

Contribution of Ayub Khan

Introduction

Ayub Khan became Pakistan's first military ruler in 1958 by declaring Martial Law. He ruled for ten years, introducing political, economic, and social reforms. His time is remembered as the "Decade of Development" but also criticized for authoritarianism and weakening democracy.

Political Contributions

Ayub Khan introduced the 1962 Constitution, which established a strong presidential system. He created the Basic Democracies system, where local councils indirectly elected the President. Political parties were restricted, and Ayub concentrated power in his hands. His system brought stability but reduced democracy.

Economic and Social Contributions

Ayub Khan launched Five-Year Plans and introduced the Green Revolution, improving agriculture with modern techniques. Industries grew quickly, and Pakistan became a model of development. Urban areas prospered, but rural areas and poor people were left behind, creating inequality.

Foreign Policy

Ayub Khan strengthened ties with the United States and joined defense pacts like SEATO and CENTO. He also improved relations with China and the Soviet Union. The Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 was an achievement, but the 1965 War with India and the Tashkent Agreement damaged his popularity.

Legacy and Fall

Ayub Khan is remembered for economic growth and modernization, but also for weakening democracy. His support declined after the 1965 War, and opposition movements grew. In 1969, he resigned and handed power to General Yahya Khan. His era remains important for shaping Pakistan's political and economic history.