

Machiavelli's Prince

The basic philosophy of the Prince is that the state is the highest association. The subjects must completely merge themselves in the state. A successful state is one which is founded by a single man. The laws which he creates reflect national character of the state.

The scale for measuring the success or failure of a state is the material prosperity which it has achieved or is enjoying. A successful prince might not be very much moral but he must adopt all those means by which he could remain in power. He must combine in himself the law and the bruteness. He should use both as the time required. He must know how to play fox and lion. He must keep himself on guard from his neighbouring states. He should command the confidence of the people not by giving powers to his subjects,

"Faith is a force of life." - Leo Tolstoy

but by spreading network of his intelligence and deception when necessary. He must catch and severely punish conspirators. He must promote economic prosperity of his subjects. It is by this way alone he can get respect of the people.

Machiavelli believed that the Prince is above all laws. The state security knows no laws. There are always two codes of conduct in a state, one for the individual and other for the state. The evil must be repudiated with evil and that too with equal and if possible with more vigour and strength. The individual and the state laws need not to be combined at any stage otherwise it will be the end of the state. The law giver, the Prince, is above all conduct. The state knows no ethics. The ends justify the means. The Prince must not bother to see the morality or immorality of the means. He could steer through both to achieve the ends.

"Faith will move mountains." - Proverb

