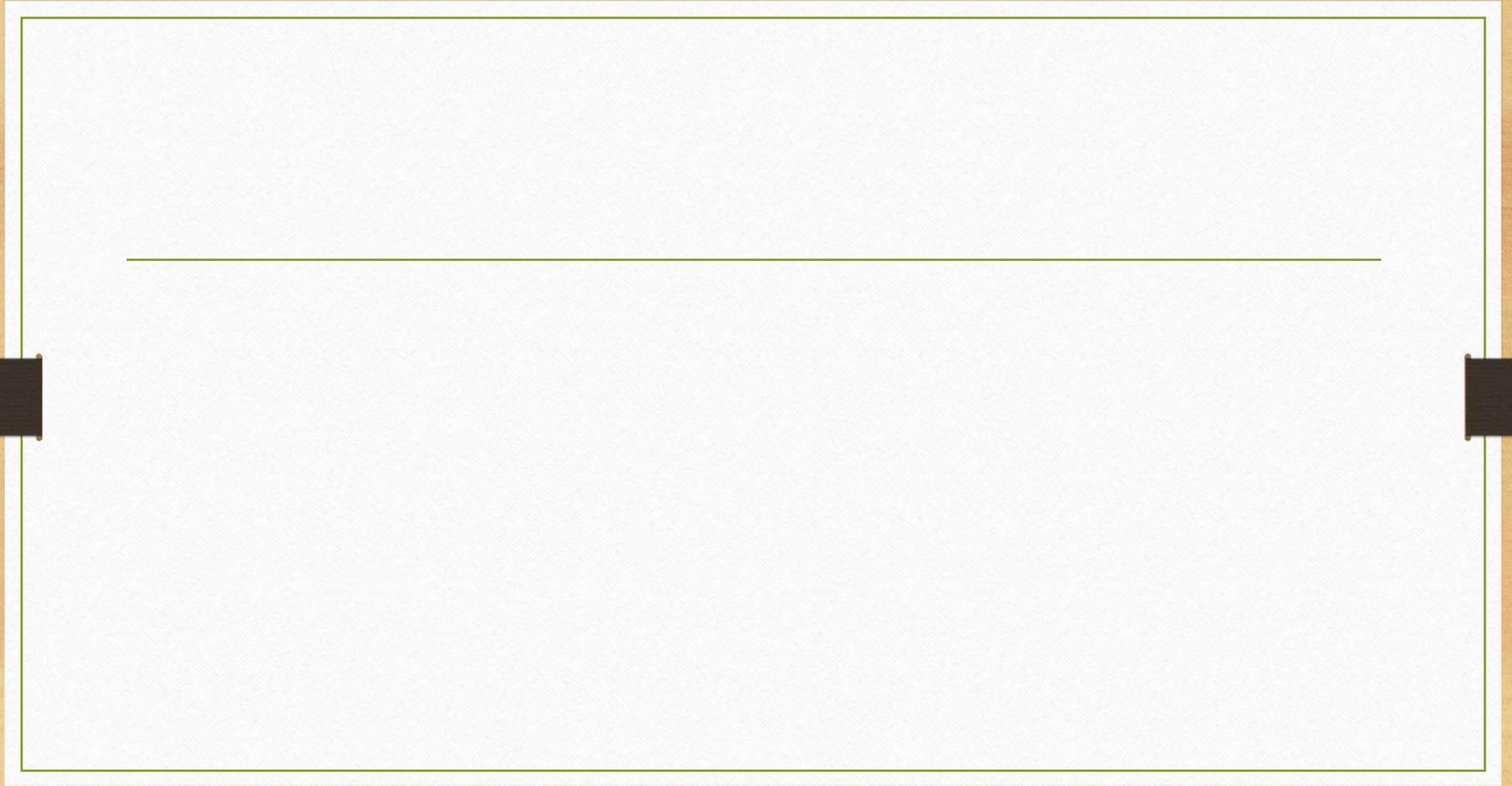


W.P.T.

- Political- come from Greek word 'polis'- meaning-state (city-state)- government- good governance.
- State- most self sufficient portion
- Any thing which is come to governance or state we called politics



What is political thought

- It is the description of the political ideas of a host of political philosophers from beginning to the end. It is the study of intellectual foundations of political science.
- It is historical in nature because it is described as history.
- Ideas relating to politics, state and government as expressed by the thinkers.
- To learn , understand, explore, inquire about politics
- To defend or question the then known or existing politics and the political systems,
- To find a solutions to the problems, that existed.

Political philosophy

- It is the study of philosophical foundations of political science.
- Its primarily concerned with moral and ethical dimensions of politics.
- It deals with 'what ought to be'.
- It deals with good, virtuous and ideal.

-
- W.P.T.- any kind of thought would represents and belongs- age, place/location
 - For ex. Kautilya- ancient- India
 - Plato- ancient-Athens (Greece)
 - Machiavelli- Transition(medieval) – Italy
 - Ancient- Medieval-Modern-Post modern

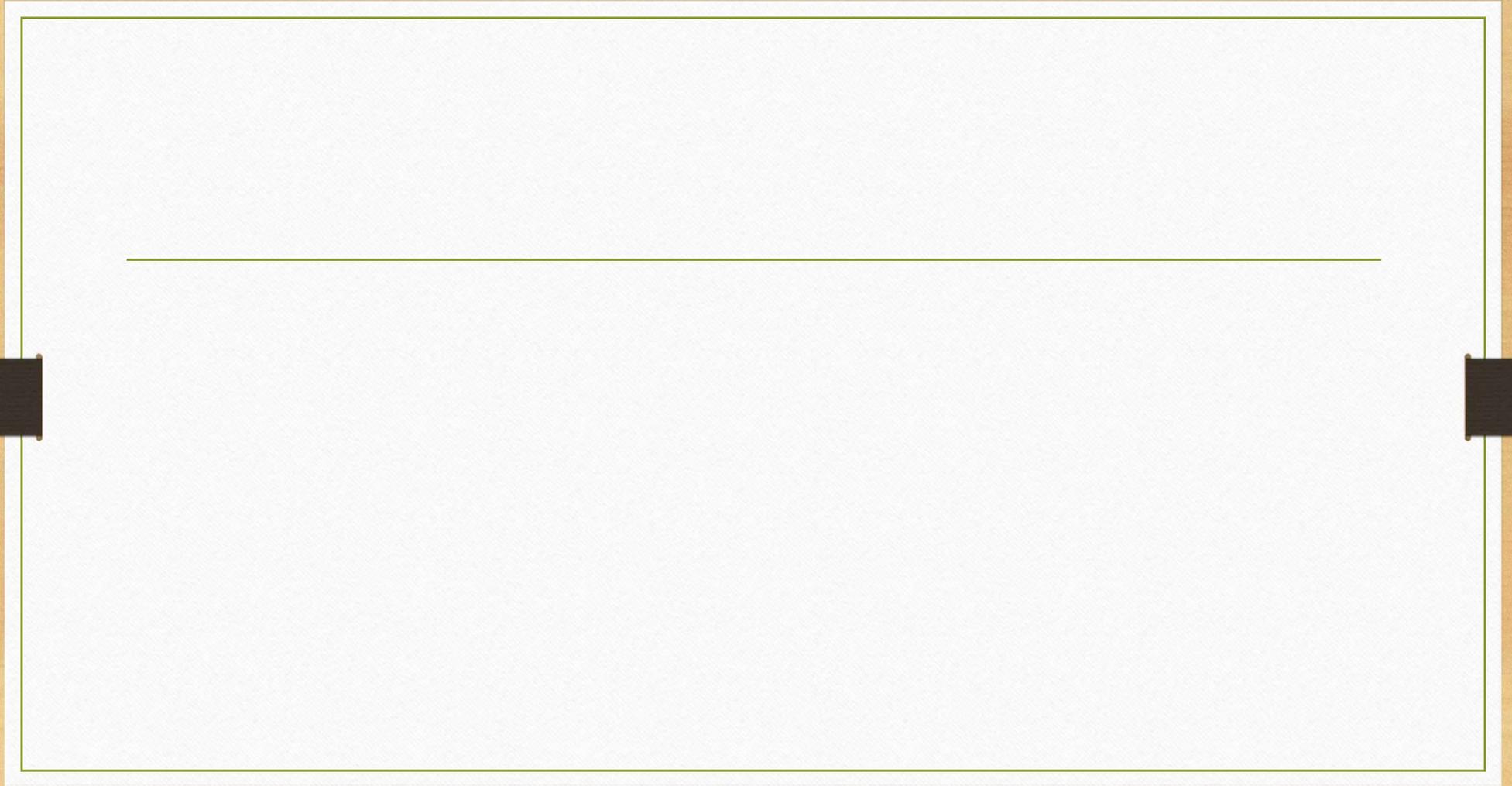
W.P.T.

- Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome are generally considered to be the birthplaces of western civilization.
- Western civilization is also strongly associated with Christianity
- In the modern era, the western culture has been heavily influenced by the Renaissance, Enlightenment, Industrial and scientific revolutions in the 15th and 20th centuries.
- Europe, Australia, and most of the Americas.

Classification of Political thought

- 1 Classical Political thought- Socrates, Plato , Aristotle
- 2 Medieval Political thought- St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas
- 3 Modern Political Thought – Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Burke, Mill, Hegel , Marx, Mill

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- Ancient- unit of governance- City-state
 - Ex. In Europe-Athens-Plato and Aristotle belong
 - In India- village republic- Kautilya belongs to this period
 - Medieval- supremacy of religion- church-state
 - Unit of governance- Empire- Roman-Alexander



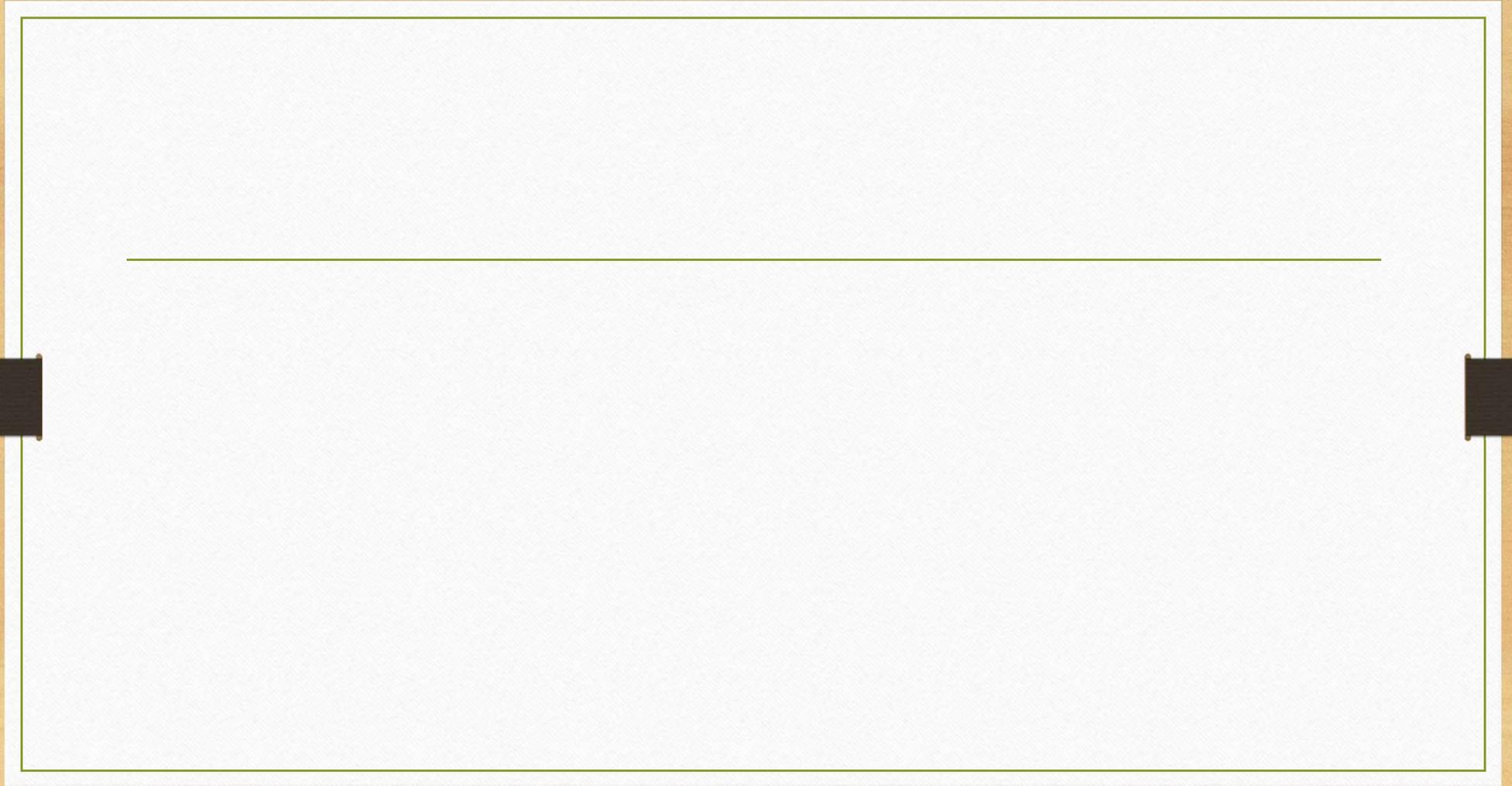
-
- Modern- Most thinkers belongs to this age
 - Separation of religion and politics/state
 - State with treaty of Westphalia . Its sovereignty of state
 - Features- renaissance, reformation, enlightenment, age of science, rationalism
 - The basis of state – language, culture, history

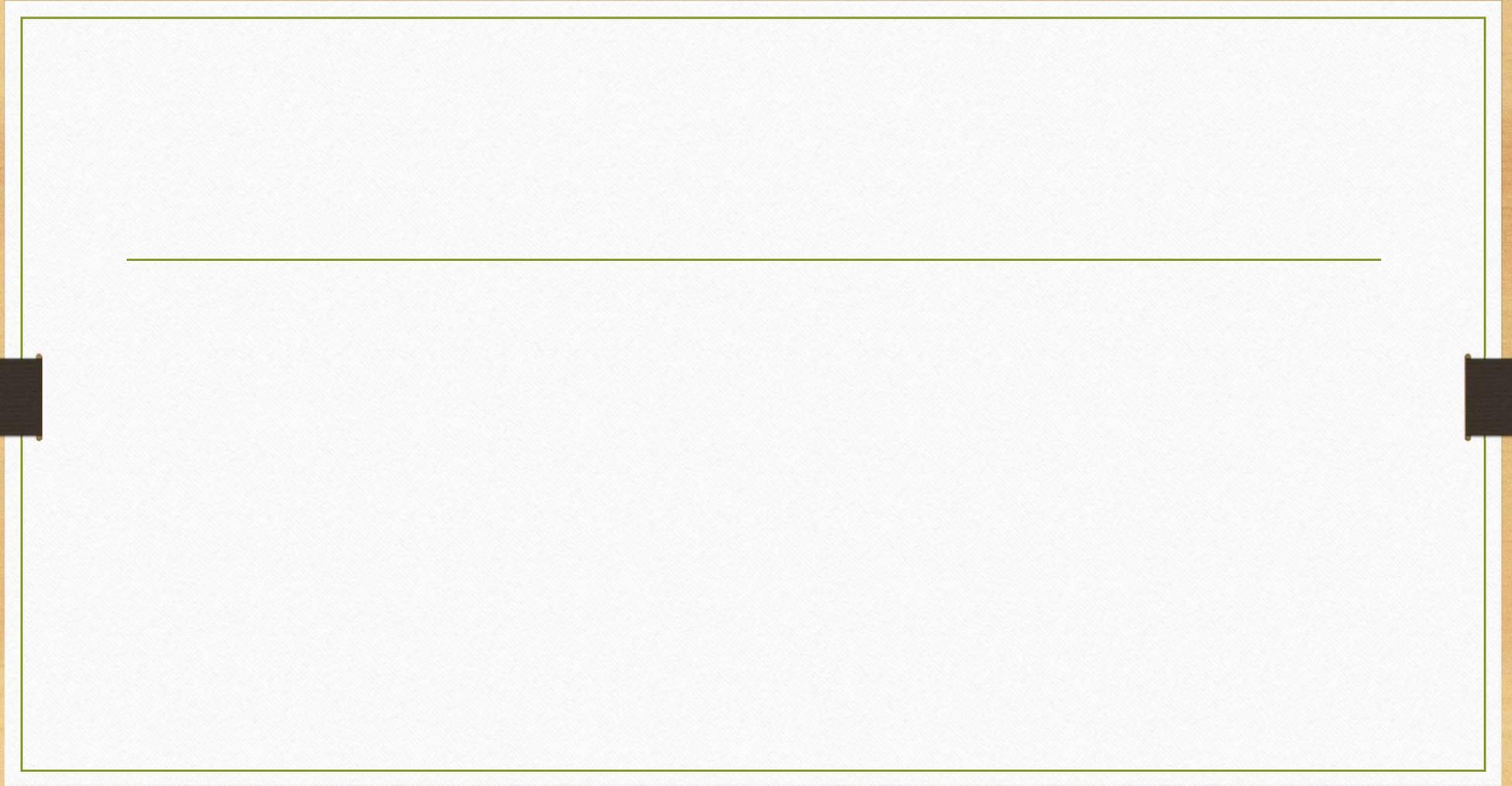
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- Post modern period-
 - Define- is the era of regionalism(International in nature), also supra-national/ governance
 - Any institution above state ex. EU- parliament. ECB(e. central bank)
 - UN, WHO,IMF,WB this is the post modern period

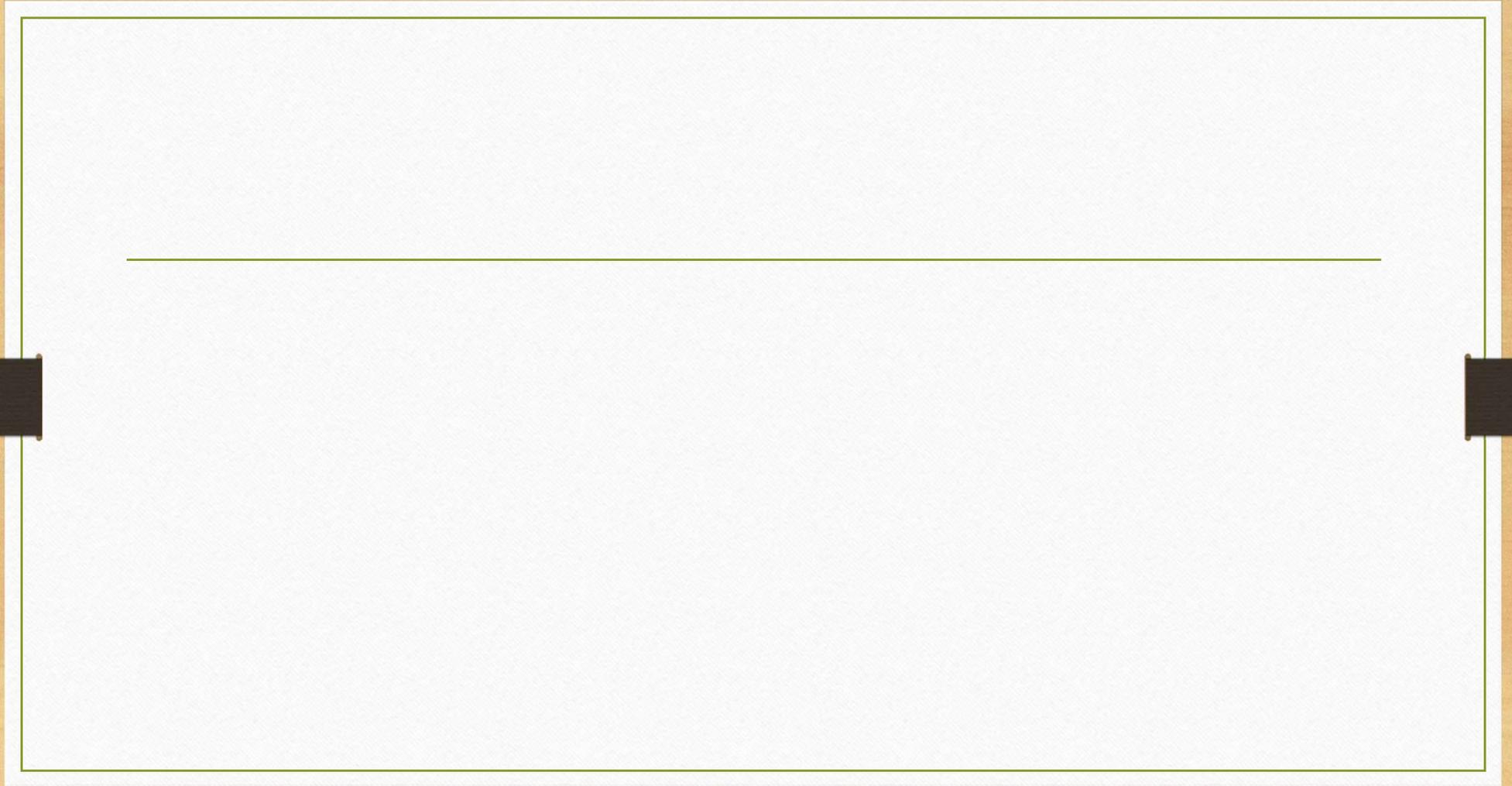
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- So political thought is the study of questions about power, justice, rights, law and other issues pertaining to governance
 - Why Greece – influence on WPT
 - Geographical condition(nature, environment- better)
 - Cultural , traditional, language, religious freedom

WPT- Nature and content

- The Objective conditions of history always provide the foundations on which the political philosophers have built their philosophy.
- WPT based on history







Relevance of Western Political Thought

- 1 Express the political ideas of particular time
- 2 Provides Major framework for political theories
- 3 Deals with the major contradictions and dimensions of the political process
- 4 It helps to understand current problems of political system.

Features of WPT

- 1. western philosophy is generally divided into 3 periods. Greek, Christian and modern. In between the first two is a period called Hellenistic(to speak Greek) during which the Jew thought was belonged with the Greek
- 2. WP is primarily rationalistic and intellectualistic with reason assuming more imp. Than matter making it scientific and outward looking
- The one sided emphasis can be traced back to the original conception, that the essence of man, of his soul, is reason

-
- 3. WP is humanistic and humanism has a tendency to be scientific and rational, but the predominance of science and reason has made humanism a secondary characteristic.
 - 4. the origins of Greek religion can be traced to Egypt, Asia minor, Greece and its surrounding areas of Europe
 - Greek religion developed 2 strands
 - A apollonian- outward looking(Greek god Apollo)
 - Orphic- inward looking

-
- Pre-Socratics- Thales, Pythagoras, Heraclitus- worked to developed western philosophy- ,logic, ethics
 - Ancient philosophy (Greek ,Hellenistic and Roman philosophy) Greek philosophy from Thales to Aristotle, Greco-Roman philosophy, neo Platonism of the Alexandrian school
 - Medieval philosophy or scholasticism from 5th to 15th century (patristic(developed by father of church for defense of christianism) and scholastic philo.)

-
- Modern – the renaissance from 15th to the 17th century, the period of enlightenment from Locke to Kant, German philosophy from Kant to Hegel
 - 20th century- postmodernism
 - WPT – is also responsible for the emergence of concepts of liberty, equality, right, justice, citizenship that have come to be associated with the ‘rational man’

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- The earliest philosophers are Thales , acc.to him water was the origion of the world
 - Anaximander (6th cent. BC) maintained that the origin was the Infinite and anaximenes who maintained that air was the source of the world.
 - Pythagoras maintained that the origin of the universe is Number. Reason is the source of the world for mathematics is the subject of pure reason a part from sense.

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- Acco. To Barker, 'political thought begins with the Greeks. Its origin is connected with the calm and clear rationalization of Greek mind'
 - Greece is called 'a laboratory of political experiment', due to the following reasons.
 - - Greece abounded with city-states, Ancient Greece presented a picture of flux (a continuous movement)
 - Greek outlook was rational,

Three period of Greek

- 1 pre Socratic period- rise of Greek philosophy-
- 2. the period from the Sophists (wise men) to Aristotle includes Socrates and Plato- maturity of Greek philosophy
- 3 post Aristotelian philosophy- constitutes the decline and fall of natural thought

Significance of WPT

- WPT since its beginning from ancient Greece

