

Abstract

Development discourse has various socio-economic and political dimensions. For a long time, economic dimension of development remained dominant in development studies or economic development was the sole criteria for the categorization of states into developed or underdeveloped. After World War II, a new addition to development discourse was the concept of political development. This concept was mainly emerged as a tool to analyze the working of political systems of newly emerged nations of Asia and Africa. This concept attracted a large number of political scientists. Every scholar added a new dimension to compare or contrast the political systems of different nations. As a result, it gets complicated. The common intention among them was to make suggestions for the effective or smooth working of political system.

The concept of political development includes a large variety of determinants. Western scholars view these yardsticks imperative for a society to be politically developed. All these determinants of political development cannot be used as a universal scale to measure the level of political development in every country, because every nation has its own traditional and cultural patterns. In Pakistan the concept of political development has always been taken as constitutional amendment or constitutional change. But literature of political development does not consider mere constitutional change as a step towards political development. This research work seeks to identify the general determinants of political development by using content analysis method and then to explore the popular perception about the existing determinants of political development in Pakistan through questionnaire based survey. The main objective is to develop an indigenous theory of political development. What the people of Pakistan think about development? This study also aims at analyzing the perceptions of people about the role of military regime of Musharraf and the level of political development during military and civilian regimes.