

Role of Democracy in a developing country.

(A)

Outline

Thesis Statement: Democracy plays a critical role in enhancing the social, economic and political development of a democratic developing country; yet, it encounters significant obstacles in achieving these objectives.

(B)

How democracy ensures economic development.

1) Promotes transparency through public accountability.
→ Pakistan's Right to Information Act, 2017.

2) Ensures equitable distribution of wealth.
→ 7th NFC Award, incorporation of poverty, Revenue generation and inverse population density besides population in distribution of national divisible pool.

(C) How democracy ensures Political development.

1) Ensures political stability through peaceful co-existence.
→ Case Study Tunisia in Arab Spring.

2) Empowers people politically by allowing them to take part in governance.
→ Kerala decentralisation model, India.

(D) How democracy ensures social development

1) Ensures justice in the country through independent judiciary
→ Singu land case, India

2) Ensures liberty and freedom to make choices.

→ Dr Ambedkar India.

Challenges faced by democracy in fulfilling these objectives.

(E) Political In politics.

(E) In economical aspect

1) Political patronages erodes transparency.

→ Quota system of Bangladesh.

2) Dominance of elites consolidates wealth in the upper echelon of society.

→ Economic inequalities in India.

(F) In Political aspect.

1) Politicians use polarisation as a tool to

prolong their tenure, ending peaceful co-existence

→ Case Study Ivory Coast and its issue citizenship.

2) Dynastic politics consolidates political power within families.

→ Fat dynasties of Philippines.

(G) In Social aspect

1) Pressuring judiciary to validate illegitimate action of rulers thwarts independence of judiciary.

→ Molvi tamizudin case, Pakistan.

→ Use of Role of dictators.

2) Fanning For rightism deprives people from their liberty.

→ India's Wagg Act and viols against beef eating.

(+1) Conclusion

Lord Acton famously said, "Providence works through history". Viewing history through his lens, one can argue that colonial era played a crucial role in shaping the political future of developing countries. It was through this & this historical process that developing nations adopted democratic values that have shaped their political structures. Since then democracy has played a crucial role in the development of these countries, whether in the political, social, or economic spheres. Economically, democracy promotes transparency through public accountability and ensures equitable distribution of wealth. Politically, it has ensured stability through peaceful co-existence and empowered people on a societal level. Democracy fortifies justice through an independent judiciary and ensures liberty. However, in developing countries, democracy faces significant challenges in effectively addressing these objectives. Economically, political patronage & polarisation has been used for vested interests, eroding peaceful co-existence. Moreover, the concentration of power within political dynasties & consolidates power within political dynasties. Socially, using unfair tactics to pressurise judiciary erodes justice. Additionally, fanning the flames of far-rightism erodes & undermines the liberty of people.

To begin with, democracy promotes transparency through public accountability. Democracy in the developing countries has empowered people to hold their government accountable. For instance, in 2017, Pakistan enacted Right to Information Act,

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which postulate that public can demand the information, such as expenditure and funds spending, and governments are bound to provide it. This has empowered people to public accountability. enhanced public accountability, allowing people to highlight corruption and mismanagement. Hence, democracy has also empowered people to hold their governments accountable.

Moreover, democracy ensures equitable distri-

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Moreover, democracy ensures equitable distribution of wealth in a ~~democratic~~ ^{developing} country. In a developing country, income gaps are much higher due to unequal distribution of wealth. However, democracy empowers marginalised and impoverished segment of the society by allowing them right to vote. This compels elected governments to enact equitable economic policies. For example, in the 7th NFC award, government of Pakistan has incorporated contrary to previous NFCs in which the provincial distribution were based upon population only, the interprovincial distribution under is based upon 4 factors: population, revenue generation, poverty, and inverse population density. This new arrangement has criteria allocates a greater share from the national divisible pool to provinces facing more economic challenges. Therefore, by empowering people politically, democracy has reduces economic inequalities in a developing country.

Politically, democracy ensures political stability through peaceful co-existence. Democracy fosters consensus through dialogue, which allows opposite political factions to peacefully set aside their differences. For instance, following the Arab Springs ^{in Tunisia}, two aceddy opposite political factions - Islamist and secular - in Tunisia used democratic method to set aside their differences. They developed a consensus through deliberation in the parliament, and enacted a constitution that addressed the concerns of all. Consequently, Tunisia became the only country that peacefully ensured stability after the Arab Spring. Hence, democracy ensures political stability through dialogue and peaceful co-existence in a developing country.

Besides this, democracy empowers the people politically by allowing them to right to take part in governance. Through local governments, democracy allows people to directly participate in decision making process. For instance, local governments in Kerala conduct each word of the Kerala's local government conduct an open session twice a year. In that sessions, with voters of each word discuss and formalise policies to eaddress the problems they are facing. This system has Besides empowering through vote, this system has directly empowered the people politically. Therefore, democracy has politically empowered people of a developing country.

Socially, democracy has ensured social development through independent judiciary. Independent judiciary is crucial for the to uphold justice in the society. As democracy ensures separation of powers, it allows judiciary to act independently. For instance, in 2006, when Banu West Bang government of West Bengal, India, attempted to acquire land of the poor farmers at relatively low rate for Tata Nano project, the farmers sued the government in the court. Court after looking into the matter held the acquisition of land illegal and ordered to give back land to the owners. This example highlights that independent judiciary allows citizens to challenge even the state in any case of injustice. Hence, independent judiciary ensures justice in a developing country.

Secondly, democracy ensures freedom and liberty in a developing country. Democracy allows people from the lower class to take part in the governmental procedures, which allows them to

Secondly, democracy ensures freedom and liberty in a developing country. Freedom and liberty are one of the core values of democracy, and democracy make sure to uphold these. For instance, the head of Indian constitution making committee was from the Dalit community - person perceived as untouchables in Indian society. He formed a constitution that ensured freedom and liberty of not only dalits, but also the minorities of society. Before democracy, liberty for dalits was impossible in traditional indian societies. Hence, democracy ensures freedom and liberty of marginalised segment of a developing country.

As democracy is crucial for political, economical and social development of a developing country, it faces many challenges in fulfilling these objectives.

Economically, political patronages erodes transparency. Politicians use patronages as a tool to solidify & gain political support from the people and steer the helm of governmental policies to serve their own interests. For instance, Bangladesh had ~~Politicians in Bangladesh~~ ~~had used~~ quota system to ensure the quota system Bangladesh's government introduced for the families of the martyrs of the war against Pakistan, was used as a tool of political patronage. Bureaucrats and politicians inducted those who were ready for the political ~~read~~ ready & had political affiliation with them. Such practice erodes transparency, from the government and allows corruption to prevail. Hence, political patronages in developing countries erodes transparency and promotes corruption.

Secondly, dominance of elites hinders equitable distribution of wealth. Influential elites hold major sway in the political & politics of a developing country. This compels government to enact pro elites centric & economic policies, resulting in consolidation of wealth in the upper echelon of the society. For instance, according to World Inequality Lab report 2024, top 1% of India's population now controls 22.6% of national income, surpassing even the levels seen during the British colonial era. Moreover, report argued that major cause of this inequality is growing nexus between big businesses and Indian government. Therefore, while democracy advocates for equitable distribution of wealth, influential elites often hinders its realisation to protect their own interests.

On political sphere, use of polarisation as a tool ~~prolong~~ ^{prolong} tenure by politicians to prolong their tenure erodes peaceful co-existence. Politicians use polarisation to divide ~~oppr~~ population and uses it to suppress opposition and dissent. For instance, Government of Ivory Coast has used issue of Ivorian citizenship as a tool to divide society and suppress dissent. They have ~~they~~ ^{it} ~~has~~ ^{has} disqualified a key opposition leader, stating him as a non-national. Such practices have deeply ~~de~~ ^{deeply} polarised Ivorian society, resulting in two civil wars. Thus, polarisation ~~erodes~~ ^{erodes} peaceful co-existence by deepening divisions and fostering intolerance within society.

Additionally, dynastic politics consolidates power within political dynasties. Dynastic politics do not empower people politically; rather, it only empowers powerful political families. Moreover, it only ~~people of~~ ^{members} of ~~it~~ ^{its} members. For example, in Philippines, 70% of governors, 73% of congressmen, and 57% of mayors come from dynastic families. Moreover, most of them come from single political dynasty known as the Marcos. This practice ~~do not~~ ^{do not} allow people from lower class to rise in politics, and hinders devolution of democracy at grass root levels. Hence, dynastic politics hinders the political empowerment of the people in a developing country.

On social sphere, suppressing judiciary to legitimate ones own unconstitutional actions erodes justice from the society. When rulers subjugate judiciary, they disturb the delicate balance of separation of powers. For instance, in Moulvi Tamez-ud-din v. State cas, when Governor General dissolved the first constituent assembly, Supreme Court of Pakistan, under the pressure of Governor Governor General, upheld his decision. Consequently, Pakistan had to suffer from a major constitutional crisis. Moreover, it set a precedent for the future military dictators. They pressurised the judiciary to legitimate their own unconstitutional actions. Also, this resulted in unjust execution of a former Prime Minister by the hands of judiciary. Hence, suppression of judiciary results in diminishing of justice in a developing country.

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Lastly, fanning far-rightism deprives people from their ~~to~~ liberty. In developing countries, political leaders have fueled far-right sentiments to garner votes, manipulate people, and hide their incompetencies by exploiting people's sentiments. However, such practices have deprived people, especially minorities, from their liberty. For instance, right leaning Modi government has enacted WofA Act 2025, which mandates inclusion of a non-muslim member in managing committee of WofA board. This constitute a denial of religious freedom for Muslims. Moreover, ^{Not} ~~not~~ only ~~not~~ Muslims, but also Hindu community is affected by the far-right attitude of BJP supporters and leaders. In 2025, The Economist reported, in 2025, a violent mob attacked a fish market, which was managed by non-vegetarian Bengali Hindus. Hence, fanning far rightism erodes liberty and liberty of conscience from a developing country.

In a nutshell, democracy plays an active role in the socio-political and economic development of a developing country. However, it faces significant challenges to achieve this goal, which mars its effectiveness. In its positive role, it empowers people to hold their governments accountable, increasing transparency. Additionally, by empowering people politically, democracy ensures equitable distribution of wealth. Politically, democracy ensures political stability through dialogue and allows politically empowers people to take part in governance and decision making. Socially, through independent judiciary, democracy ensures justice and ensures freedom and liberty of the people. Yet, in developing countries, democracy has to face significant challenges to play an effective role. Political patronages erodes transparency and allows corruption to prevail. Moreover, government-elite nexus hinders equitable distribution of wealth. Not only this, but politically, political polarisation erodes peaceful co-existence in the society and dynastic politics hinders political empowerment of people. On social sphere, a submissive judiciary disturbs the concept of separation of power, eroding justice from the society, and far-rightism deprives people from their p. liberty. Hence, for an effective role of democracy, a developing country must ensure that democracy is followed in its true essence.