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Q.1 Define subgroups of a group and ~~give~~  
~~an example.~~

Soln: Subgroups of a group:  $\rightarrow$  Let  $(G, *)$  be a group and  $H$  is any subset of  $G$  such that  $H \neq \emptyset$ . Then by properties of a group

$$\forall a, b \in H \Rightarrow a, b \in G, \text{ for } H \subset G$$

$$\Rightarrow a * b \in G \Rightarrow a * b \in H \text{ or } a * b \notin H.$$

If  $a * b \in H$ , then we say that  $H$  is stable for the composition in  $G$  and the composition in  $G$  has induced a composition in  $H$ . Now, there are two possibilities.

(I)  $H$  is itself a group with respect to the operation  $*$ .

II  $H$  is not a group with respect to  $*$ .

Q.2. Define subgroups and give an example.

Soln:  $\rightarrow$  Subgroups:  $\rightarrow$  A non-empty subset  $H$  of a group  $G$  is called a subgroup of  $G$  if  $H$  itself a group with respect to the operation defined in  $G$ . For example.

$[\{1, -1\}, *]$  is a subgroup of  $[\{1, i, -i\}, *]$

and  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$

Also,  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$  is a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ .

Q.3. Let  $H$  be a non-empty subset of a group  $G$ . Then  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  iff  $a, b \in H \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in H$ , where  $b^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $b$  in  $G$ .

Proof: There are two conditions arise in this question.

I Necessary conditions:  $\rightarrow$  Let us first suppose  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $a, b \in H$ . Since  $H$  is a group, each element of  $H$  must have its inverse in  $H$ . Thus, if  $b \in H \Rightarrow b^{-1} \in H$  and then by closure property  $ab^{-1} \in H$ . This proves the necessary condition.

II Sufficient Condition:  $\rightarrow$  Conversely, let  $H$  is a subset of  $G$  for which  $a, b \in H \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in H$ . We have to prove that  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , we must verify that  $H$  is closed, the identity element  $e \in H$ , every element of  $H$  has an inverse in  $H$  and the associative law holds for elements of  $H$ .

Let  $b = a$ , then we see that  $a \in H \Rightarrow aa^{-1} \in H \Rightarrow e \in H$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  identity element of  $G$  also belongs to  $H$ .

Now, for the element  $e$  and  $b$  of  $H$ , we have  $ea^{-1} \in H$  and so  $b^{-1} \in H$ , since  $b$  is an arbitrary element of  $H$ , we see that for any  $b \in H$ ,  $b^{-1} \in H$ .

Now,  $a, b \in H \Rightarrow ab^{-1} \in H$   
 $\Rightarrow a(b^{-1})^{-1} \in H$  [by hypothesis]  
 $\Rightarrow ab \in H$

$\Rightarrow H$  is closed.

Finally, since the associative law does hold for  $H$ , it also holds for  $H$  which is a subset of  $G$ .  
 $\Rightarrow (H, *)$  is a subgroup.