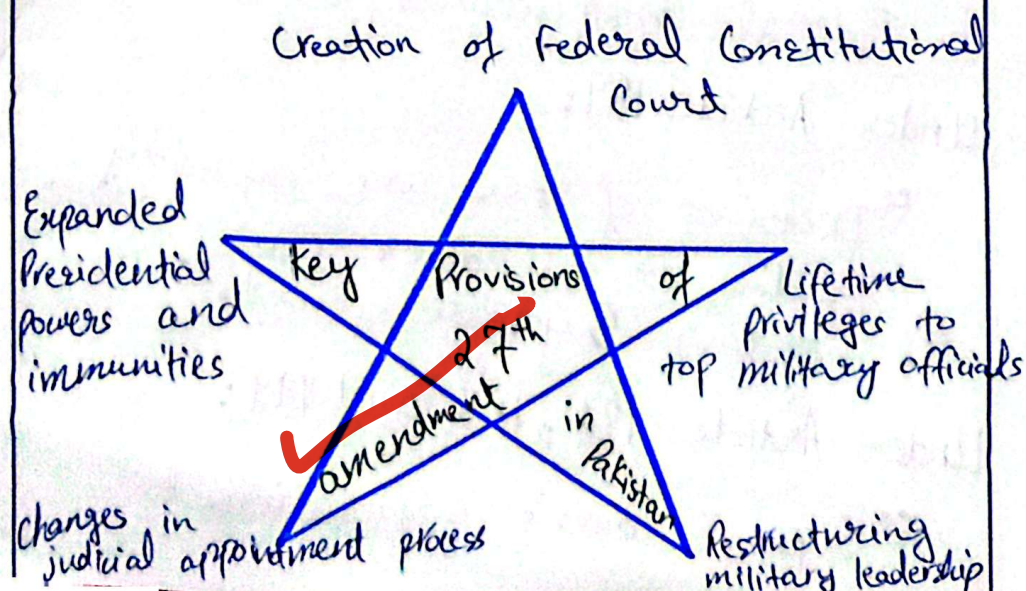


Explain 27th amendment to constitution of Pakistan in detail.

27th Amendment in Pakistan

27th amendment in constitution of Pakistan was passed by National Assembly on November 12, 2025 and it was passed by Senate on November 13, 2025 and on the same day it was signed by President Asif Ali Zardari and it officially came into force. This amendment altered Pakistan's power structure by granting lifetime immunities to President and top military officials, creating the post of CDF (Chief of Defence Forces) and making adjustments in judicial appointment and transfer process.

Fig: Key Provisions of 27th amendment



Explicating Key Provisions of 27th Amendment

i. Creation of Federal Constitutional Court (FCC)

Under Article 175B and 175E:

“A new court i.e. Federal Constitutional Court has been created which is the highest authority on constitutional interpretation, federal-provincial disputes and fundamental rights cases.”

(PILDAT (Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency), Creation of FCC, Nov 2025)

ii. Transfer of Supreme Court's powers to Federal Constitutional Court (FCC)

Under Article 189:

“Decisions of FCC are explicitly binding on all other courts including Supreme Court.”

Under Article 184, 185 and 199:

“Supreme Court's constitutional

and writ powers including Quo motu have largely been transferred to FCC, limiting Supreme Court's role to appellate criminal or civil jurisdictions."

(ISSI (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad), Transfer of Supreme Court's powers to FCC, Dec 2025)

iii- Expanded Presidential Powers

Under Article 175A and 175C:

“ The President now has powers to appoint first Chief Justice of FCC on the advice of Prime Minister. The President appoints the first batch of FCC Judges on the advice of Prime Minister based on the recommendations of Chief Justice of FCC. Future FCC judges will be appointed by the President based on the recommendations of Judicial Commission of Pakistan.”

(IPRI (Islamabad Policy Research Institute, Expanded Presidential Powers, Nov 2025)

Life time Immunities to President

Under revised Article 248:

- “ The President has been granted lifetime immunity to President from criminal prosecution even after leaving the office. ”

(Jung Editorial, lifetime immunities to President, Nov 2025)

iv. Lifetime Privileges to Top Military officials

Under revised Article 243:

- “ Military officers elevated to five-star rank (such as Field Marshall, Air Marshall, Admiral of the Fleet) have been granted permanent rank, uniform and privileges for the life; life time immunities from criminal prosecution even after leaving the office; and they could be removed only through a two-third parliamentary impeachment process. ”

iv. Lifetime Immunities to President

Under Revised Article 248:

“The President has been granted lifetime immunity from criminal prosecution even after leaving the office.”

(Dawn, Lifetime Immunities to President, Nov 2025)

v. Lifetime Privileges and Immunities to Top Military Officials

Under Revised Article 243:

“The military officials elevated to five-star rank (such as Field Marshall, Air Marshall, Admiral of the Fleet) have been granted permanent uniform, rank and privileges for the life; lifetime immunity from criminal prosecution even after leaving the office and they could be removed only through a two-third parliamentary impeachment process.”

(Jung Editorials, Lifetime Privileges for Top Military officials, Nov 2025)

i- Restructuring Military Leadership

This amendment has abolished the post of ~~Chief~~ Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and a new post CDF (Chief of Defence Forces) is created which is the senior-most uniformed military officer with constitutional authority over army, navy and airforce. A National Strategic Command post is created to oversee strategic and nuclear assets typically under army influence (Chatham House, Analysis of Hybrid model in Pakistan, Dec 2025)

vii- Changes in Judicial Appointment and Transfer Process

Under article 200:

“The President now has powers to transfer High court judges based on the recommendations of Judicial Commission of Pakistan.”

Under Article 175A:

“The Judicial Commission of Pakistan now includes Chief

Justice of FCC and the most senior judge of FCC."

Negative Aspects of 27th Amendment that are widely Criticized

Curtailing Judicial independence

discuss this part in detail as well.....

Executive Influence over judiciary

Granting Sweeping Immunities

Consolidation of Military Power

Erosion of Separation of powers

Risk of Democratic backsliding

Fig. Negative Aspects of 27th Amendment

discuss the critical analysis part as well.

Concluding Thoughts

27th amendment altered Pakistan's power structure by granting lifetime immunities and privileges to President and top military officials. It restructured military leadership and changed judicial appointment and transfer process. However, it is criticized for causing erosion of separation of powers.

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