

GENESIS & EVOLUTION OF PAKISTAN TEHREEK-E-INSAF (1996-2017)

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ABSTRACT

Political parties exist in all countries having democratic, semi-democratic or despotic government. Political parties are imperative for the success of democracy. Political party makes a difference between democracy and dictatorship. In Pakistan there are three hundred and forty five political parties (ecp.gov.pk). This article deals with the “Genesis & Evolution of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (1996-2017)”. It will add new knowledge regarding political parties which is part and parcel of political science on one hand and knowledge about PTI because no such detailed work has been done before. In order to conduct this research, the theory of structural functionalism is utilized. As Political parties’ functions within political structure, so is PTI. PTI is studied within the Pakistani Political structure where focus was on how its functionality was affected within this structure. In order to find out the genesis and evolution of the party, the descriptive and explorative approaches are used.

Keywords: *democratic, dictatorship, political parties, functionalism*

INTRODUCTION

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf was founded by Imran Khan on 25th April, 1996 in Lahore (Constitution of PTI, 1999). The constitution of PTI was drafted in 1999 by the Committee under the chairmanship of Hamid Khan. Mairaj Muhammad Khan, Abdul Hafeez Khan, Saeedullah Khan Niazi, Mahmood Mirza, Farooq Amjad Mir, Dr Arif Alvi, Nawabzada Mohsin Ali Khan, Akbar S. Babar, Fauzia Kasuri, Khawaja Muhammad Jamil were included as members (Constitution of PTI, 1999).

PTI’s Central Executive Committee, under the chairmanship of Imran Khan approved the constitution on 24th January, 1999. The official name of the party was declared as “Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf” (Constitution of PTI, 1999).

The second constitution of PTI was drafted by the committee under the Chairmanship of Hamid Khan which was approved by Central Executive Committee in April 2012. Justice ® Wajeed ud din Ahmed, Dr Arif Alvi, Ahsan Rashid, Naeem ul Ha, Asad Qaisar, Qasim Suri, Fauzia Kasuri, Shamsa Ali, Firdaus Naqvi, Saifullah Niazi, Mian Mahmud-ur- Rashid, Chaudhry Ijaz Ahmad, Aamer Kiani, Sardar Azhar Tariq and Shah Farman were included as members (Constitution of PTI, 1999).

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF PTI

The main purpose to launch a party was declared “to mobilise the people to extricate Pakistan from its present state of despair and to set it on the path of unity, solidarity, social justice and prosperity” (Constitution of PTI, 1999)

The one of objective of the PTI was to make Pakistan as an Islamic welfare state where fundamental rights of all people would be protected irrespective of caste, creed, religion and people can live in peace and prosperity. A system would be devised to eliminate corruption in

all its forms and institutions of accountability would be established to take actions against those who corrupted the system of Pakistan. Competent and honest people would be encouraged in all fields of life.

The constitution declared that the present system of government is a colonial system in nature which would be replaced by democratic, decentralized system. Provincial autonomy and local bodies system would be promoted. All kinds of nepotism, VIP culture and prejudices would be eliminated. Freedom of thought and expression, access to public information, women rights, women representation, youth representation, equality, solidarity, brotherhood and protection of minorities would be promoted.

For reformation of electoral system of Pakistan, accountability of expenses in election, illegal wealth, coercion and interference in politics and election by the administration would be erased. Corrupt and defaulters would be banned to contest elections. Introduction of joint electorate throughout Pakistan was made part of constitution of the party. Voter's age was to be reduced to 18 years. In electoral process, participation of overseas Pakistanis would be ensured.

In order to provide cheap and swift justice, independence of judiciary would be maintained. Judicial reforms would be introduced for speedy justice system. To make police responsive, reforms would be introduced. Reforms in civil services would be introduced. Land reforms would be introduced to abolish feudalism and for distribution of state lands, land tenure. All citizens would be provided equal and adequate health and education facilities. A uniform system of education would be introduced. Technical education to provide jobs would be encouraged.

Steps would be taken for extension of net taxes, sustain inflation, promotion of economic activities, employment opportunities, protection of labors, fixed income groups and encouragement of investors. In legislatures, labour, technocrats, professional and intellectual would be provided with special seats. To ensure freedom of media, government interference and unjust laws relating to media would be discouraged. Rights of journalist and press workers would be protected. Government monopoly on print media would be finished.

Protection of Pakistani cultural heritage and promotion of family values was made part of the party's objectives. National interest oriented foreign policy and good relations with regional as well as Muslim countries, was made part of party's policy. For the people of Kashmir, right of self-determination would be supported. International efforts for just economic order for the international community would be supported (Constitution of PTI, 1999)

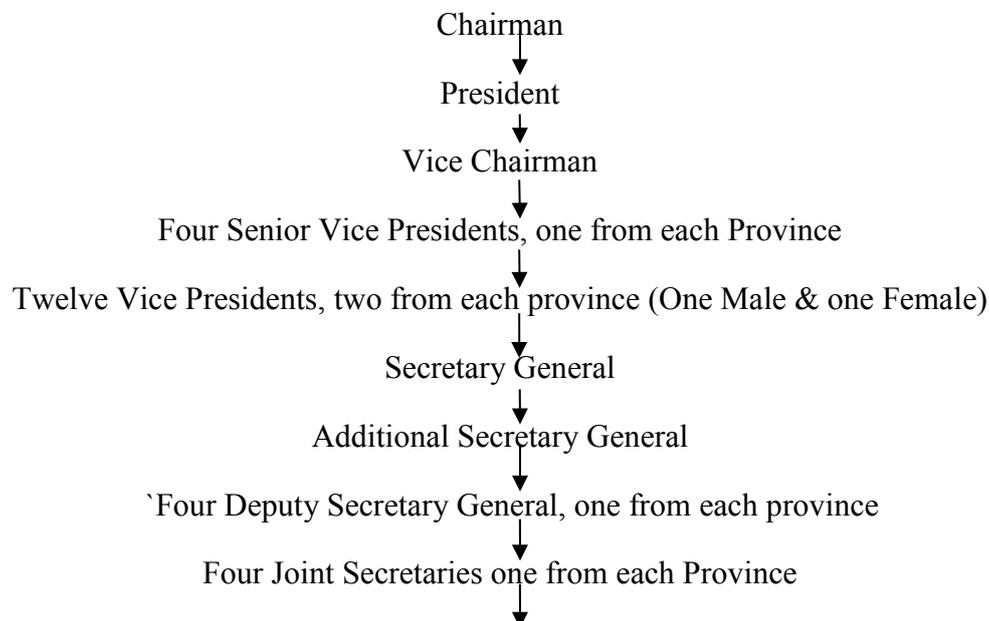
ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF PTI



At national level there is National Organization. It is consisted of National Council and Central Executive Committee. An Organization of Overseas Pakistani is also included in it. Officer bearers of following organizations are included in National Council;

- a. Provincial Organizations
- b. Presidents of the Regional Organizations
- c. The Presidents of all District Organizations
- d. There shall be thirty five members, five each from the women, youth, students, labour, farmers, minorities, lawyers and overseas, who will be nominated by their respective organizations.
- e. Technocrats and professionals in the country to be nominated by the Chairman who shall not exceed one fourth of the total number of the members belonging to classes (a) to (d) above.

The members of National Council belonging to categories (a), (b), (c) elect the following office bearers.



and secretaries for finance, information, legal affairs, public welfare, education, health, culture, religious affairs, publicity, minorities, labour, social Media, foreign affairs, defense affairs, internal security, political training, policy planning and international chapters.

President of the Women Wing is the ex-officio Vice President of the National Council.

Chairman shall appoint Secretaries for Information, Finance, Social Media, Political Training, Policy confirmed by the Central Executive Committee.

Organization for the following areas: Islamabad, Gilgit Baltistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir Federally Administered Tribal Areas shall also be constituted.

Central Executive Committee

It is consisted of Central Office bearers and thirty members, nominated by the Chairman, from members of the National Council – one member each from Christian, Hindu and Sikh/Parsi/other communities. Provincial Presidents are the ex-officio member of this committee.

Chairman nominates fifteen members to make Core Committee out of members of Central Executive Committee to be approved by it for the term of one year. The Secretary General and Provincial Presidents are the ex-officio members.

Vote of no confidence

Any member holding office of National and Provincial Council including Chairman may be removed by vote of no-confidence through two third majorities. Member of Provincial Organization can be removed through vote of no confidence supported by majority members. The vote of no-confidence cannot be moved by less than one-fifth member of organization.

Term of Office

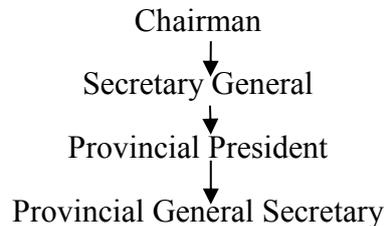
All organizations are elected for the term of four years which can be extended for one year by the Chairman with the approval of Central Executive Committee.

Selection of Party Candidates

Parliamentary Board is constituted by the Party Chairman for each Province which select candidates for National and Provincial assemblies. Regional Parliamentary Board recommends name of one candidate and one covering candidate to CPB headed by the Chairman.

Provincial President with the consultation of Regional Presidents constitutes PB for regions to recommend candidate for National and Provincial Assemblies. RPB recommend three candidates to the PB as party candidate.

Office Bearers of the Party



Party Election Commission and its Procedure

Central Election Commission is appointed by Central Executive Committee for five years. It holds election of Central and Provincial Organizations. It appoints Provincial Election Committees to hold election of Provincial Organizations. The members of the Election Commission are taken from National Council.

HISTORY OF THE POLITICS OF PTI

PTI refused to form electoral alliance with PML (N) and participated in general elections 1997 but could not get a single seat (The Muslims, 05 Feb, 1997). PTI entered in NWFP assembly and Nawabzada Mohsin Ali Khan – who won as an independent member and joined PTI - became the first member of PTI (Nawa-i-Waqt, 12 Sep, 1997). The first ever provincial convention of PTI was held in Nishter Hall Peshawar on 5 October, 1997 (Pakistan Observer, 06 Oct, 1997).

Against the government of Nawaz Sharif, PTI joined Grand Democratic Alliance which was made of fifteen political parties on one point agenda to ouster government of Nawaz Sharif. Among those parties were PTI, PPP, PAT, PDP (Nawa-i-Waqt, 19 October, 1999).

In 1999, when General Pervaiz Musharraf took over, PTI supported the seven point agenda of Musharraf. When he deviated from his agenda, PTI turned against him. In the general elections 2002, PTI decided to run election campaign from its own party platform to groom and refused to be a part of any electoral alliance with the traditional and *status quo* politician. (Al-Akhbar, 19 May, 2002). Regarding PML (Q) PTI called it the product of Musharraf (Nawa-i-Waqt, 06 Oct, 2002). PTI boycotted the general elections 2008 because these elections were to be held under PCO (The News, 27 Nov, 2006).

Against the government of Nawaz Sharif PTI started '*Hakomat Hatao*' '*Pakistan Bachao*' i.e, Movement (Jang, 26 June, 2011). In order to mobilize people, PTI also started '*Jaag Utho Campaign*' for voters. The purpose of this movement was to create awareness among the voters that they should register themselves as a voter and verify their location and right address (The Nations, 15 Sep, 2011).

During 2011 PTI became a prominent party and big guns and parties started to join PTI. Among them the most prominent were Shah Mehmood Qureshi (Nawa-i-Waqt, 05 Dec, 2011). Asghar Khan merged his party in PTI. (Khabrain, 13 Dec, 2011). The former senior vice President of PML (N), Makhdoom Javed Hashmi joined PTI (Nawa-i-Waqt, 25 Dec, 2011).

Nawabzada Munsoor Ali Khan merged his party PDP in PTI (Jang, 22 March, 2012). The Pakistan Interfaith League joined PTI which was announced by Chairman Sajid Ishaq of PIL (The News, 04 May, 2012). PTI made an alliance with Awami Muslim League and decided not to field any candidate against Sheikh Rashid (Pakistan Observer, 09 Aug, 2012). PTI also made seat adjustment with National Awami Party Bahawalpur of Nawab Salah-ud-din (Dawn, 27 March, 2013).

The popularity of the PTI can be estimated through different survey. According to the survey report of International Republican Institute (IRI) Of USA, PTI was on the top of the popularity list in at National and Provincial level followed by PML (N) and PPP (The Nation, 07 May, 2012).

From vote point of view, in general elections 2013, Pakistan *Tehreek-i-Insaf* emerged as the second largest party from popular vote's points of view and the third from seats points of view in the National Assembly (The Express Tribune, 22 May 2013).

ROLE OF CHAIRMAN IN POPULARISING PTI

Imran Khan, as a cricketer and philanthropist has become very well known in Pakistan and abroad. He founded PTI in 1996 and just after one year contested election. He was offered by Nawaz Sharif for coalition and thirty seats but he declined (Nawa-i-Waqt, 01 June, 2013). Though PTI could not get a single seat in general elections 1997 but despite of it Imran Khan popularized it by doing politics of opposition during Nawaz Sharif Regime. Under leadership of Imran Khan PTI became part Grand Democratic Alliance and popular in Pakistan

On 12th October, 1999, when General Pervez Musharraf took over and announced his seven point agenda, *Imran Khan* supported him and demanded for across the board accountability since 1985 before the elections (The Nation, 20 Oct, 1999). He explained that *Musharraf's* priorities reflect the agenda of PTI (Jang, 24 October, 1999).

During Musharraf period the popularity of PTI and Imran Khan increased so much that he was invited to become Prime Minister, but he clarified that he would not become Prime Minister with the help of Musharraf (Jang, 05 March, 2002). He explained that he did not support Musharraf but his seven points which were according to his party's manifesto. He

claimed that he was not a greedy of power, if he had been; he was invited by Zia-ul-Haq, Moeen Qureshi and Nawaz Sharif in 1996 (Jang, 19 Sep, 2002).

General Musharraf invited Imran Khan to join Grand National Alliance but he refused (Khan, 2011: 250). He contested election from NA-71, Mianwali and became member of National Assembly (The Nation, 09 Oct, 2002). He was invited to join King's party but he declined (Jang, 17 Nov, 2002). He served as a part of the Standing Committees on Kashmir and Public Accounts.

After general elections 2002, political situation get changed and PTI under the leadership Imran Khan started to highlight the wrong policies of Musharraf. Imran Khan explained that it was his blunder that he had supported General Musharraf's military regime (The News, 02 Jan, 2003). He opposed LFO and uniformed President. He demanded that there should be election of President in the light of constitution and army should refrain from political process and go back to the barracks (Jang, 08 May, 2003). Musharraf should step down as a chief of Army and then contest election for president in Assembly (Jang, 14 May, 2003).

Imran supported MMA and explained that he supported the policies of Qazi Hussian Ahmed of JI (The Nation, 12 Nov, 2002). He cast his vote in favour of MMA candidate Liaquat Baloch for speakership and Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman for Premiership (Jang, 22 Nov, 2002). Imran Khan said that he supported MMA because it would work to strengthen democracy but by supporting LFO as a part of constitution, it disappointed him and he decided to withdraw its support to MMA (The Nation, 09 Jan, 2004). MMA disappointed by supporting 17th amendment. He said that PTI did not support 17th amendment and consider it complete and clear violation of constitution (The News, 09 Jan, 2004).

He welcomed Charter of Democracy and said that ARD and all political parties should get united on one point agenda to oust Musharraf in order to revive real democracy in Pakistan. He explained that PTI would not sign CoD until the proposed amendments would not be included in it (The Nations, 05 July, 2006).

Before general election 2008, PTI has become a well-known party in Pakistan. Imran Khan was acknowledged as a one of the important political leader in Pakistan. He launched anti-Musharraf campaign (The News, 19 Nov, 2006). In December, 2006, he met Shabaz Sharif and Nawaz Sharif. He convinced Nawaz Sharif to bring ARD and Qazi Hussian Ahmed for MMA to start anti-Musharraf Movement with one point agenda of ousting Musharraf. He also demanded for collective resignation from the parliament to put pressure on the government (Nawa-i-Waqt, 13 Dec, 2006). He challenged Musharraf in Supreme Court that being government servant, Musharraf could not contest election for President of Pakistan (Jang, 30 Aug, 2007). In protest Imran Khan resigned from Parliament (Khabrain, 05 Oct, 2007). Musharraf imposed emergency in Pakistan on 3 November, 2007 and implemented PCO (Dawn, 04 Nov, 2007). He got himself elected as a President of Pakistan by Parliament for second term on 6 November, 2007 (Dawn, 07 October, 2007).

Against the policies of Musharraf, Imran Khan started to mobilize people especially youth. He was arrested from Punjab University when he was busy to mobilize students against the emergency imposed by Musharraf. He was misbehaved by the student of IJT and arrested by the police (Pakistan Observer, 05 Nov, 2007). He said that emergency and PCO were unacceptable (The Nation, 10 Nov, 2007) and went on hunger strike until death in order to restore the judiciary to its November 3 position (The News, 20 Nov, 2007).

Imran Khan decided to boycott general elections 2008. The main reasons were APDM – consisted of PTI, PML (N), JI, PMAP – declared to boycott the general elections (The News,

25 Nov, 2007). Secondly, he decided to boycott general elections because these elections to be held under PCO. Imran Khan declared that it would be fraud elections. Imran Khan was of the view that all political parties should boycott general elections. He explained that Musharraf has enforced emergency and put the Judges under house arrest. We should first get rid of Musharraf and then go for the general elections (The News, 23 Nov, 2007). He said that “If the politicians don’t take a joint stand now by boycotting the up-coming elections, there will be tantamount to treason with the masses” (The News, 27 Nov, 2007) and betrayal to judiciary (The Nation, 27 Nov, 2007).

General Elections were held on 18 February, 2008, in which PPP became the leading party in centre (Dawn, 20 Feb, 2008). PTI under Imran Khan played active role of opposition. Imran Khan demanded for restoration of Chief Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhary and end of PCO. He declared NRO as unconstitutional and illegal. He said that ruler would not accept independence of judiciary due to the fear of NRO (Jang, 13 May, 2008). He opposed the candidature of Asif Ali Zardari for the office of the President (Dawn, 19 August, 2008). He said that he did not accept Zardari as a constitutional President (Daily Express, 16 Oct, 2008). He demanded that President Asif Ali Zardari should tender resignation on moral basis because his name was also in the list of NRO beneficiaries (Nawa-i-Waqt, 18 Dec, 2009). Regarding the style of opposition politics of PML (N) he was the view said that both Zardari and Nawaz Sharif were playing game of musical chair (Jang, 07 Jan, 2010).

The popularity of PTI reached to its climax in 2011 when it started campaign known as Tsunami and New Pakistan (Nai Pakistan). Imran challenged that PTI’s Tsunami would wash away PPP and PML (N) (The Nation, 28 Nov, 2011) and asked people to support him to get rid of unfair system (The News, 29 Nov, 2011).

According to on line survey Imran Khan became the most popular personality of the Asia in 2012. He got 87.78% votes. He is the only Pakistani personality who is invited by World Economic Forum to be held in the city of Switzerland, Davos in 2012 (Nawa-i-Waqt, 25 Jan, 2013). Imran Khan ranked third after IMF DG and US President in the list of top nine global leaders in 2012 (The Nation, 03 April, 2013).

In General Election 2013, Imran Khan won election from three constituencies NA-1, 56 and 73. From votes point of view PTI became the second largest party while from seats point of view the third largest party in Pakistan.

CONCLUSION

Pakistan Tehreek Insaf founded in 1996. It participated in the general election 1997 but could not get a single seat. In the general election 2002, PTI got only one seat from NA-71, where Imran Khan became successful. PTI boycott the general election of 2008 because it was held under emergency proclaimed by General Musharraf. In general election 2013, PTI emerged as the second largest party from vote’s point of view and third largest party in the National Assembly. In KPK, PTI emerges as the largest party and formed government in KPK.

The charismatic Leadership of Imran Khan played pivotal role in the evolution of PTI. He refused to form electoral alliance with Nawaz Sharif in general election 1997. He refused to become a Prime Minister with the help of General Musharraf. He proved his leadership charisma by making PTI the third largest party of Pakistan.

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