

What is a Government? How do we govern ourselves?

1 Sam 8:6 - But when they said, “Give us a king to lead us,” this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. ⁷ And the LORD told him: “Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. ⁸ As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. ⁹ Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights.”

Judges 21:25 - In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

Exod 18:17-21 - Moses’ father-in-law replied, “What you are doing is not good. ¹⁸ You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. ²² Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every difficult case to you

Numbers 11:16 -The LORD said to Moses: “Bring me seventy of Israel’s elders who are known to you as leaders and officials among the people. Have them come to the tent of meeting, that they may stand there with you.

Acts 6:3 - Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them

Acts 14:23 - Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

Titus 1:5 -The reason I left you in Crete was that you might put in order what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

Church (Ecclesiastical) Government –

Bishop, Pastor, Elder, Deacon

(Superintendent, Presbyter, etc)

A **government** is the system or group of people governing an organized community, often a [state](#).^[1] It is the political control of a [country](#) of people by a governing body, that has as its purpose the providership of greater organized forms for sake of the people, including [law](#), [law enforcement](#), a [military](#), [education](#), [civil engineering](#), [scientific research](#), and [industry](#).

Anarchy - Anarchy is a situation where there is no state. When used in this sense, anarchy may^[3] or may not^[4] be intended to imply political disorder or [lawlessness](#) within a society. This can be a natural, temporary result of civil war in a country, when an established state has been destroyed and the region is in a transitional period without definitive leadership.

Theocracy – is a form of government in which a [deity](#) is the source from which all authority derives. An ecclesiocracy is a situation where the religious leaders assume a leading role in the state, but do not claim that they are instruments of divine revelation:

Republic – A republic is a form of government in which the country is considered a "public matter" (Latin: *res publica*), not the private concern or property of the rulers, and where offices of states are subsequently directly or indirectly elected or appointed rather than inherited.

Democracy – In a general sense, in a [democracy](#), all the people of a [state](#) or [polity](#) are involved in making decisions about its affairs. Also refer to the rule by a government chosen by election where most of the populace are enfranchised. The key distinction between a democracy and other forms of constitutional government is usually taken to be that the right to vote is not limited by a person's wealth or race

Dictatorship – Dictatorship is a [form of government](#) in which a country or a group of countries is ruled by one person (a [dictator](#)) or by a [polity](#) and [power](#) is exercised through various mechanisms to ensure that the entity's power remains strong.^{[1][2]} A dictatorship is a type of [authoritarianism](#) in which politicians regulate nearly every aspect of the public and private behavior of citizens. Dictatorship and [totalitarian](#) societies generally employ political propaganda to decrease the influence of proponents of alternative governing systems

Monarchy – is a [form of government](#) in which a group, generally a family representing a [dynasty](#) ([aristocracy](#)), embodies the country's [national identity](#) and its head, the [monarch](#), exercises the role of sovereignty. The actual power of the monarch may vary from purely symbolic ([crowned republic](#)), to partial and restricted ([constitutional monarchy](#)), to completely autocratic ([absolute monarchy](#)).

ECONOMIC SYSTEMS...

Term	Definition
Capitalism	A social-economic system in which the means of production (machines, tools, factories, etc.) are under private ownership and their use is for profit.
Communism	A social-economic system in which means of production are commonly owned (either by the people directly, through the commune or by communist society), and production is undertaken for use , rather than for profit . ^{[27][28]} Communist society is thus stateless , classless , moneyless, and democratic .
Distributism	A social-economic system in which widespread property ownership as fundamental right; ^[29] the means of production are spread as widely as possible rather than being centralized under the control of the state (state socialism), a few individuals (plutocracy), or corporations (corporatocracy). ^[30] Distributism fundamentally opposes socialism and capitalism , ^{[31][32]} which distributists view as equally flawed and exploitative. In contrast, distributism seeks to subordinate economic activity to human life as a whole, to our spiritual life, our intellectual life, our family life". ^[33]
Feudalism	A social-economic system of land ownership and duties. Under feudalism, all the land in a kingdom was the king's. However, the king would give some of the land to the lords or nobles who fought for him. These presents of land were called manors. Then the nobles gave some of their land to vassals. The vassals then had to do duties for the nobles. The lands of vassals were called fiefs.
Socialism	A social-economic system in which workers, democratically and socially own the means of production ^[34] and the economic framework may be decentralized , distributed or centralized planned or self-managed in autonomous economic units. ^[35] Public services would be commonly, collectively , or state owned , such as healthcare and education .
Statism	A social-economic system that concentrates power in the state at the expense of individual freedom. Among other variants, the term subsumes theocracy, absolute monarchy, Nazism, fascism, authoritarian socialism, and plain, unadorned dictatorship. Such variants differ on matters of form, tactics and ideology.
Welfare state	A social-economic system in which the state plays a key role in the protection and promotion of the economic and social well-being of its citizens. It is based on the principles of equality of opportunity , equitable distribution of wealth , and public responsibility for those unable to avail themselves of the minimal provisions for a good life.

