

Q No: 2

1) INTRODUCTION.

Since the inception, Pakistan has been oscillating between the Presidential and Parliamentary forms of governments. Both of the systems have their strengths and weaknesses. But for a state to run efficiently, it must settle for one and develop its roots. Due to the shifts between the two forms of systems Pakistan has faced serious repercussions. Political instability, patronage politics, weak institutions, democratic weakness, institutional imbalances, short-term stability and long term instability. The lessons that can be drawn from these pendular movements are that; democracy requires institutions, not just systems, the root-cause of the problem is the civil military imbalance, political

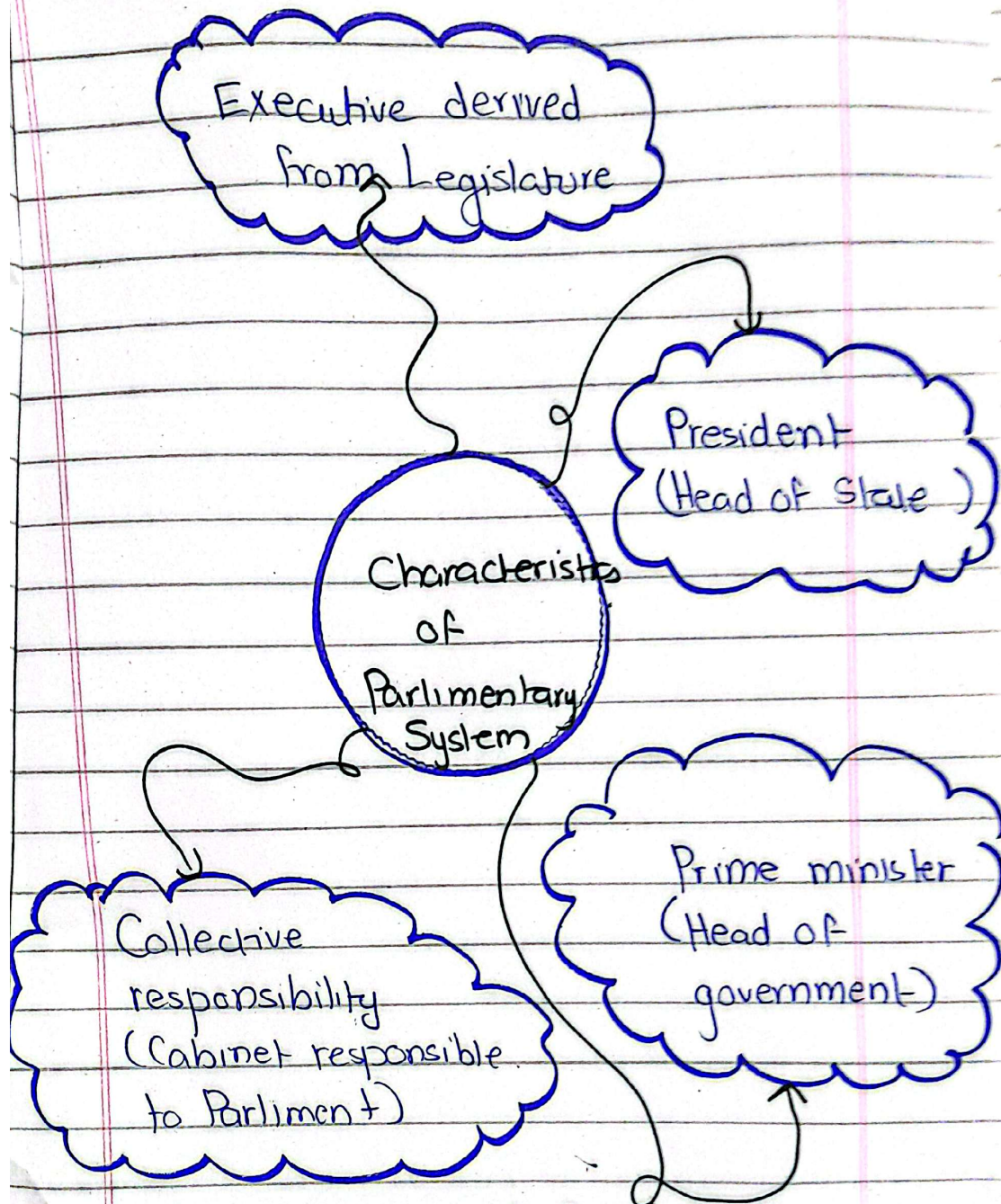
maturity is the key to long term development. Along with this, balance of power and constitutional supremacy matters a lot. And the most important lesson is that Pakistan suffered a lot because of the exclusive policies and politics along with weak system of local governments. All of these problems must be addressed if Pakistan wants to become a strong and prosperous state as today Pakistan has a stable constitution but the problems are still the same.

2) Oscillation between the Presidential and Parliamentary Systems.

(i) Parliamentary form of government

The Parliamentary form of government, like a Presidential form of government, have some characteristics that creates distinction in the two forms of governments.

a) CHARACTERISTICS OF PARLIAMENTARY RULE IN PAKISTAN.



(i) Executive derived from the Legislature.

The Prime Minister is elected by the National Assembly and is accountable to it.

(ii) Collective responsibility

The cabinet of the Prime Minister is responsible to the Parliament.

(iii) President: ceremonial head of the state.

The President's role is ceremonial according to the Constitution of 1973. He is the ceremonial head of the state.

(iv) Prime Minister: Head of the government.

Prime Minister is the head of the governments and performs the executive role along with his Cabinet.

(v) Examples of Parliamentary government periods:

The time periods in which Pakistan had the Parliamentary form of government are as followed:

1947-58

(formally Parliamentary but unstable)

1973-1977

(Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto)

1988-1999

(restored after Zia-ul-Haq's death)

2008-Present

(after 18th Amendment)

b) STRENGTHS OF PARLIAMENTARY RULE IN PAKISTAN.

Democratic accountability

Representative government

Strengths

Flexibility

(i) Democratic accountability in the State.

Democratic accountability pertains that the executive remains answerable to the Parliament.

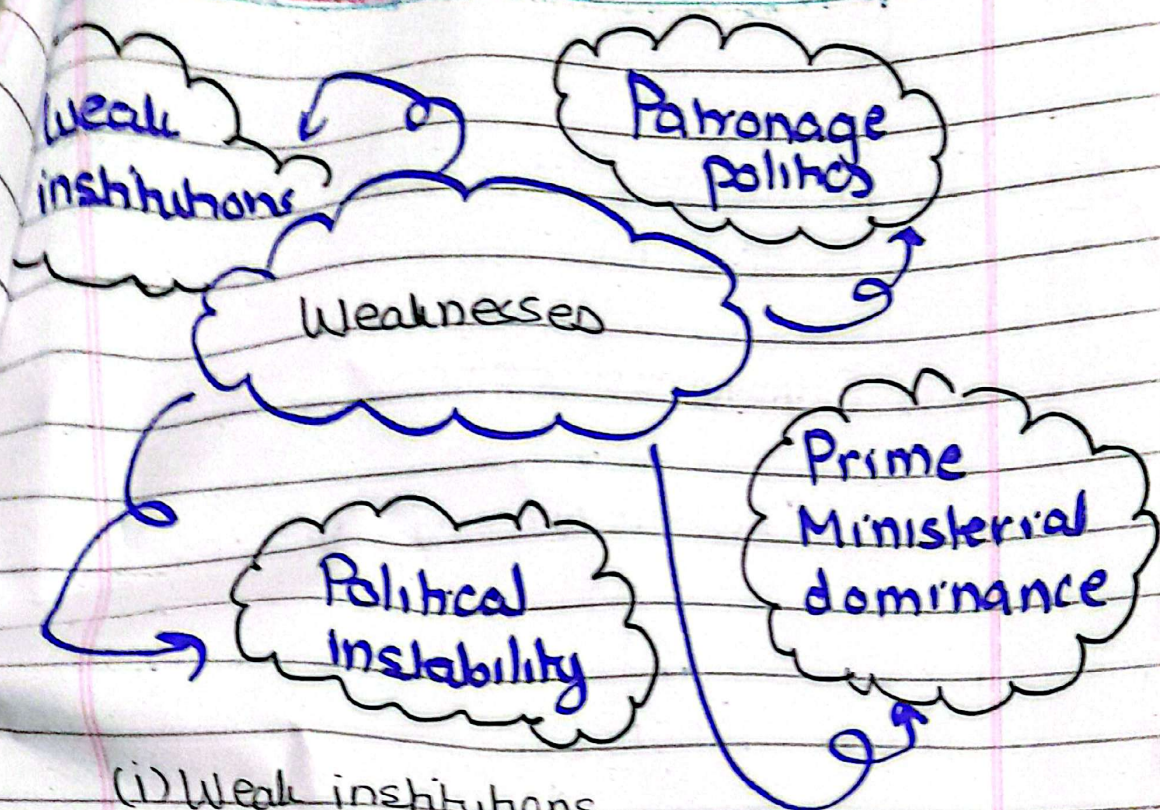
(ii) Representative governance
This form of government portrayed the will of the elective representatives.

(iii) Flexibility in the formation of government and covered diverse interests.

The Parliamentary form of government allowed the flexibility in forming a coalition government to cover diverse interests.

b) WEAKNESSES IN THE PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT

Along with the strengths of Parliamentary form of government, it has certain setbacks that was faced by Pakistan.



(i) Weak institutions

At the time when the civilian government seemed ineffective bureaucracy and military took the stage.

(ii) Prime Ministerial dominance.

The Prime Minister was backed by a great majority. due to this, he often sidelined the institutions.

(iii) Patronage politics

The Parliamentary system imposed a feudal and patronage

political culture.

(ii) PRESIDENTIAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

a) CHARACTERISTICS

Seperation of power

Fixed Tenure

Direct or Indirect elections

(i) President: Head of the state and the government.

In a Presidential form of government, the President is the head of the state and the government.

(ii) Not answerable to Parliament

The President and his cabinet are not answerable to

the Parliament.

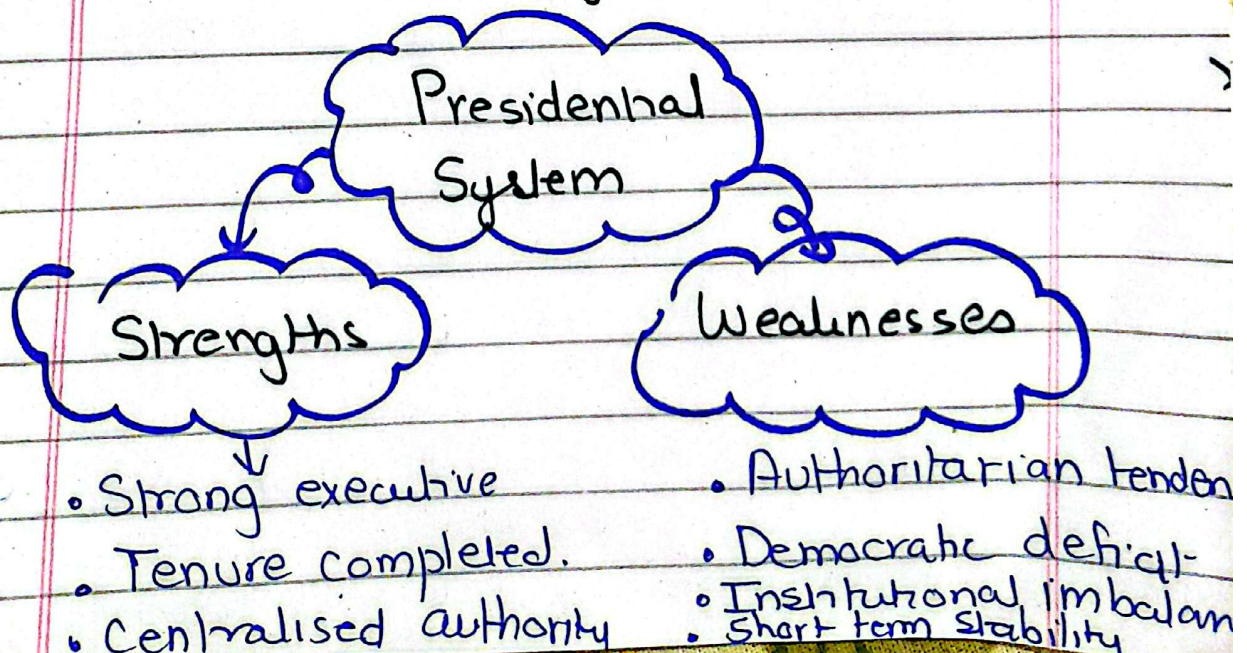
(iii) No "vote of no confidence"
Against the President

President has a fixed tenure
and cannot be removed by the
vote of no confidence by the
Parliament.

(iv) Direct or indirect elections
for the President

The President can be elected
by the direct ^{or} ~~and~~ indirect
elections and has the centralised
authority.

b) Critical Analysis of the
Presidential System.



(i) Strengths

(i) Strong executive

In Presidential system the executive is strong & which provides stability and ~~at~~ decisiveness especially in the case of an emergency.

(ii) Stable government: Tenure Completed.

In Presidential form of government there is a reduced risk of frequent government collapses as the President cannot be removed by the vote of no confidence by the Parliament.

(iii) Centralised authority of the President.

Through the centralised authority in the hands of the President, the decisions and policies can be efficiently executed which gives impetus to growth.

(ii) Weaknesses in Pakistan's Experience.

(i) Authoritarian tendencies of the President-

The centralised authority is in the hands of a single person: The President. The Presidents under this system ruled autocratically.

(ii) Democratic deficit:

This form of government limits the political participation and suppresses the opposition.

(iii) Unbalanced approach towards institutions

Under the Presidential government, the other institutions like, judiciary, parliament and media were undermined which created an institutional imbalance.

(iv) Short term stability and long term instability.

When the rule of the dictator ended it resulted in turmoil and public unrest.

(iii) Examples of the periods

1958 - 1971

(Ayub Khan)

1977 - 1988

(Zia-ul-Haq)

1999 - 2008

(Pervez Musharraf)

3) Lessons Learnt From the shifts in the types of government.

Pakistan has learnt lessons from the shift between the Parliamentary and Presidential form of government.

Lessons from the Oscillation

Democracy requires
institutions not just
systems

The main problem:
Civil - Military
imbalance

Political maturity
required

Balance of power
brings stability

Constitutional
Continuity
matters

Strong local
government
and inclusive
policies

(i) Democracy requires institutions

Both the systems failed when the institutions; such as judiciary, parliament and election Commission, were weak.

(ii) Main problem: Civil-military imbalance

Repeated military interventions distorted both systems because the genuine civilian supremacy was difficult.

(iii) Need for political maturity.

The patronage based politics must be abolished. The political parties must internalise democracy discipline and long term policy making.

(iv) Balance of power brings stability

Concentration of power under PM or president undermines the checks and balances which undermines stability.

(v) Constitutional stability matters

Frequent amendments and abrogations led to the eroded legitimacy and the public trust in the constitution.

the shift between the

Local governance and inclusion politics

Strong ^{local} governance and inclusion politics can reduce the centralisation of powers and strengthen the democracy at the grass root level.

4) CONCLUSION

~~The~~ Pakistan has oscillated between the Presidential and Parliamentary form of government. This has led to instability, lack of growth and exclusive politics in Pakistan which weakens democracy and eroded the trust of people in the constitution.

Pakistan learn a few lessons that it needs to balance its institutions and powers, enhance political maturity, balance the civil military relations and inclusive politics in order to make Pakistan prosper.

Q No. 3

1) INTRODUCTION

The crises of governance in Pakistan does not only lie in the weak institutions but it is linked with the political culture of Pakistan that is based on the dynastic politics, reliance on the military for stability, tolerance for corruption, polarisation and intolerance to ~~corrupt~~ opposition. The civil society, political leadership and institutional performance are to blame for the prevalence of this culture. The civic participation should be increased in the politics. Institutional strengthening, democratization within political parties and empowering local governments will bring positive changes in the political culture. Reduction in military dominance will lead to a civilian supremacy which will strengthen democratic process in Pakistan that will make the country prosper.

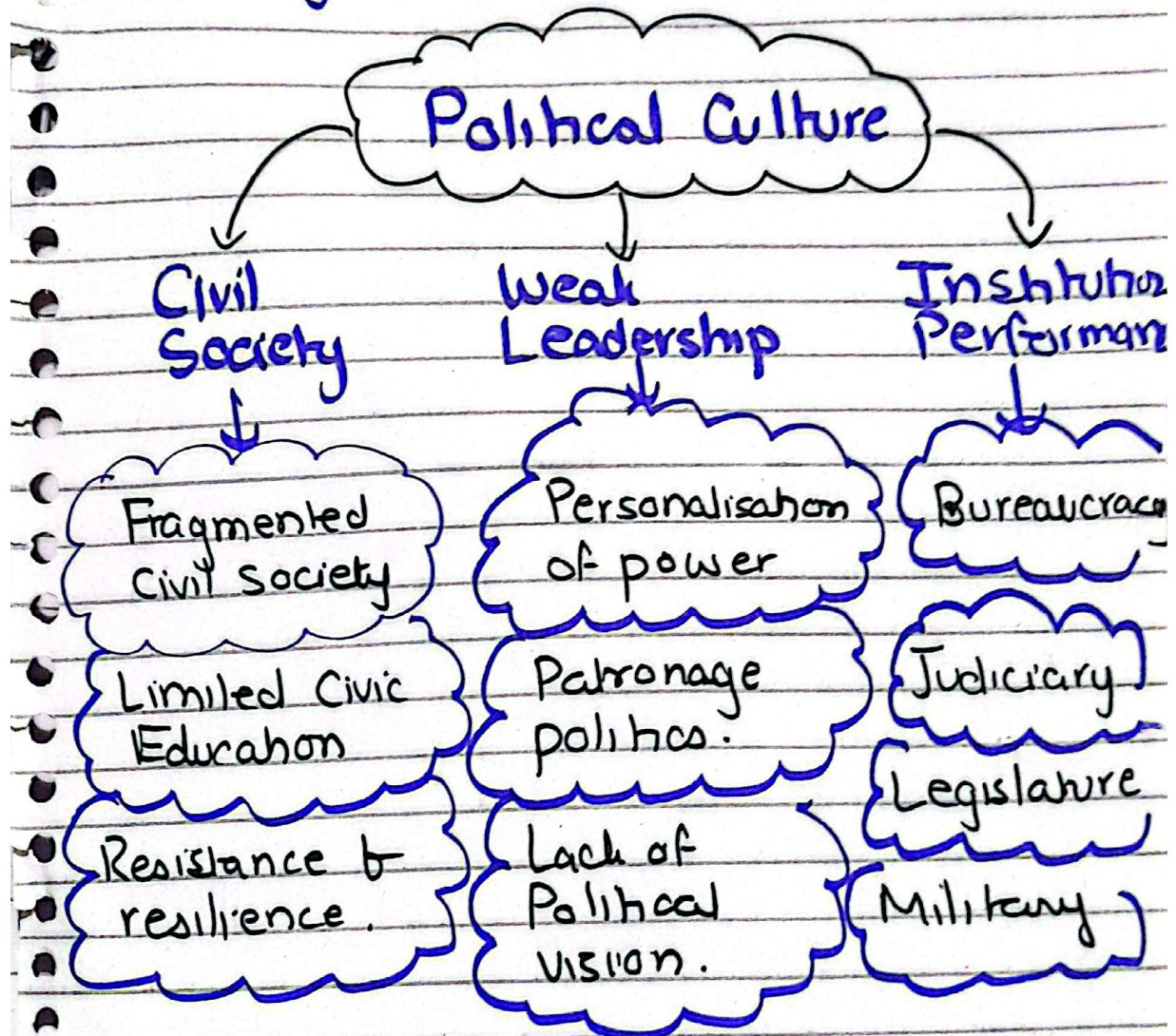
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2) Role of Political leadership, civil society and Institutional performance in weak governance.



1) Role of Political Leadership

a) Personalisation of power.

The political leadership personalises the politics rather than institutionalising it. The politics is embedded in ~~patronage~~ dynastic governments rather than

around ideologies and manifestos.

b) Patronage politics.

The governance has become transactional which serves networks of supports not the citizens at large.

c) Lack of political vision.

Short-term policies are made because the parties use populism as their narrative with weak intra-party democratisation and they are focused on survival rather than bringing reforms which has undermined the policy continuity.

2) Role of Civil Society.

(i) Weak and fragmented civil society

The civil society of Pakistan lacks cohesion and depth. The organisations working in the country are disconnected from the grass-root level.

(ii) Limited civic education

Low literacy and political awareness ~~means~~ makes the citizenship ^{vote} ~~to~~ the basis of ethnicity and tribal influence rather than on policies and the performance of parties.

(iii) Resilience and resistance is periodic not reformative.

The movements and media activism for the rights of the people are for a short term and do not bring any reforms in politics.

4) Role of institutions

(i) Bureaucracy

Pakistan's ~~Bu~~ bureaucracy has been evolved into a self-serving elite. It resists reforms, infested with corruption and ~~resists~~ promotes red tapism.

(ii) Legislature

Parliaments have become ineffective with weak committee

system and low attendance.
Lawmaking is overshadowed
by the executive powers.

(iii) Judiciary

The judiciary of Pakistan is not independent. It has been politicised especially after the 26th Amendment.

3) Way Forward to Progress

(i) Civic education and participatory politics

The public must be educated regarding political awareness and their participation must increase beyond elections.

(ii) Strengthen institutions.

Strong institutions will promote the rule of law, bureaucratic neutrality and judicial independence.

(iii) Meritocracy in parties

The political parties must encourage merit and reduce dynastic dominance.

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(iv) Empowering local governments.
This will strengthen the
government from a grass-root-
level and integrate the society.

(v) Reduce military dominance.
The supremacy of the
constitution must be promoted.
to ensure civilian supremacy.