

-Gor. of Pakistan

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Mohammed Ali, centre, and other members of his Cabinet being sworn in to office by the new President, Major General Mirza.

The constitution sets out the division of powers so as to give the federal government control over foreign affairs, defence (including all industries relating to it), citizenship, taxation, export and import duties, communications (excluding railways), foreign trade and currency exchange, petroleum and natural gas. The residual powers are left to the provinces, but the federal government is given the power of taking over executive authority from a provincial government by a proclamation. The provincial governments are charged with the maintenance of public order, administration of justice, police, land tenure, agriculture, local government, irrigation and flood control, education, railways, vital statistics, the disabled and unemployed, forests and fisheries, lotteries, gambling and electricity.

The Islamic nature of the constitution is evident in the sections dealing with the Directive Principles of State Policy, such as the promotion of Islamic principles and the principles of social uplift. A commission is to be charged with the responsibility of ensuring that all legislation passed is in accordance with the Holy Quran and Sunnah. An Institute of Islamic Research has been established for advanced religious and social study and to assist in the reconstruction of the Muslim society on a truly Islamic basis.

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The influence of the British tradition is also evident in certain aspects of the constitution, such as equality before the law, protection against retrospective offences and punishment, a separation of the judiciary from the executive, provision for collective responsibility in the Cabinet and the provision that the President may not withhold assent from money bills. The judicial