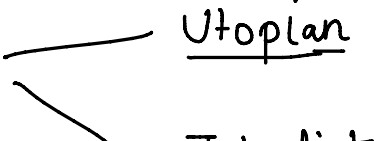
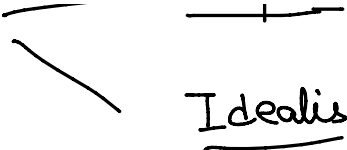


## Western Political Thought

Political thought is the study of questions about power, justice, rights, law and other issues pertaining to governance.

Plato - philosopher, scholar.

- > brilliant disciple of Socrates
- > original name - Aristocles
- > Father of Political Philosophy
  - ↳ what constitutes a good political life.
- > He talked about :-
  - 1> Ideal State
  - 2> good political life
  - 3> ethics of political class
  - 4> Plato 

4 > Plato  Idealist  
[ Ideas are real ]

Biggest contribution —

' Theory of Philosopher King '

In an Ideal State, philosophers are rulers.

Plato said :

" Until Philosophers are rulers or rulers leave philosophy, there is no end to the predicament of human life. "

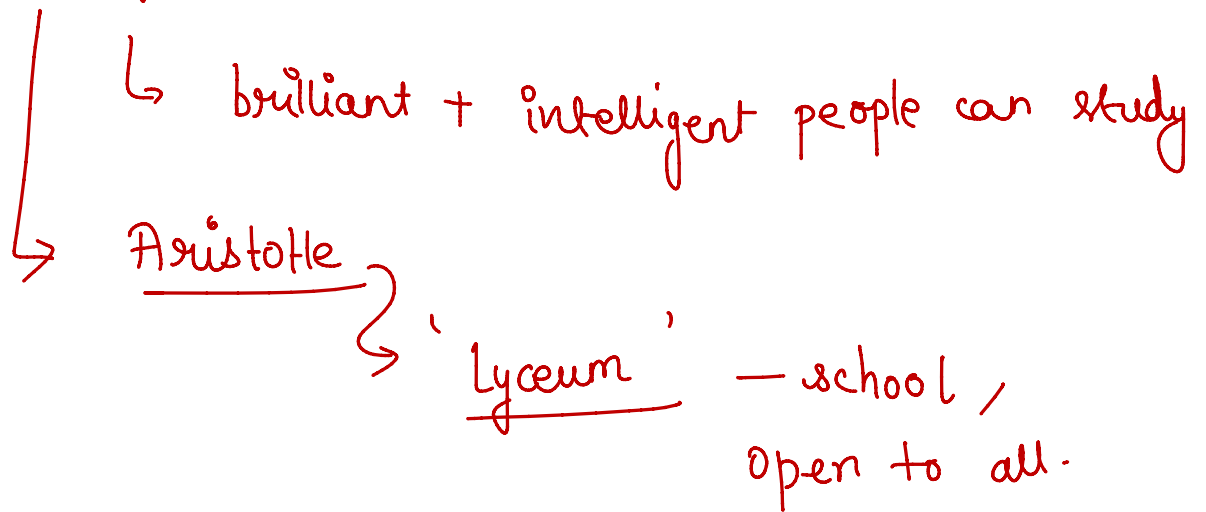
Plato's ultimate goal —

> help people to reach a state of EUDAIMONIA  
fulfilment.

36 books

- 1) The Republic
- 2) The Symposium
- 3) The Laws
- 4) The Meno
- 5) The Apology
- 6) The Statesman.

'Academy' — Plato



## Plato's Theory of Ideas

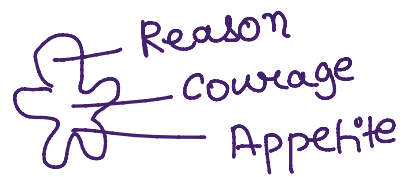
- 1) Theory of Soul
- 2) Allegory of Caves.

## 2) Allegory of Caves

'Reality is the shadow of Ideas.'

elements of Soul

### • Theory of Soul



3 categories of people

Men of Gold

Men of Silver

Men of Copper

Reason  
dominates

Courage  
dominates

Appetite (power  
dominates prestige)

No perfection

→ Not every soul can  
comprehend in equal sense

Plato:

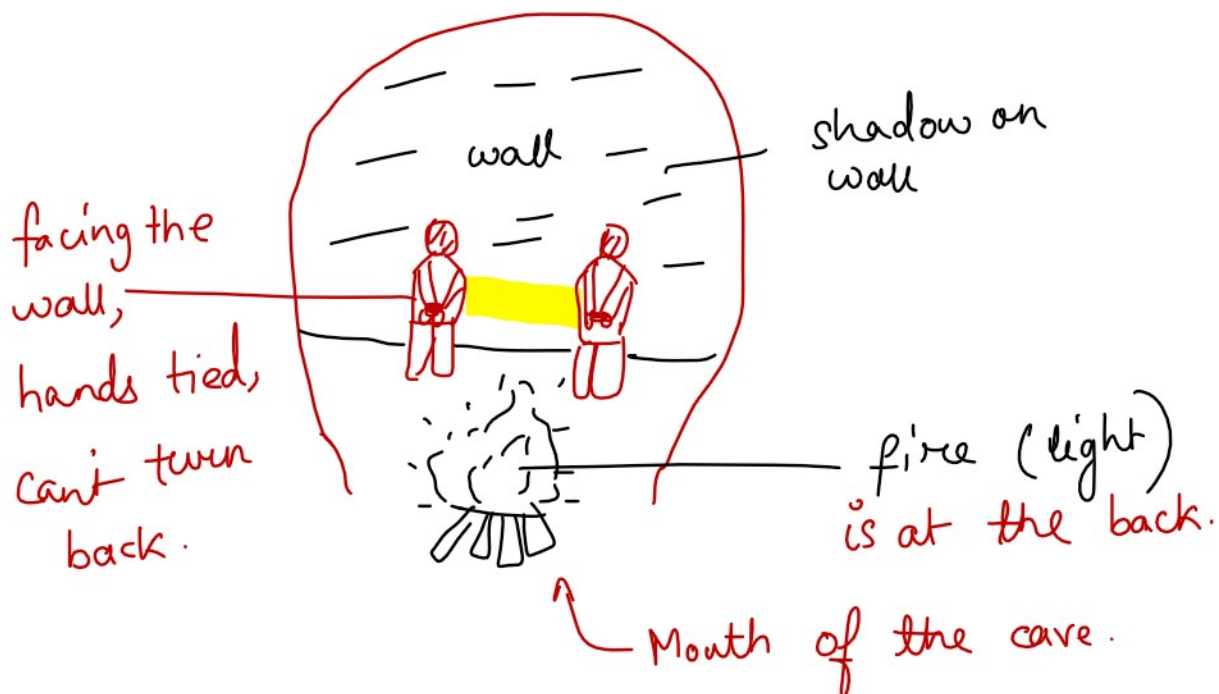
Plato:

"Only those who have reason can establish kingdom of God on Earth."

## Allegory of Caves

↳ Aim of this concept was to show a difference between knowledge and illusion of knowledge.

↳ Reality is the shadow of ideas.



↳ Mouth of the cave.

men = ignorance.

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Confucius (551 BC - 479 BC)

- > Kong Fuzi / Master Kong
- > First teacher in China
- > founder of Ru school of Chinese thought

Constant  
Five Virtues  
^

- > Benevolence
- > Propriety
- > Justice / Righteousness
- > Knowledge
- > Integrity

Three ways to get wisdom:

- > Reflection (noblest way)
- > Imitation (easiest way)
- > Experience (bitterest way).

work: Lunyu / Analects (collection of teachings)

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### Aristotle

- > 'father of Political science.'
- > Logic and scientific thinking
- > Lyceum.

His ideas :-

- 1> State was natural, prior to family and individual.
- 2> State should be large enough to guarantee self subordination and equality.

self sufficiency and small enough to ensure good governance.

3) State is highest human associations.

4) Best practicable form of government is Constitutional government, — ruled by middle class (Polity)

5) He defended slavery system.

↳ 1) Conventional (Prisoners of war)

2) Natural (lacked reason)

↳ He did not want to give citizenship to : slaves, old, young, women and working class members.

### Main works

1) Politics (350 BC)



- 2> The Nicomachean Ethics (around 340 BC)
- 3> The Constitution of Athens (328 BC - 322 BC)
- 4> The Eudemian Ethics: