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Q3(a)**How do the concepts of power, authority, legitimacy and social control change with changing political organization? Discuss in detail giving suitable examples**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · Anthropology GS 1 · 20 marks · Political Organization and Social Control

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4. Political Organization and Social Control: Band, tribe, chiefdom, kingdom and state; concepts of power, authority and legitimacy; social control, law and justice in simple Societies.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round.

Max Weber's Authority Typology

Classifies authority into traditional, charismatic, and legal-rational forms, marking the evolution from simple to complex political systems.

Elman Service's Political Typology

Categorizes political organization evolutionarily into bands, tribes, chiefdoms, and states.

!Kung San Foragers

Exemplify egalitarian band societies where social control is maintained through informal mechanisms like ridicule and mobility.

Trobriand Islanders

Demonstrate ranked chiefdom organization with hereditary chiefly authority and institutionalized redistribution.

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