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BATCH: 401

Question - 1

Critically examine ..... and instability

## PAKISTAN'S DEMOCRATIC EVOLUTION SINCE 1971 - CRITICAL EXAMINATION

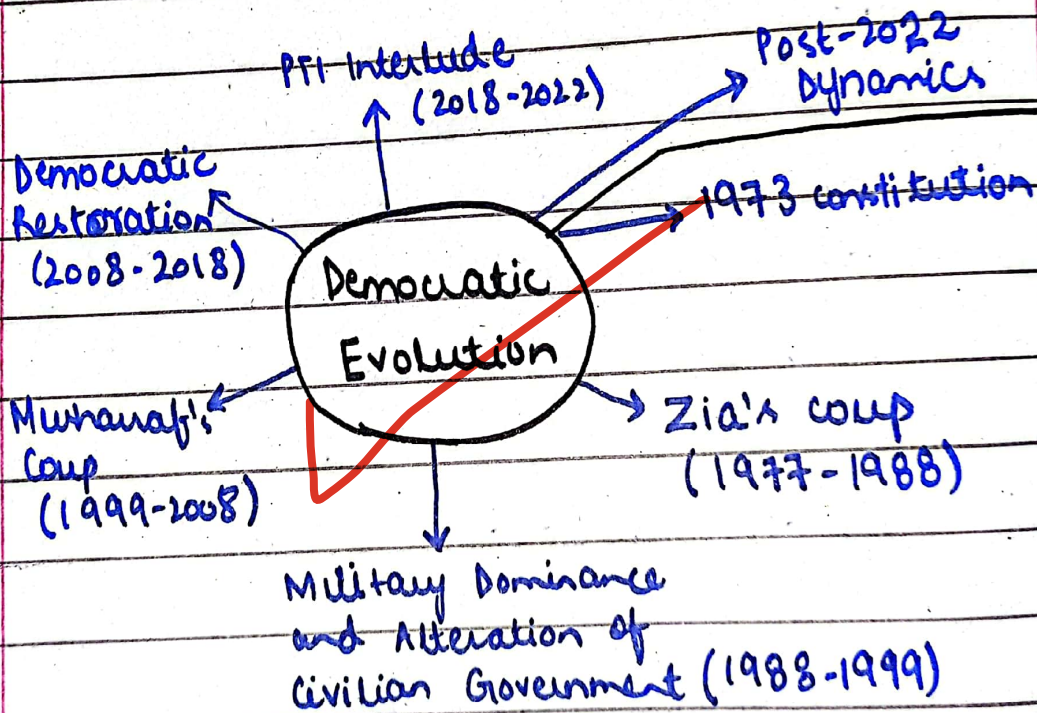
### Introduction:

Since 1971, Pakistan's democracy has oscillated between civilian rule and military dominance. The 1973 Constitution established a parliamentary framework, yet repeated military interventions undermined democratic stability. Weak political institutions and bad governance further eroded democracy. Consequently, civil-military imbalance remains the core obstacle to Pakistan's democratic consolidation.



## BACKGROUND: (1947-1971)

From 1947-1971, Pakistan faced many problems and could not build a stable democratic system. Weak political institutions and frequent changes in government allowed military and bureaucracy to gain more power. This imbalance eventually led to separation of East Pakistan.



## A New Beginning After Separation:

(1971-1973):

After loss of East Pakistan, country faced political crisis. Bhutto's



Government introduced 1973 constitution establishing parliamentary democracy and federalism. However, this new constitution was born out of crisis and remained weak due to future military interference.

### Zia's Martial Law and Islamization (1977-1988)

General Zia replaced Bhutto in 1977 which ended in civilian rule and martial law was imposed. He introduced Islamization, changed laws and strengthened military role in politics. His regime altered Pakistan's institutions and political culture deeply.

### Weak Civilian Governments Under Military Shadow - (1988-1999)

After Zia's death, general elections were held which resulted in PPP, PML-N alternation of power. Their governments were unstable due to corruption, and poor governance.



## Musharraf's Military Rule and Controlled Democracy - (1999-2008)

General Pervez Musharraf took power in 1999 which suspended democracy once again. He allowed limited political activity and elections under military control, keeping real authority within the army.

## Return of Civilian Rule - (2008-2018) :

Civilian governments completed full terms for first time after Musharraf. Regular elections improved democracy.

## PTI Government Renewed Civilian-

### Military Tensions (2018-2022) :

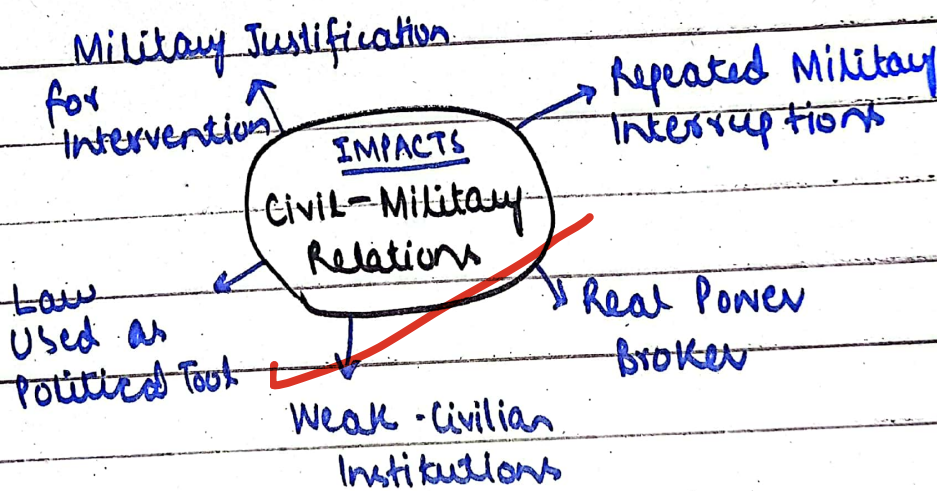
Imran Khan's PTI came to power in 2018, initially seen as "backed by military". Later relations soured, leading to his removal with no-confidence vote in 2022. This event showed instability of democracy again.



## Post 2022 Dynamics:

After Khan's removal, Pakistan saw protests, arrests and clashes between courts, politicians and military. Legal institutions were seen controlled by politics. This period reflects the military influence shaping Pakistan's democratic direction and stability.

## CIVIL MILITARY RELATIONS - DEMOCRATIC CONTINUITY AND INSTABILITY



## Repeated Military Interventions:

Pakistan's democracy has faced repeated military interventions like in 1977 and 1999. However,



1973 Constitution and elections have always been restored. This created a continuous cycle of breakdown followed by volatile recoveries.

### Military - Real Power Broker:

Whenever civilian governments face crisis, army often steps in. This role has shifted the perception of direct rule to behind-the-scenes role.

### Weak Civilian Institutions:

Prolonged military dominance has weakened political parties and government systems. Judiciary and Bureaucracy often seem under pressure. Elected governments fail to function properly.

### Law Used as a Political Tool:

Courts and legal actions are seen to target political opponents. This behaviour blurs justice with political revenge.



## Military justification for Intervention:

Whenever military takes over, it is justified with civilian failure and corruption. Poor governance results in strengthening army's role.

## Conclusion:

Since 1971, Pakistan's democracy has survived repeated interruptions, largely shaped by civil-military power struggles. The military dominance has limited civilian authority and growth of institutions.

## Question - 3

"The crisis ..... institutional performance."

## CRISIS OF GOVERNANCE IN PAKISTAN DEEPLY ROOTED IN POLITICAL CULTURE

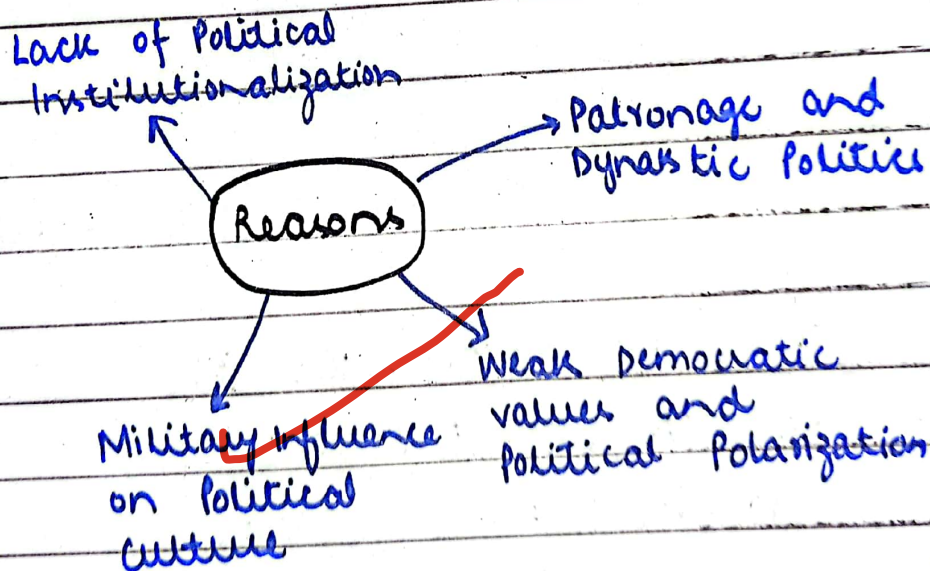
## Introduction:

Crisis of governance in Pakistan is largely the consequence of flawed political culture which is



associated with weak accountability and institutional imbalance. Although the framework of governance is democratic, yet governance is reflected personal and party interests over national welfare. This deep rooted problem badly affects civil society, leadership behaviour and institutional performance.

### Reasons of Crisis of Governance



### Patronage and Dynastic Politics:

Political loyalty in Pakistan depends upon personal or family



ties rather than merit. This patronage hampers the genuine representation and fair politics. It is a clear-cut replacement of performance based governance with favoritism.

references????

### Weak Democratic Values and Political Polarization:

In Pakistan, politics is treated as power struggle and not the service for public. There is intolerance among political parties that fuels instability and frequent institutional clashes. There is weakness of democratic dialogue norms and accountability.

### Military Influence on Political Culture:

Repeated military interventions have weakened civilian democratic political culture. Civilians often rely on military support for legitimacy. This leads to weakening of political autonomy.



and perpetuates undemocratic habits.

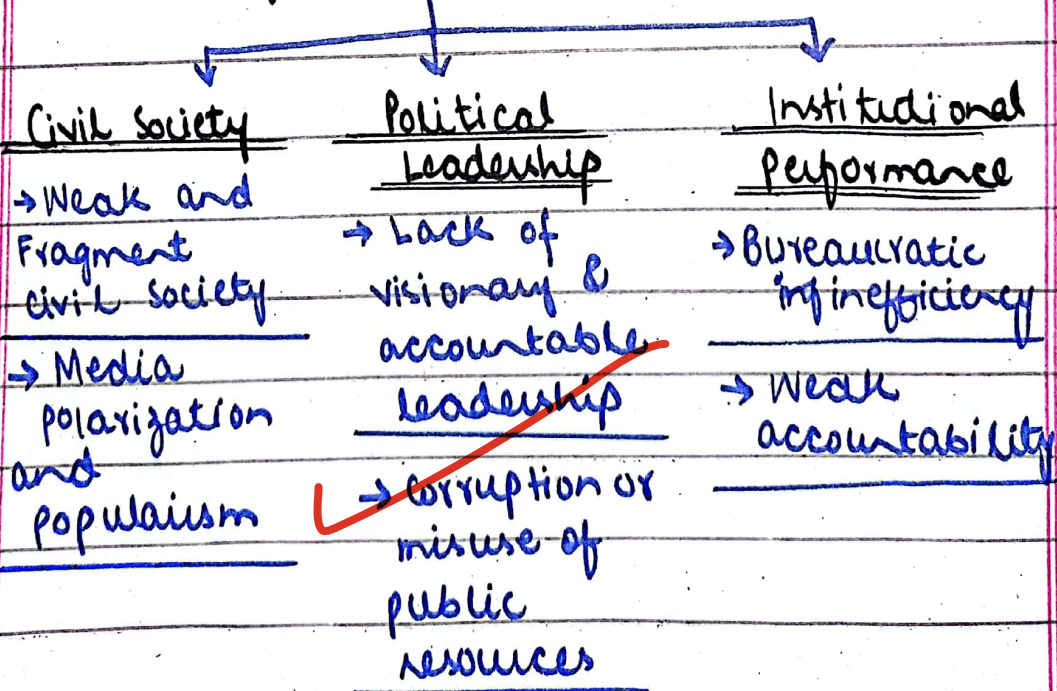
## Lack of Political Institutionalization

Pakistan is faced with frequent government changes since its birth which prevents it from maturing. Parties are functioning on the name of personalities rather than working on structured ideology.

As a result government depends more on individuals rather than institutions.

## Crisis of Governance with

Reference to:





## Crisis of Governance with Reference to Civil Society:

### Weak and Fragmented Civil Society:

Civil society organizations lack coordination and strong advocacy roles. Most of the governance remain ~~urban~~ centered leaving rural governance unchecked.

### Media Polarization and Populism:

Citizens are kept confused by media which shows populist narratives only. Governance failures and other facts are kept hidden from public. This media's biased role weakens public trust.

## Crisis of Governance with Reference to Political Leadership:

### Lack of Visionary and Accountable Leadership:

Leaders in Pakistan focus on



populism than long-term reforms. Promises of bringing change in country often ends with political manipulation or corruption. This behaviour leads to weaken ~~weakening~~ of institutional growth and civic faith in democracy.

### Corruption and Misuse of Public Resources:

Most of the leaders in politics practice widespread corruption weakening public trust and state's efficiency. Funds of political ~~sex~~ public services are often diverted to political gain. This results in inequality and administrative paralysis.

### Crisis of Governance and Institutional Performance:

Bureaucratic Inefficiency and Political Interference:



Politicization and frequent transfers undermine bureaucratic neutrality. officials often prioritize political loyalty over public welfare. Such interferences slows reforms and efficient service.

### Weak Accountability and Judicial Delays:

Institutions of accountability are not totally independent and lack consistency. Selective justice only punishes opponents. Judicial delays also weaken credibility of governance.

add a few more arguments in this part.....

### CONCLUSION:

The roots of governance crisis in Pakistan lie in power-centric political culture over public service. Reforms will always remain temporary in absence of transparency, merit and accountability for civil society institutions and political leadership.