

# Nationalism

## NATION:-

The term nation is derived from the Latin word 'natio' which means birth or race. The writers have used this word to denote people who have a common ethnic origin. Burgess defines nation as, 'population of an ethnic unity, inhabiting a territory of a geographic unity'. Nation consists of four essential features:

- Ethnic unity
- Geographic unity
- Common language
- Common religion.

Burgess further added, "Nation means a population having a common language and literature, common customs, common consciousness of rights and wrongs inhabiting a territory or a geographical unity".

Kale says, "A nation is a community, members of which are bound to one another by racial, ethnological, religions and linguistic ties".

## FOUR ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF STATE:

For existence of a state four essential elements are very much necessary. These elements are:

1. Population
2. Territory
3. Government
4. Sovereignty

1. **Population:-** State is a human association, and therefore, population is a very essential attribute. State can not be created in a region which has no population. For creation of a state, the existence of many families and group life of other associations is necessary.

In ancient times, 'city-state' was considered as a state. The citizens of these city-state directly participated in the government because it was age of direct democracy. With the development in communication and transportation, there was change in world scene. Large populated states were considered as more powerful as man power was important for development. Further growth of federal states and trend towards nation states, further made population important for state.

2. **Territory:-** is second essential element of the state. Population requires a definite and sufficient territory in order to live in peaceful and affectionate group life. The kind of happy life the human society endeavours and the kind of development it wants, can be made possibly only by continually living in a definite territory.

A population living in a definite portion of territory is necessary for the making of state. Nomads, howsoever they be civilized and cultured, can not make a state. The area of the state should be such that the people living there get sufficient land to live happily. Territory includes minerals, mountains, rivers, lakes, forests, weather and space of a state.

3. **Government:-** State is a politically organized society but for expression of the state, government is very essential element of the state. Government is essential element of a state as will of state is expressed through government. The sphere of government activity could be different but it makes no difference in the creation of state. Government is an important element of state as without government there will be no state but anarchy.
4. **Sovereignty:-** The fourth important element of a state is sovereignty. For any government, the people of an organized and defined territory can not be known as a state until they are independent in order to solve their internal and external problems and to lay down policies related with them. Sovereignty enables a state to become the highest association with supreme power, internal as well as external freedom, internally controlling its population and externally free from any foreign invasion.

## MUST EVERY NATION HAVE A STATE:-

Generally, people use the words state and nation to mean the same thing. But, two terms, state and nation are not same, and difference between state and nation is described as under:

1. **Basis of state is constitution:-** Such a human association, whose members has been residing in a definite territory for ages, whose political aspirations are similar, whose history, tradition, religion, language, interests, friends and foes, ancestors are similar and who are bound together in single culture and civilization, is known as a nation. But for state population, territory, government and sovereignty are necessary; it is having legal status, works under definite limitation under guidance of a constitution.
2. **Government is a necessary part of state:-** For state, government is necessary to carry out the functions of a state but a nation is an unsystematic society not in need of a government.
3. **State is sovereign:-** State has power for the fulfillment of its commands and punishes those who violate them. State has power to give capital punishment, to systematize the existence of voluntary associations and can tax people. While as nation is sentimental, and, such an individual can think of national interest who is filled with this sentiments.
4. **There could be one state consisting of many nations:-** Generally there could be one state on the basis of one nation, but there could be a state consisting of many nationalities.

## WHAT DEMANDS A NATION CAN MAKE FROM ITS CITIZENS:-

In present era, all those who are residents of a state, whether they are the residents of town, city or village are considered as the citizens of that state. Today, it is believed that all have the potentiality to participate in the government and all are influenced by the government, and, therefore treating all the residents equally, citizenship is bestowed on all, men and women. A nation can make following demands from its citizens:-

1. Every individual is certainly the citizen of one or other state and membership of state alone confers citizenship on that individual and he becomes an inseparable part of that particularly society.
2. State demands allegiance from its citizens towards their society or nation. They should feel happy on state's prosperity and bad on its downfall.

3. An individual of any state can be known as citizen only when he gets civil, political and social rights from that state. The states from very beginning bestowed these rights upon its citizens.
4. In return of rights, state demands dutifulness in the citizens. It is necessary for citizens to perform their duties towards the state cheerfully and cooperate in the prosperity and development of the state.

## WHAT IS BASIS OF THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION?

The principle of self-determination has become a well established doctrine today. The right to self-determination is recognized by United Nations organization and is also part of international law. About 1/4<sup>th</sup> people of the world lived in colonial states after the Second World War. Hence, there was a need for a principle that could help them achieve independence and uproot colonial ideologies. UN charter section 1, and 2, seeks to promote cordial relations among states and devise right way for peace respecting equal rights of states and rights to self determination.

The self-determination is nowhere defined but the basis of this right is the fundamental right of man. Generally, it means independent state.

According to H.O. Agarwal, the doctrine of self-determination is divided into two parts-external and internal. First, due to external factors the population of a nation prepares their international political circumstances either by separation or independence or by making a free-nation. Secondly, their rights get recognition in economic, social and cultural domains of internal factors.

In Indian subcontinent free city of Chandemagar, Pondicherry, Karikal, Mahi and Yemen were French colonies, while Goa, Diu and Daman, were Portuguese colonies at the time of independence. These areas got the right to self-determination when they became free from bondages. Infact right of self-determination is recognized by international law, and, implies that the population of a nation have the right to take determination on external and internal factors.

