

Q1 Highlight the Evolution of Democracy in Pak. Since its independence till today.

1) INTRODUCTION:

"A tumultuous and complex journey of evolution of democracy in Pakistan."

The emergence of democracy in Pakistan is a tumultuous & complex journey, intricating with the interplay of civilian & military rule. Since the inception of Pakistan, democracy has faced many ups & downs, indicating the situation of fragile state based on institutional disharmony, political instability and interprovincial conflicts.

"Democracy is not a destination, it is a journey."

— Asif Ali Zardari,
(President)

2) EVOLUTION OF DEMOCRACY IN PAKISTAN SINCE

INDEPENDENCE:

General history and analysis of the evolution of democracy in Pakistan, offering diverse perspectives & covering different periods.

GENERAL HISTORY AND ANALYSIS	
BOOKS	ASPECT.
1. "The struggle for Democracy in Pakistan?" By — Christophe Jaffrelot	Analyzes the complex interplay of social, political factors shaping Pakistan's democratic trajectory
2. "Bhutto to Zardari: Democracy and Islam in Pakistan" By — Christine Fair	Focuses on Bhutto's Political Role and the rise of Islamism
3. "Military, state and society?" By — Shahid Amin	Examines the impact of military on Pakistani Politics.

In addition to these books "Freedom House" and "Human Rights Watch" reports on Pakistan provide ongoing assessments of the country's democratic progress and challenges.

Phases of Democratic Evolution in Pakistan:

Evolution of Democracy since inception

Phase 1: Early Democracy (1947-58)



Phase 2: Military Rule & Partial Democracy (1958-71)



Phase 3: Post-war Democratization (1972-77)



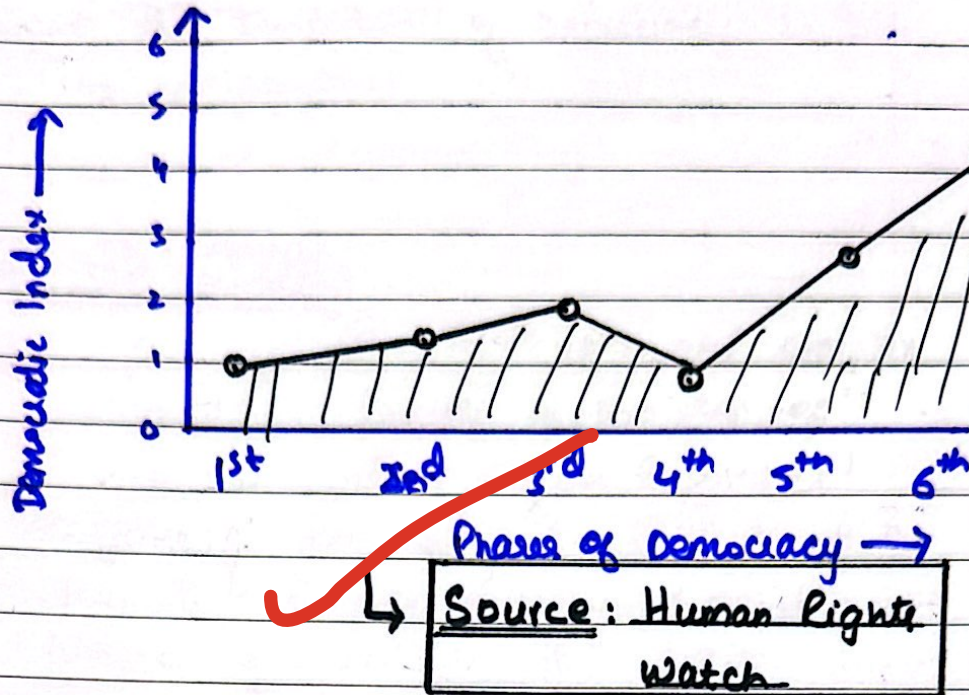
Phase 4: Islamization and Authoritarianism (1977-88)



Phase 5: Fragile Democracy & Military Influence (1988-2007)

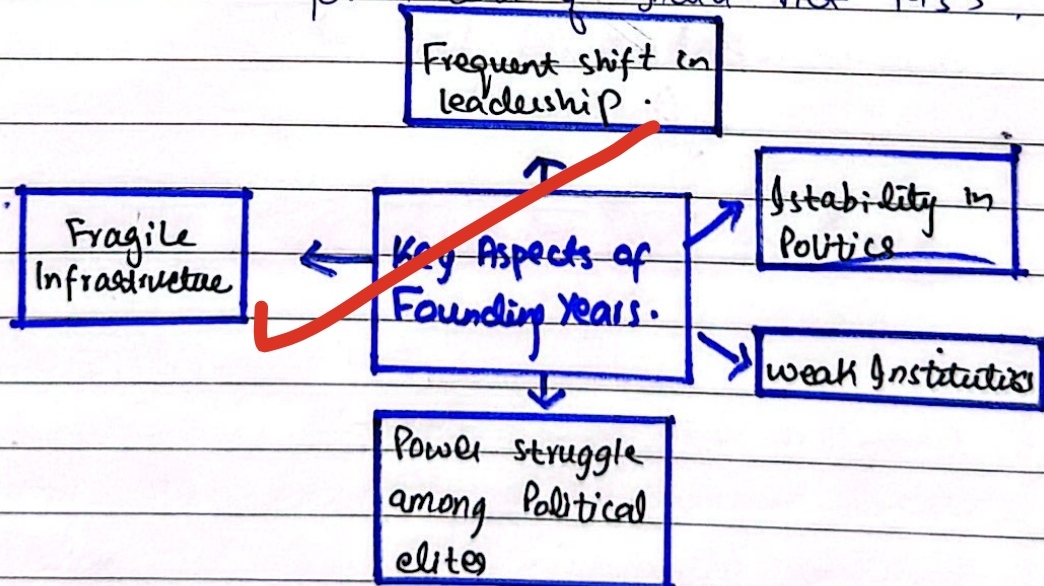


Phase 6: Consolidation & challenges (2007-Present)



- 1) The Inaugural Phase of Pakistani democracy (1947-58) was characterized by the oscillation of power among political elites.

This phase began with Pakistan's independence in 1947 & saw the adoption of a parliamentary system based on the Government of India Act 1935.



The First constitution in 1956 established a federal parliament republic, but political maneuvering and corruption hinders the effectiveness.

This phase ended with General Ayub Khan's military coup in 1958, citing political instability & economic stagnation.

- 2) The Second Phase of Pakistani Democracy (1958-71) witnessed a dramatic shift from civilian rule to military authoritarianism under President Ayub Khan's "Guiding Democracy."

Ayub Khan implemented a "guided democracy" with limited political control and centralized participation. This era saw economic growth but also growing dissatisfaction with curbs on political freedoms.

• In 1965, with India led to economic strain and increased political unrest, culminating in the 1969 uprising and Ayub Khan's resignation.

General Yahya Khan took over, promising political reforms but failing to deliver, ultimately leading to the Bangladesh Liberation war in 1971.

- 3) Third Phase: Fragile Democracy gains under Bhutto (1972-1977) Succumbed to Zia's Coup in 1977;

After the war of 1971, a new Constitution was adopted in 1973, establishing a Parliamentary system with a stronger legislature and independent judiciary. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) emerged as a dominant force, but faced challenges from conservative

and religious groups.

Despite economic and social reforms, Bhutto's government struggled to maintain stability, facing accusations of corruption and authoritarian tendencies.

In 1977, General Zia-ul-Haq seized power in a bloodless coup, claiming to restore order & implement Islamic ideology.

4) Islamization and Tightened Control: The Forth Phase of Pakistani Democracy (1977-88) was a Paradoxical Dance Between Faith and Force.

Zia-ul-Haq imposed martial law, curtailed civil liberties, and embarked on a process of Islamization in society and politics. He held non-partisan elections and introduced constitutional amendments, but political dissent and human rights abuses remained widespread.

The Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan and Zia's alliance with US against communism brought significant foreign aid but also fueled regional instability and violence. Zia died in a plane crash in 1988, leaving behind a legacy of a deeply Islamized society and a weakened democratic structure.

5) Two Steps Forward, One Step Back: A Nation's Struggle for Democratic Renewal (1988-99).

Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif returned to politics and led civilian governments

under a new constitution with restored fundamental rights. This period also saw a revival of political parties and media freedom, but was also marked by political instability, corruption and continued military interference in politics.

Military coups were not attempted, but the military retained significant power and influence over national security and foreign policy.

6) Under the Shadow of the Khakis: Sixth Phase of democracy characterised by a mixed legacy of democracy and control under Musharraf's rule (1999-2007).

In 1999, General Pervez Musharraf overthrew Nawaz Sharif's government in a bloodless coup. Musharraf implemented a number of reforms, including constitutional amendments and increased focus on economic development. However, his rule was also marked by human rights violations, crackdowns on dissent, and increasing US pressure after 9/11.

In 2007, he faced impeachment proceedings and was forced to resign, paving the way for elections that marked the first full transfer of power between civilian governments in Pakistan's history.

7) Seventh Phase of Democracy Attributed to Pakistan's continuous struggle to define its Democratic Identity (2007 - Present)

After Musharraf's era, democratically elected governments have faced diverse challenges, including terrorism, economic issues, social inequalities and the continued influence of the military.

Despite these challenges, there have been significant democratic gains, including increased media freedom, civil society engagement, and a more vibrant political landscape.

CONCLUSION

To conclude, it is stated that Pakistan has been grappling with tumultuous phases of democracy since its inception. Pakistan's history is largely driven by ups and downs of democracy. Pakistan's political landscape has witnessed Parliamentary, military and presidential form of governments, all failed against institutional disharmony, corruption and inter provincial conflicts. However, as there is always light at the end of tunnel, it is hoped that Pakistan will experience true form

- of democracy in the near future.
- Pakistan needs a system
- where institutions are strong
- and nobody is above the law.

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Imran Khan
(Former Prime Minister
of Pakistan)

Conclusion