

## Voting Trends: A Case Study of 2008 Elections in Pakistan

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### Abstract

*This research study aims to analyze the voting trends in Pakistan during the 2008 General elections. The 2008 General elections were significant as they marked a transition from military rule to civilian governance in the country. This case study focuses on understanding the factors that influenced voter behavior and shaped the electoral outcomes. However, the research methodology employed for this study includes a combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches. Data from official election records, and surveys with voters was analyzed to gain insights into the voting patterns and trends. The study examines various factors that influenced voter behavior, such as political party affiliations, candidate profiles, socio-economic factors, regional dynamics, and issues of national importance. Additionally, it explores the impact of media coverage and political campaigns on voter decision-making. The findings of this research contributes to a better understanding of the democratic process in Pakistan and provide insights into the factors that shape voting trends. The results can be used by policymakers, political parties, and researchers to develop strategies for effective political campaigning and voter engagement.*

**Keywords:** Voting trends, Pakistan, 2008 General elections, voter behavior, political party affiliations, candidate profiles, socio-economic factors, regional dynamics, media coverage

### INTRODUCTION

Elections are the pre historic political institution through the world. In the democratic world, elections always play their role. Citizens choose their representative by the process of election, and it is essential for the real democracy. However, democracy is established through form of government, which is made by the actual representatives. Thus, study of the election is a very remarkable but hard phenomenon. There are two different methods used for to elect the representatives who are the indirect or indirect methods. Voter directly takes part in the elections in direct method. Thus voters do not directly take part in the indirect elections. Different methods are used for elections. There are two contrasting opinions which always an emphasis to bottom up the functions and another emphasis on shaping public opinion and strengthening else. In human affairs, voting plays a vital role. Political development does not initiate in a day, thus it's a long process of change.

In Pakistan's voting, way is found by observing Pakistan's electoral form in a historical perspective. Pakistani society has been stuck under the feudalism, sadder pattern, tribal Malik and Biradaries system, religious factions, ethnicity, class structure, pressure and interest groups. The

Voting trend in Pakistan in which ideological reflexion supported their respective political parties influenced by pressure groups. They always dominated the voter minds but also influencing their decisions to cast their vote in their favour. Voting tendencies is a set of attitudes and beliefs towards election at the national and local level. Now media has become more powerful like an independent in Pakistan. Specifically, among the Pakistani youth, media has generated awareness among the electorates about their independent political rights. Due to the security challenge, Pakistan's general election 2008 was announced but several political parties believed that the election would not hold on due date. Thus, Benazir Bhutto tragic assassination made situation more atrocious and due to this some political parties boycott the elections. Free and fair elections did not expect under General Musharraf Government. Pakistan People Party was decided to take part in the elections. As they believed that the best revenge of Benazir murder would be work towards the restoration of democracy. Elections were held at a country, and all the major parties decided to take part in it. People cast the votes in favor of a governmental change through peaceful means. Pakistani people loved democracy, and they want to see the very well-organized Parliamentary system. Peaceful co-existence of divergent political elements will be welcomed change in our politics. It is hoped that our politicians will learn from history. General Pervez Musharraf endorsed martial law in the state after which he announced the election's date, according to which elections would be held on 8 January but later on these were held on 18 February 2008.

### **Statement of the Problem**

Parliamentary contribution on democratic societies is highly dedicated as the political system shape the political trend in the society. After the independence, the first general elections in Pakistan were held in 1970 after twenty years gape. Political systems and networks of relationships are still in the tentative stage in which government generates policies through general public. As literacy rate was very low in Pakistani society so that it is essential to conduct this type of research. Thus voting tendency in Pakistan not seems positive because most of the people live in rural areas. The pressure groups, e.g. feudalism, no law and order situation, lack of political awareness was the main cause of not casting the vote.

The political system across the country should be more effective and strong when people participated and give importance to the political system. As people were not aware of their rights and duties only people know of about their fundamentals rights through education. Voting trends in Pakistan gets very importance, which shows the interest of public.

One of the major factors which affect voting trends in Pakistan is Biradarism, Religion, sects and cast which always an effect on the decision making while casting a vote. Thus women participation is very low and not aware of politics, and they do not know of their rights. As pressure groups are mostly affected our society, e.g. rural areas of Punjab and Sindh are highly affected.

Newspapers, press, and media are the instruments that affect our society. They played a positive role in society as people were mostly aware of their rights and duties. After a long duration of control of the military government, the 2008 elections were held in Pakistan which played an important role in the politics of Pakistan.

After that, people know about their rights. In Pakistan, social organizations played a positive role in spreading awareness about the political system of Pakistan. As people become aware of their right to vote and also educated people to get involved in the politics of Pakistan.

## **Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study were:

- To investigate the factors that the thoughts of elders affect the voting trend of youngsters.
- To evaluate the voting trends in 2008 elections of Pakistan?

## **Research Questions**

The researcher would try to find out the answer of the following questions:

- What are the main factors that affecting voting trends with special emphasis on the case study of 2008 elections in Pakistan?
- What is the difference between the behavior of rural and urban areas of Pakistan regarding voting during elections?

About elections and voting behaviour in Pakistan, many writers have done remarkable work to evaluate and analyses these concepts in detail. Among them are Syed Karim Haider, Muhammad Waseem, Andrew R. Wilder, Tahir Kamran, Hamind Khan, Iffat Humayun Khan, etc. Few of them are mentioned below.

Syed Karim Haider in his book, “Pakistan’s General Election 2008” mentions that with the announcement of elections an uncertainty arose among the political parties due to the security crisis and Benazir’s assassination. Furthermore, some Political Parties did not believe in fair elections under General Pervaiz Musharraf Government. After Benazir death Pakistan People party too much distressed but still decided to participate with Benazir’s motto “democracy is the best revenge.” Despite the critical situation, elections were held with all major parties participated. Pakistani people proved that they wanted to see smooth co-existence of disparate political elements. Confidently our politicians will learn from the past and try to solve national issues and promote democracy.<sup>1</sup>

Muhammad Waseem in his book “Democratization in Pakistan” has examined that in the last eight years, elections were not being regular in terms of rule. The 1999 coup resulted in a lot of administrative and legal changes by military government. President Musharraf (COAS) declared constitutional amendments and the devolution plan effectively weakening provincial government’s power base. The 2002 elections were dynamic on the ground of electoral reform’s accountability drive and adjustments in the political parties. Pakistan became a central figure in US led war against terrorism after 9/11, which resulted in varied reactions in election process from the world as the political awareness started to spread among the citizens.<sup>2</sup>

Andrew.R.Wilder in his book “The Pakistani Voter Electoral Politics and Voting Behaviour in the Punjab” has described that the role of elections though critical in Pakistan’s history have always been given little attention. They have been the key components of Pakistan’s creation during civil war, its breakup and long military dictatorships. It is the common perception that voting decisions

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<sup>1</sup> SK. "Political Trends in Pakistan." The World Today (1957): 442-450.

<sup>2</sup> Waseem, Mohammad. The 1993 elections in Pakistan. Vanguard, 1994.

are chiefly determined by the social factors, i.e. emotional, religious and political affiliations. Electoral history of the Pakistan can be explained upon the basis of power imbalance among institutions and the difference between urban and rural population.<sup>3</sup> Election Commission of Pakistan, Role in Politics” has analyzed that Election Commission is a Constitutional body accountable for conducting free and fair elections in the country. It was established on 23 March under article 137 of 1956 constitutions with first, election commissioner appointed on 25 June. Election commission is an independent constitutional body which conducts elections of the national and provincial assembly. The election commission has the power to issue orders to ensure appropriate functioning of the institution, i.e. fulfilment of duties like justice, security and scrutiny.<sup>4</sup>

Michael Dummett in his book “Voting Procedures” wrote that voting had a very significant part in all human affairs as it provides a platform to reach a decision either by a people’s body or board of directors. It is evident that type of electoral system determines the results of political elections. After the Second World War, economists had developed a whole theory about voting. The main purpose behind is to build a bridge between two groups to convey voting either virtually or part of practical affairs.<sup>5</sup>

Andrew Reeve and Alan Ware in the book “Electoral Systems” wrote that elections should be acknowledged as an essential part of the democratic system to choose representatives. The book justifies different aspects of modern electoral rules and links electoral systems to that of voting systems. It also discusses democracy as a method and idea. The situation in which there is more than one vote or decision that separates individual voter from a collective outcome is referred as direct and indirect democracy. Elections are a provisional feature of the democracy, and both are not interdependent.<sup>6</sup> Michael Callagher and Paul Mitchell in his book *The Politics of Electoral System* mentioned that they linked the preferences of citizens to the policy choices of government. The political actors choose them and thus, face political consequences also once they designed. The book provides study of the procedures of a diverse set of electoral systems, changes in electoral systems of many countries, either entirely or partly and emphasizes on the electoral reforms both historically and prospectively.<sup>7</sup>

Kumar “Electoral Malpractices” wrote about the Pakistan’s electoral history is marked under military and caretaker governments. In 2008 elections were held by a biased caretaker setup which was formed immediately after the controversial presidential re-election and were subjective to the Musharraf created a system of local government. To ensure healthy electoral traditions in Pakistan independent election commission, free media, independent judiciary and electoral observer are essential.<sup>8</sup> Man Mohan Singh Negi “Theoretical Aspects of Electoral System” in his journal wrote electoral behaviour can be treated as the fundamental point of all political activities, capabilities and attitudes of the constituents of a democratic system. Electoral behaviour of the citizens adopts high substantial proportions in political life of the system. The electoral behaviour of one citizen

<sup>3</sup> Wilder, Andrew R. "The Pakistani voter, electoral politics and voting behaviour in the Punjab." (No Title) (1999).

<sup>4</sup> Shafiq, Muhammad, Razia Sultana, and Muhammad Munir. "Political rhetoric; slogan politics in Pakistan and role of parliament." *FWU Journal of Social Sciences* 11, no. 2 (2017): 26-38.

<sup>5</sup> Salles, M. "The Best Voting Method: A Review of" *Voting Procedures* by Michael Dummett." (1989): 337-346.

<sup>6</sup> Reeve, Andrew, and Alan Ware. *Electoral systems: A theoretical and comparative introduction*. Routledge, 2013.

<sup>7</sup> Gallagher, Michael, and Paul Mitchell, eds. *The politics of electoral systems*. OUP Oxford, 2005.

<sup>8</sup> Kumar, Sanjay, ed. *Women voters in Indian elections: Changing trends and emerging patterns*. Taylor & Francis, 2021.

can and does differ from another. Thus, four key factors, i.e., voting attitude, voting participation, voting choice formulation and participation an election campaign had to be studied.<sup>9</sup> Hassan Askari Rizvi "Pakistan in 1999: Back to Square One" in his journal wrote that Pakistan arrives at the new era with a military government displacing an elected government, and lacking the true democratic spirit. The October 1999 coup might have prevented the demise of the state, but it is still uncertain that whether the military regime would be able to resolve Pakistan's socio-economic problems.<sup>10</sup> The first general elections of Pakistan were held in 1965, eighteen years after its creation, with people from both wings of the country voting simultaneously for the President and the national and provincial assemblies. In 1958, President Ayub Khan terminated the central and provincial ministries and banned all political parties in the coup. At that time, no one foresaw the restoration of a democratic system but as per his declaration it was restored as the aim was to "restore democracy but of the type that people can understand and work".<sup>11</sup>

## **Method**

Descriptive analysis such as frequency distribution, and percentage distribution is made by using SPSS, and in an analysis, Chi-square is used to check the association of all variables with the voting trend in Pakistan in the 2008 elections.

## **Sample**

The target population of the study was the people of Lahore city. A stratified random sampling technique was used for the collection of data. 200 respondents are taken of which 100 respondents are from urban areas (50 male, 50 female) and 100 from rural areas (50 male and 50 female).

## **Study Instrument**

All the data has been collected through a well-designed questionnaire. Most of the questions were in closed-ended form while a few open-ended questions were asked. To check the validity of the questionnaire a pilot test was conducted on the population comprising 25 respondents.

## **Data Analysis**

All the variables of the questionnaire were pre-coded for computer analysis and all the records were rechecked to ensure correct data entry. The data was entered by using SPSS version 17.0 for window.

## **Risk Factors**

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<sup>9</sup> Negi, Man Mohan Singh. "THEORETIC ASPECTS OF ELECTORAL BEHAVIOUR." *The Indian Journal of Political Science* (2005): 95-104.

<sup>10</sup> Rizvi, Hasan-Askari. "Pakistan in 1999: Back to square one." *Asian Survey* 40, no. 1 (2000): 208-218.

<sup>11</sup> Parveen, Dr. Kausar, and Dr. Samina Awan. "Role of Pakistan National Congress in the Constitutional Development in Pakistan, 1947-1958." *Quarterly Journal of the Pakistan Historical Society* 70, no. 2 (2022).

Risk is a chance of occurrence and risk factors are a behavioral, and environmental factor which is statistically associated with the voting trend where their presence increases the chance of voting trends or its absence reduces the chance of occurrence.

### **Risk Factor under Study**

- Age
- Gender
- Qualification
- Location
- Interest in politics
- Participation in political discussion
- Believe in free and fair election
- Feel pressure at polling station
- Role of presiding officer
- Violent at the time of 2008 election
- Role of caste system
- Role of sympathy vote
- Influence of mass media
- Favor of PPP slogan
- Paid for vote in 2008 election
- Voting Behavior
- Satisfaction after casting vote
- Experienced any fine personality in the history of Pakistan
- Registration
- Parents pressure to cast vote
- Casting in 2013 election
- Most powerful leader of Pakistan

### **Questions On Suggestions Include:**

- Procedure to complain about fraud
- Trained officials
- Local government dissolved

**Table 4.1: Coding system for the variable**

No	Variables	Code	Code Number
1	Age	Age	1: 1-25
			2: 26-50
			3: >50
2	Gender	Gender	0: male
			1: female
3	Location	Area	0: urban
			1: rural
4	Qualification	Qualification	0: illiterate

			1:matric
			2: inter
			3:graduation or more
5	Interest in politics	Interest	0:no
			1:yes
6	Participation in political discussion	Participation	0:no
			1:yes
7	Believe in free and fair elections	Free.Fair.Elections	0:no
			1:yes
8	Feel pressure at polling station	Pressure	0:no
			1:yes
9	Role of presiding officer	Role.Presiding.Offcr	0:negative
			1:positive
10	violent at the time of 2008 elections	Violent	0:no
			1:yes
11	Role of caste system	Caste.System	0:no
			1:yes
12	Role of sympathy vote	Sympathy.vote	0:no
			1:yes
13	Influence of mass media	Mass.media	0:no
			1:yes
14	Favor of PPP slogan	PPP.slogan	0:no
			1:yes
15	Paid for vote in 2008 election	Paid.for.vote	0:no
			1:yes
16	Behavior while casting vote 2008 election	Behaviour	0:negative
			1:positive
17	Satisfaction after casting vote	Satisfaction	0:no
			1:yes
18	Experienced any fine personality in the history of Pakistan	Fine.Personality	0:no
			1:yes
19	Registration	Registration	0:no
			1:yes
20	Parents pressure to cast vote	Parents.pressure	0:no
			1:yes
21	Casting in 2013 election	vote.in.2013	0:no
			1:yes

22	Most powerful leader of Pakistan	Powerful.leader	1:Imran khan
			2:Bhutto
			3:Nawaz group
			4:Ayub
			5:Musharaf
			6:Quaid-e-azam
			7:Altaf Hussain
23	Procedure to complain about fraud	Complaint.Fraud	0:no effect
			1:less
			2:somewhat more
			3:much more
24	Trained officials	Better.Training	0:no effect
			1:less
			2:somewhat more
			3:much more
25	Local government dissolved	local.Government	0:no effect
			1:less
			2:somewhat more
			3:much more

## GENERAL ELECTIONS 2008

### Background

The 2008 election were held earlier due to unusual and tense situation in the country. During that period the nation have been faced the most convoluted and ruthless problems. Terrorism is one of major problems that have devastated the whole nation in almost every field of life. The psychological tense situation creates e.g. lack of basic facilities of life, high level ratio of poverty and unemployment.

During that phase, mass media, judicial crises such kind of problems was faced by the nation and general perception of people about pre poll and poll day rigging. Thus main political parties especially PPP and PML (N) were providing facts and figures to the media about rigging. Unfortunately the matter was so contrary that political parties were blaming election commission in favor of particular political parties which supported by the Government. Hence President General Pervaiz Musharraf forced a state of emergency in the country on 3 November, 2007. Due to this election were postponed and elections were announced to be held on 15 February, 2008.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Singh, Ravi Shekhar Narain Singh. The military factor in Pakistan. Lancer Publishers, 2008.



As election campaign was in full peak but unfortunately on 27 December 2007 Benazir Bhutto was assassinated in Rawalpindi, during addressing in a rally. Now it seem clear that due to this incident elections would be postponed in the 4country. The situation in the country is devastating but top officials announced that elections would take place on 18 February. As most of incidents occurred in the country e.g. Charsadda the workers of Awami national party targeted and twenty seven innocents' people lost their life in that incident.

### **Elections Schedule:**

Nomination for papers	20 November 2007
Nomination of candidate	21-26 November,2007
Scrutiny of nomination	27 November 27-3 December 2007
Last date for filing of appeals	7 December 2007
Last date for decision on appeals	14 December 2007
Last date for withdrawals	15 December 2007
Final list of candidates	16 December 2008
Polling day	18 February 2008

**Source: Election Commission of Pakistan**

### **Strength of Election/Polling Staff/Punjab:**

Constituencies	148
District Returning Officer (DRO)	35
Returning Officer ( RO)	148
Assistant Returning Officer (ARO)	148
President Officer (P r O)	37,636
Assistant Presiding Officer (APrO)	194,540
Polling officer (PO)	97,270

**Source: The Pakistan Compendium 2008**

### **Number of Candidates/Punjab**

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Punjab</b>	1,954	119	832	1,003

**Source: The Pakistan Compendium 2008**

1 Nomination filed

2 Rejected

3 Withdrawn

4 Contesting

### **Composition of Punjab Assembly**

General seats	297
Seats reserved for women	66
Seats reserved for minorities	8
Total seats	371

**Source: The Pakistan Compendium 2008**

On 18 February, 2008 general elections were held in Pakistan though it was held to elect the members of national assembly and Majlis-e-shoora the Parliament. The people of Pakistan elected the representatives according to their choice and exercised their right of vote.

The elections may be declared relatively transparent as compared to the elections of 2002. As Pakistan people's party (PPP) won the maximum seats and followed by Pakistan Muslim League (N) in the election. A coalition government was formed by PPP and PML (N) which electing Yousaf Raza Gillani.<sup>13</sup>

As last President Musharraf resigned as Army Chief on 28 November, 2007. Consequently, Mr. Asif Ali Zardari took over as the President. Election always played the significant role in the country. Thus the elections of 2008 are very important and have a great significance for the people of Pakistan. As the consequence of elections can be determined that Pakistani people which entered in the prolonged period of transition from military to civilian rule with the general elections of 2008.

#### ANALYSIS OF VOTING TRENDS IN 2008 ELECTIONS THROUHG QUALITATIVE METHOD

**Table 4.2: 2x2 Contingency Table**

Exposure	Outcome	(no)	Total
	(yes)		
<b>Positive</b>	n <sub>11</sub>	n <sub>12</sub>	n <sub>1.</sub>
<b>Negative</b>	n <sub>21</sub>	n <sub>22</sub>	n <sub>2.</sub>
<b>Total</b>	n <sub>.1</sub>	n <sub>.2</sub>	N

The table is known as contingency table which shows relationship among two categorical variables. The above classification is dichotomous classification, and it must be mutually exclusive and exhaustive. Generally, outcomes are considered in the form of column and exposure value in rows. The N value shows the total frequency, n<sub>.1</sub> and n<sub>.2</sub> show the column total, n<sub>1.</sub> and n<sub>2.</sub> shows the row totals.

#### Descriptive Analysis

**Table 4.3: Frequency Table of Category Age**

Age					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
<b>Urban</b>	1-25	46	46.0	46.0	46.0
	26-50	51	51.0	51.0	97.0

<sup>13</sup> Tahir-Kheli, Shirin. "Martial Law Again in Pakistan." Asian Affairs: An American Review 5, no. 4 (1978): 229-244.

	>50	3	3.0	3.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	1-25	21	20.8	21.0	21.0
	26-50	77	76.2	77.0	98.0
	>50	2	2.0	2.0	100.0

This table is related to the categories of age in which 46% people are of 1-25, and 51% are of 26-50, 3% are of above 50 in age from urban side and 21% related to 1-25, 77% related 26-50, 2% related >50 in age from rural side. As the result showing that most of the respondents are related to 26-50 age from both side of Lahore.

**Table 4.4: Frequency Table of Category Gender**

<b>Gender</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	Male	50	50.0	50.0	50.0
	Female	50	50.0	50.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	Male	50	50.0	50.0	50.0
	Female	50	50.0	50.0	100.0

This table shows about category of gender in which 50% male, 50% female respondents are from urban side and 50% male, 50% female are from rural side.

**Table 4.5: Frequency Table of Location**

<b>Area</b>				
	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	100	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	100	100.0	100.0	100.0

This table is about the location of the respondents in which 50% from urban side and 50% from rural side of Lahore.

**Table 4.6: Frequency Table of Qualification**

<b>Qualification</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	illiterate	2	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Matric	11	11.0	11.0	13.0
	Inter	4	4.0	4.0	17.0
	Graduation	83	83.0	83.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	illiterate	28	27.0	28.0	28.0
	Matric	47	47.0	47.0	75.0

	<b>Inter</b>	9	9.0	9.0	84.0
	<b>Graduation</b>	16	16.0	16.0	100.0

The table shows about the qualification of the respondents from urban and rural side. From the urban side 2% respondents are illiterate, 11% matric, 4% Inter, 83% are above from graduation level. As compare to rural side 28% respondents are illiterate, 47% matric, 9% inter, 16% are above from graduation level.

**Table 4.7: Frequency Table of Variable interest in Politics**

<b>Are you interested in Politics?</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	No	22	22.0	22.0	22.0
	Yes	78	78.0	78.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	23	22.8	23.0	23.0
	Yes	77	76.2	77.0	100.0

This table is related to the interest of the respondent in politics. It is showing that 78% replied with yes, 22% replied with no from urban side. From the rural side 77% replied yes, 23% replied no in response to this question. If we compare urban and rural respondent result it shows most of the people are interested in politics.

**Table 4.8: Frequency Table about Participation in Political Discussion**

<b>Do you ever participate in political discussion?</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	No	27	27.0	27.0	27.0
	Yes	73	73.0	73.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	51	50.0	51.0	51.0
	Yes	49	48.0	49.0	100.0

The table is related to the participation of the respondents in politics. From the urban side 73% participate in politics while 27% don't participate in politics. From rural side of Lahore 49% replied yes, 51% replied no. If we compare the result from both sides it shows that from the urban side mostly people participate in political discussion.

**Table 4.9: Frequency Table about Free and Fair election**

<b>Do you believe that free and fair election has ever been conducted in Pakistan?</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent Age</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	No	63	63.0	63.0	63.0
	Yes	37	37.0	37.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	34	33.7	34.0	34.0
	Yes	66	65.3	66.0	100.0

In this part when asked from the respondents do you believe that free and fair election has ever been conducted in Pakistan. The result shows that from the urban areas 63% believe in free and fair elections while 37% don't. From rural side 65% replied yes, 34% replied no. It is almost equal on both sides.

**Table 4.10: Frequency Table Related to Pressure at Polling Station**

Did you feel any pressure at polling station in 2008 election?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
<b>Urban</b>	No	56	56.0	56.0	56.0
	Yes	44	44.0	44.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	56	55.4	56.0	56.0
	Yes	44	43.6	44.0	100.0

This part is related to the respondents views about pressure at polling station while casted vote in 2008 election. From urban side of Lahore 56% respondent replied that they feel pressure at the polling station while 44% don't. From the rural side 44% replied yes, 56% replied no pressure at polling station. If we compare the results it shows that most of the people not felt pressure while casted vote in 2008 elections.

**Table 4.11: Frequency Table Related To Role of Presiding Officer**

Do you feel that the role of presiding officer at the time of 2008 election was positive?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
<b>Urban</b>	No	44	44.0	44.0	44.0
	Yes	56	56.0	56.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	24	23.8	24.0	24.0
	Yes	76	75.2	76.0	100.0

When asked from the respondents about the role of presiding officer at the time of 2008 election whether positive or not. The result shows 56% replied yes, 44% replied no from urban area of Lahore. 76% replied yes, 24% replied there was not role of presiding officer

**Table 4.12: Frequency Table about People Become Violent at the Time of Election**

Do people become violent at the time of 2008 election?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
<b>Urban</b>	No	38	38.0	38.0	38.0
	Yes	62	62.0	62.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	54	53.5	54.0	54.0
	Yes	46	45.5	46.0	100.0

This part seeks the answer that 62% respondents said that people was violent at the time of 2008 election while 38% replied no. From the rural side 46% replied yes, 54% replied that the people not violent at the time of elections.

**Table 4.13: Frequency Table on Caste System**

Does a caste system play any role at the time of election?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Urban	No	14	14.0	14.0	14.0
	Yes	86	86.0	86.0	100.0
Rural	No	7	6.9	7.0	7.0
	Yes	93	92.1	93.0	100.0

In Pakistan caste system played very important role. When asked from the respondents about the importance of caste at the time of election, from the urban side 86% replied yes, 14% replied no, while from rural area 93% replied yes, 7% replied that caste system does not plays important role.

**Table 4.14: Frequency Table about People Party Got Sympathy Vote**

Do you think that people's party got sympathy vote at the time of 2008 election?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Urban	No	12	12.0	12.0	12.0
	Yes	88	88.0	88.0	100.0
Rural	No	11	10.9	11.0	11.0
	Yes	89	88.1	89.0	100.0

In the answer of the question that PPP got sympathy vote at the time of 2008 election 88% replied yes, 12% replied no. From the rural area 89% replied yes, 11% replied no. As a researcher from both sides respondent views shows that PPP sympathy votes in 2008 elections, which shows people were emotionally attached with the assassination of Benazir Bhutto.

**Table 4.15: Frequency Table for the Influence of Mass Media**

Do you think that mass media played a vital role on the voting behavior of Pakistan in election 2008?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Urban	No	10	10.0	10.0	10.0
	Yes	77	77.0	77.0	87.0
Rural	No	11	10.9	11.0	11.0
	Yes	84	83.2	84.0	95.0

This question is related to the mass media influenced on the voting behavior in election 2008 .From the urban side 77% population voted in favor of media, 10% replied with no, as compare to rural side 84% replied with yes while 10% replied no. The result shows that the media had the positive influence at the voting behavior of the peoples.

**Table 4.16: Frequency Table Regarding PPP Slogan**

<b>Do you in favor of PPP slogan “Roti, Kapra, Makan” while casting vote</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	No	74	74.0	74.0	74.0
	Yes	26	26.0	26.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	86	85.1	86.0	86.0
	Yes	14	13.9	14.0	100.0

This table shows that 26% respondents replied yes, 74% replied no in the favor of PPP slogan ”while casting vote. And 13% replied yes and 85% replied no from the rural area of Lahore. If we analysis the result shows most of the respondents not in favor of PPP slogan while casting vote.

**Table 4.17: Frequency Table Regarding paid for Voting in Election**

<b>Have you paid for voting in 2008 election?</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	No	88	88.0	88.0	88.0
	Yes	12	12.0	12.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	77	76.2	77.0	77.0
	Yes	23	22.8	23.0	100.0

The Result indicates that 12% respondents replied yes, 88% replied no from the urban area of Lahore city. And 22% replied yes and 76% respondents replied no that they were no paid for voting in 2008 election.

**Table 4.18: Frequency Table about Behavior while Going to Polling Station**

<b>What was your behavior while going to polling station?</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent Age</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	Negative(no)	33	33.0	33.0	33.0
	Positive(yes)	67	67.0	67.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	Negative(no)	20	19.8	20.0	20.0
	Positive(yes)	80	79.2	80.0	100.0

In the answer of the respondents 67% replied yes, 33%replied no from urban area and 79% respondents replied yes, 20%replied that their behavior was negative while going to the polling station.

**Table4.19: Frequency Table Related to Satisfaction after Casting Vote.**

<b>Did you feel satisfaction after casting your vote in 2008 election?</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	No	37	37.0	37.0	37.0
	Yes	63	63.0	63.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	19	18.8	19.0	19.0
	Yes	81	80.2	81.0	100.0

This tables shows about the interest of the respondents after casted vote in 2008 election. From the urban side 63% respondents say yes, 37% replied no. The rural side 80% respondent shows interest and 18% replied no that they fell not satisfied after casted their vote.

**Table 4.20: Frequency Table about Experienced fine Personality in History of Pakistan**

Have you experienced any fine personality in the political history of Pakistan?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Urban	No	39	39.0	39.0	39.0
	Yes	61	61.0	61.0	100.0
Rural	No	40	39.6	40.0	40.0
	Yes	60	59.4	60.0	100.0

This table regarding the views related experienced any fine charismatic personality in the history of Pakistan. 61% respondents agree and 39% replied no. From the rural side 60% replied yes and 39% replied that they did not found any fine personality.

**Table 4.21: Frequency about For Registration in New Voter List**

Did anybody come at your home to let your name to be registered in new voter list?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Urban	No	28	28.0	28.0	28.0
	Yes	72	72.0	72.0	100.0
Rural	No	10	9.9	10.0	10.0
	Yes	90	89.1	90.0	100.0

When asked for the respondents regarding did anybody come at your home to let your name to be registered in new voter list. Then 72% respondent replied yes, 28% replied no. From the rural side 89% replied ye sand 10% replied that nobody come at home for registration in a new voter list.

**Table 4.22: Frequency Related to Parents Pressure to Cast Vote for Same Party**

Did your parents persuade you to cast your vote for the same party for which they did casted their vote?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Urban	No	38	38.0	38.0	38.0
	Yes	62	62.0	62.0	100.0
Rural	No	15	14.9	15.0	15.0
	Yes	85	84.2	85.0	100.0

When asked to rate if they vote their party due to parents vote the same party, then 62% people replied yes and 38% no from urban area and 84.2% people replied yes, 14.9% replied from rural area of Lahore .It showed that almost population was affected by the parents voting decision.

**Table 4.23: Frequency Table about Satisfaction while Casting Vote**

Were you satisfied while casting your vote?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Urban	No	25	25.0	25.0	25.0
	Yes	75	75.0	75.0	100.0



<b>Rural</b>	No	9	8.9	9.0	9.0
	Yes	91	90.1	91.0	100.0

When asked for the respondents that where you satisfied while casting your vote.75% replied yes, 25% replied no from the urban area.90% replied yes, 9% replied no from the rural area of Lahore city. The result shows mostly people were satisfied while casted the vote.

**Table 4.24: Frequency Related Participation in 2013 Election**

<b>Did you cast your vote in election2013?</b>					
		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent Age</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
<b>Urban</b>	No	39	39.0	39.0	39.0
	Yes	61	61.0	61.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>	No	35	34.7	35.0	35.0
	Yes	65	64.4	65.0	100.0

The result shows that 61%respondents replied they casted vote in 2013 election and 39% replied no. From the rural area 64% respondents replied yes, 34%replied they did not cast vote in 2013 election.

**Table 4.25: Frequency Table about most Powerful Political Leader of Pakistan**

<b>Mention the most powerful political leader of Pakistan?</b>				
<b>Urban</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent age</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Imran khan	27	27.0	27.0	27.0
Bhutto	32	32.0	32.0	59.0
Nawaz Sharif	14	14.0	14.0	73.0
Ayub Khan	3	3.0	3.0	76.0
Mushraf	11	11.0	11.0	87.0
Quaid-e-azam	9	9.0	9.0	96.0
Altaf Hussain	4	4.0	4.0	100.0
<b>Rural</b>				
Imran Khan	30	29.7	30.0	30.0
Bhutto	45	44.6	45.0	75.0
Nawaz Sharif	10	9.9	10.0	85.0
Ayub Khan	5	5.0	5.0	90.0
Mushraf	4	4.0	4.0	94.0
Quaid-e-Azam	3	3.0	3.0	97.0
Altaf Hussain	3	3.0	3.0	100.0

This table indicates the response regarding the most powerful political leader in the history of Pakistan. From the urban side 27% respondents favored Imran khan,32%Bhutto,14%Nawaz sharif,3%Ayub khan,11%mushraf,9%Quaid-e-azam,45% Altaf Hussain. From the rural area

30%in the favor of Imran khan, 44%Bhutto, 9%Nawaz Sharif, 5%Ayub khan, 4%Mushraf, 3%Quaid-e-azam, 3%Altaf Hussain.

**Table 4.26: Frequency about Improvements in the Procedure of Election**

Some people are talking about different ways that fraud and corruption could be banned in the election process. There is a list of suggestion to improve the system.						
			Much more	Some what	No effect	Less
<b>Urban</b>						
A procedure for ordinary citizens to complain about fraud	<b>Frequency</b>		78	17	4	1
	<b>Percent</b>		78.0%	17.0%	4.0%	1.0%
	<b>Valid Percent</b>		78.0	17.0	4.0	1.0
	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>		100.0	22.0	4.0	5.0
If election commission officials were better trained	<b>Frequency</b>		51	24	15	10
	<b>Percent</b>		51.0%	24.0%	15.0%	10.0%
	<b>Valid Percent</b>		51.0	24.0	15.0	10.0
	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>		100.0	49.0	15.0	25.0
If local government was dissolved during the election time.	<b>Frequency</b>		51	24	15	10
	<b>Percent</b>		51.0%	24.0%	15.0%	10.0
	<b>Valid Percent</b>		51.0	24.0	15.0	10.0
	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>		100.0	49.0	15.0	25.0
<b>Rural</b>						
A procedure for ordinary citizens to complain about fraud	<b>Frequency</b>		87	9	3	1
	<b>Percent</b>		86.1%	8.9%	3.0%	1.0%
	<b>Valid Percent</b>		87.0	9.0	3.0	1.0
	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>		100.0	100.0	3.0	4.0

If election commission officials were better trained	<b>Frequency</b>		20	69	11	
	<b>Percent</b>		19.8%	68.3%	10.9%	
	<b>Valid Percent</b>		20.0	69.0	11.0	
	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>			80.0	11.0	
If local government was dissolved during the election time	<b>Frequency</b>		76	10	7	7
	<b>Percent</b>		75.2%	9.9%	6.9%	6.9%
	<b>Valid Percent</b>		76.0	10.0	7.0	7.0
	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>		100.0	24.0	7.0	14.0

When asked from the respondents to give suggestion how to improve the system then for the question Procedure for ordinary citizen complain about fraud 78% replied much more, 17% somewhat, 40% no effect, 1.0% less as compare to rural area 87% replied much more, 9% somewhat, 3% no effect 1% replied less.

For the betterment of election commission 51% replied much more, 24% somewhat, 15% no effect, 10% less. From the rural side 20% replied much more, 69% somewhat, 11% no effect, 0% less. If local government was dissolved during the election time 51% replied much more, 24% somewhat, 15% no effect, 10% less. And from rural area 76% replied much more, 10% somewhat, 7% no effect, 7% less.

## Bivariate Analysis

The association of voting trend in Pakistan in 2008 election was calculated with Age, Gender, Qualification, Location, Interest in politics, Participation in political discussion, Believe in free and fair election, Feel pressure at polling station, Role of presiding officer, Violent at the time of 2008 election, Role of caste system, Role of sympathy vote, Influence of mass media, Favor of PPP slogan, Paid for vote in 2008 election, Voting Behavior, Satisfaction after casting vote, Experienced any fine personality in the history of Pakistan, Registration, Parents pressure to cast vote, Casting in 2013 election, Most powerful leader of Pakistan, Procedure to complain about 4

## Hypothesis:

H<sub>0</sub>: There is no association between voting trend and risk factors.

H<sub>1</sub>: There is association between voting trend and risk factors.

**Table 4.27: Test of Association of Voting Trend in Pakistan with all Factors**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Chi-square</b>	<b>P-Value</b>	<b>Decision</b>
Age	12.037	0.002	Significant
Gender	0.642	0.423	Insignificant
Qualification	9.617	0.022	Significant
Location	4.338	0.037	Significant
Interest in politics	3.792	0.052	Significant
Participation in political discussion	0.769	0.38	Insignificant
Believe in free and fair election	15.536	0	Significant
Feel pressure at polling station	3.361	0.067	Insignificant
Role of presiding officer	13.792	0	Significant
Violent at the time of 2008 election	2.991	0.084	Insignificant
Role of caste system	0.563	0.453	Insignificant
Role of sympathy vote	0.207	0.649	Insignificant
Influence of mass media	12.172	0.002	Significant
Favor of PPP slogan	1.085	0.298	Insignificant
Paid for vote in 2008 election	3.97	0.046	Significant
Satisfaction after casting vote	13.144	0	Significant
Experienced any fine personality in the history of Pakistan	2.616	0.106	Insignificant
Registration	2.576	0.108	Insignificant
Parents pressure to cast vote	8.34	0.004	Significant
Casting in 2013 election	16.906	0	Significant
Most powerful leader of Pakistan	5.541	0.477	Insignificant
Procedure to complain about fraud	4.871	0.182	Insignificant
Trained officials	2.077	0.557	Insignificant
Local government dissolved	10.816	0.013	Significant

As the p-value of the factor age is less than  $\alpha(0.05)$  so we reject our null hypothesis and conclude that there is significant effect of age with voting trend. And the value of chi-square is 12.037. The

p-value of gender is 0.423 which is greater than  $\alpha$  so we reject alternative hypothesis and stated that there is insignificant effect of gender with voting trend and the value of chi-square is 0.642.

Qualification of respondents is very important factor to analysis the voting trend of Pakistan and as its p-value less the  $\alpha$  so reject the null hypothesis. And the chi-square value is 9.617. The p-value of factor location is 0.037 so we reject our null hypothesis. so our decision is there is signification effect between and voting trend in Pakistan. And the chi-square value is 4.338.

Interest of the people in politics is important factor the p-value of this factor is 0.052 so we reject our null hypothesis. Participation in political discussion of the individuals depends on the personals interest of the people. There is insignificant effect of the respondents with voting trend the p-value which is greater than  $\alpha$  so we reject alternative hypothesis and the value of chi-square is 0.769.

Free and fair Election in Pakistan played significant role to run our country in better way. People believe that fair election in Pakistan and the voting trend have significance and as its p-value 0 less than  $\alpha$  so reject the null hypothesis. And the chi-square value is 15.536. Pressure on the individuals on pooling day gave impact while caste the vote. so there is insignificant effect of the respondent the p-value which is greater than  $\alpha$  so reject our alternative hypothesis and the chi-square value is 3.361.

The role of presiding officer at the day of election is very important. People take information from the presiding officer related to the election. The p-value is 0 less then  $\alpha$  so we reject the null hypothesis. And the chi-square value is 13.792. The factor people violent at the time of 2008 election shows That p-value of this factor is 0.084 which is greater than  $\alpha$  so we reject alternative hypothesis and stated that there is insignificant effect with voting trend and the value of chi-square is 2.991.

Role of caste system in Pakistan shows that p-value of this factor is 0.453 which is greater than  $\alpha$  so we reject alternative hypothesis and stated that chi-square is 0.563. The 0.649 is the p-value of the factor role of sympathy vote which is greater than  $\alpha$  that stated that we reject our alternative hypothesis which shows that there is no significant effect between role of sympathy and voting trend and its chi-square value is 0.207.

Mass media plays an important role with voting trend. Its p-value is 0.002 which is less than  $\alpha$  and shows that there is significant effect of mass media with the voting trend and the value of its chi-square is 12.172. The factor favor of PPP slogan has insignificant effect with voting trend in Pakistan as its p-value 0.298 is greater than  $\alpha$  and its chi-square value is 1.085.

The value of chi-square of the factor paid for vote in 2008 elections is 3.97 and its p-value is 0.046. It has significant effect with the voting trend behavior as its p-value is less than  $\alpha$  so we reject our null hypothesis. The p-value of the factor satisfaction after casting vote is 0.000 and its chi-square is 13.144. It has significant effect with the voting trend as its p-value is less than  $\alpha$  . So we reject our null hypothesis.

Chi-square of the factor experienced any fine personality in the history of Pakistan is 2.616 and its p-value is 0.106. We reject our alternative hypothesis and conclude that there is no significant

effect with the voting trend behavior as its p-value is greater than  $\alpha$ . The p-value of the factor registration is 0.108 which is greater than  $\alpha$  so we reject our alternative hypothesis and conclude that there is no significant effect between registration and voting trend. Its chi-square value is 2.576.

Factor parents pressure to cast vote has association with voting trend behavior as its p-value is 0.004 which is less than  $\alpha$ . Its chi-square value is 8.34. Chi-square value of the factor casting in 2013 election is 16.906 and its p-value is 0.00. Casting vote in 2013 elections has significant effect with voting trend in Pakistan as its p-value is less than  $\alpha$ . So we reject our null hypothesis.

The p-value of the factor most powerful leader of Pakistan is 0.477 which is greater than  $\alpha$  so we reject our alternative hypothesis and conclude that it has insignificant effect with the voting trend behavior. Its chi-square value is 5.541.

These question on suggestion including procedure to complain about fraud and trained official shows that p value of this factor are less than  $\alpha$  so we reject our alternative hypothesis and stated that there is insignificant effect of these factor with voting trend. The chi-square value of these factor are 4.871, 2.077 respectively. The factor local government dissolved is significant with the voting trend as its p-value is 0.013 which is less than  $\alpha$  so we reject our null hypothesis and its chi-square value is 10.816.

## **DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION**

Elections are an important part of the democracy, there is no concept of modern democracy without fair elections; Elections are one of the pre historic political institutions in this world. In Pakistan, nation runs twenty years without the election. The history of elections gives a vision to the democratic process in Pakistan. The first general election 1970 was held based on the adult franchise, but before it has got through the 1965 indirect elections. The history of political development favored the industrialist, feudal, tribes, and illiterate economically strong and corrupt people. In a political life voting behavior has been immensely important it shows the interest of the public about the government. Major part of the youngsters is totally cutoff from the political discussions as well as a political process.

In a developing country like Pakistan, political participation of the people is very important. Through proper education, people should be aware of their duties. The decisions of the Pakistani people are not based on rational attitude. The systematic review explores the factor which shows less political participation of the people due to the lack of trust on the politicians. Small number of people participated in the political activities, so they have a monopoly in this field. Owing to this fact, there is no revolutionary change, which affects society negatively. They are some people who keep appearing with different masks i.e., the old wine in the new bottle.

In Pakistan, voting behavior can be evaluated through the analysis the election result. In Pakistan more than five decades passed still there is no concept of accountability and participation of the people has not given the values. There are a lot of factors, which affect the voting trend in Pakistan. Some of them are Biradarism and illiteracy. Other facts are religion, Caste, sects which really affect the voting behavior in Pakistan. Biradarism seems to be stronger than political commitment and motivations for voting behavior. In the rural area Biradari determines voting behavior as compared to urban area of Punjab. In Pakistan especially, in Punjab Biradarities played a role of

pressure groups and providing the environment which is necessary for democracy. Political awareness and education will reduce the discouraging elements of Biradarism. The national unity must be reduces the negative impact of Biradirism.

In urban area of Pakistan's majority of the population takes information from the media, on the other side, rural area population due to the high of illiteracy rate depends on the pressure groups. This is the duty of the government to encourage the educated middle class, gave a proper quota to women gave the chance to lay man participate in the politics. Today in the democratic era, both the opposition and ruling parties are not proceeding well according to prescribes mandate. In Pakistan misuse of power is on peak, security of life is at stake, laws implement just on poor's, local government is less power as compare to the central governments. There is no need to introduce the decentralization so all the resources should be transferred from central to local government.

After the creation of Pakistan country faced a lot of problems even for basic needs of life. The crises originated from the early death of our founding father Quaid-e-Azam and Lquat Ali khan. 1958-1959 General Ayub Khan ruled in a country and introduced the reforms related legal, education and financial. He also introduced the system of basic democracies order which includes, Tehsil council, District council; Provincial council in order to decentralize the power from lower level. it is considered the main ingredient of good governance. After this Chief martial law administrator Yahya khan came into power 1969. This regime faces the problems related to national issue specially removing corruption and responsible administrator through free and fair election. He also introduced the legal frame work order in which the basic principle of the constitution was laid down. In the political history of Pakistan LFO declared within 120 days for making new constitution the national assembly was accountable. General Zia assumed the power in 1977 his first step to initiate the election in a county but unfortunately the elections were postponed. Zia -ul- Haq held a questioning referendum the question was asked would you support the process of islamnizatin. The election commission announced the result of this referendum, the turnout was 60%. The turnout given the strong position through this high turnout Zia-ul-Haq become the President of Pakistan. He planned to hold the party less election. Many politicians enjoyed this announcement and wanted to contest in the election. Under the MRD restoration of democracy a lot of opposition parties boycott the election, because they wanted party based election. Even many politicians could not win from their areas.

In 1988 election the turnout was very low because the condition of compulsory identity card for voters. Thus, in election people party came as the largest party in Pakistan. These elections were held on a party basis. After this election, Benazir Bhutto becomes Prime minister of the country, Ghulam Ishaq khan become President of Pakistan. In 1990 election Ghulam Ishaq dismissed the Benazir government and the first tenure of Benazir considered as an uneventful because the Slogan Roti, Kapra, Makan had remained a slogan. People suffering from poverty, hunger unemployment was its pinnacle. Bad governance was prevailing everywhere.

24<sup>th</sup> October 1990 election was held. In these elections, IJI won the seats because turnout was very high. After this Nawaz Sharif became the PM and Ghulam Ishaq khan continued the President of Pakistan. By using the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment the President of Pakistan dismissed the Nawaz Sahrif government.

General election 1993 were held in a country these election was based on free and fair election.in the history of Pakistan first time papers were field for the election of Prime Minister. On 17 October Benazir Bhutto become Prime Minister of Pakistan, Farooq Legari become the President of Pakistan. 5<sup>th</sup> November 1996 Farooq Legari dismissed the Benazir government.

In 1977 election Malik Miraz was appointed as a caretaker Prime Minister of Pakistan. Before the election Frooq Legari announced the formation of council of defense and national security.in 1993 Nawaz Sharif government was dismissed on corruption grounds. But the supreme court of Pakistan was in the favor of Nawaz Sharif rule. This decision was declared some days before the elections. The turnout of this election was very dramatic PML (N) success in the election and emerged powerful party in Pakistan.

The study of voting behavior is so limited in Pakistan. As compare with only in countries where election regularly conducted and studied comprehensively. The question arises in mind that how far social scientists have conceptualized the role of socio-political variables and their impact on the Pakistani voters psyche .On 18<sup>th</sup> February, elections were held in a country to elect the member of national assembly and Majlis –e-Shoora the Parliament in a very tense situation, this election was so monitored. Due to the assassination of Benazir Bhutto the role of electronic media was so high. Under the act of representation of people 1976 all the presiding officers were bound to provide a signed copy of statements of vote count. In this election, the turnout of Pakistan people party was so high. On 28 November 2007 Musharraf resigned from his office and Asif Ali Zardari became President of Pakistan .Thus the 2008 election had great importance for the people of Pakistan because the country entered from military to civilian rule in Pakistan.

To check the association of voting trend with risk factors, we take the information using a questionnaire. Questionnaire was filled by the urban and rural areas of Lahore. For the urban areas the questionnaire was from different departments of Punjab University and for rural areas, it has been filled from Manawan Village near Jaloo in Lahore. The Pilot test was also used to check the validity of all the variables. All the questions were pre-coded in the SPSS software.

The association of voting trend in 2008 elections with various risk factors is checked by using chi-square test with the null hypothesis that “There is no relationship between voting trend and risk factors”. We reject our null hypothesis if the p-value is less than  $\alpha$ .

As the p-values of risk factors Age, Qualification, Location, Interest in politics, Believe in free and fair election, Role of presiding officer, Influence of mass media, Paid for vote in 2008 election, Satisfaction after casting vote, Parents pressure to cast vote, Casting in 2013 election, Local government dissolved is less than  $\alpha$  so these factors play a significant role in voting trend behavior in 2008 elections.

As soon as age and qualification increases and people become more aware they play a positive role towards the voting trend in Pakistan. Location gives a strong impact on voting trend as in rural areas people cast vote in pressure as compared to urban areas as people has the choice to cast their votes according to their own thoughts. Generally people who have more interest in politics cast their votes and have a significant impact on voting trend. As those people cast their vote who have believe in free and fair elections so there is association between believe and voting trend. As there is presiding officer at the time of elections so there is no negativity at the time of elections and people cast their votes with satisfaction without violence. Mass media plays important role with



voting trend as nowadays mass media provides information on all surroundings. Because of the interest of people in casting 2008 elections people cast their votes in 2013 elections and plays important role with voting trend. During election time if the local government is dissolved then people laid their importance towards casting their vote so there is relationship between dissolvent and voting trend in 2008 elections.

Hence on the basis of the result in frequency table of variable sympathy vote, 88% of the people think that People's Party got Sympathy vote. Area plays important role in voting trend. Age, Qualification, Location, Interest in politics, Believe in free and fair election, Role of presiding officer, Influence of mass media, Paid for vote in 2008 election, Satisfaction after casting vote, Parents pressure to cast vote, Casting in 2013 election, Local government dissolved are the main factors which play a significant role towards the voting trend in 2008 elections as their p-values are less than  $\alpha$ .

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- This is the duty of the presiding officer to control violence and play positive role at the time of election.
- Every person has their right to vote so there should be not pressure of parents to cast specific vote.
- Local government should be dissolved at the time of election.
- In the time of election, media should provide true information and stop yellow journalism.
- Due to the lack of facilities and awareness in rural areas, the people have less knowledge about elections. This is the duty of government to promote them.
- Free and fair elections should be conducted in Pakistan.
- People should cast their vote instead of wasting their votes.
- People should not cast their vote based on charismatic personality.

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