

Que 7. A theory of public administration in our times was a theory of politics too. Comment.

The above statement by John Gaus challenges the Wilsonian Politics - Administration dichotomy.

During Nicholas Henry's IVth Paradigm (1950-70), a crisis of identity occurred as the area of study ^{of pub ad} overlapped with the ~~as~~ study of politics. Pub Ad in fact was seen as an area of specialisation of politics, the 'Focus' of the discipline thus got blurred. Dwight Waldo in his NPA approach also reflected the dichotomy.

A similar trend was visible in the practise of Pub Ad in ~~adms~~ the form of 'Politicisation of Bureaucracy' visible in the form of a "committed Bureaucracy" in Indian admin during the rule of Indira Gandhi.

The statement was thus justified as per the time ~~of~~ and context of its making.

However, distinction of pub ad from politics followed this crisis era and an individual identity was established. Thus came in the concepts of 'Political Neutrality' and 'Anonymity'

The contemporary phenomenon of the Governance Era have again blurred the difference between the two owing to Delegated legislations, Administrative Law etc. The emphasis today is on greater cooperation between the Permanent & Political Executive to achieve the aims of the state.

The theory of public administration ~~is~~ can thus best be studied as per the time and context of its formulation.

Que 8. Minnowbrook conference in USA identified four features crucial to NPA. Explain.

Minnowbrook conference I of 1968 under the chairmanship of DWIGHT WALDO emphasised on the 'organic character' of Public Admin and it was an aim towards humanisation, democratisation and decentralisation of administration.

The four features crucial to NPA as identified in MCI are :

RELEVANCE

The study of admin should be in accordance with problems & issues faced by the society. It should be pragmatic and closer to equality.

VALUE

Emphasis was on 'publicness' of public admin with the orthodox value of economy, efficiency and effectiveness giving way to citizen centricity, responsiveness, participation.

EQUITY

organisational participation, democracy within bureaucracy and Representative Bureaucracy were the central tenets to promote equity.

CHANGE

Socio-economic changes should be brought in at the initiative of the admin and for the aims of an equitable and prosperous society to be attained.

The values advocated by NPA are still relevant in contemporary admin as there is growing emphasis on reducing inequalities (economic + social), respond to societal needs (law on mob lynchings) and initiatives like Swachh Bharat Mission to bring about 'positive change' in the society.

NPA is thus akin to developmentalism.

Que 9. Wilson is considered as Father of Public Admin. Critically examine.

Wilson through his article of 1887 (Study of Admin) made a persuasive point towards the need for a separate discipline of Public Administration and is credited with the title of "Father of Public Administration".

Though he did not give any concrete theory of Pub Ad. he has made immense contribution to the field :

a) In his outline of evolution of state, he emphasised on the need for a separate, regular study of admin.

b) He advocated Politics - Administration Dichotomy as the nature of two are very different.

c) He was the 1st comparativist as he preached for adoption of best practises of the European admin in the US admin.

d) advocated 'Administrative Ethics' and included a broad range of ethical obligations to be considered by administrators.

<u>Politics</u>	<u>Admin</u>
• dialogues.	• scientific
• bargains	• technical
• value	• fact
• vague	• specific
• abstract	• well defined
• general	• defined
• law-making	• law-enforcing

However, scholars of Public Admin contested this status of Woodrow Wilson as they believed that many imp. scholars had made equally imp. contribution to the discipline, much before him. (Kautilya, Confucius etc.)

He is also criticised for his attempts towards politicisation of admin later in his career.

Such criticisms, however cannot disregard the contribution & the Impact of his essay, which finds relevance even in contemporary times. He is thus rightly called as the Father

of Public Administration and the fatherhood was in fact bestowed late on him (during 1950s).