

Democracy is Incomplete without Effective Local Governments

I- Introduction

Thesis Statement: Democracy is incomplete without effective local governments because they are the cornerstone of grassroots democracy. Without them, democracy remains in a state of wear and tear. Hence, it is vital to strengthen local government to ensure democracy.

II- Why democracy is incomplete without effective local governments?

a) local governance ensures grassroots democracy.

b) ensures participation of marginalised community.

c) strengthens ^{political} accountability and ensures good governance.

d) effectively deals with

public grievances.

e) creates social and political awareness among masses.

f) provides women opportunities bridging the gender gap.

g) ensures economic sustainability and human development.

h) serves as a catalyst to combat extremism and terrorism.

III - Challenges in the way of effective local governments that hinder democracy

a) Political crisis is a major hurdle in effective local governance.

b) Discretionary powers repeatedly used by federal and provincial governments to weaken local governments.

c) Delay in elections is another impediment in the way of local governance and democracy.

d) Lack of fiscal devolution.

e) Untrained and unskilled local governments.

f) Politicisation of Bureaucracy

IV- Roadmap to reinvent local governments for strong democracy

a) Ensuring local government elections on time.

b) Coordinating role of federal and provincial governments.

c) Implementing Article 140(A) and Article 32.

d) Fiscal devolution and availability of funds.

e) Local governments need to be well-equipped and well-trained to address public grievances.

V- Conclusion

Social Polarisation is making Pakistan more intolerant and rigid

I- Introduction

Thesis Statement: Social polarisation has divided the people of Pakistan making them stubbornly intolerant and highly divisive. Therefore, social polarisation needs to be curbed in order to Pakistan tolerant and progressive.

II- How Social Polarisation is making Pakistan more intolerant and rigid?

a) The trend of populism is accelerating social polarisation.

b) Extremism and radicalisation is mounting in Pakistan.

c) Ethnocentrism and xenocentrism also trigger social polarisation.

d) Religious differences and sectarianism is escalating unprecedently.

e) Poor-rich divide and marginalisation is increasing

f) Unemployment is another factor that triggers social polarisation.

g) Linguistic differences also accelerate social polarisation.

h) Poor judicial system has also paced up polarisation.

III - Impacts of Social Polarisation in Pakistan that make it Intolerant and Rigid

a) Spoils the image of country at international level.

b) Social polarisation breeds extremism and militancy.

c) Intolerance in society results in brain drain and economic catastrophe.

d) Violation of human rights.

e) makes the youth intolerant

and divisive.

IV - Roadmap to Curb Social Polarisation in Pakistan to make it Tolerant and Progressive

a) Robust education can be gamechanger.

b) Political stability and vibrant leadership is the need of hour.

c) Taking religious scholars on board.

d) Awareness among masses to become tolerant and patient.

e) Investment in human development is the key.

V - Conclusion