

HSST POLITICAL SCIENCE

Part IV: Theories and concepts of Public Administration

Module II-New Trends in Public Administration

C- Comparative Public Administration (CPA)

- Comparative public administration is the study of **public administrative system** from a comparative perspective and in cross-national and cross-cultural contexts.
- It focuses on **the structure, processes, behavior, roles, and impact** of public administrative system at the international level.
- **Father** of Comparative Public Administration-**Fred Riggs**

Origin of comparative public administration

- **Woodrow Wilson** created with introducing comparative study of Public Administration
- Importance of comparative approach “**The study of administration in Political Science Quarterly**” (Essay)
- But it gained momentum after **World War II**
- **American Political Science Association** Fueled its growth

Defining of Comparative Public Administration

Jong .S .Jun describes, “CPA has been predominantly **cross-cultural or cross-national in orientation**”.

Robert H. Jackson defines CPA is that **facet of the study** of public administration which is concerned with making rigorous cross-cultural comparisons of the structure and processes involved in the activity of administering public affairs”

Nimrod Raphaeli defines CPA is a study of public administration on a comparative basis CPA **is a newcomer to the community of academic instruction and research.**

Fred Riggs

- **Father of comparative Public Administration**
- **Chairman for 10 years in CAG (1960-1970)**
- He **noticed** Shift from Normative to Empirical studies,
- Shift from ideographic studies to universal studies,
- Shift from non-ecological study to ecological studies

Comparative Administrative Group (CAG)

It defines “CPA is a theory of administration applied to the **diverse cultures and national settings** and the body of factual data by which it can be examined and tested”.

Comparative Administrative Group (CAG)

- ❖ Comparative public administration gained prominence in **1962** when the Ford Foundation received significant funding to run the **Comparative Administrative Group (CAG)** within the American Society for Public Administration.
- ❖ Throughout the sixties, the CAG organized many research, essays, experimental lectures, and special seminars with administrators.
- ❖ This CAG was led by **Fred Riggs**. He gave a theoretical form to comparative public administration.
- ❖ Other contributors to this field are **Leonard White, Robert Dahl, Feral Heady, Ramesh Arora, Paul Mayer, etc.**
- ❖ CAG developed a programme with three objectives of CPA.
 - To **encourage research** in comparative public administration
 - To encourage **teaching of comparative public administration**
 - To contribution to more **effective public policy formulation in the field of development administration.**

Objectives of CPA

- It is the classification of administrative systems.
- It believes in the notion of **value neutrality**.
- It is search for theory by **doing comparative research of public administration** in different countries
- A comparative analysis will be done on the **ongoing problems of public administration**

Purposes of CPA

- To learn the **distinctive features of a particular administrative system** or a cluster of systems.
- To explain the factors responsible for **cross-national and cross-cultural similarities** and differences in administrative structure, functions, behavior, and impact.
- To examine the causes for the success or **failure of particular administrative systems** in their ecological settings. Thus, the discipline looks closely at the dynamic interaction between administrative systems and their respective environments, including their positive and negative influences.
- To understand **the strategies of administrative reforms**, their processes and impacts and the factors **responsible for the level of success or failure of reforms**

Comparison of Traditional vs Comparative Public Administration

- Public administration is ethnocentric while comparative public administration is cross-cultural
- Public administration is Practitioner oriented while comparative public administration concerned about theory building and seeking knowledge

