Political Science,,,, semester 2

In our last class we have discussed the theory of separation of powers.

The basic ideas of Montesquieu.

Today our topic is Criticism of the theory of Separation of Powers.

The theory of Separation of Powers propounded by Montesquieu received wide scale recognition all over the world. It had great practical implications. But it also received a fair amount of criticism from various quarters. Major criticisms levelled against the theory are....

1. Absolute separation of powers is incredible idea. Few critics believe that organs of the government are like the organs of human body, they must work in harmony with each other.

2. The theory is based on false assumptions. The theory of separation of poewrs assumes that the powers of the organs of the government are equal in their power but this is not true.

3. Interdependence of the organs. Today the organs of the government to a large extent depend and cooperate among one another.

4 Montesquieu's own misconception about liberty. Montesquieu believed that liberty is not possible without separation of powers. But this view is not right. It's an open fact that many countries like Britain, India, Italy etc which does not follow separation of powers in its exact sense but they guarantee liberty to its people.

5.Separation of powers is not the only requisite. The critics discard the view that liberty can be safeguarded only when there is separation of powers.

The other criticisms are...

6.Doctrine of separation of powers is not acknowledged by modern democratic view.

7. Unhistorical theory.

8. The term itself is wrongly coined. The power of the government is one whole. It cannot be separated into three parts.

 (In the conclusion,,,, you have to give the relevance of the theory)