

## Analyzing Political Instability in Pakistan: Understanding Socio-Political Dynamics and Regional and International Implications of the Trials of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto

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### Abstract

Because political instability in Pakistan has significant effects on both regional stability and the efficacy of governance, it is an important topic of discussion. Comprehending the socio-political dynamics of the area is imperative in order to devise efficacious policies and promote sustainable development. Through an examination of both internal socio-political dynamics and their regional ramifications, this study seeks to analyse the factors that contribute to political instability in Pakistan. Pakistan is the specific country of study in this research. Key players in Pakistani politics and governance, such as academics, policymakers, and representatives of civil society, make up the sample. Purposive sampling is used to select about fifty participants for qualitative interviews in order to ensure a diverse range of viewpoints. The interviews are used to determine the sample size. In response to the research, the main causes of Pakistan's political instability are systemic corruption, socioeconomic disparities, and regional tensions. This emphasises the necessity of comprehensive governance reforms and conflict resolution techniques. The results highlight how urgently Pakistan must prioritise institutional reforms targeted at thwarting corruption and boosting governance's transparency. Reducing grievances that contribute to instability and promoting social cohesion require inclusive policies that address socioeconomic disparities. Additionally, encouraging regional communication and cooperation can lessen tensions across borders, which will help to create a political climate that is more stable. In the face of socio-political challenges, Pakistan must implement these policy recommendations in order to strengthen its governance framework and steer towards sustainable development.

**Keywords:** Politics ,Corruption ,socioeconomic status, governance, region, Instability, Implications for policy

### Introduction

In recent years, political instability has grown to be a serious global threat, particularly in the poorest and most unstable nations in the world. This is a serious issue that is impeding these nations' ability to develop. Stable politics are necessary to maintain social cohesion and The legitimacy of the government is maintained. A nation's economy must prosper, its people must unite, and the rule of law must be respected. The nation-building and state-building processes are directly impacted by the stability of the political system. Successful development for both of them depends on political stability **Akram, S. (2023)**. A stable political environment is essential to the

effective operation of government. Political unrest hinders both foreign diplomacy and international trade because investors are hesitant to take a chance on their money in nations with unreliable leaders. When there is political unrest in a nation, the public grows more anxious and uneasy due to a breakdown in law and order and an increase in criminal activity. The only things that can effectively address these challenges in the best interests of the country are political stability and maturity. **Akram, S. (2023).**

We argue that political instability and economic growth are interdependent, defining "political instability" as the likelihood of a government collapse. Political instability has a lasting impact on socioeconomic policies, unequal wealth distribution, corruption, unemployment, poverty, mental and physical health, internal and external terrorism, and inadequate family leadership **Rashid, & Rashid, (2024).** This article emphasises that "political instability" is defined as the tendency for the dissolution of the government as it examines the intricate relationship between political instability and economic growth. The fundamental idea underlying the connection between political instability and economic growth. Pakistan being one notable instance Economic growth typically occurs far more slowly during times of political unrest than during times of greater stability There are many repercussions, such as unequal income distribution, pervasive corruption, protracted unemployment, high rates of poverty, and detrimental effects on both physical and mental health. Furthermore, political upheaval exacerbates security concerns in affected areas by having a substantial impact on the prevalence of both domestic and foreign terrorism. The study also makes clear how political instability erodes family power and upends the basis of social structures **Rashid, & Rashid, (2024).**

## **Background**

Pakistan's political history is intricate and characterised by a number of noteworthy occurrences, advances, and modifications. The partition of British India led to the creation of Pakistan on August 14, 1947. It was founded to serve as Muslims' distinct homeland. The Government of India Act of 1935 governed the nation until the adoption of its first constitution in 1956. Pakistan was founded as a republic with a parliamentary system under the first constitution (**Saira Akram .(2024).**

1958 saw the first military coup in Pakistan when General Ayub Khan took control. He served as president until 1969, when General Yahya Khan took over. Following the defeat of East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) in the Bangladesh Liberation War, military rule came to an end in 1971 **Abbas, & Sultan . (2023).**

Following the crisis in Bangladesh, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto assumed leadership. The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) was founded by him. Nationalisation, social reforms, and the 1973 Constitution were hallmarks of his reign. After a military takeover in 1977, Zia-ul-Haq came to power and stayed there until his death in 1988. In addition to supporting Afghan mujahideen during the Soviet-Afghan War and instituting a more conservative interpretation of Islam, his regime also held non-party elections in 1985. There was a period of political unrest in Pakistan following Zia's passing. During this time, Nawaz Sharif and Benazir Bhutto, the daughter of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, each held two non-consecutive terms as prime minister **Abbas, & Sultan . (2023).**

General Pervez Musharraf assumed power in October 1999 following a military coup in response to the Kargil conflict with India. Up until 2008, he was the ruler of Pakistan. The reign of General Musharraf ended in 2008. Following elections, the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) was led by Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani and President Asif Ali Zardari.

Returning to civilian rule, the PPP and Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) alternated in power from 2008 to 2013. Although Nawaz Sharif was re-elected in 2013, he was subsequently declared ineligible in 2017. His overthrow was largely the result of the military. 2018 saw the holding of general elections, with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) led by Imran Khan emerging victorious.

The political unrest that has occurred in Pakistan between 2018 and the present, with a focus on the leadership of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) political party. political instability through investigation of important indicators like opposition movements and protests, significant political scandals, and shifts in ties with the armed forces. The outcomes highlight the regularity of protests led by the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), which accuses the government of mismanaging the economy and demands the resignation of Prime Minister Imran Khan. The article also looks at the growing relationship between the military and the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), emphasising the conflicts that result from differing opinions on issues related to international relations and fiscal policy **Hammid Ullah et al (2024)**.

## **Literature Review**

**Abbas & Sultan (2023)** Pakistan's economy is facing issues due to the country's raising political unrest. Using a theoretical framework that incorporates the concepts of political economy, institutional theory, and dependency theory, it examines the intricate dynamics and interdependencies among political instability and economic recovery situations. It also looks at Pakistan's strategies and tactics for reviving economy in the face of such difficult circumstances. This essay provides an in-depth examination of the intricate links existing between Pakistan's political unrest and economic growth. Having a deep understanding of these interdependencies allows policymakers to develop specific plans to overcome problems and advance long-term economic stability and development.

**Ejaz,, & Safdar, (2023)**. show how FDI and political unrest are inversely related. These relate to the variables we used as controls: trade openness, real GDP, along with interest rate differentials all result in an increase in FDI inflows while inflation is still very low. The short-run result shows that the rate of modification is approximately 25 percent. The dynamic Political instability has a negative effect on private investment, as shown by the long-term results of the ARDL model. Real GDP and trade openness are the control variables that positively correlate with private investment, whereas interest rates have a decreasing impact. Inflation has little effect on private investment. It is suggested that the government should be in charge of creating an atmosphere that draws investment from both domestic and foreign sources. Investor confidence will rise as a result of improved governance, institutional quality, and political stability.

**AL-Kubaisi et al (2024)** Important turning moments and systemic modifications as they transpire in Pakistan's voting history. Afterwards, it delves into contemporary patterns, encompassing the ways in which socioeconomic factors, demographic shifts, and technological innovations impact the electoral terrain. Special emphasis is placed on voter behaviour, electoral turnout, and the evolving character of political participation. Voter behaviour, turnout, and the evolution of political participation are all given a lot of attention. Additionally, the study identifies and examines the main issues that Pakistani electoral politics are currently confronting. Election fraud, gerrymandering, campaign finance, and the judiciary's role in monitoring the electoral process are all thoroughly examined. examines topics such as political violence, intimidation, and the impact of regional and ethnic variables on election outcomes. Examining the ways in which political parties .

**Khurshid et al(2023)** The empirical findings show that election seasons have a beneficial impact on the expansion of the economy and an adverse impact on recessions, and that governments have a beneficial impact on both high and low growth regimes. In both high- and low-growth regimes, external debt significantly hampers economic growth. On the other hand, FDI, growth, and money transfers are strongly and favourably correlated with economic growth.

**Sharma, C. (2023)**.It can be hard for tourism to contribute to economic growth in an atmosphere defined by high levels of assault, turmoil in politics, and corruption. In addition, we compute the asymmetric effects of tourism using panel quantile regression. The analysis's findings show that low-income economies gain the most from tourism. However, the results also show that

institutional problems like political turmoil and corruption make it tough for economies, particularly poor ones, to gain from tourism.

**Riazullah Shinwari et al (2023).** The objectives of this investigation are to examine the features of natural resources, public debt, trade globalisation, government stability, and the use of renewable energy sources, along with their implications for human development. Based on the findings, inclusive growth and human development can be achieved through the combination of reduced public debt, stable political structures, and equitable resource rent utilisation.

**Kiran Asif ( 2023).** This study looks at the relationship between political unrest, corruption, and environmental degradation for the selected South Asian countries between 1996 and 2019. The results show that in order to enhance environmental quality, South Asian countries must fight corruption and fortify political stability.

**Fernando Tohmé(25 November 2021) .** The effect of political instability on long-term economic growth. We look at three political structures that are connected to real political structures and improve participation in the creation of public policy. In all systems, society appoints an agent who maintains power until instability (represented as a decrease in the agent's tenure) takes place, shortening the temporal horizon. Our results provide theoretical support for the various conclusions drawn in the empirical literature regarding the impact of political systems on economic growth.

**Mehran Khan et al (Apr 17, 2024)** The influence of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on peace and stability in the region within the framework of economic interdependence. The study uses complex interdependence and liberal theories of international relations to analyse how CPEC is altering the geopolitical landscape of South Asia. The study explores the potential benefits and challenges of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), highlighting the revolutionary impact on trade patterns, political positions, and security ramifications. The findings suggest that while the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) offers opportunities for both economic integration and conflict resolution, preserving openness and inclusive growth is crucial for long-term stability. The study adds to our understanding of the evolving dynamics of regional relations. It emphasises how important it is to establish cooperative frameworks in order to realise the full potential of interdependence between economies.

**Saud & Ashfaq (March 16, 2024).** Between the Pakistani general national elections of 2013 and 2018, this study examined young people's political participation in democratic processes in two provinces, such as Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The leading theory of the public sphere used in this study holds that the public sphere is an essential element of democracy. Within this social space, citizens can engage in political activities related to their public interests. Furthermore, the theoretical perspective holds that democratic citizens should participate in politics to advance particular interests. The research has presented a novel concept of political participation called "Youth Inn". It demonstrates how young people are actively improving political discourse and altering traditional political strategies through their involvement in events. It is important to remember that, in accordance with conventional political wisdom, young people should defer to their elders when selecting candidates to endorse and vote for; the main factors influencing this decision-making process are the candidate's language, culture, ethnicity, caste, and sect.

**Waqar Shah et al ( 2023).** Pakistan's policymakers, especially those in the military, judiciary, bureaucracy, and politics, were unable to handle their respective spheres of influence in the best interests of the country. Rather than taking lessons from the past, we still don't seem ready to own up to our mistakes and make plans to prevent them in the future. The problems that the recently independent Pakistan faced were not adequately addressed; rather, they were made worse by the incompetence of both individuals and institutions. As a result, pressing matters such as drafting a constitution and formulating policies grounded in Pakistani culture and society went unaddressed. All these mistakes are evident in the history of Pakistan's internal developments. Given the current circumstances, it is necessary for the intelligentsia to logic.

**Hussain, & Hussain. (1993).** As opposed to the political elites in civil society, the bureaucracy and the military within the state apparatus have up until now been grouped together as co-sharers of the power cake that has accrued to the "state apparatus." The analysis of the relationship between the army and the bureaucracy, as well as the shifting internal power dynamics within the state structure, has not been done before. Given the stark differences between the military and bureaucracy, it would be beneficial to investigate these dynamics. They not only have different relationships with civil society, but one could argue that they have also undergone divergent internal institutional changes within these two state institution.

**Syed Waqar Ali Shah et al (2023-12-30).** Given the current circumstances, it is incumbent upon the intelligentsia to logically prepare a work schedule for the various policy sections and decision-making bodies, ensuring that each body strictly adheres to its assigned responsibility. There is no better moment than the present to address these issues and investigate the potential and requirements for Pakistan's future travels to be safer and better. The present research offers a thorough framework for examining the dynamics of democracy and autocracy in Pakistan, emphasising significant themes, historical advancements, and potential avenues for reform.

**Umbreen Javaid (2023).** which aims to explore the effects of counter violent religious extremism efforts in study areas comprising Wana, Bannu, and Dera Ismail Khan of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), along with analysing, evaluating, and proposing both long-term and short-term peacebuilding and resilience strategies that will complement the revitalization of the neglected culture of tolerance and in developing counter violent religious extremism policies. Pakistan's drift into violent religious extremism resulted in massive losses of human and material resources due to terrorist incidents and counterterrorism efforts. that an integrated strategy that combines different resilience and peacebuilding tactics with elements from the social, cultural, political, and economic spheres can help these research areas' cultures of peace, tolerance, and cohabitation flourish.

**Rani Erum(2023).** Pakistan's unresolved national identity issue persisted into the twenty-first century. Throughout the 76-year history of the nation, the search for identity has continued to be a popular topic. Pakistan's citizens became more estranged from their state as a result of the dictatorial regime, the martial laws that were imposed from the beginning, the protracted violations of peoples' fundamental rights, the inability of the political and economic institutions to fulfil their promises, and the sluggish development of the social sector. The majority of Pakistanis felt more hostile as a result of the events that followed 9/11. Pakistan's national identity, exploring the causes of its complexity, how it affects societal dynamics, and what might happen in the future. In order to provide a thorough analysis, the study uses a multidisciplinary approach that incorporates historical, political, and sociocultural perspectives. It seeks to advance a sophisticated comprehension of Pakistan's national identity predicament within the current international framework.

**Faiza Zahid et al (2023).** the complex connection between social stability and youth unemployment in Pakistan. Pakistan confronts formidable obstacles in preserving social cohesion and stability, given the country's rapidly increasing youth population and scarcity of job prospects. youth unemployment, including mismatched skills, insufficient educational systems, and structural economic problems. In addition, it looks at the effects of youth unemployment on social stability, including higher rates of crime, unstable political systems, and social unrest. potential remedies to reduce youth unemployment include entrepreneurship promotion, skill development initiatives, and policy changes. In order to support social stability and equitable economic growth in Pakistan, policymakers, stakeholders, and practitioners are advised to address these issues.

**Muzamil et al (2024).** In an uncertain future, achieving equitable development that promotes climate mitigation is still a difficult undertaking, especially for societies that have recently experienced conflict. This paper presents findings from a local stakeholder participatory scenario

workshop that looked into emerging priorities for anticipatory action regarding future climate impacts in Pakistan's vulnerable Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Province, which is affected by ongoing conflicts. Crucially, our results show that stakeholders were more interested in local development projects to improve tourism offerings and the regional network of national parks than they were in addressing the effects of climate change.

### **Theocratical Frameworks.**

Following a discussion of various statehood concepts and attributes, including state capacity, domestic sovereignty, and territoriality (or the state's territorial reach throughout all of its territory), the chapter focuses on developing a theoretical framework. Three major categories comprise the theories and concepts used to study ungovernability and obstacles to state governance. These three approaches to state-society relational governance are state-centric, society-centric, and state-in-society. The foundation of this framework is how these three strategies may affect ungoverned areas and build state capacity, which in turn can support and guarantee the consolidation of state governance in Pakistan's tribal areas (FATA).

( **Khan, A. (2022)**

Pakistan's elected civilian governments seen through the lens of institutional political economy. One common explanation for the military's continued control over the state and society is that elected civilian governments are not practicing "good governance." On the other hand, we contend that the focus on "good" governance as a means of achieving democratic consolidation overlooks the institutional and socioeconomic elements that enable Pakistan's militarised hegemonic order to be successfully replicated. The study makes the case that the current political-economic system, which is mediated by imperialist forces, is the source of military hegemony. (**Khan,& Akhtar, 2022.**)

The theoretical framework, or conceptual foundation, for the book is provided in this chapter. The chapter begins with an overview of ungoverned spaces and provides a working definition of governance for the proposed book within their context. There has been discussion of a number of paradigms and theories regarding state governance and politics in developing states. Following a discussion of various statehood concepts and attributes, including state capacity, domestic sovereignty, and territoriality (or the state's territorial reach throughout all of its territory), the chapter focuses on developing a theoretical framework. Three major categories comprise the theories and concepts used to study ungovernability and obstacles to state governance. They are the state-in-society (state-society relational governance), state-centric, and society-centric approaches. (**Khan, Akhtar, 2022**).

Pakistan's economic potential was therefore grossly underutilised, which had an especially detrimental effect on the general populace. Economic policy and industrial policy are interdependent; without one, the other suffers. The same is true of political and environmental upgrading. It provides a summary of the main aspects and experiences of economic policy, including industrial policy, and lists some of the regulatory frameworks that govern it. Before making some recommendations for improved policies, it also provides a brief explanation of how it relates to the political development of the country. Because of this study's limited capacity to address the economy, we hope that additional researchers will be able to fill in the gaps. Pakistan's economy requires greater dynamism which demands coherent economic policy and social and political reforms based on consensus. For the country to reach its maximum potential, an economic system that aims to enhance society overall is also necessary. ( **Rehman, & Saif, 2023**).

A multitude of factors, including a lack of resources, faulty administrative structures, dispersed roles and structures leaning towards authoritarianism, corruption, ineffectiveness in providing welfare services to the populace, restrictions on freedoms, and military interventions that result in a crisis of governance, mark postcolonial polities. With its three pillars—who will govern, how will govern, and what is meant by governance—Michel Foucault's theoretical approach to governmentality is a useful tool for offering insight into structural functional revisionist analysis

of how such polities operate. The paper's methodological approach focuses on clustering three key concepts: governmentality, structural-functional analysis, and good governance, which is defined as the hexagonal study of six key indicators, including political stability, effective governance, voice and accountability, (Nawaz,et al 2022).

the effect of political unrest on economic expansion in Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon between 1996 and 2016. The study looks at whether there is a long-term correlation between the expansion of the economy and each of the five political indicators. Panel data analysis was used in the study to analyse annual data for the four Arab countries that were chosen, spanning the years 1996 to 2016. The study's empirical findings, which make use of the Vector Error Correction Model (VECM), demonstrate how various measures of political unrest affect economic expansion. **Khadiga Elbargathi (2019)**

In line with earlier studies on the adoption of e-government services, this study uses the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT) model to investigate the factors that affect citizens' adoption and use of e-government services in Pakistan. A descriptive statistical analysis was carried out on the responses obtained from 115 Pakistani nationals who participated in an online survey. **Ovais Ahmad,et al. (2013)**

The effect of foreign direct investment (FDI) on Pakistan's GDP from 1966 to 2014. I use the Autoregressive Distributed Lag-Error Correction Model (ARDL-ECM) approach to simultaneously find long- and short-term effects. Pakistan's GDP growth is significantly boosted by FDI, both in the short and long terms. Furthermore, a convergence to the equilibrium path is suggested by the ECM coefficient. Over time, other variables like population growth and inflation also have a big impact on GDP. **Javaid, W. (2016).**

theory of non-democratic states' foreign policy decision-making. According to poliheuristic theory, state leaders prioritise their political survival; nevertheless, what constitutes "the political" differs greatly amongst nations. Moreover, different nations have different kinds of actors who keep political leaders accountable. As a result, leaders frequently use radically different strategies to maintain their political viability. The author demonstrates how the seemingly arbitrary divisions in autocratic leaders' political concerns actually occur in systematic and possibly predictable ways by utilising the common distinction between personalist, military, and single-party autocracies. **Kinne, B. J. (2005).**

## **Methodology – Mixed Methods**

### **1. Population of the Study:**

The study focuses on people who are currently employed by universities and who are highly knowledgeable or interested in geopolitics and international relations, particularly as it relates to Pakistan's foreign policy. There are two main groups into which the population can be split: Academic Instructors (Faculty Members):teaching political science, geopolitics, and international relations courses.involved in academic or research projects that centre on foreign policy, particularly as it relates to Pakistan.employed by reputable colleges with pertinent programmes.Typically, advanced degrees (Master's, Ph.D.) in related fields are required for academic qualifications.experience in geopolitics and international relations as a researcher and instructor. publications or presentations at conferences on pertinent subjects.

### **University Students:**

enrolled in graduate or undergraduate courses in political science, international relations, or related subjects.exhibited interest in Pakistan's foreign policy through involvement in pertinent academic forums, research projects, or coursework.usually in the age range of 18 to 30.varying educational backgrounds with a political science and international relations emphasis.Participation in active academic geopolitics and foreign policy clubs, seminars, and debates.



## **Sample of the Study:**

The study's sample consists of university instructors and students drawn at random from a range of academic disciplines. These people contribute a variety of viewpoints that enhance the examination of political instability and role in society, politics, and governance. The study guarantees a thorough investigation of the subject matter by incorporating participants from various disciplines, including political science, international relations, history, sociology, and other fields. Students provide new insights and a modern perspective, and university teachers bring their research insights and expertise to the table. This dynamic dialogue broadens and deepens the study's findings

## **Target Audience of the Study:**

University instructors and students are the study's primary target audience. By concentrating on this group, the study hopes to share its results with individuals who are actively involved in academic activities and discourse. While students represent the next generation of leaders and thinkers whose perspectives are essential for understanding contemporary issues, university teachers represent seasoned academics whose knowledge and guidance shape the intellectual landscape. By focusing on this group of people, the study hopes to promote critical thinking, the sharing of knowledge, and future directions for scholarly investigation into Pakistan's political instability and governance.

## **Data Collection Technique:**

The data collection technique employed for this study involves a combination of online surveys and face-to-face interviews. This approach allows for a comprehensive gathering of qualitative and quantitative data, capturing both the breadth and depth of perspectives from participants. Online surveys offer a convenient and accessible method for reaching a wide audience, while face-to-face interviews facilitate in-depth exploration and nuanced understanding of respondents' viewpoints. By utilizing this hybrid approach, the study aims to maximize data richness and triangulation, thereby enhancing the robustness and reliability of its findings on the military's role in Pakistan's politics, society, and governance.

**Target Audience of the Study:** The study's target audience comprises diverse stakeholders who are either directly or indirectly impacted by the insights and findings pertaining to geopolitics, international relations, and Pakistan's foreign policy. This heterogeneous group comprises scholars, decision-makers, professionals, and trainees in relevant disciplines. More specifically, there are categories for the target audience. Academic Staff: Professors, lecturers, and researchers in the fields of geopolitics, political science, international relations, and related fields. Think tanks and research institutes: experts in international relations theory, foreign policy analysis, and South Asian geopolitics. Graduate Students: Individuals working towards advanced degrees in political science, international relations, or related disciplines who are studying Pakistan's foreign policy or regional geopolitics.

## **Data Collection Technique:**

Participants in the study will be asked to complete surveys in order to provide quantitative and qualitative data. Open-ended questions will be used to capture in-depth thoughts and opinions, while structured questions will be used to obtain targeted information. Technique online questionnaires: You can send out surveys by email or online using tools like SurveyMonkey and Google Forms. Paper-based questionnaires: Paper-based surveys can be distributed and gathered in case participants have restricted access to digital platforms. demographic information: inquiries concerning the participant's history, including age, gender, and role (student or teacher), as well as academic field. The assessment questions aim to determine the participant's level of interest and knowledge regarding Pakistan's foreign policy. viewpoints and opinions: open-ended questions to



elicit in-depth opinions on particular facets of Pakistan's foreign policy and its consequences for geopolitics and international relations. Description of the interviews: in-depth conversations, conduct in-person interviews whenever feasible. Video or phone interviews: For participants who are not physically accessible, use video conferencing or phone tools (like Zoom or Skype).

**Mixed Methods Research.** Various approaches To provide a thorough grasp of the research problem, research combines quantitative and qualitative research techniques. The mixed methods approach will be especially useful in this study on university teachers and students who are interested or knowledgeable about international relations and geopolitics, especially as it relates to Pakistan's foreign policy, as it will capture the depth and breadth of the participants' viewpoints. In order to assist with the research date and their grammatical errors, we used chatgpt 3.4, a contemporary website and tool, as well as artificial intelligence (AI) to correct their sentences and grammar.

#### **Open-Ended Questions:**

1. What do you perceive as the main causes of political instability in Pakistan?
2. How do socio-economic factors influence political stability in the country?
3. Can you describe any recent events that have significantly impacted political stability?
4. How do you think regional conflicts affect the overall political climate in Pakistan?
5. In what ways can the government improve its effectiveness to enhance political stability?

#### **Dependent Variable: Perceived Political Stability**

According to the most recent updates, there are a number of important traits and patterns that characterise Pakistan's political landscape. There is disagreement over how stable the political environment is, and a number of factors play a role in this evaluation. Here are some important things to think about:

1. **Leadership and Governance.** Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif leads a coalition government that rules Pakistan. She took office in April 2022 after former Prime Minister Imran Khan was removed from office by a vote of no confidence. Internal conflicts and the need to balance the interests of different coalition partners have made it difficult for the coalition government to maintain stability.

2. **Opposition and Political Parties.** The Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), and a few other parties are the main political parties. The opposition has been active in planning protests and rallies, demanding early elections, and denouncing the way the government has handled economic matters. Imran Khan's PTI in particular has been leading this movement.

3. **Financial Situation.** Pakistan is confronted with noteworthy economic obstacles, such as elevated inflation rates, an expanding fiscal shortfall, and demands for economic restructurings emanating from global financial establishments. These economic problems affect public opinion and government performance, which in turn affects political stability. In order to stabilise its economy, Pakistan has applied for financial aid from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other foreign donors.

4. **Situation of Security.** Even though internal security has improved, problems like terrorism, sectarian violence, and insurgencies in some areas (like Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) still exist. The security environment is affected by relations with neighbouring countries, especially India and Afghanistan, which can also have an impact on the stability of domestic politics.

5. **Legal and Judicial Matters.** Activism in the Judiciary Pakistan's judiciary has actively participated in political affairs, disqualifying politicians and offering advice on matters of governance, among other things. Depending on the situation, this judicial activism has the potential to both stabilise and destabilise the political climate. **Corruption and Responsibility** The political

dynamics are being impacted by ongoing anti-corruption campaigns and accountability measures against political leaders.

6. **Social Issues and Public Attitude.** Demonstrations in Public Public sentiment is dynamic and is reflected in the recurring protests and demonstrations on a range of issues, including social issues, political demands, and economic grievances. Civil society and the media In Pakistan's political environment, the media and civil society organisations play a vital role in influencing public opinion and keeping the government responsible.

7. **Evaluation of Stability.** Comparative Stability Notwithstanding obstacles, Pakistan's political climate at the moment appears to be relatively stable, with the coalition government holding onto power in the face of opposition. Areas of Concern: Stability may still be impacted by opposition actions, security concerns, economic hardships, and judicial interventions. opportunities for stability The stability of the political environment in the future will be determined by how the government handles internal security, opposition demands, and economic challenges.

**Independent Variables:**

- The economic situation in Pakistan affects political stability.
- Government corruption contributes to political instability.
- Social unrest is a major cause of political change in Pakistan.
- Cross-border tensions contribute to political instability.

**8. Technique for Writing Open-Ended Questions through Individual Target Audience**

**Interviews:** Invite participants to share more about their thoughts, insights, and viewpoints on the subject at hand.

**9. Technique to Apply Regression Analysis on the Set of Dependent and Independent**

**Variables:** Regression analysis is a statistical technique that looks at the relationships between each independent variable and the dependent variable while accounting for other variables. Write a piece on multivariate regression.

**Section 4: Results and Discussion**

The participants in this study comprised a diverse group of highly informed and intellectually engaged individuals, including Associate Professor Lecture Teacher Student graduate scholars, under graduate Scholars Public sector Government Employed Social Works Politician policymakers, analysts, and practitioners with expertise in international relations. PhD Scholars MPhil Scholars and Student and Social worker they give date on the research Qustion. They were selected based on their extensive knowledge and experience in the field. The participants from various academic institutions, think tanks, Abbottabad University of Science and Technology Abbottabad, Haripur University, Hazara University Mansehra, Government Post Graduate College Mansehra, Government Post Graduate College Abbottabad, government agencies, local Government Department and non-governmental organizations, providing a wide range of perspectives and insights into the multifaceted aspects of the bilateral relationship. Their diverse backgrounds and expertise enriched the qualitative data collected through open-ended questions, offering valuable insights and perspectives for analysis in this study.

**Secondly, write Responses to Open-Ended Questions in the given way**

**1. Main Causes of Political Instability in Pakistan**

Summarize the general perceptions of respondents regarding the causes of political instabilityA complex interplay of historical, governance, economic, ethnic, and external factors drives Pakistan's political instability. Deeply ingrained border disputes and communal tensions were left behind by colonial partition, and democratic institutions were regularly undermined by military coups. Public trust is further undermined by corruption and poor governance, which are made worse by economic inequality and reliance on foreign aid. Internal conflicts are fueled by ethnic and sectarian divisions, and violence is often a result of extremism and militancy, which are influenced by regional instability. External pressures are also generated by the geopolitical context

of the world and the tense relations between India and Pakistan. Instability is exacerbated by a political culture dominated by dynasties, frequent leadership crises, the media's powerful influence, and public protests. The ongoing political unrest is also a result of judicial activism and antiquated legal systems, which calls for extensive reforms to bring about stability.

## **2. Influence of Socio-Economic Factors on Political Stability**

Introduction: Describe the connection between socio-economic factors and political stability as perceived by respondents. In every nation, socioeconomic variables are a major influence on political stability. High rates of unemployment, poverty, and economic inequality frequently spark social unrest and widespread discontent, which can topple political regimes. Anger and dissatisfaction towards the government rise when a sizable section of the populace finds it difficult to meet their basic needs, which may spark protests and other disturbances. In contrast, increasing economic growth and a fair distribution of wealth can improve political stability by encouraging a feeling of inclusivity and contentment among the populace. Stability is also enhanced by improvements in health and education, which make the public better informed and able to participate more actively in politics. Moreover, strong economic initiatives that lower poverty and generate jobs can boost public confidence in government and other institutions. Socioeconomic factors, which have a direct impact on how the public views and supports the government, are essentially essential to preserving political stability. These factors include healthcare, education, employment opportunities, and income distribution.

## **3. Recent Events Impacting Political Stability**

Introduction: Introduce recent events that have been highlighted by respondents. A number of recent events have had an impact on global political stability, including the COVID-19 pandemic, which put a strain on economies and healthcare systems and sparked public unrest and protests; the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which resulted in economic sanctions, humanitarian crises, and geopolitical tensions; and widespread economic instability and inflation, which sparked unrest in several nations. Furthermore, social movements centred around racial justice and gender equality have mobilised significant political action, while environmental issues and climate change have propelled political movements and policy demands. Global politics are complicated and unstable due to political polarisation, the emergence of populist leaders, and the growing frequency of cyberthreats and disinformation campaigns that erode public confidence in political processes.

## **4. Impact of Regional Conflicts on Political Climate**

Introduction: Outline the perceived effects of regional conflicts on Pakistan's political climate. Regional conflicts exacerbate instability, interfere with governance, and exacerbate socioeconomic problems, all of which have a substantial impact on the political environment. The infrastructure and resources of the neighbouring countries are frequently strained by these conflicts, which frequently result in humanitarian crises including widespread displacement and refugee flows. Additionally, they can intensify political, religious, and ethnic tensions both within and between states. These tensions frequently cross national boundaries and attract the attention of regional and global powers, which broadens the scope of instability.

Another crucial effect of conflict is economic disruption, since these events can lead to economic downturns that further sour the political climate by destroying trade, investment, and infrastructure. Furthermore, by strengthening militant organisations and non-state actors, making peacekeeping operations more difficult, and creating conditions that encourage crime and terrorism, regional conflicts can weaken state authority and governance. As governments attempt to address or take advantage of the changing circumstances, the ensuing instability frequently causes changes in political alliances on a national and international level. It can also result in changes in leadership and policy direction. All things considered, regional conflicts have a significant impact on the political landscape because they pose complex problems requiring well-coordinated solutions.

## 5. Suggestions for Government Improvement

Introduction: Present respondents' views on how the government can enhance political stability. To improve governance, strengthening democratic institutions is essential, which includes ensuring judicial independence through transparent appointments and adequate funding, and implementing electoral reforms for free and fair elections. Promoting decentralization empowers local governments, making them more responsive to constituents' needs. Establishing robust anti-corruption bodies with investigative and prosecutorial powers, along with strong whistleblower protections, is crucial for restoring public trust. Encouraging civil society engagement by creating forums for dialogue, supporting civic education, and protecting activists' rights can also enhance democratic governance. These measures collectively build resilient institutions capable of addressing citizens' needs and maintaining political stability.

**Table 1: Main Survey Results**

**Note: Its just a sample, you have to filled key findings in very brief manner, while theme is ok, no need to change.**

| Theme                       | Key Findings  |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Causes of instability?      | Corruption and Governance Issues, Economic Disparities, Political Interference by External Forces |
| Socio-economic impact?      | Income Inequality, Education and Awareness  |
| Recent impactful events?    | Political Protests and Movements, Economic Crises   |
| Regional conflicts' effect? | Border Tensions, Internal Security Challenges   |
| Government improvements?    | Policy Reforms, Transparency and Accountability   |

### Quantitative Part

**Table 1: Demographic Characteristics and Familiarity Political Instability in Pakistan**

| Demographic Characteristic | Response Options       | Percentage |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Gender                     | Male                   | 49.5%      |
|                            | Female                 | 46.7%      |
| Age                        | 20 – 25                | 23.8%      |
|                            | 26 – 30                | 23.8       |
|                            | 31 – 35                | 24.8       |
|                            |                        |            |
| Educational Background     | Undergraduate student  | 23.8%      |
|                            | Graduate student       | 23.8%      |
|                            | Faculty/Teacher        | 24.8%      |
|                            | Other (please specify) | 24.8%      |
| Familiarity with Topic     | Not familiar at all    | 20-0%      |
|                            | Somewhat familiar      | 41.0%      |
|                            | Very familiar          | 36.2%      |

Source: Author's survey.

Demography survey.

Pakistan has long struggled with political instability, which has a significant impact on the country's socioeconomic environment. In order to gain a complete understanding of its impact, a survey with a representative sample of the country's demographic proportions—48.4% male respondents and 51.6% female respondents—was undertaken. The findings show that the country

is struggling with intricate political dynamics. Male participants frequently mentioned unemployment and inflation as the main causes of instability, which is understandable given their jobs as wage earners and workers. Concerns about social services and security were brought up by female respondents, who also emphasised how vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected by political unrest. There is a general desire for systemic reforms as both genders indicated a lack of confidence in political leadership and governance structures. The gender-disaggregated data emphasises how distinct population segments are impacted differently by political instability, forming different priorities and points of view. This thorough analysis highlights the complexity of Pakistan's political instability and the need for inclusive policymaking that takes into account the varied needs of the country's population.

### **Age survey**

Pakistan has long struggled with political instability, which has a significant impact on the country's socioeconomic environment. An understanding of this instability is provided by a survey that was designed to represent the demographic proportions of the country, with 51.6% of respondents being female and 48.4% of respondents being male. The poll also included an age category for respondents: 32% of respondents were over 35, 18.5% were between the ages of 31 and 35, and 21.5% were between the ages of 26 and 30.

The survey found that different age groups had varying concerns. Younger respondents (20–25) expressed frustration primarily about lack of political representation and limited employment opportunities, which reflected their hopes for a stable future and active participation in its shaping. At the height of their professional careers, the 26–30 age group identified corruption and unstable economies as major obstacles to financial security and career advancement. While respondents over 35 expressed concerns about political corruption, inadequate social services, and the failure of successive governments to provide sustained development and security, those between the ages of 31 and 35 emphasised the need for consistent policies and governance to support family stability and long-term planning.safety

There was a general desire for systemic changes, as evidenced by the shared sentiment of disenchantment with political leadership and governance structures across all demographic groups. The multifaceted nature of Pakistan's political instability is highlighted by this thorough survey, which also emphasises the need for inclusive policy-making that takes into account the varied needs and priorities of the country's citizens regardless of gender or age.

### **Educational Background**

The population's educational background in the state of Amb sheds light on the intellectual and professional climate of the area during the annexation period. Five percent of the population were undergraduates, suggesting that a smaller proportion of young adults were actively pursuing foundational higher education. Notable graduate students made up 55% of the cohort, indicating a strong emphasis on pursuing advanced studies and specialisation. Faculty and teachers accounted for 45% of the cohort, indicating a robust workforce in academia and education. Five percent more fell into other categories that were not specified. This high proportion of educators and graduate students points to a community that is very committed to intellectual growth and academic success, which may be important in determining how the area integrates and develops after annexation.

### **familiarity Survey**

The differing degrees of political familiarity also had an impact on the answers. A general lack of confidence in political leadership was expressed by those who were only somewhat familiar with political instability (33.3%) and those who were not familiar at all (23.7%), while those who were very familiar with it (50%) offered detailed insights into the systemic issues afflicting the nation. The survey highlights the need for inclusive and informed policy-making that addresses the diverse

needs and priorities of its citizens across different genders, ages, and political awareness levels. Overall, the survey highlights the complex and multifaceted nature of political instability in Pakistan.

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics of the Variables (1 Strongly Agree, 2 disagree, 3 Neatural,4 agree, 5 Strongly disagree)

| Variables   | Mean   | Standard Deviation |
|---|--------|--------------------|
| <b>Perceived Political Stability</b>                            | 1.4851 | .50227             |
| The economic situation in Pakistan affects political stability. | 3.4902 | 1.11466            |
| Government corruption contributes to political instability.     | 2.6571 | 1.47302            |
| Social unrest is a major cause of political change in Pakistan. | 2.6893 | .97044             |
| Cross-border tensions contribute to political instability.      | 2.3495 | 1.28878            |
| Social un justice contribute the political instability          | 2.5631 | 1.33336            |

**Source: Author's survey.**

#### **Positive impact of dependent variable.**

Economic Development Perception: Stability in politics can result in better economic policies that encourage investment and job growth. Impact of Demographics: Male respondents and younger respondents (20–25 years old) frequently view the possibility of job creation and economic growth as immediate advantages **Zeeshan, M. et al (2022)**. The intricate economic mechanisms that stability can enhance are understood by those who are very familiar with political issues.

#### **Social Services:**

Perception: Better social, medical, and educational services can be provided as a result of stable governance. Impact of Demographics. People over 35 and women are more likely to stress the need for better social services **Irshad, & Baig, (2022)**. Even those who don't know much about politics acknowledge that better service delivery is possible. Social Services:

#### **Security:**

Perception: Stability is linked to increased law enforcement, which lowers crime and violence. Influence of Demographics: Security is valued by both genders equally, although women tend to emphasise community well-being and personal safety more than men do. While security is viewed as a basic benefit by all age groups, those who are well-versed in the subject are aware of its wider implications for maintaining national stability. Perception: Better social, medical, and educational services can be provided as a result of stable governance. Impact of Demographics: People over 35 and women are more likely to stress the need for better social services. Even those who don't know much about politics acknowledge that better service delivery is possible.

#### **Negative Impact of Dependent Variable:**

##### **Economic**

Perception: Economic uncertainty stemming from political instability discourages investment and results in job losses. Impact of Demographics: Males and younger age groups (20–25, 26–30) usually mention unemployment and financial difficulties. Even people who are completely

uninformed about political matters may sense an overall sense of economic disruption without knowing the precise causes Sulehri, & Ali, . (2020).

#### **A reduction in social services Perception:**

When there is instability, there is frequently inadequate governance and disregard for basic services like healthcare and education. Impact of Demographics: People over 35 and women are especially worried about the state of social services Nadeem, M. A., et al. (2020)... People who are at all familiar with political matters are aware of how they directly affect day-to-day living.

#### **Violence and Insecurity:**

Perception: Terrorism, violence, and a general sense of unease are all products of political instability. Influence of Demographics: Women prioritise community and personal safety. Insecurity is seen negatively by people of all ages, but those who are well-versed in the subject are aware of its wider social ramifications. A reduction in social services.

**Table 3: Multivariate Regression**

| Variables   | Standardized<br>$\beta$ value | t-value | Prob. Value |
|---|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| <b>Demographic Variables</b>                                    |                               |         |             |
| Gender  |                               | 2.787   | 0.006       |
| Age   | -0.064                        | -0.791  | 0.431       |
| Educational Background  | 0.147                         | 1.450   | 0.150       |
| Familiarity with Topic  | -0.327                        | -3.726  | 0.000       |
| <b>Independent Variables</b>                                    |                               |         |             |
| The economic situation in Pakistan affects political stability. | -0.320                        | -3.177  | 0.002       |
| Government corruption contributes to political instability.     | 0.162                         | 1.762   | 0.081       |
| Social unrest is a major cause of political change in Pakistan. | 0.595                         | 6.546   | 0.000       |
| Cross-border tensions contribute to political instability.      | 0.078                         | 0.735   | 0.464       |
| Social un justice contribute the political instability          | -0.219                        | -2.244  | 0.027       |
| <b>Statistical Tests</b>  |                               |         |             |
| R <sup>2</sup>  | 0.445                         |         |             |
| Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>   | 0.396                         |         |             |
| F-statistics  | 9.208                         |         |             |
| F-prob.value  | <.001b                        |         |             |

Source: Author's estimate.

Pakistan's foreign policy and administration are negatively impacted by political instability. Pakistan's socio-economic relations with other nations are hampered by this instability, which results in a decline in foreign direct investment, strained diplomatic relations, and a reduction in bilateral trade and cooperation. The unrest increases the sense of unpredictability that deters foreign participation and business cooperation, highlighting the necessity of counterterrorism and



stability-promoting initiatives. Furthermore, there is a direct correlation between political instability and a rise in terrorism, which exacerbates national security concerns and further destabilises the country {Wu, 2020 #156}. Economic downturns during tumultuous times fuel social unrest and increase the likelihood of terrorist attacks. It is imperative to tackle political instability through fortifying democratic institutions, enacting forceful counterterrorism measures, cultivating an investor-friendly economic milieu, and guaranteeing coherence in foreign policy {Rauf, 2022 #157}. Taking steps to lessen political unrest is vital for strengthening national security, preserving an effective foreign policy, and improving Pakistan's socioeconomic circumstances {Rauf, 2022 #158}. A thorough investigation of the correlation between a number of variables and political instability in Pakistan is provided by the multivariate regression table. The main conclusions and their interpretation are provided below:

Pakistan's economic status has an impact on political stability. Value of Standardised  $\beta$ : -0.320; t-value: -3.177; Probability: 0.002 Interpretation: With a p-value less than 0.05, political stability is significantly impacted negatively by the state of the economy. The statistical findings presented suggest that Pakistan's economic situation has a detrimental impact on political stability. With a standardised  $\beta$  value of -0.320, the relationship appears to be moderately negative, indicating that political stability tends to decline as economic conditions worsen. The substantial t-value of -3.177 corroborates the validity of this relationship {Wu, 2020 #159}. Furthermore, the statistical significance of this negative impact is confirmed by the probability value (p-value) of 0.002, which is significantly lower than the traditional threshold of 0.05. Therefore, the evidence clearly indicates that political instability in Pakistan is likely to be exacerbated by economic downturns or instability {Khan, 2024 #160}.

Political unrest is exacerbated by official corruption. t-value: 1.762; standardised  $\beta$  value: 0.162; probability value: 0.081 Interpretation: Political instability is positively impacted by government corruption, albeit not significantly ( $p > 0.05$ , but close to 0.05). Some significant conclusions emerge from the examination of the connection between political instability and government corruption. The two variables have a positive association, as indicated by the standardised  $\beta$  coefficient of 0.162, indicating that political unrest increases in tandem with levels of official corruption. This positive  $\beta$  coefficient suggests that, all other things being equal, there is a corresponding increase of 0.162 units in political instability for every unit increase in corruption (measured in standard deviations).

In Pakistan, social unrest is a major factor in political change. Value of Standardised  $\beta$ : 0.595; t-value: 6.546; Probability: 0.000 Interpretation: With a p-value less than 0.05, social unrest has a highly significant positive effect on political instability {Wahab, 2024 #161}. Additional information regarding the strength of this relationship can be found in the t-value of 1.762. Generally, a two-tailed test at  $\alpha = 0.05$  is deemed statistically significant if the t-value is greater than 1.96. The correlation between political instability and corruption in this instance is not statistically significant at the traditional 0.05 level, as the t-value of 1.762 is below this cutoff. The result, however, is only a hair's breadth away from the significance threshold (p-value of 0.081), indicating a trend in the direction of significance. Even with the non-significant p-value, the direction and magnitude of the  $\beta$  coefficient still reveal important details about the connection between instability and corruption. The positive correlation suggests that higher levels of political unrest typically correspond with higher levels of corruption, in line with theoretical predictions and real-world findings in various settings. The positive correlation between increased levels of political unrest and corruption is consistent with both theoretical expectations and empirical observations in various contexts.

Tensions across borders are a factor in political instability. t-value: 0.735; standardised  $\beta$  value: 0.078; probability value: 0.464 Interpretation: Political instability is positively but not significantly impacted by cross-border tensions ( $p > 0.05$ ). Regarding the cross-border tension factor, the standardised  $\beta$  value of 0.078 and the t-value of 0.735 suggest that there is a positive correlation

between political instability and cross-border tensions, although it is not statistically significant{Abbas, 2019 #162}. It is confirmed that this relationship is not significant at the 0.05 level by the probability value (p-value) of 0.464. This implies that, although there may be a tendency for political instability to rise in response to elevated levels of cross-border tensions, there is insufficient evidence in the data to support this relationship in a way that is statistically significant. In summary, although the provided data indicates a positive correlation between cross-border tensions and political instability, this relationship is not statistically significant. Although social injustice is thought to play a major role in political instability, a thorough empirical analysis in pertinent contexts will be necessary to determine its precise impact.

Political instability is a result of social injustice. Value of Standardised  $\beta$ : -0.219; Value of t-value: -2.244; Probability: 0.027 Interpretation: Political instability is significantly impacted negatively by social injustice, with a p-value of less than 0.05. Political instability and social injustice have a negative correlation, as indicated by the standardised  $\beta$  value of -0.219. This implies that there is a negative correlation between political instability and higher levels of social injustice{Awan, 2020 #163}. The statistical significance of the negative relationship is indicated by the t-value of -2.244. When conducting a two-tailed test at  $\alpha = 0.05$ , a t-value of more than 1.96 generally indicates statistical significance. The statistical significance of the relationship between political instability and social injustice is demonstrated by the fact that the t-value in this instance, which is -2.244, surpasses this threshold. This interpretation is further supported by the p-value of 0.027, which is the probability value. The results are statistically significant at the 0.05 level if the p-value is less than 0.05, which offers compelling evidence that social injustice significantly contributes to political instability. In conclusion, according to the offered statistical analysis: Political instability and social injustice are significantly correlated negatively Political instability is correlated with higher levels of social injustice.

According to this research, social injustice remedies may be able to lessen political unrest in a particular setting. Tests of Statistics R<sup>2</sup>: 0.445 Interpretation: The model explains about 44.5% of the variance in political instability. This suggests that the explanatory power is moderate. The results of the regression analysis show that social injustice, social unrest, economic conditions, gender, and topic familiarity all have a substantial impact on political instability in Pakistan{KHAN, 2022 #164}. While social unrest has a strong positive impact, the state of the economy and social injustice have negative effects. Although they add to the model, cross-border tensions, age, educational background, and government corruption do not exhibit statistically significant effects. R<sup>2</sup> = 0.445 indicates that the model accounts for a moderate amount of the variation in political instability.

## Conclusion

Through an analysis of the underlying socio-political dynamics and an understanding of its regional implications, the study sought to address Pakistan's pervasive political instability. Pakistan's political instability has been typified by frequent changes of government, military takeovers, civil unrest, and economic difficulties. These problems have a substantial impact on South Asian geopolitical dynamics and regional security in addition to Pakistan's internal stability and governance. The goal of the research was to provide a thorough understanding of the intricate interactions between different socio-political elements and their effects on both the domestic and regional levels by looking into the underlying causes and contributing factors of this instability.

With an emphasis on political, socioeconomic, and historical aspects, this study sought to determine the underlying causes of Pakistan's political instability. It evaluated the institutional and governance issues that contribute to instability as well as the socio-political dynamics, such as religious influences, ethnic conflicts, and the military's influence in politics. The study also looked at economic problems like unemployment and poverty and the effects of Pakistan's instability on

South Asian security regionally. In the end, the study aimed to provide concrete policy suggestions that would lessen instability and advance sustainable development and governance.

Pakistan, a South Asian nation with a complicated sociopolitical environment and important region, served as the research site. Pakistan, a South Asian nation with a complicated sociopolitical environment and a big regional influence, was the research site. all sway.

Policymakers, political analysts, academics, and other interested parties with a stake in South Asian politics, governance, and security are among the target audiences for this study. The study also intends to educate diplomatic missions and international organisations engaged in efforts to maintain regional stability. In addition to secondary data source analysis, the qualitative data sample size consisted of 50 key informants, including academics, journalists, political figures, and representatives of civil society.

The research findings indicate that a blend of historical legacies, socio-economic disparities, and inadequate governance structures propel political instability in Pakistan. Tensions between different ethnic and religious groups and the military's widespread political influence are major causes of the continuous instability. Economic difficulties, in particular unemployment and poverty, make these problems worse. Pakistan's instability has repercussions on the region, impacting security dynamics in South Asia and strained ties with neighbouring nations. The study made clear that in order to successfully handle these complex issues, extensive reforms in social cohesion, economic policy, and governance are required.

The study's conclusion emphasises that political instability in Pakistan is a complex problem with a foundation in socioeconomic, political, and historical variables. The research achieved its goals by recognising and examining these dynamics, which highlighted the crucial roles played by economic difficulties, military power, and tensions between different ethnic and religious groups. These results highlight the necessity of specific governance and economic policy reforms in order to promote stability. Resolving these issues is essential for improving regional security and cooperation in South Asia, as well as for the internal development and cohesion of Pakistan. The study's implications emphasise how crucial it is to make thorough and ongoing efforts in order to bring about long-lasting political stability in Pakistan.

### **Policy Recommendations:**

Provide medium-, long-, and short-term policy recommendations in this section based on the variables and their relationships that were examined. This section can be organised as follows:

- **Short-Term Policy Recommendations (5):**

- By taking care of the people's immediate economic needs and building a sense of security, strengthening these safety nets will contribute to the reduction of social unrest and the defence of political stability.
- Establish strict anti-corruption policies and improve openness in government to regain the public's trust and lessen political unrest. Create impartial anti-corruption organisations with the power to thoroughly look into and prosecute corrupt behaviour.
- To reduce social unrest and advance political stability, encourage inclusive discourse and address socioeconomic complaints. Strengthen community engagement programmes and make sure resources are distributed fairly in order to ease tensions and promote long-lasting political change.
- To ease tensions across borders and advance political stability, uphold diplomatic efforts and expand regional collaboration. To resolve disputes and promote amicable relations

with surrounding nations, put in place measures to boost confidence and participate in bilateral and multilateral discussions.

- Policies should prioritise the equitable distribution of resources and the reinforcement of legal frameworks that guarantee fair treatment for all citizens in order to address the political instability brought on by social injustice. Furthermore, promoting inclusive communication between governing bodies and marginalised communities can help to reduce tensions and strengthen social bonds.

- **Medium-Term Policy Recommendations**

- ✓ To improve political stability, implement structural economic reforms that will diversify the economy, lessen reliance on a small number of industries, and encourage sustainable economic growth.
- ✓ bolster judicial and institutional frameworks in order to effectively fight corruption and improve governance accountability.
- ✓ To lessen social unrest in Pakistan, socioeconomic reforms that address inequality and promote inclusive governance should be given top priority in medium-term policy recommendations.
- ✓ By putting diplomatic talks and conflict resolution procedures into place, political instability can be decreased by easing cross-border tensions.
- ✓ Reducing political instability requires addressing social injustice through fair policies and inclusive governance frameworks.

- **Long-Term Policy Recommendations**

- Pakistan's economic circumstances have a substantial impact on political stability, making sustainable economic policies and reforms necessary to foster stability.
- Strict anti-corruption measures and transparent governance reforms are necessary because government corruption erodes public trust and fuels political instability.
- To lessen social unrest and advance stability in Pakistan, long-term policy recommendations should concentrate on thorough institutional reforms and persistent efforts to address socioeconomic disparities.
- In order to reduce tensions across borders and maintain political stability, strong frameworks for international cooperation and conflict resolution must be developed.
- Reducing political instability requires addressing social injustice with all-encompassing reforms and just policies

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