

Democracy in Pakistan: Hopes and Hurdles

Outline

1. Introduction

1.1 Hook

1.2 Background

1.3 Thesis Statement: Despite constitutional development, independent judiciary and media, youth participation, devolution of power and international democratic norms, democracy in Pakistan continues to face political, social, administrative and economic hurdles.

2. Hopes for Democracy in Pakistan

2.1 Strong Constitutional Framework

2.1.1 1973 Constitution as a consensus document

2.1.2 Strengthening of Parliamentary Supremacy through 18th amendment.

2.2 Independent Judiciary and Media

2.2.1 Lawyers' movement (2007-9)

2.2.2 Expanding role of social media

2.3 Growing Political Awareness in Youth

2.3.1 Growing political awareness among youth (majority population under 30)

2.3.2 Increased ^{voter} vote turnout in recent elections

2.4 Devolution of Power

2.4.1 Strengthened provincial autonomy

2.4.2 Local government reforms

2.5 International Democratic Norms

2.5.1 Engagement with global democratic institutions

3. Hurdles to Democracy in Pakistan

3.1 Political Hurdles

3.1.1 Weak role of election commission of Pakistan

3.1.2 Absence of true democratic spirit in political parties

3.2 Social Hurdles

3.2.1 Illiteracy and Poverty

3.2.2 Class disparities and gaps

3.3 Administrative Hurdles

3.3.1 Corruption

Link corruption with democracy

3.3.2 Inadequate development and growth

3.3.3 Poor performance of democratic governments

3.4 Economic Hurdles

3.4.1 Deteriorating situation of economic growth

3.4.2 Destabilization of currency

4. Way Forward

4.1 Strengthening internal democracy within parties

4.2 Investment in education and political literacy

4.3 Institutional balance between civil and military leadership

5. Conclusion