

1 Pakistan. Affairs

Q5

Introduction:

Pakistan came into existence on the ideology of Islam also known as Ideology of Pakistan. The political system and the form of government (Democracy) that exists in Modern day Pakistan is an alien term. Democracy is a Western term. Therefore after seven and a half decades it cannot be able to set its feet in Pakistan. There are many factors that are responsible for the evolution of Political system and democracy in Pakistan. In fact, these factors are responsible for the status of democracy in today's Pakistan that is still in a transition state.

A short history of democracy:

"Democracy is rule of the people for the people by the people" Abraham Lincoln

Before 1857 Indian-subcontinent was ruled under "Islamic rule of law" under **Mughal Empire**. After Britisher's takeover, a new form of government was introduced in the sub-continent in the form of **democracy**.

Contrary to that, the overall political campaign **Pakistan Movement** was based on the **Ideology of Pakistan** which is **Islamic Ideology**.

Quaid-i-Azam said,

"We do not demand Pakistan to acquire a piece of land, but a laboratory where we could experiment on Islamic principles"

Evolution of Political system and Democracy after 1947; Factors that influenced it;

Democracy in Pakistan is still in transition state even after 75 years of its inception. The factors that are responsible for such evolution of political system

and democracy are:

2 Ideology of Pakistan:

Ideology of Pakistan is based on Islamic principles that emphasis on Islamic rule of law not western democracy.

2 Absence of legal framework at the time of Independence:

There was no legal framework or written constitution at the time of independence that could set rules for political stability and could strengthen Democracy in Pakistan. It took Nine years to formulate its first constitution in 1954.

3 Inept civil bureaucracy and Military establishment:

After the demise of Quaid-i-Azam and Liaqat Ali Khan who were two charismatic political leaders in Pakistan. the over all governance fell into the hands of civil bureaucrats and military establishment. Both of the

bodies were unable to withhold the socio-economic and political crisis. The best example of this is demolition of 1956's constitution, overthrow of Five Prime Ministers by Malik Ghulam Muhammad.

* Military dictatorships and martial laws a throwback to political systems and democracy:

There is a long history of military dictatorships and civil and military martial laws

4 1st Civil Martial Law imposed in Lahore to coup with Ahmadi's:

Lahore martial law was imposed by then civil bureaucrat Skander Mirza the Defence secretary of Khawaja Nazimuddin. which lead to the resignation of Khawaja Nazimuddin

5 Economic Crisis of 1950s:

when Khawaja Nazimuddin took the office, there occurred a 6 months, food recession, famine broke out, Khawaja Nazimuddin was titled as Quaid-i-Qilat it was

dishonor for a Political leader.

6 Military Martial laws; throwback to Political system.

1 Martial law of General Ayub 1958
Khan; As Chief Martial law administrator &
President at the same time.

2 General Yahya Khan's Martial law: 1970s
As Chief Martial administrator

3 Bhutto civil Martial administrator 1971
President of Pakistan at the same time

4 General Zia ul Haq: 1979 to 1988
Chief Martial
Law administrator.

7 Revival of Democracy 1988 to 1999

8 58 26 a sword on the neck of
democracy;

Two Prime Ministers
were elected and de-elected in only
8 years.

9 General Pervez Musharraf another
dictator from 1999 to 2007;

Democracy once again was buried in

the valley of death for about 8 years.

After 2007

10 Economic crisis, Trade deficit
Fiscal deficits, IMF loans and so
on.

These factors contributed to the destabilization of political system and democracy in Pakistan. Unfortunately, after ^{more than} seven and half decades democracy is still in its transition state in the country.

There came many forms of Government during these 75 years but unfortunately no one could be successful.

1 1947-56 → Government of India Act 1935
Governor-General head of the state.

2 1956 Constitution → Federal, parliamentary
governance structure, also called as unicameral
parliament

3 1962 Constitution → mix of 1954 and
1956 constitution, unicameral Federal legislature
(one unit concept)

1973 Constitution → Bicameral legislature comprising of Lower house as National assembly and upper house as Senate. still in use.

All these political systems ^{→ evolved and} failed in Pakistan because Pakistan was emerged on the basis of Islamic ideology. Only Islamic law in its spirit and practice may survive here.

Conclusion:

Pakistan is an ideological state which basis upon Islamic ideology. Democracy could not survive here because it is a western term alien to Islamic one. Along with this, there are many other factors that contributed in the ^{and} evolution and destabilization of Democracy and political system in Pakistan.