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Abstract Pakistan is a striving nation-state and it is struggling to attain national identity. It is not a failed state and it is transforming to achieve development and growth. This paper is a quantitative research paper so with the assistance of the primary source this study inspects, why Pakistan is a struggling nation-state, the political system of Pakistan and strategies to become a stable nation-state. Since independence Pakistan has faced many serious problems. The interference of the military in politics, corrupt political leaders, wars and conflicts with India has put Pakistan in a bad situation.

There is great need of legitimate leaders and national pride in the country.

Keywords: Nation-state, Pakistan, Struggling, Transforming, Stable nation-state, Political system. Introduction The nation-state is a system

of organization in which people with a collective identity live inside a country with firm borders and a single government. To protect the rights of Muslims in the subcontinent Pakistan was created as a result.

Since its inception, Pakistan has faced many problems like losing east Pakistan, facing corrupt politicians, a hegemonic armed force, a wiped out financial framework. These all problems pushed Pakistan into extreme poverty and Islamist extremism. Pakistan has been struggling to attain a steady political system. This work describes that Pakistan is a developing state and asserts against the idea of Pakistan being a failed state. Moreover, Pakistan is a struggling nation-state, a state striving to attain national identity and it is transforming to achieve development and growth. Many other researchers have also worked on the topic of Nation-state like Farah Jan's research paper "Pakistan: A Struggling Nation-State" which focuses on the struggles Pakistan is facing since its independence. An article by Jochen Hippler "

Problems of Democracy and Nation-Building in Pakistan” tells us about the problems of nation-building in Pakistan. An article by Nate Barton “ How the French Revolution affected the development of nation states” describes how countries in the past achieved the status of a nation-state with the help of nationalism.

The article of Sidra Jamil Bajwa “ Democracy that Pakistan struggles for” tells us the problems in the political system of Pakistan. And Anthony C. Pick’s research paper “ The Nation State” describes the concept of nation-state and recommendations for the development of a nation-state. So the main objective of this paper is to focus on the different aspects of Pakistan’s struggles and describe its recent gains. The scope of this paper is that it will put a further light on the issues Pakistan is facing or had faced and help people to balance it.

The following are the research questions of this paper. · Why Pakistan is a struggling nation-state? · Is the political system of Pakistan good enough to maintain a stable nation-state? · What are the recommendations for Pakistan to function as a stable nation-state? Literature Review The political history of Pakistan is an evidence for its struggles. Since its independence Pakistan has gone through a struggling process of nation-building and Pakistan is still struggling to control and nourish its political and economic institutions. The political history includes four military regimes, three and half decades of dictatorship and three major wars with India. In the beginning citizens were not allowed to interfere in public policy making instead regular military interventions in politics was at peak. For the Pakistani nation military became an alternative.

Then the army never gave up the right of enforcing martial law whenever it wished. But then since 2007 the political sphere of Pakistan shifted towards a positive direction. Such as the 2008 elections, this led to the creation of a coalition government. " Many liberal democracies of today have gone through a period of fragility and vulnerability in their course of becoming democratic" (Jan, Pakistan: A Struggling Nation-State, p 247). The process of democratization takes a lot of time. For example countries like United States and United Kingdom faced many difficulties while achieving democratization. So Pakistan has barely existed for sixty five years, its nation is still transforming and it will take time to become a stable nation-state.

" Another quandary of Pakistan is the nation itself, which is fond of experimentation" (Bajwa, Democracy that Pakistan struggles for, P1). Time and again the people of Pakistan or nation always trust new politicians and hope for a revolution. There is evidence from the past that how badly the nation has been taken lead of and utilized for the means of corrupt Political leaders in the name of revolution. When the founder of Pakistan Muhammad Ai Jinnah introduced the Two-Nation-Theory.

" As a result, when Pakistan came into existence, it consisted of a wide variety of " ethnic" and linguistic groups and subgroups, which had very little in common besides being Muslim" (Hippler, Problems of Democracy and Nation-Building in Pakistan, P1). Having no common traits in a nation can never help in maintaining a stable nation-state. A nation should always share cultural traits such as, religion, language, history and traditions.

The problem of Pakistan is that there are many languages and cultures with little common traits. Due to which many conflicts and problems arise. This is a big reason that Pakistan is a striving nation-state and has been not able to attain peace and prosperity. Strong military establishment in countries with the working of democracy overtime reduced the powers of the military establishment from authoritarian rule. The future of Pakistan's democracy union lies in the procedure itself. "The main challenge for the current government is to assert its authority over the army, while avoiding direct confrontation with the military establishment" (Jan, Pakistan: A Struggling Nation-State, p 250). It is important for Pakistan to establish a political system in which it should maintain and declare its power over the military establishments and should keep away from any kind of conflict or clash with the military establishments to maintain a stable nation-state.

"Pakistan's problem is that its politics is a puppet of the upper class" (Bajwa, Democracy that Pakistan struggles for, P1). In the political hierarchy of Pakistan not even a single politician belongs to the middle class. Most of the politicians are feudal lords and big business tycoons. The political elites of Pakistan only struggle for democracy to save their own houses. This kind of politics keeps the country away from maintaining a stable nation-state.

"The first requirement of any society is peace and order, and the only way to bring that about is to possess a ruler who is generally accepted as legitimate" (Pick, The Nation State, P37). A Legitimate and true leader can settle controversies and validate laws by which controversies or problems can be settled without any judgment. So it is important for a nation to have a true leader who struggles and fights for the rights or means of the nation. It

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is also important to promote nationalism in the country. Because many countries in the world attained the status of nation-state with the help of nationalism." The spread of nation states was directly impacted by the spread of popular nationalism" (Barton, How the French Revolution affected the development of nation state, P1). National pride of people allowed states to start to function with increased unity and strength at the time of the French revolution. To maintain a better nation-state the military establishment should not interfere in the politics of the country because this will lead to conflicts and wars.

Many geographers explain that for a country to work or function as a Nation-state It must have defensible borders and the masses of the country must have common few foundational values, attitudes and

beliefs. Methodology The nature of this research paper is quantitative.

Questionnaires were distributed among the students of Forman Christian College, Lahore. The content of the questionnaire was focused on finding out student's views, opinion and knowledge about Pakistan as a striving nation-state.

The inquiries asked in the survey specifically address the research questions of this paper. Result & Findings The results of the carried out survey to look into student's perceptions of Pakistan as a striving nation-state is summarized. Closed-Ended questions were asked in the questionnaire and there were a total of 10 questions in the questionnaire.

The survey was carried out from 10 students. 6 out of 10 students thought that Pakistan can become a stable nation-state in the future. 3 out of 10

students agreed that the military should interfere in the politics of Pakistan. 2 students agreed that there is complete national pride and nationalism in the people of Pakistan. 5 students thought that the political system of Pakistan is good enough to maintain a stable nation-state.

6 out of 10 students agreed that there are legitimate leaders in Pakistan. 5 students agreed that there are common foundational values, attitudes and beliefs among the people of Pakistan. 7 out of 10 students thought that Pakistan has defensible borders. 8 students agreed that the wars and conflicts with India effected Pakistan's status of being a nation-state. 6 out of 10 students thought that the people of Pakistan should trust new political leaders in the name of revolution. None of the students thought that Pakistan is a failed state.

Discussion All questions of the questionnaire examine students about their opinion on Pakistan a striving nation-state. Some students thought that Pakistan can become a stable nation-state in the future because they thought that Pakistan is a state striving to attain national identity and it is transforming and working hard to achieve development and growth. Many students thought that the military should not interfere in the politics of Pakistan because history is evidence that whenever the military establishments tried to interfere in politics many conflicts and problems came into existence which pushed Pakistan in a bad condition. Many students disagreed that there is complete national pride or nationalism among the people of Pakistan because they thought that the many people in Pakistan are involved in freedom movements like in Balochistan. And many people are not happy with the bad situations of the country and political

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leaders involved in malpractices. Five students did not agree that the political system in Pakistan is good enough to maintain a stable nation-state because majority of the politicians in the country are from upper class and they always struggle for their own means not for the nation.

True and legitimate leaders should be given chance that is why they were not in the favor of the political system in Pakistan. Many students thought that there are true and legitimate leaders in Pakistan which can change Pakistan in future if given chance like the Chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Imran Khan. Five students did not agree that there are common foundational values, attitudes and beliefs among the people of Pakistan because there are many different languages and cultures in Pakistan.

Few students believed that Pakistan has defensible borders. A large number of students agreed that the wars and conflicts with India affected Pakistan's status of being a nation-state because they believed that wars and conflicts result in many serious problems. Some students thought that the people of Pakistan should not trust new political leaders in the name of revolution because in the past whenever people selected new leaders they did nothing in the future.

All the students agreed that Pakistan is not a failed state but it is transforming and improving to become a nation-state. The conducted survey tells us that the students believed that Pakistan is facing many problems since its independence but it is a striving nation-state and it is transforming to become a stable nation-state in the future. Conclusion Since independence Pakistan has faced many problems and it is a state striving to attain national

identity and it is transforming to achieve development and growth. It is a struggling nation-state but not a failed state. Military establishment's interference in politics and corrupt political leaders has pushed Pakistan into a bad position. A variety of ethnic and subgroups, which have very little in common besides being Muslim is also a main problem for Pakistan to become a stable nation-state. There is need of nationalism and national pride in the people of Pakistan.

And there is also need of legitimate leaders in the country to work for the betterment of the people. Pakistan is a struggling nation-state and its nation is still transforming and it will take time to become a stable nation-state.