

Democracy and Illiteracy do not move together

1 - Introduction

2 - What is the link between democracy and illiteracy

(i) Abraham Lincoln: "Democracy is the Government of people, by the people and for the people"

(ii) Socrates was against Greek philosophy because of illiterate people

3 - Manifestation that democracy and illiteracy can not move together

3a) Absence of robust democracy in the Muslim countries

(Dr. Moeed Pirzada: Muslim countries are failed to unlock freedom of thought,

hence democracy is derailed)

3b) Some democratic models are fruitful in developed nation but they fail badly in developing countries

(Mass illiteracy in South Asian countries whereas the literacy in US and Europe)

3c) Arab Spring (2011) turned into a destruction rather than a beacon of democracy in Middle East

(Age of Jihad by Patrick Cockburn)

Arab Spring was turned into Arab Nightmare because of social and sectarian division)

4. Reasons behind the dichotomy of democracy and illiteracy

4a) Illiterate masses are exploited by populist or dictators because of

caged thinking and hapless learning

(What is populism by Jan Warrner
Miller: He highlighted the character-
istics of populist leaders which is
Antipluralism and Antielitist)

4b) Democracy strengthens institutions
whereas illiteracy weakens them

(Book: Why Nations fail, Authors
argued, prosperity of country is dependent
on institutions)

4c) Democracy boosts rule of law,
illiteracy counters it

(Global North example: strict rule
of law. Global south: no rule of
law. Rule of law index: Pakistan
ranks 130th/142 in worldwide)

4d) Accountability is ensured by democracy whereas corruption is prevailed in illiterate areas

(3rd world countries; most corrupt countries. Pakistan ranks 133/180 in 2023 Transparency Index)

4e) Gender discrimination is more in illiterate countries/societies

(Democracy talks about equality
Scandinavian countries: Norway, Finland are gender less biased societies.

Pakistan: 142/146 in 2023 Global Gender Gap Report)

4f) Democracy encourages representativeness while illiteracy discourages it

(Book: Fall and Rise of democracy by David)

5. Wayforas :

5a) Reviving the true spirit of federalism

(Book: Pakistan a hard country
by Anatol Leven highlights that
Pakistan revived federalism through
18th amendment)

5b) creative of inclusive institutions

(Book: Why Nations fail,
inclusive institutions create positive
feedback loop by doing pluralistic
distribution of power)

5c) Unified Education system

(Finland model of education,
Israel education system is based
on practical understanding and
nation building)

6- Conclusion

Democracy and illiteracy both are like that of opposite charges which can never go parallel in any condition. The great personalities have given their notions clearly that democracy and illiteracy are inverse to each other as democracy has positive charge whereas illiteracy itself manifests the negative vibes. In the world of 190 plus countries muslim world is the second largest organization but the haplessly is they lack a robust democratic state. Similarly, there is a yawning gap between the developing nations and developed countries as developed countries excel in democracy whereas the developing countries excel in illiteracy, keeping the highlighted unfortunate event of Arab spring in mind the hapless of illiteracy becomes hapless. In addition, the comparison between democracy and illiteracy is a crystal clear tag that these both are opposite to each other. For example, the mass illiteracy brings a great exploitation in the realm of democracy. In case of prevailing democracy the institutions get robust whereas with illiteracy they do not so. Moreover, democracy has the potential to

the application of law while illiteracy counters it. Apart from, the accountability of state as well as gender discrimination and representativeness are encouraged all over the world by democracy not by illiteracy. Undoubtedly, democracy can be sustained over a state with the clear stance of reviving federalism, inclusive institutions and as definitely with unified education system. It is crystal clear that democracy do not move together with illiteracy due to unconventionality of ^{nature} both. Democracy can never rely on illiteracy for forming a prosperous state.

Abraham Lincoln has clearly manifested the definition of democracy that "Democracy is the government of people, by the people and for the people". This shows that a government can run properly by a proper democratic formula and the democracy hails with the literacy. Similarly, Socrates was ~~the~~ against Greek philosophy because the masses were illiterate and did not have enlightenment of selecting the deserved leaders for the state. As a result, it can be estimated with surety that these both

cannot go parallel.

There is no any muslim country which prevails the robust democracy in the world arena. All the countries seem like the colonies of USA unconventionally. Dr Moeed Pizzada says that, "Muslim countries are failed to unlock the freedom of thought, hence democracy is derailed." whenever, any state lacks the freedom it undoubtedly prey in the web of fake democratic nation.

Some democratic models, which are applied by the developed countries have been so fruitful while the same models, when applied in the developing countries, have resulted futile. This is a clear concept of literacy as mass illiteracy in the south Asian countries while the literacy in the developed countries like US and Europe have resulted them accordingly. Therefore, these both opposite forces can not be in a same label.

Arab spring in 2011 turned into a destruction rather than a beacon of democracy in

middle East. The event was a case of illiteracy which led the masses for protests and the disturbance in the region. As Patrick Cockburn writes in his book "Age of Jihad" the Arab Spring was turned into Arab Nightmare because of social and sectarian division. And foreign powers exploited the opportunity. Hence, people were not literate enough to deal or handle the "Chaos". This event is a evident of both contrast terms can not be in one inhabitate.

The above paragraphs were dealing with the manifestation of democracy and illiteracy whereas the below paragraphs will deal with the reasons behind the dichotomy of democracy and illiteracy.

Illiterate masses are exploited by populists or dictators because of their caged thinking of mass or hapless learned. They are engaged or affiliated with a set pattern with their limited level of knowledge and cannot get out of this. In this case Jan Warner Miller in his

book "What is Populism" highlights the characteristics of populist leaders which is anti pluralist and Anti-elitist. People get easily manipulated if they are unaware of facts. And the dictators or populist take avail the opportunity for their interest.

Democracy can strengthen the institutions while illiteracy only weakens them. Democracy has the potential to apply the formal set patterns to run a state with a smooth and polite way whereas illiteracy cannot distinguish between the right and wrong and without knowing it is futile and a threat to any region. Proof of this, the authors in the book 'Why Nations Fail' prosperity of a country is dependent on institutions. Democracy fuels inclusive institutions which are basis of strengthened country, while illiteracy promotes extractive institutions which bound a country into various vicious cycle of negative feedback loop.

Democracy boosts rule of law whereas illiteracy counters the rule of law because of its negative characteristics. For this reason, the Global North examples can be pinpointed as strict rule of law in global north while no rule of law in south global. ^{sim}
In addition, According to Rule of Law Index Pakistan ranks 130th out of 142 in world wide.

In addition, Accountability is another reason for the dichotomy of democracy and illiteracy. Democracy ensures the accountability while illiteracy increases the corruption in any state. As the 3rd world countries are mostly corrupt countries and Pakistan ranks 133/180 in corruption in 2023 according to Transparency Index.

Besides, Democracy encourages representativeness while illiteracy discourages it. This has been clearly proved in the Book 'Fall and Rise of democracy' by David. He draws attention to rise of democracy

by pinpointing pillars of modern democracy which are representative democracy (Council & legislature) and instrumental values (Liberty and equality and freedom)

Furthermore, Gender discrimination is more in illiterate societies. The societies which lack literacy are in the dark web of gender discrimination and mostly females suffer in such societies. As democracy talks about equality. Scandinavian countries like Norway and France are gender less societies in the world. Pakistan ranks 142/146 in 2023 Gender gap index. This stance shows illiteracy cannot bring prosperity in any country.

The above mentioned paragraphs discussed the reasons of democracy and illiteracy and the below paragraphs will discuss the way forward of the topic.

obviously, reviving the true form federalism can bring an actualized democracy in any state. As Anatol Leiven in his book *Pakistan a hard country* highlights, their Pakistan revived federalism through 18th Amendment. And the provinces got the authority to modify their education system, which could brought a positive sign but still no proper steps are taken in the province of Balochistan.

Apart from this, the creative inclusive institutions can play a vital role in the prevailing of democracy and in the eradication of illiteracy.

The authors of *Why Nations Fail* tell their inclusive institutions create positive feedback loop by doing pluralistic distribution of power." Soon as the institutions are made, the democracy can prevail with all its positive features.

Moreover, a Unified education system can make the surety of a democratic system. An educated societies can distinguish easily that what to do and what not to. And the masses of will also have the capability to select their leaders who can pave the pathways to prosperity for them. The obvious cases in this regard are as Finland model of education which is 98% along with the best primary schooling in the world. And Israel's education system which is based on practical understanding and nation building.

To sum up, It can be justified that, democracy and illiteracy, both have different destination where democracy opts the positive stance of welfare and prosperity while illiteracy absorbs the negative particles dark and astray web. It is a clear stance that neither muslim countries nor ^{most} south Asian most of the countries prevail democracy. Democracy can be thought to be set with the first and second world countries mostly. The Arab spring event in Middle East confred the pathway of democracy with the conspiracy of

foreign interventions. Similarly, mass illiteracy is a reason and a huge barrier for democracy. It does not let the institutions to function free from corruption and be a part of pure transparent system. Democracy can make any state prosperous with a transparent accountability and a no-gender biased society along with good and fruitful representiveness if not countered with by illiteracy. Illiteracy is like that parasite which sucks the blood from body and leaves it hollowness. After all, hope never dies and one can always find a light at the end of every tunnel. There are steps which can be taken to eradicate the illiteracy from any society and bring it in the list of the developed countries. As Franklin rightly said, "An investment in education always has the highest returns."