Chapter 1

Introduction

Modern democratic governments can’t function effectively in the absence of political parties. Political parties disseminate political education to the masses and make their participation in the political process of a society meaningful and effective. In fact, they are an essential condition for the successful working of representative government. They are the primary lubricants of the dynamic forces of political, governmental and social processes.\(^1\) Democracy is a process of decision making in which leaders are receptive to the preferences of those who choose them to led. In terms of goals, democratic leadership intends to stress the role of the whole group, to encourage shared decisions, to decentralise responsibility, to take advantage of the ability and talents of all-in short, to activate the entire social body. In conclusion, neither eliminates nor submits passively to power, but to makesystem working effectively. It function; to control the leaders in the exercise of this function; and to put in office responsible, accountable and capable leaders.\(^2\)

The use of the term “political parties” is not too old. Rather it first used in 19th century with the development in representative expansion of the suffrage in Europe and United States. Now days it is a universal term and parties are found in almost all the of the world. The party exercising power in an authoritarian or totalitarian state and the parties which compete for power in a democratic system are so great that comparisons are meaningless. Andrew Heywood defines a party as “A political party is a group of people that is organised for the purpose of winning government power, by electoral or other means.”

**Importance of Election in Democratic Setup**

In a democratic society, people are the one who are real rulers. Due to increase in population, people are not able to participate directly in the rule of the state. Therefore, need for elections is felt through which representatives of the people are selected by people themselves who act as rulers for a specific period. The term election is derived from the Latin word ‘Elige’ meaning ‘to choose. Election thus grants people a government and the government has a constitutional right to govern those who elect it. The elections derive a binding character from the participation of
individuals as choosers in a social act and legitimate authority is thus conferred on the person chosen. In a democratic society, it is an important part of the machinery of government. Election means an election to fill a seat or seats in either house of parliament or in the house or either house of the legislature of a state. Elections are events, which involve individual and collective decisions, which directly affect and are affected by political and social process. They are the main sources of political socialization and political participation. Elections are the medium through which the attitudes, values and beliefs of the people towards its political environment are reflected.

The principal of free and fair election is an essential postulate of democracy (which is turn of the basic structure of the Constitution of India). Elections constitute the corner stone of our democracy and are main spring of a healthy democratic life and a barometer of its strength and vitality. The system of democracy through electoral process is the most practical of all systems and the one that offers greatest opportunities and happiness with the fewer risks to the common people. It is the only system of government in which people can enjoy their most valued rights and liberties. It itself has very beneficial effect on the development of the moral and intellectual status of citizens. Despite some weaknesses, this system has great advantages in comparison to all other systems of government.

Elections are the main source of a representative democracy. It is a process by which political opinion of the people is shaped. Political participation in the election is essential in any real democratic system. Elections in a democracy are the true interpreters of the policies and programs of political parties. Thus institution like democracy is considered to be handicapped without the political process like elections. Elections may be regarded as one procedure foe aggregating preference of a particular kind. They are barricades in the stream of democracy, controlling, the flow of the river and its traffic.

In most of the democratic states, elections have become a normal feature of the political system even though their role and place in the system, their actual important may be different. Highlighting the importance of elections, Norman D. Palmer writes: in any democratic country, a national election is a major and published event. It tends to highlight and dramatize the entire political system, and to a considerable extent the underlying cultural and social milieu. It involves large number of people in political activity than any other single national endeavor. Thus, elections obviously have different meaning and play different roles in different
political system. In some they may even produce instability, in some they clearly seem to attribute to political development while in others, to political decay. The entire thing therefore, can be viewed differently as devices of legitimization, identification, communication, participation, socialization, political mobilization, as also for political choice and political control. Election in India have become the focus of world wide interest and attention as they have a subject of scholarly investigation. The study of voting and election are now one of the major growth area within the field of political science and the constitutional law of India. Election offers a multiplicity of choices that the rulers provide for the conduct of elections and nature of election will determine how much representative the political institutions in a country are. Therefore, the purpose of elections is to determine the will as a plebiscite, a referendum or a mandate. They provide means for choosing leaders, for determining who shall govern as well as for influencing the elected leaders and the policy decisions of the elected government. They thus ensure the responsiveness of the leaders to the people as a whole. In short, elections are devices for controlling. Leaders invest some degree of control over governmental choices and policies in the hands of the people and also provide a non-violent way of bringing a political change and in a system, elections thus provide to the people on the one hand a mechanism by which they elect their rulers and invest them with legitimate authority, and on the other hand, give an opportunity to express their opinion, likings and dislikings regarding various leaders, parties and policies. Elections are a mechanism both for preserving continuity and also an instrument of change as also for redistribution of political power.

**Emergence of Parties**

Parties emerge in political systems when those who seek to win or maintain political power are required to seek support from the larger public. there are at least two circumstances under which such a development occurs: A change may already have taken place in the attitudes of citizens toward authority, individuals in the society may believe that they have the right to influence the exercise of power.

The party is in fact the most effective political entity in the national state. The political party is a creature of modern and modernising political system. It emerges whenever the activities of a political system reach a certain degree of complexity, or when the notion of political power comes to include the idea that the mass public must
participate or be controlled.¹¹

**Party Organisation**

Party competition for various groups in the electorate made some existing parties more responsive to new demands, while new social groupings came to imitate and expand existing forms of party organisation.¹² Autocracy in its more explicit forms was incompatible with free party organisation. Democratic stirrings could take form only in intellectual protest movements or outright conspirational activity. Thus even some of the earlier democratising movements, both on the liberal and on the socialist side, showed strong influences of secret societies. Social and economic changes created considerable turmoil, which furnished the raw material for new political alignments state and society grew more closely together as the scope of central power expanded.¹³

By party system is meant the number of parties and the pattern of relationship among the parties within a political system. Generally, three broad categories of party systems are cited: single party, two party and multiparty. The single party system is generally found in totalitarian regimes where only one political party is allowed to exist for instance, in the communist countries, the communist party of the country is the only party. Two party system is characterised by the dominance of two parties, yet also having minor parties, which on occasions may occupy a balance of two power position. But most of the electoral support is controlled by two parties. One or the other major party frequently wins clearcut control of the government. The American party system is an example of basically two party system. On the other hand, multi-party system signifies the existence of at least three parties, usually more, having a substantial amount of electoral support and political power. Multi-party systems are common in western Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America.¹⁴

**Workings of Political Parties**

A workable definition of political parties may be that political parties are organised groups of individuals or other groups who attempts to exercise power in a political system by winning control of the government or influencing governmental policy. The successful functioning of a democratic political system is unthinkable without the existance of somewhat fairly organised political parties. Parties are more than up going transmission belts of claims and grievances. They transmit demands backed by pressure. The party throws its own weight. thus besides being a part of the political machinery, they also play their independent role.
The political parties bridge distance since the territorial area of nations and electoral districts must be intermediary. In this way they perform the task of political integration of the society. To the political parties, falls the task of keeping peace among group interests. Political parties both comprehend and transcend the special interests of society. They must take account the demands of interest groups; they must also consider aspirations not represented by organised groups; they must seek for nation as a whole. In traditional societies, undergoing modernisation and political development, political parties have the double task of providing stable government and of bringing new groups of people into the political process, while orienting them towards the political and economic goals of the modern state.

The party system in India originated in the late nineteenth century as a response to the British colonial challenge. The beginning can be traced to the formation of the Indian National Congress in 1885 as a political platform of the people of India. However, the secular party system, as in the Western countries, could not be achieved in India as there was communalization of politics, fragmentation of national unity and weakening of solidarity on the basis of caste, religion and community. After independence India following the British tradition, adopted the parliamentary form of government.

End of One party domination in India

It is difficult to fit India’s party system into any of these broad categories. Till late nineteen seventies, India had a single party dominant system. However it came to an end in mid seventies with the emergence of Janata Party as a formidable alternative to the country. The present position somewhat looks like a two party dominant political forces. Similarly, there is no single pattern of party system in the states. It varies from state to state. Regional parties are minority minded which seemingly include regional, local and such other smaller parties formed on the basis of linguistic, religious, ethnic and cultural interests. Regional parties may be defined as the parties which generally and exclusively operate within a limited geographical area within a state or which represent the interests of particular linguistic, ethnic or cultural groups whose population may be concentrated in an area as small as a single assembly constituency or as large as an entire state or region. Example- Shiromani Akali Dal(SAD) in Punjab.15

In a federal system, the states are constituent units of the nation. As constituent units, the states are affected by the centre and in turn affect the centre.
Though the central government has been endowed with extensive powers, the significance of states cannot be belittled. The day to day needs of the citizens are met by the state governments. Since states perform most of functions of the government and since they have direct immediate and intimate impact in the fortunes of the citizens. In independent India, particularly after 1990, the states are playing for more significant role than ever before.

A state’s political ethos, economic growth, ideological underpinnings and environmental factors go a long way in determining the politics of the state. However, the impact of these variables differs from state to state. The politics is always fluctuating with the changing environment. Indian party system has undergone a transformation after 1967. There was a shift from the pattern of one party dominant rule. The growing political, social, economic and regional tensions gave rise to the various parties. The coalition polities in the states made its beginning in a big way in the wake of the fourth general had enjoyed monopoly of political power both at the centre as well as the states was voted out of power in 7 out of 17 states. Non-congress party in various states in India. The non Congress coalition governments came into existence in several states such as Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Orissa.

**Importance and Relevance of the study**

The study of elections of any period in the state is of quite importance as it is the main source of the change of authority in the state through the constitutional means. The Punjab Lok Sabha elections in constituency wise analysis have assumed great importance. These elections have resulted into many dynamic changes, which have made its study more interesting and popular. Punjab politics has been passing through great fluctuations as compared with other states. There has been many up’s and down’s due to existing political, social and economic environment in Punjab. These fluctuations or changes are very important to be kept in mind while studying the electoral process in Punjab. When the announcement of Punjab Lok Sabha elections was made, many new parties formed leading to increase in evil like corruption in national level etc. it is a micro level study related only to a part or a constituency of the state of Punjab. The present topic for research is related to the general importance of election in Punjab particularly in Faridkot constituency. In these elections newly emerged Aam Aadmi Party win in this constituency.

**Aim and Objectives of the study**
The aims and objectives of present are:

- To examine performance of the political parties in Faridkot constituency.
- To know the political, economic, social profile of Faridkot constituency.
- To identify the reasons for the victory of AAP candidate in this elections.
- To study issues raised by Political Parties during election campaign.
- To study the methods used by the candidate to win the elections.
- To find out causes of the biggest success of AAP in these election.

**Hypothesis**

The hypothesis of the present study is as under:

- The policies and programmes of any political party can be clearly seen in the election.
- Political parties representing the people can acquire political power through elections.
- The grievance of the public against the ruling government also plays an important role to change elections scenario.
- Which methods adopted candidate in elections change voter’s attention.
- Newly formed party can change the facts of the election.

**Methodology**

For this study, Primary and Secondary sources have been utilized to gather a wide range of information or data like authority records of the political gatherings, election manifesto, publications of government, reports based on General Elections of Punjab Lok Sabha by Chief Electoral Officer, Statistical Abstract of Punjab, books, periodicals, diaries, articles, daily papers, encyclopaedias, web sites and so on for this study. For the completion of present study interview conduct winner/runner-up candidate and voters sample picked 150 voters in Faridkot Lok Sabha constituency.

**Review of Literature:**

Existing literature’s importance in the sphere of present study cannot be ignored. We can understand various points of views in our study with the help of the existing literature related to the subject.

Sharda Paul, in his book, ‘1989 General Election in India’ (1990) explicates polls and poll alliance of 1989, issue of Ram Janambhoomi Babri Masjid, key contests of winners and losers, formation of government by the National Front supported by Bhartiya janta Party and left parties, manifests, from first to 9th Lok Sabha, describes also total number of all states and territories of India.
S.A. Palekar elucidates in his book ‘Political System in India’ (2006)\(^9\), federal politics, centre-states politics, pressure group politics, party politics, coalition politics, electoral politics, local politics deflection, reservation politics, as well as parliamentary democracy’s work. (Note: in this endeavour, the book critically analyses emergence, politics, programmes, ideologies, political system and performance of various political parties in India.)


M.L. Ahuja describes in his book ‘Electoral Politics and General Elections in India 1952-1998’ (1998)\(^{21}\), dissolution of 11th Lok Sabha just within 18 months last general elections, the growth and effect of regional parties and role of Election Commission provides a glimpse of the electoral scene in all states and union territories, 7 national and 169 state parties’ programmes, activities, strategies and performance in the 12th general elections, strategies and performance in the 12th general elections, explains the background general elections, explains the background and circumstances leading to the politicisation of Muslims and Dalit voters, the situation leading to the projection of Nehru-Gandhi family, the functioning of democracy in India and hundred days-experience of Vajpayee Government and examination of the information of appendices.

M.S.Rana’s book ‘Indian Voters Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha Elections’ (2000)\(^{22}\), clarifies the issues related to system of elections, election scheduled, Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha Elections 1999, electoral alliances and political parties in India.

S.S Awasthy’s book ‘Indian Government and Politics’ (1996)\(^{23}\), is an effort towards the study of overview of Indian political system, constitutional provisions and institutional functioning, party system and election and development process in India.

In his book, N.D. Palmer ‘Elections and Political Development’ (1976)\(^{24}\), explains a theoretical, empirical study of the electoral system in India and South Asian experience.

Subhash C. Kashyap in his book ‘Elections and Electoral Reforms in India’ (1971)\(^{25}\), explicates different articles of renowned personalities. These deal with the
importance of elections, some parliamentary elections, defections. Reports of the electoral system in India have also been discussed in his book.

In their book, D.S. Chaudhary and G.K. Kar ‘Elections and Electoral in India’ (1992)\(^2\), have described Indian elections and electoral Behaviour through the study of the voting of industrial worker, industrial reforms and policy maker of industry as well as the government.

Meenu Roy describes in his book ‘India Votes Election 1996’ (1996)\(^2\), the five years of Rao Government, elections process in India in 1996 Lok Sabha Elections, the parties and their promises, the features of election such as unholy alliances, caste politics, growing importance of regional parties, the role of Elections Commission, pre-poll and post poll scenario in various states and condition of politics of India after elections.

Amandeep kaur’s book ‘Electoral Reforms in India Problems and Needs 1989-2009’ (2009)\(^2\), describes the power of Election Commission, role of Election Commission about free and fair elections, problems in electoral system and need to improve electoral system in India.

R.S. Rajput in his book namely ‘Dynamics of Democratic Politics in India’ (1986)\(^2\), explains a comparative study of the Election Manifestoes of 1984 Lok Sabha Election, national unity and integrity, this analyses the electoral outcome in various states and union territories.

Biswarangan Mohanty’s book, ‘Constitution, Government and Political in India’ (2009)\(^2\), represents a comprehensive analysis of the constitution, system of the government and dynamics of politics in India, a geographically and demographically vast country inhabited by people professing different religions, speaking a variety of languages and adhering to diverse socio-cultural ethos.

M.P. Singh and Rekha Saxena, in their book ‘India at The Polls (Parliamentary Election in the Federal Polls)’ (2003)\(^2\), explain the contours of parliamentary elections and party political process in India during a multi-party system in India’s parliamentary. It examines how federal system has become markedly federalised especially in contrast to the period of one party dominance, the prisms of three Lok Sabha Polls during 1996, 1998 and 1999, various aspect of the electoral process have been examined and roots of electoral patterns and voters. The alignments in relation to parties and social cleavages are portrayed and stability of the NDA Government 1999 is described. In this book, two Parliamentary Committees
have been discussed such as Dinesh Goswami, in 1990 and Indarjit Gupta in 1998 which were related with problems of electoral and party reforms in the last decade and the report of the Law Commission 1990.

Varinder Grover’s book namely ‘The Constitution of India 1989’ (1989)\textsuperscript{32}, starts with the liberation movement and covers the framing of the Constitution in which fundamental rights and parliamentary democracy are enshrined. It also explains the nature and basic structure of our Constitution. Constitutional amendments and various aspects of parliament system in India have also been described.


‘Electoral Reforms’ (1997)\textsuperscript{34}(ed.) by Sharad Dighe and R.B. Sundriyal’s comprises of a number of articles by eminent thinkers on electoral reforms. The drawbacks of the electoral system in India have been pointed out along with suggestions to remove them.

Subhash Chander Arora, Turmoil in Punjab Politics(1990)\textsuperscript{35} the author has made an attempt to highlight some of the issues that have contributed to the breakdown of peace in Punjab and also various solutions have been suggested to combat the problem. The book divided ten chapters, the first three chapters of the book deal with the socio-economic and political profile of the state of Punjab in the context of pre and post-independence era. Ruralisation of Punjab politics forms the basis of the fourth chapter. Formation of Punjab suba, emergence and re-emergence of coalition politics are the fifth, sixth and seventh chapters respectively. Akali demands and Anadpur Sahib Resolution, the emergence of the extremism and terrorism followed by democratic process constitute. The eighth, nineth and tenth chapters of the book respectively. Arora emphasizes the post-independence period from 1947. He also sketches a useful profile of Punjab’s stemming from the pre-independence unionist party period. In addition, in contrast to most accounts, this study includes the several periods of president’s rule in separate sections and provide useful comparative data with the period of party rule.

Jamshid Ali Khan’s book ‘PunjabDi Rajniti’ (2004)\textsuperscript{36}, is an effort towards the study of overview of Punjab politics. The author highlights in his book Akali demands and Anadpur Sahib Resolution, the emergence of the extremism and terrorism, president’s rule in state various phases also.

Sumandeep Kaur Punia’s book Electoral Politics in Punjab( 2009)\textsuperscript{37}is primarily a study
of emerging trends and changing patterns of electoral politics in Punjab from 1967 to 2007. The politics in the state has undergone a paradigmatic shift during this period as post-1997 elections have shown a distinct shift of focus from ethno-religious issues to secular and development-oriented issues. Moreover, the study delves into the meaning, role and significance of elections in a democratic polity and the electoral system in India. It provides an analysis of party manifestos, electoral issues, party performance and changes in support base of major political parries in the state.

Bhupinder Singh in his book *Punjab Politics Retrospect and Prospect* attempts to understand and analyze the complexities of Punjab politics in a holistic manner. Going deep into the historical, physical, demographic, social and economic background of Punjab, it presents a critical analysis of the electoral history of the state covering the period from 1967 to 1992. It also examines the factors that led Punjab towards terrorism and its impact on the development of the state. Finally, it analyzes the working and performance of coalition politics in the state.

Ashutosh Kumar’s article entitled *Electoral Politics in Punjab* elaborates parliamentary and assembly elections since 1996 have continued to reflect a shift in the electoral politics of Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) - politico-economic issues have replaced ethno-religious ones. Also discernible is the shift from an anti-centre stand to cooperative federalism and from a politics of confrontation to peace and Hindu-Sikh unity. However, it needs to adopt a new social profile moving beyond its image as a party of jat Sikhs and khatris.

Shinder Purewal and Shinder Purewal’s their book *Tandoori Democracy: Campaign 2012 for Punjab Assembly* narrates the story of this process of criminalisation of politics by objectively depicting campaign 2012 for Punjab Vidhan Sabha. Focuses on a widely used practice of the distribution of drugs and alcohol in campaigns, it addresses the issues concerning the role of caste politics in campaigns, the institutionalisation of dynastic politics, and the nexus between politicians and godmen. It also examines the role of media and NRIs during the election campaigns. The book is written with an objective to enlighten all Indians about the challenges of criminal elements to our democratic institutions. Times are calling for electoral reforms to save our democracy.
Chaptererization

The first chapter, Introduction: The meaning and definition of election is discussed in this chapter. The importance, aims and objectives, hypothesis, relevance of the study, methodology, review of literature and chapter scheme.

The second chapter, Theoretical Framework: In this chapter, Democracy and electoral process in India is discussed.

The third chapter, Profile of Faridkot constituency: In this chapter, various elements like history of Faridkot and other factors like demography, caste, religion, education level, agriculture and industrial development, Vidhan Sabha constituencies include in the Lok Sabha constituency Faridkot.

The fourth chapter, Lok Sabha Election 2014 in Faridkot Constituency: in this chapter main stress is on Lok Sabha Election 2014 in faridkotconstituency. It also studies the victory of Aam Aadmi Party candidate and the defeat of Sharomani Akali Dal and BJP candidate. This chapter also include votes secured by candidates, their percentage and analyses. The performance of other candidatesis also studied in this chapter.

The fifth chapter emphasizes Conclusion the last chapter contains the conclusion of the study and findings of the study. Some important suggestions are also the part of this chapter.
References:

4. *The Representation of the People Act, 1951, Section 2 (d).*
11. Lakhwinder Singh Sidhu, et. al, *op. cit.* p.58


