



Field Marshal Md Ayub Khan

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Field Marshal **Mohammad Ayub Khan**, (1908-1974) **military ruler and President of Pakistan**. Ayub

Khan was born at **Abottabad** in the **Northwest Frontier Province** in **1908**. He was educated at

Aligarh Muslim University and at **Royal Military College, Sandhurst, UK**. He **joined the army in**

1928. He was promoted to the rank of **Major General in December 1948** and was then appointed

the **General Officer Commanding (GOC)** in the province of East Bengal. He discharged the

responsibility of Defence Minister of Pakistan between 1954 and 1956.

In collusion(গোপন চুক্তি) with the then **President Iskandar Mirza**, army chief **Ayub Khan imposed martial law in Pakistan on 7 October 1958**, and **abolitioned(বাতিল) the Constitution**. Ayub Khan was appointed the **Chief Martial Law Administrator by President Mirza on 8 October**. But only after a few days, he ousted (ক্ষমতাচ্যুত) Iskandar Mirza from power (27 October) and declared himself the President of Pakistan. Ayub Khan's martial law regime(শাসন) was a form of representational dictatorship(একনায়কত্ব), and he introduced a new political system in 1959 as Basic Democracies (গণতন্ত্র). The Basic democracies system set up five tiers (স্তর)of institutions. The lowest tier was composed of union councils and the members were designated as basic democrats.ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের সমন্বয়ে গঠিত এবং সদস্যদের মৌলিক গণতন্ত্রী হিসেবে বলা হতো।

The urban areas had a similar arrangement, under which the smaller union councils were grouped together into municipal committees(পৌর কমিটিতে) to perform similar duties. In 1960, the elected members of the union councils voted to confirm Ayub Khan's presidency, and under the 1962 Constitution they formed an electoral college to elect —

- The President,
- The National Assembly,
- The provincial assemblies.

By 1958 Ayub Khan and his fellow officers decided to turn out the politicians, a task easily accomplished without bloodshed. He then took some fiscal measure(আর্থিক ব্যবস্থা) especially in land holding. The landholding ceiling (জমির মালিকানার সর্বোচ্চ সীমা) was raised from 33 to 48 hectares. Landholders hold their dominant positions in the social hierarchy.(জমির মালিকরা সামাজিক শ্রেণিবিন্যাসে তাদের প্রভাবশালী অবস্থান ধরে রাখে) Some 4 million hectares of land in West Pakistan sold mainly to civil and military officers, thus creating a new class of farmers having medium-sized holdings. These farms became important for future agricultural development, but the peasants were barely benefited.

In 1958, a legal commission was set up to suggest reforms of the family and marriage laws. Ayub Khan examined its report and in 1961 issued the Family Laws Ordinance(আইন). Among other things, it restricted

- polygamy(বহুবিবাহ)
- regulated (নিয়ন্ত্রিত বিবাহ) marriage
- divorce,

to give women more equal treatment under the law than they had before. It was a humane measure supported by women's organisations in Pakistan. However, this law which was similar to the family planning, was relatively mild and did not seriously transform the patriarchal pattern (পিতৃতান্ত্রিক) of society.

Ayub Khan adopted an energetic approach toward economic development that soon bore fruit in a rising rate of economic growth. —

1. Land reform ভূমি সংস্কার
2. consolidation of holdings জোট একত্রীকরণ
3. stern measures against hoarding were combined with rural credit programmes and work programmes, মজুতদারির বিরুদ্ধে কঠোর ব্যবস্থা গ্রামীণ ঋণ কর্মসূচি এবং কাজের কর্মসূচি,
4. higher procurement prices, উচ্চ সংগ্রহের মূল্য,
5. augmented allocations for agriculture কৃষির জন্য বর্ধিত বরাদ্দ
6. especially improved seeds to put the country on the road to self-sufficiency in food grains in the process described as the Green Revolution. বিশেষ করে উন্নত বীজ দেশকে খাদ্যশস্যে স্বয়ংসম্পূর্ণতার পথে নিয়ে যাওয়ার জন্য একত্রিত করা হয়েছিল।
7. The Export Bonus Vouchers Scheme (1959) and tax incentives stimulated new industrial entrepreneurs and exporters. এক্সপোর্ট বোনাস ভাউচার স্কিম (1959) এবং ট্যাক্স ইনসেনটিভ নতুন শিল্প উদ্যোক্তা এবং রপ্তানিকারকদের উদ্দীপিত করেছে।
8. Bonus vouchers facilitated access to foreign exchange for imports of industrial machinery and raw materials. বোনাস ভাউচার শিল্প যন্ত্রপাতি এবং কাঁচামাল আমদানির জন্য বৈদেশিক মুদ্রার অ্যাক্সেস সহজতর করেছে।
9. Tax concessions were offered for investment in less-developed areas. স্বল্পোন্নত এলাকায় বিনিয়োগের জন্য কর ছাড় দেওয়া হয়েছিল।

These measures had important consequences in the development of industry and gave rise to a new class of small industrialists.

On 1 March 1962, Ayub Khan introduced a Constitution based on the presidential system and thereby became all-powerful in the country. In November 1964, election of basic democrats was held in both the wings of Pakistan. On 2 January 1965, election for the presidency of Pakistan was held through an indirect system of voting. Ayub

Khan was elected President by defeating the opposition candidate Fatema Jinnah.

Ayub Khan represented his foreign policy(পররাষ্ট্র নীতি) on several occasions, particularly in his autobiography(আত্মজীবনী), Friends not Masters. His objectives were the security and development of Pakistan and the preservation of its ideology as he saw it (এর মতাদর্শ রক্ষা করা)। Toward these ends, he sought to improve relations with Pakistan's immediate neighbours, India, China, and the Soviet Union. While retaining and renewing the attachment with the United States, Ayub Khan emphasised his preference for friendship, not subordination, and bargained hard for higher returns to Pakistan.

Other than ideology and Kashmir, the main source of friction between Pakistan and India was the distribution of the waters of the Indus River system. . Broadly speaking, the agreement allocated use of the three western Indus rivers (the Indus itself and its tributaries, the Jhelum and the Chenab) to Pakistan, and the three eastern Indus tributaries (the Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej) to India. The agreement also detailed transitional arrangements, new irrigation and hydroelectric power works, and the waterlogging and salinity problems in Pakistan. The Indus Basin Development Fund was established and financed by the World Bank.

Pakistan's tentative approaches to China intensified in 1959 when China's occupation of Tibet and the flight of Dalai Lama to India ended five years of Chinese-Indian friendship. An entente between Pakistan and China evolved in inverse ratio to Sino-Indian hostility, which climaxed in a border war in 1962.

The 1965 war began as a series of border flare-ups along undemarcated territory at the Rann of Kutch in the southeast in April and soon after along the cease-fire line in Kashmir. On September 23, a cease-fire was arranged through the UN Security Council. In January 1966, Ayub Khan and India's prime minister, Lal Bahadur

Shastri, signed the Tashkent Declaration which formally ended hostilities and called for a mutual withdrawal of forces.

When war broke out between Pakistan and India on 6 September 1965, Ayub Khan promoted himself to the rank of Field Marshal. Then in 1966, he chose the path of repression(দমন) of his political opponents when the Six-point demand for autonomy of East Pakistan was raised by the Awami League. East Pakistanis demanded equality in the Civil Service. Their representation in (CSP) was less than West Pakistan. The leaders of the Awami League including party chief Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman were arrested. In the backdrop of an intense anti-Ayub movement during the period of 1966-68, Ayub Khan convened a **round table conference** of opposition political leaders at Rawalpindi on 26 February 1969. But when the conference failed to resolve the crisis, Ayub Khan handed over power to the army chief General Yahya Khan on 24 March 1969, and retired from politics. **He died on 20 April 1974.** We can say the emergence of Ayub Khan as a military dictator happened in a very critical moment of Pakistan history. This particular regime of Ayub Khan lasted for more than 10 years, brought enormous economic prosperity to the West Pakistan, given years of political stability but at the same time, constructed the road for independence of the East Pakistan.