

Forms of Governance

Some of these descriptive forms are obviously overlapping and some are proposed or predicted. Some are merely termed as descriptive pejoratives due to observed realities in actual current governance albeit only partially employed in a larger system e.g. American Republic which incorporates several listed forms below. The list below is certainly incomplete. I left off one form of governance which crossed my viewing called “timocracy,” which is a rule by only the honorable and since its inclusion would have made theocracy the penultimate form on my list, I deleted it so as to end the alphabetical list with the ultimate supreme Kingdom rule of the eternal, immutable, almighty, righteous, loving, longsuffering, sacrificial, and redeeming God.

1. Adhocracy: Arbitrary disorganized rule.
2. Algocracy: Rule by ~~Al Gore~~. Rule determined by algorithms. BTW, after Al Gore invented the Internet, he got a rock band together and named them the “Al Gore Rhythms.”
3. Anarchy: No rule – each self-governed.
4. Anocracy: Rule where power is not vested in public institutions (as in a normal democracy) but spread amongst elite groups who are constantly competing with each other for power. Examples of anocracies in Africa include the warlords of Somalia and the shared governments in Samaya and Zimbabwe. Anocracies are situated midway between an autocracy and a democracy.
5. Aristocracy: rule by the renowned, powerful wealthy class.
6. Bankocracy: Rule by banks
7. Bureaucracy: Rule by non-elected politicians (weasels).
8. Corporatocracy: Rule by corporations
9. Cyberocracy: Rule by machines e.g. network like the fictional Cyberdyne Systems in *The Terminator* movie series.
10. Demarchy: Rule by eclectic group of randomly selected individuals from a given area, not unlike jurors selected from an accused person’s peers.
11. Democracy: Rule by majority e.g. two wolves and a sheep deciding what’s for dinner.
12. Electocracy: Rule by an electorate w/o constituency
13. Ergatocracy: Rule by the working class which produces economy’s life blood.
14. Geniocracy: Rule by those who meet determined criterion for office e.g. minimum standards e.g. IQ tests, knowledge of civics, economics, morality, etc.
15. Isocracy: Rule whereby each has equal power.
16. Kakistocracy: Rule by the worst and least qualified.
17. Kleptocracy: Rule by the corrupt elite who redistribute wealth from citizens to themselves.
18. Kritocracy: Legislative rule by judges.
19. Magocracy: Rule by magicians, sorcerers, witches, etc.
20. Meritocracy: Rule by those who have talented and who have achieved production; those who have proven performance and productivity.
21. Monarchy: Rule by succession of monarchs for life and usually indicative of bloodlines.
22. Netocracy/Nepotocracy: Rule by nepotism i.e. family/good ole boy associations.
23. Nomocracy: Rule by rational/logical laws and civic right. Perhaps not unlike or at least overlapping empirical Natural Law as acknowledged in our founding documents. It is opposed to theocratic Laws which necessitate divine direct revelation e.g. The Decalogue.
24. Ochlocracy: mob rule
25. Oligarchy: eclectic group of individuals selected from the erudite, famous, wealthy, powerful, and influential.

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26. Particracy: Rule by dominant party
27. Plutocracy: Rule by the wealthy
28. Stratocracy: Rule by military
29. Technocracy: Rule by technical experts in sciences, engineering, etc.
30. Thalassocracy: Maritime rule by e.g. sea empire
31. Theocracy: Rule by the divine being where there is no separation of church and state but God directly issues the Laws, Priesthood, Orders, Institutions, etc. Those holding offices must meet the revealed criteria of God. Israel was governed by a theocracy prior to the incorporated monarchy. Adam and Eve were under a theocracy where, before sin, they needed no church or state, sacrificial system, or executive of punitive legislation. The Law of God is eternal as it is the transcript of God's heart and essence of character. Therefore, Jesus simplified a personal theocracy in loving God first and neighbor second. The Law is fulfilled in love (Ro. 13:10) – which is not coincidentally positioned after vv. 1-7!