

Pakistan Affair (Test 2)

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~ (Q#01) ~

Evolution of Pakistan's Democratic System since 1971

Introduction

Since independence, Pakistan's political system has shifted between civilian and military rule. Initially, the country was envisioned as a democratic state, but after the deaths of Quaid-e-Azam and Liaquat Ali Khan, political instability and leadership crisis emerged. Late constitution making, abrogation and suspension of constitution further disrupted the democratic process of the country. The country has seen 4 Democratic eras and 3 military rules.

Background: 1971 War

The general elections held under General Yahya^{in 1970} created a national crisis which led to the separation of East Pakistan.

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and creation of Bangladesh in 1971. ~~93,00~~ After the war with India, Pakistan lost 73 million people, 54,501 sq. miles and 93,000 soldiers were taken as prisoners of war. The country was disheartened which led to nationwide protests and General Yahya had to handover power to Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) who had ^{won} majority of votes in West Pakistan ~~at~~ in 1970 election. So, Bhutto became the President as well as the Chief Marshal Law Administrator becoming the first civilian Marshal Law Administrator.

(A) **Second Democratic Era: Bhutto Rule**

When Bhutto came into power, Pakistan was a broken state.

It was politically and economically weak. Bhutto ~~reformed~~ introduced land reforms

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Second Democratic Era (1972-1977)
(Bhutto)

Second Military Rule (1977-1988)
(Zia ul Haq)

Third Democratic Era (1988-1999)

Benazir Bhutto (1988-1990)

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Nawaz Sharif (1990-1993)

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Benazir Bhutto (1993-1996)

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Nawaz Sharif (1996-1999)

Third Military Rule (1999-2008)
Pervez Musharraf

4th Democratic Era (2008-2025)

Yusuf Raza Gillani (2008-2013)

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Nawaz Sharif (2013-2018)

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Imran Khan (2018-2022)

↓
Shabaz Sharif (2022-2025)

∴ Schematized Diagram

and nationalized all the major industries to revive economy. He wanted to rebuild national confidence. For that purpose he wanted 93,000 soldier back. He tried to

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neutralized relations with India by signing Simla Agreement in July 2nd, 1972.

During his time, 1973 constitution was introduced. In which,

President became the ceremonial head while Prime Minister became the executive head. So for this

reason, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto took oath on 14th August, 1973.

He nationalized all banks on January 1st, 1974. Later, all the flour mills and rice mills were also nationalized.

In 1976, he appointed General Zia as the Chief of Army Staff. Elections were announced in the second half of 1977, but Bhutto announced early elections on 7th January, 1977. A coalition of 9 parties called **PNA (Pakistan National Alliance)** opposed Bhutto rule and

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did widespread protest / claiming That elections were rigged. So, General Zia had to intervene and ^{he} overthrew Bhutto's govt government and imposed Martial Law.

(B) Second Military Era (1977-1988)

Bhutto was accused of involvement in the murder of Nawab Ahmad Khan Kasuri for which he was hanged by the Supreme Court. Zia imposed his Islamization policies to strengthen his rule during this time. For this purpose, he introduced Zakat and Ushe Ordinance, Hudood Ordinance, Federal Shariat Courts, Blasphemy Law and Prohibition Order 1980.

8th Amendment was passed which gave President the power to dissolve assemblies under Article 58(2b). It

also gave President the power to appoint ^{Minister} Governors and Judges. M. Khan Junejo became the Prime Minister of Pakistan, but when he tried to lift the Marshall Law, he was dismissed by Zia Regime. However, Zia soon died in a plane crash after that.

1988-1999

(C) Third Democratic Era (1988-1999)

(1) Benazir Bhutto 1st Term (1988-1990)

Benazir Bhutto became the first Muslim female Prime Minister of the Muslim World. However her government was dismissed by Ghulam Ishaq Khan under the ~~of~~ Article of 58(2b), citing corruption.

(2) Nawaz Sharif 1st Term (1990-1993)

Nawaz Sharif soon became the Prime Minister after 1990 general elections. However, his government was also dismissed.

by Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

(3) Benazir 2nd Term (1993-1996)

Benazir again became the PM after 1993 general election but President Farooq Ahmad Laghari again dismissed his government by using 8th Amendment.

(4) Nawaz Sharif 2nd Term (1996-1999)

Nawaz Sharif became the PM. ~~in 1997~~ for the second time but again he faced the same fate: because after the Kargil Conflict, the tensions between Army and him rose which led General Musharraf to impose Marshal Law on 2nd Oct, 1999.

(5) Fourth Military Rule (1999-2008)

Pervez Musharraf introduced Union Council to strengthen the local Government. Three PM were changed during his

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time. A referendum in 2002 further increased his term. He removed Chief Justice Iftikhar Ahmad Chaudary for opposing him. A Lawyer Movement started against him which led to nationwide protests. so he had to resign in 2007. Elections were planned, but due to the assassination of Benazir, ~~he~~ they were postponed.

(E) Fourth Democratic Era (2008 - m)

1. PPP Government ~~(2008-2013)~~ (2008-2013)

PPP won elections in 2008. so Yusuf Raza Gillani became the new PM and Zardari (husband of Benazir) became the President. They introduced 18th Amendment to revive the democracy in Pakistan. Article 58(2b) was abolished. Similarly, 19th and 20th amendment

also introduced to strengthen judiciary and election commission of Pakistan.

(2) PML-N Government (2013-2018)

Nawaz Sharif became the PM for the third time. But, PTI with all the other government accused his government of rigging the elections. He continued his government, but after Panama Papers Scandal in 2017, his government was dismissed and Shahid Khaqan Abbasi replaced him.

(3) Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (2018-2022)

Imran Khan came to power in 2018 general election. ~~However~~, He tried to end corruption and did many reforms, but a coalition of Parties PDM ~~PED~~ (Pakistan Democratic Movement) launched a vote of no-confidence against

him and he became the first PM of Pakistan to be dismissed like that.

(4) PML-N (2022 - now)

Shebaz Sharif became the new PM. His government faced severe rigging elections, but he survived that.

Conclusion

Since 1971, only two government governments completed their five years. Pakistan has always faced an imbalance in civil-military relations.

~(Q#03)~

Crisis of Governance
deeply rooted in its Political
Culture

Pakistan has faced severe governance issues due to its political culture.

Political culture of a country is shaped by its elites. Civil society, ~~with~~ political leadership and ^{lack of} institutional ~~perfor~~ performance had led to the crisis.

(1) Civil Society:

Pakistan has always faced an institutional imbalance between military and bureaucracy and civilian leadership.

Members of the Muslim League were had strong bureaucratic backgrounds. so they were more focused on personal goals and soon after the death of Quaid-e-Azam, it led to a leadership.

Pakistan didn't have Quaid but India has Nehru. which explains that no military rule was ever imposed on it.

(2) Political leadership

Because of the wars with India, government had to spend a large part of defense on military and allowed military leaders to intervene in the policy making. Because of leadership vacuum, military leaders had to step in. Moreover, elections were always delayed and local governments were not given financial freedom which lead to governance failures.

(3) Institutional Performance:

Judiciary wasn't independent. Judiciary is one of the strongest pillar of democracy, but it wasn't empowered. There was no system of accountability, which led to governance crisis.

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Conclusion

All these factors, contributed to failure of effective governance. Pakistan should do electoral reforms, introduce system of accountability and should revive the true spirit of Constitution.