

1) DEMOCRACY & ILLITERACY can NEVER MOVE TOGETHER.

Outline:

1 Introduction.

2 Illiteracy Hindering the flow of democracy.

- i. Lack of awareness of rights derailing democracy.
- ii Illiterate masses cannot appreciate political theatre.
- iii Political aloofness of empty stomachs.^{lc}
- iv uneducated man's quest for livelihood.
- v Illiteracy promotes lack of Transparency.
- vi Voices of illiterate failing to echo in the echelons of power.
- vii Illiteracy creates a vacuum for dictatorship.
- viii Reluctance of executive education to provide education to masses.

Add few more arguments

3 Steps taken by world.

4 Good Education; Supplementary

Suggest remedial measures as well

oxygen for Democracy

5 Conclusion.

ESSAY

"Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice, are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education."

The western philosopher "Plato" presented the concept of "ideal state" in his famous book "Republic". He mentioned there that the prerequisite of ideal state is the educated public. His concept of ideal state is still applicable even after two millennia and three centuries. Democracy has basically three components, citizen, judiciary and media.

All these three factors can contribute to promote democracy only when they have ~~got~~ enough education. Literacy and education share a symbiotic relationship. They grow in the shadow of each other. Illiteracy, on the other hand, undermines the democracy. Illiteracy and democracy can not move together. The existence of the former ~~can~~ is the death of ~~later~~ illiteracy undermines the very democratic process in several ways. Firstly, ~~democracy~~ the illiterate people lack the awareness and vision to make the right decision. The illiterate people are only concerned with their livelihood. The sole concern of such people is only winning.

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the daily bread These people
have nothing to do with transp-
arency and good governance.
So the voices of such
illiterate people are easily
brushed aside ~~with~~ by the
executive. This is the reason
that our state is
reluctant to educate the
masses. Another and the most
important factor, is that
illiteracy creates a vacuum
for dictatorship. Every country
where literacy rate is
poor, democracy is also no
where. Pakistan is also
one of those developing
countries. Although, some argue
that there is no direct
relation of democracy and
literacy but they are oblivious
to this reality that the
effects of illiteracy on
democracy are visible in

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other words } democracy and
literacy go hand in hand,
and the poor literacy
rate is one of the
major causes behind the
stagnant democracy.

To begin with, the
lack of awareness of
rights is derailing the
democracy. An uneducated
man is unaware of his
duties and rights. So it
provides a chance to
the ruling class to
run the country with
complete authority. An educated
mind can critically analyze
that what is happening
around him. But an
uneducated mind is completely
blunt. For instance, Prince of
1914 when asked about
his reluctance to educate
the masses, ~~he~~ did not

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respond. Rather he organized
 a duck-shooting expedition,
 next day and also
 invited the enquirer there.
 When he shot the
 first duck, a large number
 of people jumped into
 the stream to collect
 the duck. The prince
 told the interviewer that
 if he educate the
 masses, they won't jump
 in the stream to
 catch a duck for him.
 This is how our elites
 make use of the
 uneducated masses. The lack
 of awareness of their
 rights is responsible for
 the weak democratic
 process in the country.
 Secondly, the
 illiterate masses are
 unable to appreciate the

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democracy, since they do not have any vision. The keyman, when finds an opportunity to make an important decision, he relies on his cognitive abilities. He lack the basic tools necessary to make an important decision. The rural areas of Sindh are completely devoid of this vision. They only prefer their tribes in any electoral process other than that, they are oblivious of the tools that are necessary to make decision that may be proved as life-changing so the lack of vision do not support the political theatre of the society.

AS someone aptly said;

"When the stomach is empty, ears are closed." The situation becomes exacerbating if the public is engaged ~~but~~ in fulfilling its basic needs. The public is only concerned to get food and shelter. It is often said that an ~~uneducated~~ empty stomach leads to an uneducated mind. In a country, where the poverty rate is high and the people find it difficult to fulfill the basic necessities, the people ~~are~~ have no concern to the democracy or political process. Under these circumstances the people remain aloof from the politics. In a poverty-riddled society the masses are only focused

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on winning the daily
bread for their children
and families making it
difficult for democracy to
prevail in the country.

The voter's turn-out
remains below their average
and the echelons of
power remains in the
hands of some elites

Illiteracy has yet another
problem, that the uneducated
masses are trapped in
the vicious cycle of
livelihood. The sole concern
of these people is
to make life better. They
are so indulged in
this cycle that they
do not have enough
time to sit down and
ponder over other things.

The constitution of Pakistan
in article 25-A guarantees

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the education to every
 citizen. Although some
 governments tried to improve
 the literacy rate and
 the quality of education.

But it proved to
 be a hard nut
 to crack. This has led
 to the stalled democratic
 process in the country.

Adding fuel to
 fire, illiteracy promotes lack
 of transparency. Transparency,
 a vital component of
 democracy is completely
 ignored by the people.

In a country like
 Pakistan, the corruption cases
 are heard on daily
 basis. But neither of them
 was solved or enquired
 with transparency. AS the
 uneducated masses are
 oblivious of the role

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of judiciary and media.
They are unconcerned by with
the transparency and governance.
As a result the elite
class is becoming richer
and the common people
are facing the outcomes
of this non-transparent
system. It does not matter
for the uneducated person
that what is being
written in newspapers and
what kind of amendments
are being made to
the constitution. This
ignorance provides the free
hand to the ruling
class to mould the
laws whenever they want.
Moreover the
voices of uneducated masses
are not heard in
the echelons of power.
The uneducated public

rarely raises the voice
for their rights but
when they raise the
voice it is without any
kind of ~~know~~ depth -
knowledge of any issue.
So these voices are
brushed aside by the
executive as non-sense or
fools. The feudal system
also plays a crucial
role in derailing the
democracy. The feudals do
not allow the masses
to get education. The
people of these areas
do not have any
know-how about the
democracy and so, they
are deprived of their
basic ~~right~~ rights. The
case of Mukhtiarai Mai
is known to every-one.
So the voices of the

illiterate and uneducated
people are not heard
anywhere in the country.

Another problem
that the illiteracy puts
in the way of
democracy is the "dictatorship".

The illiteracy creates
a vacuum for the
dictatorship and coups. The

Martial laws in Pakistan
in 1958, 1977 and 1999

depicts the relation b/w

the illiteracy and
dictatorship. As the famous
quote says;

"Dictatorships are one-
way streets, democracy
boasts two-way traffic."

Democracy and dictatorship
are two opposite things

altogether. Dictatorship is
the murderer of democracy.

The three military coups

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in Pakistan undermines
the democratic process
in the country since
the independence it is
illiteracy that flourishes
the dictatorship, and
it is dictatorship due
to which the country
is still devoid of
democracy in 77 years
of its history. To
conclude, the illiteracy
never allows the democracy
to prevail.
In the light
of above mentioned facts,
the state of a country
always remains reluctant
to provide education. This
can be witnessed by
the education budget of
the country. In the FY
2023-2024 the education
budget was 97 billion

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Which is merely 2% of
GDP. Despite a population
increase of about 5%
in the last decade,
the education budget has
not be increased to
a great extent as
a matter of fact,
the ruling class deliberately
wants to maintain the
literacy rate as it

has been in **Avoid using first nouns**

years. Here **we** can
learn a lesson from

Norway, where the literacy
rate is 100% **per-cent** our government
should also follow the
foot-steps of such countries.

It is not only
confined to Pakistan, but
all the developing countries
are struggling to form
a democratic system there.

The world is very well

aware of the significance of democracy so the world has taken some steps to improve the democratic process and to curb the factor that are the hurdles in the way of democracy. For instance the formation of MIGs and SIGs. The goals of these programmes are to eliminate the factors that impedes the democracy. The main objectives are to eradicate the poverty, ensure women empowerment and to promote quality education. Other than this, the Democracy Summit 2023 was another initiative. Democracy Summit was held to renew the democracy and confront the autocracy. These initiative reflects that the world is keen

to promote democracy all
around the globe.

Education is a
critical element of democracy.

The analogy of a patient
on a life support system
fits perfectly in this

case. As that terminal patient
needs continuous and uninterrupted
supply of oxygen, the

democracy also depends upon
the continuous and sustained
quality education. Lack of

education makes a state
weak and vulnerable to
collapse. The Mughal Empire

collapsed because they did
not pay enough attention
to the education. When

the West was engaged
to educate the masses,

the Mughals were paying
no attention towards the
education sector. Hence

the entire empire was collapsed and the west ruled over them. This example is enough to depict the importance of education for the survival of a country.

In a nutshell, illiteracy and democracy cannot move together. Out of these two factors, when the one flourishes, the other is eradicated. There is not a single country who can flourish democracy without increasing the literacy rate. Democracy and literacy share such a relationship where these two benefit each other. An uneducated nation does not have any awareness of their rights. They also do not have the ability to

Critically analyze the political scenario. Lack of education keeps the masses unaware about from the politics. AS a result they do not participate in the electoral process of the country. The country like Pakistan where the poverty rate is greater, the main concern of the people is to win the daily bread and to fulfill the basic necessities of life. Moreover, the ruling class take full advantage of the illiteracy of the people. They ignore the demands of such people and also the political system lack the transparency and corruption prevails in the country. ~~Soon~~ Education is mandatory

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for the survival of a
country. World has recognized
the importance of democracy
and took some positive
initiatives to flourish the
democracy. Some more measures
should be taken to
ensure a smooth democracy
especially among the developing
countries as Jimmy Carter says;
**A literate and educated
population is the foundation
of a healthy democracy"**