

06

DEMOCRACY

CLASS 9 • SOCIAL SCIENCE
PART 1 • CHAPTER 6



**Exploring Society:
India and Beyond**

NCERT

What is Democracy?

VOTE

- Democracy means rule by the people
- People choose their representatives by voting
- Everyone has equal rights and freedom
- Government is accountable to the people



Main Features of Democracy

- Popular participation in decision-making
- Free and fair elections
- Majority rule with respect for minority rights
- Protection of fundamental rights and freedoms
- Independent judiciary and rule of law



Direct and Representative Democracy

DIRECT

- People make decisions themselves
- Suits small communities

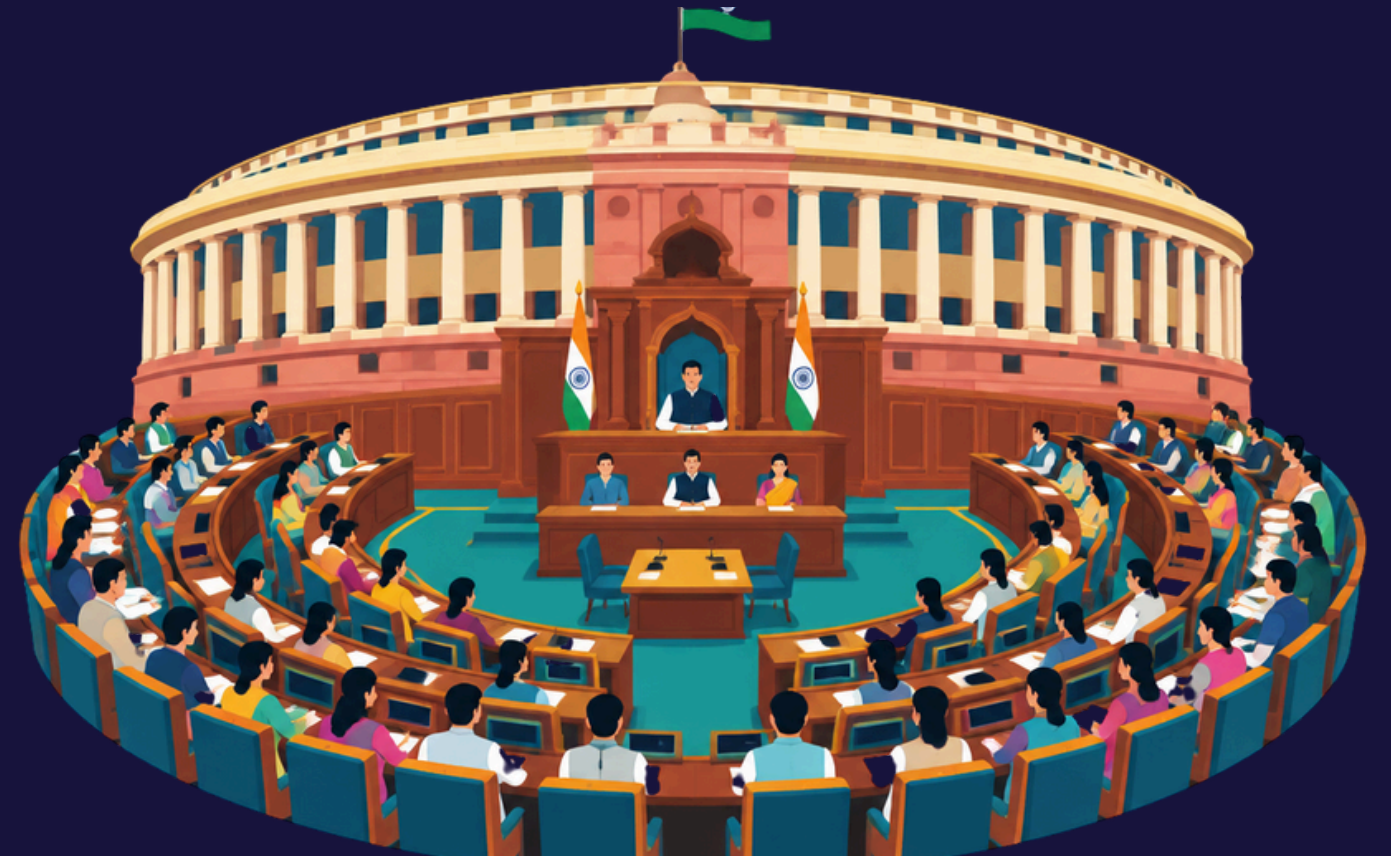
REPRESENTATIVE

- People elect representatives to decide
- Used in large countries like India



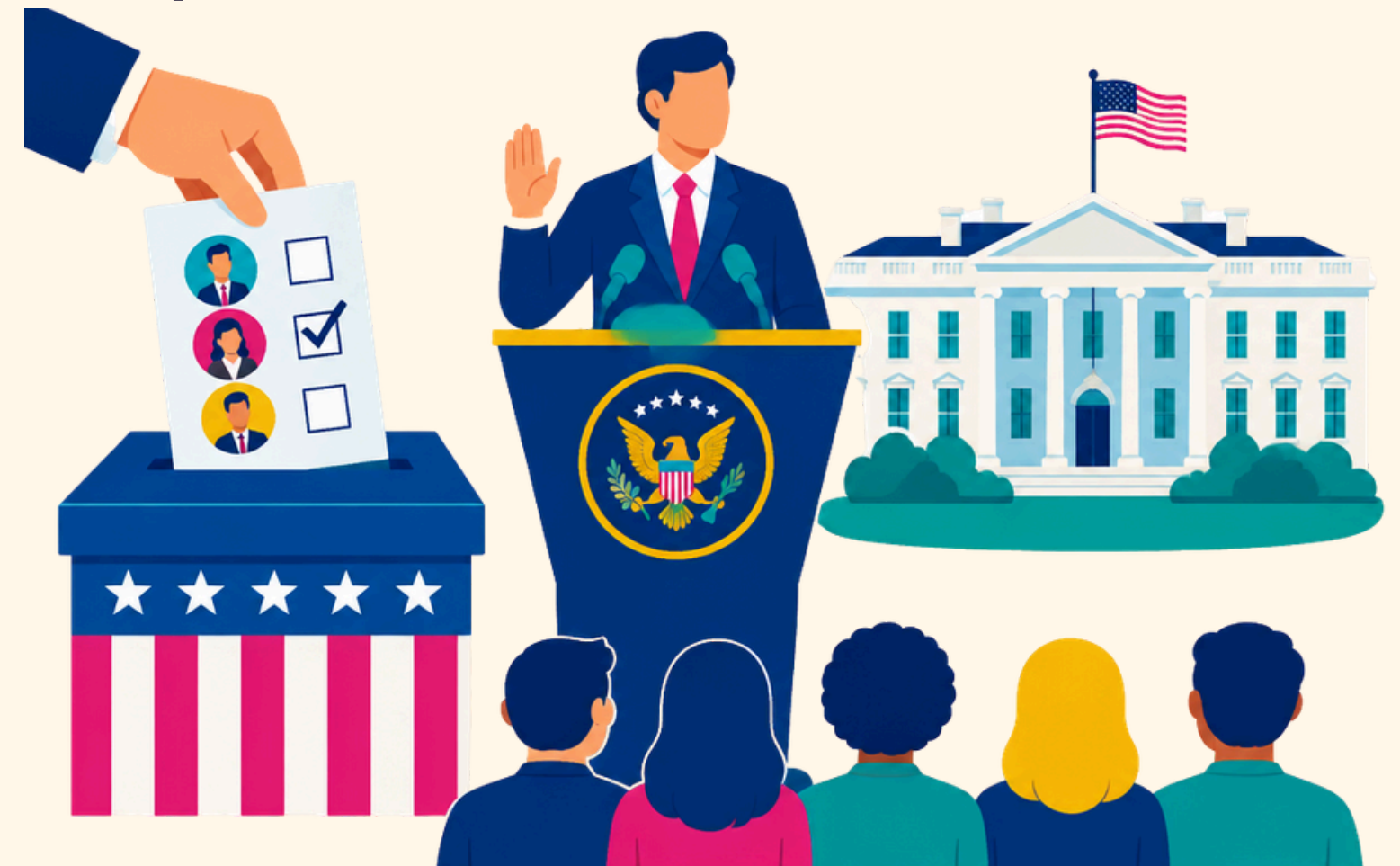
Parliamentary Democracy

- Government is formed by the party with majority in the legislature
- Prime Minister is the head of government
- Members of parliament represent the people
- Executive is responsible to the legislature



Presidential Democracy

- President is the head of state and government
- Elected separately by the people
- Executive and legislature are separate and independent
- Examples: USA, Brazil



Roots of Democracy in India

- Ancient traditions of republics and assemblies
- Ideas of equality and justice in Indian culture
- Freedom struggle emphasized democratic values
- Constitution adopted democratic principles



Democracy and the Indian Constitution

- **Constitution guarantees fundamental rights**
- **Provides for free and fair elections**
- **Establishes parliamentary system of government**
- **Ensures rule of law and equality before law**



Democracy in India Today

- Largest democracy in the world
- Diverse population with different languages, religions, cultures
- Regular elections at local, state, and national levels
- Active participation of citizens in democratic processes



Challenges to Democracy in India

- Social inequalities and discrimination
- Corruption and misuse of power
- Illiteracy and lack of political awareness
- Communalism and casteism affecting unity



Strengthening Democracy in India

- Promoting education and awareness about rights
- Encouraging voter participation
- Ensuring transparency and accountability in governance
- Protecting rights of minorities and vulnerable groups



Democracy Around the World

- Different countries have different democratic systems
- Some countries have parliamentary, others presidential democracy
- Democracy promotes peace, development, and human rights globally
- Challenges include authoritarianism and lack of freedoms in some places



Key Takeaways

- Democracy means power to the people
- It requires participation, rights, and accountability
- India has a unique democratic system rooted in its history
- Ongoing challenges must be addressed to strengthen democracy
- Democracy is vital for justice, equality, and freedom everywhere

