

DYNASTIC POLITICS IS THE WORST MOCKERY OF DEMOCRACY

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"The perverted form of democracy is known as dynastic politics."

(Aristotle)

At the forefront of the future, the political framework of Pakistan has been grappling with innumerable menaces. The most unpalatable threat to the democratic structure of the country bears out is dynastic politics. This issue has jolted the foundation of the political structure of the country.

Moreover, this impediment worsens the woes of socio-economic nature. The major concern is that the constitution of Pakistan endorses the "Parliamentary Democracy," but the political leaders of the

country has been adopting its perverted kind - "dynastic politics." Some of the personifications of this type of democracy in the country are autocratic rule, absence of law, arbitrary decisions and marginalization of people's will. On the contrary, democracy demands sovereignty of people, rule of law, and equity and equality.

Therefore, the country has been confronting with some abhorrent repercussions. Some of them are rampant insurgency and economic dilemma in the country. Thus, it is a high-time for the adoption of some pragmatic measure to overcome the plights of dynastic politics in the country.

Dynastic politics occurs when the power remains in the hands of few political families and

they transfer it in an hierarchical manner. Lamentably, this kind of politics has been intermingling in the context of the politics of Pakistan since 1980s. Therefore, the people of the country have been facing various socio-economic problem since its inception. The most repugnant conundrum is the suppression of basic and fundamental rights.

Taking into account, aristocratic rule is the most glaring aspect of dynastic politics. In this kind of rules, some persons are born for rule and other to be ruled. It demands no competency of the ruler. Therefore, the ascended ruler does not know how to run and manage the affairs of the country. He destroys and degrades the whole working phenomenon of the administration due to his ineptitude. Surprisingly, the current situation of Pakistan depicts the same unenviable situation of the country.

Therefore, the youth of the country are trying to evade from this country. Hence, the autocratic rule is the feature of dynastic politics.

Likewise, absence of ^{rule of} law is another characteristic of dynastic politics in the country. The major cause behind this jeopardy is the hegemony of few influential families over the law. They amend and mould the law as they like for their vested interest. The 26th amendment in the constitution of Pakistan delineates the ascendancy of few families over ^{rule of} law. Thus, absence of ^{rule of} law is the quality of dynastic politics.

Moreover, arbitrary decisions of the rulers are the another attribute of dynastic politics. In this form of politics, the ruler gets the power without any efforts and endeavours. Therefore, he ignores the

advantages and benefits of discussions. He only wants to run the affairs of the state without any involvement to show the supremacy and to exploit the resources. This behaviour and attitude of the rulers annihilates the governance framework of the country. It inculcates corruption and other crimes acts in the state. According to the ~~Intern~~ International Transparency Corruption Perception Index, Pakistan is ranked at 135 out of 180 states. It represents the issue of arbitrary decisions in the country. Thus, arbitrary decisions is the another aspect of dynastic politics.

Moreover, the marginalization of people's will shows the nature of dynastic politics. In this rule, the emperor takes decision

without the consideration of people's will. It is because, he believes that the universal suffrage play not an important role in the attainment of the throne of the state. It is only the race, cast and creed which decide and help in acquiring the power. Therefore, he ignores the desires of the people. Hence, the marginalization of people's will is another characteristic of dynastic politics.

Furthermore, the doctrine of democracy is totally opposite and aware to the idea of dynastic politics. In the politics, the term democracy means the government of the people, for the people and by the people. Some of the features of democracy are as described below:

Firstly, Sovereignty of the people is the most significant attribute of democracy. It allows

ascendancy only to the universal suffrage. It stresses that the happiness of the people decides the success or the failure of the government. It manifests that democracy underscores the urgency of the people's will. Thus, sovereignty of the people is the most important feature of the democracy.

“The government in which everyone participates.”

(Seeley)

Secondly, the rule of law is another aspect of democracy. Democracy asserts that no one is above the law. It is necessary for all the people to follow the law; no matter who is he. It delineates every rulers and its subject stand in one queue. It

does not allow special treatment to anyone over and above the law. Thus, the rule of law is the most significant attribute of democracy.

Thirdly, negotiations and consulted decisions are the major prerequisite of the democracy. It purports that it allows everybody to take an active part in the affairs of the state and gives his suggestion for the benefit of the country. Thus, negotiation and consulted decisions are also the important part of democracy.

Lastly, equity and equality are also the imperative requirement and feature of democracy. It emphasises that equity and equality are the major prerequisites for the development of the country. It is because, the equity ensures fairness in the state and equality ensures the equal

distribution of the wealth and resources. Both develop the sense of brotherhood, fraternity and responsibility among the citizens. Thus, equity and equality are the significant features of democracy.

Therefore, it is necessary at that point to do a comparative analysis between the doctrine of dynastic politics and democracy for better understanding. The difference between them are as described below:

Firstly, ~~the~~ supremacy and the accountability of the rulers ~~are~~ is the major distinguishable factor between dynastic politics and democracy. In dynastic politics, the emperors believe that they are ~~superior~~ superior above the institutions of the state. Therefore, they ponder that they abuse them for their vested interests whereas democracy asserts that

no one is above the law. Everyone is accountable in the state. Thus, supremacy and the accountability of rulers is the distinguishable aspect of between dynastic politics and democracy.

Secondly, comprised and independent judiciary is another distinguishable feature between democracy and dynastic politics. Democracy stresses that independent judiciary is requisite for the smooth governance and working of the state whereas in dynastic politics the rulers think that ^{they can} mould and use the judiciary for their own sake. Thus, it is also a distinguishable factor between democracy and dynastic politics.

Thirdly, suppression of the competitor and the role of opposition is another ^{separable} ~~separable~~ factor between democracy and dynastic politics. Democracy

advocates that the opposition is necessary for the better working of the ruling government. It is because ^{of the fear that} the opposition would highlight the flaws of the ruling regime. Conversely, in dynastic politics, the rulers try to suppress the competitor to get the throne of the state. Thus, the suppression of competitor and the role of opposition is another discriminatory factor between democracy and dynastic politics.

Lastly, restricted individuals' fundamental rights and the ensurance of rights is another ~~separable~~ separable aspect between democracy and dynastic politics. In dynastic politics, the rulers are totally marginalized the basic and fundamental rights of the individuals. It is because they believe ~~that they~~ that the citizens of the state are their subervant and they can treat them as

they like, whereas the democracy demands the ensurance of the basic and the fundamental rights to the individuals. It asserts that it is the duty of the state to work for the prosperity of its people. Hence, it is also another discriminatory feature between democracy and dynastic politics.

“Freedom without democracy is meaningless.”

(Abraham Lincoln)

Moreover, some of the case studies of dynastic politics in Pakistan are as annotated below:

Firstly, The regime of the Bhutto family has been depicting dynastic politics in Pakistan. The Bhutto's family has been ruling over the last fifteen

years in the province of Sindh. The current deprivation of the people of the Sindh for the water has been portraying the piercing impacts of dynastic politics in the region of the light of the country. Hence, the Bhutto's family has been showing the doctrine of dynastic politics in Pakistan.

Secondly, the rule of the Sharif's clan has been delineating the dogma of dynastic politics in Pakistan. The current ruling government in the Punjab is the glaring evidence of the dynastic politics in the region of the Punjab. Now, the people of the P^o Southern Punjab are raising their voices for their rights. Thus, the government of the P^o Punjab depicts the notion of dynastic politics in Pakistan.

The country has been facing some dire impacts of dynastic

politics. They are as annotated below:

Firstly, the poor international standing of the country is the most contentious effect of dynastic politics. It is because of this effect, the country is grappling with the rising debt. Therefore, it halts the foreign investment. The foreign investors avoid and feel shaky to invest in the country where the rulers are incompetent. It delineates that the mundane and woody powers totally marginalize the stance of the countries which fails to attract the foreigners. Currently, Islamabad is confronting with the same thing on the perspective of Kashmir's conflict. Thus, the poor international standing of the country is the consequence of dynastic politics.

Secondly, rampant insurgency is another sobering implication of

dynastic politics. It is evident that when the people are devoid of their basic and fundamental rights, they raise their ~~voice~~^{voices} for their rights.

In Pakistan, the people of Balochistan are raising their voices against the autocratic rule because they bear out disproportionate burden of the affairs of the states. In this regard, the most evident instance is the **China - Pakistan Economic Corridor project**. Balochistan contribute 62% in this project and only get 4.5% benefits from this project, according to the report of the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. Thus, rampant insurgency is the dire repercussion of dynastic politics.

Lastly, economic dilemma is the most piercing ramification of dynastic politics in Pakistan. It happens due to the poor administration of the ~~state~~^{rulers}. It impedes

the bright future of the youth. Furthermore, it pushes the country into the phase of bleak, which develops the sense of alienation and isolation among the citizens of the state. So, economic dilemma is the grave repercussion of dynastic politics.

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Greasing the
palm is the
cancer of
democracy.”

(Norway's Adage)

Some officials have argued that it is the need of the hour to take some pragmatic measure to cope with the impel of dynastic politics. They are as enunciated below:

Firstly, free and fair elections are the stipulation to sustain the democracy in the country. It helps in the smooth transfer of power. If the plebiscites are suspected, it would annihilate the democratic principles and norms in the country. Aftermath, it would create the condition of turmoil and mayhem in the country. Lamentably, Islamabad had been confronting with the same conditions in the present era. Hence, free and fair elections are direly needed to maintain the democracy in the country.

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Democracy is
the system in
which parties
lose elections.”

(Adam Przeworski)

Secondly, the independent judiciary plays an significant role to pertain the democratic structure in the country. It develops the sense of justice among the party leaders. Inspite of this, it ensures the party leaders that their rights are preserved under the umbrella of judiciary and they feel easy if they lost the elections. As an ensue, they do not indulge in any plotting against the state, which harms the integrity of the democracy. Thus, the independent judiciary is the need of an hour to maintain the democracy in the country.

Lastly, the robust accountability institutions are also needed to tackle the anguishes of dynastic politics and to maintain the democracy in Pakistan. It plays a significant role to avert the exploit-

ation of the resources. It helps to hold the ruler accountable and to fulfil the canon of democracy in a true sense. It manifests that it is necessary in a democratic country for a better governance. Hence, the robust accountability institutions are requisites to sustain the democracy and to confront the anguishes of dynastic politics.

In a nutshell, dynastic politics has engulfed the democratic structure of the country in no time. It is because of this threat Islamabad has been confronting with numerous socio-economic woes. Some of the manifestations of dynastic politics in Pakistan includes aristocratic rule, absence of rule of law and marginalization of the people's will. All these delineations are amusing on the democratic structure of the country.

On the contrary of the notion of dynastic politics, the democracy demands sovereignty of the people's will, independent judicial system, and equity and equality for the smooth administrative working. Lamently, all these canons of democracy are missing in the politics of Pakistan. Therefore, it is the need of the hour to ^{take} some pertinent steps to subdue the sufferings of dynastic politics and to turn the turtle of dynastic politics in the country.

"The democracy
is the future
of humanity."

(Abraham Lincoln)