

CONSTITUTION AND MILITARY RULE IN PAKISTAN

- The military coup d'état and Ayub Khan's martial law
- Basic Democracy
- Martial law lifted

ESTABLISHING GOVERNOR'S RULE

- After the election of 1954 between the Muslim League government and a "United Front" of parties
 - ➤ the Muslim League had not only lost the election, it had been virtually eliminated as a viable political force in the province.
- Fazlul Haq was given the opportunity to form the new provincial government in East Bengal, but, before he could convene his cabinet, **riots erupted** in the factories south of the East Bengali capital of Dhaka (Dacca).
- This instability provided the central government with the opportunity to establish "governor's rule" in the province and overturn the United Front's electoral victory.

CREATING A CONSTITUTION

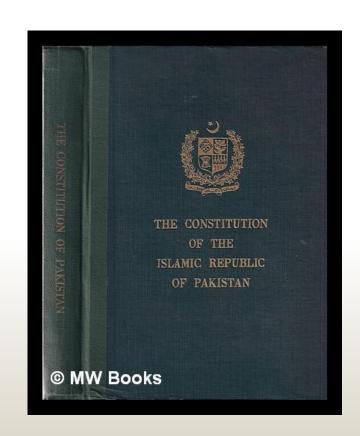
- Iskander Mirza, a civil servant, former defense secretary, and minister in the central government, was sent to rule over the province (East Bengal) until such time as stability could be assured.
- But the Muslim League's defeat and de facto elimination in the province necessitated realigning the Constituent Assembly—still grappling with the drafting of a national constitution—at the centre. The court, however, insisted that another constituent assembly should be organised and that constitution making should not be interrupted.

EAST BENGAL TO EAST PAKISTAN

- Ghulam Muhammad assembled a "cabinet of talents" that included major personalities such as Iskander Mirza, Gen. Mohammad Ayub Khan (the army chief of staff), and H.S. Suhrawardy (the last chief minister of undivided Bengal, and the only Bengali with national credentials).
- In 1955 Ghulam Mohammad left office, and Maj. Gen. Iskandar Mirza, who had served both as governor in East Bengal and as a central minister, took office as governor-general.
- Under Mirza, East Bengal was renamed East Pakistan.

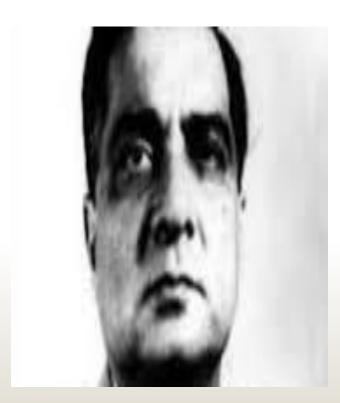
CONSTITUTION

- The constitution came into force in March 1956.
- It declared Pakistan an Islamic state and installed a president with extensive powers.
- Only Muslims could be the president of Pakistan.



ISKANDAR MIRZA AS THE FIRST PRESIDENT

- He was appointed Governor of East Bengal later East Pakistan in 1954.
- According to the 1956
 Constitution, he became the first President of Pakistan.



ISKANDAR MIRZA AS THE FIRST PRESIDENT

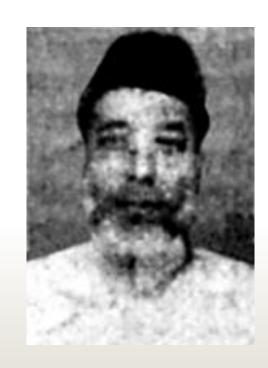
- Iskander Mirza was considered a power-hungry person.
- He wanted to dominate the political scene of the country by any means possible.



DEATH OF SHAHID ALI IN THE ASSEMBLY

On 23 September 1958, an unfortunate incident occurred in the Provincial Assembly of East Pakistan.

A serious argument and scuffle (fight) took place inside the Assembly in which the Deputy Speaker Shahed Ali was severely injured and later died.



POLITICAL INTERFERENCE

Chaos in the Provincial Assembly of East Pakistan and the death of the Deputy Speaker provided the Pakistani ruling party an excuse for political interference in this region.

MARTIAL LAW

- **>On 7 October 1958, President Iskander Mirza introduced martial law by a declaration.**
- ➤ He suspended the Constitution, Legislative Assembly, Central and Provincial Ministries.
- ➤ He also prohibited political activities by banning all political parties.



CHARACTERISTICS OF MILITARY RULE

- 1. Military Rule in the sense of governing a country unconstitutionally by armed forces was very common during cold war period between 1940s and 1960s.
- 2. In staging a military rule by overthrowing an elected government, major role was often played by contending superpowers.

MARTIAL LAW

President Iskander Mirza abrogated the **1956 Constitution** with the help of General Ayub Khan, the Chief Martial Law Administrator.



FORCED RESIGNATION

- Mirza thought that with the enforcement of Martial Law, he as the president of the country would be free to exercise his power and Ayub will provide him the necessary support. However, Ayub Khan had other intentions.
- On October 27, 1958, Ayub Khan took oath as the Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- In the evening, Ayub and General W A Burki visited the President and confirmed their loyalty.
- However, at around ten, with several Generals and a platoon of soldiers woke the president up from his sleep and forced him to sign his resignation on gunpoint.
- Iskander Mirza, along with his wife and two suitcases was transferred to the airport and was boarded on a flight to London.

MARTIAL LAW

Pakistan was divided into a number of military zones.

Major General Umrao Khan was appointed Martial Law Administrate of East Pakistan.



AYUB KHAN

On 27 October 1958, General Ayub Khan removed Iskander Mirza and he himself assume supreme power as the President of Pakistan.

Ayub Khan remained Commander-in-Chief and the Chief Martial Law Administrator, thus becoming immensely powerful.



SALUTARY REFORMS

Ayub's supreme power was welcomed by many, including Miss Fatima
 Jinnah, who later became a contender for the presidency against Ayub.

For a little less than four years Ayub ruled with a firm hand, but introduced several salutary reforms (such as those relating to land, agriculture and family laws), toned up the administration and took peremptory measures against such social evils as corruption, hoarding, black-marketing and smuggling. Ayub had no intention of going back to the 1956 parliamentary constitution; hence, when he thought it expedient, he promulgated a new constitution (June 1962), which softened the martial law regulations, but retained "the purpose that lay behind them and the presidential power to enforce them." The intention was obviously to convert martial law "into a document which will form the basis of running the country."

EBDO

 An Elective Bodies **Disqualification Ordinance** (EBDO) was introduced and many politician were ebdoed' for misuse of power.



SCREENING COMMITTEE

In different stages of the administration screening committees were set up with the task of removing corrupt and inefficient officials from **Government services.**



BASIC DEMOCRACY

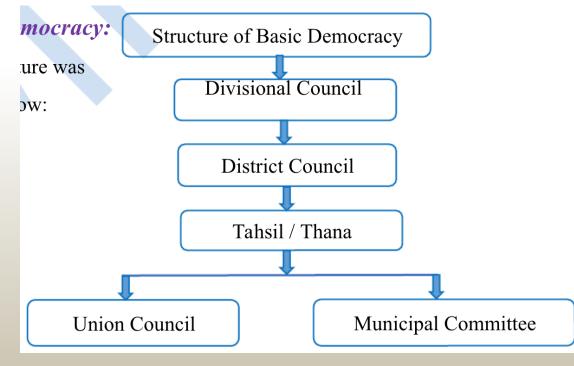
- One of the controversial measures of the Ayub Government was the introduction of Basic Democracy.
- It was considered virtually a dictatorship under the disguise of democracy.
- He issued the Basic Democracy Order in October 1959.

BASIC DEMOCRACY

- Basic Democracy was a local government system.
- General AYUB KHAN President of Pakistan, introduced the concept of basic democracy under the Basic Democracies Order, 1959 in an attempt to initiate a grass-root level democratic system.

BASIC DEMOCRACY

- It introduced a five-tier structure of representative bodies, but in 1962 the Provincial Development Advisory Council was abolished leaving four tiers:
 - Union Council & Municipal Committee
 - Thana/Tahsil Council
 - District Council
 - Divisional Council



ELECTION OF BASIC DEMOCRATS

- The first elections of the Basic Democrats were held in January 1960.
- Forty thousand Basic Democrats in each province were elected and they were given some training before entering their duties.

FIRST ELECTED PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN

- Basic Democrats were members of Union Councils who were given the right to elect members of Provincial and National Assemblies and the President.
- These Basic Democrats made Ayub Khan the first elected President of Pakistan by means of a confidence-vote.
- Thus, he also gained the authority to formulate a constitution for the country.

MARTIAL LAW LIFTED

- In 1962 President Ayub Khan lifted martial law and introduced a new constitution.
- Abdul Monem Khan was made the Governor of East Pakistan.
- In 1964, presidential election was held and Ayub Khan won against Fatima Jinnah, sister of Mohammad Ali Jinnah.
- He remained the president till 1969.

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