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Introduction

Pakistan is a country with an area of 8.81×10^5 square kilometers and a population of over 200 million people. It is divided into four provinces (Sindh, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan) and seven Administrative units, which are Islamabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Gilgit and Baltistan. For administrative purposes each province is further subdivided into districts, tehsils, divisions and union council. Each province has a capital city and the government seat for each province is located in the capital city.

Furthermore, due to its vast geography, the land of Pakistan is rich in culture and traditions. Due to the difference in altitudes and different climates, there exist an array of diverse and different ethnic groups all across Pakistan.

For example, "the Mohajirs" exist in majority in Sindh and are the descendants of people who migrated from India during partition, they speak Urdu as their mother tongue. The people of KPK are by majority Pashtoons and most of them are descendants of Afghan invaders that came along with Nadir Shah, Mahmood Ghaznavi and Shahabuddin Ghauri during the downfall of the Mughals. They speak Afghani, Pashto and Dari. The people of Punjab are fluent in Punjabi.

Having briefly discussed how provinces have been established based on their ethnicity and administrative purposes, it must also be noted that with a population of 200 million, it becomes ~~it~~ increasingly difficult in managing the country and in administering the affairs of the people. The issues faced by provinces can be understood by briefly discussing the troubled times that led to the fall of East Pakistan and how political, economic, cultural and administrative policies can be fixed by making more provinces. A few proposed solutions by the local ethnic groups can also guide us in finding a solution for the provincial problem.

Bogra's One Unit Scheme and its aftermath

In the 1950s, Pakistan's Prime Minister Mohammad Bogra proposed the One Unit Policy and had it implemented. The policy aimed at ending the differences between East and West Pakistan. The policy stated that there would be only two provinces, East Pakistan and West Pakistan.

The policy was opposed by the East Pakistanis and they claimed that it was an attempt by West Pakistan to prevent East Pakistani representatives from winning elections in the government. The Awami National Party passed a bill in the National Assembly to end the One Unit Policy. The instability that ensued after the One Unit Policy led to the implementation of the martial law under General Yahya Khan's command.

The situation worsened and had further sowed the seeds of the fall of Dhaka which happened after the war of 1971.

One Unit policy is proof of how making policies on reducing the number of provinces can further lead to discontentment and disenfranchisement among the population can lead to riots and potential civil wars. With policies like these, the local's face a dignity crisis and there is further improper and poorly calculated distribution of wealth and also leads to corruption amongst the top brass involved in administering the society.

iii. The 18th Amendment and the 7th NFC Awards

The 18th Amendment gave provinces more autonomy and with the passing of the 18th Amendment, the provinces have been more vocal about their rights and their opinions.

After the declaration of the 7th National Finance Awards, there was unequal distribution of wealth and resources among provinces thus it was declared by many provinces that there is a need for more provinces in Pakistan for equal distribution of wealth and resources among the people of Pakistan.

iv. The Need for more provinces

The main concerns and reasons for dividing the country into more provinces have been mentioned below

(i) Administrative

(i) Population

With a population of over 200 million, it becomes a necessity to further sub-divide the country into more smaller administrative zones to properly control and monitor the people and make sure that the population is satisfied.

(ii) Geography

As was mentioned before, in the introduction that each province has a capital city where the government seat is located. Due to the large size of the provinces, the capital cities and

ten hundreds of kilometers away from other distant cities. Lahore is 300km away from Multan, Quetta is 1000km away from Rawalpindi and Karachi is 1000km away from Kashmir. Distances like these require 2-3 days of travel and for people to visit the government seats becomes an impossibility. Even though local governments exist too, they are also too far away.

iv) Economic

iv) b) i) Unequal distribution of wealth and resources
Wealth and resources are distributed ~~by~~ based on the area and the population of the provinces. Punjab is the largest province and receives more wealth than most of the provinces. Furthermore most of that wealth is spent on Lahore and the CIT Road while most of Punjab remains under-developed.

iv) b) ii) Budget allocation

As mentioned above, provinces receive their Budget based on their size and population.

iv) c) Cultural

iv) c) i) Language

Hindko speakers in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have stated that Hindko is different from Pashto, Pashto is the language spoken in the provincial assembly of KPK and they have trouble understanding it. Seraiki have also claimed that majority of southern Punjab is Seraiki.

Speciality and should be formed into another province. Thus it can be deduced here that there is a need to form more provinces due to ethnic reasons as well as most ethnic groups are not showing the content over language barriers.

iv) c) ii) Ethnicity

The people of Hazara said they faced an identity crisis in 2011 when NWFP's name was changed to KPK. The people of Hazara have been very vocal about the need for more provinces.

iv) b) Political

Due to the large population and lower provinces there is more mismanagement hence it leads to bad governance. Most political parties put more effort into improving and making better policies for their own cities only while the remaining cities and villages in the province remain under developed.

Most political parties disapprove of the notion of more provinces because they will no longer get the adequate funding needed they did as before due to miscallocation of wealth and resources.

Proposed solution by most ethnic groups
The Seraikhs have claimed that Southern Punjab
should become a new province called Seraikistan.
It has also been proposed that Karachi
could become a province as well instead of
a city.

Conclusion

Having briefly discussed the poor management that
occurs because of less provinces and having
presented a historical proof of how things went
way worse after the induction of One Unit
Scheme, it is important to note that there
is a dire need for more provinces.

Provinces can be made for both ethnic and
administrative properties. It ~~can~~ should be
known that Turkey has 80 provinces and
USA has 50 states. Both these countries
have a higher number of provinces and
states are economically stable. Formation
of more provinces can be an effective strategy
for ~~the~~ easy and smart governance in Pakistan.

... attempt of any question or any part of the question will not be considered.

Q. No. 2.

The creation of more provinces is a persistent demand from some circles in Pakistan. How do you see the creation of more provinces in Pakistan; as beneficial or harmful for the people? Explain your views with solid justification.

(2)