

Abstract

This study tries to explain Pakistan's governance issue in historical and philosophical terms. The South Asia's indigenous approach to the exercise of power has reaffirmed itself, resulting in degradation in the governing elite's conduct. As a result, the state machinery and political elite have become increasingly arbitrary, proprietorial, and deluded in the seventy years since independence from British control. The state machinery' intellectual and moral integrity has deteriorated as a result, posing a grave threat to Pakistan. Unfortunately, the careless repeating of popular language that stresses national security, democracy, and development has tainted much of the scholarly and public conversation about developing nations. In Pakistan, institutions serve the interests of people with money, power, and connections. The current research focuses on facts and patterns of behavior, as well as the mechanisms that alter them when people are in positions of power. As a result, the method used is largely analytical, with a significant emphasis on interpretation. Pakistan is a developing country with a weak government and a slow private sector that relies largely on foreign donors to assist it cope with its economic, social, and political issues. A part of Pakistan's population does have access to quality education, better medical care, and the safety of their lives and property.

The rulers' and their subordinates' inclination to consider the state as a personal estate is driving and hastening the breakdown of trust, respect, and discipline. This aspect of Pakistan's power culture has gravitational pull on the whole government process: Military dictators, elected representatives, and mandarin politicians are all enslaved by a proprietorial mentality toward the state, which cuts over institutional, socioeconomic, and intellectual barriers in Pakistani society. Pakistani politicians attempt to turn as much public riches as possible into personal assets, believing it is their right to at least recoup the expenditures of their election campaigns via the misuse of official authority. The privatization of state resources has been polished into a science by increasingly adept bureaucrats and military personnel. The focus of the study is on the culture of power and the governance crisis faced by Pakistan during the years 2008-2018. The corruption faced during the presidency of Asif Ali Zardari caused a huge impact on the economy of Pakistan. Most important achievement of the PML-N government was Pakistan's effort at moderation. Action against armed

Taliban groups was carried out successfully, resulting in a significant improvement in law and order throughout the country. Although military intervention in elections and the functioning of civilian administrations, as well as the assault on the media and restrictions on press freedom in the run-up to the 2018 election, all illiberal, authoritarian signals, Pakistan remains more than a procedural democracy.

Keywords: Governance, political elites, personal estate, privatization, the culture of power, procedural democracy