

Pakistan. In which form of government is suitable to make country politically stable?  $\leftrightarrow$

### Introduction:

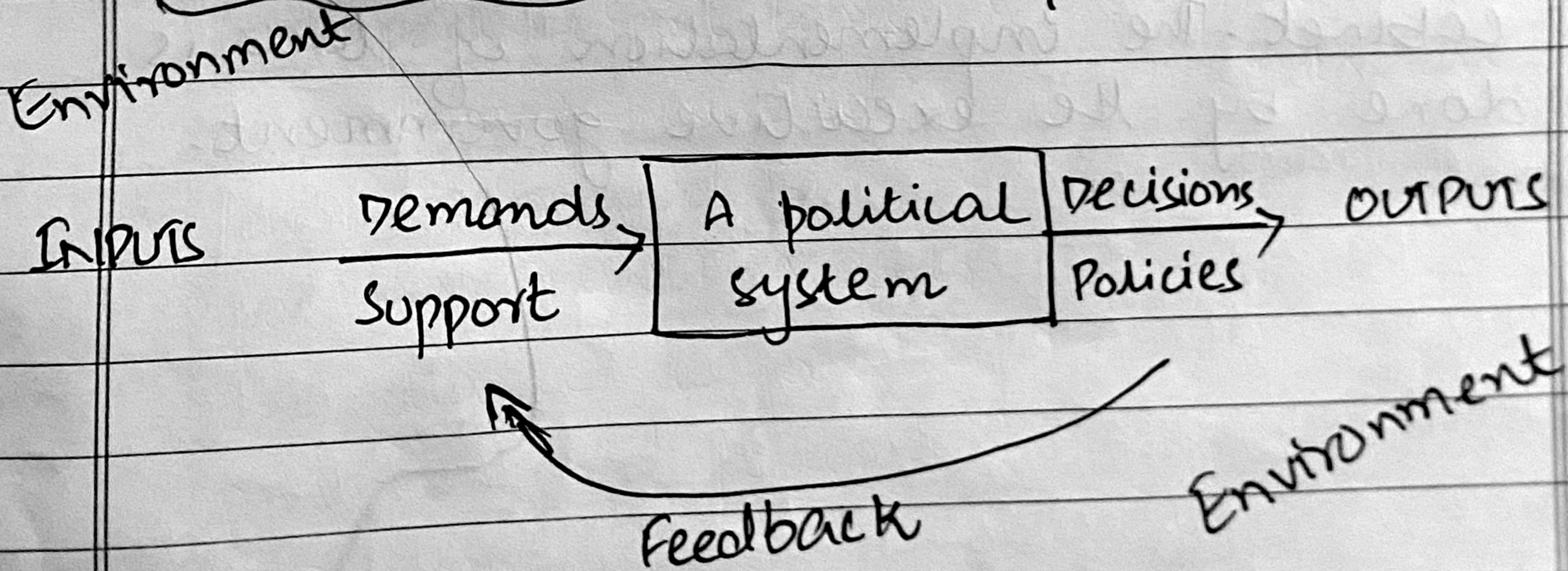
The framework under which politics takes place in Pakistan is established by the constitution. Pakistan is an Islamic and federal parliamentary state with Islam being its ~~region~~ religion. Pakistan is divided into four provinces and one capital territory, with the president head of the state and Prime minister head of the government.

### Political System of Pakistan

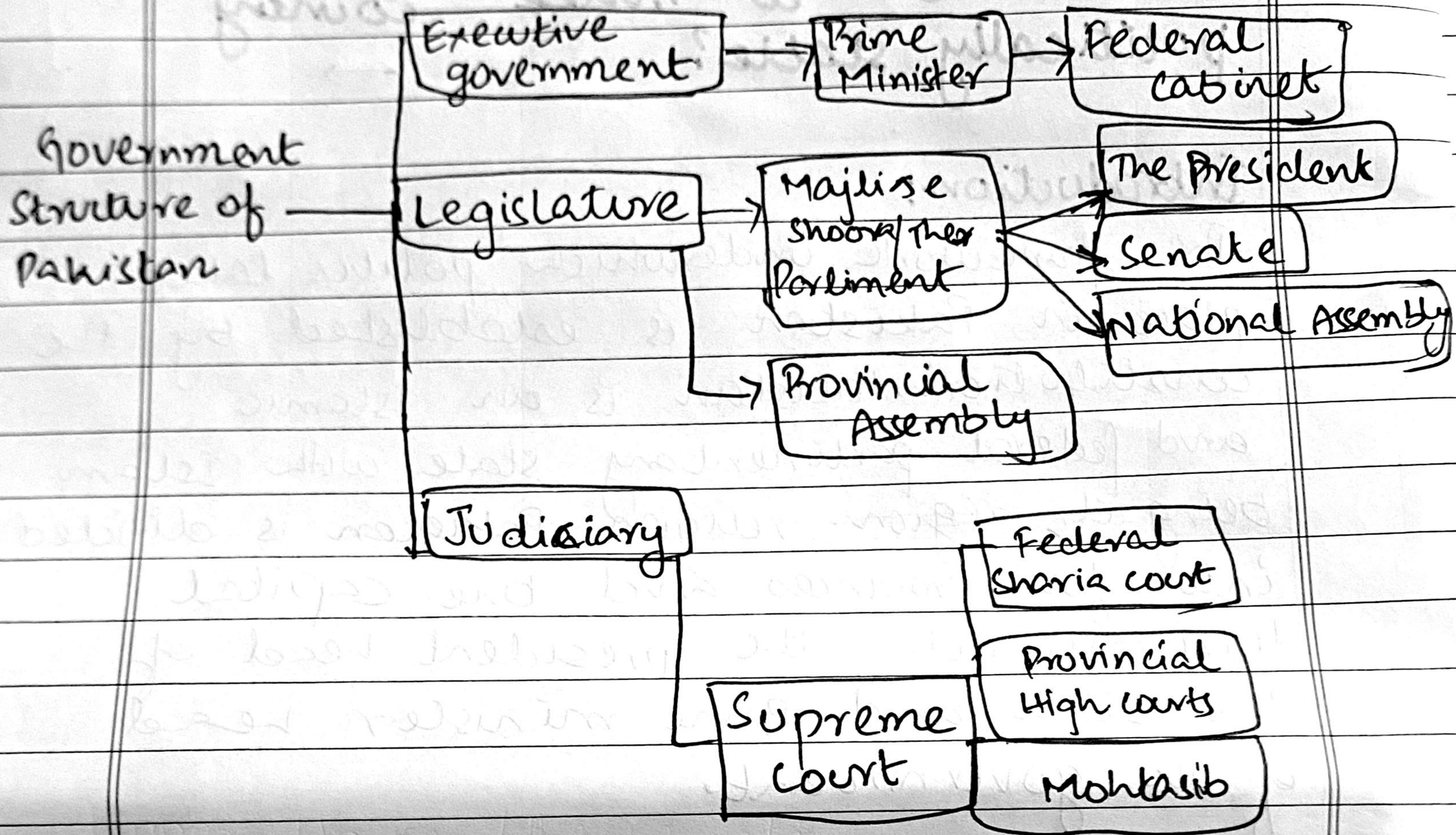
What is political system?

A political system consists of people and institutions which demonstrates the state's sovereignty over a territory and its people. The major types of political systems are democratic, authoritarian and monarchies.

### David Easton's model of a Political System



# Political System of Pakistan



## Executive Government

The Prime Minister is appointed by the members of the Majlis-e-Shoora through voting. The Prime Minister is assisted by the federal cabinet which comprises minister and advisors. The executive authority of federation rest with Prime Minister and federal cabinet. The implementation of law is done by the executive government.

## The Presidents:

The President is the head of state, who should be Muslim and not less 45 years of age. The President of the state is elected through the National Assembly. The President is elected for 5 years term. ~~and~~

## Majilis - e - Shoora (The Parliament)

The bicameral federal legislature is the Majilis - e - Shoora, which comprises of two houses upper house and lower house.

~~Upper House / Natio~~

~~Lower House / National Assembly~~

Upper House / Senate

The National Assembly has 336 seats. Seats are distributed on the basis of population. Of 336 seats, 266 are directly elected on the first past the post basis. 60 seats are reserved for women, and 10 for non-Muslims. Seats are allocated to four provinces and federal

Senate, also known as the House of Federation. All the provinces have equal representation in the Senate i.e. 23 seats for each province and four seats are for the federal capital

## Lower House / The National Assembly

Province/Area	General seats	Women seats	Non-Muslims	Total
Balochistan	16	4		20
KPK	45	10		55
Punjab	141	32		173
Sindh	61	14		75
Federal Capital	3	-		3
			10	10
Total	266	60	10	336

## Upper House / The Senate

Province/Area	General Seats	Ulema	Women Seats	Non Muslims	Total
Balochistan	14	4	4	1	23
KPK	14	4	4	1	23
Punjab	14	4	4	1	23
Sindh	14	4	4	1	23
Federal Capital	2	1	1	-	4
Total	58	17	17	4	96

## Judiciary:

The 1973 constitution provided a free and independent Judiciary. The Judiciary includes the Supreme Court, High Courts, Federal Shariat Court, subordinate courts, special courts and administrative

## The Supreme Court:

The Supreme Court is the Apex Court of Pakistan. The Court consists of Chief Justice and sixteen other judges. The Chief Justice of Supreme Court is appointed by President on the advice of Prime Minister. An individual can be appointed as Judge of Supreme Court if he has served as a judge of High Court for five years or practiced as an advocate of a High Court for a period of fifteen years.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is three fold

Original Jurisdiction (Article 184)

Appellate Jurisdiction (Article 185)

Advisory Jurisdiction (Article 186)

## High Courts

There are five High Courts, four provincial High Courts and one federal capital territory High Court. Decisions of lower courts/special courts can be challenged in the High Court.

## Federal Shariat Courts

Federal Shariat Court was established by the military Ruler General Zia ul Haq. The Court consists of eight judges of which not more than three can be Ulema. It serves as Appellate court against the orders passed under Hudood

## Types of Government

There are two types of government  
presidential government and parliamentary  
government.

### Parliamentary form of Government:

In this form of government, the power  
to elect the Head of government is  
vested into legislature.

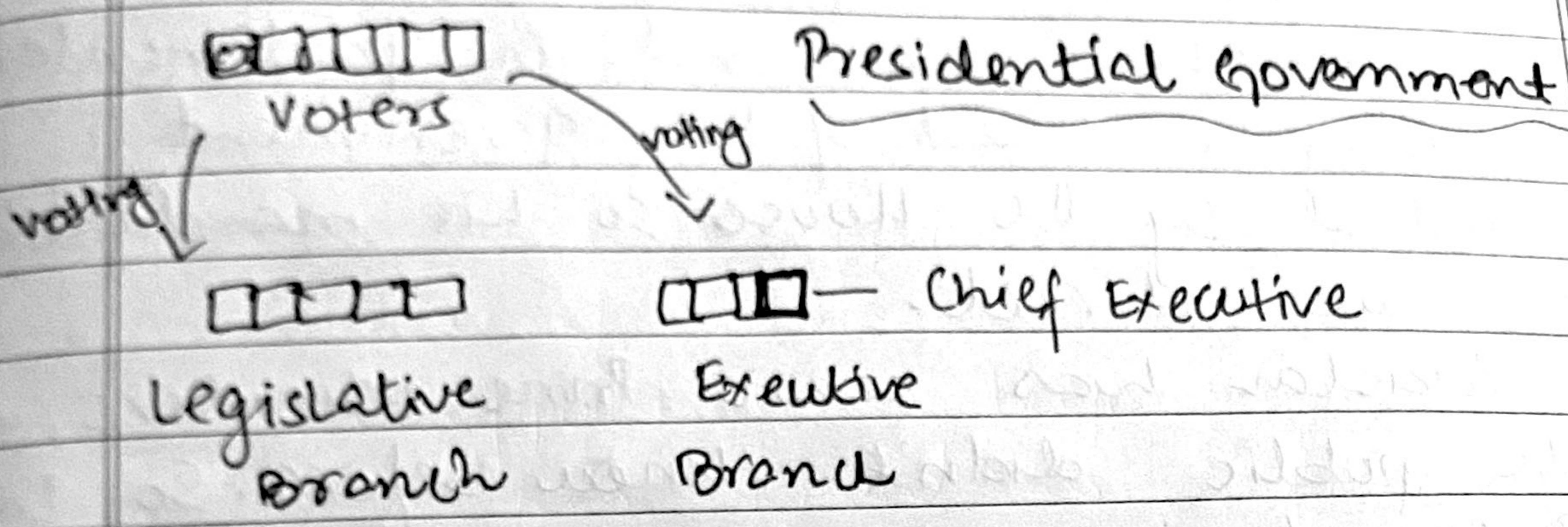
- Head of the government can be removed through vote of no confidence by 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority
- Head of government is required to be the member of National Assembly from where he was to be elected.
- Only members of the national assembly can be selected as ministers.
- The cabinet is accountable to the House for its acts.

### Presidential form of Government:

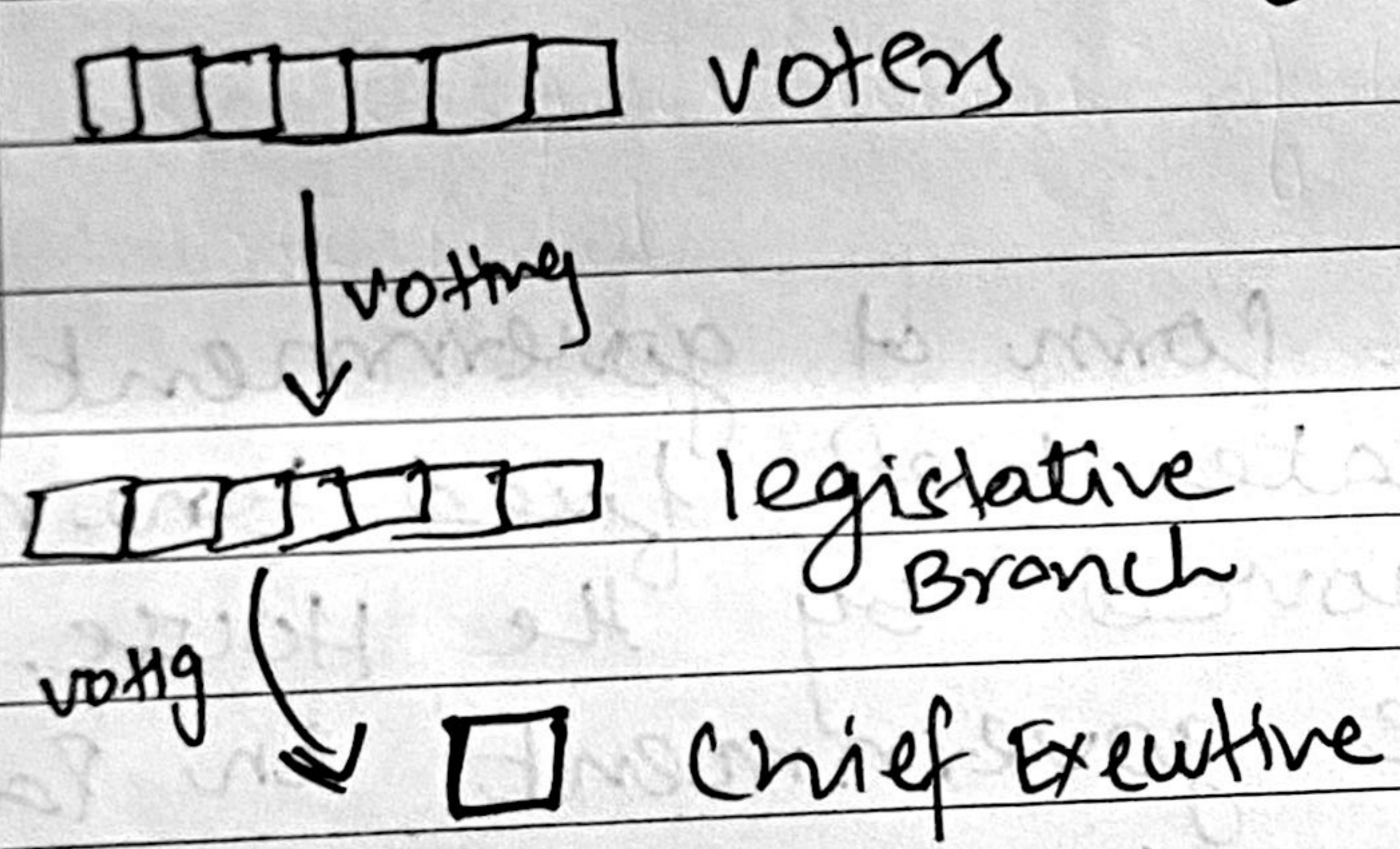
In this form of government, the power to elect the Head of the government is not vested in to the parliament. The Head of the government is directly elected by the people.

- Head of the state can't be removed by the House
- Head of the state is not required to be the member of house.
- People other than members of national assembly can be elected as ministers
- no accountability of President

Which type of government is best for Pakistan?



Parliamentary Government



Which type of government is best for Pakistan?

There is not one right way of organizing a government system. Each system has its own advantages and disadvantages. Before suggesting the best type of government for Pakistan, merits and demerits of both systems will be discussed.

Merits of Presidential system / Demerits of Parliamentary system

Direct Mandate

President is elected by the public

themselves in this form of government. Thus, there is direct mandate for him remaining in the power.

On the other hand, in parliamentary system, the head of the government is elected by the House, so his mandate is not direct.

Pakistan has seen Prime Ministers, which the public didn't know before. So, in Parliamentary system an individual with no public approval may become Prime Minister.

### Stability

In Presidential form of government, the head of the state has fixed tenure and can't be removed by the House. Whereas the head of the government in Parliamentary government can be removed by the Parliament through vote of no confidence under the Article no 95 of the constitution of Pakistan.

The Prime Minister is vulnerable to easy removal which makes the government less stable. On the other hand head of the state in Presidential government has fixed tenure and his removal is a difficult process which makes the government stable. As a result the President can take long term



### No Accountability:

In Presidential form of government unlike Parliamentary government is not accountable to the Parliament for its acts, while in Parliamentary government the executive body is accountable to the House.

### Discretion on appointment of ministers:

In Parliamentary government, the ministers are drawn from the national assembly, because of which the Prime minister has very little choice. Experts of many departments may not be available, on the other hand, in Presidential government, the President has a choice to select minister expert on subject from wider population as cabinet is not required to be drawn from the legislature.

### Powers of Electables:

The real power in parliamentary government is vested in legislators as they elect the head of government and ministers. In Pakistan, politicians who have better chances to get elected dominate the political system. Each political party is keen to keep such politicians on their side. However these politicians push on their own interest instead of doing ~~more~~ ethical politics.

Contrarily, in Presidential system, the president doesn't need the support of politicians or electables.

## Demerits of Presidential System Merits of Parliamentary System

### Friction among Government Organs:

Separation of power <sup>may</sup> cause delay in the implementation of government programmes. In Parliamentary govt In Presidential government, executive, legislature and Judiciary are independent of each other. This separation of power becomes a grave when two different political parties are in power, for example the President is from different political party and the party holding majority in the parliament may be a different one. However, In Parliamentary government such situation may lead to friction among government and parliament.

### Prone to Dictatorship

In Presidential government is prone to dictatorship or abuse of ~~beas~~ office because of the concentration of power which is vested in President office. The President's removal is not an easy