

Democracy is a Culture Rather than a Process

1- Introduction

Hook

Historical context

Thesis statement: Democracy is a culture in history of some nations while others adopted it either as a culture or a political process.

2- Culture of Democracy

2.1- City States of Athens;

philosophy of Plato and Aristotle

2.2- USA's adoption of Democratic

Culture: Lockean philosophy

2.3- Scandinavian countries; exemplary democracy

2.4- Strengths of Democratic Culture

Inclusion and rule by the people,

institutional independence and

transparency.

3- Democracy is Process

3.1- Democracy in UK: a political process

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Day: ___

3.2- Democracy in South-Asia;

Bangladesh and India

3.3- Democratic condition in

Pakistan; backsliding

3.4- Flaws in Democratic Political

System; Exclusion and no
rule of law.

4- Democracy towards Decline:

4.1- Democratic Culture; flaws in present US leadership.

4.2- Political Process; Pakistan's 'hard state' approach.

5- Way Forward

Strengthen Democracy; check and balance, rule of law and independence of media.

6- Conclusion

'The wrong decision of one voter in democracy impairs the future of all', notes by John F. Kennedy. Democracy is in demand and in fashion since 5th century BCE. The word 'Democracy' itself derived from Greek word 'Demokratia' meaning 'rule by the people'. In recorded history, democracy dates back to Athens small city states. No doubt the concept of democracy has altered and flourished with time. However, the present day democracy is a result of many philosophers including, Plato, Aristotle, John Locke, Rousseau and Montesquieu. There are evident differences in ancient democratic practices and democracy of 21st century. The evolution of globalisation and technology contributed in modernizing democracy. Meanwhile, now democracy is also digitalized by social media. Unfortunately, the system which established to ensure 'rule

by the people' is now ruling the people. Firstly, the countries with history of democratic culture also failing in democratic values. Secondly, United States of America adopted democracy as a culture because of their traumatic experiences under 'Monarchy'. Thirdly, countries like Pakistan are in continuous struggle to establish a proper democratic political process. In all such nations, either culture or process, democracy is backsliding. The world need no more authoritarian rulers because democratic rulers are behaving as authoritative. Hence, democracy is a culture in history of some nations while others adopted it as culture and political process.

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