

Constitution and Military

⑦ Discuss the characteristics of military rule,

⇒ According to the 1956 constitution, Iskandar Mirza became the first president of Pakistan. Iskandar Mirza was considered a power-hungry person. He wanted to dominate the political scene of the country by any means.

On 7th October 1958, President Iskander

Mirza introduced martial law and banned all political activities. ~~He also~~ He also ~~abrogate~~ revoked the 1956 constitution with the help of General Ayub Khan,

the chief Martial Law Administrator. Ayub Khan was appointed the chief of Army.

^ On 27th October 1958, General Ayub

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Khan removed Iskandar Mirza and, he himself took the state power and made himself the president.

The martial law continued till 1962.

Pakistan was divided into a number of military zones. Major general Umrao Khan was appointed Martial Law Administrator of East Pakistan. Military intervention took place in Bangladesh a number of times. The characteristics are-

- ① Governing a country without constitution by armed force.
- ② Martial law/military rule overthrows the elected government
- ③ It may continue for a specified amount of time or indefinitely
- ④ It is declared in times of war or emergencies such as civil unrest and natural disaster.

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natural disaster.

* What is Basic Democracies? Describe.

⇒ Basic Democracies is a local government system. General Ayub Khan, president of Pakistan, introduced the concept of basic democracies under the Basic Democracies order in 1959, attempting to initiate a grass-root level democratic system.

The system of Basic Democracies was initially a five-tier arrangement. They were:

- i) union council (rural areas), town and union committees (urban areas)
- ii) thana councils (East Pakistan), tehsil & councils (west Pakistan)
- iii) district councils
- iv) divisional councils
- v) provincial development advisory council.

These ~~tier~~ primary governing units

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were created to provide a link between the government and the people. These councils consisted of elected and nominated members. There were 40,000 basic democrats in each part of Pakistan totaling the number to 80,000 in the country. Basic Democrats were basically members of Union councils who were given the right to elect the members of Provincial and National Assemblies and President. These Basic Democrats made Ayub Khan the first elected President of Pakistan. Thus, he gained the authority to formulate a constitution for the country.