

<p>(a) the <u>European</u> Type and</p> <p>(b) The <u>American</u> Type.</p>	<p>The American Type</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The U.S. parties are essentially election-oriented. • American parties are led by professional politicians, many of whom are not democratically elected. • American parties have closer to the masses because of dual process of strengthened party structure and increasing influence of the people • An important feature of contemporary US parties is that their local committees have become very powerful; state committees enjoy lesser powers; and the central organisation is rather weak. • Another feature of American system is lack of party discipline among the members of the Congress. They speak and vote according to their individual decisions. In this respect they are closer to some of the multiparty democracies rather than the British parties.
<p><u>Mass Parties</u> which emerged with popular support base especially from common man, they are mass parties.</p> <p>People's movement are more likely to become mass parties. For example Several parties in the newly independent third world countries are generally mass parties.</p>	<p>Socialist Parties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These parties believe in socialism to be brought about by the peaceful democratic means of parliamentary process. • They believe in rule of law, rather than violence or revolutionary methods. • They sought to abolish capitalism through legislative measures. • Socialist parties accept the superiority of the parliament. Therefore, they respect their members of parliament. • Many countries in the world had or have socialist parties as important actors in the liberal democratic processes. • British Labour Party was described as the pioneer of the socialist parties. <p>But, with the commencement of rapid liberalisation in the decade of 1990s, the talk of destruction of capitalism suddenly gave way to adoption of a capitalist path even by democratic parties including the British Labour Party.</p>
	<p>Communist parties:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are based on the ideology of Marx and Lenin and they seek close contacts with the masses. They are much better organised and disciplined as compared to other parties. • Communist parties follow the principle of 'democratic Centralism', which implies democratic participation of members in party structure, but centralised decision making and supervision.