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CHAPTER 7

Political parties are an essential feature of politics in the modern age of mass participation. Political parties are an important link between government and the people,the first modern democracy was the united state of America,and it was here that the first parties developed.By the 1820s,there were well-organized parties,and the democratic party,which can trace its roots back to that time,is the oldest political party in the world.in britian,1867was the first year in which there was a reasonably widespread extension of the votes.

According to R.G Gettel,political party is a group of citizens more or less organized,who act as a political unit and who by the use of political power aim at controlling the government and carrying out its general policies.

FEFEATURES POLITICAL PARTIES

1.Political parties always have a broad principles of public policy adopted by its organization,which is referred to as party ideology.

2.political party should be an organized body,because it can only derive strength from an effective organization structure

3.political party capture governmental power through constitutional means.

4.political parties has party manifestoes which guide their conduct during and after winning elections.

5.every political party must be nationa-minded.

FUNCTIONS OF POLITICAL PARTY

1.Political stability

2.Political education

3.Political mobilization and recruitment

4.Interest aggregation

5.Organisation of government

6.Goal formation

TYPES OF POLITICAL PARTIES

1.Ideological party-this is a party formed with political ideology or benefits which for the bases of the party.

2.broker party-this is a political party with its members drawn from upper and lower classes of the society.

3.charismatic party-this is political party formed or led by individual with charisma.

4mass parties-this is a political party that draws its membership from all sections of the society and have wide membership