# Political Polarization, Governance and Society

A. Introduction

B. What is relation between Political Polarization, Governance and Society?

C. What are the Negative Impacts of Political Polarization on Governance and Society?

a- Weakens democratic institutions, undermining public trust on government.

well organized and quite relevant

case study: PEW researched report 2020 about polarization and public trust.

b- Affects the smooth transfer of power leading to public disillusionment.

case study: United States of America presidential election 2020.

c- Breeds a party-based opposition that diverts the demands of People

case study: Farmer protest in INDIA (2020-2021)

d- Increases social turmoil, negatively affecting unity within the populace

Case study: Research report of Asian Developement Bank (2015)

e- Aggravates policy implementation discontinuity which hampers progress and developement

Case study: United States of America, Paris Agreement

f- Promotes authoritarianism ultimately affecting public intrest

Case study: Hungry and Poland rise of authoritarianism

g- Environment created by polarized politics deters foreign direct Investment and increases poverty

Case study: Bangladesh political unrest and FDI in Garment sector

b- Increases violence which hampers successfull implementation of projects

Case study: International Monetary Fund (IMF) report 2018

4) What are the ways to Tackle Political Polarization?

    a- Promotes Political awareness

    b- Constitutional Supremacy

    c- Increase social and economic equality culture

5. Conclusion.

Political polarization refers to the process by which political parties or groups in a society becomes more ideologically distinct and divided. This phenomenon is not confined to any one part of the world; it persist in both developing as well as developed countries like United States of America, India and Pakistan. This ideological division in societies not only a threatens democratic growth but also adversely impacts governance and stability of countries. Political polarizations weakens democratic institutions, which undernimes public trust on government. Moreover, it affects smooth tranfer of power and breeds a party-based opposition. Similarly, it increases social turmoil in countries which negatively impacts unity among people. Correspondingly, it

aggravates policy discontinuity. In addition that, it promotes authorotarianism which affects public intrest. Furthermore, it creates unstable environment for foreign direct investment. Despite its numereous negative impacts, political polarization is not an insurmountable challenge — solutions exist to address and mitigate its effects. Key measures includes increasing public awareness, reinforcing constitutional supermacy, and promoting transparency in government. Thus, Political polarization has numereous negative impacts on governance and society, including weak democratic institutions, social unrest and policy deadlock. However, it can be mitigated by adopting some pragmatic measures.

Before moving ahead, it is mendatory to explain that how political polarization, governance and society

are interlinked to each other. Political polarization which; as explained earlier, means a social division on the basis of ideologies. This division has a crucial impact on governance and society. If politics of a country are unified instead of polarized, then governance would be transparent and accountable. This leads to social stability. Hence, a minor change in political affairs of countries can affect governance and society of countries.

Political polarization affects governance and society as it weakens democratic institutions, which undermines the public trust. The political division creates two different groups in same society. The followers of leading party tries to influence and control institutions including judiciary, executive. whereas the opponent tries to oppose by leading party by hook or by

by crook. This division damages the original strength of institutions. Such divisions at government level affects societies. People gradually loose trust on institution — governance. A Pew Research Center study 2020 showed that, as polarization grows, citizens express significantly lower trust in political institutions, which reduces effectiveness of governance. Thus, weak democratic institutions, as a result of polarized politics undermines public trust.

Similarly, political polarization also affects smooth transfer of power leads to public disillusionment. There is limited tenure of the government in every constitution of countries. When politics become more polarized (they) people and leaders denies their denial in elections. They even start protest to stop the electoral process and compell authorities to hold new election. Such irregular activities hampers the smooth

transfer of power which is pre-requisite of good governance. This not only impacts negatively the democratic norms but also societies. People distrust and loose hope on free and fair electoral system what happened in USA - 2020 presidential election is germane example to quote, political polarization lead to claims of fraud, delays in conceding the election. That was violent attemp to disrupt smooth transfor of power. Thus, political polarization affects governance in such ways.

Moreover, Political polarization breeds a party based opposition that diverts or changes the demands of the people. While feeing such process people narratives changes towards politics. The just blindly follows what their leaders. Instead of demanding their basic rights, their intrest they
what
demanels their party ask want.

For example, In India 2020-2021, government passed three laws regarding farmers independence. The ruling party Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) considered laws as way to modernize agriculture, But opposition party Congress opposes the reforms and start protest to dissuade them. People instead of thinking logically about their advantages support their party-Congress-against ruling party. Therefore, Polarized politics influence governance in such way.

In addition to that, political polarization increases social turmoil, negatively affecting unity within the populace. The political division within society creates two different groups. They oppose each other in every aspect. This difference sometime creates changes to protest and violence. People supports their party not rules or regulations. This segregation creates conflicts and in eradicate unity among the people, It promotes unity

within party not people. A study by The Asian Developement Bank (2015) showed that political polarization in Thailand led to a decline in social cohesion. Hence, social unrest as result of polarization of politics impacts social cohesion.

Correspondingly, polarized politics aggravates policy deadlock which hampers progress and developement. The continue social segregation on ideological basis creates two opponents. The ruling party make policies, opposition party tirades it, criticizes and then hampered its implementation process. This creates a policy deadlock, which not only a obstacle to progress but also impacts society developement. For instance, in United States of America President Obama signed a Paris Agreement 2015 to reduce carbon emition and promote green environment. what that was

no doubt a better initiative but Donald Trumpt withdraw from the agreement, showing how polarization in politics can cause policy discontinuity in country. Thus, Polarized politics causes policy deadlock and undermines the progress of country.

Furthermore, polarized politics promotes authoritarianism ultimately affecting public intrest. Ideological detachment creates blind trust on the party. People want only their leader to rule. They even promote personality not idea. Such domineering influence of leaders controls the minds of populace. They just blindly follow their leaders. This promotes authoritarian leadership to rule. Such activities has adverse impacts on the public trust. These unseen propogandas by political parties influence people and increas. Chances of autocratic

leaderships. for instance Hungry and Poland have experienced the rise of authoritarian political figures in response to polarization. Hence, authoritarian leaders are supported by polarized political.

Moreover, the environment created by polarized political system discourages Foreign direct Investment (FDI) and increases poverty. The social unrest, protest, violence, change of government, discourage investers. Why someone would like to invest in country, where policy implementation is criticized to extreme level? and implementation is not possible? for example, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) is very important in export sector of Bangladesh. During 2013-2015 period there was strikes, violent protest called by BNP against Awami League These protest lead's to withdrawl of foreign companies.

Furthermore, It increases violence in countries, which hampers successfull implementation of projects. The projects initiated by one party, are opposed by other (opponent). In such conditions, consensus and cooperation becomes difficult to achieve. Due to lack of support, insecurity and stability, project faces delays or even complete failure. According to a report by International monetary fund (2018) contries experiencing political instability and violence see a decline in successfull implementation of projects. Hence, violence in countries leads to stagnation of project implementation plz work on transition

To mitigate the effects of political polarization on governance and society, some sensible measures must be taken. First promoting awareness political awareness among citizens can play a crucial role in reducing blind partisanship.

when people understand the importance
of tolerance, transparency, dialogue
and democratic values, they are
less likely to be influence by
extreme political ideologies. When people
understand the importance of their
active participation in politics
the lethal impacts of political polarization
can be reduced. This can be achieved
through social media, traditional
media and campaigns. Addition of
democratic basics into curricula
can also be helpfull.

avoid writing in passive

Second, Constitutional supermacy can
also serve as fundamental mechanism
for metigating its negative consequences.
When constitution is recognized as
supreme authority, it compels all
political actors to adhere to a
shared set of principles. This
supermacy ensures good governance
and reduces instability. Moreover,
This can be achieved through

establishment and consistent enforcement of strong legal, institutional and civic mechanisms that ensure the constitution remains the highest authority in the state.

Third, Social and economic equality can also prove instrumental to alleviate the negative outcomes of political polarization. When disparities in wealth, opportunity and social status persist, marginalized group feel excluded from important affairs which echo increase frustration, and resentment. By implementing strict policies in education, employment and resource distribution, government can ensure the equality both at social and economic level. Moreover, merit based selection and transparency can also be helpful.

To conclude that, political polarization

affects governance and society. It undermines the functioning of government through weakening democratic institutions and detering foreign direct investment. It also increases violence in the society which impedes the successfull implementation of projects. However, these are certain ways through which its adverse impacts can be tackled. It can be reduced through awareness and constitution supremacy. Political polarization prevails in many countries across the world. Countries must focus on the social division which is created as result of polarized politics. They must consider it a challenge to their stability and governance, and should focus on the reduction of this process.