

Pakistan is not a failed State, rather badly governed one.

**OUTLINE:** Already been evaluated

1. Introduction

Thesis statement:

Despite being plagued by polycrisis, Pakistan has always been very resilient country who <sup>has</sup> managed to pull itself out from the quagmire of crisis everytime. Bad governance is the only factor that pushes the country towards crisis.

2. Reasons of bad form of governance in Pakistan

a. Demoralized and politicized bureaucracy.

b. Moribund economy of the country.

c. Culture of impunity and lack of accountability.

d. Weak writ of the government

e. Persistent institutional decay.

f. Absence of independence of judiciary.

g. Ethnic and regional divide along with inter-provincial conflicts.

h. Lack of visionary leadership.

i. Scourge of corruption.

### 3. Panacea to ensure good governance in Pakistan

a. Urgent need of institutional reforms.

b. Ensure the mechanism of accountability.

c. Ensure rule of law and supremacy of constitution.

d. Need of civil service reforms.

e. Equitable distribution of resources.

f. Balance civil-military relationship.

g. Decentralization of power to local governments.

g. Ensure national integration of the country.

#### 4. Conclusion.

The failure of governance in Pakistan is the result of incompetence, inefficiency and corruption of institution that has eroded the ability of the country to deliver basic public services (Governing the ungovernable, Ishrat Hussain). Good governance implies to running the administration according to rules and laws by promoting public welfare in democratic oriented order. Bad governance mean departing from the norms of laws and pushing the administration into whims and idiosyncrasies of rulers to fulfill their ulterior motives at the cost of national interest. Pakistan is not a failed state, rather it is badly governed.

one. Several factors like the culture of impunity, scourge of corruption, moribund economy, politicization of bureaucracy, weak writ of government and lack of visionary leadership are responsible for bad form of governance in Pakistan.

Despite being plagued by polycrisis, Pakistan has always been very resilient country who has managed to pull itself out from the quagmire of crisis everytime. Bad governance is the only factor that pushes the country towards crisis.

One of the major reason of bad form of governance in Pakistan is demoralized and politicized bureaucracy. The interference of external forces has been a major impediment in the effective enforcement of policies and programs.

Demoralization and politicization

of bureaucracy marked by political interference, corruption and erosion of merit based system has hindered the effective implementation of policies (Governing the un-governable, Ishrat Hussain) Hence, bureaucratic inefficiency marked by the confluence of political interference and corruption has resulted into bad form of governance in Pakistan.

Similarly, moribund economy of the country has further put a strain on the already fragile form of governance of the country. The shrinking of foreign direct investment due to rise of terrorism and political instability has resulted into poor economic situation of the country. All these factors has contributed to the crisis of energy, food and water. The energy crisis in Pakistan

is not just a technical issue, but it reflects deep governance failure where corruption and mismanagement of resources has further exacerbated the problem (Issues in Pakistan's Economy: the political economy perspective of Pakistan, S. Akbar Zaidi). Hence, the moribund economy of the country marked by negligence and mismanagement of resources has resulted in ineffective form of governance.

Moreover, the culture of impunity and lack of accountability are the major loophole in the governance structure. Rich elites are indulged into lawlessness because of lack of accountability mechanism. A proper mechanism of accountability is very crucial to ensure that public officials are held accountable for their

actions and to gain the trust of people over the system (Governing the ungovernable, Ishrat Hussain). In a nutshell, the absence of accountability mechanism and culture of impunity has resulted into bad governance in Pakistan.

Furthermore, the weak writ of the government serves as a tool for bad governance in Pakistan. Pakistan lacks the essential components of effective government including competence, integrity, fairness and merit based system along with ability to carry out necessary reforms. Hence, due to the lack of essentials of good governance and the weak writ of government, Pakistan is suffering from bad form of governance.

Moreover, persistent decay of the institutions of the country has been a major impediment

in the way of effective form of the governance. Frequent political interference and lack of merit based system has resulted into the decay of public institutes of the country involving judiciary, Election Commission of Pakistan, National Action Bureau etc.

The institutional decay has been gradual but persistent marked by political interference, corruption and erosion of merit based system (Governing the ungovernable, Ishrat Hussain)

In a nutshell, the decay of public institutions of Pakistan due to corruption and nepotism culture has resulted into ineffective form of governance.

In the same way, absence of the independence of judiciary contributes to the bad form of governance in the country. The frequent interventions of

external forces has eroded the independency of judiciary. The judiciary of Pakistan has had a checkered history, that has oscillated between liberalization and subservience to executive, reflecting the changing political ideologies of the country. (The Constitutional and Political history of Pakistan, Hamid Khan). Hence, absence of judiciary has been a major impediment in the way of good governance.

Furthermore, the prevalence of ethnic and regional divide along with inter-provincial conflicts has eroded the base of good governance in Pakistan.

Pakistan, being a multi-ethnic and linguistic country, has been subjected to regional division that has made governance hard in the country. Economic growth in Pakistan has been

uneven along with regional disparities that has further fueled the grievance and the demand for autonomy from less developed provinces.

(Issues in Pakistan's Economy:

A Political Economy perspective of Pakistan, S. Akbar Zaidi)

In a nutshell, ethnic and regional divide along with interprovincial conflicts has resulted into ineffective form of governance

In the same way, lack of visionary leadership in Pakistan is the major factor that is responsible for bad form of governance in the country. The political leaders are only focused on the acquisition of power while neglecting the national interest on the cost of their ulterior motives. The political leaders of Pakistan lacks vision,

commitment and the ability to bring long term reforms in the country. (Governing the ungovernable, Ishrat Hussain). Hence, the governance structure of Pakistan remains in trouble due to the lack of visionary leadership in Pakistan.

Moreover, scourge of corruption in every sector of the country has resulted in underdevelopment of Pakistan. From the small sectors to the large sectors, the culture of corruption prevails in Pakistan where every single person is prioritizing their interest over the national interest. Hence, corruption has further impeded the way of the country towards development and good form of the governance.

When you change the way

you look at things, the things  
you look at change. - Wayne  
Dyer. Urgent institutional  
reforms is the need of hour  
to ensure good form of  
governance in Pakistan. Public  
institutions involving judiciary,  
NAB, ECP etc should be subjected  
to reforms to eliminate  
all the loopholes that leads to  
corruption and political interference.  
Anti-corruption courts should be  
made to held every official  
accountable. The need of  
urgent institutional reforms in  
Pakistan cannot be overstated;  
(without which Pakistan will  
continue to struggle even to  
provide basic public goods  
and services. (Governing the  
ungovernable, Ishrat Hussain)

Furthermore, the mechanism  
of accountability is very essential  
to foster good form of  
governance in Pakistan. The

culture of impunity has eroded the base of governance. Ensure that every official will be subjected to same mechanism of accountability in case of any offence. Special courts should be established for civil officials so that a check is maintained on their actions. In a nutshell, the mechanism of accountability will maintain a check and balance system on the public officials which will ultimately results in good form of the governance.

Moreover, rule of law and supremacy of constitution are the essential components of good form of governance. Every one should be equal before law and not one should be allowed to exempt from the rules for a effective form of governance. Rule of law should be prevailed at every cost, resulting in strengthening

of judiciary and trust of people over the government institutions. (Governing the ungovernable, Ishrat Hussain)

In a nutshell, the supremacy of constitution and rule of law will result in good governance as no person is allowed to exempt from the rules of the state.

In the same way, civil service reform is crucial to ensure a good governance structure of the country.

Reforms in civil services will enhance their competency resulting in prosperity of the country. Civil service reforms are the need of the hour which will provide a professional, competent and motivated civil servant. Without reforms in civil services, no meaningful reform can be sustained.

(Governing the ungovernable,

Ishrat Hussain). In a nutshell, civil service reforms is very essential to address the issue of bad governance in Pakistan.

Furthermore, equitable distribution of resources should be ensured as this will solve the inter-provincial conflict in the country. Every person should get equal opportunities. Pakistan has seen the period of economic growth. The growth was marked by increasing inequality where the benefits of growth was disproportionately accrued in the hands of small groups of elites (Issues in Pakistan's

Economy: A Political Economy Perspective of Pakistan, S. Akbar zaidi). Hence, socio-economic development along with equitable distribution of resources is very essential to make governance effective in Pakistan.

Moreover, a balanced civil-military relationship is very crucial to ensure the smooth running of governance. The intervention of military in civil affairs has resulted into very bad form of governance. Historically, military had a very dominant and detrimental role in the political history of Pakistan where the intervention of military in civilian affairs has resulted into decay of constitution. (The constitutional and Political history of Pakistan, Hamid Khan). In a nutshell, civil-military relationship should be balanced to prevent the interterance of military into civilian affairs resulting in good governance.

Furthermore, decentralization of power to the local government will result in good form of governance. This will decrease

the load of the center along  
will better delivery of service:  
Decentralization of power to  
the local government will result  
in better delivery of service  
and it will bring governance  
closer to the people. (Governing  
the ungovernable, Ishrat Hussain)

In a nutshell, decentralization  
of power to the local government  
will result in smooth  
running of governance and  
it will foster its effectiveness.

Additionally, ensuring  
the sense of national integration  
in Pakistan is very crucial  
to address its governance  
challenges. The ethnic, linguistic,  
regional and sectarian divide  
has resulted in the erosion  
of the sense of national  
integrity of Pakistan and  
it serves as the major  
impediment in the way of  
good governance in a nutshell,

national integration is very imperative for smooth functioning of governance.

In a nutshell, Pakistan has been a very resilient country as it has always managed to pull itself out from the variety of challenges. Unfortunately, bad form of the governance has been the major factor that pushes the country toward crisis.

The governance challenges of Pakistan including politicization of bureaucracy, lack of accountability, inter-provincial conflicts and the decay of its public institutes has hindered its development and prosperity. Reforms in civil services along with the ensurance of equitable distribution resources, balanced civil military relationships and decentralization of

power to the local government  
is the panacea to ensure  
good form of governance in  
Pakistan. We cannot change  
what we are not aware of, but  
once aware of, we cannot  
help but change. *Sherly Sandber.*