

## Differences:

### 1. Political Ideologies:

**Zia-ul-Haq:** Zia-ul-Haq's regime was characterized by a policy of Islamization and the promotion of conservative Islamic values. He introduced controversial laws aimed at aligning the legal system with Islamic principles, such as the Hudood Ordinance. Zia-ul-Haq sought to create a more religiously oriented society and implemented policies that favored religious conservatives.

**Pervez Musharraf:** Pervez Musharraf pursued a policy of "enlightened moderation" and emphasized a more moderate and modern outlook. He aimed to strike a balance between religious influences and progressive reforms, promoting a vision of a tolerant and inclusive society. Musharraf introduced measures to empower women, enhance women's rights, and encourage gender equality. His policies were more focused on modernization and economic development.

### 2. Foreign Policy Approach:

**Zia-ul-Haq:** Zia-ul-Haq's foreign policy was largely centered around supporting the Afghan Mujahideen in their fight against the Soviet Union during the Soviet-Afghan War. He aligned Pakistan closely with the United States and received substantial military and economic aid from them. Zia-ul-Haq's government provided support to Afghan rebels and facilitated their training and recruitment.

**Pervez Musharraf:** Pervez Musharraf pursued a policy of regional stability and sought to improve relations with neighboring countries. He initiated a peace process with India, aimed at resolving the long-standing Kashmir issue and improving bilateral ties. Musharraf also played a role in supporting the United States in the global fight against terrorism, particularly in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks.

### 3. Constitutional Changes:

**Zia-ul-Haq:** Zia-ul-Haq introduced the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution, which granted extensive powers to the President. This amendment gave the President authority to dissolve the Parliament and dismiss the Prime Minister. It curtailed the power of the judiciary and restricted provincial autonomy, leading to concerns about the erosion of democratic institutions.

**Pervez Musharraf:** Pervez Musharraf made amendments to the Constitution through the Legal Framework Order (LFO). His changes altered the balance of power between the executive, judiciary, and legislature. Musharraf introduced the concept of "devolution of power" and established local government bodies to decentralize authority. However, his changes were criticized for consolidating power in the hands of the President and weakening democratic checks and balances.

#### 4. Economic Policies:

**Zia-ul-Haq:** Zia-ul-Haq's economic policies were focused on stabilization and austerity measures. He implemented structural adjustment programs and austerity measures in collaboration with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to address the economic challenges faced by Pakistan. However, these policies also led to increased poverty and inequality in the country.

**Pervez Musharraf:** Pervez Musharraf's economic policies aimed at liberalizing the economy and attracting foreign investment. He implemented structural reforms, deregulated sectors, and focused on privatization. Musharraf's policies led to a period of economic growth, with improvements in sectors such as telecommunications and banking.

#### 5. Approach to Democracy:

**Zia-ul-Haq:** Zia-ul-Haq's regime was characterized by authoritarian rule and a suppression of democratic institutions. He suspended the Constitution, dissolved the Parliament, and limited civil liberties. The political environment under Zia-ul-Haq was highly controlled, with restrictions on political parties and a limited space for dissent.

**Pervez Musharraf:** Pervez Musharraf portrayed his rule as a transition towards democracy. He held elections and allowed for greater political participation. Musharraf introduced the concept of "enlightened moderation," which aimed to create a more open and tolerant society. However, his regime faced criticism for limiting political freedoms and suppressing opposition voices.

Similarities:

#### 1. Military Background:

Both Zia-ul-Haq and Pervez Musharraf came from military backgrounds and held the position of Chief of Army Staff in the Pakistani Army. They assumed power through military coups, overthrowing elected civilian governments and establishing military rule.

## 2. Foreign Policy Alignment:

Both Zia-ul-Haq and Pervez Musharraf pursued policies that aligned Pakistan closely with the United States. Zia-ul-Haq's regime received significant military and economic aid from the United States during the Soviet-Afghan War, while Musharraf actively participated in the U.S.-led war on terror following the September 11 attacks.

## 3. Focus on National Security:

Both dictators placed a strong emphasis on national security. Zia-ul-Haq's regime prioritized building a strong defense system, particularly in the context of the Soviet-Afghan War. Musharraf also emphasized national security and worked towards stabilizing Pakistan's internal security situation, particularly in relation to counterterrorism efforts.

## 4. Role in Kashmir Conflict:

Both Zia-ul-Haq and Pervez Musharraf played significant roles in the Kashmir conflict between Pakistan and India. Zia-ul-Haq supported militant groups in their fight against Indian forces in Kashmir, while Musharraf initiated peace talks with India and attempted to find a resolution to the long-standing dispute.

## 5. Amendments to the Constitution:

Both dictators made significant amendments to the Constitution of Pakistan during their respective tenures. Zia-ul-Haq introduced the Eighth Amendment, which altered the power balance between the executive, judiciary, and legislature. Similarly, Musharraf made amendments through the Legal Framework Order (LFO), restructuring the political system and concentrating power in the hands of the President.