



The Problems of Political Parties in Pakistan (C)

The Way Forward

Accountable democracy cannot function in Pakistan until drastic changes are made in the formation and functioning of political parties, which can faithfully represent and serve the people through a transparent political system. Educated professional and progressive-minded middle-class citizens do not have any chance to participate in the democratic process. Our failure to recognise the need to restructure the political party system on fundamental principles of democracy has destroyed our national institutions by corruption and nepotism. Lack of accountability by the elected autocratic rulers during the past decades has become the accepted feature of our national policy. The chasm between the poor and the rich has reached alarming proportions. By squandering public funds on dubious projects and levying ever-increasing taxes to pay for their extravagant lifestyle, rulers have demoralized and crippled the tax paying middle class, which is the productive segment of any developing democratic society.

We have miserably fail to recognize the need to restructure the political party system in Pakistan on the bases of democracy because restructuring of the political parties on the bases of democracy means that they should be internal democracy that must be introduced in the political parties of Pakistan but this failure has basically brought to the stage to this point that we are facing in our country one after another and this is because of our failure to recognize we would always say that there is genuine democracy in Pakistan having genuine democracies in political parties themselves. So, this failure has contributed a lot to the current political miseries of the country. So, national institutions have been destroyed by corruption and nepotism whenever, there is a political leader you would have heard about from your cities and villages.

Pakistani Political System and its Different Aspects

In Pakistani political system, many things need to be improved. It has been observed in last few decades that politicians once elected start thinking that they are not accountable or answerable to anyone in this country. Despite the presence of institutions like Supreme Court

and other low level courts. Over the past few decades, a perception is built among politicians that once they are selected, they will enjoy the government office fully and will not be answerable to any institution or person.

There is a need of well recognized policy for political parties which so that it will be strictly followed once they are elected. Extra funds should not be used against unnecessary projects. The gap between poor and rich should be minimized.

Main Features of a Good Political System

After doing the survey of Pakistani political system, it has been suggested that there are certain features which should be adopted in order to create a balance between political entities and institutes etc.

- **Democracy**

Democracy means everybody with equal chance. In Political system, each and every member of political party should have an equal chance of expressing their views. In democratic system each and everybody should have a chance to vote, an equal opportunity to contribute towards development.

- **Accountability**

In democratic system where the leader is elected by other members who is answerable to them even after taking the oath. It is usually ignored and leaders start to think that they are above any law. In reality, it is not. It is observed that the best democratic political system has the strongest accountability system.

- **Financial Resources**

In a mature and democratic political system, financial resources are best utilized. Extra expenditure on unnecessary projects is always discouraged.

- **Mass Contact**

Political parties have to draw their strength from citizens for sustainable democracy instead of looking for behind-the-scene intrigues to grab power. They should consider public the main source of power in democratic system.