

**KARACHI UNIVERSITY**

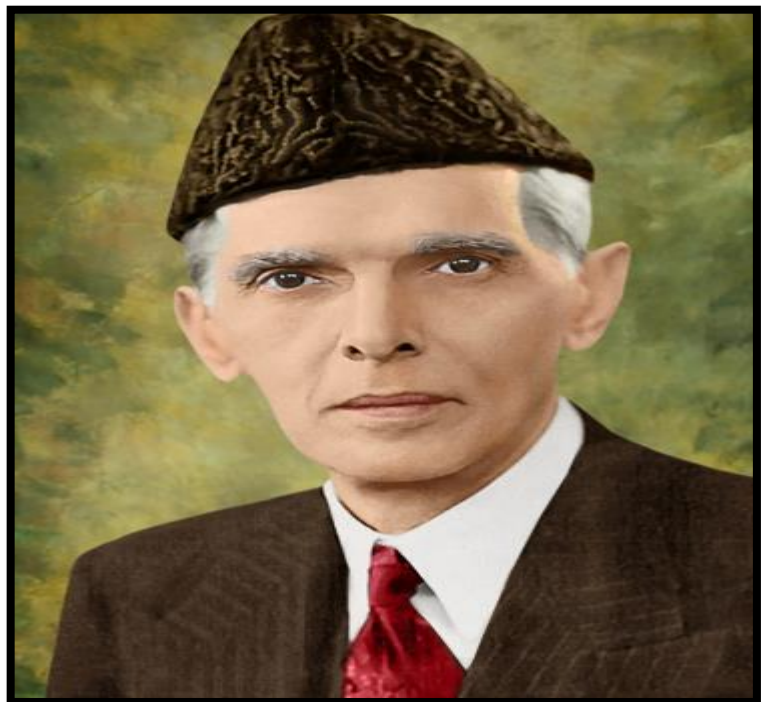


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# Pakistan Decolonization

## The Early Years of the Pakistani Government (1947-1958)



- ✓ The post-independence Pakistani government is one constantly intermingled with military rule, corruption, public unrest, and political feuds.
- ✓ Starting at its birth, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, being the leader of the nationalist movement, became Pakistan's first leader and was named governor-general, with his aid and ally Liaquat Ali Khan as Prime Minister. Just one year after the independence of Pakistan, Jinnah died on September 11, 1948, and Liaquat became the nation's new leader.
- ✓ In 1951, three years after the tragic death of the "Father of Pakistan," Liaquat was assassinated and Khawaja Nazimuddin came to power as the next Prime Minister and Ghulam Muhammad became the governor-general.

- ✓ Later, in October 1953, due to violence in relation to religious conflict between those of Islamic and Ahmadiyya faith (a religion, contradictory to Islam) and efforts by the assembly to limit his power, governor-general Ghulam Muhammad declared a state of emergency, dissolving the elected body of the Constituent Assembly. Ghulam then appointed Muhammad Ali Bogra to be Prime Minister and formed a new cabinet called "Ministry of Talents."
- ✓ In 1955, Ghulam resigned as governor-general out of health concerns, and was replaced by Major General Syed Iskander Ali Mirza. Mirza, feeling that Pakistan was not ready for true democracy, dismissed Bogra and the national assembly and replaced him with a new Prime Minister, Chaudhry Muhammad Ali.
- ✓ The constitution set up a parliamentary government with the Legislative Assembly replacing the Constituent Assembly and the position governor-general became president. This new constitution solved the issue of unequal representation and gave equal seats to both East and West Pakistan in the Legislative Assembly.
- ✓  
After a series of Prime Minister power changes from 1956 to 1957, Malik Feroz Khan Noon became the Prime Minister and was able to stabilize the government and calm the political chaos. President Mirza, despite his success, felt threatened and declared martial law.
- ✓ Muhammad Ayub Khan became chief martial law administrator and the constitution of 1956 was suspended, democratic assemblies dissolved, upcoming elections cancelled, and the Muslim League was disbanded.
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- ✓ Mirza and Ayub Khan had power disputes and in the end, Ayub Khan had Mirza arrested and named himself president.

## First military era (1958-1971)

The Dominion was dissolved on 23 March, 1956 and replaced by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan with the last Governor-General, Iskandar Mirza, as the first president.[63] Just two years later the military took control of the nation.[64] Field Marshal Ayub Khan became president and began a new system of government called Basic Democracy with a new constitution,[65] by which an electoral college of 80,000 would select the President.



Ayub Khan almost lost the controversial 1965 presidential elections to Fatima Jinnah.[66] During Ayub's rule, relations with the United States and the West grew stronger. Pakistan joined two formal military alliances — the Baghdad Pact (later known as CENTO) which included Iran, Iraq, and Turkey to defend the Middle East and Persian Gulf against the Soviet Union

- ✓ Between 1947 and 1971, Pakistan consisted of two geographically separate regions, West Pakistan and East Pakistan. During the 1960s, there was a rise in Bengali nationalism in East Pakistan, and of allegations that economic development and hiring for government jobs favoured West Pakistan. An independence movement in East Pakistan began to gather ground
- ✓ On the eve of the elections, a cyclone struck East Pakistan killing approximately 500,000 people. Despite the tragedy and the additional

difficulty experienced by affected citizens in reaching the voting sites, the elections were held and the results showed a clear division between East and West Pakistan

- ✓ meanwhile, Mujib initiated a civil disobedience movement, which was strongly supported by the general population of East Pakistan, including most government workers. A round-table conference between Yahya, Bhutto, and Mujib was convened in Dhaka, which, however, ended without a solution
- ✓ the new nation of Bangladesh on behalf of Mujib. The crackdown widened and escalated into a guerrilla warfare between the Pakistani Army and the Mukti Bahini (Bengali "freedom fighters").[8] Although the killing of Bengalis was unsupported by the people of West Pakistan, it continued for 9 months. India supplied the Bengali rebels with arms and training, and, in addition, hosted more than 10 million Bengali refugees who had fled the turmoil.
- ✓ In East Pakistan, the Pakistani Army led by General A. A. K. Niazi, had already been weakened and exhausted by the Mukti Bahini's guerrilla warfare. Outflanked and overwhelmed, the Pakistani army in the eastern theatre surrendered on December 16, 1971, with nearly 90,000 soldiers taken as prisoners of war. The figures of the Bengali civilian death toll from the war vary greatly, depending on the sources.
- ✓ The result was the emergence of the new nation of Bangladesh.[9] Discredited by the defeat, General Yahya Khan resigned. Bhutto was inaugurated as president and chief martial law administrator on 20 December, 1971

## **1971–1977: Second democratic era**



- ✓ he 1971 war and separation of East-Pakistan demoralized and shattered the nation. President General Yahya Khan handed over the political power to Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of the Pakistan Peoples Party. With PPP's coming to power, the democratic socialists and visionaries came to the power for the first time in the country's history.
- ✓ He adopted the East-Pakistan Commission's recommendations and authorized large-scale court-martial of army officers tainted for their role in East Pakistan. To keep the country united, Bhutto launched a series of internal intelligence operations to crack down on the fissiparous nationalist sentiments and movements in the provinces.
- ✓  
This period starting from 1971 until 1977 was a period of left-wing democracy, the growth of national spirit, economic nationalization, covert atomic bomb projects, promotion of scientific, literary, cultural activities and the left-wing socialism.
- ✓ "India was close to developing a nuclear weapon under its nuclear programme". Chairing a secret winter seminar in January 1972, which came to be known as "Multan meeting", Bhutto rallied a large number of academic scientists to build the atomic bomb for national survival.
- ✓  
In 1973, a serious nationalist rebellion also took place in Balochistan province and led to harsh suppression of Baloch rebels with the Shah of Iran purportedly assisting with air support in order to prevent the conflict from spilling over into Iranian Balochistan. The conflict ended later after an amnesty and subsequent stabilization by the provincial military administrator Rahim Uddin Khan.
- ✓ Bhutto succumbed to increasing pressure from religious parties and helped Parliament to declare the Ahmadiyya adherents as non-Muslims. Bhutto's efforts undermined and dismantled the private-sector and conservative approach for political power in country's political setup.
- ✓ uring a secret mission, Henry Kissinger threatened Bhutto and his colleague using an inhumane language. After the meeting, Bhutto aggressively put efforts to successfully develop the atomic project before the coming elections.
- ✓ . Following this, Bhutto and his leftist colleagues were dragged into a two-year-long controversial trial in Supreme Court. Bhutto was later executed in 1979, after being convicted of authorizing the murder of a political opponent, in a controversial 4–3 split decision by the Supreme Court.

- ✓ Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, Indira Gandhi and Sheikh Mujeeb-ur-Rehman - died by unnatural and violent death. Also, their off-spring perished later the same way. Mujib's one daughter, Sheikh Hasina, is the lone survivor at this time

## **1977–1988: Second military era General Zia-ul-Haq**



General Mohammad Zia ul-Haq, chief of the army staff (COAS), took control of Pakistan by proclaiming martial law, beginning the longest period of rule by a single leader in Pakistan's history. It ended only with his death in a still-unexplained aircraft crash on August 17, 1988

- ✓ .As a result, a number of white papers on topics ranging from fraud in the 1977 elections, to abuses by the Federal Security Force, and to Bhutto's manipulation of the press were generated. The attacks on the Bhutto administration increased as time passed and culminated in the trial and the hanging in April 1979 of Bhutto for complicity in the murder of a political opponent.
- ✓ After elections were cancelled by decree on March 1, 1978, Zia banned all political activity, although political parties were not banned. The same month, some 200 journalists were arrested, and a number of newspapers were shut down. Zia, however, maintained that there would be elections sometime in 1979. Members of some of the PNA parties, including the Jamaat-i-Islami and the Pakistan Muslim League
- ✓ Many of those elected locally identified themselves as Awami Dost (friends of the people), a designation well known as a synonym for the PPP. Zia announced national and provincial elections for November 17



and 20, 1979, respectively, but these, too, were cancelled. Many thought that the showing of the Awami Dost made him fear that a substantial number of PPP sympathizers would be elected. As further restrictions were placed on political activity, parties were also banned.

- ✓ The Movement for the Restoration of Democracy demonstrated from time to time against Zia's government, especially in August 1983, but Zia was able to withstand its demands. Many of the leaders spent time in jail.
- ✓ Zia was killed in a mysterious aircraft accident near Bahawalpur, in Punjab, on August 17, 1988, along with the chairman of the joint chiefs committee, the United States ambassador, and twenty-seven others. A joint United States Pakistani committee investigating the accident later established that the crash was caused by a criminal act of sabotage perpetrated in the aircraft.
- ✓ Benazir Bhutto, was able to gain the assistance of other groups, and she was sworn in as prime minister on December 1, 1988, by acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan. He in turn was elected to a five-year term as president by the National Assembly and the Senate.

## **1988–1999: Third democratic era (Benazir–Nawaz)**



Two democratic governments took over Pakistan twice and the changes were due to corruption charges and political instability. After the death of Zia-ul-Haq, people accepted civilian rule and Ghulam Ishaq Khan became the president of Pakistan.



- ✓ First elections after the death of Zia-ul-haq were held in November 1998 in which Pakistan People's Party won the election with heavy votes and favors. During this time, political instability spread over Pakistan
- ✓ Due to corruption and political instability President Farooq Laghari dismissed PPP's Government. Historians comment that corruption during this period was at its peak.
- ✓ In 1997, after the dismissal of PPP's government, again the tradition of elections took place. In this election, Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) won and Nawaz Shariff was declared as the Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- ✓ It was around two years that Nawaz ruled which was followed by Musharraf's visit who took over the throne and Nawaz Shariff and his family were sent to Saudi Arabia. Corruption and Political Instability during 1988 –

### **Third military era (Musharraf–Aziz)**



- ✓ 1999 Pakistani coup d'état, 2001–2002 India-Pakistan standoff, Legal Framework Order, 2002, War in North-West Pakistan, Assassination of Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's role in the War on Terror, War on Terror and Lawyers' Movement
- ✓ the presidency of Musharraf features the coming of liberal forces in the national power for the first time in the history of Pakistan. Earlier initiatives taken towards the continuation of economic liberalization, privatization, and freedom of media in Pakistan in 1999
- ✓ The LFO Order No. 2002 was issued by Musharraf in August 2001, which established the constitutional basis for his continuance in office. The 2002 general elections marked the liberals, the MQM, and centrist PML(Q), winning the majority in the parliament to form the government.
- ✓ The 2008 general elections marked the return of the leftists in the country's power politics, on 18 February 2008. The left oriented, PPP,

and conservative PML, won majority of seats together in the election and formed a coalition government

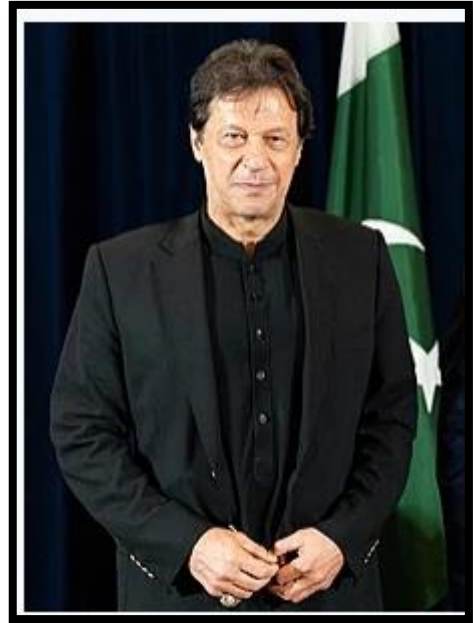
- ✓ Gillani and his leftist alliance levelled accusation against Musharraf for weakening Pakistan's unity, violating its constitution and creating economic impasse. As momentum on Musharraf gained, President Musharraf began consultations with his close aides on the implications of the impeachment and readily made available himself to reply to the charges levied upon him.
- ✓ Gillani's effective strategy to force Musharraf from presidency succeeded when Pervez Musharraf announced in a very short long televised address to the nation to announce his resignation, ending his nine-year-long reign on 18 August 2008.

## **2008–present: Fourth democratic era**



- ✓ Prime Minister Gillani headed a collective government with the winning parties from each of the four provinces. Pakistan's political structure was changed to replace the semi-presidential system into a parliamentary democracy. Parliament unanimously passed the 18th amendment to the Constitution of Pakistan.
- ✓ The country's media was further liberalised, and with the banning of Indian media channels Pakistani music, art and cultural activities were promoted at the national level.
- ✓ After the parliament completed its term, a first for Pakistan, elections held on 11 May 2013 changed the country's political landscape when the conservative Pakistan Muslim League (N) achieved a near supermajority in parliament.[201][202] Nawaz Shareef became prime minister on May 28.[203] As of August 2013 national debates continue over the ongoing national isolation, the country's foreign policy, gun control, taxation, immigration, and anti-terrorism reforms.

## 2018- present PTI (Imran Khan)



- ✓ Imran Ahmed Khan Niazi HI PP (Urdu: عمران احمد خان نیازی; born 5 October 1952) is the 22nd [n 1] and current Prime Minister of Pakistan and the chairman of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). Before entering politics, Khan was an international cricketer and captain of the Pakistan national cricket team, which he led to victory in the 1992 Cricket World Cup.
- ✓ As Prime Minister, the government faced off a looming balance of payments crisis with help from the Khan's government then presided over a significant reduction in the deficit as imports fell [32] and limited military spending in the following years
- ✓ During his victory speech, he laid out the policy outlines for his future government. Khan said his inspiration is to build Pakistan as a humanitarian state based on principles of first Islamic state of Medina.
- ✓ During the 2020 coronavirus pandemic, Khan's government rolled out the largest welfare programme in Pakistan's history, with a fund of almost \$1 billion aimed at the country's poorest segment of the population.