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Behavioral Approach

The behavioral approach is a very broad approach like an umbrella, it covers the approaches which reject the traditional normative approach and advocate a scientific study of politics as an aspect of human behaviour. The primary focus in this approach is on the study of human political behaviour. The stress is upon the use of empirical scientific method of study which advocates an interdisciplinary focus, which stands for a study of politics with the help of knowledge of other social science subjects.

Characteristics of behavioural approach

- Study of human political behaviour
- Empirical methods.
- Interdisciplinary focus
- Scientific theory of politics.

Assumption of Behavioural Approach according to David Easton

- Regularities on human behaviour
- Verification of all
- Techniques for data collection
- Quantifications
- Use of mathematical and statistical methods
- Value free study of politics or value neutrality
- Systematization.

Limitations of Behavioural Approach

- Human behaviour as the object of study is always bound to be problematic and fruitless.
- All effects of human behaviour cannot be observed and stated in empirical generalizations.
- Behavioural approach in political science is dependent upon other social sciences particularly physiology, sociology and anthropology.