

Is colonial mentality impeding Pakistan's progress?

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Essay:

Former colonies of the colonial empires are still being hunted by the drastic consequences of the colonial rule. They are now facing the colonial structures with in their institutions of their own countries. Indo-pak subcontinent was ruled by the British Empire until India and Pakistan got independence in 1947. During the colonial rule Indians were treated as second class citizens and were denied of their basic human rights. A relationship of masters and slaves was established between the colonial master and Indian citizens. Such type of relationship is termed as colonial mentality. Since being liberated as an independent state, the institutions of Pakistan still reflect the

colonial mentality. The ~~servants~~
servants act as masters
of the common masses
and enjoy numerous
benefits and immunities
which are far reaching
from a common citizen.
Along with this, police
performance in Pakistan
is too violent and
biased of political
dictation. Similarly, Pakistan's
Judicial system remains
ineffective in the provision
of justice in many ways.
Along with this, the strong
organized army and its
influence on the political
process also reflects colonial
mindset. Therefore, it's
evident from the fact that
the colonial base structures
and functions of Pakistan's
institutions proved as
barrier to the progress
of Pakistan.
First comes bureaucracy, as
an institution hindering

from colonial mentality which is acting as a barrier in the progress of Pakistan. In Pakistan civil servants are given privileges and the give luxurious life style. They are privileged from electricity, books, given free petrol and many other benefits which burden treasury and the pocket of common men. as they are taxed for that luxurious spending.

In similar way, bureaucrats always remain above the law. They are never made accountable for their autocratic acts.

For instance, Deputy Commissioner ^{Islamabad} Rawalpindi was convicted of contempt of court but he never appeared before court nor he was arrested. Moreover, the cases of delaying tactics or red tape are common in the civil services of Pakistan. One such case has been amazingly

described by Qudratullah
Ghahab in his book
"Ghahab Nama". In which
describes how a case
of bribe paid by
a Revenue officer reached
back to him after
being transferred from
one officer to another
through the structure
of hierarchy.

Next come police department
that reflects the colonial
mind set. Police in Pakistan
act in a very repressive
way to tackle their
daily tasks. They often
humiliate common citizens
while dealing with them.
The way they deal with
low level criminals can
make them criminals
more rebellious. They violently
meet the protestors. For
instance, blind teachers
who were protesting
for the rights peacefully
in Punjab were paid

tear gases and tortured
by the panjab police.
moreover³ politicians also used
them as their puppets
for political victimization.
police is often being used
to harass and to
abduct those who
criticize the ruling parties.

On such example is
the recent fever of
9th may. Along with
this incident there are
many example in the
political history of Pakistan
which police massacred
armed^{less} civilians on behalf of
politicians e.g model town
incident.

Apart from police, judiciary
in Pakistan also did her
best to contribute to
hinder progress of Pakistan.
by showcasing her colonial
mentality. A strict hierarchy
lays in the judicial
structure of Pakistan, just
like the colonial judicial

style. cases have to go through or follow the hierarchy which take years to be slowed in order to provide structure. The complex judicial structure of Pakistan does not align with minds of common men. In addition to this, it is evident from Pakistan's political history that judiciary often remain influenced by the ruling elite. For example, the extra judicial killing of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto in 1979 was legalized by the Supreme Court of Pakistan due to the influence of General Zia ul Haq. Also, it is difficult to get justice from the justice system of Pakistan. cases are always delayed for decades with the parties of the case even aged and die but

the cases still continue.
Recently Lahore High Court
acquitted a person which
was an appeal case against
a life sentence to him,
it was came to know
that the person acquitted
has been died many years ago.
Also, military in Pakistan
has not remained safe
from inheriting colonial
style. Pakistan military
enjoys more privileges
life style than civil
servants. They burden common
men of Pakistan ^{more} than
any other institution.
Almost 80% of Pakistan's
budget is spend on
military. The life style
and privileges they
have, reflects the same
attitude as it was
during the colonial
rule. Electricity, fuel
for their vehicles, titles
and other personal privileges
and privileges for their

family all are the reflections of colonial mentality. and its burden economy and people of Pakistan. Similarly, political interference is a significant attribute of Pakistan army. Military dictators have undermined the process of democracy in Pakistan many times.

First it was Ayub Khan, then Yahy Khan, Zia ul Haq and the last one was Pervez Musharraf.

Although Pervez Musharraf's rule ending in 2007, but military is still alleged of interfering in politics.

Along with all of this, education institutions in Pakistan are also the reflection of colonial mind set. The education system of Pakistan is

reflecting division in Pakistan's society. It is grouped in three mediums, namely,

English, Urdu and madrasa media. English medium education represent the quality education and is often available to the upper class students.

While Urdu mostly represent the government schools filled with the middle and lower class kids. Madrasa on the other hand reflects the religious class, which mostly represents the lower and middle classes. Urdu^{medium} and

madrasa student can did not get quality education and students of such mediums mostly remain unable to get positions of high level in Pakistan.

That is why they remain being treated as second class citizens. Also, students of English medium develop the attitude and culture of their colonial masters and are treated as

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Superior to others. The colonial legacy of Pakistan's institutions is hindering economic progress, political stability, availability of justice, respect for basic human rights and equality in Pakistan. Bureaucracy's and military's superior ego and immunity from accountability in hindering rule of law and political stability in resulting from frequent military interventions in politics. Moreover, police's unnecessary use of force against peaceful protesters and humiliation of common citizens, just like their colonial masters, violate basic human rights given in the constitution of Pakistan. Judiciary's colonial attitude is hindering the provision of justice to people and education system of Pakistan based on

Colonial set up its increasing inequality in Pakistani society. There is a lack of reforms in the institutional structures ~~to~~ make them accountable of their autocratic actions as Pakistan can not bear such attitude further.