Power, Governance and State

Student’s name

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What factors influence the quality of governance? Try to illustrate some of your points on a chosen case study

Power is quite a vital element in politics in totality. It influences how roles are assigned, how resources are distributed, how states conduct their relations, how individuals carry out their governance and personal pursuits, and many other activities. Over th past years, international agencies such as the United Nations have stressed the importance of quality governance and their long-term influences over development (Holmberg, Rothstein & Nasiritousi, 2009). The ideology behind this concept is that it sonly through quality governance that a country can achieve its optimum socioeconomic development. Quality of governance is influenced by many factors as this position paper will discuss.

According to the World Bank’s different definitions, there are diverse classifications of governance such as political instability, voice and accountability, control of corruption, rule of law, and regulatory quality. These are measurements used in many other studies to ascertain the forms of governance (Holmberg, Rothstein & Nasiritousi, 2009). These forms of classification have faced criticism as their critics believe it is not done on merit and with lack of sufficient objectivity. In light of this, they are developed on the basis of presumptions that leaves a gap of how countries are classified as per deterministic notions of performance of these particular countries. In regards to this, it is ideal to classify quality of governance in line with other objective results such as school performance and literacy, situation of order and law, civil society empowerment, medical and health services (Rotberg, 2007). This method would be quite broad too as it tends to categorize any initiative with great results as quality governance and sometimes could leave out other vital parameters like the outlook of social cohesions.

The main element that affect the quality of governance is type of power exercised in particular government. These can be inclusive of but not limited to the physical obstructions and violence. Force can be bewildered in favor of one group but with target to restrain the other group as of assaulting, obstructions of accessibility to vital resources. Force will water down the quality of governance by sabotaging resources, and creating unbearable environment for governance especially when there is war (Grigsby, 2012). In relation to politics, the quality of governance in places like Afghanistan and Iraq have been question due to the atrocities. In vindicating his opposition to the US governance, Timothy bombed Olkahoma city and killed more than 150 of people in the year 1995 (Grigsby, 2012). In African setting, the application of force has led to death and displacement of many citizens. For instance, in the Eastern region of Democratic Republic of Congo, in which since 1998 over 4 million deaths have been reported which are as a result from the atrocities. The International Rescue Committee expressed their fears that these atrocities were the worst ever seen in a long time after the second world war. Besides extrajudicial killings, the militia groups raped, tortured, displaced people, caused property destruction and recruited children into the militia groups (Grigsby, 2012). According to the United Nations, in the year 2010 over two million people had been displaced from their homes.

On the other hand, violent force has been used by other systems as a nonviolent approach to push for transformative changes. Dolores Huerta, Cesar Chavez and Martin Luther King were all crusaders of this non violent approaches. According to Martin Luther, force was a justified way and form of power only when specific conditions were achieved. Force was not to be applied violently and boycotts, demonstrations, gatherings, and marches were to be used to attain justice and civil right reforms. Whenever the verbal engagements with the authorities failed, they would resort to immense force at attempt to end discrimination and segregation. Additionally, force was only resorted to when upon a self-analysis where the individuals responsible to proceed with force reevaluated their interests and made sure that their use of force was not due to revenge, anger, or other selfish gains. Luther stressed that there should be no harm caused and force was only to be applied to undo discriminatory rules.

References

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