

## Mapping Politics of Benazir Bhutto: A Journey of Robust Political Career

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### Abstract

This research paper focuses on the political career of Benazir Bhutto as the first woman and Muslim Prime Minister of Pakistan. It will also discuss Benazir Bhutto's strategies and challenges faced by her, during her political tenure. Benazir entered politics after the demise of her father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto (late). The paper also investigates her entire political career under the authoritarian rule of General Zia-ul-Haq, as Prime Minister, her removal from the Prime Minister office, accusation of corruption, the periods of exile. It examines her political elegance, stewardship, policies made by her as a woman Prime Minister and it will also look into her years of exile where she regrouped and repositioned herself politically and forged coalitions before her breathtaking return to Pakistan in 2007. Dejectedly, Benazir Bhutto was assassinated but her legacy will long be remembered in the political history of Pakistan. The research measures her impact on democracy, women in particular, as well as her capacity to politically lead the nation amidst many challenges. The study attempts to narrate Benazir's political biography with a focus on crucial events and decisions, which is characterized by her strong political career. It will explore the political, social, and institutional challenges faced by Benazir Bhutto during her political career, and the measures she took to deal with her rivals' political and conservative forces in Pakistan. The study will also focus on her accomplishments as a politician, regardless of the issues she faced.

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## 1. Introduction

“Democracy is the best revenge.” Benazir Bhutto (Zain and Ali, 2009)

Benazir Bhutto is marked as one of the paramount actors of the political life of Pakistan and dwells in the list of such leaders who brought revolution in the history. She was the first female to lead a Muslim country's government who also faced great many ups and downs in her political career. She became Prime Minister for a second time in 1993-1996, her leadership of Pakistan was outlined by the efforts to transform the nation, supporting democratic processes and advocating for rights of women in a highly masculinized society (Khan and Wei, 2016). She has an engaging political story, around which revolves the destiny of the famous Bhutto family, and notably her father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

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who was a Prime Minister and President of Pakistan. However, Benazir as a female PM struggled against political persecution, personal loss and systematic barriers from powerful organizations and institutions throughout her political career and it highlights the nature of her leadership.

Thus, the goal of the present research paper is to mainly consider the following questions: the political activities of Benazir Bhutto, the kind of problems she faced from political opponents and what concrete success she achieved regardless of the numerous forms of opposition? Her life therefore chronicles political progression, and personal perseverance and tactical flexibility in a context that was seldom friendly to her ambitions. The study will look at Bhutto's ascendance to power after her father's execution, her attempt to challenge an authoritarian government of General Zia ul Haq and her attempts to build up a reformist democracy. It will also analyse and assess the accusations of corruption and mismanagement made to her politically career thus causing the dismissal of her governments.

Moreover, the study will explore her leadership style, her interactions within and outside the Pakistan's military during the decisive years, as well as during her struggle for democracy while in power and when in the diaspora. The all-inclusive analysis would provide a tremendous insight into what she left behind not only in Pakistan but also in world politics.

### 1.1 Research Objectives

- To assess Benazir's the political, social, and institutional restraints a leader a female during her political career.
- To analyse abundant measures taken by Benazir Bhutto to battle the opposition.
- To assess some realistic accomplishments of Benazir Bhutto in her political career in the light of democratization and women empowerment.

### 1.2 Research Questions

- What were the political, social, and institutional challenges Benazir Bhutto faced during her political career?
- What measures did Benazir Bhutto take to deal with her rivals' political and conservative forces in Pakistan?
- What were Benazir Bhutto's accomplishments in her political career regardless of the issues?

### 1.3 Research Methodology

This research is based on political career of Benazir Bhutto using the qualitative approach. In this study data collected from archival sources and specially from autobiography of Benazir Bhutto. Secondary sources such as books and articles are also used to cross check the collected information after the review of the existing literature on the under-discussion topic.

## 2. Literature Review

In "Benazir Bhutto: From Prison to Prime Minister" L. Hughes (2000) offers a convincing account of Benazir Bhutto's extraordinary political voyage, tracing her growth from a political inmate to becoming the first woman Prime Minister of a Muslim-majority country (Hughes, 1990). The book provides the specifics of Bhutto's personal life: the influence of her father's execution, numerous imprisonments, and exile and how these experiences defined her politics and management approach. Hughes recounts Bhutto's achievements in Pakistan's democratic journey, women's emancipation, and attempts at Pakistan's general modernization and fundamentalists. In general, Hughes' biography is useful to explore the private and public difficulties and achievements of Bhutto (Hughes, 2000).

In “Trial and Error: The Advent and Eclipse of Benazir Bhutto”, Iqbal Akhund (2000) offers an inclusive standpoint on Benazir Bhutto's rise and fall in politics. As an ex-mentor to Bhutto, Akhund provides a nuanced scrutiny of her political career, leadership encounters, and the unstable environment. The book investigates her accomplishments as the first female Prime Minister as well as the mistakes that led to her fall. Akhund's depiction is composed, contributing respect for her attainments (Iqbal, 2000).

In “The Bhutto Dynasty: The Struggle for Power in Pakistan” author presents a comprehensive and perilous examination of the Bhutto family's multifaceted political inheritance in Pakistan. The book archives the growth of Bhutto’s commencement with Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and enduring through Benazir Bhutto's raging leadership, so long as an in-depth study of the political, social, and personal issues that formed their rule. The writer offers a composed description, highlighting the Bhutto’s family support for the Pakistani politics, mostly their advocacy for democracy (Bennett-Jones, 2020).

The author of “Getting Away with Murder: Benazir Bhutto's Assassination and the Politics of Pakistan,” narrates a deep investigation into the environment surrounding Benazir Bhutto's murder. He examines the political conspiracies and complete failures that permitted her murder to happen, with the role of numerous political actors, security gaps, and the effect of radical groups (Muñoz, 2014). The article “Benazir Bhutto’s Politics: A Way Forward to the Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan,” analyses her political strategies and their significance in modern Pakistan. The authors contend that Bhutto's pledge to democratic values and her leadership during turbulent times provide valuable lessons for restoring democracy in the country. They climax her character in supporting women's civil rights and political reform as critical gears of her legacy (Ahmed, Magsi & Meghwar, 2022).

### **3. Data Analysis and Discussion**

#### **3.1 Influence of Benazir Bhutto to Pakistani and the World Politics**

The Pakistani politics can owe its dynamism to Benazir Bhutto because she was one of the key political actors pushing for re-democratization of Pakistan. When Bhutto’s father was judicially murdered in 1979, she spearheaded the Pakistan Peoples’ Party (PPP) and became the face of democracy in Pakistan where martial law prevailed more than a decade. Her arrival to Pakistan in 1986 after years of exile in England gained her so much sympathy among the population and social movements against the regime of Zia-ul-Haq (Sheikh, 2005).

Globally, Bhutto was considered as a reformist who wanted to oversee change for democracy, socialism and women’s liberation. Her election as Prime Minister, after the death of Zia in 1988, was expected to set the example for Muslim women countries (Baxter, 2004). These two images give people hope because Bhutto defied all the specific expectations of the women who participated in the politics. However, her tenure at that office was not devoid of one or the other scandals. Her governments were full of such scandals of corruption and ineptitude that her administrations were dismissed by Presidents of Pakistan in early 1990s and 1996 (Husain, 2018).

#### **3.2 Political History of Pakistan**

In the political history of Pakistan, Bhutto family’s contributions and sacrifices cannot be omitted as the whole family remained active in the political arena of Pakistan since 1960s. Therefore, Benazir Bhutto was not a woman who set her sights on the power only to gain it but she was a woman with political acumen, a daughter of the people’s leader. That Benazir’s all antiquity begins with her father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who was one of the most famous and provocative politicians of Pakistan (Ahmed, 2023). He tried to convert Pakistan into a welfare state during his power regime. He also formulated a largest political party “Pakistan Peoples’ Party (PPP)” that worked for the restoration of democracy, social justice and equality in economic reforms (Ali, 2023).

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was a man who assumed both the presidency and the prime minister ship of Pakistan. He started PPP in 1967 and protested against military rule characterized by General Ayub Khan. The PPP, Party focus was based on the mottos like '*Roti, Kapra, aur Makan*' which interpreted precisely means 'bread, clothes, and shelter,' something that this class of society required (Sharif & Hussain, 2024). According to the PPP priorities, it was expected that we would graduate poverty, develop education, and bring huge enterprises into the domestic realm. A Civil war -1971 led to emergence of new nation by the name Bangladesh out from East Pakistan which was a serious obstruction for Zulfikar's regime. However, he remained in power and adopted some political and economic measures and policies for building up the structures of the country. His reign was over in 1977 when he was removed power by General Mohammed Zia-ul Haq, through a military coup. This was an age of getting to political realms not only for politics of Zulfikar but to get a platter of ages to the entire family and where the politic of ping pong was to start for many long barren years for persecution and tragedy of family members (Baxter, 2004).

After removal from the office Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was imprisoned for one year he went under a much-hyped trial, hanged in 1979. This case left a blemish on our political culture and left an impact on his daughter Benazir Bhutto. Benazir mainly had been a student at Oxford University when she switched to politics to succeed her father. Yet it is remarkable that how Benazir, a woman, only thirty-five years old, neither having political elite connections nor the political bureaucracy backing, demonstrated herself as a leader and a realistic opposition to General Zia's military regime.

Benazir stepped into the politics of Pakistan, when the country was under martial law led by General Zia-ul-Haq. In his government there was intolerance, political opposition, Muslim laws and societies and ambitions to justify the military over technicians. To neutralize the PPP and its power Zia-ul-Haq committed Bhutto family or expelled the members of Bhutto family and banned the PPP. Despite, Benazir was imprisoned, was put under house arrest and even sent to exile but she never stopped and demanded democracy and challenged against mere authority of Zia. This fight against the military dictatorship made her a crusader and many people campaigned for her freedom and against dictatorship (Weiss, 1990).

Benazir leadership faced numerous challenges during her political career. Benazir and her team remained under stress during the period that tried to stop the activity of the party. But her leadership qualities made it conceivable in keeping the party united and important during the time of severe political repression. She vindicated the democratic phenomena, human rights and called for the restoration of civil power in Nigeria, that was the essence of her political activity, both nationally and internally. Her stand against Zia's authoritarian reforms aligned her with Pakistan's democracy demonstrators and the whole world awarded her a voice of democracy in Pakistan (Talbot, 1998).

During General Zia regime, Pakistani society was put on the way of Islamization of the state apparatus, eradication of the political opposition, and the military was drawn increasingly into the government. It also promoted orthodox Asiatic values and traditions which confining women to domestic duties; this made Benazir's leadership more important since she was a nuisance to a male dominated political system. She opposed the decrees of Zia on women rights and social liberalization, but these questions became the defining themes of Benazir.

Benazir Bhutto came back in 1986 and started work for the restoration of democracy and civilian supremacy. She herself always directed the public towards the PPP and rejuvenated the democratic battle against Zia's dictatorship. For instance, her speeches and appearances had followers in form of people, as seen by the need for change, and the civilian government. After the death of Zia-ul-haq in 1988. Benazir Bhutto's entrance could be depicted as one of the most significant events in the major political history of Pakistan. She created the headline when in July 1988 General Elections, she led the PPP to power to become the first woman in history to head an elected government of a Muslim country. Her political performance during this period earned her a reputation of a political leader of a high kind and it was not surprising when she rose to be the head of the government through an

appointment as the Prime Minister; her political journey navigated a complex political environment effectively.

### **3.3 Benazir's Rise to Political Power**

The threats to Ms. Benazir Bhutto political significance were defined by a sequence of serious struggles and sacrifices on account of political turmoil after the assassination of eliminates her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. For him, it was necessary to consider that after coming to power through a military coup in 1977. General Zia-ul-Haq not only removed the democratically elected government of Bhutto but also tried to undermine its political activities. It can be said that it was the time when Benazir started a long and intense struggle against dictators for democracy in Pakistan that turned her into the heroine of democracy struggle.

But despite Bhutto's assassination in 1979, his family became the most targeted during entire regime of General Zia's (Ahmed, 2023). Benazir along with her mother Nusrat Bhutto were put under arrested number of times and subjected to house arrest and state scrutiny and harassment. PPP was still the political party of the Bhutto family; it was imposed and Bhutto people were persecuted. During this period this lady underwent emotional and physical trampling which encompassed several years in jail or under house arrest. It is in detention that she was locked up under malicious warrants and horrid conditions, the objective was to churn out an unimportant, insignificant woman who was the world's leading political figure.

However, these adversities did not make Benazir Bhutto remain deterrent at any one time. She made her imprisonment a way of polishing her political ideology and strategies on the right kind that would suit her. After her release in 1984 she escaped to London and went underground to and resumed her support and advocacy for the PPP and also to tell people in other countries the brutality of Zia dictatorship to people. She made and sustained at least minimum meaningful contacts with foreign authorities and organizations concerned with supporting unfixed democracy and human rights in Pakistan. The political movement began a slow evolving process after the death of Zia in a plane crash in the year 1988. His sudden death enabled Benazir Bhutto to return to Pakistan from her relatively long stay in other countries. This was accompanied by a massive influx of the public carrying all manner of belongings in support of her and in support of a newborn democratic nation. The PPP was once again brought into from operation, and through Benazir the party was able to substantially increase in the voting community especially women and younger generation.

In the General Elections-1988, the PPP came into power and got majority of the seats in the National assembly (Ali, Shabbir & Ali, 2023). Benazir Bhutto has therefore won an election that made her the first woman Prime Minister of Pakistan and the first woman to head a democratic government in an Islamic country. When she was elected her victory was described as historic not only in Pakistan, but in the entire world for any female politician.

### **3.4 Benazir Bhutto as First Female Prime Minister (1988-1990) Achievements, and Challenges**

Benazir Bhutto party got majority in the general elections and became the first Prime Minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. She took oath on December 2, 1988 (BBC News, 1988). In her first tenure from 1988-1990 as the Prime Minister, Benazir came with large reformist packages to modernize the traditional society of Pakistan where social factors are an overbearing issue. She launched policies for enhancing the status of women in education and health sectors and launched Women Development Program at the National level (New York Times, 1988). Her government also tried to elevate the standard and empower women in the workplaces and increase legal measures against violence on women.

In economic terms, Bhutto's government embarked on the process of liberalization and market orientated structural adjustment programs with a view to break the economic inertia that characterized the regime of the late general Zia ul-Haq (BBC News, 1988). This she wanted to achieve through the attraction of more foreign investors for economic development. Nevertheless, with these changes in the economy, she encountered most difficulties from different political parties and trade unions, which blamed her government for violating the labour standards.

However, there were some political weaknesses when Benazir Bhutto was exposed during her first term in power. Her government was accused of corruption and lack of productivity, thus causing political crises with rising opposition from other political parties. Negative talk such as nepotism and favouritism in government appointments detracted her presence and split the PPP (Pakistan Today, 2020). By 1990 the political process had become more divided along ideological lines and Bhutto's government was dismissed by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on corruption and maladministration's charges which ultimately got Bhutto removed from the office.

Benazir Bhutto's rise to power was evidence of her resilience in the face of devastating challenges. Her journey from a young woman confined under an authoritarian administration to the first lady Prime Minister of Pakistan exemplifies a momentous chapter in the country's political history (Dawn News, 2007). Though her first tenure confronted important hurdles, her legacy as a pioneer for women in politics and a champion of self-ruled governance endures to resonate in Pakistan and beyond.

### **3.5 Second Tenure and Political Maturity (1993-1996)**

Benazir Bhutto's second term as the Prime Minister of Pakistan, between 1993 and 1996 was full of challenges (Arshad, 2024). Her terms with establishment and even with other groups were not smooth. The opposition parties criticized her as a female prime minister and tried to destabilize her government. Finally, Bhutto was removed from power in 1990 but come back to politics and get the victory in General Elections -1993 in Pakistan. She became Prime Minister of Pakistan for the second time. During this tenure she was able to put in place of some of the major policies that were lacking in Pakistan and afforded her the privilege to manoeuvre in the complex political structure characterized by dominant military masters and vying political parties. Policies as well as Reform Initiatives Prime Minister of Pakistan, from 1993 to 1996, marked a period of political maturation characterized by significant reforms, complex relationships with the military and opposition parties, and the challenges that ultimately led to her government's dissolution (Arshad, 2024). After being ousted from power in 1990, Bhutto returned to the political arena and successfully won the 1993 general elections, becoming Prime Minister for the second time. This tenure offered her the opportunity to implement policies aimed at addressing some of the pressing issues that Pakistan faced, as well as the chance to navigate the intricate political landscape shaped by powerful military interests and rival political factions (Khan et al., 2017).

### **3.6 Policies and Reform Initiatives**

In her second term, Bhutto continued with several reform agendas which she implemented with zeal, power and determination in Pakistan with an intention to address various macro and micro economic problems, social inequalities, and the overseas issues as well. Her economic principles included implementing the free-market reform and privatization policy. Government of Bhutto aimed at liberalization of the economy, minimized the state intervention, and improved functionality of the public organizations through privatization. These policy measures were an attempt to stabilize the economy which had degenerated into sky rocketing inflation, fiscal deficits and unemployment (Khan et al., 2017).

However, Benazir Bhutto also insisted on feminist perspectives, including women rights and capabilities. She also stressed the women's rights in employment and political activity, introducing

programs that would increase female opportunities for education and medical care. Her administration also boasted of enacting several bills in women's legal rights for instance the Family Law Ordinance, which sought to provide the females with certain rights to inheritance and property. She also launched several social welfare programs aimed at poverty reduction and education and other human development sectors. She created the Benazir Income Support Program to help poor families as its main objective. Such measures were aimed at raising living conditions and decreasing the role of poverty, especially among the vulnerable section of society.

### **3.7 Relations with Establishment**

During her second tenure from 1993 to 1996, her relationships with the establishment was marked by careful teamwork but underlying pressures (Dawn, 1996). Even though she sought to proclaim civilian authority, the military establishment, commanded by Chief of Army Staff General Abdul Waheed Kakar and then General Jehangir Karamat, kept significant influence over key extents like national security and foreign policy, specifically about India and Afghanistan. However, Bhutto aimed to expand better civil-military relations, differences on policies, as well as handling Islamist fundamentals and relations with India, contributed to resistance (Anjum, 2000). The military's cynicism about her government, along with charges of dishonesty, played a part in her ultimate dismissal by the then President Farooq Leghari in 1996.

### **3.8 Analysis of the Factors Leading to the End of Her Second Term**

However, Benazir Bhutto second era was over abruptly in 1996 when President Farooq Leghari dissolved her government due to her alleged involvement on massive corruption, incompetence to handle up growing political violence in the country. This dismissal was quite politically sensitive, and which caused lots of upheavals from her supports, who claimed she was fired from power by the military and the opposition parties.

There are several reasons which led to the early demise of Benazir Bhutto's second tenure of the government. First, the continuing increase of the effects of corrupt practices within her administration reduced her credibility among the public and the rest of the world. However, her government was characterized with serious allegations of graft and mismanagement despite her trying to spearhead reforms. These perceptions were further magnified by the economic realities of the country such as high inflation and instability of the fiscal which enlarged the level of displeasure among the societies (Anjum, 2000).

Second, her failure to build strong coalitions with other political parties weakened her to an extreme level of leadership occasioned by insufficient checking mechanisms. It resulted in a fragmentation of the political map, which made it almost impossible for her administration to mobilize the support that was needed to implement her major policies, as well as to stabilize the government. In addition, PPP factions divided her internally, leading to a lack of strategy to mobilize against the opposition forces (Azeem, 2024).

It can be concluded that Benazir Bhutto's second tenure as Prime Minister witnesses' scheme of political aspiration and difficulties. The attempts under her rule to introduce reforms and support women's rights were positive; nevertheless, her government was overwhelmed by the opposition and even accusations of corruption, the poor relationship with the military.

### **3.9 Years in Exile: Rebuilding and Strategic Alliances**

Since Benazir Bhutto was in exile, most of the time between 1996 to 2007, she redefined her political profile and strategies. She has had many problems ever after been fired from power in 1996 including political persecution, she has been accused of embezzlement. At this time, Bhutto was more

concerned on how to reinstate herself in politics, how to democrat Pakistan and form alliances that would benefit her when she was re-elected (Shabbir & Chandio, 2023).

### **3.10 Engagement in Politics and Human Right Advocacy for Democracy**

Throughout her exile, Benazir Bhutto continued supporting democracy in her home country, Pakistan and mobilized supporters from abroad. Originally based in London and Dubai, she was extremely active politically, urging people to learn about the tough political situation in Pakistan under the military rule of General Pervez Musharraf. Through radio and newspapers, TV interviews, conferences and foreign leaders, Bhutto drew the attention of Pakistan toward democratic rule and human rights (Shabbir & Chandio, 2023).

Her activism was targeted at awakening the values of voters and the global civil society to force the Musharraf regime into decentralization. Bhutto's advocacy for Pakistani people's aspirations combined with her family background legitimized her as a proponent of democracy. She also canded non-governmental organizations and governments of developed world appealing for a democratic Pakistan since it was in the best interest of the region and the world at large.

### **3.11 Role in the Formation of the Charter of Democracy (CoD) with Nawaz Sharif**

The major achievement of Benazir was to build a consensus with Nawaz Sharif. Bhutto and Sharif signed a Charter of Democracy in 2006 with the vision and strong perspective to make Pakistan democratic and accountable. To these, the charter underlined the election by universal suffrage, the autonomy of the judiciary power, and military withdrawal from political matters (Younas, Iftikhar & Azhar, 2024).

The formation of this kind of coalition was quite a new story in Pakistan's political history mainly because the previous adversaries in politics of the country showed that they are ready to come under one umbrella to fight a common opponent. The Charter of Democracy (CoD) was a formal affirmation of democratic values but is also significant for electoral politics in that it set the basis for a more inclusive coalition of opposition parties that sought to counter General Musharraf's form of authoritarianism. This was to ensure that sufficient forces to counter the dictatorship had been formed and candidates of the same political hue and this could advance the processes of political liberalization and return of democracy (Younas, Iftikhar & Azhar, 2024).

### **3.12 Shifts in Political Narrative and Strategy During Years in Exile**

As above mentioned, that another major achievement of Benazir Bhutto's political planning during her periods of exile was the Punjab alliance between her Pakistan People's Party and Nawaz Sharif an opponent turned ally, the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz). Bhutto and Sharif build a political alliance against dictatorship with the vision to make Pakistan democratic and accountable. For this purpose, the charter underlined the election by universal suffrage, the autonomy of the judiciary power, and military withdrawal from political matters.

The formation of this kind of coalition was quite a new story in Pakistan's political history mainly because the previous adversaries in politics of the country showed that they are ready to come under one umbrella to fight a common enemy, that is, military rule. The Charter of Democracy was a formal affirmation of democratic values but is also significant for electoral politics in that it set the basis for a more inclusive coalition of opposition parties that sought to counter General Musharraf's form of authoritarianism (Younas, Iftikhar & Azhar, 2024). This was to ensure that sufficient forces to counter the dictatorship had been formed and candidates of the same political hue and agricultural produce could advance the processes of political liberalization and return of democracy.

Besides, Benazir's strategic coalitions strengthened her cooperation with Nawaz Sharif. She wanted to involve with several political groups, civil society groups, and grassroots activities to build an extended coalition to encounter Musharraf's authority. Her ability to steer the multifaceted political landscape and form coalitions with various groups was contributory in her last return in 2007, where she met with awe-inspiring backing from her voters.

Overall, Benazir's years in exile were marked by pliability and planned anticipation. Her political involvement and fight for democracy during exile helped her in maintaining her importance in the country politics, even though her alliance with Nawaz Sharif and the agreement (CoD) marked a significant shift in the political landscape. These years were crucial in structuring her slant to leadership and laying the basis for her coming back to power, at last determining her legacy as a prominent personality in the history of the restoration for democracy.

#### 4. Conclusion

Benazir Bhutto's political career was full of hurdles and mega challenges. Being a first woman to Muslim-majority country's leader, she accepted the legacy of her father and transformed Pakistan's instable political landscape with extraordinary willpower. Her rise to power started in 1988, mirrored public demand for democracy afterwards General Zia-ul-Haq's authoritarianism, but her tenure exposed the determined fight between civilian and the military establishment.

Benazir's political journey was oriented with endeavours to regain civilian supremacy in major policy spheres of the country, but she was confronted by stiff opposition by strong military and intelligence establishments. As for the few patronage initiatives she tried to bring to the society: humanizing governance through supporting women's rights; her administration clashed most vividly with the military on security, foreign policy, and Islamist militant issues. Therefore, her accomplishments and debacles in diplomacy and economics during her two governments were marked by political instability and allegations of corruption, due to party politics and military opposition. Benazir's unyielding implications through marches, tactical partnership, and populist crusades reflect her strategy. However, her political career was always coloured by warfare like political environment which kept the governments of Pakistan under siege of judiciary, military or other factions. Her tragic assassination in 2007 established her indispensably to Pakistan's experiment with democracy and remains a constant reminder of the risks that civilian leadership faces in Pakistan's volatile political climate. She was a symbol of hope and democracy with her civilian government, yet her performance also discovered that there are many hindrances to civilian rule, which are put up by the military.

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