

Question :- Critically evaluate the political reforms of President Ayub Khan and compare his political reforms with the Zulfiar Ali Bhutto's parliamentary democratic approach. Do you think that both political policies were beneficial or problematic for Pakistan? Justified it with logic and comparative approach.

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Both president Ayub Khan(1958-1969) and prime minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto (1973-1977) made significant political reforms in the history of Pakistan. Former had tendency to empower the president and latter laid down the strong foundations of democracy empowering the prime minister. For former, It has been stated that Ayub Khan stands out as 'the first Muslim ruler in South Asia who tried to put his country on the modern secular path without renouncing the fundamental principles of Islam' while In October 1966 Bhutto made explicit the beliefs of his new party, "Islam is our faith, democracy is our policy, socialism is our economy. All power to the people". Bhutto's vision was to promote the nationalization in Pakistan. In response to these changes, both faced equal amount of resistance from clergy and opposition parties.

Their constitutional reforms were major break through in 1962 and 1973 respectively. Both changed the infrastructure of political system in Pakistan. The Constitution reflected Ayub's personal views of politicians and the restriction of using religions in politics. Furthermore, his presidency restored the writ of government through the promulgated constitution and restored political freedom by lifting the martial law enforced since 1958. Bhutto introduced the parliamentary form of government both at center and in the provinces. Both prime minister and chief minister are held responsible to the National and provincial assemblies. They continue in office as long as they command confidence of the assemblies. They may be removed by the assemblies through a vote of No-Confidence.

Similarly, their vision had great impact on economy. By Ayub, Strong emphasis on capitalism, and foreign direct investment in the industry is often regarded as "Great Decade" in both political and economical history of Pakistan. On the other hand, the nationalization program, lead by Bhutto, began on 2 January 1972, with a vision to promote economic democracy, liberalization, and an initial mainstream goal to put Pakistan in line with state progressivism. The Bhutto government carried out a number of reforms in the industrial sector. His reforms were twofold: nationalization, and the improvement of workers' rights. In the first phase, basic industries like steel, chemical and cement were nationalized. These changes helped improved the overall economy of third class and crippled down the elite class.

In conclusion, both Ayub and zulfiqar had made significant changes in political system of Pakistan. Those changes affected different people in different way. In Bhutto's era, democratic system was empowered. Similarly, Economic policies helped poor people on the other hand crippled the rich one. Bhutto's model of

democracy was more strong and people were given the power of vote whereas Ayub's policies were more close to the dictatorship. However, his economic policies were very effective and his era is known as "great Decade". The land reforms by both were problematic for land mafia. Clergy was not happy with both of them as they suppressed them and tried to introduce forced modernization and socialism.