



CBSE • CLASS 10 • SOCIAL SCIENCE

POLITICAL SCIENCE

CHAPTER 01

Power-sharing

 CHAPTER NOTES

POWER-SHARING: THE BASIC IDEA

MEANING

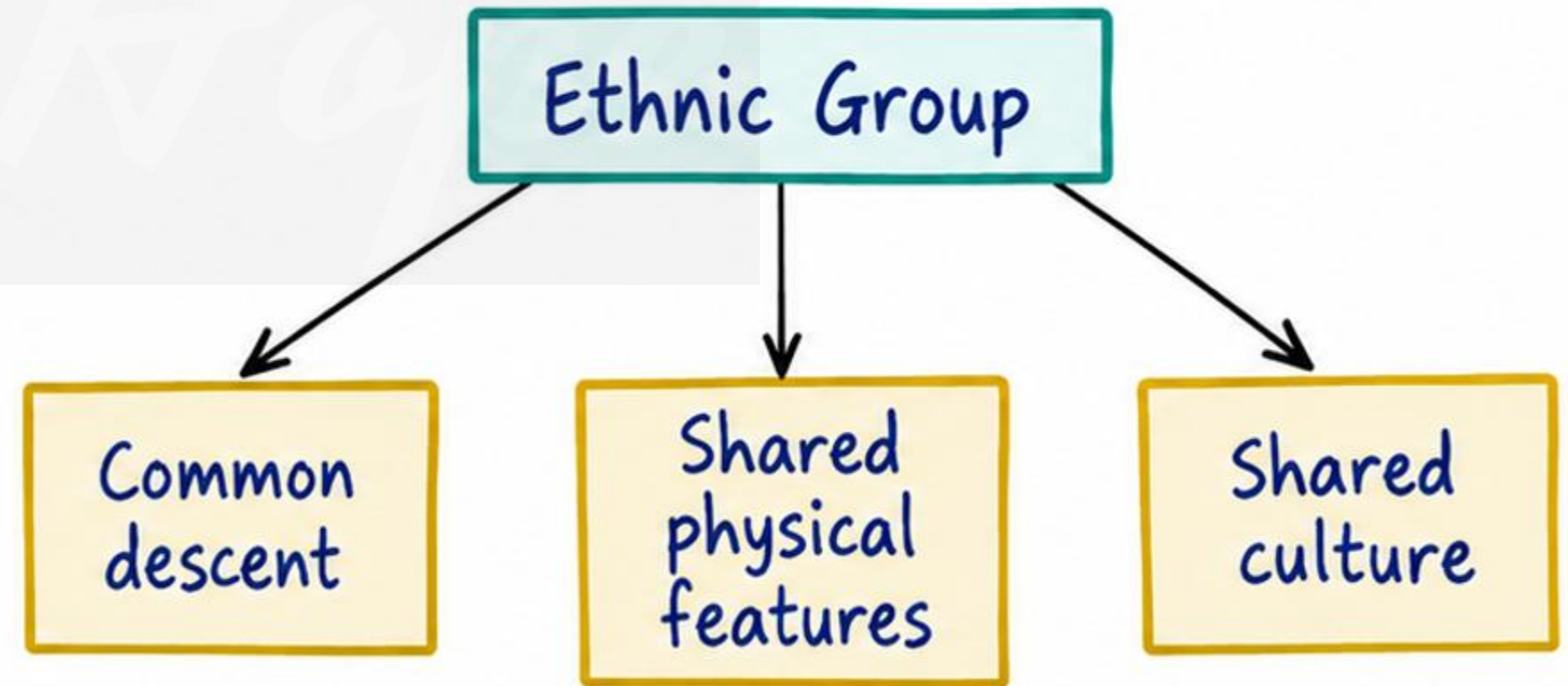
- Power-sharing means distributing power among different organs, levels or groups.
- Power must not remain in the hands of only one person or group.

DEMOCRACY AND POWER

- People are the source of political power. They rule through institutions of self-government.
- People affected by a decision should have a voice in making it.
- Different groups and views should receive respect.

ETHNIC DIVERSITY

- Ethnic groups share a culture, often linked to a belief in common descent or shared physical features.
- Members need not belong to the same religion or nationality.



KEY IDEA

Sharing power can help diverse people live together and participate in government.

BELGIUM: COMMUNITIES AND TENSIONS

Language Communities in Belgium

Community	Percentage of Population
Dutch-speaking	59%
French-speaking	40%
German-speaking	1%

- Dutch speakers mainly live in the northern Flemish region.
- French speakers mainly live in the southern Wallonia region.

Language Communities in Brussels

Community	Percentage of Population
French-speaking	80%
Dutch-speaking	20%

LOCATION

- Belgium is a small European country, smaller in area than Haryana.
- It borders France, the Netherlands, Germany and Luxembourg.
- The chapter describes its population as a little over one crore.

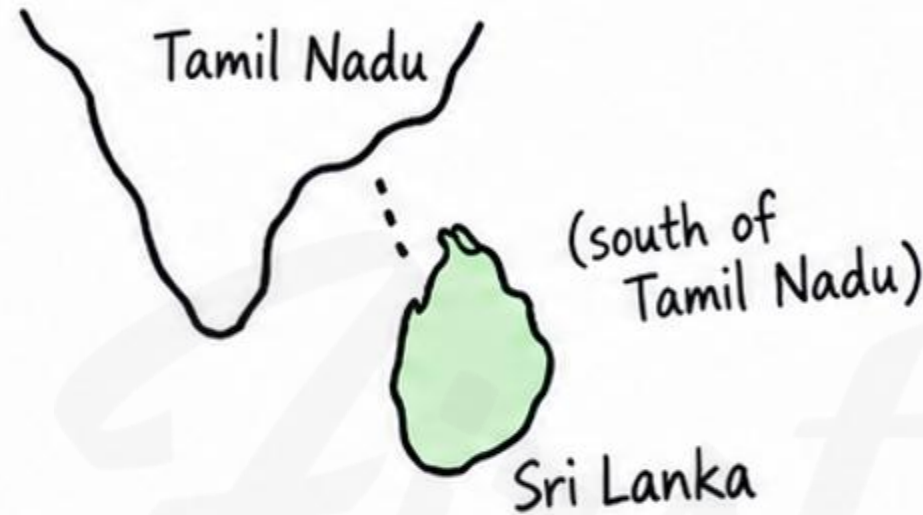
WHY TENSIONS GREW

- The French-speaking minority was relatively rich and powerful.
- Dutch speakers received the benefits of economic development and education later.
- Tensions increased during the 1950s and 1960s.
- Dutch speakers were a majority in the country but a minority in the capital.

SRI LANKA: DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES

THE COUNTRY

- Sri Lanka is an island nation south of Tamil Nadu.
- The chapter describes its population as about two crore.



LANGUAGE GROUPS

Language group	Percentage of total population
Sinhala speakers	74%
Tamil speakers	18%
Sri Lankan Tamils	13% of the total population

- Sri Lankan Tamils are native to the island.
- Indian Tamils are descendants of people brought from India as plantation workers during colonial rule.
- Sri Lankan Tamils are concentrated in the north and east.

RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

- Most Sinhala-speaking people are Buddhists.
- Most Tamils are Hindus or Muslims.
- Christians include both Sinhala and Tamil speakers.
- Christians: about 7% of the population.

REMEMBER

Language and religion are different categories.
Do not add their percentages together.

MAJORITARIANISM IN SRI LANKA

MAJORITARIANISM

The belief that the majority community should rule as it wishes, even by ignoring the wishes and needs of minorities.

AFTER INDEPENDENCE

Sri Lanka became independent in 1948.

- Sinhala leaders used their majority to establish Sinhala dominance in government.

MAJORITARIAN MEASURES

- The 1956 Act made Sinhala the only official language and disregarded Tamil.
- Government policies favoured Sinhala applicants for university positions and government jobs.
- The Constitution required the State to protect and foster Buddhism.

EFFECT ON TAMILS

- Tamils felt that their language and culture were being ignored.
- They believed the government denied them equal political rights and opportunities.
- Trust between the communities weakened.

Majority rule without respect for minorities can damage national unity.

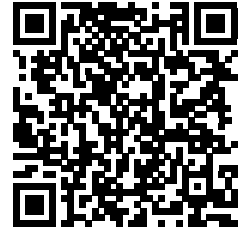


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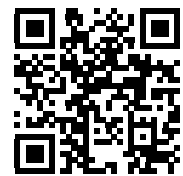


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