



## THINKING CONTEMPORARY FACTORIAL POLITICAL FLUX & POLARIZATION ISSUES TO PAKISTAN'S GOVERNMENT: (A PANORAMIC APPRAISAL)

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### ABSTRACT

The current inscription allows the readers to comprehend the existing political issues of Pakistan. Pakistan has experienced in-depth political instability and polarization for many years, with frequent changes in government, fall of democratic elected bodies and a long history of almost three time military coups. In very recent years, these challenges have been compounded by intemperate political tensions, ethnic rigidities as well as rise of immoderate political and social intolerance. Political polarization is also a major concern, with political parties and factions often divided along ideological and ethnic lines, making it difficult to achieve consensus on important issues. These severe challenges have hampered Pakistan's economic growth and social development, and have made it more difficult to address issues such as poverty, corruption, unemployment, lack of national integration, deficiency of peaceful co-existence, shortage of tolerance either political or social and terrorism. Despite these challenges, Pakistan remains an important regional political player, and efforts are underway to address these issues through political and social reforms, as well as through engagement with the global community for win-win standpoint. This present scholarship is qualitative in nature along with analytical and descriptive sermon.

**Key Words:** Political Instability, Political Polarizations, Economic Turbulence, Social Unrest

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### 1. PROLOGUE

Pakistan is a country with immense potential and resources, but it has been plagued by a variety of political challenges that have hindered its growth and development. These challenges have been further exacerbated by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which has put immense pressure

on the country's fragile healthcare system and exacerbated existing economic, social, and political inequalities. The present piece of writing will explore some of the contemporary political challenges facing Pakistan's government. One of the most pressing political challenges facing Pakistan's government is the rise of political instability, political polarization, extremism and militancy. Moreover, Pakistan has long struggled with terrorism, sectarian violence, and insurgencies in various parts of the country. These issues have been compounded by the country's proximity to western neighbor, which has been embroiled in a prolonged conflict. The Pakistani government has made significant efforts to combat militancy, but these efforts have often been hampered by the complex political and social factors driving extremism in the country. Another significant political challenge facing Pakistan's government is corruption. Corruption is pervasive in Pakistan's political and economic systems, with many public officials and politicians accused of using their positions for personal gain. The rise of corruption reciprocally the decline of the state of Pakistan (Khan, 2007). This has eroded public trust in institutions and led to widespread cynicism among the general population. The government has launched several anti-corruption initiatives in recent years, but progress has been slow, and many of these efforts have been criticized for being selective and politically motivated. Additionally, the issue of regionalism and provincialism is also a significant political challenge facing Pakistan's government. The country is composed of four provinces, each with its unique cultural and linguistic identity. These differences have often led to tension and conflict, with many provinces feeling marginalized and neglected by the federal government. This has fueled demands for greater regional autonomy and even independence in some cases. The state has attempted to address these issues by devolving power to the provinces, but progress has been slow, and many provinces continue to feel that their concerns are not being adequately addressed. In the case of COVID-19 pandemic, the government has attempted to respond to the crisis by increasing healthcare spending and implementing social welfare programs, but these efforts have been criticized for being inadequate and poorly targeted. Moving forward, Pakistan's relationship with India continues to be a major political challenge for the country's government. The two countries have a long history of conflict and tension, with ongoing disputes over territory, water rights, and terrorism. The recent revocation of Article 370 by the Indian government, which granted special status to the Indian-administered state of Jammu and Kashmir, has further complicated the relationship between the two countries. The Pakistani government has called for international intervention in the dispute, but progress has been slow, and tensions between the two countries remain high. Addressing these challenges will require sustained political will and a commitment to reforming the country's political and economic systems. Failure to do so could have severe consequences for Pakistan's future stability and prosperity. The present study will do focus on two main contemporary challenges of Pakistan's government i.e. political instability & political polarization.

## **2. DISCUSSION**

### **2.1. PAKISTAN & THE PREDICAMENT OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY**

Pakistan, a South Asian country, has long been plagued by political instability, which has hindered the country's progress and development. The political landscape in Pakistan is complex and diverse, with a multitude of political parties, factions, and interest groups vying for power and influence. These following words have aim to explore the contemporary political instability challenges faced by Pakistan and their implications for the country's future. There are several factors that contribute to political instability in Pakistan. Here are some of the main ones: Military interference, Corruption, Ethnic and sectarian tensions, Economic challenges and External pressures. Overall, these factors have combined to create a volatile political climate in Pakistan, making it difficult for governments to govern effectively and maintain stability.

Corruption is pervasive in Pakistan and has destroyed public trust in government institutions (Danish & Nawaz, 2021). This has led to frequent protests and calls for reform. Corruption can create political instability in Pakistan in several ways: Corruption undermines the legitimacy and effectiveness of government institutions, including law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, and regulatory bodies and lead towards failure of wisdom of good governance (Faisal & Jafri, 2017). When institutions are weakened, citizens lose trust in their ability to deliver justice and fairness, leading to political instability. Corruption can lead to misallocation of resources, which can negatively affect economic growth and development. This can create inequalities, poverty and resentment among the populace, which can contribute to political instability. Corruption creates a sense of injustice and inequality, leading to social unrest, protests, and violence and rise robbing challenge to good governance (Javaid, 2010). This can further destabilize the political environment in Pakistan. In the context of undermining democracy, Corruption can undermine the democratic process by allowing those with wealth and power to influence the political system to their advantage, rather than allowing the will of the people to prevail. This can create political instability, as it erodes the trust of the public in the democratic system. In Security concerns perspective, corruption can also impact national security by allowing criminal or extremist groups to gain a foothold in the country and hit stability and peace of the country (Stiftung, 2014). This can lead to violence and unrest, which can further destabilize the political environment. It has no doubt that corruption has a significant impact on the stability of Pakistan's political system, and it is important for the government and society to take measures to address corruption and promote transparency and accountability. According to transparency international report, Pakistan is enlisted in the list of most corruption indulge country. The following pictures show the result.

## CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX

Show the 2019 scores 

Score	Country	Rank
<b>32</b> 	Pakistan	120 

Source: <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2019>

## CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX

Show the 2020 scores 

Score	Country	Rank
<b>31</b> 	Pakistan	124 


Source: <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2020>

## CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX

2021 

Show the 2021 scores 

Pakistan 

Score	Country	Rank
<b>28</b> 	Pakistan	140 

Source: <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2021>

It is damn truth that Corruption is prevalent at all levels of society, from the highest levels of government to local officials. Corruption has also resulted in a lack of development and poor service delivery, which has contributed to public discontent and political instability.

Pakistan is a diverse country with many ethnic and religious groups. Tensions between these groups have often spilled over into political violence and instability. Ethnic and sectarian tensions have been a significant cause of political instability in Pakistan since the country's inception (Basit, 2013). Moving forward, the role of religion in politics is also a contributing factor to political instability in Pakistan (Sulman, 2018). The country is a diverse nation with multiple ethnic and religious groups, and differences among these groups have led to conflict and violence. The country has experienced several violent ethnic and sectarian clashes in the past, primarily between the dominant Sunni Muslim population and minority Shia Muslim community. Regionalism, sectarianism, and ethnic tensions have led to political polarization, which has made it difficult for governments to achieve consensus on important issues. These divisions have also been exploited by external forces, such as foreign powers and militant groups, which have further destabilized the country. These clashes have led to loss of life, property damage, and social upheaval. Furthermore, the issue of provincial autonomy has also created political instability in Pakistan. The country has four provinces, each with its distinct cultural and linguistic identity. Provincialism and regionalism often result in conflicts between the central government and provincial governments (Ahmad, 2010), leading to political instability and violence. Ethnic and sectarian differences have also influenced political power struggles in Pakistan. Political parties often align themselves with specific ethnic or sectarian groups to gain political power, which has led to political polarization and instability in the

country. Without any suspicion, ethnic and sectarian tensions continue to be a significant cause of political instability in Pakistan.

Pakistan has struggled with economic growth and stability, leading to high levels of poverty and unemployment. This has created a sense of dissatisfaction and frustration among the population. Economic instability can create political instability in Pakistan in several ways: In the context of Unemployment and Poverty, when the economy is unstable, there is a high likelihood of high unemployment and poverty rates. This can lead to social unrest, protests, and strikes, as people demand better economic opportunities and an end to poverty. The foremost problem is Inflation. Economic instability can lead to inflation, which reduces the purchasing power of the people. Inflation can lead to rising prices of goods and services, causing people to struggle to make ends meet. This can create dissatisfaction and frustration with the government's policies and lead to political instability. With the Foreign Debt perspective, economic instability can also arise from a high level of foreign debt (Mansoor, Baig., & Lal, 2020), which can limit a government's ability to fund social programs and other essential services. This can lead to public discontent and political instability, as people demand a better standard of living. The country's debt burden has increased, and its currency has been devalued, making it difficult for the government to finance its expenditures. This has led to austerity measures, such as cuts in public spending and subsidies, which have further exacerbated the economic crisis.

Pakistan is situated in a volatile region and has faced external pressures from neighboring countries, particularly India and Afghanistan. These pressures have exacerbated internal tensions and contributed to political instability (Siddiqui, 2020). Pakistan also faces regional and geopolitical challenges that threaten its political stability. Its relationship with neighboring India has been tense, with ongoing disputes over the Kashmir region. Similarly, Pakistan's relations with the United States have been strained due to its support for extremist groups and its alleged involvement in terrorism in neighboring Afghanistan (Iqbal, 2017).

Historically, the military has played a prominent role in Pakistani politics, often overthrowing elected governments owing to the political chaos and stepping martial law (Kundi, M.A 2003). This has weakened democratic institutions and created an atmosphere of instability. Since its inception, Pakistan has been ruled by military rulers for more than half of its existence. Even when civilian governments have been in power, the military has wielded significant influence over the country's politics and foreign policy (Ahmed, 2010) and will not step back from foreign policy (Oxford, 2017). The military's involvement in politics has often led to a lack of democratic institutions, transparency, and accountability, which has resulted in corruption, nepotism, and the stifling of dissent. Since its independence in 1947, Pakistan has experienced a series of military coups and periods of military rule, resulting in a weak democratic tradition and an imbalance of power between the military and civilian leadership. Smruti inks that sometimes the lack of cooperation midst civil-military increase the role of military also in defense & security making (Pattanaik, 2000). Ayesha inks that politically powerful military forces usually use the agenda of anti-corruption to kick-out rival political parties (Siddiqua, 2016). Military interference in politics has created a vicious cycle of political instability in Pakistan.



The external Military pressure is also the part of the debate. External military pressure, such as military interventions or the threat of military action, can create political instability in Pakistan. This can lead to increased tensions between political factions and a weakening of the government's ability to maintain control. The example of military intervention is NATO appearance in Afghanistan with the name of WOT which had, have significant consequences on Pakistan and political instability and flux of political misunderstandings are top of the lists. The Diplomatic pressure is also interlinked with instability. External diplomatic pressure, such as the withdrawal of foreign aid or the suspension of diplomatic relations, can also contribute to political instability in Pakistan. During the President Trump era, the diplomatic ties midst the USA and Pakistan was not suitable. The president Trump words “Pakistan is the safe heaven for terrorist” further escalate tension among two countries in the context of political and diplomatic (Landler & Harris, 2018). This diplomatic pressure can lead to increased tensions between the government and other countries, which can in turn make it more difficult for the government to maintain stability at home. Furthermore, Terrorist attacks can destabilize the government and create fear and uncertainty among the population. This can lead to increased support for extremist groups and a weakening of the government's ability to maintain control. Overall, external pressure can create a challenging environment for the government of Pakistan, making it more difficult for it to maintain stability and control over the country. Pakistan's political stability is directly or indirectly interconnected with the growing threat of terrorism and extremism. Pakistan has been a target of terrorist attacks, with thousands of civilians and security personnel losing their lives in the past decade. The rise of extremist groups in the country has led to increased sectarian violence and a sense of insecurity among the populace. This rising situation of terrorism is reciprocally seems the fifth generation warfare which is faced by Pakistan (Nadeem, Mustafa & Kakar, 2021). The government's inability to contain terrorism and extremism has further eroded public confidence in its ability to maintain law and order.

## **2.2. THINKING MORE: FLUX OF POLITICAL POLARIZATION**

Pakistan is a country that has been plagued by political polarization for decades. Political polarization refers to the growing ideological and cultural gap between different segments of society, resulting in a deepening sense of division and conflict. This polarization has been on the rise in Pakistan, leading to a worsening political climate, increasing violence, and weakening of democratic institutions. Pakistan is a nation with a long history of political polarization. The country's politics has always been characterized by intense rivalries between different political parties, as well as between different ethnic, religious, and regional groups. One of the most significant factors behind political polarization in Pakistan is the country's complex history. However, in recent years, political polarization in Pakistan has reached new heights, with increasingly bitter and divisive debates and political tactics that have threatened the country's social cohesion and stability. One of the key drivers of political polarization in Pakistan is the deeply entrenched and polarizing political parties. The country's two main leading political parties, the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N),

have been locked in a bitter struggle for political supremacy for decades. These parties are associated with different regions of the country, and as such, they represent different political, ethnic, and religious interests. Moreover, the rise of new political forces has further complicated the country's political landscape. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), a relatively new political party founded by former cricketer Imran Khan, has emerged as a major contender in recent years. However, instead of reducing polarization, the PTI has often been accused of inflaming it further, particularly through its hardline stance on certain issues, such as corruption. Another factor contributing to rising political polarization in Pakistan is the country's complex social and economic landscape. Pakistan is a diverse country, with different regions, religions, and ethnic groups. Moreover, the country is facing a range of social and economic challenges, including poverty, inequality, and corruption. These challenges have further fueled political polarization, with different groups and individuals seeking to blame each other for the country's problems. The below piece of writing will highlight the factors behind the rising political polarization in Pakistan.

The rise of social media has also contributed to political polarization in Pakistan. Social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, and WhatsApp have become popular in the country, and they have become a battleground for political discourse. Social media has enabled the spread of propaganda, fake news, and misinformation, which has led to further division and polarization. Social media platforms have provided a space for individuals to express their political views and connect with like-minded people. However, it has also allowed the spread of fake news and misinformation, which can fuel political polarization and contribute to social divisions. The consequences of political polarization in Pakistan are far-reaching. It has contributed to the erosion of trust in democratic institutions and processes, with many people losing faith in the ability of the political system to address their concerns. Moreover, it has led to increased political instability and violence, with different groups resorting to extreme measures to achieve their political objectives. Social media has created echo chambers where people only consume news and information that aligns with their existing beliefs and opinions. This can reinforce existing biases and make it harder for people to engage in constructive dialogue and compromise.

The political parties have been accused of contributing to political polarization in Pakistan in several following ways. The Political Parties leadership have often used divisive language to create a sense of "us vs. them" among its supporters. This includes portraying themselves as the only "true patriots" and portraying their political opponents as corrupt and anti-national. The political Parties leadership and their followers have often criticized the respected and honorable judiciary and accused it of being biased against them. This has created a perception among political parties supporters that the judiciary is not impartial, which has further deepened political divisions. The political Parties leaderships have also been accused of demonizing its opponents. This has led to a culture of intolerance where political parties supporters refuse to accept any criticism of their party, even if it is based on facts. The political Parties have been very active on social media and have used it as a platform to spread its



message and attack opponents. However, this has also led to a rise in online harassment and abuse, particularly against women and minorities. The political Parties have been criticized to each other for not being inclusive and for failing to represent the interests of all segments of Pakistani society. This has led to a perception that political parties are only interested in promoting the interests of its own supporters, rather than the country as a whole. Overall, these factors have contributed to a deeply polarized political environment in Pakistan, where the political Parties and their supporters are seen as being on one side, and the public faith is seen as being on the other. This has made it difficult for the country to move forward and address the many major challenges it faces, including poverty, inequality, unemployment, extremism and terrorism.

One of the primary causes of political polarization in Pakistan is the country's economic situation. Pakistan has been struggling with economic challenges for decades, including high unemployment rates, inflation, and a large informal economy. The economic challenges faced by the country have resulted in social inequality, with the rich becoming richer and the poor becoming poorer. This economic inequality has led to a growing sense of frustration and resentment among the population, which has contributed to the rise of populist movements and polarization. The economic conditions of a country can certainly contribute to political polarization, and this is true for Pakistan as well. There are a few key factors that explain this relationship. Pakistan has one of the highest rates of income inequality in the world, with a significant portion of the population living in poverty while a small elite enjoys significant wealth and power. This inequality can lead to deep-seated grievances among the poor and marginalized, who may feel that the political system is rigged against them. Pakistan has a long history of corruption and nepotism, with many politicians and government officials using their positions for personal gain. This can exacerbate feelings of distrust and frustration among ordinary citizens, who may feel that their voices are not being heard. Pakistan is heavily dependent on foreign aid to support its economy, which can lead to tensions with the international community and create a sense of vulnerability among citizens. This can also contribute to political polarization, as some people may see the government as being too subservient to foreign interests.

Political corruption in Pakistan can contribute to political polarization in several following ways. Political corruption often leads to unequal distribution of resources, such as funds for development projects or welfare programs. This can create a divide between those who benefit from the corrupt practices and those who are left out, leading to a sense of resentment and polarization. When corruption is pervasive in a political system, it often leads to a lack of accountability for those in power. This can result in a perception among citizens that the government is not working for the good of the people, but rather for the benefit of a few individuals or groups. This perception can lead to a sense of mistrust and polarization between different groups in society. Political corruption can also lead to factionalism within political parties, as different factions seek to gain power and control over resources. This can result in polarization within parties and between parties, as different factions compete for power and

resources. The Lack of consensus-building also plays it role. Political corruption can create a culture of mistrust and suspicion, which makes it difficult to build consensus among different groups in society. When different groups do not trust each other or the government, it becomes difficult to find common ground and work together towards shared goals. This can lead to political polarization and a lack of progress on important issues. Overall, political corruption can exacerbate existing political polarization in Pakistan by creating a sense of inequality, mistrust, factionalism, and lack of consensus-building. Addressing corruption is therefore essential for building a more cohesive and inclusive political system in Pakistan.

Pakistan's geopolitical situation has also contributed to political polarization within the country. Pakistan is situated in a volatile region, with ongoing conflicts in neighboring countries such as Afghanistan and India. This has led to a growing sense of nationalism and a focus on national security, which can sometimes be at odds with democratic values and institutions. Pakistan's geopolitical position has played a significant role in shaping the country's political landscape and contributing to political polarization. Pakistan is situated in a region that has been historically volatile, with ongoing conflicts and tensions among neighboring countries such as India and Afghanistan. These geopolitical factors have led to internal political divisions and polarization within Pakistan. One major factor is Pakistan's relationship with India. The two countries have a long history of conflict, particularly over the disputed territory of Kashmir. This conflict has led to the growth of nationalist sentiment in both countries. This has also led to the rise of religious extremist groups in Pakistan. Another factor is Pakistan's relationship with the United States. Pakistan has been a key partner of the United States in the War on Terror since the attacks of September 11, 2001. However, this partnership has been strained at times, particularly due to allegations of Pakistani support for terrorist groups in the region. These tensions have contributed to domestic political polarization, with some Pakistanis viewing the United States as an imperialist power and others seeing it as a crucial ally. Additionally, Pakistan's relationship with its neighbor Afghanistan has also been fraught with tension. The ongoing conflict in Afghanistan has spilled over into Pakistan. This has led to significant political divisions within Pakistan, particularly over how to address the issue of extremism. Overall, Pakistan's geopolitical position has contributed to political polarization by fueling nationalist and extremist sentiment, straining relationships with key allies, and exacerbating tensions with neighboring countries. These factors have made it difficult for Pakistan to maintain political stability and have contributed to the rise of polarizing political figures and movements.

In the miscellaneous context, the country's weak democratic institutions are also a factor behind political polarization in Pakistan. Pakistan has a long history of weak institutions, corruption, and political instability, which has eroded public trust in the government and political parties. The absence of strong democratic institutions has also made it easier for extremist groups and individuals to gain a foothold in the country's politics, leading to further polarization. Lastly, the country's ethnic and regional divides have contributed to political polarization in Pakistan. Pakistan is a diverse country with many ethnic and linguistic groups, and regional disparities exist in terms of economic development and political representation. These divides have led to

the rise of ethnic and regional political parties, which have further deepened the country's political divides.

Political polarization in Pakistan is the result of a combination of economic, social, and political factors. Addressing these challenges will require a concerted effort from political leaders, civil society organizations, and the wider population. It will be essential to promote inclusive economic growth, foster inter-communal dialogue and understanding, tackle corruption, and create a more open and transparent political system. The political polarization in Pakistan is a complex and multifaceted issue, driven by a range of political, social, and economic factors. To address this problem, there is a need for a concerted effort by political leaders, civil society groups, and the media to promote greater dialogue, understanding, and tolerance between different groups. Moreover, efforts must be made to address the underlying social and economic challenges facing the country, such as poverty and inequality, in order to reduce the sense of grievance and frustration that contributes to political polarization.

### 3. OPTIONS FOR PAKISTAN

Political instability in Pakistan is a complex issue that requires a multifaceted approach to address it. These countermeasures are not exhaustive, but they provide a starting point for addressing political instability in Pakistan. It will require sustained effort and a long-term commitment to achieve lasting change. Here are some countermeasures that could help address political instability in Pakistan:

- ***Strengthening democratic institutions:*** Pakistan needs to strengthen its democratic institutions, including the judiciary, the media, and civil society organizations. This would help ensure the rule of law and transparency in the political system.
- ***Encouraging political participation:*** It is important to encourage political participation among citizens, especially young people and women. This can be done through education, training, and creating opportunities for participation in the political process.
- ***Addressing corruption:*** Corruption is a major issue in Pakistan and has contributed to political instability. The government needs to take concrete steps to address corruption and hold corrupt officials accountable.
- ***Building consensus:*** Political instability in Pakistan is often the result of a lack of consensus among political parties and stakeholders. The government should work to build consensus and engage in constructive dialogue with opposition parties.
- ***Addressing economic issues:*** Economic issues such as poverty, unemployment, and inequality contribute to political instability. The government should take steps to address these issues and promote economic growth.
- ***Improving security:*** Security is a major concern in Pakistan, and instability often results from security threats. The government should work to improve security by addressing terrorism, extremism, and sectarian violence.

- **Promoting regional stability:** Pakistan's stability is closely linked to regional stability. The government should work to promote regional cooperation and address regional conflicts.
- **Promoting Dialogue and Reconciliation:** The government and political parties need to promote dialogue and reconciliation between different groups to reduce tensions and foster a sense of unity. The government can create platforms for dialogue and encourage parties to come to the negotiating table.
- **Empowering Civil Society:** The government can encourage the formation of independent civil society organizations that can promote tolerance, moderation, and peaceful coexistence between different groups. These organizations can also provide a platform for marginalized groups to voice their concerns and grievances.
- **Strengthening the Rule of Law:** The government must ensure that the rule of law is upheld and that all citizens are treated equally under the law. This will help to build trust between different groups and reduce the perception of discrimination and bias.
- **Promoting Media Ethics:** The media can play a significant role in reducing political polarization by promoting balanced reporting, highlighting the positive aspects of different groups, and avoiding sensationalism and exaggeration. The government can create a code of ethics for media houses and encourage them to adhere to it.
- Overall, reducing political polarization in Pakistan will require a concerted effort from all stakeholders, including the government, political parties, civil society organizations, and the media.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Pakistan has been plagued by political instability and polarization for decades, which has had a detrimental impact on the country's development and progress. The country has experienced numerous military coups, civil unrest, and political violence, which have weakened democratic institutions and hindered economic growth. This political instability in Pakistan has been the polarization of political parties and their supporters along ethnic, sectarian, and ideological lines. This polarization has fueled tensions and conflicts, leading to violence and instability. Moreover, the dominance of a few political families and their dynastic politics has also contributed to the polarization and weakened democratic institutions. To counter this problem, Pakistan needs to focus on strengthening democratic institutions, promoting the rule of law, and ensuring greater transparency and accountability in the political system. The country needs to implement electoral reforms to ensure fair and transparent elections, and the formation of independent electoral commissions to monitor the process. Additionally, political parties need to move beyond dynastic politics and promote internal democracy to enhance their legitimacy and inclusivity. Pakistan also needs to focus on addressing the root causes of political polarization, which include economic inequality, sectarianism, and ethnic divisions. Addressing these underlying issues requires a comprehensive approach, including improving education,

providing greater economic opportunities, promoting interfaith and inter-ethnic harmony, and implementing effective social welfare policies.

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