

Submitted by - Omaima Zafar.

## 5. Colonial Mentality in Military

a. enjoying perks and privileges just like colonial masters, better salary structure than civilians

b. military interventions hindering democratic and economic progress

Fifth comes the military that is unfortunately no less than any other institution which reflects the colonial mentality in its implications. This superiority complex has been quite obvious in the recent decades which is being proved to be detrimental for the development of the country. The lavish life style and ever increasing economic opportunities for the military in a country where unemployment is at <sup>the</sup> peak has caused a rift and an environment of uncertainty and inferiority among the civilians.

This colonial mindset of having all the perks and privileges and economic



dominance is reflected quite aptly in the book *Military Inc.*, written by security analyst, Ayeshma Sridiver. According to this book, the military economic empire holds more than \$10 billion in assets, including nearly 7 million hectares of land. She further says that the economic hold extends to all the major sectors of the economy, agriculture, manufacturing and services. They not only enjoy these luxuries and huge amount of salaries which are incomparable to the salaries of the average civilians but also serve in the higher civilian sectors such as, NADRA, HEC, PPSC and in universities as the vice chancellors. On addition to this, military involvement in political affairs has put the country on the path of political and economic instability. Political stability is one of the prime factors of and is inevitable to economic strength.



The greed of being dominant in political as well as economic administration reflects the colonial mentality of the Institution that has caused the democratic and economic turbulence in the Country. The February 2024 election showcases the Pak military's involvement in the domestic political process. The confusing and disorganisation with which the results were announced have spread widespread claims of vote rigging. These controversial elections further exacerbated the political instability which ultimately led to the further depression of the economy. Thus the colonial mentality in military has severely damaged the political and economic progress of Pakistan.