
DEMOCRATIC INCENTIVIZATION IN PAKISTAN WITH REFERENCE TO SOCIO-POLITICAL EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

The idea of universal franchise serves as a core fundamental of the modern democratic framework, where each person enjoys their right to vote. But the societies with low political literacy and poor understanding are intellectually misused by religious and political demagogues, resulting in populist governments. Pakistani society faces some additional problems of a traditional feudal and ethnic nature in this regard. This paper aims to address this lacuna and suggests the introduction of incentivization project for voters depending upon their socio-political understandings. Formal education serves as the objective standard for this incentivization scheme. It would result in the rise of literacy rate and political awareness, which would ultimately foster the true democratic values and rational abilities among the people. This is a qualitative study; statements are made after carefully monitoring political developments and taking part in academic and intellectual discussions about the topic, which are mainly supported by public material. The general structure of the study has been formed after a careful analysis of scholarly arguments and news stories. The democratic concept of Universal

Franchise is challenged under discussion. Analytical and descriptive approaches are used to explore and portray the main democratic concepts along with the relationships between them. The study relies heavily on secondary sources because gathering empirical data would have been expensive and not possible at all times. Nevertheless, this limitation was ultimately surmounted through deduction and appraisal of the corpus of information as presented in books, official documents, and research articles.

KEYWORDS

Democratic Incentivization, Socio-Political Education, Political Awareness, Religious and Political Demagogues, Traditional Feudal and Ethnic Nature

INTRODUCTION

The universal adult franchise has become the fundamental and inherent contour of Democracy. It has become an integral part that different socio-political makeups consider it as the essence of democracy. This principle of universal suffrage advocates for the One Man, One Vote right, which seems to be quite justified. However, the problems and contradictions arise in third-world underdeveloped societies where illiterate masses are in bulk, and their political understanding is almost vague. These societies seem to have a corroded political culture, and the leadership with better manipulation skills appears to prevail by majority support. Consequently, the governance, effective policy making and development are replaced by emotional manipulation skills as the objective standard of electoral success. This cycle almost diminishes the essence of democracy, and the democratic outlook remains visible only with no soul. To address this problem, we devise an alternative framework in which One Man One Vote is amended by incentivizing the people with a greater number of votes as per political understandings of the person. And formal education in social sciences is considered as the tangible standard of rating these political understandings. The pragmatic feasibility of this project is addressed and analyzed in detail.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The main concepts of Socrates' criticisms adhered within the works of the student of Socrates, Plato. In his works such as 'The Republic' and 'The Apology', Socrates argued through his dialogues that most people lack the wisdom and knowledge necessary for governance. He believed that this deficiency would prevent the majority from ruling effectively, ultimately leading to the deterioration of society.

Plato introduces three types of fake regimes that manifest his fear and under desire for the rule of the masses. According to the philosopher-king, the importance of the ruler is the person who is not only of a certain kind of intellect but also displays good moral characteristics. This method will be the source of dissimilarity compared to the modern understanding of democracy, even though it won't abolish its special roles in a big ethical debate which concerns political power and governance.

Steinman's, Blanco, and Vollan (2024) demonstrate that in the complex field of "Conditional payments for democracy to local leaders managing natural resources in rural Namibia," they provide the ground for everyone to comprehend the dynamics of moral building within the democratic sphere. Their study proves that, if incentivized decisions are rewarded, they can also amend community leaders' involvement in political processes from their position to veer towards a democratic process and therefore, one can see a similar impact from the educated people on voting behaviours.

M Mendible (2024) in "American Fury: Moreover, "Essays on Moral Rage and Booze in Culture and Politics" studies human aspects of democracy and stipulates how moral outrage can have an idea of powerful incentive for enactments of law and the mobilization of voters. Mendible's article that reveals the emotional constituents of political involvement puts forward the hypothesis that socio-political learning grants electors' non-ignorant wide indignation, which in turn results in the politically robust progress of a democratic discourse.

L Leucht (2023) provides a historical analysis in "Jobs for Votes: Patronage and the New York City Police Department in the Tammany Hall," addressing the irresponsibility of patronage in terms of political participation. This research into voter bribery through economic and social incentives helps us in getting a good picture such as today's debates of bribing a certain group of citizens through education.

In "Political Economy Impacts of Muslim Religious Institutions: The Entity of Sufi Khanaqahs of India," T Rauf (2023), studies the involvement of religious institutions in advantaging the participation in the market, which he stretches to the idealistic role of educational institutions in inspiring the voting behaviour. Rauf's criticism of Moore expands the dialogue on the role of socio-political education in the promotion of democratic participation. He emphasizes the advantages of using this tool against the elite.

W Deng (2023) analyses the mechanisms by which democratic leaders become motivated to pursue voters' interests in trade policy in "Democratic Responsiveness to Consumer Interests in Trade Policy", she examines this in terms of how an

educated electorate can over the gap between the need of a sophisticated voter and political action, puts that such can be achieved by means of social-political education.

The technical research by Franser, Lelvalli, and Sillen (2023), named "Parameterized Complexity of Gerrymandering," deeply touches on borderline manipulation, which is a useful contribution to the topic of election incentivization. This study may indicate that an educated electorate could request fairer representations since education is a relevant social-political factor in promoting the democratic process that produces equal and fair representatives.

A Walker (2023) explores the role of "Strategic Language and Its Effect on Perceptions of Action and Talkers," creating an awareness on how language interventions shape the political party affiliation and voting behaviour. Such a finding by Walker can certainly be considered as a promising development for politico-sociological education that can increase the quality of democratic participation and its authenticity.

K Tang's (2023) "Democracy, Distributive Politics, and Development Finance: The evidence from Africa" presents a comparative framework as far as the benefits of voting incentives are concerned. Tang's discoveries, hence, will point out the detailed connection on between political incentives, socio-economic outcomes, and the revolutionary ability of socio-political education in transforming the citizenship.

In "Incentive Effects of Recall Election Acts," W Zhu (2023) extensively researches into the relationship between the recall elections and governance behaviours, further exposing a different angle from which to view the broader implications of electoral mechanisms. Zhu's study additionally explains that there is a possibility that the reward for socio-political education might make an impact on democratic governance and civic engagement.

Moreover, C Johnson (2023) in "Political power sharing in post-conflict democracies" investigates vertical and horizontal accountability effect build a theoretical and empirical understanding base for understanding the design of institutions on democracy. President Johnson's solutions show that the civic education emphasis in the socio-political space is pivotal to accountable and stable governments.

Lastly, Estlund (2008) argued quite the opposite to the idea of incentivizing the voters based on their intellectual understandings. He advocates equal voting rights to all the people, and if it would be the other way around, it leads to inequality and elitism, creating epistocracy. This would pave the way for a legitimacy crisis and the fallibility of expertise.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

This research adopts a qualitative approach, with its findings and statements developed through meticulous observation of political developments and active participation in academic and intellectual discussions surrounding the topic. These insights are primarily supported by publicly available materials, providing a foundation for the study. The structure of the research has been carefully designed after an in-depth analysis of scholarly arguments, theoretical debates, and relevant news reports to ensure a comprehensive exploration of the subject matter. The democratic principle of Universal Franchise is critically examined, challenging its application and relevance in the context of Pakistan.

To achieve its objectives, the study employs both analytical and descriptive methodologies, enabling a detailed examination of fundamental democratic concepts and their intricate interconnections. Despite the wide range of discussions on this topic presented earlier, there was a research gap that this paper tries to fulfill by addressing this discourse from the perspective of Pakistan, considering its local socioeconomic realities to reach any conclusive results through a systematic process of deduction, critical evaluation, and interpretation of a wide array of information. This includes resources such as books, official documents, research articles, and other credible academic sources. By synthesizing these diverse materials, the study presents a nuanced and well-rounded perspective on the issues at hand, contributing meaningfully to the ongoing discourse on democratic frameworks.

OVERVIEW OF UNIVERSAL VOTING FRANCHISE

Universal Voting Franchise, as described earlier, is a universal concept that every adult of the state deserves to have the right to vote irrespective of gender, class, race and education, and is considered the fundamental characteristic of democracy, especially in modern times. This universal franchise for voting has a history of political struggle in different parts of the world. It has not been an overnight phenomenon. However, with the passage of time, as it propagates to different societies in the world, this democratic structure brings along some challenges with it as well, which are quite prominent in third-world states. We shall go through these problems to examine how they become challenges and hindrances in the way of the true spirit of democracy.

POPULIST NARRATIVES

Populism refers to the radical trend of ‘us vs them’ in a political spectrum which comes out of over-simplification of political problems and dynamics of a state.

When this bifurcation drawn by the masses of the society is grounded in emotional appeal and rhetoric more than a technical and pragmatic understanding, this trend is labeled as growing populism. It is a thin-centred ideology which can get attached to any rightist or leftist narrative. Prevailing populist trends all across the world and even in some developed countries have become a major question on democratic values for academia. The trajectory of populist trends has witnessed a huge rise in post-cold war era with leaders like Rafael Correa of Ecuador, Evo Morales of Bolivia, Mirek Topolánek of the Czech, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan of Turkey, Vladimir Putin of Russia, Donald Trump of USA, Narendra Modi of India and Imran Khan of Pakistan secured electoral trust of people with their populist narratives, which were based on emotional manipulations of religion, culture, beliefs, race or ideological biases. According to Boseley (2019), statistical data was published in ‘The Guardian’ depicting the rising chants of populist leaders all across the globe. In the following graph, leaders are rated on a 0 to 2 scale on the basis of their populist speeches and policies. From 2000 to 2019, the average populist score in all 40 nations has doubled, from 0.2 to approximately 0.4. During that time, the number of nations with presidents rated as at least "somewhat" populist (a score of 0.5 and above) has also increased, going from seven in 2004 to about 14 in more recent times.



Source: *The Guardian*, March 6, 2019

RELIGIOUS MANIPULATIONS

Similarly, the voters were intellectually controlled by the religious narratives to win their support by some religious groups. The democratic standards of Good Governance, Welfare Policing and Development are replaced by religious rhetoric. This has also disturbed the essence of democracy. The religious manipulation is significant in less developed countries where literacy and the political understanding of people are significantly low. The rising trends of Hindutva, catchy policies like Ram Mandir establishment in India and Tehreek e Labaik Pakistan becoming the third biggest party in its first general election are self-evident to state the rise of religious fanaticism in underdeveloped societies.

CASTE BARADARI SYSTEM IN PAKISTAN

Christopher Jaffer lot in his article in India Today, established that General Elections of Lok Sabha in India are exclusively influenced by caste and baradaris. Scheduled classes and Other Backwards Classes (OBCs) are the key players in the electoral process. Therefore, the political parties nominate their candidates by keeping in view the demography of the constituency from a caste perspective. The candidate with a similar caste as the majority of people is preferred irrespective of his education, skills and political understanding (India Today, April 19, 2019). Exact same systematic flaw is replicated in Pakistan and other underdeveloped states. The majority of rural areas in Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan have caste-based voting behaviours. Specific castes and baradaris dominate specific regions. The quantitative research has been made recently, in which students stated their opinions about the role of caste and baradari in socio-political dynamics. About 88% respondents accepted that electoral process of Punjab is caste and baradari based. Simultaneously, 74% respondents declined any positivity in this baradari-influenced electoral process. These statistics clearly depict the trends of the electoral process (Rehman and Algama, 2022).

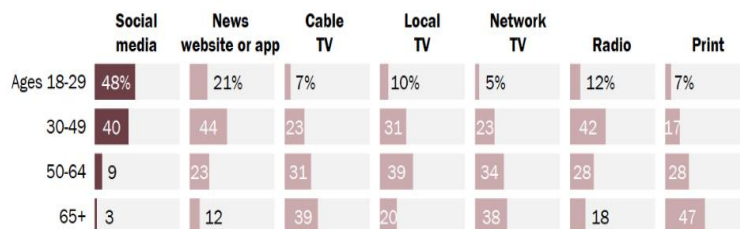
SOCIAL MEDIA WARFARE WINS

Similarly, social media has appeared to be the most pivotal tool in shaping political behaviours in recent times. The priorities of political parties shifted from good governance and welfare administration to social media marketing and advertisements to gain massive support. In addition, masses were sometimes easily manipulated and ditched due to a low level of political literacy. In an informal Instagram survey conducted on The Daily Universe's account, 89% of the 273 respondents said social media influenced their political opinions and engagement (Merkley, 2020). This is an alarming number. Social media propaganda and

campaigning have played an important role in the rise of populism. The Pew Research Centre states that the majority of the young population in the US relies on social media for news (which is full of propaganda and biased reporting); this proportion could be even higher in underdeveloped countries.

Those who get most political news from social media most likely to be under 30

Among U.S. adults who say each pathway is the most common way they get political and election news, % who are ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Oct. 29-Nov. 11, 2019.

"Americans Who Mainly Get Their News on Social Media Are Less Engaged, Less Knowledgeable"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The Pew Research Center found 48% of people age 18-29 get most of their news from social media. (Pew Research Center)

Source: The Pew Research Centre

Jeremy Bentham's Idea of Representation

Keeping in view the aforementioned problems, Vitali (2021) quoted that Jeremy Bentham proposed a solution to bring intellectual and deserving leadership to government. He tried to solve the problems with reference to elected representatives. He emphasized on their role and power to call the elected leaders as “Deputes”. In his work “Constitutional Code” he developed the rationalist model of democracy where the elected elite is free from any accountability and dependence to fulfill the public demands and narratives. The idea behind it is same that the common masses couldn’t make the best choice in administration and policy formulation for state. The elected experts shall have autonomy to perform these crucial tasks independently of any external public influence. On the contrary, Bentham also endorsed the participatory element in this model to avoid aristocratic tendencies. He also emphasized the inclusion of public choice as their fundamental right to choose depute, whom they consider experts and beneficial. Whereas this double-faced approach of Bentham is critiqued by many, such as Mill and Schumpeter, they called it a ‘Majoritarian Fallacy’. Truth is the end of politics to them, and it shall prevail in any circumstances. And this truth can only be reached by enlightened ones and not the ordinary masses. Bentham tried to overcome this problem by introducing the ‘Inspection Principle’ in socio-political structure. This

principal advocates for constant inspection of the people under observation. The Panopticon prison scheme is a practical implication of this principle. Bentham advocated the same to be followed in schooling and education, where people shall be trained and indoctrinated in a way that they opt for only those choices which are in accordance with the pre-determined choice of intellectual elite.

To further improve the democratic dynamics, Bentham proposed that the legislature and executive should be completely separate with each other. Legislature shall be made of representatives elected by the people, whereas the executive shall consist of technocrats and field experts who possess enough intellectual capacity to run the administration of their concerned niche and field. They shall be appointed through examination and a defined academic recruitment process. This would ensure efficiency in the administrative departments of the state. Resultantly, the maximum 'Utility' would be made, the ultimate objective of democracy according to Bentham. He accepts the pragmatic reality of 'Sinister Interests'. But this partial self-driven interest would not come at the cost of public interest, and good governance would prevail (Vitali, 2021). This democratic framework of Bentham is an alternative to the same problem of democracy which we aim to address. But we shall explore the solution from the people's end, unlike Bentham, who did it from the government's end.

Incentivizing Project for Pakistani Voters

Pakistan is among third world countries with a very poor literacy rate. According to the World Bank, it had 58% total adult literacy rate by 2019. This leaves a huge chunk of the population illiterate. Even the standard marked by UNESCO to count people as literate is just as simple as to read and write any basic sentence (UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2023). Whereas, the political understanding, the social consciousness, and critical ability are not considered by any standard, and it would be possessed by only a very small portion of the population. Considering the scarcity of these intellectual skills as shown by the UNESCO data, it can easily be deduced that the electoral process would have success criteria other than Good Governance, Political Literacy and Encouragement of Democratic values. The aforementioned factors, such as caste, religious beliefs, baradaris and social media trends have pivotal role in shaping the masses' political opinions. Consequently, we failed to bring any leadership in the power which can uphold the democratic spirit and foster the pursuit of collective interests. These consistent failures demand any alterations and modifications in the democratic setup of Pakistan, which would try to propose the incentivization of voters with better political and social understanding, for which the formal education would be the merit of assessment.

This incentivization scheme emphasize on improving the overall adult literacy rate by providing an extra number of votes to the people in accordance with their education.

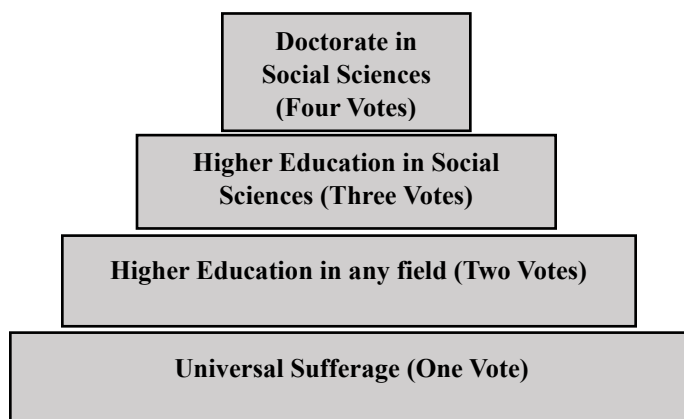
At the first level, universal franchise ensures the right of one vote to every person who holds a national identity approved by the government (CNIC issued by NADRA Pakistan)

On the next tier, the students who holds the higher education degree in any field and department shall enjoy the right of two votes per person in the electoral process.

On the third level, the students who holds the higher education degree in any field of social sciences shall enjoy the right of three votes per person in the electoral process.

At last, the faculty and students who hold the doctorate qualification in social sciences shall be incentivized with four votes per person.

This huge incentivization would encourage the pursuit of education among the masses. The rural feudal and business tycoons would make their best to sponsor and help the students among their village and baradari to pursue higher education and especially socio-political education, so they could secure more votes, which supposedly increases their vote bank. However, the political awareness and understanding enlighten the students, and they would break the shackles of caste, religious beliefs and social media propaganda. This incentivization would prove a pivotal change in the democratic tradition of Pakistan. Within a decade, the political culture of Pakistan would change, and democratic values will prevail. This change would also threaten the corrupt behaviours (proven by many national and international cases of financial corruption) of politicians. They would feel the dire need to reform their priorities and political sense as the masses grow literate. This incentivization project would revolutionize the democratic framework at once.



Source: Prepared by Author(s)

Practicality of Incentivization Project

One may question the practicality of this project in the current fragile economic circumstances of Pakistan, where the current account deficit is \$269 million (Economy, 2024). Pakistan has recently held an election and is now in search of an IMF deal to sustain its economy. In this deteriorating scenario, imagining the induction of this new scheme in the electoral framework is quite intriguing. But we can suggest the complete roadmap to strengthen the practical probability of this new incentivization project.

NADRA (National Database and Registration Authority) has all the electronic records of citizens and is responsible for issuing the National Identity. Along with other updates that NADRA has on its systems, like Age, Gender, Address, and Religion, it just needs to add one further piece of information about the education of a person in its database. This update can be made after the issuance of a degree by HEC to any student. Once the educational portfolio is added to the NADRA database, it becomes quite simple to launch this scheme in general elections.

Every Presiding Officer (PO) shall have access to this NADRA Database, and they can provide the number of votes to a person as per their educational qualification (as suggested above). This PO's access to the NADRA database needs to be ensured to introduce this incentivization project. However, once NADRA has updated its record with the inclusion of the educational portfolio of citizens and polling stations have been provided with internet access to the NADRA database, the incentivization of people with multiple votes becomes very easy and practical.

This scheme can be made further reliable by introducing Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) where the voter has to show their national identity and then can cast the vote. Presiding Officer (PO), after verification of educational qualification, will allow the voter to cast its assigned number of votes.

Financial Feasibility of Incentivization Project

1. Setup Costs

- *Database System Upgrade*

Updating the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) systems to include educational data could be similar to large-scale IT projects in government settings. But here the case is different, which we proposed. We are not asking to modify and redevelop the whole NADRA system from scratch, but just adding a new variable into the existing projects, just like adding a new column in the existing Word file. But there could be a need for an experienced developer, as it is a nationwide process. It will cost significantly nearly (1-2 Million Rupees) because after adding a

new column, the data of all Pakistani citizens will have to be added into the database and edited every year.

- *Staff Training*
As proposed above that only one single variable is added to the database, and there is no need to build new training projects. The existing training program can include this point and train the staff accordingly.
- *Public Awareness Campaigns*
These campaigns would involve media advertisements, public meetings, and educational materials, and the government won't have to spend a single penny on this process. This will be done by the non-state actors, fearing the loss of their power and wanting to sustain their influence. They will build new institutions and promote them to study and to build their analysis.

2. Operational Costs

Two things are basically kept under consideration under operational costs, i.e., Maintenance Costs and Additional Staffing for the new process.

- *Operational Costs*
As far as operational costs are concerned, they are a significant part of any project. To keep it running smoothly without any errors or issues, as it is a nationwide project. But our proposed plan is to just add another key variable into the NADRA database, as discussed above, and that is the education level of the voter. The presiding officer, while matching all the necessary data, can also check the current education level without any hectic process or new account creations and allot him the number of votes for which he is eligible. And if EVMs are installed, the process is further easy, because the machines will automatically issue the quota of votes to the voter by automatically accessing their education from the database.
- *Additional Staffing*
Secondly, additional staffing is needed for new projects or new developments in the existing projects. But in Pakistan, the situation is project-friendly. Our core staff comprises senior teachers of the education department. Being educated and having knowledge of IT and Database management, and depending upon the training of their previous presiding, they can easily cope with this new development of the addition of a new

key variable and quota of voters without any problem. So, unlike other projects, we don't need extra or additional staffing here.

3. Educational Investments

Now, one can question that for this scheme to succeed, the state would have to build institutions and departments equipped with the latest technologies and courses to make the students excel in this critical thinking process and vote on a calculated analysis basis. And for this development, the state will have to spend millions and millions of dollars on building infrastructure and the same amount to run them, which is not practically possible for the state.

Whereas, this is the very foundation of our proposal that this problem will be solved automatically without using any state resources. When this scheme is implemented, we will see a change in the behaviours of various state and non-state actors influencing the voting behaviour of the people. But the state has to cope with the resistance in a channelized way. These actors (like Baradaris, Jirgas, Families), finding no way out to sustain their power, had to build and develop new institutions equipped with the latest systems to train their people in those institutions and get the votes in their favour. Hence, there will be many changes. First, the power and influence which was arising from the non-state actors will automatically be shifted to the educational institutions, i.e., people, which is an ideal democratic feature. Secondly, the state will be provided with new developmental projects which could never have been possible without the investments of these non-state actors. Thirdly, no matter what or how the institutions teach, ultimately the analytical ability of the students studying the latest world trends and technologies will boost up, and the power of the non-state actors will go down.

4. Evaluation

- *Periodic Evaluations*

Every year, upon the completion of degrees, the data of the student's education needs to be updated in the NADRA database, which will estimate the cost at around 1-2 Million Rupees/Year.

5. Total Estimated Cost Breakdown

Setup Costs: 1-2 Million Rupees

Operational Costs (annual): Zero

Educational Investments: Zero

Monitoring and Evaluation: 1-2 Million Rupees/Year

- *Cost-Benefit Analysis*
 - **Improved Governance:** Analyze the effect of the public on governmental bodies that form electoral services among honest voters.
 - **Reduced Corruption and Manipulation:** It is believed that due to the consumers will a more likely to elect anti-corruption decision makers also be educated and influenced on what is happening around them.
 - **Long-term Educational Gains:** A story could be told, and the marked tendency to the social progressive growth via this process, as well as the political abstraction of the rationally minded people, would be highlighted.
 - **International Image and Aid Prospects:** It is a belief that democratization in this sense of this kind will cause a sharp increase in the international prospects of this country as a country that is rated as democratic among the world's countries.

Timeframe and Implementation Process

1. Phased Implementation

- *Phase 1 – Planning and System Updates (Year 1):* Firstly, it is our primary task to keep up with the NADRA database updated equally. This updating process can be devised by arranging sessions of youth engagement, organizing awareness programs about mass availability and so on.
- *Phase 2 – Pilot Testing (Year 2):* Generate the modification of the election method practically in places where the effects of this innovation are only half illustrated, or the whole country uses this method when only some provinces give it a try to it to observe how it functions and to expose deficiencies.
- *Phase 3 – Full Implementation (Year 3-4):* A key stage of the process that will be conducted by the country at the realization stage of the project will hinge mainly on the results of the pilot testing and the field trial. This is the last phase when all the introduced reforms will be concluded.

2. Implementation Process

- *Stakeholder Engagement:* Include schools, political parties, domestic and international organizations in the monitoring process while at the same time stipulating jurisdiction so as to reinforce the peace process.

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- *Technology Integration:* Collaboration with the stakeholders in the field of technology enhances the data integrity in NADRA and the voting process. It is done so to protect the voters using the PINs and multiple voters as well.
- *Public Education and Outreach:* The first job in your public campaign plan is to briefly explain why the system is advantageous, how one can choose the best candidate, and what people can do to participate in it fully.

These costs are indicative and based on similar projects and initiatives in other countries. The total initial cost could be around \$10 million to \$15 million, with additional ongoing costs for operation and periodic evaluations. These estimates provide a starting point for budget discussions and funding allocations. Securing funding could involve government budgets, international aid, and partnerships with non-governmental organizations focused on democratic development.

CONCLUSION

The political culture of Pakistan is flooded with populist chants, character assassinations, bullying, abuses and immoral behaviours. Additionally, the personality cult has diffused any intellectual reasoning and discourse among voters. However, once the political education is set as a standard of incentivizing the literate voters, the education would become the modern trend, and youth would focus towards education, which would ultimately result in a domination of true democratic values. Caste-based voting behaviours and religious biases would gradually vanish with new objective standards such as the political manifesto of parties, their ideology, their governance scheme and policy formulations. This paradigm shift would bring incredible revolutionary change in Pakistan. This research has indicated that the most effective way to achieve a democratic culture in the areas where public political literacy is very low and populist discourse is dominant, like in Pakistan, is through the utilization of a cutting-edge approach to voter stimulation. The goal of the proposed model, being the reward of citizens based on their socio-political education, is to encourage political education and literacy and, in doing so, foster a more informed national electorate. This paper gave a systematic evaluation of the deep-rooted problems in common democratic systems, where an uneducated and ignorant population can cause the cycles of bad governance to keep on running constantly. This can be accomplished through a program that uses incentives in education to reward knowledgeable voters, thereby

adding an element of meritocracy to the democratic process. The practicality of a voter incentivization system is generally associated with technical problems, like updating the national databases to include the educational data and also providing internet access at the polling stations. As for the long-term view of better governance, decreased corruption and more public education, all these reflect the actual feasibility of the initial costs. Moreover, the qualitative assessment reveals a broader potential impact: the birth of a fresh sort of political culture where educational heights become a significant determinant of electoral triumphs. Such a change in politics could alter the political field that would elect true leaders who would fully approve the educated choices made by the population, making no mention of temporary populist ideas that were influenced by the only informed majority. However, the complexity to which the model introduces into the electoral process is worth it, as its capability to foster a truly democratic environment whereby decisions are informed and leaders are accountable, is also promising. Through bringing together theoretical findings with well-grounded considerations, this study opens up the ongoing debate on democratic reform with special focus on similar contexts to Pakistan. Hence, this study not only closes a major information gap in academic literature but also lays the foundation for other democratization efforts that prioritize political education to create an educated, proactive society.

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