

Democracy in Pakistan: Issues and Implications

"Democracy is the government of the people, by the people, for the people," said Abraham Lincoln. The notion of democracy has changed significantly over time. In old times, democracy was direct and limited for only a small group of people where women, slaves and foreigners were excluded from the democratic process. But today, modern democracy is mostly representative, inclusive and practiced on a much larger scale. In Pakistan, people elect their representatives freely who make laws and take decisions for the country. However, democracy has not worked smoothly as it should. Since its creation, Pakistan has struggled to maintain a strong and steady democratic system. One of the issues is the lack of moral responsibility shown by political leaders towards their voters. Horse trading and rigged elections have also disrupted democratic progress. Additionally, dynastic politics is also a main issue in Pakistan. Around 43% of Pakistan population is illiterate, causing democracy to lose its true essence because many people are unaware of their rights and responsibilities. The people of Pakistan and the media are also losing their freedom of speech which is further hindering this process. Despite being founded on democratic principles, Pakistan's democratic system has been plagued by repeated military interventions, corruption, lack

of transparency and a weak role of law. The fact is that Pakistan is, and is not, democratic. Weak democracy in Pakistan leads to poor governance, economic instability and increasing public frustration. It limits development and creates division within society. For Pakistan to achieve true democratic progress, there is a need for electoral reforms, stronger institutions and increased political awareness among the masses. This essay will describe democracy in Pakistan, its issues and implications in coming paragraphs.

Higher Education in Pakistan: Issues and Remedies

In Japan, a railway station called Kami Shirataki had less number of passengers so, the government announced to close that route. A girl sent a letter to the government stating to review the decision again because she was a high school student with no other reliable means of getting to school. The government continued that train route for two times a day until she was graduated and that is because a nation's rise and fall is decided in its classrooms and lecture halls. Higher education leads a student towards the last phase of the educational learning process. Pakistan educational system generally rank poor globally, with low literacy rate, high out-of-school children numbers and a focus on infrastructure and access rather than quality education. In Pakistan it is overseen by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) encompasses a wide range of institutions including universities and colleges, but faces challenges related to funding, research opportunities and scarcity of resources. There are untrained professionals who are teaching students of this modern age. Then there is lack of academic research that this higher education system fails to reproduce. Other third world countries like India is swiftly making progress in the field of medicine and Information technology due to its effective education system. Moreover, the curriculum of Pakistan is outdated that doesn't meet the needs

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of today's world. This imbalance between the practical and theoretical work at graduation level is a reason to why Pakistan is lacking behind in research. Politicization in education sector is also a main hurdle in the institutions growth. There is also a vacuum of learning between the students of government and private institutes. It can be remedied by inculcating an inclusive advance level of learning. The government should now focus more on the education by providing research opportunities to students and introducing teachers training programs. The state should allocate more budget to the education which is now only 1.7 percent of the total GDP. Special efforts are also needed to depoliticized the educational institutions. This discourse will explain Higher Education in Pakistan, its ills and remedies in coming paragraphs.
