

Regional political Parties& democracy: a case study of Balochistan

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Abstract

This paper is intended to study the regional political parties of Balochistan. Regional political parties play a prominent role in the politics of democratic countries. These provide services to the people at the doorsteps. Regional political parties in Balochistan play a great role in the politics of the region. Principal among them is National Party, Balochistan National Party (M), Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party, Awami National Party, Balochistan National Party (A), Balochistan National Movement, and Jamhoori Watan Party. All the above parties were analyzed to see whether they follow the basic democratic processes. Among them, National Party was found to be the most democratic party. PkMAP has been successful to a large extent by getting seats in Balochistan Assembly, but in terms of intraparty democracy party leadership remained the same throughout the years and party constitution is found to be not up to the mark. All other parties though play a prominent role but were found to be least democratic. These parties have left a space for the parties like PMLN, PMLQ, and PPP etc which the latter have filled. Regional parties in Balochistan have to strive hard to consolidate their position.

Key Words: Balochistan, Regional parties, democracy, National Party, Jamhoori Watan Party, Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party.