Socialism

- Intro
  - Historical overview
    - Plato's Republic
    - 19th century
      - Industrial capitalism
      - Workers - poverty, unemployment, disease
      - Radical alternative
        - Experimental communities based on sharing and cooperation
          - Charles Fourier
          - Robert Owen
        - Class struggle as laws of history
          - Marx
          - Friedrich Angel
    - Late 19th century
      - Working class conditions improved
        - Power of trade unions
        - Working class political parties
          - Right to vote
        - Adopted legal, constitutional tactics
      - Revolution Vs Ballot Box
        - Revolution
          - 1917 Lenin
        - Social democracy
          - Reformist socialism
    - Second half 20th century - after WW -II
      - Europe
        - West ward expansion of red army
        - Warsaw Pact 1947
      - Asia
        - Based on anti colonial struggle rather than class struggle
          - Potent fusion of socialism and nationalism
        - China, North Korea, Congress in India
      - Arab
        - Based on moral principles of Islam
      - Africa
        - Communal value of traditional tribal life
      - L. America
        - Against military dictatorship, U.S. imperialism
    - Late 20th century
      - Major setbacks
        - Fall of Berlin Wall
          - 1989
        - Disintegration of USSR
          - 1991
        - Economic reforms in China
          - 1970s
        - India & developing
          - LPG
    - Early 21st century
      - Bernie Sanders, Syria in Greece
        - 2008 economic crisis
          - Anti establishment, against austerity
    - Socialism
      - Opposition capitalism
        - An attempt to provide more humane alternative
    - Variety
      - Why
        - Greater appeal
          - Mass poverty
          - Near to cultural values
      - Means
        - Communism- Revolution
          - Social democracy - gradualism
      - End
        - Classless, stateless
          - Reducing inequality, poverty
      - Socialism is like a hat that has lost its shape
        - As everyone wears it
- Core Themes
  - Community
    - Human beings as social creatures capable of overcoming social and economic problem
      - By drawing on the power of community rather simply individual effort
    - Human nature
      - Liberals
        - Fixed at birth
          - Nature
            - Atomistic individual
              - Self interested & self sufficient
      - Socialist
        - Malleable, shaped by experience and circumstances of social life
          - Nurture
            - Inseparable from society
              - Embedded
  - Cooperation
    - Human as social animals
      - Natural relationship is
        - Cooperation rather than competition
    - Relationship
      - Liberal
        - Motivated by material incentive
          - Talent and Hard-work - rewards
      - Socialist
        - Moral incentive
          - Common good, sympathy
      - Balancing both - social democracy
  - Equality
    - Defining feature
      - Social equality
        - Equality of outcomes
    - 3 dimensions
      - Inequality is the result of unequal treatment by society
        - Rather than unequal endowment by nature
      - If people live in equal social circumstances
        - Cooperation & solidarity
      - Need satisfaction
        - Basic necessities
          - For fulfilment and self realisation
    - Marxist and social democrats
      - Marxist
        - Absolute social equality
          - Abolition of private property
            - Centralisation of productive wealth
      - Social democrats
        - Relative social equality
          - Redistribution of wealth through welfare state and progressive taxation
  - Class Politics
    - Marx
      - Principle actors history
        - Historical materialism
          - Irreconcilable conflict
    - S.D.
      - Social amelioration
        - Class harmony
  - Common ownership
    - Wealth is produced by collective effort
      - Be owned by community
    - Private property
      - Morally corrupting
        - Competition
          - Conflict and instability
    - Marx & Engels
      - Self management in classless society
    - Lenin, Bolshevik
      - Nationalisation & centrally planned economy
        - State collectivism
        - Common ownership as state ownership
          - State socialism
    - S.D.
- Social Democracy
  - Post 1945
    - Selective use
      - Mixed economy
        - State as an instrument
    - Social democratic consensus in west
  - Compromise with market and state
    - Capitalism is the only reliable means of generating wealth
      - But morally defective means of redistribution
        - Tendency towards poverty and inequality
    - Defect can be rectified through
      - Economic and social intervention
    - Social change through peaceful and constitutional methods
  - Types
    - Ethical socialism
      - Influence by moral and religious beliefs
        - Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself
        - Universal brotherhood and respect
    - Reformist socialism
      - Taming capitalism rather than abolishing
      - Fabian socialism
        - Sydney Webb
          - George Bernard Shaw
        - Roman General Fabius Maxim
          - Patient and defensive tactics against Hannibals
      - Enlightened section of middle class
        - Create awareness
          - diffusion of socialist ideas
      - Spread of democracy guarantees
        - Ultimate victory of socialism
      - "Inevitability of gradualism"
      - State will respond to working class interest
      - Edward Bernstein
        - Revisionism
          - Evolutionary socialism
          - Revolution is not possible
            - Improvement in workers situation
          - Capitalism became increasingly complex
          - Wider ownership of wealth
            - Joint stock companies
              - Shareholders
          - Increased middle class in numbers
            - Neither capitalists nor proleteriate
          - Workers majority and right to vote
            - Parliamentary road to socialism
      - UK Labour Party
        - "Principle of competition when possible,
          - Planning when necessary
      - Objectives
        - Mixed economy
        - Economic management
          - Keynesian
        - The welfare state
    - Managerialism
      - Antony crosland
        - New class of managers, technocrats, experts
        - Ownership of wealth divorced from its control
        - Managers are responsible for day to day administration
          - Concerned with industrial harmony and public image
- Syndicalism
  - Emile Poughet
    - State led by workers
  - Economic state
    - State - confederation of workers union
  - Violent
- Guild socialism
  - GDH Cole
  - Features
    - Democracy in industry
      - Management
    - Functional representation
      - + territorial representation
    - Functional Parliament
      - Territorial parliament
- Contemporary relevance
  - Francis Fukuyama
    - Thomas Picketty
  - Legitimacy crisis 2008
  - Highlight inadequacies & ensure capitalism remain humane

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