

Future of Democracy in Pakistan

outlines:

- 1- Introduction
- 2- Importance of Democracy
- 3- Democracy and Pakistan- Past, Present and future
- 4- Threats to Democracy

- a- Distorted Political culture
- b- Influence of Military.

Case in point: Military has ruled the country for 38 years.

Afterwards, indirectly influencing democracy from behind the close doors.

- c- Economic crisis

Case in point: According to Economic survey of Pakistan (2023-2024) fiscal deficit is 488 Billion USD.

Irrelevant

d-

Illiteracy - Lack of Political awareness.

case in point: Literacy

rate in Pakistan is 59%, with males at 71% and females at 48%. only 67% children complete elementary education. (The Nation)

e-

Unbridled Media

b-

Pakistan's democracy is

Political tool for power

g-

Menace of Terrorism

h-

case in Point: According

to report of NACTA, from 2001 to 2022 Pakistan lost

83 thousand lives and 35 trillion rupee financial loss owing to terrorism.

5-

Suggestions to achieve Thriving ~~future~~ of Democracy

a-

Strengthening the political parties

b-

Need of Assertive and independent judiciary.

c- Rise of Urban-middle class
 case in point: The Wall Street Journal asserted that Pakistan has 42% of middle class.

d- ~~The need for grand national dialogue.~~

e- **Formation of** more administrative units for effective governance.

f- Economic uplift of country.

g- Participation of youth in political process.

Quaid e Azam asserted; Democracy is in our blood, it is in our marrow.

b Conclusion

The topic has not been properly deconstructed

The Essay

Emphasizing the importance of Democracy; Noam Chomsky had advocated; In this possibly terminal phase of human existence, freedom and democracy are just more than ideals to be followed rather its necessary for survival.

Sustained in a country with a democratic process and its acceptance. The trajectory of democracy in Pakistan has faced many challenges, since its creation in 1947.

Some of these include; prolong military interference, absent of political culture, economic crisis, terrorism and role of democracy as fuel

of ~~power~~ amidst of these threats to democracy, these are certain suggestions to thrive the future of democracy in Pakistan. These include national political dialogue, strengthening the political parties, economic uplift and participation of youth in political process. There is no second ^{opinion that democracy is} pre-requisite for Pakistan to earn respectable status in the world. By taking pivotal steps, Pakistan can become true democratic state in the world.

Start with topic sentence instead of quotation

The renowned philosopher John Dewey had rightly stated "The cure for the ills of democracy is more democracy". Democracy is a

process not state. It
 empowered the citizens to
 bring about changes through
 participation and persuade the
 powerful act for greater
 good. It has ability to
 accommodate changes from below
 through expansion of voting
 rights and protection of
 civil liberties. Democracy has
 vital role in transforming
 the world from power
 of monarchy and empire to
 popular rule and self-determination.

Before proceeding,
 firstly discuss the past and
 present condition of democracy
 in Pakistan.

The creation of

Pakistan was the result of political and democratic struggle. The founder of country was great democratic statesman. He envisioned democratic Pakistan. His death was fine blow to political process of Pakistan. First prime minister of Pakistan Liaqat Ali Khan was elected from east Pakistan. He was not acceptable to west Pakistan and ultimately eliminated from the scene. He did not have enough time to focus his attention on development of democracy. Later conspiracies, undemocratic value invited military rule in country for 38 years. In 2008 democratic government formed after 9 years of martial law.

There was smooth transfer
 of power from 2008 to 2014
 But current democracy is
 facing many challenges
 which have not let the
 true democracy to prevail.
 and culminate in election rigging
 allegations and protests have
 troubled the democratic process.

First major threat to
 to democratic process in
 Pakistan is distorted political
 culture. The clouds of uncertainty
 are hovering over democratic
 culture. military interventions have
 distorted the political culture.
 democracy looks like something
 exist, but that thing
 doesn't exist. political parties
 apart from military have

major role in this manner. They are the necessities of democracy. Political culture can not flourish unless political parties are established on firm basis.

Another factor that has been meaner to the democracy is the influence of military, as this remains a major stakeholder in politics. Military has ruled the country for 38 years with four military coups. Afterhand, it has influenced the democracy indirectly through influencing the decision making behind the close doors. It is threat continuously hanging over government on one hand and encouraging the undemocratic

forces on the other hand.

Similarly, economic crisis in other major threat to democracy. As it has barriers to the government performance and delivery of services. A major sector of population is living life of impoverishment. Economic crisis is contributed by persistent dependence on IMF bailouts, budget deficit, fiscal deficit. According to Economic Survey of Pakistan (2023-2024), fiscal deficit is 484 Billion USD. This economic uncertainty has widened the gap between government and public and has been crucial factor in exacerbating the democracy of Pakistan.

Adding little to these factors, is illiteracy including lack of political awareness.

A report by "The Nation" indicated that literacy rate in Pakistan is currently 59% with 71% male and 48% female literacy. It further added that only 67% children complete the elementary education. This is alarming situation, as illiterate people are unaware of democratic norms and major portion of educated people also lack political awareness. So it seems unreasonable to expect culmination of democracy in nation with such heart-breaking statistics.

Another factor is unbridled media posing threat to democracy. Free media has significant role in thriving the political process. But media is subjected to certain rules and ethics. In Pakistan the media scarcely follows these rules and ethics. Media in face of increasing rating and capturing the attention of viewers, distort the facts and misinform people. It pursues yellow journalism and put aside. whereas ^{constructive} criticism is positive, under castigation cause wrath of public and ultimately they desire a democratic change as undemocratic one.

Besides, Pakistan's democracy is a political ~~side~~ tool for power. This tool used by prominent social groups to maintain the prestige and wealth. The panoply of power comprising top tiers of political; Bureaucrats, business folk and military figures. The civil and military leadership compete for power, but eventually cooperate to maintain their status quo. In why nations fail, James Robinson argued that nations do not succeed or fail due to geography but because of inclusive institutions within them. These inclusive institutions concentrate power in hands

of few elites with less constraint on power. economic institutions are used to extract resources from rest of society. political institution allow them to control power. This thesis indicate how powerful groups use social economic and political structure to take advantage

Lastly, Terrorism is major threat to people around the globe. The world is intimidated of the menace of terrorism. Its afflictions are pervasive. The recent attack ^{on} of chimerah worked in Balochistan and workers from Punjab have demonstrated the deep rooted bases of Terrorists in country. It has led to security

distrust among masses and
severe blow to status of
Pakistan at international level.

A report of NACTA have
assessed that Terrorism has
caused 87000 deaths from
2001 to 2022 and 35 billion
dollar loss to financial sector.

The social, political and
economic effects of terrorism
are depicting the turbulent
situation for government and people.

Irrelevant details

First way to achieve
the thriving future of democracy
in Pakistan is to strengthen
the political parties. These are
the basic institutions of democracy
and provide foundation to
edifice of democracy. Political
parties have to reorganize

and work in democratic lines. These have to establish their roots at grass root level. Currently political parties are not really political because their baseless show support from establishment then public.

The politics that is being witnessed during election disappears once government is elected. Political parties must ensure intra-party elections. Well organized parties with duly elected party officials would lay the foundation of true democracy.

Secondly independent and assertive judiciary is the need of the hour. They must ensure rule of law and justice within society.

They provide platform to common to get addressed of their issues. They must ensure that no law could be made that violate rights and democratic norms of state. Judiciary must be free of all seen and unseen restrictions.

In addition, the rise of large and more assertive urban middle has essential role in democratic consolidation.

The Wall Street Journal has asserted that Pakistan has 47% urban middle class

population. This sector of society must play role in country's politics by aligning governance with demographic changes. Francis Fukuyama argued

in his book "Political order and Political decay" that vibrant middle class and urbanism have considerable impact on implementing democracy in state. When middle class emerge in state its economic participation and political consciousness increase. The economically self-sufficient class demands political space, which act as pressure to build rhetoric of democracy.

Another major way to prosper future of democracy is the need of grand national dialogue. In this, ^{regard} all the stakeholders come together to create a new charter of democracy. There should be commitment of all political leaders to embed democracy in its

entirety and the practice of democratic norms, intra party elections and regular audit of party funds. They must commit not to disrupt the political process. They should not shy away from talking to each other.

Furthermore, All the political parties in opposition and government should focus on making more structural/administrative units for effective governance. One way is to turn 39 administrative units into province as stated by Ajzaq Syed in his article "Rewiring Democracy" in Dawn newspaper. There are many examples as; Afghanistan has 34 provinces with population one-sixth of Pakistan. Turkey

has 81 ~~hrs~~ population
which is one-third of
Pakistan. The advantage of
Smaller provinces is that
the service delivery can
be better assured. Since this
need constitutional amendment
so political leaders must
make generous efforts in this
manner.

In addition to
this economic uplift is very
essential to uphold the
democratic culture in society.
Economic growth bring prosperity
to life of common. Government
must focus on local industries
to increase the exports and
reduce the imports. Spending
of government officials must

be curb. employment rate should
 be increasing job the
 economic uplift of country.
 Economically culminating society
 will be closer and participate
 in political process in
 more effective way.

Lastly, participation of
 youth in political process
 should be encouraged. A large
 section of society comprises
 of youth. It is observed
 from history that youth
 had played important role
 in creation of Pakistan by
 participating mass awareness and
 opinion formation. So is the
 time now. There is enormous
 talent available in country.
 academics, journalists, political

activists seized public servants
 (both civil and military) who
 have extraordinary knowledge
 and commitment can inspire
 and mobilize the youth. They
 would have to inculcate the
 youth about true change
 and rigorous efforts to
 hold the democracy in
 Pakistan.

To sum up, there is
 no skeptical view that the
 democracy has paramount significance
 for the future of Pakistan.
 But its track record shows
 that it depicts gloomy picture
 Pakistan has been deprived
 of true democratic values.
 having the major role by
 both military and test

tube politician - dynastic, ^{politics} and
 power politics, intolerance and
 violence in politics has
 aggrieved the democratic process.
 Qureshi-e-Ajam told his fellow
 members in 1947 that; I do not
 know what the ultimate shape of
 constitution is going to be,
 but I am sure it will be
 democratic. He added democracy
 is in our blood, it is in
 our marrow. His philosophies
 are the basis of future government.
 Unfortunately for future of
 democracy, there is no solid
 base in past. Democracy is
 the product of wishes of
 people and not the desire of
 an elite few. Despite of
 all the threats to it, there
 is hope to have prosper

future of democracy in
 Pakistan. Like democracy evolve
 like beautiful tree, it may
 take decade to grow and
 spread out its branches to
 provide shade to people. There
 are no short cuts, patience is
 another name of democracy. For
 the better future of democracy.
 All the stakeholders must
 take crucial steps now, to
 provide its beautiful results
 to next generation.

Improve sentence structure

Focus on deconstruction of the topic