

Topic : Democracy in Pakistan : Hopes and Hurdles

Governance has evolved to address the increasing complexity of human societies and the need for the order and stability. Initially, many other forms of governance has been introduced since ancient times. The different forms of governance like tribal and clans systems, chiefdoms, city-states and many other have introduced for human society. The best form of governance is seem to be Democracy among all the forms of governance. It provides every right to the people within the country for which people are desirous of. However, it is rightly said by Abraham Lincoln that Democracy means the government of the people, by the people and for the people. Democracy offers freedom to the people which other forms of government forbid. It sees all aspect of government. Unfortunately, democracy lacks in the history pages of Pakistan. It is often said that from the historical

perspective of Pakistan Democracy, Democracy will not prosper here. There is no denying that Democracy is the most dominant form of government, but it also has some drawbacks. Democracy ^{can} not be defined comprehensively and perfect. In case of Pakistan, Democracy has faced multiple hurdles. The Regional political parties is one of the hurdle in which party only focus on the particular regional area. Another hurdle is unabated corruption where no one monitors or control. Similarly, Pakistan also faces with the hurdles of military intervention, mass illiteracy, absence of meaningful reforms and there are many other reasons. On the other hand, there are some hopes that can overcome the hurdles. Now, Martial Law or ruling of the military does not seems possible and it is also believed that our political Leaders are now mature and more sensible in controlling military adventures through 18th amendment in constitution. The general public is now aware

of their rights which shows the positive future side of the Democracy in Pakistan. The further hopes are emergence of national political party, involvement of youth, women empowerment and vibrant media and civil society. Balancing the hopes and overcoming hurdles in Pakistan's democracy requires a concerted efforts from all stakeholders.