

Essay:

Topic: Democratic Unrest in Pakistan: Causes and Consequences

Outline

A: Introduction

- ① Introductory statement
- ② Thesis statement:

Democratic instability has caused serious issues in Pakistan which have to be addressed by taking immediate steps.

B: An Overview of the Concept of Democratic Unrest

C: Causes of Democratic Unrest in Pakistan

- ① Polarized politics
Gallup Pakistan: 78% political divide
- ② Lack of the accountability

WB: Transparency CPI (2024)

③ Cult politics and Charismatic influence
Case study: Kim Dynasty

④ Lack of leadership maturity
Example: 24 PMs only in 75 years

⑤ Lack of democratic continuity
Example: Various Martial Laws

⑥ Weak coalitions among parties
Case study: Vote of No-Confidence against Imran Khan

D: Consequences of Democratic Instability in Pakistan

① Institutional overstepping
Case study: Supreme Court-Parliament Clashes

② Economic Vulnerability

WB (2023): 2-3% Loss Annually

③ Weak Execution of Law

Rule of Law Index (2023): 130/142

④ Rise in Social and Political Tensions

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SATP: 61% increase in Protests

- ⑤ Rise in Extremism and Terrorism

PIPS: 73% increased terrorist attacks

- ⑥ Increasing Gap between Elite class and Middle class

E: Way Forward: Addressing Factors That caused Serious Problems Due To Democratic Unrest

- ① Strengthening Overall accountability and transparency
- ② Taking strong measures in implementing rule of law
- ③ Open political debates
- ④ Increasing political awareness among citizens of modern politics
- ⑤ Reengineering the separation of power to increase clarity
- ⑥ Promoting socio-political Values

Democracy is a modern form of government in today's world. Democracy has been adopted in most of the countries around the world. The adaptation of this form of government has bestowed people with pros and cons both. Majorly, democracy's effectiveness and efficiency relies the way legislature runs it. Any form of government around the world would never give or bring transformation in the country unless it is truly run by legislature. As Fukuyama has stated that states are stable when institutions compete to serve, not to dominate. It clearly manifests the aim of a political system to be adapted and run in true sense. Democracy has offered Pakistan

various challenges in this regards. Pakistan has faced various challenges of democratic ineffectivity for decades. In return those challenges have back-fired also. Democracy in true sense in Pakistan has been under ^{the} challenges. ~~if~~ it can be concluded that Pakistan has suffered from various causes of democratic instability which have posed serious problems in Pakistan, that is why, they have to be addressed immediately.

Democratic unrest refers to the instability caused due to inefficiency and ineffectivity of running it. The term "democratic unrest" is combination of two words: democracy and unrest. Democracy

refers to a form of government which is run by the people, for the people and of the people. Unrest refers to instability and tension. Both together mean instability caused because of ineffective or inefficient democracy.

Polarized politics has tremendous share of contribution in dismantling the democratic stability. In Pakistan, its contribution in democratic unrest cannot be neglected. According to Gallup, 78% of political divide has been reported in Pakistan. This divide is a key factor in bringing disparity among the citizens of Pakistan. In short, as polarized

politics has dismantled ^{democratic} the stability in Pakistan, lack of accountability and transparency has also done the same.

Lack of accountability and transparency is a grave factor bringing the democratic instability. Pakistan has unfortunately always been in the top of rankings. World Bank Transparency Corruption Perceived Index shows Pakistan's ranking at 132nd among 142 countries. It shows a serious threat to the democratic stability. In conclusion, lack of accountability does not only pose democratic instability but also cult politics trend among the people.

Cult politics and charismatic influence has

challenged the roots of democratic stability. An influential personality can easily exploit the masses of a country such as in Pakistan. Kim dynasty for a long-time has captured the power and has maintained it due to charismatic personality-case study. It is a serious challenge in modern world especially in Pakistan too. To wind up, cult politics and lack of mature leadership pose serious challenges to the stability of democracy.

Lack of leadership maturity poses a grave challenge to democratic stability. It has always been experienced in Pakistan with great challenges. For example, in 75 years history of Pakistan, 24 Prime Ministers

is a significant factor that poses democratic instability. It is a core factor for bringing in the peace. In last, lack of leadership maturity has challenged the stability of democracy as well as the lack of democratic continuity.

Lack of democratic continuity has directly affected the democratic stability. Pakistan has experience various breakthroughs. Imposition of various martial laws shows the instability present in Pakistan democracy. It has posed various challenges for democratic unrest. Finally, it has posed serious break through to the process and continuity of democratic stability but also weak

coalitions among the parties.

Recent governments have been of coalition which have kept democratic stability a day-dream. In Pakistan weak coalition governments are too fragile to keep or maintain democratic stability. A case study shows it has recently changed the government of far right party of Imran Khan. It is also a core factor challenging the democratic stability in Pakistan. It can be stated that weak coalition can't guarantee the stability of democracy in Pakistan.

Various factors have caused various consequences in Pakistan especially, institutional instability is a top aftermath

among those factors. It hinders the institutions to play their role. Supreme Court clashes in (2021-22) with parliament show a significant consequence of an institutional overstepping in Pakistan. It remains highly relevant due to the various causes of democratic instability in Pakistan. In short, institutional overstepping ~~has~~^{are} not only ~~weaken~~ the aftermath of democratic unrest but also economic vulnerability.

Economic vulnerability is another great consequence of democratic unrest in Pakistan. Its role in a country is like a back bone in human body. World Bank reports that annually 21 to 31% of GDP has been lost or

wasted due democratic unrest. It shows a serious concern for Pakistan. Finally, economic vulnerability is a big aftermath of democratic unrest and, also weak execution of law.

Weak execution remains other dark factor posed due democratic unrest. It plays a pivotal role in stabilizing the country. World Bank Rule of Law keeps Pakistan at 130th among 142 countries. It is very concerning stage for Pakistan. Weak execution is very strong pillar of which can anytime dismantle the situation from peace to unrest. In short, weak execution but also rise in social and political tensions have been the severe consequences of

democratic instability.

Rise in social and political tensions has been the serious issues caused due to instable democracy. Democratic unrest has posed this issue for a long time in Pakistan. SATP shows 61% increase protest in Pakistan. It is a severe condition which has been brought due to democratic unrest in Pakistan. A safer and more peaceful democracy can't be achieved with such a high social and political tensions. In last, rise in political and social tensions have not been only the aftermath of democratic unrest but also a rise in extremism and extremism.

Rise in terrorism and extremism ~~at~~ is a grave consequence of democratic instability. Pakistan has been suffering from these evils ~~from~~ for a long time. 73% hike is reported by PIPS in terrorism and extremism in Pakistan in 2025.

It is an alarming figure and rise in Pakistan due instability of democracy. To wind up, rise in extremism and terrorism are not the the consequences of democratic unrest but also a huge gap between elite class and middle class.

The last severe aftermath, is a huge gap increasing day by day between elite and

middle classes. It is a concerning and serious issue which has brought a social divide in societies. The rich are getting richer ~~and~~ but the poor are getting poorer. It can be summarized that democratic unrest has divided the society with huge gap ~~between~~ between elite and middle classes.

It is high time to address the issues as aftermath of democratic unrest especially by strengthening the overall accountability and transparency. Both are key factors ensuring a smooth stability of ~~for~~ democracy in Pakistan. They can guarantee a stable democracy with less

chances of instability. In short, strengthening the overall accountability and transparency are key factors to address the aftermath of democratic unrest.

Implementation of rule of law with strong and strict measures are another key elements ensuring stability of democracy. Rule of law plays a pivotal role addressing democratic unrest in Pakistan. Law is nothing without a strong implementation system. Finally, implementing rule of law and open political debates also can guarantee democratic stability.

Open political debates are another key measures to be

taken as immediate steps to address the democratic unrest. It ensures political participation and increases political knowledge among the people. Such debate can help to reduce democratic unrest in Pakistan. To be precise, political open debates do not only reduce the democratic unrest but also increasing awareness of politics among people.

Increasing political awareness among the people as the required element of modern politics can ensure reduced democratic unrest. It is key factor of a competitive and political

societies in today's world. It ensures and provides opportunity for learning and understanding modern forms of political patterns. It is very significant in societies where democratic instability is at hike. In a nutshell, ~~the~~ political awareness as well as reengineering the separation of power structure are also ^{key} factors ensuring ^{reduction} ~~reduction~~ in democratic instabition.

Finally, reengineering separation of powers in Pakistan is pre-requisite to address the consequences of democratic instability.

Clarity is a key factor is separation of power. One clarity is defined, and roles are defined

clearly, they ensure a stable democracy. There will be less chance of ~~mis~~ over-stepping, ~~an~~ abuse of power and institutional illegitimate supremacy. In short, it can be stated that democratic unrest can be ~~an~~ reduced and addressed by the separation of power.

To sum up, democratic unrest entails institutional abuse of power, economic disasters and rise in socio-economic challenges, however, they can be addressed ~~with~~ ^{by} taking steps such as increasing accountability, political awareness and reengineering of

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powers. It is high time for Pakistan to realise the dark realities of democratic unrest and taking vigilant ^{action} by addressing these issues. Democratic unrest can't flourish more if the above mentioned strategies are taken. Pakistan's democratic stability means absence of democratic unrest. In short, every issue has a solution and Pakistan democratic unrest can be addressed by taking immediate steps.

THE END