

The Democratic Movement in the World

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Abstract

This study is related to the democratic movement in the world. The research focuses on the role of the democratic movement and its impact on today for human civilization. This study is prepared about the democratic movement, its achievements, and the essential foundations for democracy. It examines democratic movements from the Magna Carta, the bloodless revolution in Britain, and American independence to the French revolution. The research is reached in conclusion with an attempt to investigate the question of what effect the democratic movement has had on the transformation of the modern era. There were various efforts for the establishment of democracy during the political changes. This is also true that there is standing in the face of problems and challenges from institutionalizing its achievements. Research is focused on democratic movements and their achievements. This study is completely qualitative research in nature. Only secondary material has been used in the study and the available data has been taken out using descriptive and analytical methods.

Key Words: Democracy, Independence, Civilization, Freedom, Representation & inclusion.

Introduction

This study is prepared about the democratic movement, its achievements, and the essential foundations for democracy. We have said that democracy is an achievement of the modern age, but there were democratic practices in the ancient Greek state as well. Those things are not given that much importance today. 'To say that there was no democracy in Athens is like saying that the Wright brothers did not invent the airplane because the device that the Wright brothers used for the first time is completely different from our airplane today,' (Dahl, 1998), though in the modern age, there have been many movements for democracy in the world, which has also led to the development of the theoretical concept of the electoral system. Such movements have brought down the power of big kings around the

world, it has also made the people aware of their rights. It was the democratic movement that brought the dark age to light and made the citizens feel free and independent. Such types of movements for democracy have also taken place in the world. This type of democratic movement has worked to spread awareness throughout the world that it is the people who govern the people and no other owners there and that the people can do their governance. In the democratic movement, the government of the people was done by the people and for that, the electoral system was also developed. Electoral systems have also been implemented here for democratic practice. In the democratic movement, the government of the people was done by the people and for that, the electoral system was also developed. That movement has brought the people to a situation where they cannot live without democracy. 'The time of modern politics is the era of democracy. In a democracy, there is mandatory participation of the people in the political organization and decision-making process. The definition of today's politics is another name for public participation,' (Thapa, 2056). Active participation of the people is also expected in a democracy. The study of people's participation is the root and essence of democracy.

'The word democracy was used by Herodotus in his work 'Isonomia' about 2500 years ago,' (Regmi, 2054). Since then, there has been continuous discussion on this issue, but no consensus has been reached. It is found that different types of people have different meanings of democracy in different times and places. Even though the topic of democracy is being systematically discussed in Europe and America in the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries then it spread throughout the world in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Democracy is also defined based on different thinking. In socialist thought, Mao Tse Tung envisioned a new democracy different from the capitalist, while Western thought called freedom itself a democracy. 'The word democracy has evolved from the Greek word 'Demos Kratos'. The term demos the meaning of democracy is being people and ruling respectively,' (Pokhrel, 2054). Kratos was used for the first time in the Greek city-state in the 5th BC. Even at that time, it was used as a people's rule, and till today, there is no difference in that recognition. Today, it is believed that the basis of democracy is the rule of the people. In modern times, the words inclusive, and socialism are frequently used in democracy. Socialism has been widely used in a democracy that has a basis in political science. It is being used in many ways in the world, it is progressing and advancing in many forms and according to its own belief. When analyzing Abraham Lincoln's definition of 'democracy is a government run by the people, to the people for the people,' (Kafle, 2055), there are some questions that appear in it. Often the government is formed by the people, but the issue of whether those who come to power represent the people in the right sense or not is more important. 'It is also taken in the sense that it is in the name of the people rather than for the people. After all, democracy is the rule of the people, not of a special class, where everyone feels their belonging. Social inclusion is a new concept of racial, gender-inclusive democracy', (Thakur, 2064). Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru says democracy is a philosophy of life. In the democratic system, the power of government rests in the hands of elected representatives, and those representatives become accountable to the people. It is a clear form of government that is controlled and directed by the people. Democracy has been

defined in different ways, not only with freedom and governance. 'Democracy alone is capable of advancing human development more fully than any other possible alternative', (Dahl, 1998). Now democracy is explained as the best option among all the options for the advancement of human beings, not only comparing it with social freedom and politics.

Objectives

In general, democracy means the rule of the people as opposed to autocratic rule. It is believed that there is no tyranny in a democracy and it prevents the creation of an autocratic regime. This study is prepared about the democratic movement, its achievements, and the essential foundations for democracy. It focuses on the issue of democracy, the main movements for democracy, and what valuable inventions are for human civilization. The purpose of this article is to provide a detailed analysis of the theoretical concept of democracy and its practice. There are some questions in this research which are given below.

- To find out what kind of democratic movements has taken place in the world?
- To analyze the valuable opportunities provided by the democratic movement for human civilization.
- To observe the foundations of democracy.

Methodology

This research is related to democratic movements and their achievements and essential foundations for democracy. It is qualitative research in nature. Due to its nature, only secondary material has been used in this research. This article is prepared by using secondary sources only. Under secondary notes, various published writings, documents, and works of experience are analyzed. Data are used to analyzing the descriptive and analytical methods.

Discussion

Democratic movements

Modern time has a great belief in democracy and it is concerned with human rights as a fundamental nature. It has also been a global concept and subject of human interest. Now, the feeling is growing up about democracy that people are safe in this system. Because of that, there have been many movements for democracy those democratic movements are attempting to make human beings happy and advanced. Globally some democratic movements considered the people paramount and remained a guide for other countries of the world. The democratic movements that took place all over the world have an important influence even today. These movements have considered the people that they are supreme in governance. The achievement of these movements is still guided by human civilization. Some of the most important movements which the world has taken as a guideline even today have been discussed here.

The Magna Carta

The movement proclaimed of the Magna Carta is a great achievement for democracy. Magna Carta is the first principle that propounded the principle that no king and government are above the law. In 1215 king John was forced to sign this document due to the pressure of the movement. According to this charter, the king had no control over personal freedom and property. 'From March 1215 to June 1485, Parliament played a major role in the governance of Britain, and Parliament kept a check on the king's autocracy,' (Kafle, 2050). Petition. In 1628, members of Parliament presented a Petition of Rights to Charles I, which provided for Parliament's powers and that Parliament It was mentioned how to maintain control over the king. Thus, this possibility made the parliament as the place of people's representatives paramount.

Britain's bloodless revolution and the supremacy of the people

In 1688, the Parliament of Britain stormed against the autocratic rule of King James II. The bloodless revolution was important for democracy in the world, so it is called the bloodless or glorious revolution,' (Upadhyaya, 2052,). This revolution was a unique product of party cooperation for a common purpose. It was a revolution to ensure the political rights of the people against the authoritarian regime. After this, the citizens of Britain did not have to struggle with the authoritarian power for their rights and the parliament also did not have to get into any dispute with the king. This established the supremacy of parliament forever. This revolution in Britain is considered the mother of parliament and parliamentary democracy. In addition to protecting the civil rights of all citizens of the UK, this provision also helped in the development of constitutional governance. The rights this revolution granted the protection of the people's rights and completely limited the king's rights. Although the British constitution is unwritten, due to the respect for this document and the recognition based on it, it is better than developed countries with written constitutions. Britain's constitutional governance has achieved the best position. This revolution established the Parliament's supremacy and made the king's position legitimate. 'The idea that a king inside the parliament is better than a king outside the parliament' (Upadhyay, 2054). The bloodless movement of Britain paved the way for democracy not only in Britain but also in the world. The influence of the bloodless movement in Britain placed the unlimited power of the king under the control of Parliament, and that belief remains in Britain to this day. Britain, which attaches great importance to customs and traditions, has not written down any major political decisions in the constitution. Such types of great work and their faith have spread the light of democracy and human rights over the world.

America's declaration of independence

The American revolution of independence in 1775 A.D. stirred the freedom-loving people of the whole world. 'This movement led to the creation of the independent nation of America, while Britain's leave-taking from a huge colony like America was a glorious revolution against the autocracy of the king, while the French Revolution was a rebellion by

patriots against a corrupt government. In contrast to these two movements, the American revolution was a struggle against each other in a foreign country,' (Upadhyay, 2052). America was trying to get independence, while France was agitating for independence against the autocratic regime inside the country. But these movements had the same philosophy that freedom and people's sustenance should be done by the people themselves. None of these movements advocated democracy. The main objective of the American independence movement was to exercise the will of the people's representatives in the highest bodies of the nation. At this time, the belief was arising that "there is no taxation without representation", (p. 92). Many people participated in that movement. Those people had no fear of dying, they were ready to die for freedom. All people were guided by an interest that they want to living freely. So, they were ready to give up their lives for democracy in the movement. The American freedom movement has become a guideline for freedom and human rights even today. That movement has a very important contribution to human civilization.

French revolution and democracy

The French State Revolution in 1789 was the result of inequality. The movement was given the mandate to end the feudal system and change the rusted administrative structure through the honorable tradition of the people's representatives. This revolution was oriented towards radical change. It directed the nation towards equality from all kinds of social and economic inequalities. It freed society from religious exploitation. "In France, ninety percent of the population dies of hunger and ten percent of indigestion"(p.115). It is said that

“The French Revolution of 1789 was a movement against social inequality rather than against authoritarian rule. The French aristocracy used many privileges and facilities to suck the people’s blood” (Kafle, 2050, p. 140).

This revolution established the three basic principles of democracy in the world: liberty, equality, and fraternity. The French Revolution was not just an independence movement. This movement sought equality in the production and distribution of the state, equal rights and equal status for all citizens, and equal treatment for all citizens. The French state revolution established all these three basic elements of democracy. Those important achievements of that revolution are beautiful gifts of the modern age and will always remain.

Those movements in Britain, America, and France were not only movements for freedom and equality. Those movements were leading movements for human life, they also led to human civilization and ideals. As a result of them, modern human life has been an age of civilization and morality. After those movements in Europe and the United States of America, there have been many movements for democracy, freedom, and equality in many countries of the world. After the Second World War, many more countries followed this path. Today, many countries in the world, including Nepal, India, and others countries are practicing democracy even though they are dependent countries.

Essential foundations for democracy

The scope of democracy is very broad and wide. Democracy is simply a way of life. ‘Democracy always guarantees various fundamental rights to citizens when an undemocratic system cannot do itself’, (Dahl. 1998). Democracy is not just a system of government but also the observance of conduct, ethics, and discipline. It also has some basic assumptions. A certain environment is necessary for the success of any governing system, the following foundations are necessary for the prosperity and successful operation of the democratic governing system.

1. **Social Nature:** it is believed that there is no discrimination in democracy, but positive discrimination is duly adopted in democracy to ensure the participation of everyone in the mainstream. Therefore, the specific social nature of democracy is the end of privileges. ‘Social freedom is the nutrient for the freedom of all other aspects of society, (Bhandari, 2067). Freedom and equality are considered the cornerstones of a democratic society. Democracy is the spirit of the group or common sense, there is no big or small and there is no discrimination because democracy is a form of equality, and its nature is always social.

2. **High moral standards:** In a democracy, the moral and character conduct of the people should be high. Social ideals and the moral value of the people are the base of democracy, as well as the glorious history of human personality, which is its internal source. The first condition for the success of democracy is the willingness of the people to fulfill their duties that support the courage to fight for their rights. In-activeness towards duty and indifference to rights does not support democracy.

3. **The prestige of economic equality:** The economy is the foundation of every sphere of democracy. There cannot be any imagination of ensuring proper citizens’ rights, and periodic, fair, and impartial elections in the absence of a strong and competent economy (Downs, 1957). Political freedom remains incomplete in the absence of economic equality. In general, Marxists do not limit democracy only politically but consider the elimination of inequality, the majority of workers and peasants to be ruling power and leadership as real democracy. In this regard, Cole says, ‘political freedom in the absence of economic freedom is nothing but an illusion (Regmi, 2053). In fact, in the absence of democracy based on economic equality, political democracy becomes incomplete, isolated, and defective.

4. **Independent journalism:** The media is considered one of the major pillars of any state. It has an important role in clarifying the opinion of the common people which is possible only through independent journalism, however, that is also possible only in a democracy. In today's era, it is necessary to come forward with the independence, clarity, honesty, credibility, and skill of expression of the press to bring the meaning of democracy to the doorsteps of the people. This is also the significance of considering it as the fourth part of the state.

5. Decentralization of power: Centralization of power is against the principle of democracy. Decentralizing power means dividing the power between union authority and local authorities which enhances increasing public participation in society. Democracy in its true sense is the participation of the people in the government. when the decentralization of power is to ensure self-governance for the people, then the government should be decentralized rather than being vested in the center, and the agencies, which will be the pillars of democracy that should be empowered. Adequate local self-government should be given to the people. The common people can feel that they are aware of being around the government so they can understand the responsibility and accountability towards the government.

6. The sense of national unity: Nationality is strong only in unity with equality among diversity. National spirit is the only infallible force that awakens the spirit of unity, tolerance, and co-existence among diversity and binds everyone to the same fundamental formula of unity. The expression of that spirit can only be possible in a democracy. Nationality without democracy is sick and hungry, and democracy is lifeless in the absence of national spirit. The national spirit should be awakened to strengthen democracy. If the regional spirit prevails over the national spirit, both integrity and democracy will be affected.

7. Trained, efficient, and conscientious bureaucracy: The bureaucracy, which is the permanent government of the state, works according to the rules and efficiently, keeping in mind the practical aspects and needs, the positive message will flow to the people, and the positive feeling towards democracy will be strengthened.

8. Active civil society: The role of civil society in enhancing the capacity of the state by eliminating poverty and insecurity should be coordinated. Its coordination should help determine the path of democratic governance of the country. The active and effective presence of civil society should work to protect democracy.

9. Organized political parties: Since democracy is a people-based process, there is a need for more than one well-organized political party to organize public opinion and express it,' (Bhandari, 2067). When the form of national governance is determined by the internal character of the political party, the internal democracy within the party also has an important influence. The party should not be divided, it should be unified, the party should not be bound by personal interests, and it should be based on programs and policies with a broad base and public interest.

10. Democracy should be a way of life: Democracy is the demand of the modern age which is the best system in comparison. 'Democracy is the best option than the other options which we have seen and experienced,' (Dahl 1998). This must be why it has come forward as a way of life. It also inspires the establishment of freedom, equality, peace, and order. Democracy is a unique approach to life. A special type of human nature and social behavior grows in it. In a democratic life, no person wants to treat another person in such a way, which he does not like if it happens to him, so it is said in Sanskrit "atmanah: pratikulani

pareshaasmacheret” (Bhandari 2067. P. 31). Vedic scriptures seem to accept democracy as a way of life by giving clear instructions. Democracy is nothing itself, this is such a resolution is only the product of thinking done by humans for social welfare. The life of a democratic person should be full of virtues such as tolerance, service, charity, respect for opposing viewpoints, respect for human personality, etc. Otherwise, the entire structure will be destroyed. As a result, democracy will be near perfection. To prevent it from becoming a coconut in the hands of the monkey, the conscious citizens of the country must keep warnings day and night. Democracy saves human civilization and human life, but democracy can survive only if human beings also save democracy through human behavior.

Achievements of democracy

Although we use to say democracy is an achievement of the latest twenty centuries, the Glorious Revolution of Britain is of the greatest importance in a modern democracy. Even though that revolution raised the issue of governance, that incident made the people aware that they are free and all people are equal. In Ancient Greece, there was little democracy practiced in a narrow circle, but we have to accept the reality that democracy has become widespread after twenty centuries. The battles related to governance in Britain established the rights of the people, and after that similar movements in other countries have made modern democracy stronger. In the modern era, we have accepted to democracy is the best form of government. The achievements of those great democratic movements in modern society are an important issue. So why democracy is considered the best is an important issue. Democracy is better than all alternatives because its qualities are important. Democracy has given us the most important thing that all people are equal. This is the greatest achievement of the modern age. In a democracy, all citizens are equal, and issues such as equality in governance, equality in power or equality in the consumption of goods, equality in the consumption of natural goods, etc. have entered. Gradually, the issue of people's representatives came up in the government, which led to the development of elections. Due to equality, the issue of punishment for the violation of the rights of others came up for the sake of respect, which led to the creation of laws. Civilization has flowed to the point that we follow all these things. That civilization has made the modern age beautiful. Thus, the democratic movements that took place from time to time made all people equal. There is no slave and master situation here. There is no state of the ruler and ruled. In a democracy, only one opinion cannot rule anyone by suppressing others, because there is no democracy under the pressure. It defies the prohibition. The beautiful seed of democracy sown at that time has left many bright rays of hope for mankind in the days ahead.

Conclusion

The beginning of democracy is based on participation in governance before people's rights. Even today, we consider democracy as a matter of politics and power with a single opinion that is wrong. In the early days, there were democratic movements in Britain, followed by France, America, and many other countries. Those movements were related to

politics and power, though these movements have given human life a level of equality. Those in power have a very important role to play in strengthening democracy. But we must understand that the source of power flow is only a means to protect those rights and the ultimate goal is the welfare of the people. Democracy cannot function without order. It is important to include all communities. Democracy has saved us from the vicious cycle of dictatorial autocracy and one-party rulers. In a democracy, no one can fulfill everyone's needs, but it gives opportunities. Everyone has a big role in following the constitution, laws, and conduct to implement democracy. Democracy has given us the status of equality and it has provided beautiful qualities such as election, representation, rule of law, ethics, conduct, and discipline. Those democratic movements have taught civilization to the people of today and they have drawn a picture of the way that the days ahead will become even more beautiful. Democracy is the need of an hour. Democracy allows for the equality of all individuals. This guarantees that equality rules throughout the nation. It consequently assigns them responsibilities. These responsibilities help children citizens grow as beautiful humans and are crucial to their general development. Democracy is the pillar that ensures a developed, successful, and competent nation that is run through rule of law.

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