

Key Stage 4

Political Parties & their role in Parliament

Lesson Plan

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Political Parties and their role in the Parliament

Objectives

By the end of the session, students would be able to:

- Understand the functions of a political party
- Understand the roles of parliamentary leaders in the People's Majlis
- Understand the importance of a multi-party system in a democracy

Curriculum Link

Key stage 4 Social Studies Syllabus, Strand 4: Governance and Citizenship, Sub-Strand: Elections and political parties

GC 3.1: Demonstrate awareness regarding the electoral process and the place and role of elections in the Maldives

Success Criteria

Students will be able to:

- Explain the importance of political parties in a democratic society
- List out various roles of political parties in the parliament

Setting or Resources required

- PPT Slides
- White board
- Bristol board
- Markers
- Fact sheet

Procedure

Introduction (5 minutes)

Show some logos of registered political parties in the Maldives. Ask the students to name the ones they know. Ask the students to if they know the difference between major and minor parties. Ask how are they differentiated? (Major parties would include more than 10,000 members, while minor parties would have less than 10,000 members.)

Some registered political parties in Maldives:

- Maldives democratic Party
- Peoples National Congress
- Jumhooree Party,
- Progressive Party of Maldives
- Maldives development Alliance
- Adhaalath Party
- Dhivehi Rayyithunge Party
- Maldives Thirdway Democratic
- Maldives Reform Movement Maldives National Party

Discussion (15 minutes)

Using the PPT, discuss about the general concept of political parties and its functions in a democratic society. Show a diagrammatic representation of Majlis members in relation to the different political parties to which they belong.

Explain how majority and minority leaders are selected. (Refer to Factsheet)

Explain who a parliamentary leader is and his or her role in the Majlis.

Teacher could show pictures of majority leader, minority leader, and parliamentary leaders of different parties in the present Majlis

Activity (20 minutes)

Divide the students into groups of 6 or 7.

Distribute bristle boards and markers to each group.

Tell students that their task is to come up with an idea to form a political party. They have to make a poster for their party, to include the following;

- Name and logo for their party, with a colour to represent them
- Slogans, if any
- Basic principles and philosophies (their values or what they stand for)
- Select party leaders like president, Vice President, Parliamentary Leader, etc

Ask the groups to present their work to the whole class. Allow feedback and reviews from peers.

Closure (5 minutes)

Ask students to describe their experience of belonging to a party.

Were party members committed and motivated? Was input shared or dominated by few individuals?

Wrap up by emphasizing the importance of clear and respectful communication in democracy