

PLATO'S THEORY OF EDUCATION



DR. KABITA DAS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

INTRODUCTION

- ❑ Plato born and brought up in an wealthy family and begins his career as a student of Socrates.
- ❑ He established his own school known as Academy.
- ❑ Plato believes that most of the evils in the society could be removed by providing proper education.
- ❑ Every person should do the best thing through out life.
- ❑ Idea of education connected to his ideal state.
- ❑ In his dialogue of Republic the concept of education was elaborated.
- ❑ Education is tool for state.
- ❑ He pounces that there are three classes in the state must be well trained and educated in order to do their duties with efficiency.
- ❑ He thinks that that education is a kind of positive measure by which a ruler can mold the characters of the individual.
- ❑ He doesn't support private education rather he stresses the need of keeping education with a state only.
- ❑ Through education a state could get the best philosopher king.
- ❑ Education is the most important scheme to have a just society.

EDUCATION

- ❑ Plato says that education is related to individual beings and social characteristics. So he gives important individual to understand knowledge which is equivalent to virtue.
- ❑ He stated that education for all the citizens (man and women) of the state.
- ❑ Through education individual can develop their mental abilities and can become respected units of state.
- ❑ According to him education should be provided for moral and physical improvement of the child.
- ❑ Significance aspect of his education is to prepare the philosopher king.
- ❑ In Republic he talks about early education.
- ❑ In Laws he talks about the end of life.
- ❑ Plato believes that the highest goal of educational curriculum is the knowledge of good.

METHOD OF TEACHING

- Plato gives important to a place where children love to go and thereby learn many things from learning.
- He gave much more importance to nursery or primary education.
- In the elementary level he focuses on play method.
- He believe in the concept of learning by doing.
- He was against the concept of force education. And wants student interest in education.
- Education should be both physical and mental growth.



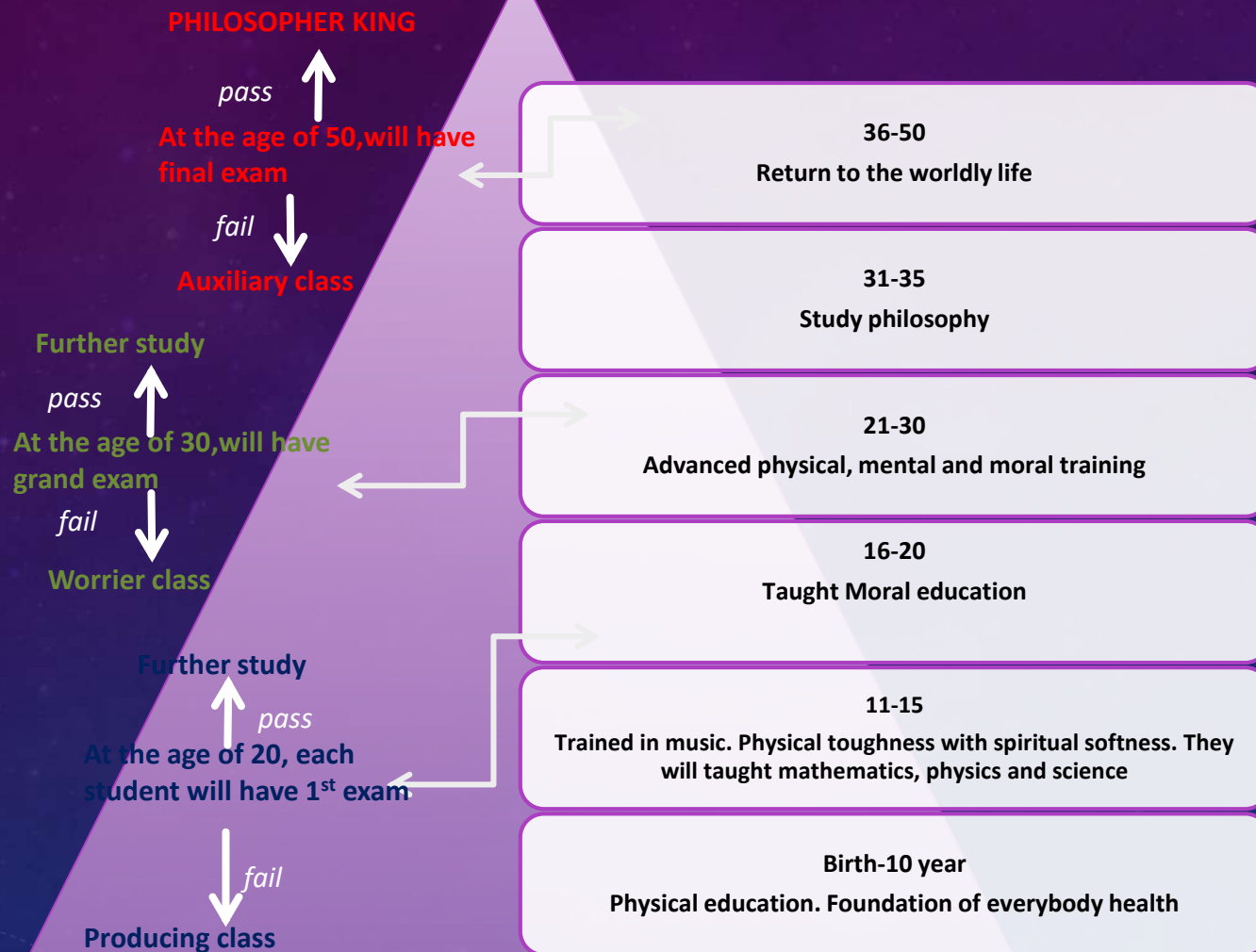
ROLE OF A TEACHER

- ✓ A teacher has a most important role in shaping the life of a student.
- ✓ A teacher should guide the student constantly.
- ✓ He should be a person that guides an individual where there is dark everywhere.
- ✓ A person who possesses a high integrity should be a teacher.
- ✓ The person should be deep committed towards the profession of teaching.
- ✓ He should have high sense of responsibility.
- ✓ The role of a teacher is to always teach the morally right thing.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM

- There are two stages of platonic educational curriculum; one is elementary stage and another is higher stage.
- In the early stage individuals were like wax, and can be mold in any shape.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM



**HIGHER
EDUCATION**

**FORMAL OR
BASIC EDUCATION**

References:

Plato, *The Republic*. Oxford University Press

K Marx & F Engels, **German Ideology**, K Marx & F Engels, **Collected Works, (CW, hence forth)** Vol. 5, Progress, Moscow, 1978 pp.59-62

Lodge, R.C. 2000, first published in 1947. *Plato's Theory of Education*. Edited by T. I. L. o. Philosophy. Vol. Vol VIII, Ancient Philosophy. London: Routledge.

Smith, L. Glenn, and Joan K. Smith. 1994. *Lives in Education: A Narrative of People and Ideas*. 2nd ed. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Hare, T.M. 1999. Plato. In *Greek Philosophers*, edited by K. Thomas. Oxford: Oxford University Press.