Controversy over Electoral Reform

Election is a key element in democratic systems and people have the right to elect their president and representatives through their suffrage. Democratic system without the right to vote and equal voice is meaningless. Since democracy is simply defined as “government of the people, for the people and by the people”, nation will play a significant role in democratic system. Palestine is regarded as a candidate for democratic region, is supposed to embody nations’ determination and its members are to be divided into several categories.

Following the fall of the Taliban’s regime, Afghanistan was redirected to democratization. The Constitution of Afghanistan – which entitles the individuals to exercise their natural rights and liberty and recognizes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and International Charters – was approved and national sovereignty belonged to the nation. However, provincial and presidential elections were conducted and Afghan men and women flocked to balloting stations to vote for their upcoming president. This – marked a milestone in the history of Afghanistan. Since 2001, the Afghan people have been celebrating the festival of democracy (election) and hoped that democracy would be a panacea for their chronic ‘feud’, blessing as a result of war and violence that could end conflicts and provide stability and equal voice with men. During the first presidential election a number of women got entry into the parliament. The process of democratization seemed to move rapidly and women took active parts in social and political activities. Patriarchal system and sexual discrimination, which held strong sway during the Taliban’s regime, were abolished by new laws.

However, the unbounded hope of Afghan people, did not last long as the process of democratization encountered barriers from the state machinery. The transparency of elections slowed down and a sense of minimal emerged between state and nation. Political parties exploited their influence and divided the people against the government. In the meantime, the issue of “single-seat election” has triggered anxiety among representatives to the parliament. At each polling station, votes are cast only for one representative to the parliament. He further added, “Another important pledge of the government is convening a Loya Jirga (National Grand Assembly) of the country’s future, the nation and the people, for the people and by the people”, nations’ will play a significant role in democratic states. Parliament, which is the beating heart of democratic systems, and discussions on the mental and emotional treatment and prevention of these tragic conditions in Afghanistan.

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