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## Essay

Good governance without Democratic Accountability is not possible.

### 1) Introduction

Democratic accountability through specialized institutions ensures good governance within a country.

### 2) Need of democratic accountability for Good governance

- a) Accountability ensures smooth beneficial governance
- b) Balance of power is ensured between institutions
- c) To avoid ills like corruption democratic accountability is necessary
- d) To make sure elected nominees ~~are~~ <sup>come</sup> through proper channel.
- e) Democratic accountability removes nepotism and benefits good governance.

### 3) Advantages of democratic accountability for good governance

- a) Entrenchment of human rights within a country

- b) Introspection of citizens
- c) Removal of corruption etc of society hindering the process of good governance
- d) Reduced violations of law
- e) Creation of equal opportunities for people
- 4) Remedies to ensure democratic accountability for good governance
  - a) Separation of powers and sovereignty of institutions
  - b) Supremacy of laws
  - c) Good governance friendly legislation by democratic machinery

## 5) Conclusion

"Every man is accountable for his actions" (Al Quran). As per quranic verse if every man is accountable for his <sup>actions</sup> then the elected democratic machinery is also eligible for accountability of either providing good governance or not. Democratic accountability is needed for good governance. As accountability ensures smooth, corruption free, beneficial and free of nepotism governance system. Good governance is basically providence of human rights, ensuring supremacy of law and good will of citizens of the state. Democratic accountability provides



pathway of good governance that will ensure entrenchment of human rights for the citizens. Removal of ills of society, hindering the process of good governance, equal opportunities for all and reduced violation of law will be ensured through good governance by regular democratic accountability of elected. To ensure democratic accountability, separation of powers and sovereignty of institutions is necessary. Alongwith, supremacy of laws, and good governance friendly legislation is as crucial for good governance. Democratic accountability through specialized institutions ensures good governance within a state.

Democratic accountability is like oxygen for running of the good governance within a country. Accountability through different specialized institutions ensures balance of power within institutions and a smooth process. When accountability is insured it reduces the ills of corruption, nepotism, violation of law, favouritism, bribery and many more.

Accountability ensures the smooth process of governance that is eventually beneficial for the <sup>citizens</sup> people of a state. If accountability of democratic individuals is not ensured then the process of governance faces criticism by the people. It eventually loses the believe of its citizens on democratic machinery. This can be a cause of anarchy and hopelessness. According to constitution of Pakistan, violation of laws by a person will held them accountable. Moreover, accountability ensures proves the transparency.

Democratic accountability is needed for good governance as it makes sure the balance of power intrain within institutions and inter-institutions. If any illegal activity is hoped then ~~the~~ accountability serves as the stairs to reach towards fault lines. Every institution is responsible and for their duties and affairs. If balance of power is exercised between democratic institutions of legislature, executive and judiciary then good governance is possible. However, to implement balance of power democratic accountability is a must have pill.



As the proverb ~~is~~ one bad fish can pollute whole river, likewise if corruption prevails by any institution of democratic machinery it will eventually disrupt the mechanism of good governance. Negative ills like corruption can only be judged by democratic accountability. ~~Democratic~~ Moreover democratic accountability ~~is~~ acts as a necessary evil ~~as it may~~ ~~hurt~~ ~~the~~ due to the benefits it can provide and hurt of sentiments of loyal people.

Accountability of democratic process makes sure that good governance is provided if representatives are elected transparently. For this, evaluation of democratic elections and use of electronic voting machines must be adopted. As if the candidates are not elected ~~nom~~ and selected nominatively they will not ensure that they perform their duty ~~fully~~ honestly. That will eventually be a hindrance in good governance.

② However, ensuring the due democratic process within political parties is also necessary. This is because the ill of nepotism ~~can~~ <sup>must</sup> be reduced/abolished.

through  
if due. intra electoral process for  
nomination of candidates within parties -  
As, ineligible -nominations will never  
be able to provide the necessary  
initiatives required for good governance.  
According to Ariel Lieven in his  
book Pakistan: A hard Country he  
mentioned the feudal democratic parties  
and nepotism an ill - This ill of  
nepotism can be ~~eradicated~~ through  
democratic accountability

Democratic accountability provides vast benefits  
and a pathway for good governance.

As good governance ensures the supremacy  
of law, provision of equal opportunities  
for every citizen and entrenchment of  
human rights. If a person is elected but  
given free hand and never held  
accountable this will lead to weak focus  
on governance by that elected person. Eventually  
causing problems for the citizens of  
the state. Case studies of countries like  
Pakistan, African countries depicts the need  
and importance of democratic accountability.



Constitution of any country and even United Nations charter provide every person their rights called human rights. The providence of human rights is necessary ~~for~~ for democratic machinery operating within a state. Basic human rights includes safety of life, property and providence of shelter, protection and food. If these human rights are ensured then ~~good~~ ~~is possible~~ good governance is considered ~~the~~ good governance. Democratic accountability by judiciary and other democratic machinery compels the providence of good governance ~~an~~ and otherwise criminal ~~are~~ investigation.

Democracy ~~is~~ ~~has~~ by definition is rule of the people and by the people. If democratic institutions are transparent and providing the building blocks of good governance then the citizens will be satisfied. Accountability of these institutions will show the transparency of governance. Hazrat Umar (RA) was held accountable ~~for~~ even for his clothes and asked for explanation - ~~This~~ His ~~is~~

Explanation lead to the satisfaction of his citizens and more believe in his governance. Moreover, for good governance satisfaction of people is mandatory.

Accountability of even elected people leads to the reduction of negative ~~ills~~ ~~ills~~ that are hindrance towards good governance. For example ~~consecutive~~ removal of two prime ministers of Pakistan on corruption charges in 2012 and 2017. This eventually served as an exemplary case for the upcoming elected nominatives. This removed the overconfidence of elected nominatives who think that as they are elected by people so they are above the law.

Violation of law by law-makers is often observed in developing countries. Democratic accountability reduces the violation of law. As it is human nature that one punishment alerts other people. Although democratic accountability for law violaters is necessary, however the violative use of force against people and nominatives



is always discouraged.

Good governance includes the creation of equal opportunities for all the citizens. If equity is not ensured then by democratic machinery then essence of good governance is unachievable.

Case study of Pakistan shows Pakistan ranks ~~low~~ very low as per Corruption Index 2023. This shows that corruption is reducing opportunities for people eventually hindering the process for good governance. If one black sheep is held accountable through democratic accountability then good governance and ~~its~~ its benefits are also possible.

Above all, to ensure democratic accountability for good governance remedies like are necessary - Like, separation of powers and sovereignty of institutions, supremacy of laws and good governance ~~is~~ friendly legislation by the democratic machinery.

Separation of powers and sovereignty of every democratic institution leads to transparent democratic accountability required for good governance. As a case study of Pakistan, Hamid Khan in his book: Constitutional and Political History of Pakistan highlights the constant intervention in democratic process due to lack of sovereignty of every institution and separation plus balance of powers between them. Good governance is possible and can be achieved through this recipe that has ingredients of democratic accountability.

Alongwith separation of powers and sovereignty supremacy of laws and is also necessary. For law is held supreme and democratic accountability is ensured under it then good governance will be implemented rather than a dream. Case study of African countries with high crime rates is due to lack of supremacy of law. Law is always supreme and must be given importance even above



to law makers.

As much <sup>as</sup> supremacy of law is necessary, friendly law legislation for good governance is also necessary. Democratic machinery must also be held accountable for hasty, lack of substance and without analysis of long term effects of legislations. This is because if laws that are hindrance in good governance ~~and~~ then democratic accountability must operate.

Overall ~~for~~ democratic accountability of democratic machinery is very necessary like carbon dioxide is for photosynthesis. Because good governance is not possible if democratic machinery is given free hand without accountability. As free man is susceptible to both negative and positive paths.

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