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## A Study of Courageous Leadership of Mohterma Benazir Bhutto from 1952 to 2007

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Dr. Ali Murad Lajwani\*

### **Abstract**

Mohterma Benazir Bhutto was a great leader. She contributed in restoration of democratic process and sustainable development policies for our homeland. She was first woman prime minister of Pakistan, very popular in Asian as well as Western societies. No any woman in Pakistan has achieved the global status like Benazir Bhutto. Her leadership style is a vibrant role for women and men leaders equally. The books, newspapers, and stories are published regarding her life span, political contributions. The text-books stuff is not published regarding her political struggle which is urgently needed for the present generations to learn about effective leadership trends, and genuinely strive for the future of Pakistan. The series of events during her Government period, collection of her speeches, innovative initiatives of her policies and plans are eye opening for women and men alike. The present research paper is an intellectual contribution on political and social dynamism and her contributions from her birth (1953) to martyrdom December (2007).

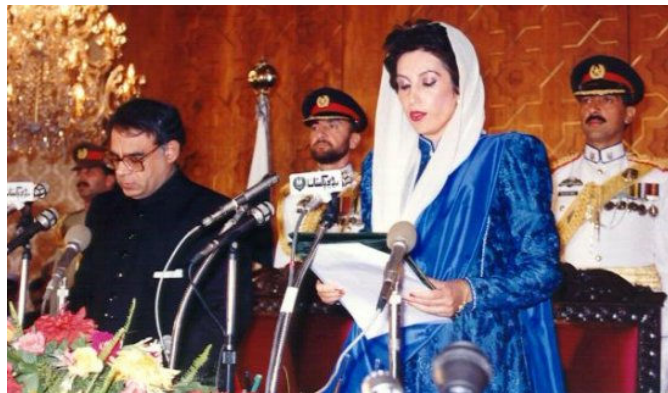
**Keywords:** Contributions, Democracy, Dynamism, leadership, Policies

### **Introduction**

The first woman prime Minister of Pakistan Shaheed Mohterma Benazir Bhutto was a courageous and visionary leader. She was born on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1953 in Karachi in Bhutto's family. She was a symbol of determination, who socially and politically contributed for the development of Pakistan. She studied in Pakistan during early academic career and then pursued her higher education in United States. She leded the Pakistani nation at many occasions. As she was became first woman prime Minister of Republic of Pakistan on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1988. She faced life hardships in very early age during the decade of 70s when her father a bold political leader Zulifqar Ali Bhutto was overthrown by General Zia in 1977 and executed two years later. She was grown up in such hardships but became first woman prime minister in the history of Pakistan. Below is picture of oath taking ceremony.

**Figure - 1**

**First Woman Prime Minister of Pakistan**



Source: <https://www.google.com.pk/search>

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\* Assistant Professor, The University of Sufism and Modern Sciences (USMS) Bhitshah, Sindh, Pakistan.

Benazir Bhutto was possessing very sound leadership style. She always led people very patiently and dedication. Due to such dedication and devotion to serve for the poor people in Pakistan won the hearts of men and women. She was not an ordinary style leader but very focused, intellectual and sound leadership – as symbol of courage for women leaders not only in Pakistan but all Muslim women are following her footsteps. It an undeniable fact, that leaders always demonstrate very composed and visionary path to the followers. Leaders always stable mental approach of people – they encourage them to face hardships and look forward for the solidarity and integrity of the nation. Mohterma Benazir Bhutto was among those leaders who draw very good image of the nation and country. Ahmed Shuja has rightly viewed that in such conditions followers can follow miles in a desert journey, if their leaders do not tired and they boldly demonstrate visionary oasis of the outstanding success, despite the challenges and merger resources (Ahmed Shuja, 2013:42). Leaders encourage innovative way of thinking and working and Mohterma Benazir Bhutto possesses all qualities of a good leader. It is truly described that when someone looks at things differently – then it means it searching of innovation and taking steps ahead (Robbins Stephen, 2009:29). She always remained determine and fought for the rights of poor and oppressed people in Pakistan. Benazir Bhutto remained, very active in social and political role for the development of Pakistan. She continued her struggle till, she last-time breathed 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2007. Following is the summary of events of life span of Benazir Bhutto:

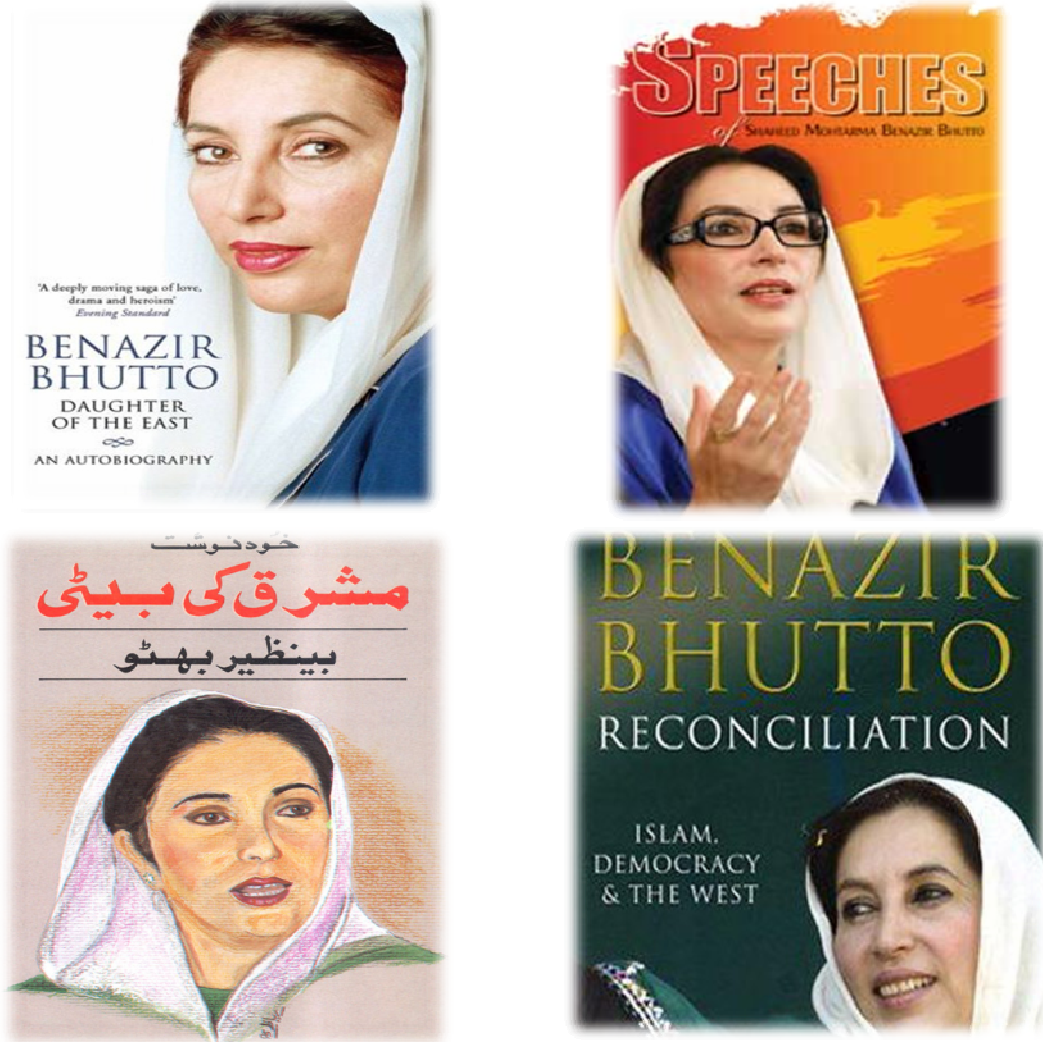
**Figure 1:2**  
**Summary of Events during life span of Mohterma Benazir Bhutto**

S#	Month	Year	Description of the Event
1	April	1979	The execution of Zulifqar Ali Bhutto was the murder of democracy in true sense. The entire nation were in deep grief
2	April	1986	It was the time when Mohterma was returned back in our country to lead the nation – who believed in her leadership.
3	December	1988	In very young age of 35 years She became prime Minister of Pakistan.
4	August	1990	Unfortunately the government of was dismissed by Mr. Ghulam Ishaque, President of Pakistan.
5	October	1993	This is year when Mohterma Benazir became prime minister of Pakistan 2 <sup>nd</sup> time.
6	November	1996	Very turmoil movement when Benazir's second government of dismissed by Mr. Farooque Ahmed Leghari.
7	April	1999	The issue of corruption was raised against Benazir Bhutto and She was not in our country. She remained out homeland for long.

8	October	2007	Parvez Musharraf warned her not come in homeland but She was arrived at Jinnah International airport in Karachi.
9	December	2007	Very saddened, she left her nation and was martyred in Liaquat Bagh when she was returning from political campaign procession.

Benazir Bhutto an intellectual writer and she wrote books about Foreign policy of Pakistan in 1978. Another book consisted on her autobiography titled daughter of the east in 1989. In addition, many other collections are guidelines for our nation to explore through researches. Present research paper is an effort that has brought good results for people in Pakistan and over the world.

**Figure 1:3**  
The title page pictures of few books published about Benazir Bhutto



Source: <https://www.google.com.pk/search?hl=en&site=imghp&tbm>

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**Literature Review**

Mohterma Benazir Bhutto was a great leader and inspirational personality for women leaders over the world. Dharamdasani said about her that in any analysis of Benazir's contributions to the restoration of political process in Pakistan, it should not be overlooked that she was groomed for political career from her adolescent period by her father. Within the short span, she very tactfully created enthusiasm among the generation and thus political scenario was changed so far in Pakistan. She gave a new shape to the practicality of politics in Pakistan – thus was the time when whole nation was mobilized and reawakened – as result the democratic process was sustained (M.D Dharamdasani, page190). She was brave and courage personality because her father taught her the legacy of transparent and honest politics for the people of Pakistan. He (Zulifqar Ali Bhutto) wrote a letter to her from the prison, just few days before he was hanged. He mentioned, that her grandfather taught him very genuine politics with proud to serve for people in our homeland, whereas her grandmother taught very humbleness and serve for people who are suffering due to poverty and hardships. He said that he was standing between these concepts to make a reasonable connect in very articulated way. He said, my dear daughter (Benazir), the true message to be conveyed to you that reply on masses and public, nation and work hard for their better lives because the heaven of a sincere leader lies beneath the feet of his nation, (Zulifqar Ali Bhutto, page31). It was her social and political journey while she became successful in the fight of democracy and went for eternal rest in the cradle of Sindh (Garhi Bux, Larkana). She was a conqueror who fought for the centuries and did not surrender. Even today Mohterma Benazir Bhutto is role model for women on brining the positive changes in lives of nations, (Abdul Sattar Wistro, page31). The restoration of democratic trends was very critical agenda for leaders of Pakistan. The new problem was emerged for Pakistan was restoration of national unity. The economy was weakened, and many other challenges were found in regime of General Zia (Anita Weiss, 1999:434-35). Politics for her father was a passion and romance but for Mohterma Benazir Bhutto it was a responsibility and duty (Ziring Lawrence 1991:17). Mohterma Benazir Bhutto was global figure in the political field. There are two categories of popular Muslim leaders in the World. The first category includes those leaders who are popular in their own countries but their image is not positive in the eyes of Western people. The second category includes the leaders who are favored by Washington but unpopular among their own people. For instance Mubarak and Musharraf of Pakistan belong to the second category of leaders of the Muslim World. However, Mohterma Benazir Bhutto transcends this categorization; she was loved adored in the West, where she was seen charming figure who was also part of their World. She was comfortable in the both worlds (Ahmed, Akber, 2008:4). Mohterma Benazir always practiced as per guidelines by her father. Zulifqar Ali Bhutto mentioned in his view that the great power itself may not do so but it may acquiesce in, or encourage, situation in which doubt is cast on the smaller power's territorial integrity or its right to determine its own affairs (Zulifqar Ali Bhutto, 1994:53). Beyond doubt, her martyred was unfortunate for the nation of Pakistan. Unfortunately, after death of great leader, the politicians are least equipped to deal with their responsibilities of conducting the affairs of state. Neither they are personally inclined, nor does the political system prepare them (Akhtar Ali, 1996:9).

**Research Methodology**

There were many dimensions of life span of Mohterma Benazir Bhutto for suppose she was a humble woman who obeyed her parents. She remained loving-mother for three kids (a son and two daughters). Therefore, the research design was chosen qualitative in nature where interviews and focus group discussions were arranged. In qualitative method the meanings, characteristics, symbols, pictures, and other descriptions were included in the research inquiries. Such qualitative descriptive responses were gathered through the research tools. Implementing the systematic investigation process new conclusions was drawn from the primary data. All four provinces were targeted in the proposed research study. The politicians, voters, policy makers, officials and other stakeholders were involved in the research process. The content analysis technique was also carried out using books published about Mohterma Benazir Bhutto.

**Population**

Study population (universe) is from four provinces of Pakistan. The study population is 191,715,847 (According to census report 2017). There were five hundred ninety six (596) Taluka which were targeted, that covers six thousands (6000) union councils in all over Pakistan. From the study population sample size was calculated. The research study covers the whole district with a wider scope on mentioned educational program.

**Sample size**

The probability sampling procedure was implemented. In probability sampling procedure the stratified sampling technique was appropriately adapted. At first the list of respondents were gathered from target departments. Also, secondary data was collected from different sources i.e. district reports and census figures of as aggregately calculated population, till 2016. The census report of 2017 was base for the secondary data (Universe of the study). The received figure of respondents was used for stratified sampling procedure. The immediate respondents' categories were targeted. While the online sample size calculator namely power analysis and sample size (PASS) was used for the appropriate calculation of sample size. The final calculated figure of respondents was categorized during conducting research study.

**Data collection**

Data is a plain fact that is discrete and continuous in nature. In current research study the discrete and continuous data was gathered from the fields. The respondents i.e. politicians, teachers, principals, parents, community members, officials were included in the research process for collecting primary data. The secondary was searched out from the educational reports, books, documents, websites and other sources like news reports, magazines etc. The collected data was entered in MS excel in a separate database was saved in separate folder (in D drive). All the demographic as well as other responses were coded carefully and arranged in longitudinal or vertical sequence.

**Instrumentation**

For smooth data collection process, the research instruments (research

tools/questionnaires) were designed. The borrowed questionnaires and research tools were compared with developed research tools. The research was proposed as qualitative. Therefore, two research tools were designed (i) research questionnaire having open ended sub-questions. The format of focus group discussion (FGD) was developed for all qualitative response. The limited number of questions were helping on easily finish the data collection from any respondent within appropriate interval. In the similar way a qualitative research tool was designed having in-depth interviews with open ended responses, most likely with WH questions.

### **Pilot study**

The designed research instruments were pre-tested in the field. As per study plan 10-15 respondents were involved in the pilot study. The validation of designed research instruments were checked at the pre-testing data collection phase. The piloted study and research tools were shared with research experts for necessary technical assistance. The errors and minor mistakes were handled very carefully. After rectifying these errors, getting constructive opinion from those experts the research study was started smoothly.

### **Data analysis**

The developed database of primary data in MS word file was used for coding, sorting and analyzing. The MS word and excel in generally is use therefore initial primary data was saved in such a file. Later on the same data was exported to data analysis software's. The software, NVIVO was used for data analysis.

### **Conclusion**

Nations grow and develop under the kind and visionary leadership. The farsighted leaders always take remarkable lead in their countries. They draw an exemplary portrait for others to get inspiration and follow the foot-prints. Mohterma Benazir Bhutto's role was one of those great leaders. The current research has brought concrete results for the nations, political leaders on improving their social and political role like Benazir Bhutto. The research covered time period of 1952-2007. This period was very innovative democratic trends were stepped towards matured democratic journey. The constitution of Pakistan was framed, military took-over plus twice or thrice and country went in much social democratic transformation. The vision of Mohterma was to bring sustainable democracy for the country and improve global ties of Pakistan with other countries. She was first Muslim woman who very boldly managed here political journey and left a symbol of courage. The research discovered about her innovative approach implemented by Mohterma Benazir Bhutto. She leaded men and women in a dynamic way and guided the women young leaders on playing active part for sustainable democracy.

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