

QUESTION:

Explain the Turkey 2023 election in the light of current amendments in the constitution.

ANSWER:

Introduction:

General election took place on 14 May 2023. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his main rival, Kemal Kilicdaroglu, will go head-to-head in a runoff election after Erdogan outperformed expectation but fail to reach the 50% threshold to win the presidential race.

The president score 49.51% against his rival 44.88%, with small number of overseas votes left to count.

According to Anadolu Agency, 88.84% of Turkey's 64 million eligible voters cast their votes during the first round.

When no candidate achieved 50% than the head of Supreme electoral board announced that runoff will take place in 28 May 2023 again. But in 28 May and result announced in 29 May 2023 Tayyip Erdogan extended his rule into a third decade.

By defeating Kemal Kilicdaroglu. However, Erdogan took 27.73 million votes which is 52% of the total while Kemal Kilicdaroglu took 25.43 million votes. According to Anadolu data on May 28 84.22% population cast a votes in second round of presidential election.

⇒ Why people of Turkey choose the Erdogan Again:

a) Maintain Inflation:

when ~~Ed~~ Erdogan was selected as Prime Minister for the first time in March 2003, the inflation in Turkey was reached to 80% which affect many people by poverty and hungry but when Erdogan Assuming the government he dropped the inflation from 80% to 7-8% in the time period of 2003 to 2018-19, the main reason people choosed Erdogan.

b) allow womens to put headscarves:

In 1999, the women with a name "Marwa Safa Kouchi" won the election and enter to the paelieent

for a oath ceremony but, when she
standup for a oath, the parliament
oath taker refused to take a
oath from that women because she
wearing a scarves on her head.

In 1980 turkey was banned by
taking scarves on women heads.
So, law maker said to a girls to
put away your scarf so we
will take a oath from you but
she refused to take out her scarf
and gone out of the parliament
without taking oath. Furthermore
they also canceled her nationality
However, when Erdogan got elected
he promised the public i will removed
the sanction on scarves soon
and finally, He succeed in his
work and Turkey lifts decades
old ban on headscarves in 2013.

In 2016, the sister of Mawla got
elected as a parliament member and
took the oath in a scarves, Rizva
Kaochi wore the same headscarf as
her sister Mawla when she was
prevented from entering parliament
in 1999. Additionally, this oath was
also a victory for Islam.

c) Construction work for the people:

It is true that Erdogan has won millions of votes through his impressive mega projects including a huge mosque on an Istanbul hill, a third airport (one of the world's biggest) for the city, roads, highways, and bridge over the Bosphorus

d) Muslim Revival:

After a decade of his rule, Mr Erdogan's party also moved to lift ban on scarf was introduced a military coup in 1980. Mr Erdogan always denied wanting to impose Islamic value, insisting he supported the right of Turks to express their religion openly. According to Paul Kirby in BBC news once he said no muslim family should consider birth control or family planning we will multiply our descendants in May 2016.

Current constitution of Turkey:

A constitution referendum was held in Turkey on 16 April 2017 on whether to approve 18 proposed amendments to the Turkish constitution. 51.41% of votes were cast in favour of changing the constitution while 48.59% of votes were cast against the changes in constitution. However, in this constitution the number of seats in parliament was raised ~~to~~ from 550 to 600, while, among a series of other proposals, the president was given more control over appointments to the Supreme Board of Judges and prosecutor. The referendum was held under a state of emergency that was declared following a failed military coup attempt in July 2016. According to Al-Jazeera some changes are explained below:

- 1) The prime minister's office and the cabinet will be abolished.
- 2) The president will become the head of the state and head of government as well and will be allowed to issue decrees.

- 3) The president will be allowed to retain ties to a political party.
- 4) Parliamentary terms are extended from four to five years. Parliamentary and presidential election will be held on the same day every five years.
- 5) Parliament will lose its right to interpellation.
- 6) The president will have criminal liability.
- 7) The president will have broad authority over the high council of judges and prosecutor.