

CS-2024. Pol. Affairs

Q: Political stability remains an elusive concept in Pakistan. Explore the factors contributing to the fractured nature of Pakistan's polity and discuss potential reforms to the constitutional and political structure that could foster stability.

Ans:

1) **Introduction:-** Political stability in Pakistan is undoubtedly an elusive concept throughout the history of Pakistan. However, there are significant factors that has fractured Pakistan's democratic nature of polity. The factors, which has contributed, are considered as weak political parties, military interventions, dynastic politics etcetra. Moreover, ~~these~~ ^{these potential reform} factor can be addressed to foster stability like, strong parties, Electoral reforms, and political awareness etcetra.

2) **Factors Contributing to fractured nature Pakistan's Polity**

2.1) **Weak Political Parties**

Political parties are considered as pillars ~~stone~~ of democracy of any state. Democracy is easy to be delivered if it is being executed by strong political parties. However, Pakistan's system of political parties is weak and there is a lack of democratic practices within parties. Historically, ~~there~~ ^{the} establishment of Pakistan, the country had not been governed by any single stronger political party.

2.2) Intervention of non-democratic actors:-

Pakistan has faced several political challenges, in which intervention of non-democratic actors is also a significant one. Historically, this intervention has occurred four times at national level. Early interventions had caused a serious threat to country's politics. Moreover, country remained under a military rule for approximately 20 thirty years which is almost half of the total life of country. This factor has also fractured politics in the way that one of time could not stabilize and gave birth to newly political parties.

2.3) Elections in Early phase.

Since the independence of country, elections held in 1971 for the first time in early history of Pakistan. This late in elections had drawn Pakistan's image as an undemocratic and politically fractured state. However, timely elections play a leading role in promoting democracy.

2.4) Economic disparity:-

Economy is the basic need for any country for its smooth running and governing. However, Pakistan's economy has remained historically a significant challenge. The

stable economies yield a stable political country. Due to unstable economy political activities could not be functional at the level which a democratic nature of state requires.

2.5) Abrogation of Constitution

Pakistan emerged as an independent country, but the leadership decided to carry on Indian independence Act 1935 as an interim constitution. However, the rapid start for framing constitution was initiated by Qaid-e-Azam, which was after Qaid's death carried on by rest of leadership - but this process continued and Pakistan framed the first constitution in 1956 but it abrogated in 1958. This process of abrogation occurred twice perfectly and once partially. These abrogations have distorted the supremacy of constitution. This act of distorting the Supreme Social contract has fractured the early politics of country.

2.6) Political Polarization in current situation.

Since 2008 till the general elections of 2024, there has been a political polarization which fuelled the governing party to politically victimize opposite parties. However, this act has been rising rapidly between the major parties.

of country. In 2022, one of elected and popular political parties had ^{been} thrown out from parliament by vote of no confidence. The followers of party started protests, which led to the ^{big} huge number of imprisonments. Such ^{divisions} ~~skewishes~~ ^{among} ~~between~~ governing political alliance and opponents led to rise in political temperature and that has brutally fractured political culture of country.

2.7) Rising judicial activism:-

Judiciary has been playing an unwanted role in politics since the ~~history~~ creation of country. From "Moulvi Tameer-ul-Din" case to declaration of "Saadiq and Ameen" alternatively to the leadership name shown an ambiguity of interpretation of constitution. Some people believe that judiciary is being used for the favouring the desired leaders which has created a judicial distrust between parties and various courts. Therefore, rising judicial activism is responsible for political distortion.

3) Need of ~~political~~ ^{potentials} reforms and.

3.1) Strengthening political culture in country:-

Political parties need a proper political training to deliver democracy. Moreover, the culture of cooperation with opponents

needs to be promoted. The move would create a political stability and supremacy of constitution.

3.2) Checks on the organs of state

As far as constitution of Pakistan is concerned, the three organs of state; legislature, executive and judiciary need to be independent. Moreover, these organs require a proper check over each other. In this way, the institutions of state would not interfere in country's politics and promulgate constitutional acts.

3.3) Electoral Reforms needed

Elections held after every five years in Pakistan, but loser parties never accepted the results of Election Commission. Therefore, President of Pakistan stated that "Electronic voting is necessary to take down the traditional style of conducting elections". Hence, digital voting would enlighten political and constitutional supremacy in the country.

3.4) Neutrality of Media:

The existence of Media is a blessing for any country. De Toqueville a senior analyst in ancient times of Britain once stated

that "Media is one important organ of state followed by legislature, judiciary and executive". Due to this reason several European countries consider Media as an organ of state. However, in Pakistan Media has been seen biased, which give rise to the ^{general} perceptions about media, as mean of agents propagands being used by political parties in Pakistan. This perception has questioned the neutrality and sanctity of Media in state. However, neutral of media would prevent any unwanted ~~and~~ violence in country and its political structure.

3.5) Women empowerment in Parliament.

According to digital survey 2023 of Pakistan, approximately half of population of country is women. Moreover, according to a parliament research "women have 21% electoral share in national assembly and 17% in senate". However, this least women contribution is discouraging new generation to be actively part of country's politics. So, the share of seats to women need to be enhanced and doors of parliament need to be equally opened for men and women. In this way, constitutional supremacy and political stability can be ensured.

3-6) 4) Conclusion.

Palestine's politics is fractured due to the above mentioned factors. However, these factors have distorted the proper supremacy of constitution in country. Moreover, there are various potential reforms ~~the~~ mentioned above, through which country's politics could be stabilized and constitutional structure may also be promulgated.