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## DEVASTATION OF DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND ITS IMPACT ON EDUCATION OF PAKISTAN

Kamal Haider, Assistant Professor, FUUAST Karachi, [kamalhaider@fuuast.edu.pk](mailto:kamalhaider@fuuast.edu.pk)

Ann Samson, Assistant Professor/ FUUAST Karachi.

Humaira Safder, Research Scholar

### ABSTRACT

*An intensive analysis of the situation and the study of the ground realities are presented in this research. The review presents the output of the research effects of undermining the whole democratic process, its practical shape and form, issues and difficulties which have made their impact as a result on the society in general and on education in particular. It does not only point out the impacts and effects but also presents suggestions that can have propagation of democratic values and arrangements of education under the democratic principles. It has been observed and noted by the literature review that educated people are exhibit more democratic values through their more prevailing democratic environment of educational institutions and practices. The approach of this study is qualitative, in depth literature review has been consulted associated with three objectives and three research questions. Finding showed that democratic values promote through the education from grass root level. Educational institutions practice the democratic attitude and make such an environment that support political trust and values in Pakistan.*

**KEY WORDS:** Democratic Values, Education System, Pakistan

### INTRODUCTION

Pakistan is a democratic country since its inception. It is non-liberal democratic country because it foundation upon Islamic ideology. In literal meaning democracy and Islamic ideology are two different dimensions but in general both supported and grant rights to people. Respect, equality, dignity, freedom of expression and thoughts are the true essence of Islam and democracy. The only difference between these two systems is liberalism. Being an Islamic state Pakistan still endeavor to achieve its aim and foundation because it is neither complete an Islamic state nor it is republic. This neither perception nor reflection also runs in their education system. Dewey argued that students learn democratic attitude through the experience of democratic environment and values of the institutions. (1) The association of education and democratic values are much stronger in democratic countries (2) that are why Pakistan weak in both areas and the education system not associated with democratic values.

Different systems of life in any society and in the related organizations reflect all systems, their activities and situations irrespective of being democratic or undemocratic. The Political system due to its services and conduct becomes such a way for the formation of homogeneity and cooperation that exposes mutual cooperation and reaction by creating at-one hand unity and integrity in between different elements of formation and system of life, and on the other hand, it creates chances of services for the revival of social changes and agreement in these changes.(3) In this case, a democratic political system with obligation is performed very much accordingly to the desires of the people. Due to any reason if a democratic system is suspended or abolished and democratic norms are

suppressed the society is corrupted and becomes problematic.(4) The worst affected in this situation, is education because education and democracy are the integral parts of each other. In this prospect when review the political system of Pakistan, it is revealed that for the last seventy two years of national history democracy has never been implemented in its real letter and spirit.(5) Hence democracy and dictatorship have been experimented off and on. Military dictators have been the political rule for thirty years out of the seventy years in this country. (6) In this situation democratic rules have never been given a chance to develop. General Iskander Mirza (Rtd.) did allow un-democratic intrigues from 1947 to 1958. Induction of General Ayub Khan, as minister of defense in the government of Muhammad Ali Bogra was an intrusion into the democratic norms and toward their suppression. Later on, the Ayub Khan's Martial Law abolished democracy and paved the way for future military inclusion in the political process.(7) The second Martial law by General Yahya Khan gave a new twist to crush democratic norms and values. Consequently the destruction of democratic norms, so persistently, caused the breakup of Pakistan. This agnostic situation affected education much negatively. (8) No remarkable development and implementation on educational policies and plans have been reported during this era. Infrastructure, enrolment, literacy and democratic values are badly affected because of the separation of elite class, forces and madrassa schooling system separately introduced and promoted in society. The nation divides into classes in terms of ideology and practices, freedom of rights and expression control by the government and academic freedom has been vanished. Research revealed that democratic values have positive correlation with education and such an education system make political accountability easier. (9)

Another such devastating incident occurred in 1977 with the imposition of another Martial law by General Zia-ul-Haq. He toppled down the democratic government and made a history by crushing human rights and democratic values. In the period from 1988 to 1999 the Benazir government and the Nawaz Sharif government through democracy came in power twice. But both the governments, twice abrogated through indirect interference in the political action before their stipulated times. General Musharaf took the hold to rule in 2000, repeating the history of suppressing of democracy. General Musharaf relinquished the rule in 2007 in result of the NRO. The Pakistan Peoples Party, once again came in power to rule the country through democracy. It was the first govern that completed its tenure of five years. Election was held in 2013 and the Pakistan Muslim League (N) was elected to rule under the leadership of Nawaz Sharif who became the Prime Minister for the third time in the history of Pakistan. (10)

This government hardly completed its fourth year, when another but in a different way, democratic values were once again, suppressed and destabilized the elected government. In result Nawaz Sharif lost the Prime Minister ship. He was declared unable to context any election and was deposed from the President-ship of his party. He was sent to jail along with his daughter and her husband. Finally, elections were held, though not according to

the principles of democracy. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf won the election and first time formed the government in the center and two provinces. (11)

### **THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK**

The study based on the education philosophy of Dewey (1916) in his famous book “Democracy and Education”. He argued that students learned democratic attitude through the experience of democratic environment and values of the institutions.

### **OBJECTIVES**

The study has following main objectives.

1. To analyze the devastation of democratic values in Pakistan.
2. To discuss its impact on education of Pakistan.
3. To provide recommendations for education of Pakistan that promotes democratic values.

### **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

1. What are the causes of devastation of democratic values in society?
2. How its effect on the education of Pakistan?
3. Are the democratic values promoted through education?

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The approach of this study was qualitative. It was based on critical analysis of literature review; books, research articles, newspapers, and government documents, policies and plans have been reviewed.

### **ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

Democracy is not only a word but it is a collective attitude of the people. It is also a collective discipline to promote harmony, rule of law, freedom of rights and the development of peaceful society. Democratic values are based on the democratic attitude of the people and this attitude develops and promote through educational institutions and their practices. Educated persons exhibit more democratic values regardless the democratic structure and level of democracy in a country. (12)

An intensive analysis of the situation and the study of the ground realities are presented in this research. The review presents the output of the research effects of undermining the whole democratic process, its practical shape and form, issues and difficulties which have made their impact as a result on the society in general and on education in particular. (13) It does not only point out the impacts and effects but also presents suggestions that can have propagation of democratic values and arrangements of education under the democratic principles.

The 72 years' history of Pakistan has four Military Governments and all of them were the product for Martial law, The duration of those governments is extended to more than 34 years which means that half of the total time her history. (14) Elected and non-elected governments were also formed, but all of them have one thing same that none of them completed the constitutional duration of 5 years except that two governments formed in 2008 and 2013 respectively. On the contrary the Martial law governments ruled over the

country for ten and eleven years in their turn. This situation makes it quite clear that the real power in Pakistan lies in the hands of the forces.

The reasons and effects of the end of the governments before their time periods and undermining the democratic values have been the deviation from the ideology of Pakistan, creation of constitutional crises due to suppression of constitutional Principles, lack of an effective democratic political system, lack of and effective law-making process, lack of political training, in ability of political leadership, shifts of political parties and the battle in between, ineffective political decisions, increasing and expanding lawlessness in the country, non-completion of people's demands, class differences and full of thoughts in between, despair and distress, racial and group differences, religions and local hypocrisies, language rift, sectarianism, external interference and intrigues, economical unevenness, defective judiciary system, interference of the forces, negative role of the police, intrigues of civil bureaucracy, acts of betrayal, treason and disloyalty, direct wars, at national and international levels of terrorism, cession movements, lack of check and balance, expanding inclination of corruption, keeping aside the national interests. Politics taken as a gainful and profitable business, etc. are worth mentioning. (15)

Hence, the following steps are inevitable to be taken in regard of the foundation of the country, propagation of democratic values and integrity of the state. (16)

There should be the practical implementation of the ideology of Pakistan, formation of integrated political system in accordance of the national ideology, sovereign and cohesive formation of constitution, political application according to the constitution, exemplary observance of national values, effective government, rule of law spirit of independence of judiciary, equality, all over fulfillment of promises(17) and demands of the people, and freedom effective far reaching decisions making on political grounds, election of effective political leaders priority to the nation interests and objectives, effective role of political parties, effective arrangements of education and training fraternity, propagation of homogeneity understanding and tolerance in between politicians, propagation and preaching of patriotism and national unity, eradication of interference of the forces, eradication of corruption, dissipation of justice, check and balance system and its principles implementation, stop to the end of governments before their tenure, eradication of terrorism, reforms in the Police system, steps taken to strengthen economy, end to the interference into the matters and affairs of the institutions, eradication of racial and group discrimination, freedom of religious and culture activities and end to the class differences.(18)

The negative impact that educational system bore due to undermining the political values and norms are as follows: The education system started declining; no educational policy was made based on national ideology; the policies which were made did not have effective implementation, no integrated educational policy was formed; the issue of medium of instruction was widened; class difference education system has been promoted, Western type of education was made popular, no remarkable increase was made in literacy rate;(19)

the element of objectiveless and target less have been over dominated, lack of attention and regulation to education by the governments; lesser allocation of education budget has been sanctioned, the relationship of students and teachers has been worsen, influence of political parties in educational institution has been on increasing lack of interest of students in education training, character building and personality grooming of students have been not targeted; lack of effective educational and academic leadership has been seen effective and permanent educational decisions have been not made;(20) education was not become the source of national development; intolerance has been on the raise in students, gap in between students and administration has widened, students Unions have been band, there has been lack of attitude to study behavior of students,(21) education has not become the medium of economic development, students have become subjects of mental rifts, teachers conduct has turned discouraging; education does not support effective political training; education has remained a failure in achieving the objectives of the existence of Pakistan.(22) There has been a decline in education collectively. However, it is imperative to have practical implementation of the following suggestions for the betterment of education:

### **CONCLUSION**

Endorsement of democracy is influenced by the prevailing system of education of a country. Democratic values are difficult to promote through low level of education. There has been a decline in education of Pakistan collectively. However, it is imperative to have practical implementation of the following suggestions for the betterment of education and for the promotion of democratic values: Removal of lack in regard of ideology and democracy, reformation of educational policy on the basis of the ideology of Pakistan possibility of complete implementation of the policy. Education should be the top priority in social preferences; selection of effective educational leadership, educational decision should be made on permanent basis and effectively with integrity. Educational and democratic relationship be sustained on permanent basis, enough allocation of educational budget be made; national language be made medium of instruction; interference of political parties in the educational institutions should be stopped by law. There should be permanent ban on students Unions that are integral part of main streaming Political Parties. Modern technology based curricula, effective teachers training and research based education should be made on practical line in democratic environment and grant academic freedom to institution. political entries in educational institution should be banned, transfers and postings of administrations should be free of politics, criteria and standards should be practically applied in educational process; educational policies of government should be a continuity, change of governments should not affect education; class differences should be eradicated from education, education must be in line with national objectives and demands; the present anti-religious elements in education should be rooted out, the lack of interest and attention of government in education and such trends should be ended. Education

should be given top priority of the government and granted the most important role for political trust and stability.

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