

## Electoral Reconstruction

As if it was its primary reason for existence, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has been working overtime to keep its electoral processes and methodologies at the same archaic level as the ones that existed in circa 1918. Thousands of wooden boxes, millions of ballot papers (read trees and forests), messy unverifiable thumb impressions, hours of queues and confusion, refusal to place the nomination papers on its website, clueless about scrutiny of declarations made by contestants, inability to arrange for overseas voting, using untrained and unwilling school teachers and allergic to electronic voting machines. The list is unending and lethally destructive. Despite highlighting these issues numerous times for the past 30 years, the ECP has refused to budge an inch.

As if constrained by a genetic deformity, the unwillingness to change and reform could easily make ECP the single most retrogressive organisation of Pakistan. Its fool proof mechanisms ensure that only people of shady and questionable credentials can become the law makers and rulers of Pakistan. Voters are required to vote with closed eyes and minds as the access to the candidates' credentials is denied to them. (Ref. ECP's recent refusal to display nomination papers on its website). It is thus ensured that the voters (read disposable tissues) are used only to help recycle the same coterie of 1% dynastic, rich, feudal and powerful scums of this land.

This page is dedicated to reforming the ECP and the electoral processes with (a) your considered, serious and specific suggestions and (b) to provide an advocacy platform for change and reform. Its only purpose is to highlight the hugely dysfunctional ECP and how can it be improved. Please do not post stuff that is not relevant to this topic or is derogatory or vulgar in any manner.