**GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN PAKISTAN**

**POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL PHASES**

1. **1947-58**

**Establishment of Pakistan:** Pakistan came into being on 14th August 1947. At that time, Pakistan was consisting of two parts West and East Pakistan. Quid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah became the first Governor General of Pakistan. A provisional constitution was adopted with some modifications in Indian Act of 1935 until the new constitution was introduced. According to this constitution Federal System was launched in the country. Pakistan had to face many problems after the independence. Liaquat Ali Khan became first Prime Minister of Pakistan. He got Objectives Resolution passed from Assembly in 1949 and constituted a “Basic Principle Committee” to draw the new constitution.

**Pakistan Objectives Resolution:** 1949 On March 12, 1949, the Constituent Assembly adopted a resolution moved by Liaquat Ali Khan. It was called the “Objectives Resolution”. This resolution occupied prime importance in the formulation of constitution. The main points of this resolution are as under:

1. Sovereignty

2. Islamic Legislation

3. Federal Government

4. Fundamental Rights

5. Development of Backward Areas

6. Protection of Minorities

7. Independence of Judiciary

**Salient Features of Constitution of 1956**

1. Written Constitution

2. Flexible Constitution

3. Federal Constitution

4. Parliamentary System

5. Unicameral Legislature

6. Independence of Judiciary

7. Single Citizenship

8. Fundamental Rights

9. Official Language

10. Islamic Provisions

11. Constitutional Institutions

1. 1958 – 1969

General Muhammad Ayub Khan deposed Iskander Mirza in October 1958. He imposed Martial Law. During the period of Ayub Khan, the war between Pakistan and India started in 1965. It was the period when Fatima Jinnah took part in practical politics and contested election against General Ayub Khan. President General Ayub Khan ruled almost ten years.

**Basic Democratic System 1959:** In 1959, the then President introduced a new system of Basic Democracies.

1. Union Council & Union Committee

2. Tehsil (Sub-district) Council and Thana Council

3. District Council

4. Divisional Council

5. Provincial Advisory Council (PAC)

**Salient Features of Constitution of 1962:**

1. Written Constitution

2. Federal Constitution

3. Presidential Constitution

4. Rigid Constitution

5. Unicameral Legislature

6. Single Citizenship

7. Fundamental Rights

8. Islamic Provisions

9. Islamic Advisory Council

10. National Languages

11. Indirect Democracy

**Regime of General Yahya Khan:** General Muhammad Yahya Khan took over government from General Ayub Khan. First general elections of Pakistan were held in 1970. In December 1971, East Pakistan was separated and became a new country named Bangladesh.

**Causes of Separation of East Pakistan:**

1. Ayub Khan’s Dictatorial Era

2. Lack of National Leadership

3. Poor Economic Condition

4. Negative Role of Hindu Teachers

5. Issue of Bengali Language

6. Provincial Prejudices

7. Territorial Politics of the Politicians

8. Conspiracies of Big Powers

9. Six Points Formula of Sheikh Mujeeb-ur-Rehman

10. Bhutto – Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Differences

11. Success of Regional Parties

12. Military Action

13. Hijacking of Ganga Aeroplane

14. India’s Military Interference

1971 – 1977

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the chairman of Pakistan People’s Party became the President of Pakistan on 20th December, 1971, after the separation of East Pakistan. He brought the constitution of 1973 unanimously approved and started nuclear programme.

**Main Aspects of Economic Reforms:**

1. Nationalization of Industries

2. Nationalization of Banks and Insurance Companies

3. Land Reforms

4. Agricultural Reforms

**Salient Features of Constitution of 1973:**

1. Preamble

2. Written Constitution

3. Federal Constitution

4. Semi-Rigid Constitution

5. National Language

6. Islamic Constitution

7. Independent Judiciary

8. Parliamentary Constitution

9. Constitutional Institutions

10. Bicameral Legislature

11. Fundamental Rights

**1977 – 1988**

On 5th July 1977, General Zia-ul-Haq overthrew the Bhutto’s government and declared martial law. He ruled over the country for about 11 years from July 1977 to August 1988.

**Major Aspects of the Islamization Process During 1977 – 1988:**

1. Shariah Courts

2. Shariat Ordinance

3. Zakat and Usher Ordinance

4. Abolition of Interest

5. Islamiat and Pakistan Studies as Compulsory Subjects

6. Prayer arrangements

7. Ehtram-e-Ramzan Ordinance

8. Establishing Religious Schools (Madrassas)

9. Compulsory study of Arabic

**The Era of Government of Muhammad Khan Junejo:** In 1985, General Zia-ul-Haq amended 1973 Constitution from parliamentary system to presidential system. General Zia-ul-Haq become the president for the next five years, and Muhammad Khan Junejo became the Prime Minister.

♣ Lifting up Martial Law

♣ Muhammad Khan Junjo as President of the Muslim League

♣ Foreign Tour

♣ Development programme of Muhammad Khan Junejo’s Government

♣ Ojrhi Camp Disaster

♣ The Dismissal of the Junejo Government

**Afghan Jihad:** The invasion by Russian forces into Afghanistan in 1979 created a new challenge for Pakistan. General Zia-ul-Haq stood against the intervention of the Russian forces in Afghanistan.

1. The beginning of jihad

2. Geneva Accord

3. The Impact on Pakistani Society

**1988 – 1999**

**First Government Era of Benazir Bhutto:** General Elections were held in 1988, and the leader of Pakistan People’s Party, Benazir Bhutto was elected Pakistan’s and Islamic world’s first woman Prime Minister. But this government remained for one and half

year, when the President Ghulam Ishaq Khan using the powers under Section 58-2-B of the constitution dismissed the Benazir Bhutto’s government and dissolved the assembly.

**Important Events:**

♣ The dissolution of the Balochistan Assembly

♣ Presidential Election

♣ Pakistan rejoins Commonwealth

♣ Foreign Policy

♣ Social Welfare

♣ The Dismissal of Benazir Bhutto’s Government

**First Government Era of Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif:** Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif was elected as the Prime Minister of Pakistan in 1990’s election. But his government remained for two and half years when President Ghulam Ishaq Khan dissolved the assembly and dismissed government by using the section 58-2-B.

**Important Events**

♣ Announcement of Agricultural Policy

♣ Privatization Commission

♣ Agreement among provinces on water distribution

♣ Baitul Maal

♣ Foreign Policy

♣ National Plans

♣ The dismissal of Nawaz Sharif’s Government

**Second Government Era of Benazir Bhutto:** Benazir Bhutto was elected Prime Minister of Pakistan for the second time in October 1993 for the next five years, but this government remained for three years, when President Farooq Ahmed dismissed the government and dissolved the assembly by using the section 58-2-B.

**Important Events**

♣ Development programmes

♣ Plans for farmers and women

♣ Eighth 5-year plan

♣ Foreign visits and the Kashmir Issue

♣ NWFP Assembly was dissolved

♣ Dismissal of Benazir Bhutto’s Government

**Second Government Era of Nawaz Sharif:** New elections were conducted and Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif was again elected as Prime Minister in February 1997. But on 12th October 1999, General Parvez Musharaf removed the democratic government of Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and took over the country.

**Important Events**

♣ The resignations of Justice Sajjad Ali Shah and President Farooq Ahmed Khan Laghari ♣ Justice (Retd) Rafiq Tarar elected as President

♣ ‘Retire debt, adorn the country’ scheme

♣ Rights of vote to Pakistanis abroad

♣ Restriction on floor crossing

♣ Census of 1998

♣ The announcement of an education policy

♣ Lahore Islamabad Motorway

♣ The repeal of clause 58-2-B from the 1973 Constitution

♣ Atomic blasts (Pakistan as Nuclear Power)

♣ Lahore Declaration

♣ The entry of army into WAPDA

♣ Kargil Invasion

♣ The removal of Nawaz Sharif Government

**1999 TO ONWARD**

**The Era of General Pervez Musharraf:**  On 12th October 1999, the Chief of Army Staff, General Pervez Musharraf suspended the constitution, overthrew the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and dissolved the national and provincial assemblies. **Important Events**

♣ Devolution Plan, 2000

♣ War on Terrorism

♣ National Referendum, 2002

♣ Presidential Election, October 2007

♣ National Re-Conciliation Order

♣ Benazir Returns to Pakistan

♣ Provisional Constitutional Order (PCO), 2007

♣ Imposition of Emergency

♣ Impacts of emergency on Economy

♣ Elections 2008

♣ Death of Benazir Bhutto

**The Era of President Asif Ali Zardari & PPP Government:**

♣ Long March

♣ Terrorism and Military Operations (Rah-e-Rast, Rah-e-Nijat, Malakand)

♣ 18th Constitutional Amendment

♣ Elections 2013

**The Third Era of Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif & PML(N) Govt.:**

♣ Operation Zarb-e-Azab

♣ PTI’s Azadi March, PAT’s Inqilaab March

♣ Electoral Reforms

♣ China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

♣ Rising Economic Growth

♣ Imprisonment of Nawaz Sharif and Maryam Nawaz

♣ Shahid Khaqan Abbasi as New Prime Minister

♣ Elections 2018

**The Naya Pakistan of Prime Minister Imran Khan**

♣ NAB Role

♣ Corruption Scandals

♣ FATF

♣ Taxations Reforms