

REALIST APPROACH IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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CC-8, SEM -4 (HONS)

- IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY, REALISM IS ONE OF THE DOMINANT SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT , THEORETICALLY FORMALIZING THE STATESMANSHIP OF REALPOLITIK OF EARLY MODERN EUROPE . ALTHOUGH A HIGHLY DIVERSE BODY OF THOUGHT , REALISM IS UNIFIED BY THE BELIEF THAT WORLD POLITICS IS ALWAYS AND NECESSARILY A FIELD OF CONFLICT AMONG ACTORS PURSUING WEALTH AND POWER . THE THEORIES OF REALISM CONTRAST WITH THE COOPERATIVE IDEALS OF LIBERALISM IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,

Realism Starts : Kautilya in India, and Machiavelli in Italy

- **MODERN FOUNDER** : E H CARR, HANS J MORGENTHAU, GEORGE F KENNAN
- **THE BOOKS** : ARHASHASTRA BY KAUTILYA, THE PRINCE BY MACHIAVELLI, THE TWENTY YEARS CRISIS BY E.H. CARR, POLITICS AMONG NATIONS BY HANS J. MORGENTHAU
- **TYPES OF REALISM** : REALISM ARE 3 TYPES
 1. CLASSICAL REALISM –THAT BELIEVE CONFLICT FOLLOWS FROM HUMAN NATURE.
 2. NEOREALISM- THAT ATTRIBUTE CONFLICT TO THE DYNAMICS OF THE ANARCHIC STATE –SYSTEM.
 3. NEOCLASSICAL REALISM – BELIEVE THAT CONFLICT RESULTS FROM BOTH ,IN COMBINATION WITH DOMESTIC POLITICS .NEOREALIST ARE ALSO DIVIDED BETWEEN DEFENSIVE AND OFFENSIVE REALISM

COMMON ASSUMPTIONS :

- THE FOUR PROPOSITIONS OF REALISM ARE AS FOLLOWS.
- 1. **STATE –CENTRISM** : STATES ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTORS .
- 2. **ANARCHY** : THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM IS ANARCHIC .
- 3. **EGOISM** : ALL STATES WITHIN THE SYSTEM PURSUE NARROW SELF –INTEREST
 - STATES TEND TO PURSUE SELF –INTEREST
 - GROUPS STRIVE TO ATTAIN AS MANY RESOURCES AS POSSIBLE (RELATIVE GAIN)
- 4. **POWER POLITICS** : THE PRIMARY CONCERN OF ALL STATES IS POWER AND SECURITY
 - STATES BUILD UP THEIR MILITARIES TO SURVIVE , WHICH MAY LEAD TO A SECURITY DILEMMA.

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3. JOSEPH FRANKEL , INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN A CHANGING WORLD , OXFORD , OUP.
4. H. J. MORGENTHAU , POLITICS AMONG NATIONS , SCIENTIFIC BOOK AGENCY , KOLKATA.

THANK YOU