

## Polls: Food for thought

Lot of letters have appeared in almost all the national dailies on coming elections and good suggestions have been given to EC of Pakistan. It is hoped that election commission of Pakistan shall write new chapter in the history of elections in Pakistan. Everyone agrees that the Chief Election Commissioner, Justice (retd) Fakhruddin G. Ebrahim is an honest man of impeccable integrity. Prior to the 18th Amendment the Chief Election Commissioner had executive powers to take decisions and he was the final authority to give a ruling. The 18th Amendment however significantly reduced the powers of the Chief Election Commissioner and these were transferred to the Election Commission of Pakistan as a whole, in simple language he has just one vote. The current members were selected by 8 members of Parliamentary Committee instead of 12; the process followed was not in accordance with the Constitution. The appointments therefore are illegal. Few suggestions are given for the EC (i) while receiving papers only proposer and secondar to accompany the candidate. (ii) Since all data has been compiled if there is anything against him, he should be handed over the sheet and application rejected, in case of dispute he should go to the court, under no circumstances the application to should accepted (iii) any candidate filing application from jail on the pretext the case is pending should be rejected, the mere fact that he is under trial disqualifies him (iv) article 62 and 63 to be applied strictly in accordance with the constitution. If this is done we shall have majority of the new faces and dynastic politics shall be buried forever.

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