

2. Elections are the only solution Date: _____ to multi-pronged problems in Pakistan.

Outline

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement: The multi-pronged problems in Pakistan can be solved through elections or targeting the roots of the problems. These multifarious problems require multiple solutions, including economic stability. Hence, rather than focusing on elections for the sake of elections, a multi-pronged strategy is vital.

2. Nature of Pakistan's multi-pronged problems

3. A multi-pronged solution-orientation is key to solving Pakistan's problems (Thesis)

- (a) Elimination of dynastic parties
- (b) Attainment of economic stability
- (c) Improvement of social indicators
- (d) Instilling nationalism as opposed to provincialism
- (e) Adopting the essence of democracy

4. Elections are the only means to solve Pakistan's multi-pronged problems (Anti-Thesis)

- (a) Elections open to general public so people have the choice to vote for non-dynastic parties
- (b) Elections will ensure consistent economic policies which are vital for economic stability
- (c) The people's chosen government will focus on their need for social progress
- (d) Elections ensure nationalism as leaders are selected for the overall welfare of the country
- (e) The starting point of democracy is having elections.

5. A cumulative approach of targeting multiple root cause of Pakistan's problems is a sure-fire way to resolve them (Synthesis)

(a) If dignities eliminated, better record approach of outdated strategies will cease to exist

(b) Economic stability essential for solving most problems in capitalistic world system

(c) Improvement of social factors will improve election outcomes and target two birds with one stone

(d) Nationalist ideas will ensure elections are based on national interest which will eliminate multiple problems for Pakistan

(e) Democratic ideals need to be present for free and fair elections which in turn will target the multipronged problems of Pakistan

6. Conclusion

ESSAY

Pakistan's history is littered with failed elections. These elections were used as a ploy to achieve ^{the} narrow objectives of malicious entities which wreaked havoc on the nation, while elections in most democracies are customary practice, in Pakistan they are traumatic experience which follow the same track record as it always has. Election day comes, people leave their seat out to vote and are encountered by high-school bullies that harass them from attaining their under rights in another

scenario, voters are enticed with monetary benefits which are sufficient for them to drop their original ~~ideas~~ plans and vote for the enticer's party of choice. ^{Therefore} ~~the~~ elections in Pakistan are a farcical excuse to achieve power and riches by a handful of elites while compromising the welfare of 241.5 million people. The multi-pronged problems in Pakistan can be solved through elections or targeting the roots of the problems. These multifarious problems require multiple solutions hence, rather than focusing on elections for the sake of elections, a multi-pronged strategy is vital. A multipronged solution-orientation would target the plethora of problems in Pakistan ~~by~~ through the attainment of economic stability, elimination of dynastic politics and improvement of social indicators. However, some claim that elections are the only solution to Pakistan's problems as it encompasses democracy, encourages the people to ~~to~~ choose their own leaders and ensures consistent economic policies for overall stability. But, ~~is~~ a cumulative and multiple-strategy approach is more effective than just elections as it targets a wide base of problems through achieving national consensus, ensuring the most accurate decisions are made while voting and broken records of political strategies are curbed.

Pakistan is warred with multi-pronged problems that manifest in every facet of human

existence they range from economic, political and social problems which makes navigating through these solutions for these problems tricky. What's more, these problems are linked with each other and form a complex web and intricate web where tapping into one problem influences another. For example social problems such as illiteracy are deeply linked with economic problems through the notion of unskilled labour, on the other hand, illiteracy also causes political problems as voting patterns don't win ideal outcomes and the democratic machine seems broken. The know-how and motivation to mitigate these problems is absent which creates a vicious cycle of them getting worse. What should ensue is a well-thought out multi-pronged strategy to solve multi-pronged solutions. Hence, Overall, Pakistan is steeped in problems that are deeply embedded in the system.

One major solution to solving Pakistan's problems is the elimination of dynastic parties. Dynastic parties pass their leadership from generation to generation and reiterate the same policies for ^{since} decades, which need to be ended. Compulsory multi-party elections would help to eliminate dynastic practices as party leaders would vote for based on meritocracy and not primogeniture. In his book, Hamid Khan highlights that dynastic politics have led to redundancies in political policies and

ideas. The solution implemented was intra-party elections based on merit under the watchful eye of a third objective party. This would encourage innovation in ideas and ~~hit~~ break the wheel churning the same old political practices (Constitutional and Political History of Pakistan, 2010). All in all, a ~~elimination~~ ~~of~~ dynastic practices ~~to~~ are a solution to Pakistan's multi-pronged problems.

In today's world, economic stability is vital to solve most of Pakistan's problems. Economic stability ensures that consistent and adequate funds are available to cater to the needs of the population. Historically, Pakistan has been dependent on other countries and economic institutions to achieve some semblance of stability. This culminated into austere and rigid measures inflicted on Pakistan which are the root of its problems. For example, the IMF measures have added fuel to the fire of economic instability by demanding strict measures and Pakistan had no choice but to adhere due to its desperate need to survive. To solve the multi-pronged problems, ~~of~~ Pakistan needs to ~~eradicate~~ ~~slur~~ the beggaring and mentalities and achieve economic stability (Mareeha Lodhi, Breaking from the past, 2023). Therefore, economic stability

is essential for solving Pakistan's multiple problems.

Inadvertently, improvement of social indicators are key to solving Pakistan's multi-pronged problems. Pakistan needs to improve the education sector and health care to along with other social factors that target the root cause of most of Pakistan's problems. Education instills in man the ability to excel in the world. As said by Plato, "The direction in which education starts a man will determine his life." An ~~pop~~ out-of-school children population of 23 million (World Bank) and a total adult illiterate population of 60 million (Federal Ministry of Education and Professional Training) needs to be targeted to achieve a ~~high~~ ^{high} ~~way~~ ^{way} in society. This way will have a ripple effect which will ensure that Pakistan's multi-pronged problems are wiped in the bud. Ergo, improvement of social indicators like education ~~with~~ will target the root of the ~~probl~~ multi-pronged problems in Pakistan and is the solution.

Nationalism ~~is~~ over and about provincialism is a major solution-oriented strategy to ~~eliminate~~ ^{eliminate} ~~the~~ ^{the} plethora of problems in Pakistan. Pakistan is a divided nation and cannot collectively solve the problems that it faces due to each province trying to

extract the most benefit. Pakistan can focus on distilling nationalism through school curriculum or propaganda to stem its problems. For example, ^{Abraham} Lincoln's words could be adopted as an ideology to instill nationalism.

"A house divided against itself cannot stand." Moreover, while loyalty to one's province forms part and parcel of the dynamics of the country (Anatol Lieven, Pakistan: A Hard Country, 2011), ethnic tolerance and harmony can be practised. Pakistan's rich diversity can be celebrated on the national level through ethnic shows and programs that create awareness. Hence, through ethnic harmony and distilling nationalism, Pakistan can target its multi-pronged problems which include ethnic discord.

Democracy forms the bedrock of a well-functioning country and adopting its essence will reduce the problems faced by Pakistan. Democracy entails the presence of free and fair elections to help the population voice their opinions and decide the running of their country. While Pakistan is deemed a democracy, it is by name only as democratic ideals are largely absent. To ~~add~~ put a stop to the problems faced by Pakistan, democracy adopting a legitimate form of democracy would be the solution.

For example, by ensuring free and fair elections, leaders would come to power based on meritocracy and political stability will be achieved. While this constitutes as elections, the solution is not elections itself but adoption of democratic mentality that is the key to the problems. This is highlighted in an article in The Guardian which highlights that democracies don't fight one another; accountability and ~~demo~~ participation are good in themselves: they're more likely to be humane and on the whole, they'll take better decisions (Ake Is democracy good for everyone?, 2023). Ergo, democratic ideals are a means to eliminate Pakistan's problems.

However, it is claimed that elections are the only means of to solve Pakistan's multi-pronged problems as the general public can choose to not vote for dynastic parties by their own free will. Elections in Pakistan will ensure that the voice of the common man is heard and he would not want to disadvantage himself. A rational person will vote for the party that is most attractive and whose ideals match with the general public. The words of the Holy Prophet resonate here "My community with (Ummah) will never agree on error." This indicates that elections will be based on rationality and those that promise and have the means to eliminate

Pakistan's multi-pronged problems will be solved so, ~~the~~ elections can be said to be the only solution.

Although economic stability is vital to solve Pakistan's problems, consistency in economic policies through election will reach this goal. Elections will ensure that one party comes to power which adopts one economic policy that can run its course to solve the economic woes. The solution is to ~~bring consistent~~ establish one government which is acceptable to the majority and allow them to put their economic policies in place to the end of their term. This notion is highlighted by Riaz Riazuddin in his article in Dawn ~~which~~ ^{states} that economic instability is a result of oscillation of economic policies ~~the~~ since 2002 where 3 gov Pakistan saw the changing of 3 governments. The key to achieve stability is not the policy itself but the adoption of consistent policies over a period of at least 5 years. This can only come about if elections ensue. Therefore, elections are the sole solution to solve Pakistan's multi-pronged problems through consistent economic policy implementation.

Through elections, people will be able to hand-pick a government to bring

about social progress in Pakistan and solve its problems. A rational actor will elect his chosen representative based on his manifesto which appeals to him. A social-welfare hungry population will elect a leader that will bring about this change and help curb the problems of social degradation. For instance, this explains why populist and socialist parties like the PPP have been successful in the past through slogans such as 'bread, clothes, shelter'. It should also be noted that the only time an election was deemed fair was in 1971 when the PPP came into power through the popular manifesto which appealed to the people. Hence, through elections, social problems of social degradation can be curbed, and

Nationalism is a contested concept in Pakistan but through elections, nationalism can be achieved and the problem of provincialism curbed. When political parties campaign based on the country's welfare rather than adopting narrow manifestos of provincial progress, people will be forced to think along nationalistic lines. Elections for the federal level will ensure that people vote based on general welfare of the country which will precipitate to the local level and benefit them overall. For example, citing national progress in

election campaigns in the US has largely eliminated provincialism in the country. The divide between the southern and northern states was a cause for contention in the country but it was steadily eliminated through adopting nationalism in election campaigns and voting based on national welfare. This can ensue in Pakistan as well, if nationalism becomes the ~~g~~ is adopted in elections. Hence, elections are a solid solution to eliminate multipronged problems such as provincialism.

It is claimed that democratic ideals are virtually absent in Pakistan but it should be noted that elections are the starting point of democracy. Democracy entails self-determination through free and fair elections and this will help to ~~eliminate~~ put a stop to Pakistan's multipronged problems. Elections ensure that the voice of the majority is heard and this voice encompasses a resolution to problems faced by the people that make up the country. For instance, when people are unhappy with one form of government they can remove that government through elections. This ensued in 2008 where the people wanted a civilian government after more years of military rule. ~~It~~

Therefore, the multi-pronged problems of Pakistan can be eliminated through elections which entail a democratic system.

Overall, if dynastic rule is put to an end promptly, people would be spoilt for choice and Pakistan's multi-pronged problems would be diminished.

Overall, if dynastic rule is put to an end promptly, out-moded strategies through a broken record approach would cease to exist, diminishing Pakistan's problems. People would be spoilt for choice as a variety of parties would come to the forefront and offer new and innovative manifestos. Political parties would feel motivated to offer the next best thing and craft their policies to suit the public opinion as opposed to standard elections with the same dynasties. For example, a dream party would ensue that caters to the true needs of the people and is innovative and different from the old parties which (Muhammad Amir Rana, A dream party, 2023). This will help to eliminate the most of the multi-pronged problems in Pakistan. So, rather than holding of dynastic parties as opposed to holding elections as they are would mitigate the problems in Pakistan.

While elections are important, first targetting the economic system and ~~an~~ and achieving stability will lead to solving the multi-pronged problems of Pakistan. Economic welfare and stability is essential in today's capitalist society and overall welfare is largely determined through the economy. By comparing the economies of the west and Pakistan, one can see that economic stability has helped ~~solve~~ most of the multi-pronged problems in Western countries for instance, ~~the~~ Germany was able to ~~to~~ curb extremism and prevent a collapse of its society after the second world war through economic stability. This also translated into an efficient democracy in Germany. Through this one can envision how important economic stability is to stability, welfare which translates into politics and society. All in all, Pakistan can ~~not~~ reduce its multipronged problems through economic stability which may also impact political and social welfare positively.

Pakistan can solve its multipronged ^{problems} ~~strategy~~ by adopting a more ~~realistic~~ holistic approach of improving social factors which in turn will also improve election outcomes, targetting two birds with one stone. social factors

have a ripple effect on political factors and will lead to an overall better outcome in elections. For example, an improvement in literacy will ensure rational choice for ~~candidates~~ candidates and welfare. This would entail ~~the~~ political stability ~~to~~ as literate populations cannot be coerced or bought because they would know the true value of their vote (Rafia Zaharia). Thus, improvement of social factors is a solution to solve the under-recognized problem of provincial and can even improve election outcome.

If nationalism is already present in the minds of the people, national interest attainment will form the basis of decisions especially in elections. Nationalism is a complex phenomenon that ~~it~~ can effectively be embedded through years of socialisation as opposed to over a short period of time. Nationalism is the solution to the problem of provincial rivalry which seems to also manifest itself in elections. ~~and it~~ ~~act~~ for instance, if nationalism is firmly embedded into the population, voting patterns would mirror national interest ideals. ~~It~~ Instead of voting for PPP because it is largely considered a Sindh party or PML-N which is largely considered a Punjabi party (Anatol Ullery, Pakistan, A

Hard country, 2011), people would vote for parties based on nationalism. This would still solidarity and harmony in the nation which would be a solution to Pakistan's multi-pronged problems. Therefore, nationalism ~~is~~ fulfillment adoption is a solution as opposed to just having elections.

Lastly, democratic ideas need to be present and embedded into the system of Pakistan as opposed to the facade of ~~the~~ elections currently in place to address the ~~multi~~ multi-pronged problems in Pakistan. Through democracy forming part and parcel of the political machine, elections would be more credible. ~~and~~ Having elections for the sake of elections is not sufficient to curb the deep-rooted problems of Pakistan that are multi-pronged in nature and ~~the~~ fulfillment of democracy is necessary. This is highlighted by the words of Iqbal; Muhammad Ali Jinnah, "It should be remembered that democracy does not establish credibility by mere slogans and ~~in~~ claims or speeches made on the basis of sentimentality or by golden letters or manifestos on paper, but its pattern of practical actions should be visible to all." Ergo, democracy entails presence of the multi-pronged ~~problems~~ problems of

Corruption can be curbed through adoption of ~~the~~ the true essence of democracy and not merely holding elections for the sake of it.

In conclusion, Pakistan is ~~an~~ inundated in problems that are multi-pronged in nature. ~~One~~ The need of the hour is to target the root cause of contention and followed a holistic and multi-layered approach to solve these problems. This would ensue through the adoption of nationalism along with democratic ideals and combine them with ~~a~~ attainment of economic stability. ~~to~~ ~~to~~ Some claim that elections are ~~a~~ ~~to~~ the sole means to curb the problems of Pakistan as it encompasses the notion of self-determination and democracy, leads to general economic stability and social welfare. However, it cannot be claimed that elections are the only solution to Pakistan's multi-pronged problems. As through adoption of democratic ideals, election outcomes are determined, through social welfare - people make rational decisions and through ~~nationalism~~ nationalism - provincial outlooks are diminished and national interest ^{is} adopted. Thus, a cumulative

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approach of targeting multiple root causes of Pakistan's problems is a superficial way to ~~resolve them~~ solve them.