

Q NO (5)

INTRODUCTION:

Democracy is the most essential and fundamental system for managing affairs of a society. It has certain principle and democratic states always follow that principles. Democratic system leads to sustained social, economic and political stability and growth. In Pakistan, various steps have been taken to make it a true democratic state. Unfortunately, democracy could not flourish in true spirit in Pakistan. Democratic system in other states of world like USA gives them sustained and good social and political stability.

Evaluation of Democratic System in Pakistan:

- (1) **First Decade (1947-58):** The first decade (1947-58) after Pakistan's independence was marked a struggling democracy trying to impose itself on Pakistan's landscape. This decade in fact laid the groundwork for the civil-military imbalance that would come to define Pakistan in the coming years. The diverging paths of the military and the civilian government

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eventually pitted the two forces in a conflict that was only ever likely to have one winner. Pakistan's first experiment with democracy thus came to an ignominious end on 7th October 1958, when President Iskander Mirza abrogated constitution and declared Martial law in Pakistan.

(2) 2nd Phase (1958-71):

President Iskander's control turn out to be short-lived because the army chief Ayub Khan took power in his own hands and sent Mirza on a vacation without a return ticket. Ayub installed himself as a president and presided over a decade that has been ~~defined~~ defined as turning point in Pakistan's economic trajectory but also witnessed war with India. In 1969, Ayub's inequality with democracy eventually gave the birth to social unrest that forced Ayub to resign. After Ayub, General Yahya continues remain enigma in Pakistan and he hold direct election in Pakistan on the basis of "one person one vote" policy. In Yahya Era, East Pakistan faced political Isolation and owed little pernicious role of India. India did indeed exploit nationalist sentiments in what is now Bangladesh.

(3) 3rd Phase of Democratic Evolution: (1971-83)

After the division of Pakistan, Peoples' party (PPP) found themselves governing the country. This was perhaps the best time for civilian politicians to assert themselves over the military, since the latter found itself humiliated and devoid of pride and public support after the 1971 incident. The floods in 1973-74 and the OPEC oil crisis are triggered global recession all contributed to decreasing Bhutto's popularity. It thus only seemed inevitable that military would reassert itself, and the straw that broke the camel's back was the claim the Bhutto rigged the 1977 elections. As opposition General Zia led "Operation Fairplay" and ended Bhutto's rule. Zia's martial law or rule end on 12th of August 1988 when he was died in a plane crash. This phase also phased martial law.

(4) 4th Phase (1988-99): It oscillated between rule by Nawaz Sharif and Benazir Bhutto. Benazir's remarkable return in power in 1988's election but General Zia's legacy continued to stifle democracy in Pakistan. Ghulam Ishaq's dismissal of Bhutto's government in 1990 with the help of 8th amendment. After her, Nawaz came into power but

his time in office also too short. because Military forced him and Ghulam Ishaq Khan to resign in 1993. After him, Benazir came into power and her tenure again too short then Nawaz coming into power again in 1996. It was his heavy mandate that allows Nawaz to pass the 13th amendment that limited the president's powers and finally gave breathing space to civilian rule. Sadly, with the triggered a military coup, once again pushing Pakistan into the military rule.

(5) 5th Phase (1999-2008):

Perver Musharraf's rule was once again witnessed near unprecedented economic growth. He also promulgated the 17th amendment that undid a lot of the democratic gains Pakistan achieved in the thirteen amendment. The return of Benazir Bhutto and rise of a religious middle class toppled Pakistan's third military regime.

(6) 6th Phase (2008 - Present):

2008 marked a 15 years since Pakistan has had uninterrupted democratic rule. This period has seen tremendous democratic gains such as the passing of the 18th amendment, NPE award, FATA's merger

with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In 2008, all parties agreed for the election and Inam Khan came into power. Even though, none of the Prime Ministers completed his tenure but military's direct rule is established again after 2008.

CHALLENGES DEMOCRACY IS FACING

(i) Corruption:

In many democratic states, the political leaders, officers, tend to be corrupt, dishonest and inefficient. This results in the lack of trust of the citizens. This badly affects the working of democracy in the state.

(ii) Role of Anti-Social Elements:

The role of anti-social elements arises during the elections. A lot of people are forced or bribed to vote for a particular candidate or party. Rigging also takes place during elections in Pakistan.

(iii) Socio-Economic Inequalities among people:

Although, all the citizens have the right to vote and fight elections only rich people

have chance to win election. For example, In Pakistan dynastical politicians or business tycoons are win election easily by invest or purchasing, in the votes.

(4) Casteism:

During election, a large number of voters give weight to the caste of the candidate. Political leaders also keep in mind the caste of a person while distributing tickets for the election.

(5) Communalism:

Due to cult leadership of religious scholar or Molvi, follower of that person give the vote on religion basis. Representatives elected on the basis of ~~religion~~ religion work for the welfare of the people belonging only to their religion.

Conclusion:

Pakistan faced many martial law and indirect military rule but after 2005 the democracy little worked. Pakistan and the global State has currently faced many challenges like communalism, casteism and corruption among leader but with various steps have been taken true democracy can established.