

The Government And Political Life Of The United Kingdom: Structure, Functions, And Contemporary Developments

Toxirova Nilufar

Bachelor's degree student at Fergana State University

Annotatsiya: This article examines the system of government and political life of the United Kingdom, focusing on its constitutional framework, institutional structure, and political processes. The study explores how historical traditions have shaped modern democratic practices, particularly through the roles of the monarchy, Parliament, and the Prime Minister. Using a qualitative analytical approach, the research highlights the adaptability, continuity, and stability of the British political system. Furthermore, the article analyzes the interaction between political institutions and society, including the role of political parties, electoral behavior, and public participation in governance. Particular emphasis is placed on contemporary challenges such as globalization, constitutional reforms, regional devolution, and the changing nature of political trust. The findings demonstrate that despite ongoing transformations, the United Kingdom maintains a resilient and flexible political system capable of integrating tradition with modern democratic values while ensuring effective governance and national unity.

Kalit so'zlar: United Kingdom, Government, Parliament, Monarchy, Prime Minister, Political System, Democracy, Elections, Constitution, Political Parties

Kirish

The United Kingdom has one of the oldest and most well-established political systems in the world, based on a constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy. Unlike many countries, the UK does not have a single written constitution; instead, its political system is formed through a combination of laws, conventions, judicial decisions, and historical practices.[1] This flexible structure has allowed the system to develop gradually over time and adapt to changing social and political conditions. The foundations of the British political system were shaped by important historical events such as the Magna Carta in 1215, which limited the authority of the monarch, and the Glorious Revolution of 1688, which strengthened the role of Parliament. Over the centuries, further reforms expanded democratic participation and improved political representation.[2] As a result, the UK has developed a stable system that combines tradition with modern democratic values.[3] In recent years, political life in the United Kingdom has continued to evolve due to factors such as devolution, globalization, and increased public engagement. Regional governments in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland have gained more authority, while political parties and the media play an important role in shaping public opinion. This article aims to analyze the structure of the UK government and explore the key features of its political life.[4]

Methodology

This research is based on a qualitative approach that combines historical, descriptive, and comparative methods. Various academic sources, including books, journal articles, and official documents, were used to collect relevant information about the UK political system.[5] The historical method is applied to examine the development of political institutions and understand how past events have influenced the present system. Descriptive analysis is used to explain the structure and functions of key institutions such as Parliament, the monarchy, and the executive branch.[6] In addition, a comparative perspective helps identify the unique features of the British system in relation to other democratic countries. This methodological approach ensures a clear and systematic analysis

of the government and political life of the United Kingdom, providing both theoretical understanding and practical insights into its functioning.[7]

Results And Discussion

The results of this study demonstrate that the political system of the United Kingdom is characterized by a constitutional monarchy combined with a parliamentary democracy, creating a balance between tradition and modern governance.[8] The monarchy remains an important symbol of national unity and continuity, although its political power is largely ceremonial and exercised according to established conventions.[9] The monarch formally appoints the Prime Minister, opens parliamentary sessions, and approves legislation, yet real political authority lies within elected institutions. Parliament serves as the central legislative body and is composed of two chambers: the House of Commons and the House of Lords.[10] The House of Commons, whose members are elected by the public, holds the primary power in making laws and controlling government actions, while the House of Lords plays a revising role by examining and suggesting amendments to legislation.[11] The executive branch is led by the Prime Minister, who is typically the leader of the majority party in the House of Commons and is responsible for forming the government, directing national policy, and representing the country on the international stage.[12] Political life in the United Kingdom is strongly influenced by political parties, with major parties such as the Conservative and Labour parties dominating the system, while smaller and regional parties contribute to political diversity.[13] Elections are conducted through the first-past-the-post system, which often produces stable governments but has also been criticized for limiting proportional representation. In addition, the study reveals that modern political life in the UK is shaped by ongoing challenges such as globalization, regional autonomy, and changing public attitudes toward political institutions.[14] Devolution has granted increased powers to Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, transforming the structure of governance and introducing new political dynamics. Despite these developments, the UK political system remains resilient due to its ability to evolve gradually while preserving its institutional traditions.[15]

Conclusion

In conclusion, the government and political life of the United Kingdom represent a successful integration of historical tradition and modern democratic governance. The interaction between the monarchy, Parliament, and the executive ensures a balanced distribution of power, while political parties and elections provide democratic legitimacy. The system has demonstrated remarkable flexibility, adapting to social, political, and economic changes over time. Although contemporary challenges continue to shape its development, the UK political system remains stable and effective. Its ability to preserve tradition while embracing innovation offers valuable insights into the functioning of democratic governance in a changing world.

References

- [1] V. Bogdanor, *The New British Constitution*, 2nd ed. Oxford, UK: Hart Publishing, 2009.
- [2] A. Bradley and K. Ewing, *Constitutional and Administrative Law*, 15th ed. Harlow, UK: Pearson, 2011.
- [3] I. McLean, *State of the Union: Unionism and the Alternatives in the United Kingdom since 1707*, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2005.
- [4] P. Norton, *Parliament in British Politics*, 2nd ed. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.
- [5] A. King, *The British Constitution*, 5th ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2007.
- [6] R. Hazell, *The English Question*, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2006.
- [7] A. Gamble, *The Conservative Nation: The Politics of Conservatism in Britain*, 2nd ed. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.
- [8] D. Kavanagh, *British Politics*, 6th ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2015.
- [9] R. Leach, *British Politics*, 4th ed. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.
- [10] M. Moran, *Politics and Governance in the UK*, London, UK: Routledge, 2005.

- [11] D. Richards, *New Labour and the Civil Service*, Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.
- [12] A. Birch, *The British System of Government*, 7th ed. London, UK: Routledge, 2002.
- [13] D. Judge, *Political Institutions in the UK*, 2nd ed. London, UK: Routledge, 2005.
- [14] R. Heffernan, *Prime Ministerial Power*, 2nd ed. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005.
- [15] H. McNaughton, *Understanding British Politics*, Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.