

# Government/Civics Domain

## Sixth and Seventh Grade Social Studies



# **Resources**

**Teacher Notes (6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>)**

**Frameworks**

**Curriculum Map**

**Videos- Unit 1, Middle School,  
High School, Concept Wall**

**Southern Center Materials**

**OAS (in the works)**

# Government/Civics Domain

## Sixth and Seventh Grade Social Studies



# **Compare & Contrast Various Forms of Government**

**Describe the ways government systems distribute power: unitary, confederation, and federal**

**SS6 - CG1a, CG4a, CG6a**

**SS7 – CG1a, CG4a, CG6a**

# Federal (Federation)

## Ways Government Distributes Power

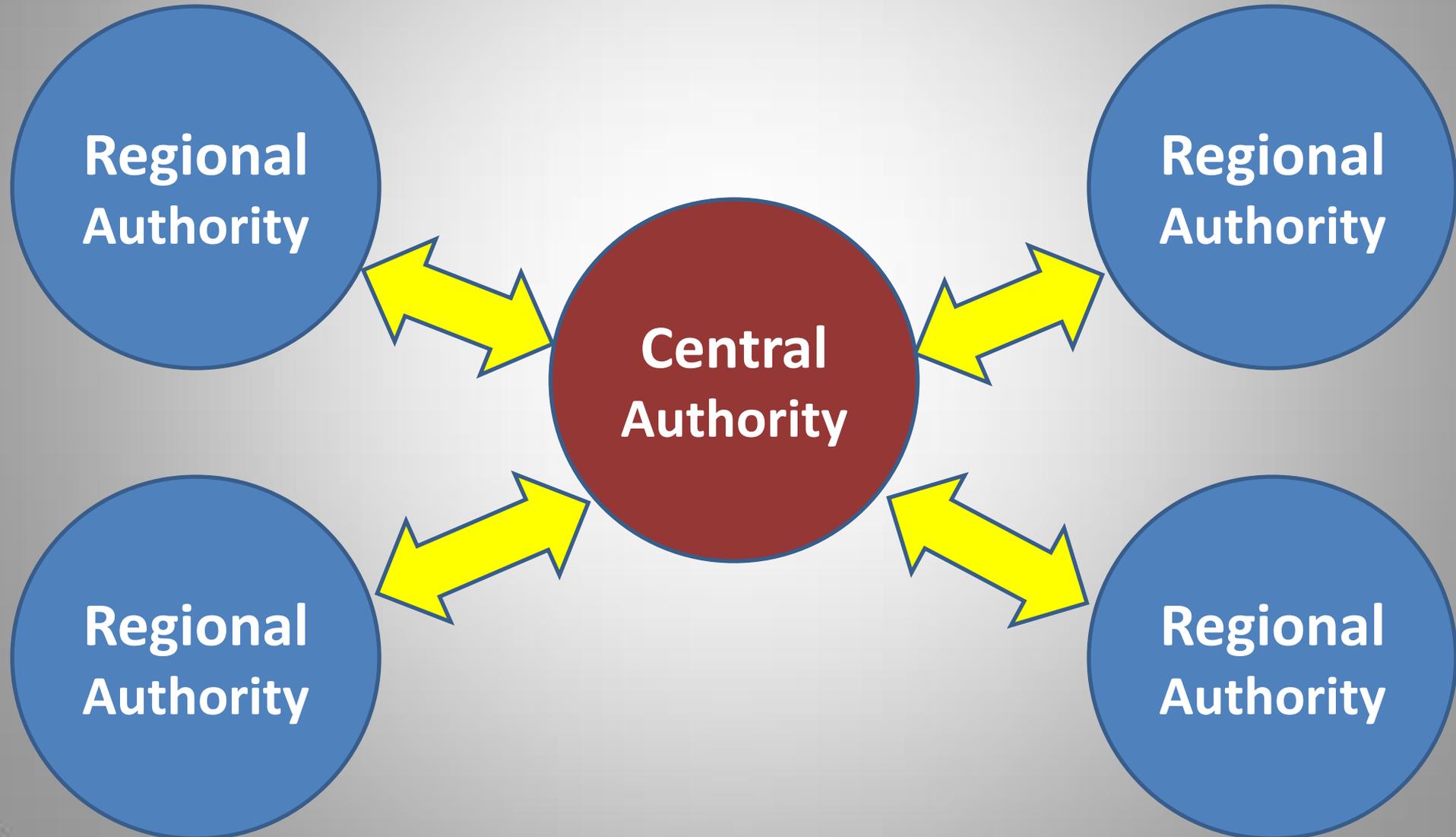
**Power is divided between one central and several regional authorities.**



**Teacher Notes: Students should be able to describe the ways governments distribute power, or identify the type of distribution from a description.**

# Federation / Federal

Ways Government Distributes Power



# List of countries with Federal Governments (24)

[Argentina](#)

[Australia](#)

[Austria](#)

[Belgium](#)

[Bosnia and](#)

[Herzegovina](#)

[Brazil](#)

[Canada](#)

[Comoros](#)

[Ethiopia](#)

[Germany](#)

[India](#)

[Malaysia](#)

[Mexico](#)

[Micronesia](#)

[Nigeria](#)

[Pakistan](#)

[Russia](#)

[St. Kitts and Nevis](#)

[South Africa](#)

[Spain](#)

[Switzerland](#)

[United Arab Emirates](#)

[United States of](#)

[America](#)

[Venezuela](#)

**Countries in  
Transition to  
Federalism**

[Iraq](#)

[Sudan](#)

**Countries  
Considering a  
Federal System**

[Sri Lanka](#)

# Unitary

## Ways Government Distributes Power

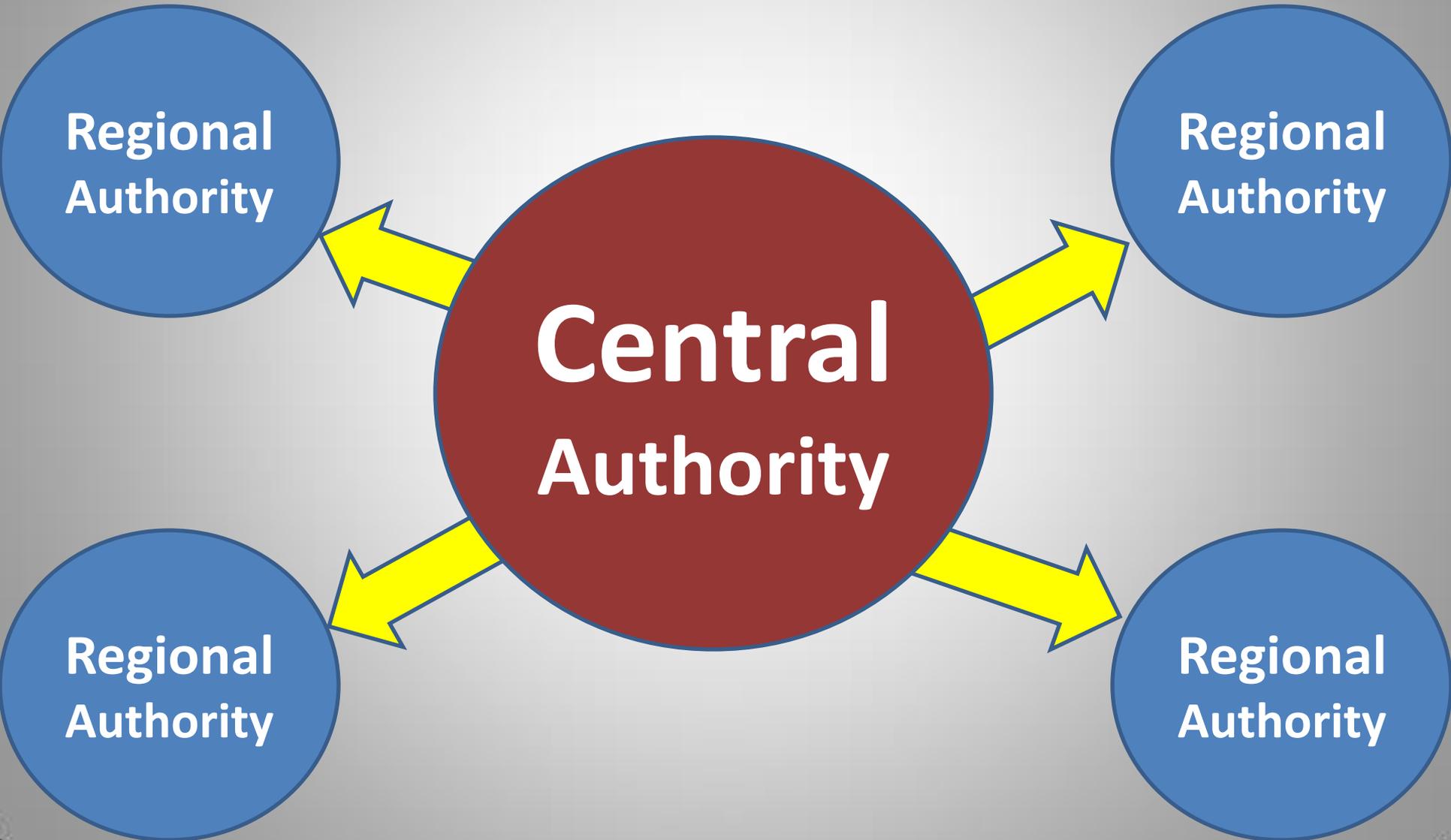
Power is held by one central authority.



Teacher Notes: Students should be able to describe the ways governments distribute power, or identify the type of distribution from a description.

# Unitary

## Ways Government Distributes Power



# List of Unitary States

[Afghanistan](#)

[Albania](#)

[Abkhazia](#)

[Algeria](#)

[Angola](#)

[Armenia](#)

[Azerbaijan](#)

[Bangladesh](#)

[Belarus](#)

[Belize](#)

[Benin](#)

[Bhutan](#)

[Bolivia](#)

[Botswana](#)

[Brunei](#)

[Bulgaria](#)

[Burkina Faso](#)

[Burundi](#)

[Cambodia](#)

[Cameroon](#)

[Cape Verde](#)

[Central African](#)

[Republic](#)

[Chad](#)

[Chile](#)

[People's Republic](#)

[of China](#)

[Colombia](#)

[Congo \(Brazzaville\)](#)

[Congo \(Kinshasa\)](#)

[Costa Rica](#)

[Côte d'Ivoire](#)

[Croatia](#)

[Cuba](#)

[Cyprus](#)

[Czech Republic](#)

[Denmark](#)

[Djibouti](#)

[Dominica](#)

[Dominican Republic](#)

[East Timor](#)

[Ecuador](#)

[Egypt](#)

[El Salvador](#)

[Equatorial Guinea](#)

# List of Unitary States

[Eritrea](#)

[Estonia](#)

[Fiji](#)

[Finland](#)

[France](#)

[Gabon](#)

[The Gambia](#)

[Georgia](#)

[Ghana](#)

[Greece](#)

[Grenada](#)

[Guatemala](#)

[Guinea](#)

[Guinea-Bissau](#)

[Guyana](#)

[Haiti](#)

[Honduras](#)

[Hungary](#)

[Iceland](#)

[Indonesia](#)

[Iran](#)

[Ireland](#)

[Israel](#)

[Italy](#)

[Jamaica](#)

[Japan](#)

[Jordan](#)

[Kazakhstan](#)

[Kenya](#)

[Kiribati](#)

[Kuwait](#)

[Kyrgyzstan](#)

[Laos](#)

[Latvia](#)

[Lebanon](#)

[Lesotho](#)

[Liberia](#)

[Libya](#)

[Liechtenstein](#)

[Lithuania](#)

[Luxembourg](#)

[Macedonia](#)

[Madagascar](#)

[Malawi](#)

[Maldives](#)

# List of Unitary States

<a href="#"><u>Mali</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>New Zealand</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Romania</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Malta</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Nicaragua</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Rwanda</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Marshall Islands</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Niger</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Saint Lucia</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Mauritania</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>North Korea</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Mauritius</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Norway</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Samoa</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Moldova</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Oman</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>San Marino</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Monaco</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Palau</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>São Tomé and Príncipe</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Mongolia</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Panama</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Saudi Arabia</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Montenegro</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Papua New Guinea</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Senegal</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Morocco</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Paraguay</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Serbia</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Mozambique</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Peru</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Seychelles</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Myanmar</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Philippines</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sierra Leone</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Namibia</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Poland</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Singapore</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Nauru</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Portugal</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Slovakia</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Netherlands</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Qatar</u></a>	

# List of Unitary States

[Slovenia](#)

[Solomon Islands](#)

[South Africa](#)

[South Korea](#)

[Spain](#)

[Sri Lanka](#)

[Suriname](#)

[Swaziland](#)

[Sweden](#)

[Syria](#)

[Republic of China \(Taiwan\)](#)

[Tajikistan](#)

[Tanzania](#)

[Thailand](#)

[Togo](#)

[Tonga](#)

[Trinidad and Tobago](#)

[Tunisia](#)

[Turkey](#)

[Turkmenistan](#)

[Tuvalu](#)

[Uganda](#)

[Ukraine](#)

[United Kingdom](#)

[Uruguay](#)

[Uzbekistan](#)

[Vanuatu](#)

[Vatican City](#)

[Vietnam](#)

[Yemen](#)

[Zambia](#)

[Zimbabwe](#)



# Confederation

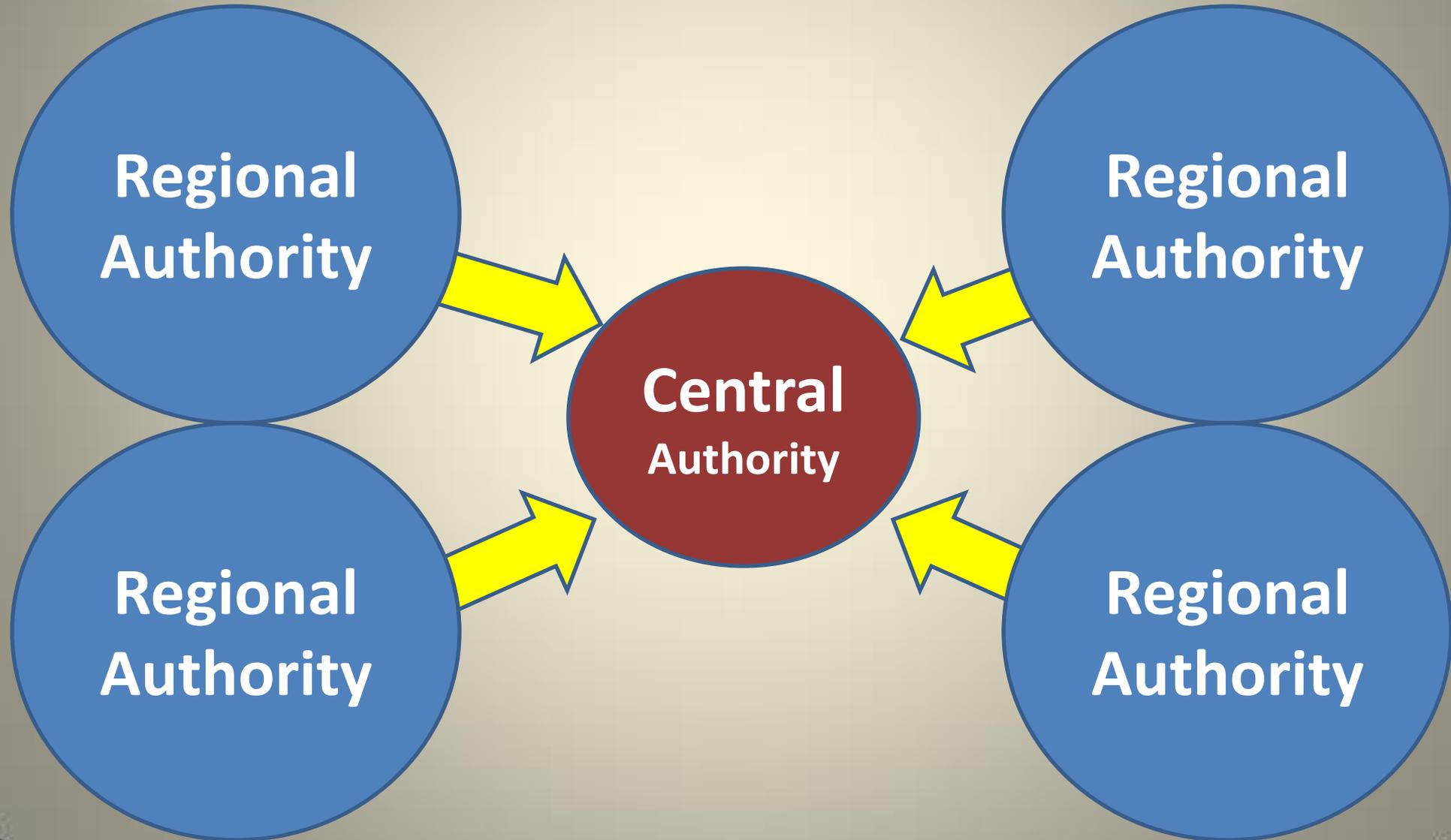


## Ways Government Distributes Power

- Voluntary association of independent states that often only delegate a few powers to the central authority.
- Secure some common purpose.
- Agree to certain limitations on their freedom of action.
- States retain considerable independence.
- Less binding than a federation.

# Confederation

Ways Government Distributes Power



# List of Confederations- Today

[Iroquois Confederacy](#) (1090–present)

[European Union and OPEC](#)

## Historic confederations

Some have more the characteristics of a [personal union](#), but they are still listed here because of their own self-styling.

[Crown of Aragon](#) (1137–1716)

[Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth](#) (confederated personal union; 1447–1492, 1501–1569, (different [governments](#), [armies](#), [treasuries](#), [laws](#), [territories](#) with [borders](#), [citizenships](#); common [monarch](#) ([Grand Duke](#) of Lithuania and [King of Poland](#)), [parliament](#) ([Sejm](#)) and [currency](#))

[Switzerland](#) (1291–1848), officially the Swiss Confederation

[Republic of the Seven United Provinces of the Netherlands](#)

(1581-1795)

[Confederate Ireland](#) (1641-1649)

# Historic confederations

New England Confederation (1643–1684)

United States of America under the Articles of Confederation  
(1781–1789)

Confederate States of America, (1861–1865)

Aro Confederacy, (1690 -1902), in what is now Nigeria, Cameroon  
and Equatorial Guinea

Union of African States (1961–1963, Mali+Ghana+Guinea)

Senegambia (1982–1989, Senegal+Gambia)

Hanseatic League

United Provinces of New Granada (1810–1816 in what is now  
Colombia)

Powhatan Confederacy

Carlist States in Spain (1872–1876)

Serbia and Montenegro (2003–2006)

# Historic confederations

[United Arab Republic](#) (confederation de-facto; 1958–1961, [Egypt+Syria](#); 1963, [Egypt+Syria+Iraq](#))

[Arab Federation](#) (confederation de-facto; 1958, ([Iraq+Jordan](#)))

[Federation of Arab Republics](#) (confederation de-facto; 1972, [Egypt+Syria+Libya](#))

[Arab Islamic Republic](#) (confederation de-facto; 1974, [Libya+Tunisia](#))

[Peru-Bolivian Confederation](#) (1836–1839)

[Kalmar Union](#) (confederated personal union; 1397–1523, [Denmark+Sweden+Norway](#))

[Denmark-Norway](#) (confederated personal union; 1536–1814)

[Sweden-Norway](#) (confederated personal union; 1814–1905)

[Confederation of Central America](#) (1842–1844, [EI](#)

[Salvador+Guatemala+Honduras+Nicaragua](#))

# Historic confederations

Confederation of the Equator (1824) - located in Northeast Brazil.

Pre-united Germany after the Holy Roman Empire

Confederation of the Rhine (1806–1813) had no head of state nor a government

German Confederation (1815–1866)

North German Confederation (1866–1871) Became the German Empire in 1871

# **Fictional confederations**

Confederacy of Independent Systems (Star Wars)

Terran Confederation (Wing Commander)

Terran Confederacy (StarCraft)

Capellan Confederation (Battletech)

Confederation of Planet Omega (animated series Once Upon a Time... Space)

# Sample Test Question

**In Nigeria's government, power is divided between Central and regional authorities. This is an example of which government type?**

- A. Unitary**
- B. Confederation**
- C. Federal**
- D. Parliamentary**

Corresponds to

SS6- CG1a, CG4a, CG6a

SS7- CG1a , CG4a, CG6a

# Sample Test Question

In Nigeria's government, power is divided between Central and regional authorities. This is an example of which government type?

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Corresponds to  
SS6- CG1a, CG4a, CG6a  
SS7- CG1a , CG4a, CG6a

# Ways Government Distributes Power

All key powers are held by the central government

State/regional authorities hold most of the power



**Unitary**

**Federal**

**Confederation**

Strong central government

Weaker central government

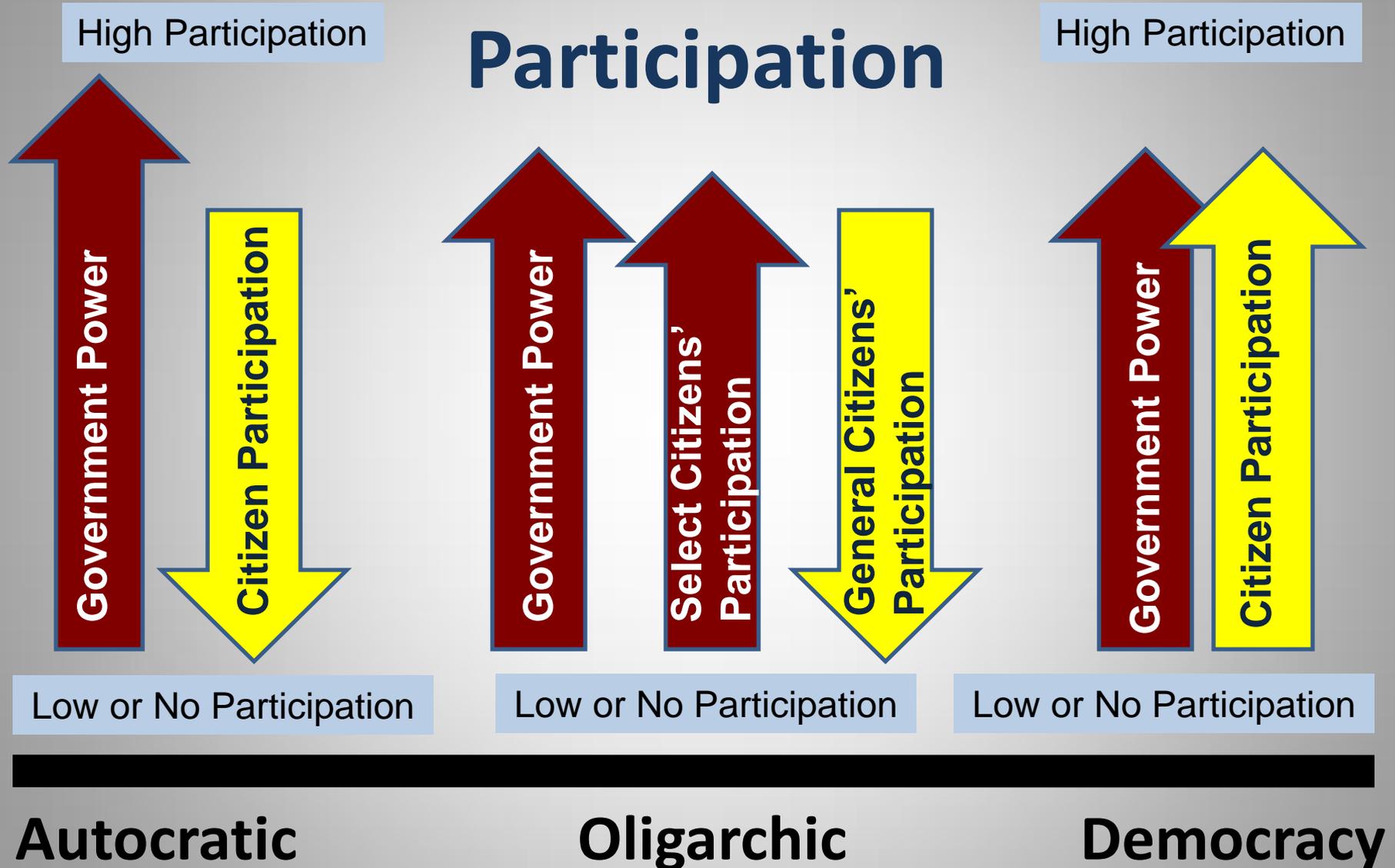
# **Compare & Contrast Various Forms of Government**

**Explain how governments  
determine citizen  
participation: autocratic,  
oligarchic, and democratic.**

**SS6 - CG1b, CG4b, CG6b**

**SS7 – CG1b, CG4b, CG6b**

# How Governments Determine Citizen



# **Autocratic**

## **How Governments Determine Citizen Participation**

**One person possesses unlimited power.**

**The citizen has limited, if any, role in government.**

**Teacher Notes: Explain the different ways citizen participation in their government is defined.**

# How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

## **Autocratic**

- The oldest form of government.
- One of the most common forms of government.
- Maintain power through inheritance or ruthless use of military and police power.

-

# How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

## Forms of Autocratic Govts.

- **Absolute or Totalitarian Dictatorship**
  - Ideas of a single leader glorified.
  - Government tries to control all aspects of social and economic life.
  - Government is not responsible to the people.
  - People lack the power to limit their rulers.
  - **Examples-** Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, Joseph Stalin

# How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

## Forms of Autocratic Govts.

- **Absolute Monarchy**

- King, queen, or emperor exercises the supreme powers of government/unlimited power.
- Position is usually inherited.
- People lack the power to limit their rulers.
- Absolute monarchs are rare today but from the 1400s to the 1700s they ruled most of Western Europe.
- **Examples-** King of Saudi Arabia.

# How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

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# Oligarchy

## How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

**Government by the few.**

**Sometimes a small group exercises control, especially for corrupt and selfish purposes.**

**The citizen has a very limited role.**

**Teacher Notes: Explain the different ways citizen participation in their government is defined.**

# How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

## Oligarchy

- The group gets its power from military power, social power, wealth, religion or a combination.
- Political opposition is usually suppressed-sometimes violently.
  - **Examples-** Communist countries such as China.
  - Leaders in the party and armed forces control government.

# How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

## Autocracy & Oligarchy

- Sometimes claim they rule for the people.
- In reality, the people have very little say in both types of government.
  - **Examples-** May hold elections with only one candidate or control the results in various ways.
  - **Examples-** Even when these governments have a legislature or national assembly, they often only approve decisions made by the leaders.

# Sample Test Question

**What is a basic way citizens of a democratic nation can influence the government?**

- A. voting**
- B. working**
- C. obeying laws**
- D. consuming goods**

**OAS Database Question - Corresponds to**

**SS6- CG1b, CG4b, CG6b**

**SS7- CG1b , CG4b, CG6b**

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SS6- CG1b, CG4b, CG6b  
SS7- CG1b , CG4b, CG6b

# **Compare & Contrast Various Forms of Government**

**Describe the two predominant forms of democratic governments: Parliamentary & Presidential**

**SS6 - CG1c, CG4c, CG6c**

**SS7 – CG1c, CG4c, CG6c**

Describe the two predominant forms of democratic government: parliamentary and presidential

## **Parliamentary Democracy**

**A system of government having the real executive power vested in a cabinet composed of members of the legislature who are individually and collectively responsible to the legislature.**

**May have a Prime Minister elected by the legislature.**

**Describe the two predominant forms of democratic government: parliamentary and presidential**

## **Presidential Democracy**

**A system of government in which the president is constitutionally independent of the legislature.**

**The executive branch exists separately from the legislature (to which it is generally not accountable).**

# Sample Test Question

**In which system of government does the legislature elect the executive leader of the government?**

- A. democratic**
- B. communist**
- C. parliamentary**
- D. totalitarian**

**OAS Database Question - Corresponds to**

**SS6- CG1c, CG4c, CG6c**

**SS7- CG1c , CG4c, CG6c**

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OAS Database Question - Corresponds to

SS6- CG1c, CG4c, CG6c

SS7- CG1c , CG4c, CG6c

# Sample Test Question

**Which statement about Great Britain's parliamentary system of government today is true?**

- A. Members of both houses of Parliament are elected for life.**
- B. The queen decides which laws Parliament will debate.**
- C. Members of Parliament do not belong to political parties.**
- D. The prime minister is not directly chosen by voters.**

**OAS Database Question - Corresponds to**

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**SS7- CG1c , CG4c, CG6c**

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SS6- CG1c, CG4c, CG6c

SS7- CG1c , CG4c, CG6c

# Sample Test Question

In most democratic countries, the government is divided into three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial. In Canada, the legislative branch is the

- A. Parliament
- B. prime minister
- C. Supreme Court
- D. governor general

OAS Database Question - Corresponds to

SS6- CG1b, CG4b, CG6b

SS&- CG1b , CG4b, CG6b

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SS&- CG1b , CG4b, CG6b

# Republican Systems

## Kenya and South Africa

**A representative democracy in which the people's elected deputies (representatives), not the people themselves, vote on legislation.**

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

# Federal Republic

India, Brazil, Mexico

A state in which the powers of the central government are restricted and in which the component parts (states, colonies, or provinces) retain a degree of self-government; ultimate sovereign power rests with the voters who chose their governmental representatives.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

# Federal (Federation)

**Germany, Russia, Canada, Australia**

**A form of government in which sovereign power is formally divided - usually by means of a constitution - between a central authority and a number of constituent regions (states, colonies, or provinces) so that each region retains some management of its internal affairs; differs from a confederacy in that the central government exerts influence directly upon both individuals as well as upon the regional units.**

**Compare types of governments from various countries.**

**Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.**

# Parliamentary Democracy

Israel, Canada, Australia

A political system in which the legislature (parliament) selects the government - a prime minister, premier, or chancellor along with the cabinet ministers - according to party strength as expressed in elections; by this system, the government acquires a dual responsibility: to the people as well as to the parliament.

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

# Parliamentary

## United Kingdom

**Government in which members of an executive branch (the cabinet and its leader - a prime minister, premier, or chancellor) are nominated to their positions by a legislature or parliament, and are directly responsible to it; this type of government can be dissolved at will by the parliament (legislature) by means of a no confidence vote or the leader of the cabinet may dissolve the parliament if it can no longer function. Also see Constitutional Monarchy.**

**Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.**

# Monarchy

## Saudi Arabia

**A government in which the supreme power is lodged in the hands of a monarch who reigns over a state or territory, usually for life and by hereditary right; the monarch may be either a sole absolute ruler or a sovereign - such as a king, queen, or prince - with constitutionally limited authority.**

**Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.**

# Constitutional Monarchy

## Japan and Canada

**A system of government in which a monarch is guided by a constitution whereby his/her rights, duties, and responsibilities are spelled out in written law or by custom.**

**Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.**

# Theocracy

## Iran

**A form of government in which a Deity is recognized as the supreme civil ruler, but the Deity's laws are interpreted by ecclesiastical authorities (bishops, mullahs, etc.); a government subject to religious authority.**

**Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.**

# Communist

## China

**A system of government in which the state plans and controls the economy and a single - often authoritarian - party holds power; state controls are imposed with the elimination of private ownership of property or capital while claiming to make progress toward a higher social order in which all goods are equally shared by the people (i.e., a classless society).**

**Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.**

# Dictatorships

## Sudan and Cuba

**A form of government in which a ruler or small clique wield absolute power (not restricted by a constitution or laws).**

Compare types of governments from various countries. Distinguish the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.