Political Science,,,, semester 2

Today our topic is Separation of Powers.

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The French term trias political or separation of powers was coined by Montesquieu. Montesquieu was a 18 th century French Philosopher. His publication, Spirit of the Laws, is one of the influential contributions in the realm of political world.

The Theory

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The doctrine of separation of powers implies that there should be three separate organs of government.In other words, Legislature, Executive and Judiciary each with sets of their respective functions would operate. In his famous book Spirit of Laws,,, Montesquieu states,,

When the legislative and executive powers are united in the same person, or in the same body,, there can be no liberty,,

Basic principles of Separation of Powers

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Following are the basic principles of separation of powers.

1.No concentration of power. Powers should not be concentrated in one hand. If all powers are concentrated in one hand it will result into tyranny.

2.Decentralisation of power is essential.

3.System of checks and balances.

4.Liberty will be endangered if all the powers are combined in the same organ.

5 . Chance of insincere laws.

6. Ineffective justice and defective administration. If the judicial power is combined with executive power and is given to one person or one organ, the administration becomes meaningless. Hence, these powers should be used by three separate organs of the government. It is essential for safeguarding the liberty of the people.