

#2 History of the Rule of Law

The concept of the *rule of law*- the idea that even rulers should be subject to the law and not above it- dates back to ancient times, with Babylon's Code of Hammurabi among the first sets of written laws.

The ancient Greeks and Romans, believing that the law should apply equally to all citizens, developed the concept further, with Athenian democracy and the Roman Republic, two of the most important milestones. Later, in medieval England, the Magna Carta established the principle that even a monarch was not above the law.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, Enlightenment thinkers like John Locke and Montesquieu further developed the concept of the rule of law, emphasizing the importance of limiting the power of the government and protecting individual rights. In the United States, the concept of the rule of law was enshrined in the Constitution, which established a system of checks and balances and guaranteed certain individual rights.

Today, the rule of law is a fundamental principle in many democratic societies and is seen as essential for ensuring justice, promoting stability, and upholding democracy.

To learn more, scan the QR code!



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