

Crisis of Good Governance In Pakistan.

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Crisis of Good Governance in Pakistan

Introduction:-

"If a dog dies hungry on the banks of the River Euphrates, Umar will be responsible for dereliction of duty". - Hazrat Umar Farooq (R.A).
It means that good governance is only the key to meet the responsibilities of the society in a good way. If in any country these basic needs not fulfil properly its means governance of that country is very bad. Good governance is a prerequisite for social harmony, public order, political stability, economic prosperity and certainty about the future. It delivers the fruit of progress and development evenly to all and sundry.

~~Crunch paragraph~~ But unfortunately owing to lack of unity, shallowness of faith, dearth of discipline in all spheres of life have made of more than seven decades old country behave like a toddler who finds it difficult to stand on its feet.

Essentials for good governance

1. There are many essentials for good governance in Pakistan, one of them is rule of law in Pakistan. It refers to the principle that all individuals, institutions, and the government are subject to and accountable to the law. It emphasizes the fair and equal applications of laws, protection of fundamental rights, access to justice, and the independence of judiciary. It is the main pillar of any society. According to Barack Obama the rule of law is the foundation of civilized society. If we want Pakistan become a civilized society then it is very important to implement rule of law by those who govern the society.

2. Moreover political stability is also the main ingredient of the good governance. It provide a conducive environment for effective decision making, policy implementation and help in overall development of the country. According to the UNDP

"Human Development Index". The UNDP's Human Development Index considers political stability as one of the factors influencing a country's human development. Country with stable political conditions - tends to rank higher on the HDI, which measures a nation's overall development in terms of life expectancy, education, and it is the sign of good governance.

3. Similarly socio-economic development is also an important element of the good governance. In a country when governance works properly then poverty alleviated, promotes economic growth by providing a stable and predictable business environment. ~~Access~~ Through these measures socio-economic development occurs that is very helpful for the development of Pakistan.

Causes of governance crisis in Pakistan

Political causes

In Pakistan, many political causes like military intervention, issues of provinces and negative role of

elected representatives are the main causes of governance crisis.

Pakistan is a democratic country, military always intervenes for the sake of peace in chaos environment. If military intervention is just limited towards stability of peace in the country then country's governance work in a good manner. But if military intervenes for the sake of abolish of democracy and dictator become the head of the state then governance failed and country's development not possible.

Similarly, issue related to provincial autonomy and resources distribution have been a longstanding challenge in Pakistan. There have been disputes between the federal government and provincial governments over the allocation of resources, such as water, natural resources and financial funds. Northern Sui gas originated from the

Balochistan, but the public of the Balochistan still deprived. These uneven distribution of resources are the main cause of the governance crisis.

Moreover negative role of elected representatives also contributed in the governance crisis. Their negative behaviour of the and actions can undermine effective governance. Some of elected representative re involved in the corrupt practices. Embezzlement of public funds, bribery, and other forms of corruption erode public trust, hinder development, and divert resources away from essential public

services. According to the report of 2022 Pakistan's CPI ranked was 140 out of 180 total countries on the index of corrupt countries. These practices are the main cause of governance crisis.

Economic Causes:-

Many of economic causes are involved in the governance crisis. Like economic mismanagement, poverty and inequality and lack of

Investor confidence lead the
governance crisis.

In Pakistan, unsustainable
fiscal policies, inefficient
resources allocation and excessive
public debt, can lead to
economic instability and
negatively impact governance.
According to World bank
report Pakistan external debt
reached 125.7 USD bn in March
2023. It is a very alarming
situation for Pakistan
economy and also main
cause of governance
crisis.

Moreover poverty also
contributed in the
governance crisis. When a
significant portion of the
population is left behind
and lacks access to
basic necessities, it can
lead to social unrest
and instability in governance.
According to UN Human
Development report, Pakistan
has gone down by seven
slots in the year 2021-2022.
Now Pakistan ranks 161 out of
192 countries which estimates
that half of Pakistanis live
in poverty. This poverty is

the main cause of governance crisis in Pakistan.

Similarly foreign investors have no trust on Pakistan's government. Because in Pakistan no transparency in business that deter domestic and foreign investors. A lack of investor confidence leads to reduce investment, hampered economic growth and limited job creations. Investment to GDP ratio as per Economic Survey of 2022-2023 stood 13.6%. This, in turn, negatively affects governance by hindering the government's ability to generate revenue, provide public services and implement development projects.

Moreover absence of accountability culture, is also main cause of governance crisis. Without robust culture of accountability public officials may engage in corrupt practices. Without a culture of accountability, public officials may neglect their responsibilities, leading to inefficient service delivery. This can result in a lack of access to quality

education, healthcare, infrastructure and other essential services.

When citizens' needs are not adequately addressed, it leads to dissatisfaction, social unrest, and a crisis of governance.

Administrative Causes:-

Administrative causes play a crucial role in determining the effectiveness and efficiency of governance. When there are shortcomings or challenges in administrative practices, it can lead to a crisis in governance.

Weak institutional capacity can hinder effective governance. This includes factors such as limited resources, insufficient skills and expertise, outdated systems and processes, and inadequate infrastructure. When institutions lack the capacity to deliver public services, make informed decisions and implement policies, it can lead to a governance crisis characterized by the failure to meet the needs of the population.

Moreover, administrative inefficiencies and bureaucratic

red tape can impede the smooth functioning of institutions and delivery services. Complex and time-consuming procedures can hinder effective governance. This can lead to delays, corruption and dissatisfaction among citizens, contributing to a governance crisis.

Similarly, inadequate service delivery due to lack of resources and low budget allocation can also hinder the effective governance. Pakistan spent very low budget on education and health sector. According to UNDP report, Pakistan spent on education 0.9% and on health education 2.2%. That is very low as compared to Nepal and Bangladesh. Low budget allocation make these institute weak that is the main cause of governance crisis.

Security causes:-

Pakistan has faced security challenges, including terrorism and insurgency, which

Stained governance. According to Global Terrorism Index prepared by Australia's Institute for Economics and peace ranks seventh after Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen, and followed by India, Congo and the Philippines. Having Afghanistan, India and Pakistan among the top 10 in this category is not an encouraging sign for regional counterterrorism efforts. These

These issues require significant resources and attention from the government, diverting focus and resources from other governance priorities.

Wayforward:-

Pakistan facing many governance crisis which leads the Pakistan down and down. It is important that Pakistan take serious steps for the welfare of Pakistan. Pakistan needs to ensure an independent and impartial judiciary that

upholds the rule of law. Human Rights Watch's recently released report on prison's delayed cases that completed more than one generations.

It is the responsibility of the Pakistani's government to make the judicial system accessible to poor and less powerful people. To introduced mobile apps, updating litigants on the status of their cases and issuing summons and notices electronically

is commendable. These reforms are very ^{important} in role of law for the betterment of the governance system.

Moreover, transparency and accountability is very important for good governance. According to transparency International report 2023 Pakistan's rank

score stands at 28/100 out of 180. Now need of hour,

is to take steps like Singapore and China to

combat corruption. Singapore continuous fight with corruption

since 1980s, that's why

today's situation of Singapore (3)

GDP is - too much good.
Gulf states, where there
were sand and people
would live in tents
without getting involved
in corruption, these
countries utilized their
natural resources and
left Pakistan far behind.
Nature has given our
country with resources
along with hard working
citizens but corruption is
the only hindrance
in the development of
country.

Moreover, promotes
decentralization by empowering
local governments and
devolution of powers, because
it is very necessary
for the maintenance
of good governance. This
can lead better service
delivery, increased citizens
participation, and more effective
governance at the local
level. Enhance the capacity
and professionalism of
public servants through
comprehensive training programs
and merit-based recruitment

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Processes, Performance - based evaluations and incentives can also motivate public servants to deliver better services.

Similarly, if women are empowered in all fields of life governance can be better. According to Eagen's 2022-2023 report on parliamentary performance, women have outperformed men in both the NA and Senate with 36% of the agenda coming up in the NA put forward by them and 30% of it in the Senate. Women parliamentarians also attended more sessions, with 66% attendance in the NA compared to 53% by men. Representation of women in the politics can help in maintaining good governance in the Pakistan.

Similarly, Economic reforms are very important for the betterment of governance. Foster and enabling environment for economic growth and investment by implementing business-friendly

policies, reducing bureaucracy, and improving the ease of doing business. To make flexible and good foreign policies with neighbour countries specially with china, Russia and UAE countries. This can help in many forms. Create small industries in Pakistan like china this can help in create employment opportunities and reduce poverty, ultimately contributing to better governance.

Moreover Build and strong and independent institutions such as the Civil Service, police and regulatory bodies. Allocate the high budget towards education and health sector like other countries. Because literate community can easily change the world, and health of individual is very important for the development of the country. "A report by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation finds that every \$1 invested in starting education generates 130

about \$18 in economic returns". Providing adequate resources and infrastructure can also enhance their effectiveness.

Conclusion In a nutshell, Pakistan has been grappling with a governance crisis for a considerable period of time. The challenges of corruption, weak institutions, and lack of transparency have hindered the country's progress and undermined public trust. However, there is hope for a brighter future.

Addressing the governance crisis require a multi-faceted approach. Strengthening the rule of law, enhancing transparency and accountability, combating corruption and promoting decentralization are crucial steps. Additionally improving public service delivery, implementing electoral reforms, engaging civil society and media and initiating economic reforms can contribute

to a more effective
governance system.

The road to better
governance in Pakistan is
not an easy. It
requires the commitment
of political leaders, the
support of citizens
and the collaboration
of various stakeholders.
Efforts should be made
to prioritize the interests
of the nation over
personal or partisan
gains. By implementing
the suggested remedies,
Pakistan can pave the
way towards a more
inclusive, transparent and
prosperous future.

It is essential to
remember that building a
strong governance system
is a continuous process
that requires sustained
efforts and periodic
evolutions. It is only
through a collective determination
and unwavering commitment
to good governance that
Pakistan can overcome its
governance crisis and
move towards a more prosperous
and equitable society.