

# Crisis of Good governance in Pakistan: Needs for reforms and institution-building

## I- Introduction:

Thesis Statement: Good governance in Pakistan remained a wishful thinking due to various reasons but pragmatic approaches could bring reforms and uplift institutions.

## II- How can the term "good governance" be understood?

- 1- It entails how the state institutions conduct public affairs.
- 2- As per UN, it has eight characteristics.

## III- How can the crisis of good governance in Pakistan based on these UN indicators?

- 1- Pakistan is performing badly on these governance indicators given by UN.
- 2- Pakistan is struggling in term of its performance on governance model.

## IV- What are the causative factors that led to poor governance in the country?

- 1- Colonial legacy leads to extractive institutions
- 2- Civil-military imbalance led to military takeovers.
- 3- Patronage politics hampered the governance's efficiency

## V- What are the reforms needed for the institutional building and good governance in Pakistan?

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DATE:

- 1- Institutional / Administrative Reforms
- 2- Economic reforms
- 3- Political reforms
- 4- Evidence-based policy
- 5-

VI What are the best international practices that Pakistan can adopt for good governance.

- 1- China: Under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping transformed China economically.
- 2- Estonia: It became a digitalized state.

VII Conclusion

Acemoglu and James Robinson argue in their book "Why nations fail?" that there are two prominent reasons that potentially lead to the bad governance. First, overabundance of extractive institutions which entails nepotism, incompetency and failure. Second, the absence of inclusive institutions, which ~~creates~~ <sup>undermines</sup> the driving forces such as integrity, professionalism and meritocracy. Similarly, Dr. Ishrat Hussain in his book "Governing the ungovernable" makes a point that bad governance is the bedrock of a failed state. It is pertinent to say that Pakistan has been entrenched into the gangrene of bad governance since its inception. The attributes of good governance given by UN, are largely missing in the governance structure of the country. Colonial legacy, civil-military imbalance and patronage politics are the causative factors of crises of the governance. However, robust reforms in administrative, political and economic structure could salvage the country out of the bad governance. For better outcomes, some best international practices are to be followed such as China and Estonia. Good governance remained a wishful thinking in Pakistan due to various reasons but conducive approaches could bring reforms in governance.