

{ Democracy and illiteracy }  
do not move together }

① Introduction

② Democracy and illiteracy do not move together

a) Illiterate nation undermines democracy.

b) Illiterate citizens cannot provide constructive feedback to governmental policies.

c) Illiterate citizens cannot hold government accountable.

d) Illiterate citizens lead to authoritarian rule undermining democracy.

e) Illiterate citizens fall easy prey to Propoganda weakening democratic government.

f) Illiterate citizens weaken grassroot politics due to lack of participation.

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g) Illiteracy and democracy cannot move together as it leads to the continuity of faulty policies.

h) Illiteracy and democracy cannot move together as it paves way for undermining fundamental rights

i) Illiterate citizens weaker institution which in turn weakens democracy

j) Illiteracy hinders rule of law in society resulting in weakening of democracy.

k) Strong democratic nations have high literacy rate proving democracy and illiteracy do not move together.

3) Conclusion

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{ Democracy and illiteracy?  
(do not move together)}

Ahad was walking alone at night when he saw a pamphlet lying on the ground. He picked it up. It was an advertisement about a seminar on role of literacy in promoting democracy. Being a student of political science, he was aware of importance of literacy in a democratic state. He was also aware of the fact that democracy and illiteracy are opposite to each other. Democracy and illiteracy do not move together as illiteracy undermines democratic values and leads to weakening of institutions. An illiterate nation undermines democratic values. Citizens cannot provide constructive feedback to governmental policies nor can they hold the government accountable. It results in authoritarian rule undermining democracy. Illiterate citizens fall easy prey to propoganda. Lack of participation in grassroot politics also weakens democracy. The continuity of

Faulty policies prove that illiteracy and democracy are not compatible with each other. The prevalence of illiteracy quashes fundamental laws, weakens institutions and hinders rule of law in the society. Strong democratic states have high literacy rates proving that democracy and illiteracy cannot move together.

Democracy and illiteracy cannot move together as illiterate ~~democracies~~ nations undermine democratic principles. The basic principles of democracy which includes justice and equality before law are unsustainable in an illiterate society. Furthermore, illiterate nations shall elect illiterate representatives. These representatives shall in-turn legislate in a faulty manner resulting in decline of democracy. Political philosopher and an ardent supporter of democracy, James Mill was also not in favour of introducing democracy in an illiterate society. He was fearful of the time when the illiterate would be elected and they in turn would

introduce policies which would be detrimental for national interest. For instance Taliban government in Afghanistan imposed a ban on women education. Such a measure proved that illiterate individuals in power are the reason for decline of democracy.

Moreover, illiterate citizens cannot provide constructive feedback to governmental policies. Absence of constructive feedback deprived the government from improving itself. Owing to such a condition the legislators can enact any laws, executive can implement those laws in a harsh manner and judiciary shall such laws in an ambiguous manner. For instance policies against Muslims <sup>such as demolition of Babri mosque</sup> in India are often met with low resistance due to high illiteracy rates in rural areas of India where Muslims are openly persecuted. Lack of constructive feedback due to illiteracy strengthens the anarchical tendencies of the governments.

Furthermore, illiterate

illiteracy, citizens cannot hold government and policy makers accountable for their actions. Accountability is the essence of democracy, which is often compromised in third world countries such as Bangladesh, Nepal, Afghanistan ~~etc~~ and many other nations. Illiterate societies lack proper accountability mechanism paving way for corruption and malpractices. Gallop survey 2023 claims that illiteracy rate in Pakistan is 40%. It justifies the failing accountability mechanism of Pakistan which hinders the growth of democracy in the country.

To sum it all, illiteracy and democracy cannot move together. Illiterate nations undermine democratic principles, impede constructive criticism on governmental policies and are unable to strengthen accountability. It paves way for authoritarian rule and aids in the propagation of propaganda. Grass root politics is compromised due to lack of participation. The continuity of faulty policies

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neglect of fundamental rights are weakening of institutions results from illiteracy, which hinders the growth of democracy. Illiteracy weakens democracy by undermining rule of law. Democracy and illiteracy cannot survive together as democracy is the invention of civilized and literate societies. In an illiterate society, democracy has a dark future.