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# Title: The Challenges and Triumphs of Democracy in the 21st Century.

## Outline

1. Introduction  
2. What are the challenges and triumphs of democracy in the 21st century?

(a) Democracy is struggling to counter extremism.

(b) Democracy has become insufficient tool to resolve ideological differences.

(c) Biasness among international powers has become normal under democracy.

(d) Recognition of women rights has become possible with democracy.

(e) Provision of basic human rights has

ensured through democracy.

(f) Democracy has contributed to progress with economic liberalization.

(g) It has averted the major world wars.

(1)(3) What are the factors behind challenges and triumphs for democracy in the 21st Century.  
(A case study of Pakistan)

(a) Political wranglings is presenting deleterious challenges to democracy.

(b) Institutional interventions have become chronic disease for democracy.

(c) Weak judiciary has put forth barriers in front of democracy.

(d) Widespread education has brought triumphs for democracy.

(e) Technological expedition has enabled

people for rational selection of leaders.

(f) Political awakening at large has ensured triumphs for democracy.

4. How Challenges can overcome to ensure triumphs under democracy?  
(A case study of Pakistan)

(a) Character of democracy is essential for the continuity of democracy.

(b) Constitutional amendment to avoid interferences has become paramount for democracy.

(c) Structural reforms are compulsory to strengthen judiciary and, thereby democracy.

(d) Election reforms for inclusion of all segments are required to expedite democracy.

(e) Consistent democratic education of masses is essential for democracy.

5. Conclusion

In the historical epochs, mankind remained under the constant pressure of wars, other than natural disasters. This year has raised the consciousness of human-being and ultimately has given the birth of democracy by the humanity for the sake of humanity. Although, there are certain hurdles in front of democracy, but it has championed many triumphs throughout the period of its inception. In the current century, democracy is facing challenges to counter extremism, to resolve ideological differences as well as biasness at international level. Despite such challenges, it has ensured women's rights, human rights and has entrusted the progress of world with economic liberalization. However, there are some countries, which despite having democratic system, facing tremendous and unavoidable challenges against democracy. Pakistan is not an exception in this case, which despite the weak democratic country, has ensured many

triumphs vis-a-vis is facing challenges for the welfare of democracy. The challenges for Pakistani democracy range from political wrangling to weak judiciary. Nonetheless, some triumphs have achieved through democracy in Pakistan. Which have become possible with widespread education of masses as well as expedition of technologies in Pakistan. However, the challenges for democracy in Pakistan can be resolved with charter of democracy, constitutional amendments and structural reforms in judiciary. On contrary, if Pakistan continues along the same lines, the specter of democratic collapse will become inevitable.

The forthcoming paragraphs will analyze the challenges and triumphs of democracy in 21st century.

First and foremost, democracy is struggling to counter extremism. This behavior of extremism has been noted since 9/11, in the western nation and subsequent developments of Islamophobic events like the event of attacks at Mosque in New Zealand. There is a presence of strong democratic values among these nation, but the mode of democracy has faced unprecedented challenges in front of extremism. Thus, it has become chronic challenge for democracy.

In the similar manner, democracy has become insufficient tool to resolve ideological differences. There are major powers in the world, which have democratic system except China and Russia. This widespread range of democracy had remained

unable to avert the cold-war between United States and Union of Soviet Socialist Russian. It has caused devastating repercussions upon states like Pakistan and Afghanistan, but still remains to resolve ideological differences and has now become hurdles in front of national interests of super-powers. Hence, the fundamental work or spirit of democracy is to resolve conflicts with consensus, which is facing challenges.

In the similar fashion, biasness among international powers has become normal under democracy. Although, there is a consensus of world community on the disputes of Kashmir and Palestine. But recent Palestine-Israel war has unveiled the illicit face of western democracy, in which western governments (not the people) has supported Israel in many ways, by using democracy as a tool for them. Hence, this clearness in biased behavior of western democratic nations has become challenge

for democracy.

Along the opposite lines, recognition of women rights has become possible with democracy. Women, particularly in the west got voting rights even in 1920, but remained under oppressive structure of patriarchy. But with advent of democratic norms as well as the means of communication, the awareness among masses was spreaded at large. It has contributed in championing the rights of women equal to men in social, political and economic spheres. Hence, democracy despite of challenges has triumphed the rights of women.

Along the same lines, provision of basic human rights has ensured through democracy. There was clear distinction between black and white race rights in western nation. Which many time has created problems for democracy. The leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. had advocated passionately for the basic rights.



and resultantly ensured their rights. Similarly, the provision of Article-23A, 24A and many other basic human rights related provisions in the Constitution of Pakistan have become possible with democracy. Thus, democracy remains essential for ensuring basic human rights.

In a consonant manner, democracy has contributed to the progress with economic liberalization. Before the World-Wars, the situation was very different and countries were not trading with each other like this. But, the accumulation of world nations in the form of United Nations has resulted in economic liberalization and thus resulted in the progress of many nations around the globe i.e. India, China, Indonesia etc. Thus, democracy gives benefit in the form of economic progress.

In an identical manner, it has averted the major world wars. If we consider India-Pakistan, then

We come to know that despite nuclear powers and having disputes along various domain, have not caused any devastating damages to world. It has happened because of United Nation Security Council resolutions as well as democratic nature of world leaders, powers and institutions to resolve disputes. Similarly, World has not evident any major war after WW-2, because of widespread democratic values.

In the above mentioned paragraphs, we have seen both challenges and triumphs of democracy. However, in the subsequent paragraphs, we will particular delve into Pakistan's democratic challenges and ~~factors~~ <sup>behind</sup> triumphs.

First and foremost, political wrangling is presenting deleterious challenges to democracy in Pakistan. The country remained under Maje for the starting <sup>nine</sup> (9) years from its inception. In the meanwhile, the subsequent wrangling of

politicians had given space to non-democratic power and hence democracy went in limbo. Similarly, in the present time, the rhetoric from each sides has caused effects to democracy and derailed the democratic process by delays in election as per the constitution. True, the political wrangling was the reason behind disruptive democratic process and now the same thing is becoming barrier for democracy in Pakistan.

In the similar fashion, institutional interventions have become chronic disease for democracy. The history of interventions began with Doctrine of necessity and thus resulted in the form of four dictors regimes in Pakistan.

In the Seventy-Six (76) years of history of Pakistan, half of the time was consumed by them, and thus became hurdles for the wellbeing of democratic norms in Pakistan.

In the similar manner, weak judiciary has put forth barriers in front of democracy. As Pakistan has witnessed many cases in which influence upon judiciary become the biasness in judgement, like the introduction of Doctrine of Necessity by Justice Muneer, the judicial murder of Bhutto, despite not being direct involvement and many other such incidents. It has been observed many times that lust of power or position also become reason of weak judiciary. Hence, weak structure of judiciary has caused disadvantages to the continuity of democracy in Pakistan.

In the opposite manner, the widespread education has brought triumphs for democracy. Before <sup>1950</sup>, the absence of educational as well as communication facilities remained hurdles. But the widespread induction of facilities with provision in Constitution like Article 25A,

people are now getting mammoth opportunities and thereby, contributing in strengthening the democracy in Pakistan.

Along the same lines, technological expedition has enabled people for rational selection of leaders and thus strengthen the democracy. Due to globalization, people are now connected throughout the globe and are sharing and learning from each other. This has ensured the democratic values in countries like Pakistan and ~~it~~ has strengthened democracy. Thus, technology is playing pivotal role in strengthening democracy.

Along the similar direction, political awakening at large has ensured triumphs for democracy. The widespread education over the period of time and the expedition in technology, both has contributed in stren political awakening through different platforms and hence has ensured democracy in Pakistan.

In the coming paragraphs, we will discuss the challenges that the democracy is facing to achieve triumphs in Pakistan.

First and foremost, Charter of democracy is essential for the continuity of democracy. As political wrangling has become normal among the current political leaderships of Pakistan, it has given benefits to non-democratic forces manytimes. But the Charter of democracy can ensure the political strength and can place barriers in front of non-democratic forces and thus ensure the continuity of democracy.

In the similar fashion, Constitutional amendments to avoid interferences from institution has become paramount for democracy. It has been many times in the history of Pakistan that institutions especially security establishment remains behind political engineering. Which has led the democratic

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Process four times in Pakistan.

Their indirect and direct involvement can only be restricted with constitutional amendments along the same lines of Article-6.

In a consonant manner, structural reforms are compulsory for strong judiciary and thereby democracy. Judiciary remains the tool for political engineers. Due to which manytimes democracy has faced unprecedented damages. In order to ensure the strong judiciary, there is need to ensure its autonomous status via reforms. In which both Parliament and security establishment ensure the security of judges.

Also the process of selection should be made transparent by making it publically. Thus, all such initiatives will be helpful in ensuring the strong judiciary and thereby strong democracy.

In a continuous manner, election reforms for the inclusion of all segments are required to

expedite democracy. In many rural areas of Pakistan, mostly women have no democratic say. Which has ultimately excluded almost half of the country's population. Meanwhile, there should be reforms for to restrict political parties for ensuring equal percentage of women in general election. There should be upper-age criterion for casting a vote as lower-age. So that people with different issues after over-age could not get influence of local feudals. Thus, such robust election reforms will help Pakistan in strengthening democracy.

In a consistent manner, consistent democratic education of masses is essential for democracy. There are multiple segments who in Pakistan do not have access to digital devices, due to which their education remains at lessing end. Similarly, the people living in rural areas are not necessarily educated about democracy and offer



tend to surrender their democratic rights to feudal lords or electables.

Thus the collaboration of Civil Society, democratic institution and different NGOs (Non government Organization) is essential to address the democratic educational needs of masses at large through massive and consistent campaigns.

In a nutshell, democracy being an ideology, has faced many challenges throughout evolution, but also has delivered many triumphs to the world. Its challenges <sup>are</sup> ~~against~~ extremism, biasness in international powers and insufficient tool to resolve conflicts, particularly ideological. However, it championed the women to human rights.

But, in a country like Pakistan, although it is facing challenges of political wrangling, institutional intervention and weak judiciary, has ensured progress with education as well as with the advent of technologies. However, the daunting challenges to democracy in Pakistan could be avoided with the

help of Charter of democracy, constitutional as well as election reform. It can strengthen democracy with consistency in democratic education of masses. On contrary, the democracy in Pakistan will be elusive if the described measures are not taken into consideration as top priority.