

Pak Affairs Test-2

Q No 1

Pakistan political culture is marred with extreme polarization. Explain and suggest remedies:

Introduction:

Since the independence of Pakistan, the political stability remained a wish for its people. It has remained in a polarized history.

History:

↳ **1947-1958:** In its first decade of independence Pakistan was an infant state with no think-tanks of how to be governed. During this time-frame Pakistan lost its first Prime Minister Liaqat Ali Khan, its first Governor General Quaid-e-Azam. The tensions with India started from day one on the issue of Kashmir.

Constitution: Pakistan has failed to make their own constitution till 1986 until then it followed

Indian Act of 1935. Which later abrogated by its first military dictator Mr. Ayub Khan in 1958.

↳ **1958-71:**

The dictatorship crushed the dream of the founder Mr. Jinnah of having a democratic state. During this military dictatorship Pakistan has fought its full fledged war in year 1965.

During this time period the leader of East-Pakistan Mr Mujibur-Rahman gained the urge of separation from its western part due to the dictator rule and violation of the rights.

1969-71:

Mr Ayub transferred its regime to an other dictator Mr. Yahya Khan. In his short time frame of governance the political instability peaked in eastern Pakistan and came to an edge.

↳ 1971-77:

This time period is considered as democratic dictatorship. The war of 1971 happened in which Pakistan lost its western part. Bangladesh came to existence with the help of India.

Elections of 1972:

Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto emerged as a new president in early year then after he made the constitution of 1973 in which he again started the parliamentary system. In 1974 Pakistan recognized Bangladesh and also started its nuclear weapon building during this tenure.

"We can eat grass, we can stay hungry, but we will make our own nuclear weapon"

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

But at his leadership an other dictator emerged Mr. Zia-ul-Haq.

↳ 1977-88:

Mr. Zia-ul-Haq implemented military rule by reasoning for the doctrine of necessity. His tenure was proven to be destructive and has its after effects till contemporary time.

↳ Former Prime Minister Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was hanged.

↳ Pakistan tilted towards US and supported US as much as a NATO country could had.

↳ Invasion of Russia (USSR) in Afghanistan polarized the Durand line.

↳ Pakistan built its military army in favor of US to tackle the expansionist communism by USSR.

↳ Islamic card was used to gain support from people during this regime.

↳ 1985 referendum secured which justified Mr. Zia as president through

8th amendment of constitution

↳ 1988 Mr. Zia's plane crashed and his regime finished

1988-99:

This era was democratic in nature. Politics emerged by Mr. Benazir Bhutto and Mr. Mian Nawaz Sharif. To and fro between these two continued four times. Both of them misused the Article 58(2B).

1990-93:

This was the first regime of Benazir Bhutto.

1993-96:

This was the first ever tenure of PMLN.

1996-97

Again for one year PPP came in power.

1997-99

58(2B) tripped again the government and Mr. Nawaz gain power for second time.

Nuclear test in Chaghi Balochistan:

During Nawaz rule Pakistan successfully conducted its first nuclear test in 1998.

↳ 1999-2008:

The Third military dictatorship emerged at this time period by Mr. Musharraf.

Kargil:

Pakistan fought its third war with India during Mr. Musharraf's regime.

President:

Mr. Musharraf became president of Pakistan during his tenure by dictatorship.

9/11:

US invaded Afghanistan in 2001 post 9/11 incident. Pakistan gave its land to US for their war benefits.

Non-NATO Ally:

Pakistan gained this title of non-NATO Ally during this tenure.

Layars Movement:

This movement in 2008 made the dictatorship end.

↳ 2008 - Now:

This is the longest democratic era in history of Pakistan without any military coup.

2008-13:

This was the era of PPP by Mr. Asif Ali Zardari. During this time period Pakistan's most successful amendment of constitution happen in 2010. The 18th amendment which gave province far more rights and powers which they couldn't have in whole history.

2013-17:

Mr Nawaz gained its third time period as Prime Minister. But couldn't able to complete its tenure due to numerous cases and fled the country in 2017.

2018-22:

Mr. Imran Khan became PM for the first time his tenure was uncomplete due to vote of no-confidence.

against him.

2022-2024:

Shehbaz Sharif became PM after coalition with other parties during this time and election happened in 8 Feb 2024.

8 Feb 2024:

The most rigged elections in history of Pakistan are called by international media and literary people. This 12th General Election was last political polarization that Pakistan faced till yet.

Remedies:

- ↳ Political stability should be ensured
- ↳ Non involvement of establishment in democratic and political system is needed.
- ↳ Institution activism should not be allowed.
- ↳ Security issues should be resolved more primarily.
- ↳ Right and freedom of speech must be ensured for making a democratic state.

Q No 2:

Explain the main contours of recently passed 26th Constitutional Amendment in Pakistan.

Introduction:

26th constitutional amendment of the constitution of Pakistan happen in September 2024. The amendment's name signifies that this amendment was particularly for the judicial system of Pakistan.

Main Contours of 26th Amendment:

The primary reason of this amendment was empowering executives over judiciary.

↳ Earlier the most senior judge of Supreme Court was selected as Chief Justice of Supreme Court, but now the constitutional bench will decide from the top three judges who should become Chief Justice.

- ↳ The constitutional bench will be headed by the executive of the country.
- ↳ This amendment curtailed the powers of judiciary of Pakistan.
- ↳ United Nations declared 26th amendment as against of basic human rights.
- ↳ Executives of Pakistan now can pass their desired amendments and bill from parliament and Supreme Court has lost the right to question.
- ↳ By rule the Supreme Court can question but as the chief was selected by executive itself so the margin of interptions are less after this 26th Amendment.
- ↳ The retirement age of the Chief Justice was also increased in this amendment.
- ↳ The high court judges will also be appointed by the choice of executive.

Judicial System politicized:

Before this 26th Amed. ment the judiciary was not involved in political system. Judiciary was independent of before this amendment, of Executive and legislative powers used to interpret the system for their own benefits. The Judiciary was the barrier in front of them, now this barrier was crushed by the non-governmental powers of the country.

Suo-Moto:

This was the elite power of the Chief Justice that he could have used against any issue which may result against the people and state itself but this right of Sue Moto was also vanished by this 26th constitutional amendment.

Critical Analysis:

Pakistan is weakening as it is getting older and older. The debt is increasing significantly, the economy isn't growing as it is required (0.92% growth of economy in last quarter of 2024) and the ideal growth is 5%. The security concerns are growing rapidly. 2024 is the deadliest year of the decade for Pakistan: Reported by ISPR. The unemployment is on high numbers in ratios. The quantity of children out of school are more than 2.6 million. With many other issues of climate change, water scarcity, poverty. Pakistan should need to be challenged and tracked by its rulers. But, they are busy in weakening it. The 26th Amendment was a blow to sovereignty of the country which already surrounded in a lot of issues.