

Q: Objective resolution made constitutional process slow or it helpful in making the 1st. constitution of Pakistan. Develop your arguments.

## 1- Introduction

The objective resolution was the first constitutional document that proved to be the foundation of the constitutional developments in Pakistan. It provided parameters and sublime principles to the legislators. It made the constitution-making process easy task setting some particular objectives before them that would be acceptable to the people of Pakistan. The constitution of Pakistan will be democratic and based on the fundamental laws of Islam. The objective resolution was adopted on 12 March 1949 by the constituent assembly of Pakistan. It contained those objectives on which the future constitution was to be based as stated by the founder of the nation, Quaid-e-Azam in February 1948, said:

"The constitution of Pakistan will be democratic and based on the fundamental laws of Islam --- Islam and its ideology has taught us the lesson of democracy. At the time it was passed, Liaqat Ali Khan called it "the most important occasion in the life of this



country, next in importance only to the achievement of independence."

## 2. Objective Resolution: Foundation of constitutional developments

The objective resolution was the first constitutional document that proved to be the foundation of the constitutional developments in Pakistan. It provided parameters and sublime principles to the legislators. It made the constitution-making process easy task setting some particular objectives before them that would be acceptable to the people of Pakistan who had suffered a lot under the Hindu-dominated majority. It is the framework that mechanisms to achieve goals for a better life of the people of Pakistan. The resolution remained Preamble of all the constitutions due to its importance. From the first constitution of 1956 till the constitution of 1973 (present constitution) whatever constitution was framed it was based on this objective resolution.

## 3. Islamic Identity

The objective resolution affirmed Pakistan's Islamic identity and declared that sovereignty belongs to Allah alone. This aspect has influenced the



constitutional provisions relating to the role of Islam in the state, such as the inclusion of Islamic provisions in subsequent constitutions. The text of the resolution as passed by constituent assembly was:  
In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful:

Whereas sovereignty over the entire universe belongs to God Almighty alone and the authority which he has delegated to the state of Pakistan through its people for being exercised within the limits prescribed by him is a sacred trust;

### 3. Legal and Constitutional Interpretation

The objective resolution has been referred to in legal and constitutional interpretations, serving as guide for understanding the fundamental principles upon which Pakistan's legal system is based. It has influenced court judgments and legal doctrines related to governance and fundamental rights. One of the objectives of this resolution is:

"The state shall exercise its power and authority through the chosen representative of the people."

### 4. National Unity and Identity

By emphasizing democratic principles and Pakistan's Islamic identity, the



Objective resolution aimed to promote national unity and cohesion among the diverse ethnic and religious communities in Pakistan. It provides a common framework for defining the national identity and aspirations of the country.

~~5. Legal and cons~~

5. Political consensus:

The adoption of the objective resolution reflected a broad political consensus among various stakeholders in Pakistan at that time. This consensus was crucial in laying the groundwork for the drafting and adoption of the first constitution, as it provided a common set of principles and aspirations that could unify the diverse political and social forces in the country - one of the most important objectives was

66 The state shall be guaranteed fundamental rights including equality of status, of opportunity and before law, social, economic and political justice, and freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, and association, subject to law and public morality.

6. Liaguat Ali Khan's opinion of Objective Resolution



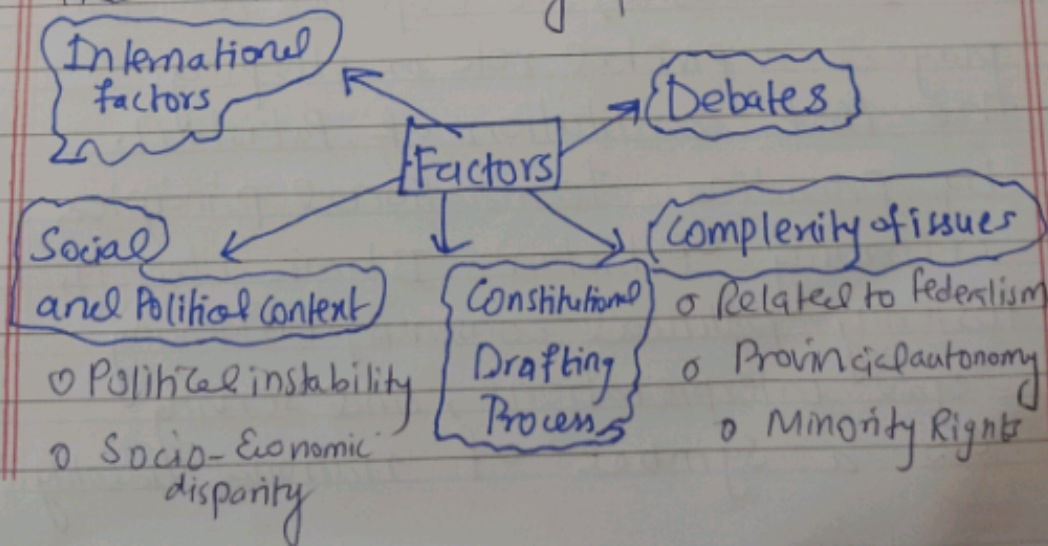
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(8)

Liaquat Ali Khan stated, "the approval of objective resolution as the most important occasion in the life of this country, next in importance only to the achievement of independence." Thus, objective resolution categorically provides ideological foundation to the future constitution making process. The objective resolution remains a symbol of the vision and aspirations of Pakistan's founding fathers, reflecting their desire to create a state that upholds democratic values, social justice and Islamic Principles. It continues to inspire discussions about nature of Pakistan's statehood and governance.

### 7. Is Objective Resolution responsible for delaying Constitution?

The objective resolution itself was not directly responsible for delaying the first constitution of Pakistan, but its adoption did contribute to significant debates and discussions that influenced the constitution-making process. Here are factors:





## (8) Critical Analysis:

The objective resolution contributed to debates and discussions that shaped Pakistan's first constitution. It was not the sole factor responsible for its delay. The complexity of issues, political and social context, and the inherent challenges of constitution-making all played a significant role in the timeline and eventual adoption of Pakistan's inaugural constitution. Overall, the objective resolution remains a significant document in Pakistan's constitutional history, it has also been a subject of debate and criticism regarding its implications for religious freedom, minority rights, governance and the country's path towards modernization and pluralism. These criticisms reflect broader societal and political tensions over the interpretation and implementation of Pakistan's foundational principles.

## 9) Conclusion

In conclusion, the objective resolution played a pivotal role in shaping the first constitution of Pakistan, by providing foundational principles, affirming Pakistan's Islamic ideology, fostering political consensus, influencing legal interpretations, and serving as a symbol of national identity.



Its principles continue to resonate  
in Pakistan's constitutional framework  
and governance to this day.

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