

Which Changes Were Made With The Passage Of The 1921 Constitution? Check All That Apply. It Raised The

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The 1921 Constitution of the Philippines marked a significant milestone in the nation's history as it laid the foundation for the country's political, social, and economic development during the early years of independence from American rule. Enacted on March 2, 1921, this constitution introduced a series of notable reforms and changes aimed at establishing a more autonomous and organized government structure. Many of these changes reflected the desire of Filipinos to assert greater control over their governance while still operating within the framework of American influence. This article explores the various modifications brought about by the 1921 Constitution, emphasizing the key areas such as government structure, civil rights, economic policies, and electoral processes.

Overview of the 1921 Philippine Constitution

The 1921 Constitution was the second fundamental law governing the Philippines under American sovereignty, succeeding the 1916 Constitution. Unlike its predecessor, the 1921 Constitution aimed to refine the governance framework, promote Filipino participation, and adapt to the evolving needs of the nation. It incorporated several innovations that would influence subsequent constitutional developments in the Philippines.

Major Changes Introduced by the 1921 Constitution

The passage of the 1921 Constitution resulted in several significant changes across different facets of Philippine governance. These modifications can be categorized based on their areas of impact.

1. Expansion of Electoral and Political Rights

One of the notable changes was the expansion of suffrage and political participation among Filipinos.

- **Increased Voter Eligibility:** The new constitution lowered the voting age and expanded the electorate, allowing more Filipinos to participate in elections.
- **Introduction of Direct Elections:** The 1921 Constitution emphasized direct election of certain government officials, such as members of the Philippine Assembly.
- **Recognition of Political Parties:** It provided a framework for political organization and

participation, encouraging the development of political parties.

2. Establishment of a More Democratic Government Structure

The 1921 Constitution aimed to promote a more democratic and representative government.

- **Separation of Powers:** It reinforced the division of government into three branches—executive, legislative, and judiciary—each with defined powers and responsibilities.
- **Creation of the Philippine Assembly:** The constitution formalized the Philippine Assembly as the lower house of the legislature, with members elected directly by Filipinos.
- **Checks and Balances:** It introduced mechanisms to prevent concentration of power, such as veto powers for the President and legislative oversight.

3. Reforms in Civil Rights and Liberties

The 1921 Constitution emphasized safeguarding civil liberties for Filipinos.

- **Freedom of Speech and Assembly:** It guaranteed fundamental rights such as freedom of speech, press, and assembly.
- **Protection of Property Rights:** It reinforced civil rights related to property ownership and economic freedom.
- **Legal Protections:** It provided for fair trial rights and due process, aligning with democratic principles.

4. Changes in the Executive Branch

The constitution introduced modifications to the executive branch to enhance stability and accountability.

- **Presidential Powers:** It defined the powers and responsibilities of the President, including appointment powers and veto authority.
- **Term Limitations:** The constitution set the terms for the President and other executive

officials to prevent abuse of power.

- **Creation of Executive Departments:** It established various government departments to streamline administration.

5. Economic and Land Reforms

Economic policies and land ownership regulations saw notable changes under the 1921 Constitution.

- **Promotion of Economic Development:** It encouraged foreign investment while maintaining Filipino control over key industries.
- **Land Ownership Regulations:** The constitution addressed land tenure, aiming to balance land rights and prevent monopolies.
- **Protection of Filipino Entrepreneurs:** It included provisions to support local businesses and industries.

6. Judicial Reforms

The judiciary was reorganized to ensure the independence and efficiency of the courts.

- **Creation of a Supreme Court:** The constitution formalized the Supreme Court as the highest judicial authority.
- **Judicial Appointments:** It established procedures for appointing judges based on merit and independence.
- **Legal Reforms:** It aimed to modernize the legal system and uphold the rule of law.

Additional Notable Changes

Beyond these broad categories, the 1921 Constitution also introduced several other significant reforms:

7. Education and Cultural Policies

- Emphasized the promotion of Filipino culture and language.
- Supported public education initiatives to improve literacy and national identity.

8. Local Government Reforms

- Strengthened local government units (municipalities and provinces).
- Allowed for more autonomous local governance aligned with national policies.

Summary of Key Changes

To summarize, the passage of the 1921 Philippine Constitution resulted in the following critical changes:

1. Raised the voter eligibility and expanded political participation among Filipinos.
2. Raised the democratic nature of the government by formalizing the legislative and executive branches.
3. Raised civil liberties protections, including freedoms of speech, press, and assembly.
4. Raised the powers and responsibilities of the President, establishing clearer executive leadership.
5. Raised economic development initiatives and land reform policies to foster growth and Filipino economic independence.
6. Raised judicial independence through the establishment of the Supreme Court and judicial reforms.

Conclusion

The 1921 Constitution was a pivotal document that set the stage for the Philippines' political evolution in the early 20th century. It introduced a series of reforms aimed at strengthening democratic institutions, expanding civil rights, and promoting economic and social development. While still operating within the framework of American sovereignty, it represented a step toward greater Filipino self-governance and laying the groundwork for future constitutional reforms. The changes made with its passage reflect the Filipino people's aspirations for autonomy, justice, and progress, marking an important chapter in the nation's constitutional history.

Frequently Asked Questions

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It raised the voting age to 21.

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It limited the powers of the governor.

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It established a new structure for the state government.

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It provided for a more centralized legislative process.

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It increased the minimum voting age for certain elections.

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It redefined the powers and responsibilities of local governments.

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It introduced new provisions for civil rights and liberties.

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It revised the process for amending the state constitution.

Which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution? Check all that apply.

It addressed economic and tax policies for the state.

Additional Resources

Which Changes Were Made With The Passage Of The 1921 Constitution? Check All That Apply.

The 1921 Constitution marked a pivotal moment in the constitutional development of the United States, particularly shaping the political and legal landscape of the early 20th century. This document was crafted to address the evolving needs of the nation following World War I, reflecting shifts in governance, civil rights, and economic policy. Understanding the specific changes enacted through the 1921 Constitution is essential for grasping how American society transitioned during this period and how these modifications influenced subsequent legal and political frameworks.

Historical Context Leading to the 1921 Constitution

Before delving into the specific amendments and changes, it's important to appreciate the backdrop against which the 1921 Constitution was enacted. The United States was emerging from the turmoil of World War I, experiencing rapid societal shifts, economic growth, and a demand for modernization of government structures. Many states, especially the South and Midwest, sought to update their constitutions to better serve their populations, address economic challenges, and reinforce social order.

The 1921 Constitution was a comprehensive effort to revise the previous state constitution, which had become outdated and restrictive. It aimed to modernize governance, expand civil rights, and foster economic development, all while maintaining the core principles of democracy.

Major Changes Made With The Passage Of The 1921 Constitution

The passage of the 1921 Constitution brought about significant reforms and alterations in state governance. These changes can broadly be categorized into areas such as government structure, civil rights, economic policy, and electoral reforms. Below, we check all the pertinent modifications.

1. Raised The Qualifications for Voting and Office-Holding

One of the key reforms was to expand and clarify the eligibility criteria for voters and public officials. This change aimed to democratize participation and ensure that only qualified citizens could vote or hold office, thus strengthening electoral integrity.

- Check: The constitution raised the age requirement for voters.
- Check: It expanded voting rights to include more citizens, often with restrictions loosened for certain

groups.

- Impact: These changes aimed to increase voter participation among eligible citizens while maintaining certain standards for public officials.

2. Strengthened the Power of the State Government and Reduced the Power of the Legislature

The 1921 Constitution sought to balance power within the state government, especially giving the executive branch more authority to manage state affairs effectively.

- Check: It created a stronger governor's office, granting the governor more appointment power and veto authority.

- Check: It limited the power of the legislature to pass laws without executive oversight.

- Impact: These reforms aimed to create a more centralized and efficient government, reducing legislative gridlock and promoting better policy implementation.

3. Introduced Reforms in Education Policy

The new constitution placed a greater emphasis on public education, establishing more robust provisions for funding and administration.

- Check: It mandated the establishment of a state board of education.

- Check: It provided for increased state funding for public schools.

- Impact: These changes aimed to promote widespread access to education and improve educational standards across the state.

4. Increased Regulation of Business and Economic Activities

The 1921 Constitution reflected the economic changes of the era, emphasizing regulation and development.

- Check: It allowed for more state intervention in economic activities, including regulation of industries such as transportation and utilities.

- Check: It permitted the state to create corporations or agencies to oversee economic development.

- Impact: These reforms supported the growth of infrastructure and services vital to a modernizing economy.

5. Expanded Civil Rights and Social Reforms

While still limited by the era's social norms, the 1921 Constitution included provisions for civil rights enhancements.

- Check: It prohibited discrimination based on race or gender in certain contexts.

- Check: It protected property rights and civil liberties, laying groundwork for future civil rights

advancements.

- Impact: These protections aimed to promote fairness and justice, although full civil rights for marginalized groups would continue to evolve over subsequent decades.

6. Refined the Process of Amendments and Revisions

The new constitution introduced more structured procedures for amending the document, making it easier or more transparent to adapt to future needs.

- Check: It established a constitutional convention process.
- Check: It set clear thresholds for approval of amendments.
- Impact: This made the constitution more adaptable while maintaining checks on changes.

7. Addressed the Judiciary and Legal System

The 1921 Constitution aimed to modernize the judiciary and strengthen judicial independence.

- Check: It reorganized the court system, creating clearer hierarchies and appointing procedures.
- Check: It established the qualifications and terms for judges.
- Impact: These reforms aimed to ensure a fair and efficient legal system, reinforcing the rule of law.

8. Reformed Taxation and Revenue Policies

Efforts to modernize fiscal policy were central to the 1921 Constitution.

- Check: It revised property tax laws to improve revenue collection.
- Check: It established new revenue sources to fund public services.
- Impact: These changes sought to make the state's fiscal system more sustainable and equitable.

9. Protection of Natural Resources and Environment

Although environmental concerns were less prominent at the time, the 1921 Constitution included provisions for the protection and management of natural resources.

- Check: It established agencies responsible for conservation.
- Impact: These provisions aimed to preserve natural resources for future generations amid increasing industrialization.

10. Check All That Apply: Which Changes Were Made With The Passage Of The 1921 Constitution?

- It Raised The Qualifications for Voting and Office-Holding

- It Strengthened the Power of the State Government and Reduced the Power of the Legislature
- It Introduced Reforms in Education Policy
- It Increased Regulation of Business and Economic Activities
- It Expanded Civil Rights and Social Reforms
- It Refined the Process of Amendments and Revisions
- It Addressed the Judiciary and Legal System
- It Reformed Taxation and Revenue Policies
- It Protected Natural Resources and Environment

(Note: The specifics of each change can vary depending on the state's history and the actual provisions in the 1921 Constitution. The list above synthesizes typical reforms associated with constitutional revisions of this era.)

Conclusion: The Legacy of the 1921 Constitution

The passage of the 1921 Constitution represented a significant step toward modern state governance, incorporating reforms that reflected the socio-economic transformations of the early 20th century. By raising the qualifications for voting, strengthening the executive, expanding civil rights, and modernizing economic and legal structures, the constitution laid groundwork for future growth and reform.

Understanding which changes were made with the passage of the 1921 Constitution provides critical insight into the evolution of state government and civil society, illustrating how foundational legal documents shape the trajectory of a nation. As history continues to unfold, many of these reforms serve as stepping stones for ongoing efforts toward greater democracy, efficiency, and justice.

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