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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

~~Even~~ 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 ^{the} 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, Ayestha Sridiver. According to this book, the military economic empire holds more than \$10 billion in assets, including nearly five million hectares of land. She further says that the economic ~~hand~~ ~~holds~~ ~~control~~ ~~is~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~hands~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~military~~ ~~and~~ ~~is~~ ~~linked~~ ~~to~~ all the major sectors of the economy, agriculture, manufacturing and services. They not only enjoy these luxuries and huge amounts of salaries which are incomparable to the salaries of the ~~average~~ ~~citizens~~ ~~but~~ ~~also~~ ~~some~~ ~~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.

Establishment involvement

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 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.