**Types of Regimes**

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| **Type of Regime** | **People Who Hold Power** | **Governmental Power** | **Countries Example** |
| **Monarchy** | One | All decisions done by king or ruler | Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Brunei, medieval England |
| **Dictatorship** | One | All decisions done by ruler. | Libya, Cuba, North Korea, Nazi Germany |
| **Aristocracy** | A few (usually a small ruling class) | All decisions done by ruling class. | Ancient Sparta |
| **Oligarchy** | A few (usually a small group of wealthy individuals) | All decisions done by ruling class. | Renaissance Venice |
| **Liberal or Direct Democracy** | Many or all | Citizens make all the decisions. They gather frequently to vote on laws, regulations, and appointments. There are no elected representatives. | Ancient Athens, some African countries |
| **Social** **Democracy** | Many or all | Supports economic and **social** interventions to promote **social** justice within the framework of a **liberal democratic** polity and a capitalist mixed economy. | Most European Countries |
| **Participatory or Representative Democracy** | Many or all | Citizens elect officials to act on their behalf. If the officeholders disappoint or anger them, the citizens can choose new officials at the next election. A regime that runs by representative democracy is known as a **Republic.** | United States |
| **Totalitarian** | One | Absolute power; controls every aspect of its citizens’ lives | Soviet Union, North Korea, Nazi Germany |
| **Autocratic** | One | Less powerful than a totalitarian regime but still controls most aspects of its citizens’ lives; often associated with a single ruler; often arbitrary | Iraq before the 2003 American invasion |
| **Authoritarian** | One | Less power than totalitarian regime but still controls most aspects of its citizens’ lives; often outlasts its rulers | China, Egypt |
| **Constitutional** | Many or all | Limited by specific rules, such as the citizens’ right to free speech or freedom of religion | United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Japan |
| **Anarchist** | None | No power, or simply no government; can occur when a government loses its power | Somalia |