



TARIQ MUSHTAQ

# DEMOCRACY VS FILTHY POLITICIANS

**“Democracy is when the indigent,  
and not the men of property, are the rulers”**  
(Aristotle)

The chant was heard again and again once in 1986 and then in 2007, at the Benazir’s return back home marches. In 1986, a day after almost one year of Zia’s try to step back into so called “**democracy**” with his selected team headed by Muhammad Khan Junejo through non-party elections, and then another day in 2007, at Karachi when she stepped back after a long self-exile, after Musharaf’s notorious NROs for her husband Asif A Zardari. **Were those determined gatherings, a part of what democracy should look like?**

**What’s Democracy and where in the world it is found?** Is it in United Kingdom, or in Europe, or any other place in the world? It’s not found anywhere except United States. The American system is closer to the democracy, if it means the right to vote. Nowhere else this system has ever proved to be successful. If we watch the American system closely, it’s also dependent on Pentagon’s approval, without Pentagon’s approval, no party can win the elections and no president can rule successfully. **THEN, where is democracy and what is democracy? Is it a “Demo” of “hypocrisy?”**

Democracy cannot consist solely on elections that are nearly always factious and managed by rich landowners and professional politicians. Democracy cannot be imposed on any nation from outside; each society must work for its own path. Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. **The real safeguard to democracy, therefore, is education.**

The present system of democracy called “**Parliament form of government**” is not at all a democratic form, it’s the renaissance of “**colonial system of government**”, where the governor general, a representative of the crown, headed the colonial states with a dummy prime minister elected from the slaves, but powers remained with the Governor General. Its refreshed form has converted “**Governor General**” into the “**President**” with limited powers, but government is run by the Prime Minister, with full powers.

**Democracy is a device that insures we shall be governed no better than we deserve, it substitutes elections by the incompetent many for appointment of the corrupt few. If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of corrupts, mugs and fools.**

Democracy also looks like what we see on the floors of the parliament and senate, unstable and disgusted, just wasting time and money. Their main emphasis is always encircled with their own interests and not for the public. Though by use of the ballot, our nation got fortified with exceptional achievements, the voters changed the face of government in 2018, but system remained there, futile, non-effective, non-development, without a direction and short of vision. Every time we have a hope of change with every new government, and every time we fall into another ditch of despair, depression and misery, with the same old excuses and same old promises, but with new faces. In 2018, nation, with great expectations tried to change the musical chair game of two parties, adding a new party with confidence and high hopes. With every passing day, hopes are dying with desperation and fear. **Fear of change to old faces.**

**The difference between a democracy and dictatorship is that  
in democracy you vote first and take orders later;  
In dictatorship you don’t have to waste your time voting**

(Charles Bukowski)

It was genuinely thrilling to see how free elections can allow citizens to bring about so much transformation in such a short time. The electoral rebuke to Nawaz Sharif showed that those who marched and demonstrated against him assumed that change of assembly was only the first step toward achieving their goals. They then planned how to persuade to elect a majority that would stand up to the prime minister and his pliant allies. Then they should have executed the hard work towards proper planning for stability in financial, industrial and agricultural sectors. Rapid development in educational and health sectors was another requirement, leaving aside the refurbishment of national institutions like PIA, Wapda, Karachi Steel and Railways. **Imran Khan is trying to prevail, but lacks team. People are worried, how the system will get on the right track?**

It’s without doubt that the new majority gave the hollow designation a proper standing with the purpose of expanding democracy while pushing back against corruption. The headline aspects of the legislation took aim at Nawaz and Zardari era sleaze, including a requirement that they should be prosecuted against the mentioned corruption and tightening of ethical rules.

But the guts are all about making our system more democratic, contributions from corporations controlled by foreign entities should immediately be banned. It interferes in our system and is deep rooted to defame our sensitive institutions. The most unfortunate part is that some of our political anacondas are also involved in this dirty game. For stability of a democratic system and to avoid the interference of the rich and corrupt, the proposal is a new campaign finance system designed to limit big money's power in elections, to encourage candidates to rely on small donors rather than the typically self-interested generosity of the wealthy.

**While analyzing the role of PPP and PMLN for democracy, it's clear that there's a lot of difference in policy of PPP of Benazir Bhutto and PPP of Zardari. When we analyze the role of Zardari's PPP and Nawaz's PML, Zardari acts more democratically than Nawaz. Nawaz has a tyrant approach, he has always behaved more dictatorially than any other ruler. Zardari has transformed himself into the God-Father of PPP, his party-men follow him out of fear than respect, or maybe they don't find another forum for their political standing. Others, like Maulana Fazal, Asfandyar, Achakzai, Siraj ul Haq and Chaudries are always in search of money with or without power. They bend towards those who pay for their loyalty. Imran Khan's party jumped into the politics and broke the two party's musical chair game, which is disturbing not only for the two major players but all other beneficiaries. On the other side, people have a hope of positive change from Imran Khan, but our political system and all old legateses may not let him fix the required conservations of the disturbed system.**

Real democracy in our country is a long game. It earnestly requires "EDUCATION", it involves pressuring those who resist reforms, always offering proposals for future elections. Protecting and enhancing democracy should be the central cause of the every political party. Democracy is, after all, what allowed it to come into being, and opposition's hostility to democratic norms must be challenged at every turn.

**In our country, democracy is the name of desire, authority, supremacy and controls. It's a game for monetary gains, military or civil, all are players in this dirty game since 1970, in the name of democracy. Whenever challenged, immediately "democracy" jumps in with fever, ailment, deadly disease and fear of death. The filthy political techniques openly prove that "democracy" is going to die, with crafting a fear; the country will divide into parts. Democracy itself is in a state of shock for her misuse by the corrupt politicians and always worried about her fate; what next they are going to do with her?**

# **“Is Democracy the right to make the wrong choice?”**

(John Patrick)

**At this moment, there's an advice for all who treasure democratic institutions, Democracy in our country can flourish, however it requires a stringent control on dirty politics.**

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