Quadrant II – Transcript and Related Materials

Programme: Bachelor of Arts (T.Y.)

Subject: Political Science

Paper Code: POD 105

Paper Title: Comparative Government

Unit: I

Module Name: Structural Functional Approach (Part 1)

Module No: 05

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Notes

Structural functional analysis is the off-shoot of systems approach and Gabriel Almond has developed his model for the purpose of comparing political systems as whole systems and particularly for comparing the the modern and developed political systems with primitive and developing political syatems of the third world countries.

Almond presents his political system into seven fold classification; inputs are four in number and outs are three.

Input variables:

1. **Political socialization and recruitment- refers to how people are trained to have faith and conviction in political values and how they are inducted into the specialized roles of a political system. it is the end product of set of attitudes, cognition, value standards and feelings towards the political system in its various roles and role-incumbents; political recruitment inducts members of the society into specialised roles of the political system, trains them in the appropriate skills, provides them with political cognitive maps, values, expectations and effects.**

2. **Interest articulation- refers to the study of interest groups that struggle for the protection and promotion of their specific interest. These**

groups may be 'institutional' like legislatures, executives, churches, etc. or non-associational like kinship and lineage groups, ethnic, religious, etc; 'anomic' more or less spontaneous like riots, demonstrations, etc; associational like trade unions, business organisations, etc

3. Interest aggregation- refers to the organisation and role of the political parties, party system is the modern structure of political aggregation regulating or giving orders to the performance of the aggregative function by other sub-system

4. Political communication- all input and output functions in a political system are carried out by means of communication.

Output variables-
1. Rule -making- performed by legislature
2. Rule- application- performed by Executive
3. Rule- adjudication – performed by Judiciary.

Though Almond nowhere makes a mention of feedback loop like Easton, it is implied in the treatment of input and output functions of Almond.

Almond's analysis provides a convenient framework for the comparison of different types of political systems.