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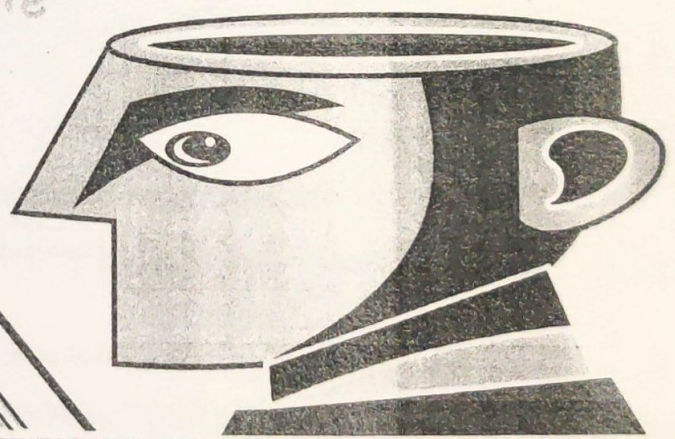
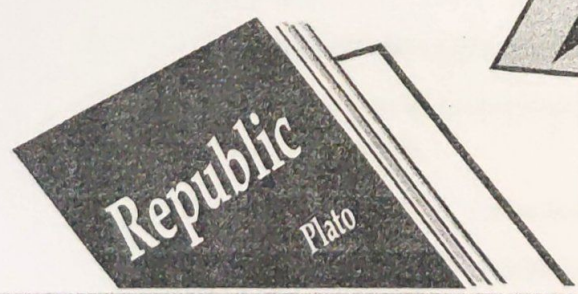
# B.A.

FIRST YEAR SEMESTER - I

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### POLITICAL THEORY AND CONCEPTS

Anarchism Democracy  
Fascism Civil Society  
Welfare State State Sovereignty  
Marxism Polity



**Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR OPEN UNIVERSITY**  
**HYDERABAD**

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# UNIT - 8: DIVINE RIGHT AND HISTORICAL THEORY OF STATE ORIGIN

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## 8.0 OBJECTIVES

After studying this unit, you should be able to:

- identify the theories of Origin of State
- explain the theory of Divine Origin of state
- analyze the merits and limitations of the Divine Origin theory.
- assess the significance of the historical theory of the origin of the state

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## 8.1 INTRODUCTION

An important problem in the study of political theory is the question of the origin of the state. How did the state begin? This question is often asked but it cannot be answered with finality. The reason is that pre-historic people did not leave sufficient information as regards the formation of the state. In other words, the origin of the state remained a mystery as there is no sufficient historical material to understand. In the absence of adequate historical information political thinkers have resorted to speculation and formulated various assumptive theories explaining the origin of the state. Consequently, a number of speculative theories of the origin of the state have come into existence. The most important of them are: 1. The Divine Origin

2. **Kinship:** Blood relationship. It is the most basic principle of keeping individuals into social groups, roles and categories. It plays a vital role in social organisation like family & state.
3. **Matriarchal Family:** The family headed by mother or any other female authority, it is known as matriarchal family.
4. **Patriarchal Family:** If the family is headed by father or any other male authority, it is known as patriarchal family.

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## 8.8 SUGGESTED READINGS

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- Dr. Ch. Jyothsna