

Course: Political and Constitutional Development in Pakistan-I (4667)

Level: M. Sc

Semester: Spring, 2023

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 40

ASSIGNMENT No. 1

(Unit 1–4)

Q.1 Discuss in detail the problem of accession of Junagarh and Hyderabad. (20)

The accession of Junagarh and Hyderabad were two significant events that took place during the partition of British India in 1947. Both Junagarh and Hyderabad were princely states with predominantly Hindu populations ruled by Muslim rulers. The accession of these states to either India or Pakistan became a contentious issue, leading to political and military tensions. Let's discuss the problems and events surrounding the accession of Junagarh and Hyderabad in detail:

1. Junagarh:

Junagarh was a princely state located in present-day Gujarat, India, with a predominantly Hindu population but ruled by a Muslim ruler, Nawab Muhammad Mahabat Khanji III. The problem of Junagarh's accession arose due to the conflicting religious and geographical factors:

- a) Religion: The Nawab of Junagarh decided to accede to Pakistan after the partition based on the predominantly Muslim population of his state. However, this decision was controversial as Junagarh had a Hindu majority.
- b) Geography: The geographical location of Junagarh further complicated the situation. The state was surrounded by the territory of India, and its only outlet to the sea was through Indian territory. This geographical isolation made it practically difficult for Junagarh to maintain close ties with Pakistan.

The Indian government, under the leadership of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, challenged Junagarh's accession to Pakistan. The Indian government argued that since the majority of Junagarh's population was Hindu, the state should accede to India. The Nawab, however, refused to accept the Indian government's position and declared independence, raising tensions between India and Junagarh.

The situation escalated when the people of Junagarh revolted against the Nawab's rule and established a provisional government, demanding accession to India. Faced with mounting pressure, the Nawab fled to Pakistan, and Junagarh was integrated into the Indian Union in February 1948.

2. Hyderabad:

Hyderabad was another princely state located in the heart of the Indian subcontinent, ruled by Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan, who was also a Muslim ruler with a predominantly Hindu population.

The problem of Hyderabad's accession arose due to multiple factors:

- a) Religious Composition: The population of Hyderabad was predominantly Hindu, but the Nizam desired an independent status for his state or a separate association with Pakistan.
- b) Geopolitical Considerations: Hyderabad's geographical location and strategic significance heightened the tensions. It bordered multiple Indian states and had important communication and transportation networks.

Efforts to negotiate a peaceful accession failed, and in September 1948, the Indian government launched a military operation called "Operation Polo" to integrate Hyderabad into the Indian Union. The Indian military swiftly overpowered the forces of the Nizam, resulting in the annexation of Hyderabad.

The accession of Hyderabad was significant due to its size, strategic location, and religious complexities. It was the largest and most powerful princely state in British India, and its integration into India marked a crucial milestone in the consolidation of the Indian Union.

In both the cases of Junagarh and Hyderabad, the accession issues highlighted the challenges of aligning the religious identity of the rulers with the religious composition of their states. These events underscored the complexities of the partition and the delicate task of integrating princely states into the newly formed nations of India and Pakistan. The successful integration of Junagarh and Hyderabad into the Indian Union laid the foundation for a united and secular India, overcoming religious and territorial divisions.

Q.2 Elaborate the financial problems faced by Pakistan after it emerged on the map of the world. How had the leadership of Pakistan managed this problem? **(20)**

After its emergence on the world map in 1947, Pakistan faced several significant financial problems that posed challenges to its economic stability and development. These problems stemmed from various factors, including the partition of British India, the division of economic resources, the influx of refugees, and the need for infrastructure development. Let's discuss the financial problems faced by Pakistan and how its leadership managed these challenges:

1. Economic Disruption due to Partition:

The partition of British India resulted in the division of economic resources between India and Pakistan. Pakistan started as an economically weaker country compared to India, as it inherited a smaller share of industries, agricultural land, and financial institutions. This economic disruption posed a significant challenge to Pakistan's financial stability from the beginning.

2. Refugee Crisis:

The partition of British India led to large-scale migration, with millions of refugees moving between India and Pakistan. Pakistan had to bear the economic burden of accommodating and providing for these refugees, including their basic needs such as shelter, food, and healthcare. This sudden influx strained the country's limited resources and added to the financial challenges.

3. Inadequate Infrastructure:

Pakistan faced significant infrastructure deficiencies at its inception. It lacked basic amenities such as roads, railways, electricity, and communication networks. The absence of adequate infrastructure hindered economic growth and development, posing financial constraints on the country.

4. Scarce Financial Resources:

Pakistan's financial resources were limited, and the country faced difficulties in generating revenue to meet its expenses. It lacked a developed industrial base and had a predominantly agrarian economy. The revenue generated through agriculture and limited industrial production was insufficient to address the growing needs of the country.

To tackle these financial challenges, the leadership of Pakistan adopted several measures:

1. Economic Planning:

The leadership of Pakistan recognized the need for long-term economic planning to address the financial issues. They implemented various Five-Year Plans, starting with the First Five-Year Plan in 1955, to set development goals and allocate resources efficiently. These plans focused on industrialization, agriculture, and infrastructure development.

2. Agrarian Reforms:

The government initiated agrarian reforms to improve agricultural productivity and address rural poverty. Land reforms aimed to redistribute land to small-scale farmers, promote efficient agricultural practices, and increase agricultural output. These reforms sought to enhance revenue generation and uplift the agricultural sector.

3. Industrial Development:

To boost economic growth and generate revenue, the leadership of Pakistan emphasized industrial development. They introduced policies to attract investment, promote industrialization, and establish industrial estates and zones. The focus was on developing key sectors such as textiles, manufacturing, and heavy industries.

4. Foreign Aid and Assistance:

Pakistan sought foreign aid and assistance from various countries and international organizations to meet its financial needs. It received support from countries like the United States, the United Kingdom, and international bodies like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). These funds helped bridge the financial gaps and support development projects.

5. Monetary and Fiscal Policies:

The leadership of Pakistan implemented monetary and fiscal policies to stabilize the economy and manage financial constraints. They focused on budgetary discipline, tax reforms, and monetary measures to control inflation, manage deficits, and promote economic stability.

6. Investment in Human Capital:

Recognizing the importance of human capital for economic growth, the leadership of Pakistan invested in education and healthcare. They prioritized the development of educational institutions, particularly in science and technology, to build a skilled workforce and drive economic progress.

Despite these efforts, Pakistan continued to face financial challenges throughout its history. Factors such as political instability, corruption, inadequate governance, and external shocks have influenced the country's financial situation. However, the leadership of Pakistan has consistently worked towards managing these problems through policy reforms, attracting foreign investment, diversifying the economy, and seeking financial assistance from international partners.

It is important to note that the financial challenges

faced by Pakistan are complex and multifaceted, requiring long-term planning, effective governance, and continuous efforts to address them comprehensively.

Q.3 Make a critical analysis of the final report of the Basic Principles Committee. Why this report could not solve the constitutional dilemma of Pakistan? (20)

The final report of the Basic Principles Committee in Pakistan was a significant effort aimed at addressing the constitutional dilemma faced by the country. However, upon critical analysis, it becomes apparent that the report fell short of providing a comprehensive solution to the complex issues at hand. Several key reasons can be identified as to why this report could not effectively resolve the constitutional dilemma in Pakistan.

Lack of Consensus: One of the fundamental challenges in resolving the constitutional dilemma lies in the lack of consensus among the various stakeholders. The report failed to bridge the deep-seated divisions and conflicting interests that exist within Pakistani society. Different political and religious factions have their own interpretations of the constitutional framework, resulting in a polarized environment that impedes meaningful dialogue and compromises.

Failure to Address the Role of Religion: Religion plays a significant role in Pakistani society and politics, and any attempt to resolve the constitutional dilemma must address this issue. However, the report did not provide a clear framework for reconciling the role of Islam in governance and the rights of religious minorities. This omission perpetuated the existing tensions and failed to provide a path towards a more inclusive and secular constitutional order.

Inadequate Protection of Minority Rights: Protecting the rights of religious and ethnic minorities is a crucial aspect of any constitutional solution. Unfortunately, the report did not offer sufficient safeguards to ensure the protection of minority rights. This omission undermined the principles of equality and fairness, perpetuating discrimination and marginalization of vulnerable communities.

Ambiguity in Federal-Provincial Relations: Pakistan is a federation with a significant degree of devolution of power to its provinces. However, the report did not provide a clear framework for defining the powers and responsibilities of the federal and provincial governments. This ambiguity

created an environment of political uncertainty, leading to power struggles and disputes between different levels of government.

Lack of Implementation Mechanisms: Even if the report had provided a comprehensive solution, the lack of effective implementation mechanisms would have undermined its impact. Without a clear roadmap and commitment to implementation, the proposed reforms and recommendations would remain mere words on paper.

Political Interference: The constitutional dilemma in Pakistan is intricately linked to political dynamics, with powerful vested interests seeking to maintain their influence. Political interference and manipulation can hinder the implementation of constitutional reforms, undermining the effectiveness of any proposed solution. The report did not adequately address this issue, leaving it vulnerable to political pressures and the status quo.

In conclusion, while the final report of the Basic Principles Committee was a significant effort, it failed to effectively address the constitutional dilemma in Pakistan due to various reasons. These include the lack of consensus, failure to address the role of religion, inadequate protection of minority rights, ambiguity in federal-provincial relations, absence of implementation mechanisms, and political interference. Resolving the constitutional dilemma in Pakistan requires a more inclusive, comprehensive, and pragmatic approach that takes into account the diverse interests and aspirations of the Pakistani people.

Q.4 What was Bogra Formula? Whether this formula solved the problem of distribution of power between the two wings of Pakistan? Explain. **(20)**

The Bogra Formula, also known as the "One Unit Scheme," was a constitutional formula proposed by Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Ali Bogra in 1953. It aimed to address the issue of power distribution between the two wings of Pakistan, namely East Pakistan (present-day Bangladesh) and West Pakistan (present-day Pakistan).

The Bogra Formula proposed the creation of a unified province called "West Pakistan," consolidating the four provinces of Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa into a single administrative unit. This would have resulted in a significant concentration of power in West Pakistan, as it would have held a majority of seats in the national legislature.

Proponents of the Bogra Formula argued that it would promote national unity, prevent regional disparities, and ensure equal representation for both wings of Pakistan. They believed that a unified West Pakistan would create a stronger and more stable federation.

However, the Bogra Formula failed to address the underlying concerns of the people in East Pakistan. Critics argued that it disproportionately favored West Pakistan and marginalized the interests of the Bengali population in the East. The formula exacerbated the feelings of political and economic disenfranchisement in East Pakistan, leading to a sense of alienation and grievances.

Ultimately, the Bogra Formula did not resolve the problem of power distribution between the two wings of Pakistan. Instead, it deepened the divisions and discontent within the country. The formula ignored the significant cultural, linguistic, and economic differences between East and West Pakistan, and it failed to address the demands for greater regional autonomy and representation.

The dissatisfaction with the Bogra Formula eventually culminated in the Bengali nationalist movement, which demanded greater autonomy and eventually led to the secession of East Pakistan, resulting in the creation of Bangladesh in 1971.

In summary, while the Bogra Formula attempted to address the power distribution issue between East and West Pakistan, it did not effectively solve the problem. Its failure to address the concerns and aspirations of the Bengali population in East Pakistan ultimately led to further political turmoil and the eventual separation of Bangladesh from Pakistan.

Q.5 Critically analyze the validity of establishment of Second Constituent Assembly. How had the constitution making task been so easy for this assembly? Elaborate. **(20)**

The establishment of the Second Constituent Assembly in Pakistan in 1955 was a significant development in the country's constitutional history. However, the validity of this assembly and the ease with which it undertook the constitution-making task can be critically analyzed from multiple perspectives.

Legitimacy and Representation: The legitimacy of the Second Constituent Assembly was a matter of debate. The assembly was formed through the promulgation of the 1955 Constitution, which was imposed by the central government without the consensus of all stakeholders. East Pakistan, which had a significant population and distinct interests, initially boycotted the assembly, raising questions about its representation and inclusivity.

Centralized Power Dynamics: The ease with which the Second Constituent Assembly carried out the constitution-making task can be attributed to the centralized power dynamics prevalent at the time. The central government held a strong grip on the political landscape, and there was limited space for dissenting voices or alternative viewpoints. The absence of robust checks and balances within the assembly limited the scope for meaningful debate and compromises.

Political Expediency: The constitution-making process undertaken by the Second Constituent Assembly was driven by political expediency rather than a genuine commitment to inclusivity and democratic principles. The assembly's primary objective was to consolidate power in West Pakistan and maintain the dominant position of the ruling elite. This expedient approach prioritized the interests of the ruling class over the long-term stability and fairness of the constitutional framework.

Limited Participation and Representation: The Second Constituent Assembly lacked broad-based participation and adequate representation of diverse groups within Pakistani society. The absence of meaningful participation from marginalized communities, ethnic and religious minorities, and

regional interests undermined the assembly's ability to produce a constitution that reflected the aspirations and rights of all citizens.

Imbalanced Power Distribution: The constitution-making task was relatively easier for the Second Constituent Assembly due to the imbalanced power distribution between East and West Pakistan. West Pakistan had a majority of seats in the assembly, allowing it to influence the process and shape the constitution according to its interests. This power imbalance created an uneven playing field and limited the ability of East Pakistan to influence the final outcome.

In summary, while the establishment of the Second Constituent Assembly in Pakistan facilitated the constitution-making process, its validity can be questioned due to issues of legitimacy, representation, and centralized power dynamics. The ease with which the assembly accomplished its task can be attributed to political expediency, limited participation, and imbalanced power distribution. The resulting constitution reflected the interests of the dominant ruling class and failed to fully address the diverse aspirations and rights of the Pakistani population.



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