

PRINCIPLES OF CONSTITUTION FOR PROMOTION OF DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

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Introduction/ Background

People of Pakistan attained sovereignty in the course of great struggle and sacrifices of Muslim nation of the Indian sub-continent. One of the catastrophic migrations of human history involving wide-scale ethnic killing and crimes against modesty of innocent women took place. Generally, whenever a community resolves to acquire sovereignty, this impulse involves extensive amount of political efforts and sacrifice of lives and properties. A righteous cause coerces a nation to run through all that in wider interest of the nation. The object is consecrated therefore cost is proportional. As soon as the object is realized, state having lost many precious lives and irreversible belongings of value plans to achieve return of all these sufferings after independence. Fundamental decisions are taken by the state institutions for organizing welfare state to secure fundamental rights of the people. For creation, maintenance and enforcement of such rights state system is given direction via principles resolved during the course of freedom movement for adoption. These include the determination of new way of life, protection of family life,

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Authenticity of The Quranic Text

"Some People probably felt jealous of the Quran in the University of Munich. An Institute for Quranic Research was set up. The idea was to collect all the oldest available copies of the Holy Quran, in original or photocopies. The process of collection lasted for three generations. When i was at the University of Paris in 1933, the third Director of the Instiute, Mr.Pretzl, came to Paris to get photocopies of all the ancient manuscripts of the Holy Quran available in the Public Library of Paris. The professor told me personally at the time (1933) that the Institue had 43,000 photocopies of the Holy Quran and that the work of collation was proceeding apace. During the Second World War stated, inter alia, that the work of collation of the Quranic manuscripts had not yet been then suggested that while some mistakes of calligraphy had been detected in the manuscripts, not a single discrepancy in the text had been discovered. A calligraphic or a typographical error found in one manuscript does not recur in another. Suppose, for example, that in a manuscript of the Quran on word is missing from the text. This mistake will remain confined only to that very manuscript, the rest will have the complete text. The omission is the result of an oversight on the part of the scribe who has inadvertently missed a word. Should there be a difference in narration it will be found in many manuscripts. This is not so in the case of the Quran.

(The Emergence of Islam Page:27-28)

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38. *ibid*, at p.2
39. *ibid*
40. *ibid*
41. *ibid*
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9. PLJ 1983 Mag. 42 at p.51, 53
10. PLD 1994 Journal 47 at p.52
11. AIR 1985 Journal 49
12. *ibid*
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14. *PLJ 1983 Mag. 42 at p.49*
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way. But these issues can be tackled through training of the judicial officials and availing the offers of the financial institutions for funding.⁴⁸

CONCLUSION:-

Much emphasis is now being laid on the use of computer in the administration of justice. The computer has been successfully utilized to minimize the burden of delay in justice, which courts today are facing severely. In particular, computer technology can be attended to eliminate the "Procedural Failings" resulting the delay in judicial process, from origination to final determination.

The application of computer technology in judicial process will take place gradually. However, such advancement will be effective when courts should consider it into their strategic plans. For the effective use of computer technology the mutual collaboration of courts and justice organizations, is indispensable.

The judicial officials must be trained for the application of computer technology in judicial process. For this purpose, the foreign expertise should be utilized, and the visits of the countries where computer technology is in practice for judicial process be caused. To have all this, proper and effective legislation should be made as to the use of computer technology in justice system of Pakistan.

and Chile ⁴⁴ etc. The law of Pakistan too recognizes the electronic signature. ⁴⁵

b. Fees Payment Problem this issue may be solved through the payment of fees at the time of electronic lodgment either by dedicating the appropriate fee from credit account or even something akin and Electronic Funds Transfer. ⁴⁶ The Govt. of Pakistan has taken a positive step towards this issue. ⁴⁷

c. Cheating in Electronic Documents is possible. However digital signature is, in fact a good safeguard of such document because document is encrypted or locked.

d. Hacking is a threat in smooth functioning of e-filing programme.

e. Limited Financial Resources cannot permit to file document electronically. However these litigants can still file documents in hard copy, and these can be scanned into the system.

The use of computer as searcher, record Keeper and communicator with a view to overcome the "Procedural Failings" in justice process, would be taken as an electronic justice. i.e. justice promoted and facilitated through technological process, in procedural matters.

The "Procedural Failings" resulting the delay to great extent can be overcome through e-justice. It will resultantly, facilitate the prompt delivery of justice. However, the shortage of qualified persons to tackle e-justice, and funds non-availability for basic equipments can be a hurdle in this

transmission through information technology may be availed throughout 24 hours.

To utilize the communicative characteristics of the information technology, court management system should be developed. To avail the communicative character of computer for electronic-filing, a pilot is under practice in Queensland.³⁹ Electronic filling has been trialed in OHIO USA, Maricope (Phoenix, Arizona).⁴⁰ Maryland Circuit Court is making trial for electronic filing.⁴¹ Victorian magistrates, courts in Australia permit electronic filing of document.⁴² South Australian Supreme Court & High Court Australia permits electronic filing to cope with case load. Such use of information technology will cause the following benefits.

- i. Reduction of duplication of a data.
- ii. Accuracy in data record keeping.
- iii. Reduction of scope for error.
- iv. 24 hour service of filing and transmission covering the delay.

Such use of computer will cover the "Procedural Failings" within the categories No. 3 & 4 mentioned above. However, the problems faced in this regard are listed as:-

a. **Signature Problem** of parties filing or receiving the document. This may be overcome through proper legislation for use of digital signature, as it has been attended in Hindustan, ⁴³ USA (UTAH) California, Australia, Canada,

The toolkit containing all the proceedings of the case be prepared using a web-browser interface, making it easy to use by the bench, bar and parties. It is to be filed in Smar Text, which is proprietary software, and has both a building and a reading component in it.³⁷

A distributed data processing network of computer may be developed to manage the entire justice system. Computerized record will control cheating and missing element in proceedings, it will reduce redundant work, increase efficiencies between concerned offices and provide speedy access and safe guard to important material. These characteristics of computer will overcome the "Procedural Failings" under category No. 2 & 4.

3. Communicator:-

The information technology is an effective and responsive channel of Communication among three vital parts of the judicial process. The computer through the use of e-mail, internet, scanning etc. has become a good instrument for the exchange of presentation, receiving and issuing of documents and other necessary material for the judicial process. Communicative benefit of computer may be taken in justice system through presentation & reception of documents and causing the information to the proper forum. Document prepared by lawyer even late at night may be on file with the court, well in time with the use of computer.³⁸ The

5. Suffering of individual freedom & right to privacy. This issue can be tackled through effective legislation.

However, to boost up the use of internet, and to eliminate its demerits, proper legislation is required, and then the updating of it. Such laws should be remained up to date. In this regard the practice of other countries³⁵ where internet is not so lawless, can be followed to resolve the abuses of internet.

2. Record Keeper:-

The computer can become an effective, safe and responsive record keeper. Pleading, issues evidence, arguments, relevant case law, legislation and other relevant material of the case, usable for bar, bench and parties can be recorded in computer safely. Thus the cheating and missing of the court record can be avoided. There will be no chance of alteration because of non-opening of files and other documents until and unless the use of passwords. The all proceedings of a case can be kept in record through the development of a centralized file. This record of centralized file can be maintained through automation storage. The automation is an alternative method to manual operation. It is being adopted in different countries of the world.³⁶ It is the most efficient and economical solution to the problem of free, fair and prompt justice. The recording of court proceedings make more information available more quickly to bench, bar and parties.

However, one should not be ignorant to the discredits of the use of internet for the purpose of justice process. Such disadvantages disturbing the effective use of internet for the prompt delivery, can be listed as:-

1. Unsecured information
2. Slowness in downloading
3. Unauthorized cases and legislation. This issue may be overcome by the adoption of a medium neutral citation.³⁰ Use of medium neutral citations is meant that documents can be viewed using any medium, for example, a word processor on the internet or even using hard copy,³¹ and such citations mean that authorities can be cited without relying on publishers.³² To resolve this issue American Bar Association's recommendation is remarkable, which goes as, "all jurisdiction adopt a system for citation to case reports which could be equally effective for printed case reports, and for case reports electronically published on computer discs or network services".³³ Medium neutral citations, though not widely implemented since then, some courts such as Montana Supreme Court have adopted the Medium Neutral Citations format.

4. Sabotage of reports. This issue can be overcome by:-
 - i. Ensuring a duplicate copy of courts database, and
 - ii. Regularly updating the Internet server via a one-way modem link, from the duplicate database.³⁴

research material".²⁶ The judicial system is, and will be in need of to use internet as a tool to successful exchange, and use information. Some judges already use it for legal research purpose.²⁷ The lawyers are also taking the interest in the use of internet. This electronic access to legal research material will save the time spent in chambers conducting paper-based research.²⁸ The Austli II site, Butterworth's Publisher, the Cornell Law Library, Electronic Law journal "National Law Review".²⁹ etc are excellent electronic access for legal research material on internet. Such electronics information technological projects possibly may be conducted in Pakistan following the other countries, for the facilitation of justice process, as it is the case of PLD web site. Hence, the objective of speedy justice may be targeted through the computer technology because the parties, bar and bench will be in the position to perform their respective job, i.e; the briefing, preparation, hearing of cases etc, properly and effectively.

The internet can be availed at all the stages of court proceedings from origination to the final determination. Through this tool of computer technology by making prompt and effective research of relevant legal material, the "Procedural Failings", falling in the category No. 1 mentioned above can be overcome, and prompt delivery of justice will become realizable.

access. What they want, is to able to call up information at a simple click”,²³ to cover the burden of caseload.

The litigant’s knowledge and skill of the computer technology, may be helpful when they are briefing their counsels, and appearing before court for judicial process. The parties expect from the lawyers and judges to utilize computer technology to avoid the delay in judicial process. Computer terminal can be installed allowing user with out computer, to file forms and access to information. The total computerization of process of administration of justice in the judiciary will cause the integration of bench, bar and litigants. Such integration will minimize the “Procedural Failings”²⁴ It will facilitate monitoring of proceedings in courts, and eliminate the necessity of keeping of unnecessary record and files.²⁵

The computer may be utilized in process of justice system for proper dispensation of justice in the following way:-

1. Searcher
2. Record keeper
3. Communicator

1. Computer as a Searcher:-

Computer technology offers promise for the retrieval of legal material i.e. statutes, precedents, juristic works etc. through internet. “The internet is highly useful tool for judicial research, as it contains a wealth of on line legal

The Bench, a vital part of justice process, having pressure of caseload, can overcome the delay with the help of computer technology. So it has been rightly suggested, "the Bench should be provided adequate computers facilities".¹⁸ This will enable the judges to cause the justice within the appropriate timings. Even the shortage of judges may be cured through integrated justice which is possible through the effective use of computer technology, because, The judges will be able to work on their rulings speedily and concisely, and be ready to deliver their judgments, the next day.

The lawyer's endeavor for justice process, is reported as, "the lawyer is like a treasure hunter in the wilderness of legal sources"¹⁹ but for such exertion, "he is dependent upon some sort of navigation instrument".²⁰ This exigency of lawyer is satisfied through computer technology, as it is believed, that "the most efficient retrieval tool available is the computerized legal information services".²¹ In this context the importance of the use of computer technology is confirmed as, "A lawyer not familiar with such tools may not be considered illiterate today but certainly will be severely handicapped".²² So to overcome the caseload and shortage of time, the lawyer should utilize the computer technology. For the lawyer, this is the time saving factor, measured as, "The lawyers don't want to spend forever learning how to run a whole lot of programmes. What they want, is easy, open

techniques. It is not assisted with the latest scientific tools during the process of adjudication.¹⁴ The utilization of scientific techniques, especially of computer technology can help us to overcome the “Procedural Failings” resulting the delay in justice, along with other measurements taken in this regard.¹⁵ But “There has to be constant endeavor to improve the pace of delivery through the use of computer technology”.¹⁶

This approach has been developed almost in all the advanced countries of the world. They began to consider the technology to help them in addressing of their problems.¹⁷ The emphasis is made by the intelligentsia of the world to utilize the computer technology in dispensation of the justice to overcome the delay due to the “Procedural Failings” therein. Justice process in Pakistan too is in acqutting need of the use of computer technology.

The machinery for the dispensation of justice in Pakistan depends upon the proper functioning and activities of the following:-

1. Bench i.e; judges who are delivering the justice.
2. Bar i.e; lawyers who are assisting the judges.
3. Litigants i.e; parties who are seeking the justice.

In the present scenario of justice system of Pakistan, Bench and Bar both are expected to make use of computer technology to improve efficiency and effectiveness in prompt delivery of justice.

adjudication,⁹ such as pleadings summons, notices, judgments, order, decrees etc, and certified copies of such documents.

(4) ERRONEOUS INFORMATION as to proceedings of justice, as in case of adjournments, service of summons and notices, execution process etc.¹⁰

SOLUTION

The collaboration and mutual functioning of the parties, bar and bench cause the effective administration of justice. But the justice system of Pakistan is victim of many mischieves especially of "Delay" due to the reasons mentioned above. The whole judicial machinery is needed to be overhauled to refine the product of justice. But this study will focus only the "Delay" which is the after effect of the reasons discussed above under the head of "Procedural Failings", in justice process of adjudication in Pakistan.

The advancement in science, especially in the field of computer technology, has governed and facilitated human life.¹¹ It has caused great changes in all the spheres of mankind. Further betterment of society lies in the hand of science, and in leaving of the outdated approaches and strategies for resolving the social problems.¹² The same scheme is required and justified in the field of administration of justice.¹³ But unfortunately, the task of administration of justice in Pakistan is still being governed on the primitive

slackness, and complexes, shirkness, weakness, vanity, professional dwindling, discrimination, biases, lack of experience etc. These are founded almost in all human beings, and the persons concerned to the justice process are of no exception.⁷ These vices cause the delay in Justice.⁸ These reasons are of the causal nature, and are not found permanently. The degree of these reasons is variative. Pakistani society is virtually sufferer of such flaws.

2. PROCEDURAL FAILINGS:-

The problems as to delay in justice under this head are of chronic nature. These reasons are as old as the judicial system of Pakistan. Justice system of Pakistan is drastically victim of these shortcomings. These reasons are pointed as under.

(1) NON-AVAILABILITY OF LEGAL MATERIAL; relating to the process of justice, such as statutes, precedents, juristic works etc.

This material is countless and scattered at different places. But it is not easily available at the times of need.

(2) CHEATING AND MISSING of records relevant to the process of administration of justice. For example, malafide conversion of contents of case records, lost of files etc.

(3) LATE AND DEFECTIVE preparation, presentation, receiving, issuing, checking, indexing of documents, issuance of process and framing of issues etc. necessary for

The statistics of the later years present more drastic and serious situation of such case load. 5556 appeals and 16,251 petitions were pending in Supreme Court only in the year 2005, as reported in Judicial Statistics of Pakistan 2005 published by Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan. The situation of the administration of justice, especially as to the prompt delivery is very serious. The system is rather getting fossilized.³ It takes years, decades, and some times eats the lives of the concerned persons.⁴

EFFECTS

“Dealy in Justice” causes the wastage of corporeal resources, i.e; money, energy etc. as well as incorporeal resources i.e;time, intellectuals etc. of the nation. The interest of the state as to the end of litigation is suffered. ⁵ Litigation is encouraged and promoted. Delay defeats the law, the justice and soundness of the judicial system,⁶ and ultimately the nation. Economics social and moral values of the nation are badly affected, and as a result national prestige is devalued in the international scenario. Such upshots of delay in justice are severely affecting Pakistan’s image of Islamic welfare state.

REASONS

The reasons as to fatal disease of the justice, i.e; “Delay in Justice” are of the following categories.

1. INDIVIDUAL FLAWS:-

These are the shortcomings of the human beings. These are the dishonesty, enmity, malafide, incapacity,

MAKING JUSTICE SPEEDY, THROUGH COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Barkat Ali Khan*

INTRODUCTION

Justice is the soul of the society. It is one of the fundamental duties of the state to administer justice. Pakistan is an Islamic state, and its Islamic character as well as constitution, attaches great importance to the administration of justice, emphasizing upon prompt delivery of justice. Justice must be free, fair and expeditious. Prompt delivery plays a great role for inhalation of aggrieved person. Free and fair justice but with delay is of no use because the justice delayed is justice denied.

PROBLEM

There is the problem of "Delay in Justice", in the administration of justice. Delays have been and continue to be a matter of deep concern for all the countries.¹ The same case is with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. "Delay in Justice" has deep roots in the judicial system of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The whole justice system is suffering for this chronic disease of "Delay in Justice". 5,91,400 in civil and session courts, 1,50,660 in High Courts and 6,353, cases in Supreme Court of Pakistan were at adjournment in 1999.²

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indebtedness and socio-economic problems of poverty and political instability. A number of Muslim countries are making strides in governance and in their economic and social development and many have a long way to go in this direction. In spite of all these resources, the total GNP (Gross National Product) of Islamic countries is only 4.7% of the world's GNP.²² OIC countries are producing 40% of the raw material of the world while their total industrial production is only 3.6% of the total production of industrial countries.²³ It is evident that these countries have the ability to become industrial nations but one may not expect this objective to be achieved in a short period of time. The economic development is a gigantic task requiring efforts at all levels. It is time for leaders and politicians of OIC member countries to join hands together with Islamic experts and scientists and start joint economic and trade ventures to build a better future for the coming generations. OIC countries have to move towards the fulfillment of its objectives with caution and patience and utilize all its resources and expand its abilities in a careful manner. If all the potential and resources possessed by these countries are utilized in a proper and sensible way this can return as a more powerful instrument for economic development of these countries. An economically strong Muslim world can pave the way to raise the Political status of OIC.

Primary objective of OIC. It will also contribute to the cause of global peace and security because it is seen that countries which are bound together in Regional economic ties also indirectly cater for their own security. European Union is the best example of this regional economic integration.

There has been much talk in the Muslim world about the formation of an Islamic Common Market, Islamic currency like Euro etc. but nothing concrete has so far emerged on the ground. OIC member countries have all the potential to be an economic block. These countries located in the Middle East, East and South Asia and North Africa have access to almost 1/5 of the total area of the world and accommodate 1.66 billion²⁰ of population which is 1/4 of the total world population. All these factors are indicative of existence of a vast potential market for the trade activities.

OIC member countries are also very rich in resources. Ten out of Eleven member countries of OPEC are Muslims. Presently they are producing over 50 percent of the world's oil reserves remaining for further exploration. Only Saudi Arabia sits on the top of the quarter of the total world's proven oil reserves. Moreover four of its neighbors including Iraq can claim about a tenth apiece. In contrast United States (which consumes a quarter of world oil production) controls mere 3% of the world's oil reserves.²¹

But despite all the resources, Muslim world today is going through a period of low economic growth, high

practical terms, it could not reach a unanimous decision. It has merely offered lip service to the issue of Gulf Crisis and Chechnya. Although the OIC has repeatedly declared that the security of each Muslim country is a collective responsibility of all the Muslim states but it has not been able to develop and Sense of collective security in member states. Even the OIC has also failed to resolve conflicts among its member states.

But despite all these weaknesses, the major achievement of OIC is that it has managed to survive in through the thirty-three years of existence in its original form.

It also has been noted that OIC has been more successful in fostering economic cooperation among its members than in dealing with political issues. The OIC has created infrastructure for establishing various economic institutions but in spite of all, in concrete term it could not achieve anything at all. Most of the OIC countries have become grossly indebted to World Bank, IMF and various developed countries. Islamic Development Bank owes its existence to the OIC but with its impressive charter of activities it has not so far been able to improve the economic state of affairs of Islamic World. So poverty remains the crucial problem of all the Muslim countries and it must be the primary concern of OIC. Regional economic co-operation is the only remedy to eradicate the poverty in Muslim world. It will not only solve the economic crisis but this economic integration would lead the Muslim countries towards political unity, which is the

various issues, the OIC expressed high goals but in reality, it has to go a long way to achieve its ideas. The reason is that as an international organization, it failed to recognize the transformed realities to world politics it is a sign of hope that its membership increased during these years but numerical strength is not a key to success.

It is regrettable that the OIC has failed to strike any major breakthrough in respect of Arab Israel Conflict. One of the declared objectives of the OIC is to co-ordinate efforts to safeguard the holy places and support the struggle of the people of Palestine and to help them regain their rights and liberate their land. Palestine issue has been on top of the agenda of every meeting of OIC but it could not accomplish the task of Muslim Unity in Political, economic and social sphere to liberate the Al-Quds. Its member countries confined their support to moral commitment for the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people.

OIC seems help less with the long outstanding Indo-Pak dispute on Kashmir. First time the issue of Kashmir was raised in the 9th foreign Minister's conference of OIC held at Dakar in Senegal.¹⁹ After 1990, this issue started to take place on the agenda of the meetings of OIC but organization failed to achieve concrete decision on Kashmir at all. Another major weakness of OIC was demonstrated in the case of Afghanistan issue. Although in its resolutions, the OIC expressed support for the struggle of Afghan people but in