POLITICAL ECONOMY OF NATURAL RESOURCES


1. Provide the definition of a rentier state.

2. Explain the difference between “allocation state” and “production state”.

3. What does “neo” patrimonialism mean?

4. Loyalty, trust, patronage and clientelism dominate political process and policy decision in the two cases according to the authors. What are the advantages and disadvantages of such political culture? What are the possible alternatives in the case of Kazakhstan?

5. The authors argue that “NGOs manage to play a growing role in the political system and in society than opposition parties” in two countries (pp.116-117). Agree or disagree with the statement and explain why.

6. Discuss whether and why diversification of industrialization is important for a country’s development. What are the major barriers to achieving it?

7. Explain “instrumentalized benefits”. How is it linked with natural resources?

PART II: DISCUSSION TOPIC:

1. What do you think the main message of the article is? Present any major points/emphasis of the authors that you strongly agree or disagree, and explain why.