires

In the 1920s democracy flourished and women suffrage advanced, but the Great Depression brought disenchantment and most of the countries of Europe, Latin America, and Asia turned to strong-man rule or dictatorships. Fascism and dictatorships flourished in Nazi Germany, Italy, Spain and Portugal as well as nondemocratic regimes in the Baltics, the Balkans, Brazil, Cuba, China, and Japan, among others.27

World War II brought a definitive reversal of this trend in Western Europe. The democratization of the American, British, and French sectors of occupied Germany.28 Austria, Italy and the occupied Japan served as a model for the later theory of regime change. However, most of Eastern Europe,

24. “Movement Toward Greater Democracy in Europe”, Indiana University Northwest
including the Soviet sector of Germany fell into the non-democratic Soviet bloc.

The war was followed by decolonization and again most of the newly in States had nominally democratic Constitution. Countries that were once part of the British Empire often adopted the British Westminster system. India adopted democracy in its real sense. She emerged as the World’s largest democracy and continues to be so.

By 1960, the vast majority of country States were nominal democracies, although most of the world’s population lived in the nations that experienced sham elections and other forms of subterfuge.

A subsequent wave of democratization brought substantial gains toward true liberal democracy for many nations. Spain, Portugal (1974), and several of the military dictatorships in South America returned to civilian rule in the late 1970s and early 1980s. This was followed by the nations in the East and South Asia by the mid to late 1980s.

Economic malaise in the 1980s, along with resentment of Soviet oppression, contributed to the collapse of the Soviet Union, the associated end of the Cold War, and the democratization and liberalization of the former Eastern bloc countries. The most successful of the new democracies were those geographically and culturally closest to Western Europe. They are, now, members or candidate’s members of the European Union.

The liberal trend spread to some nations in Africa in the 1990s, most prominently in South Africa. Some recent examples of attempts to adoption of liberalization include the Indonesian Revolution of 1998, the Bulldozer Revolution in Yugoslavia, the Rose Revolution in Georgia, the orange Revolution in Ukraine, the Cedar Revolution in Lebanon, the Tulip Revolution in Kyrgyzstan, and the Jasmine Revolution in Tunisia.

According to Freedomhouse, in 2007 there were 123 electoral democracies (up from 40 in 1972).\(^{31}\) According to World Forum on Democracy, Electoral democracies now represent 120 of the 192 existing countries and constitute 58.2 percent of the world’s population. At the same time liberal democracies i.e. countries, Freedom House regards as free and respectful of basic human rights and the of law are 85 in number and represent 38 percent of the global population.\(^{32}\)

In 2007 the United Nations declared September 15 the international day of Democracy.\(^{33}\)

This system is known as direct democracy. It could only work for a small State within few inhabitants and a very simple way of modern world where even small countries with complex problems.

Now democratic societies are known as representative of democracies. India is a representative democracy under this system. The people elect representatives to make decisions on their behalf. Every five years, an election is held and the people are given the chance to vote for the people they want to represent them. The candidates are usually members of political party. The elected representatives are expected to operate in the ways that benefit the community as whole. These representatives can be removed from office during new elections if people are unhappy with them.

2.4. Types of Democratic System

Democracy has taken a number forms, both in theory and practice. Various types of democracy provide better presentation and more freedom for their citizen than others.

There are two basic forms, both of which reflect how the whole body of all eligible citizens executes its will. Direct democracy, in which, all eligible


\(^{32}\) List of Electoral Democracies for Democracy.net Archived at the Way back Machine, (2013)

\(^{33}\) “General Assembly declares 15 September International Day of Democracy; Also elects 18 Members to Economic and Social Council”
citizens have active participation in the political decision making, for example, on policy initiatives directly. In representative democracies the whole body of eligible citizens remains the sovereign power is exercised indirectly through elected representatives.

2.4.1. Direct Democracy

Direct democracy is a political system where the citizens participate in the decision making process personally, contrary to relying on representatives. Athenian democracy is a typical example of a direct democracy. In this system, important government and administrative tasks are performed by citizens picked from a lottery. A direct democracy gives the voting population the power to change Constitutional laws, put-forth initiatives, referendums and suggestions for laws, gives binding orders to elective officials, such as revoking them before the end of their elected term, or initiating a lawsuit for breaking a campaigned promise.

In Switzerland, without need to register, every citizen receives ballot paper and information brochures about each contesting candidates and polled ballot papers can be sent back to the polling office by post. Switzerland has a direct democracy system and voting is conducted four times in a year.

In the present day representative government system, certain electoral tools like referendums, citizen’s initiatives and recall elections are referred to as forms of direct democracy. Direct democracy as a government system, currently exists only in the Swiss and cantons of Appenzellinnerr Hoden and Glarus.

2.4.2. Representative Democracy.

Representative democracy involves the election of government officials by the people being represented. If the head of State is also democratically

elected then it is called a direct republic. The most common mechanism involves election of the candidate with a majority or a plurality of the votes. Most of the western countries have representative democratic system.

Representatives may be elected or become diplomatic representative by a particular district (or constituency) or represent the entire electorate through proportional system, with some using combination of the two. Some representative democracies also incorporated elements of direct democracy, such as referendum. A characteristic of representative democracy is that while the representatives are elected by the people to act in the peoples interests, they retain the freedom to exercise their own judgments as to how best they can do. This freedom of self judgment is a point attracted criticism upon representative democracy, pointing out the contradictions of representative democracy with democracy.

2.4.2.1. Parliamentary Democracy.

Parliamentary democracy is a representative democracy where the government is elected by, or can be dismissed by representatives as opposed to “the Presidential form of democracy” wherein the President who is both Head of the State and Head of the Government, is elected by the voters. Under the parliamentary democracy, government exercised by delegation, by the legislative parliament elected by the people, to an executive’s ministry, subject to ongoing review, checks and balances.

Parliamentary systems have the right to dismiss the Prime Minister at any time that they feel he or she is not doing his/her job to the expectations of the legislature. This process can be done through a ‘no confidence motion’. The legislature can also call for elections; typically the Prime Minister will hold an election when he or she knows that they are in good favor with the public as to

36. Radical Revolution - The Thermidorean Reaction”. Wsu.edu, Archived from the original on (1999)
37. Vincent Golay and Mix et Remix, Swiss political institutions, Éditionsloisirsetpédagogie, (2008)
get re-election. In other parliamentary democracies extra elections are virtually never held, a majority government is preferred until the next elections. An important feature of parliamentary democracy is the concept of the “loyal opposition”. The essence of this concept is that the second largest political party opposes the governing party, while still remaining loyal to the State and its democratic principles.

2.4.2.2. Presidential Democracy.

Presidential democracy is a system where the public elect the President through free and fair elections. In the United States of America, which is a typical example for the Presidential form of democracy, the President is elected by an electoral college which is elected by the people only for the purpose of electing the President. The President serves as both the head of State and head of government controlling most of the executive powers.

The President serves for a specific term and cannot exceed the term of office. Elections typically have a fixed date and aren’t easily changed. The President has direct control over the cabinet, specifically appointing the cabinet members.

The President cannot be easily removed from office by legislature, nor can the President remove any member of the legislature. This provides some measures of separation of powers. In consequences however, the President and the legislature may end up in the control of separate political parties. Allowing one to block the others and thereby interfere with ordinary operation of the State. This may be the reason why Presidential democracy is not very common outside the America, Africa, and Central and Southeast Asia. However, the U.S. Constitution provides a special provision for the impeachment of President, the Vice President and other civil officers on special grounds. The latest impeachment trial was attempted by the House of Representative in U.S. in 1998 against Bill Clinton but the trial failed in the House.
2.4.2.3. Semi Presidential System of Democracy

The term “Semi-Presidential” was introduced by a French journalist, Hubert Beuve-Mery 1959 by publishing an Article and the same term was popularized by another French political scientist Maurice Duvergir in 1978 through his writing which intended to describe the newly formed government of the French Fifth Republic (1958). This is a system of government in which the President and the Prime Minister with his cabinet administer the State together in the system the Prime Minister and the cabinet alone are responsible to the legislature of that particular State. This system is totally different from the Parliamentary democracy and the presidential democracy in the sense the president in the earlier system is purely a ceremonial figurehead though he is popularly elected by the people whereas in latter system the President is all the more powerful in the absence of the Prime Minister. After the dissolution of the German empire in 1919 after the end of the First World War, Germany was constituted into Republic known as German the Weimar Republic (1919-1933) which exemplifies an early Semi Presidential system of democracy.

2.4.2.4. Semi Direct Democracy

This type of government is one of several systems in which direct democracy is moderated by formal mechanisms that force a degree deliberation are expert input into the process of setting questions that are answered by votes. Some modern democracies that are predominantly representative in nature also heavily rely upon forms of political action that are directly democratic. These democracies, which combined elements of representative democracy and direct democracy, are termed hybrid democracies, semi direct democracies or participatory democracies also. Example includes Switzerland and some U.S. States, where frequent use is made of referendums and initiatives.

2.4.3. Other Types of democracy

Along with the basic two democratic systems as above discussed, there are many other countries that have been democratic systems with its variable
characteristics including basic principles of democratic system. Some of the systems of other democratic types of governments are cited below:

2.4.3.1. Constitutional Monarchy

Many countries such as the United Kingdom, Spain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Scandinavian countries, Thailand, Japan, and Bhutan turned absolute monarchy into Constitutional monarchy with limited or often gradually merely symbolic roles. For example, in the United Kingdom, Constitutional monarchy began to emerge since 1215, the year in which Magna Carta was signed by King John II. The powers of the monarchy were further reduced by the establishment of the Commonwealth (1649-60) when England was ruled as a Republic by Oliver and Richard Cromwell during whose period Charles I the King of England was put to trial and executed. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 followed by the Bill of Rights 1689 further reduced the status of Monarchy in England. As and when the world enter into the modern age, the absolute Monarchies reduced into the Constitutional or limited Monarchies through revolutions and popular movements (American War of Independence 1776, French Revolution 1789, Revolutions of 1830 and 1848, Russian Revolution 1970 and so on).

2.4.3.2. Republic:

The term ‘republic’ has different meanings, but today often referred to as representative democracy with an elected head of State, such as President, serving for limited term, in contrast to States with hereditary monarch as a head of the State, even if these States also are representative democracies with an elected or appointed head of government such as a Prime Minister.

2.4.3.3. Liberal Democracy

A liberal democracy is a representative democracy in which the ability of the elected representatives to exercise decision making power is subject to the rule of law and moderated by a Constitution or laws that emphasis the protection of the rights and freedom of individuals, and which places constraint
on the leader and on the extent to which the will of the majority can be exercised against the rights of minorities.

In a liberal democracy, it is possible for some large scale decisions to emerge from many individual decisions that citizens are free to make. In other words, citizens can “vote with their feet” or with their dollars resulting in significant informal government by the masses that exercises many powers associated with formal governments elsewhere.

**2.4.3.4. Socialist Democracy**

Socialist democracy is byproduct of Industrial Revolution. By virtue of developments in science and technology and geographical and scientific discoveries, the world advanced into the modern age. The medieval institutions of feudalism and serfdom solely vanished and in the place of feudal estates industrial cities emerged which resulted into the emergence of industrial labor community. The newly emerged socio-economic groups of labors brought in a series of problems related to the process of production, consumption and distribution and organization of industrial establishment. The labor and labor related issues draw attention of social and political philosophers like Robert Owen, Karl Marx, Frederic Angels, etc. who found new political philosophy called “socialism”. ‘Das Kapital’, the famous book that above all others published in 20\(^{th}\) century, is the scripture of communism. Marx, in this book explains the relationship between the capital and the workforce. He formulated the new concept of class struggle between the capitalist and the proletariats which ends with the proletariat victory and results in the establishment of proletariat dictatorship (Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 in Russia resulted in the establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic under the leadership of Lenin). Socialist democrats believe in a form of participatory, industrial, economic, workplace democracy in which means of production are totally under the control of State.
2.4.3.5. Anarchism

Anarchism is a political philosophy that advocates self governed societies based on voluntary institutions. It holds all governments to be undesirable, unnecessary and harmful. Anarchists are split in the domain of democracy, depending on whether they believed that a majority rule is tyranny or not. The only form of democracy considered acceptable to many anarchists is direct democracy. Pierre Joseph Proudhon argued that the only acceptable form of direct democracy is one which it is recognized that majority decisions are not binding on the majority, even when unanimous. However anarcho communist Murray Bookchin criticized individualist’s anarchists for opposing democracy, and says “majority rules” is consistent with anarchism.

2.4.3.6. Sortation

Sortation, sometimes called “democracy without election”. Sortation chooses decision makers via random process. The intention is that those chosen will be the representatives of opinions and interests of the people at large, and be more fair and impartial than an elected official. The technique was in widespread use in Athenian democracy and renaissance Florence and is still used in modern jury selection.

2.4.3.7. Consociation

A consociation democracy allows for simultaneous majority votes in two or more ethno-religious constitutes, and policies are enacted only if they gain majority support from both or all of them.

2.4.3.8. Consensus Democracy

A consensus democracy, in contrast, would not be dichotomous. Instead, decisions would be based on multi-option approach, and policies would be enacted if they gained sufficient support, either in a purely verbal agreement, or via a consensus vote or a multi option preference vote. If the threshold of support were at a sufficient high level, minorities would be protected automatically. Furthermore, any voting would be ethno-color blind. Consensus
democracy is mostly embodied in certain countries like Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Lebanon and Belgium. In this system consensus is an important feature political culture with a view to preventing the domination of any one particular group in political process.

2.4.3.9. Supranational democracy

Supranational Union is a kind of a multinational political union. The concept of supranational democracy was byproduct of Second World War. After dropping of atomic bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, the threat of atomic power started shivering the World Communities. During this time Einstein, the architect of atomic power spoke and wrote frequently in favor of a supranational organization to control all military forces including nuclear weapons. In fact supranational is broad conceptof a loose confederation wherein likeminded political independent sovereign powers together control their war policy in the large interest of all the member units.

2.5. Basic Principles of Democratic System

Democracy is more than just a set of specific government institution; it rests upon a well understood group of values, attitudes, and practices all of which may take different forms and expressions among cultures and societies around the world. Though democracy is basically a government formed by majority, it is the duty of the same government to administer the minority also. Hence the government in democratic system is government for all, but not just for only those who elected the government to power.

Democracies rest upon the following fundamental principles:

2.5.1 Guarantee of Basic Human Rights

Human rights are moral principles or norms,\(^4^0\) which describe certain standards of human behavior, and are regularly protected as legal rights in municipal and international law.\(^4^1\) They are commonly

\(^{40}\) Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Human Rights

\(^{41}\) Nickel, (2010)
understood as inalienable fundamental rights "to which a person is inherently entitled simply because she or he is a human being," and which are "inherent in all human beings" regardless of their nation, location, language, religion, ethnic origin or any other status. They are applicable everywhere and at every time in the sense of being universal, and they are egalitarian in the sense of being the same for everyone. They require empathy and the rule of law and impose an obligation on persons to respect the human rights of others. They should not be taken away except as a result of due process based on specific circumstances; for example, human rights may include freedom from unlawful imprisonment, torture, and execution.45

There is, now, an acceptance among the international community about the centrality of human rights and their importance in democracy and development. The greatest protection of human rights emanates from a democratic framework grounded in the rule of law. As the Commonwealth Expert Group in Democracy and Development stated, “The scope of democracy must…be widened beyond elections, so that democratic institutions and processes facilitate, protect and reinforce the full range of human rights.”

Human rights, as the recognition of inherent and basic individual worth and dignity, are as old as human civilization. An individual attains by birth some rights as human being. The concern for and of human rights has been institutionalized after General Assembly of the UN adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the mid twentieth century.

2.5.2. Separation of Powers Between the Institutions of the State

History has time and again shown that unlimited power in the hands of one person or group, in most cases mean that, others are suppressed or their

42. The United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights
44. Burns H. Weston, Encyclopedia Britannica, Human Rights (2014)
45. Merriam Webster dictionary, 2
powers curtailed. The separation of powers, in democracy, is to prevent abuse of power and to safeguard freedom for all.

The Theory of separation of powers was formulated by the famous French philosopher by name Montesquieu in his famous treatise entitled ‘The Spirit of Laws’. The system of separation of powers divides the tasks of the State into three branches: legislative, executive and judicial. These tasks are assigned to different institutions in such a way that each of them can check the others. As a result, no one institution can become as powerful in a democracy as to destroy this system.

Checks and balances (rights of mutual control and influence) make sure that the three powers interact in an equitable and balanced way. The separation of powers is an essential element of the Rule of Law, and is enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

The first of these three powers, namely the legislative, is the task of the legislature which passes the laws and the implementation of the laws, thus passed, is the duty of the executives. If there is any contradiction and confusion in implementation of laws, it is the duty of the judiciary to intervene and interpret the laws in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution.

2.5.3. Freedom of Speech

Right to freedom of speech as one of the basic human rights is enshrined in several international human rights documents. Freedom of speech (synonym of Freedom of expression)\(^\text{47}\) is the inseparable element of a democratic society. Whether the society is democratic or not, can be defined by the factor of independent press and mass media.

Freedom of speech and expression may bring the societal control over the State authorities. The power of societal control could be attained only if the

\(^{47}\) The synonymous term freedom of expression is sometimes used to indicate not only freedom of verbal speech but any act of seeking, receiving and imparting information or ideas, regardless of the medium used, known in United States law as “symbolic speech: available at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_speech.
society is self controlled. The definition of a self-controlled society is that the society itself shall make its own decisions. And the society can do this in case it is informed in aggregate the open exchange of opinions. Abraham Lincoln, generally, expressed this conception as, “Let the people be aware of the facts, and the country will be calm”. 48 Hence, mass media as an instrument for the exercising of freedom of speech and expression gains importance in a democratic society.

Main functions of mass media are to cover the events, gather and spread information and finally to control the activities of State authorities. It used to be said that the mass media is the fourth power after the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary. The society, in turn, may exercise control over the authorities only in case if it is aware of its actions and if necessary can intervene through voting during the elections if so needed.

In order to specify the role of freedom of speech and expression in a democratic society, it is necessary to show the demands of democracy addressed to mass media: “Press shall criticize the authorities when State officials and politicians make mistakes; news shall stimulate criticizing attitude towards the political course of the authorities; news and entertaining programs shall be defined according to the taste of audience”. 49

2.5.4. Religious Freedom

Religious freedom is an important democratic fundamental right. As per the declaration of the UN General Assembly, “Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship, and observance.” 50


50. UN General Assembly, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (1948)
Without the ability to think, believe, and worship freely, and without the principle of toleration of others’ beliefs, there can be no democracy. Conversely, stopping citizens from exercising their free choice in religion or spiritual belief can only be accomplished through dictatorial power and terror.

In most democracies, freedom of religion has meant the end of religious persecution and mass conflict based on religious differences. Freedom of religion has become a democratic norm. Democratic societies have been generally tolerant of individuals and communities practicing minority faiths without discrimination.

Democracy requires a diversity of views and choices, an environment in which differing opinions can be debated freely. This would be impossible without respect for freedom of conscience and of worship.

2.5.5. General and Equal Right to Vote

One of the most critical ways that individuals can influence governmental decision-making process is through voting. Voting is a formal expression of preference for a candidate for office or for a proposed resolution of an issue. Voting generally takes place in the context of a large-scale national or regional election; however, local and small-scale community elections can be just as critical to individual participation in government.

Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his/her country, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his/her country. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot or by equivalent free voting procedures.  

2.5.6. Good Governance

Good governance requires that all work of the State be informed by fundamental democratic principles underpinning human rights. The five pillars

51. Article 21 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (1947)
of good governance are transparency in decision-making processes, ensuring people’s participation, responsibility in the exercise of power, accountability of the decision-makers and responsiveness to people’s needs, uphold the edifice of sustainable democracy. Anything less will result in despotism and tyranny of power. A human right lies on democracy and governance.

2.5.7. Majority Rules and Minority Rights

All democracies are systems in which citizens freely make political decisions by majority rule. In the word of American essayist, “Democracy is the recurrent suspicious that more than half the people are right more than half time. But majority rule, by itself, is not automatically democratic. No one, for example, would call a system fair or just that permitted 51 percent population to oppress the remaining 49 percent in the name of majority. In a democratic society, majority coupled with guarantees of individual human rights, that in turn, serve to protect the rights of minorities and dissenters whether ethnic, religious, or simply the losers in political debate. The rights of minorities do not depend upon the good will of the majority and cannot be eliminated by majority vote. The rights of minorities are protected because democratic laws and institutions protect the rights of all citizens. Minorities need to trust the government to protect their rights and safety. Once this is accomplished, such groups can participate in, and contribute to their country’s democratic institutions. The principles of majority rule and minority rights characterize all modern democracies, no matter how varied in history, culture, population and economy.

2.5.8. Pluralism and Democratic Society

In democracy, government is only one thread in the social fabric of many and varied public and private institutions such as legal forums, political parties, organizations, and associations. This diversity is called pluralism, and it assumes that the many organized groups and institutions in democratic society do not depend upon government for their existence, legitimacy, or authority. Most democratic societies have thousands of private organization, some local,
Some of them serve a mediating role between individuals and society’s complex social and governmental institutions. Filling roles not given to the government and offering individuals opportunities to become part of their society without being in government.

In an authoritarian society, virtually all such organizations would be controlled, licensed, watched, or otherwise accountable to the government. In a democracy, the powers of the government are, by law, clearly defined and sharply limited. As a result, private organizations are largely free of government control.

In this busy private realm of democratic society, citizens can explore the possibilities of belonging to community free of the potentially heavy hand of the State or the demand that they adhere to views held by those with influence or power, or by majority.

2.6. Overall view of Indian Democracy: Origin and Development

The Rig Veda is so committed to democratic principles and ideals that it has made democracy a deity and aptly called it ‘Samjnana’. R.K. Mukherjee has remarked: “Side by side with the monarchy, there also developed the regular republican type of polity of which glimpses are given in different literary texts -Brahmanical, Buddhist and Jain.” The Mahabharata has also mentioned some republics called “Ganna”. The Jain and the Buddhist texts have also referred to many erstwhile republics and some republican confederations like Vajji (Vriji)

India reigned by Mughals and Rajput’s for much of its medieval history, until its colonization by European powers in the mid-eighteenth century. The world's largest democracy by electorate was created after independence in 1947.

The British rule also was against democracy. It was the Government of India Act, 1935 that laid the foundation stone of democratic rule in India. From 1940 to 1945, the British government was preoccupied with the World War II.
The efforts for giving political freedom to India started from 1946 till it became free in August 1947. The Constitution of free India accepted democracy as the basis for ruling the Country.

After independence, India decided to have democratic political system. This system is characterized by three elements: one, there is a high degree of autonomy; two, economic agents and religious organizations are free from political interference; and three, competition between various orders does not endanger integration but helps it.

The cherished values as mentioned in the Indian Constitution are enshrined in the great words of its Preamble.

In all, one of the objectives of the democracy would be to create a carefree society with economic justice and opportunity to all, a society that is organized on a planned basis for rising of mankind to higher material and cultural levels.

The Preamble of the Indian Constitution clearly states that India is a Sovereign, Secular, Socialist, Democratic, Republic. Sovereignty indicates that India is an independent nation with complete internal and external sovereignty. The authors of Constitution resolved India to be a secular State in which people are free to choose any religion of their own choice and free will. State shall not patronize any particular religion. The citizens have a fundamental right to profess, practice and propagate a religion of their own choice, and also right to reject all religions. The State treats all religions equally and there is no official State religion. The Constitution also declares India a socialist State which implies social and economic equality to all Indian citizens. It also guarantees equal opportunity and equal social status. The government attempts to reduce economic inequality by reducing concentration of wealth. The government in India is democratic which is elected by the people through universal adult franchise. India was constituted into a Republic; the President of Indian Republic is elected by the people through their elected representatives and holds the office for a specific period of time.
Fundamental Rights

The Constitution of India Guarantees to all its citizens certain basic human rights in Part III of the Constitution which are known as Fundamental Rights. The importance of these fundamental rights is clearly stated by Bhagawati J. in Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India52. He stated “The fundamental right represents basic values cherished by people of this country since the Vedic time and they are calculated to protect the dignity of individual and create conditions in which every human being can develop his personality to fullest extent….” Those rights are:

1. Right to Equality (Art.14 to 18)
2. Right to Freedom (Art. 19 to 22)
3. Right against Exploitation (Art.23 and 24)
4. Right to Freedom of Religion (Art. 25 to 28)
5. Cultural and Educational Rights (Art. 29 and 30)
6. Right to Constitutional Remedies (Art. 32 to 35)

Directive Principles of State Policies

Part IV of the Indian Constitution contains a set of directions known as Directive Principles of State Policies (Art. 36 to 51) set out the aims and objectives to be taken up by the States in the administration of country. The concept of welfare State envisaged in the Constitution can be achieved only if these principles are implemented with a high sense of moral duty.

The Indian Federation

Though India is called Indian Union by virtue of Indian Independence Act, 1947, the most striking feature of Indian Constitution is that being federal it acquires a unitary character at the time of emergency. The Constitution contains both federal and unitary characters. The Constitution is written, rigid, and simple and complex in amending procedure, division of power between

52. AIR 1978 SC 597 at p.619
Centre and States, independent judiciary, emergency provision, etc. make India federal as well as Union otherwise called quasi-federal.

2.7. **New Dimensions of Indian Democracy**

India is the world’s largest democracy, but a few have recognized that it is so against the odds. The Indian experience runs against the widely held view that rich societies with large minority populations are prone to ethnic cleansing and civil war. Democracy in India, which entered into the status of a developing country, is economically backward and notoriously diverse and pluralistic society. In spite of all odds it survived all the ups and downs and enters into 21st century with new dimensions and challenges, as stated below:

- The federal States in Indian political structure stated playing more prominent role, while some of the federal units are governed by the same political party as such as in centre; some other States are being administered by the opposition political party which creates confusion at the centre as well as the State level of administration. States are making themselves heard and felt politically and economically more than they ever have in the half-century since India gained its independence from Britain.

- In recent years, the 28 States of India’s federal system have played a more prominent role in India’s public life. Not least has been their contribution to helping India live peacefully with difference. In a world where armed strife has increasingly taken the form of civil war and ethnic cleansing of the 96 recorded conflicts between 1989 and 1996, only five were between sovereign States India’s federal system has helped to keep cultural and ethnic differences within relatively peaceful bounds.

- To compare India’s federalism with multilingual European Union seems more appropriate than the United States federalism. Much like the English and the Italians, the Hindi speakers of north and the Tamil speakers of Tamil Nadu at the subcontinent’s southern tip speak
distinct languages. They share little history and few points of contract. Their traditional rulers, legends, and folk cultures are distinct from one another. Their socio-economic profiles are as different as those of Sweden and Portugal. Bihar is poor and mostly illiterate. Tamil Nadu is prosperous and advanced. No contrast between any two of the 50 U.S. States comes anywhere close. Forty year ago, there seen good reason to fear the Selig Harrison was right to warn that India’s “fissiparous tendencies,” particularly its linguistic differences, would soon lead to balkanization or dictatorship. Today such worries seem unpersuasive. The federal system has helped India to live peacefully with its marked difference.

- The transformation of the party system. The era of dominance by the Indian National Congress has ended. Congress remains a major opposition party, but it now must operate within a multiparty system that includes not only the nationally influential Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) but a host of significant regional and State based parties as well.

- The dominant party system of the Nehru-Gandhi era that led to the formation of congress majority governments was replaced after the ninth parliamentary election in 1989 by a recognized multiparty system and coalition government. The 1989 elections resulted in India’s hung parliament. V.P. Singh’s Janata Party, which held the largest bloc of seats in the 545 member Lok-Sabha became the nucleus of India’s first coalition government. Each of the four national elections since that watershed has led to a coalition government in which parties based in individual States have played a key role. In 1999, for instance, the coalition government that came out of elections was led by Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee of the BJP, which included in its 300 seat majority, out of which 120 members were from individual State parties. The present Nerendra Modi Government won the elections of 2014 with a thumping majority.
A federal Market Economy. Economic liberalization has been marked by decline in public investment and rise in private investment, the displacement of the federal planning commission by the market, and the emergence of the States as critical factors in economic reforms and growth. The result has contributed to a transformation of India’s federal system.

The entire print media way back 1950s or 1960s read all about the big dams, steel mills, and other megaprojects that master planner P.C. Mahalanobis and his colleagues were launching at the national Planning commission. The celebrities of the command economy and the “permit-license raj” where the bureaucrats, administrators, economists, and other experts who were helping prime minister Nehru build a modern industrial economy of which government held the commanding heights. Today, decades after the turn towards economic liberalization, newspapers and magazines feature stories about State chief minister s such as Chandrababu Naidu of Andhra Pradesh, K.C.R. of Telegana, S.M. Krishna and Siddaramaiah of Karnataka, and surprisingly, Jyoti Basu, who until recently Headed the communist Government of West Bengal State followed by Mamata Benarji of T.M.C. These stories described how the chief ministers of various Indian States are traveling the world to meet with business leaders, investors, and persuade the likes of Bill Clinton or Bill Gates to endorse the idea of investing in the future of A.P. Kerala, Karnataka, or Tamil Nadu. Economic liberalization, the dismantling of the permit license raj and an increasing reliance on market has fostered the emergence of the “federal market economy”. But economic liberalization is only of the story. Equally important has been the marked decline in centrally directed public investment, which has reduced the central government’s financial leverage and opened up new fields of initiative of enterprising State governments.
Decentralization of federal market economy: In the 1990s, India’s deficit-ridden central government found that it could no longer afford planned investment. The centers gross assistance to State’s capital formation declined from 27 percent of the center revenue expenditure in 1990-91 to 12 percent in 1998-99. The more alert State governments have moved in to fill the gap by securing private investment and multilateral assistance. The decline of central public investment and the growth of private investment have given the federal States a greatly expanded role in economic liberalization and in promoting investment and economic growth. The use of term “federal market economy” is meant to draw attention not only to the decentralization of the market and the shift to a region and State based multiparty system but also to new patterns of shared sovereignty between the States and the center for economic and financial decision making. This increased sharing shifts India’s federal system well beyond the economic provisions of its formal Constitution. Over the past decade, it has become ever clearer that if economic liberalization is to prevail, State government and their chief ministers must break through the barriers that are holding back economic growth.

A social revolution. In most States and to a significant extent at the center as well, there has been a net flow of power from the upper to lower castes. Indian politics has experienced a sociopolitical revolution that, in Varna terms, has meant a move from Brahman (priests, Intellectuals) towards a Shudra (toilers) raj. Since 1947 Indian society has experienced a social revolution with massive political consequences. Political power in the States, and to a significant extent at the center, has moved from the hands of the so called twice born (dwija) upper castes into the hands of lower castes groups, known in Indian parlance as the “other backward caste” (OBC) and the dalits (former untouchables”).

2.8. Summary

Democracy, a form of government manifesting the theory of popular sovereignty is in existence in one form or other in few of ancient societies. Ancient Rome had a working democracy in their early part of history. The physical structure, in dilapidated condition known as the Forum in Rome is the place where political meeting and votes were held. Democratic system is based on the notion of natural law that human societies should be governed by ethical principals found in the nature. Democracy has taken number forms, both in theory and practice. There are two basic forms, both of which reflect how the whole body of all eligible citizens executes its will. Direct democracy, in which all eligible citizens have active participation in the political decision making process, for example on policy initiatives directly. In representative democracies the whole body of eligible citizens exercises the sovereign power, indirectly through elected representatives.

Some modern democracies that the predominantly representative in nature also heavily rely upon forms of political action that are directly democratic. These democracies, which combined elements of representative democracy and direct democracy, are term hybrid democracies, semi direct democracies or participatory democracies. Example includes Switzerland and some U.S. States, where frequent use is made of referendums and initiatives.

With the basic two democratic systems, there are many other countries have been democratic systems with its variable characteristics including basic principles of democratic system. Constitutional Monarchy, republic, liberal democracy, socialist, anarchist, sortation, consociation, consensus democracy, supranational

Democracy is more than just a set of specific government institution; its rest upon a well understood group of values, attitudes, and practices all of which may take different forms and expression among cultures and societies around the world. Democracies rest upon fundamental. Guarantee of basic human rights, separation of powers between the institutions of the State,
freedom of speech, religious freedom, and general and equal eight to vote, and good governance.

Democracy in its literal form is impracticable in large and diverse population spread over a large geographical unit. In such a situation indirect democracy was to be proved to be successful. When the United States became an independent country in the form of a federation of States with a written Constitution and an elected President, the whole Europe watched in silence with a skeptical vision of its success. It was of a general opinion that such a form of democracy is impracticable in a larger geographical unit which may end up in a disaster. But surprisingly the American democracy proved to be successful and effective.

Though United Kingdom is known as mother of all democracies, it still retained the monarchy in a limited and Constitutional format. Britain had a representative democracy since the 17th century with limited franchise. In France, after the revolution of 1789, though the first French republic was established, it ended up as a strong monarchy under Napoleon I. after a checkered history of revolution and political reforms France turn to be a monarchy. Germany and Italy are no exceptions. Though Germany and Italy, after the movements for their unification, adopted monarchical form of government, passed under the Nazis’ and Fascist regime respectively under Hitler and Mussolini, ultimately ended up as democracies.

World War I and the dissolution of the ottoman and Austro-Hungarian empires resulted in the creation of new nation States from Europe, most of them at least nominally democratic. In the 1920s democracy flourished and women suffrage advanced. After World War II, the democratization of the American, British, and French sectors of occupied Germany, Austria, Italy, and the occupied Japan served as a model for the later theory of democratic regime.

After a long historical struggle for independence, India became an independent country 1947. India is the world’s largest democracy, Electoral participation has been higher than in the United States, elections have been free
speech and fair, governments have altered at the Center and in the States, and free speech and association are constitutionally protected and widely practiced. But democracy is subject to challenge and change. A more prominent role for federal States in India’s political system, the transformation of the party system, coalition government, a federal Market Economy, the center government as regulator, a social revolution, and centrism has held against extremism.

However, all the countries or territories or domains that exist in the world, had their own governments, with their own Constitution, are in one way or other, democratically governed.