



women's action forum نہایتیں محاذ عمل

WAF Press Release

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Women's Action Forum salutes the people of Pakistan for their deep commitment to democracy and their rejection of military rule and religious extremism. WAF lauds the wholehearted participation of women in the electoral process despite the hurdles created to prevent them from exercising their constitutional right. By coming out in substantial numbers Pakistanis countered the government's planned attempt to subvert and hijack the election through fear, intimidation and rigging.

The people's categorical verdict is that General Musharraf must resign and the judiciary be restored to the pre-November 3, 2007 position. At the same time the results are a clear mandate of the supremacy of the Parliament and an affirmation that the military has no role in policy-making, politics or governance. The onus is now on the political parties particularly, PPP, PML (N) and ANP, to rise to the expectations of the people for the good of the country and its future by making a coalition government and sharing power as well as responsibilities. WAF demands that all the political parties rejected by the people, especially PML (Q) and MMA must not be accommodated in government.

Women's Action Forum calls upon the new parliament to reclaim and re-establish the supremacy of Parliament, the rule of law and strengthen all institutions including the judiciary and a free media. WAF upholds the spirit and the core principles of the original 1973 Constitution. It strongly believes that Constitutional promises of equal citizenship regardless of ethnicities, languages, religions, geographical locations and gender, and the promise of equal opportunities, aspirations, and economic, social and political rights can only be guaranteed through a secular state.

Foreign interference has cost Pakistan dearly, WAF urges the international community, especially the USA, Europe, Britain, Canada and Saudi Arabia among others to desist from interfering in Pakistan's internal affairs at this juncture to further their own interests. The destiny of Pakistan lies with its people who alone have the right to determine its future.

Women's Action Forum, Lahore