

Participation of Women in Election 2013:
A Comparative analysis of PML (N) and PTI

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DEDICATION

After fabulous thanks to
Almighty Allah. I dedicated my
research work to my Parents and
my Supervisor Dr. Gull-i- Hina.

Declaration

I, Robina Sharif, ID No. 14003112003, student of M. Phil, Political Science in the University of Management of Technology, Lahore, do hereby confirm that this thesis entitled as **“Participation of women in Election 2013: Comparative analysis of PML (N) and PTI”**. This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for any other academic award in any University or Institution”.

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CERTIFICATE OF SUPERVISOR

It is certified that the research work contained in this thesis titled: **“Participation of women in Election 2013: Comparative analysis of PML (N) and PTI”** has been carried out and completed by Miss Robina Sharif, I.D No. 14003112003 under my supervision.

It is also certified that M. Phil thesis of Miss Robina Sharif, I.D No. 14003112003 on the topic **“Participation of women in Election 2013: Comparative analysis of PML (N) and PTI** is her original research work and all the sources have been cited in accordance with the prescribed format. Its scope and significance warrant its acceptance to the Department of Political Science, UMT Lahore for the award of M. Phil Degree in Political Science.

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List of Abbreviations

AKRSP	Agha Khan Rural Support Program
APWA	All Pakistan women Association
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BISP	Benazir Income Support Program
CEDAW	Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination Against Women
CJ	Chief Justice
CNIC Card	Computerized National Identity
COP	Combined Opposition Parties
CWP Parliamentarian	Committee of Women
ECP	Election Commission of Pakistan
FAFEN	Free and Fair Election Network
FATA Areas	Federal Administrative Tribal
HRCP Pakistan	Human Rights commission of
HRW	Human Rights Watch
KPK	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
MNA	Member of National Assembly
MOWD Development	Memorandum of Women
MPA	Member of Provincial Assembly
NA	National Assembly
NWFP	North- West frontier Province
PCHR Rights	Parliamentarian Commission for Human
PCSW Women	Provincial Commission on the Status of

PML (J)	Pakistan Muslim League (Junejo)
PML (N)	Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz)
PML (Q)	Pakistan Muslim League (Q)
PPP	Pakistan people's party
PPSC	Punjab Public Service Commission
PTI	Pakistan - Tehrik- Insaf
UC	Union Council
UFWR	United Front for Women
UN	United Nations
UNDHR Rights	Universal Declaration of Human
UNDP Programs	United Nations Development
USA	United States of America
WAF	Women Action Forum

Abstract

This comparative study of political parties articulates women's participation and representation in politics and political parties in Pakistan. It provides a pre and post-election analysis of political participation of female political workers and public representatives of constituencies of Lahore, belonging to two political parties of Pakistan PML (N) and PTI in the general elections of 2013. Though the women are 50% of Pakistan's population, yet they have a small number of opportunities to take part in the political process and decision making of the country. It not only finds out the hurdles and challenges, which limit women's participation in politics and political party system of Pakistan, but also suggests some recommendations and artifices for political empowerment of women. To understand the importance of women's participation in the political process Down's Theory of Rational Choice is used and for the recognition of women's identity in political parties Michigan Model of Party Identification is used as a theoretical frame work within the frame -work of political party system in Pakistan. In Pakistan due to patriarchal traditions and the attitude of society the participation of women in politics is connected to male's perception. Although at an individual level both male and female encouraged women to join politics and take part in the political process yet overall the collective patriarchal mind set of Pakistani society discouraged women to come forward and participate in the political process of Pakistan.

1.1: Introduction

The significance of women's participation in politics and government is becoming more essential in all democratic societies in the world. Throughout the world women's representation in decision making bodies is only 15% and only 12 countries are in the world which have granted 33% seats to women in their legislatures (UNDP Report ,2005). In Pakistan, women comprise more than 50 percent of the population, but they are not participating in the progress and development of the country due to fewer opportunities in politics and decision making of the government.

This study reveals the reasons and factors behind the less percentage of women's representation in politics and the electoral process by comparing two political parties of Lahore PML (N) and PTI, who participated in the election of 2013. The perception of male and female political workers of both parties provides comparative analysis of the pre and post strategies of the PTI and PML (N) regarding women political participation.