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Editorial Article**REPORT ON THE DUMMY, PRE-DECIDED AND UNFAIR
ELECTION OF PAKISTAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION (PPA)
HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2025****Taha Nazir**

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Running title: Healthcare system and pharmaceutical patient care.

Abstract

The Pakistan Pharmacists Association (PPA) elections of 5 December 2025 show clear signs of being pre-decided, manipulated, and dominated by the long-standing “Professional Pharmacists Group,” which has controlled the association since 1978. Ballot-counting sheets from Punjab, Lahore, and Center Punjab reveal uniform vote margins and synchronized results, strongly indicating engineered outcomes rather than genuine voting. Although Pakistan has about 75,000 qualified pharmacists, the winning candidates secured only 1,300 votes in Punjab, 800 in Lahore, and 700 in Center Punjab—less than 2% national participation. This extremely low turnout makes the election professionally irrelevant and devoid of real mandate, further reinforced by evidence of suppressed membership, selective voter lists, discouraged registrations, and activation of only loyal voters. Operational irregularities included identical vote trends across regions, non-transparent counting, incomplete voter rolls, absence of independent observers, and presiding officers aligned with the ruling group. The ballot sheets themselves suggest centrally distributed or pre-filled voting patterns. External interference further compromised the process, involving pharmaceutical industries, pharmacy councils, health department officials, retired power brokers, drug market mafias, and corrupt pharmacist-business networks. These actors allegedly support leadership that protects their financial and regulatory interests. Consequently, the PPA election of 2025 cannot be regarded as free, fair, transparent, or representative. The leadership produced reflects a manufactured minority rather than the collective voice of 75,000 pharmacists. Without independent oversight, transparent membership, and external audits, the association remains structurally compromised and professionally illegitimate.

The Pakistan Pharmacists Association (PPA) elections held on 5 December 2025 exhibit deep-rooted structural manipulation, engineered outcomes, and long-standing control by the ruling “Professional Pharmacists Group,” which has dominated the association since 1978. An examination of ballot sheets, procedural practices, membership control, and external interference reveals an election lacking legitimacy, transparency, and professional ethics.

Evidence of Pre-decided Outcomes

The vote-count sheets from Lahore, Central Punjab, and Punjab Provincial polling stations reveal a uniform and predictable pattern:

all ruling-group candidates consistently secure *1300+ votes in Punjab, 700–800+ in Lahore, and 700–750+ in Center Punjab*, while opposing candidates remain fixed around *250–450 votes* across all stations.

Such **mathematically synchronized margins** indicate vote engineering rather than natural variation. The distribution is too symmetrical, too identical, and too predictable to reflect genuine competition.

The Punjab sheet shows:

- President: 1364 vs 477
- Vice President: 1325 vs 441
- Finance Secretary: 1339 vs 450
- Executive Members: nearly all ruling candidates receive 1229–1328 range; opponents remain 420–487.

The Lahore sheet shows the same pattern but scaled down to 700–800 range.

The Center Punjab sheet again shows a fixed range: ruling candidates 725–794; opponents 284–349.

This consistency across regions reveals a controlled vote-padding mechanism rather than independent voter behavior.

Lack of Mandate Compared to National Pharmacist Population

Pakistan has **approximately 75,000 qualified pharmacists**.

Yet the ruling group’s winning vote count across Punjab barely touches **1300–1400 votes**, Lahore around **800**, and Center Punjab around **700**.

When compared with national pharmacist strength, this means:

- Less than **2%** of pharmacists participated.
- Less than **1%** voted for the winning group.
- **98%** of pharmacists were not represented.

This makes the election statistically irrelevant, professionally invalid, and devoid of democratic mandate.

Systematic Suppression of Membership and Registration

The ruling group maintains long-term control by restricting voter eligibility. The most common and recurring strategies include:

Discouraging new membership: New graduates and practicing pharmacists face administrative hurdles, delays, and non-responsiveness during membership registration periods.

Selective membership approvals: Only loyal or pre-selected pharmacists are prioritized for membership activation to influence polling numbers.

Creating barriers for independent pharmacists: Requirements for documents, repetitive verifications, or arbitrary deadlines are weaponized to keep non-aligned pharmacists out of the voter list.

Use of incomplete or outdated voter lists: Many legitimate pharmacists report being excluded, while inactive or irrelevant individuals appear on the lists.

These strategies ensure a controlled voter pool that guarantees the ruling group's victory regardless of professional sentiment.

Use of Loyal, Preselected Pharmacists to Manipulate Outcomes

The Professional Pharmacists Group allegedly pre-positions loyalists across:

- Polling staff,
- Ballot counting desks,
- Presiding officer roles,
- Membership committees,
- Branch-level coordination teams.

Many candidates who won in 2025 carried reputations as loyal operatives of the ruling group, selected well before elections even began. Their repeated presence in past election cycles reinforces the allegation that PPA elections are **appointments disguised as elections**.

Operational Irregularities Observed

The 2025 polling sheets and circumstances show:

Identical voting slopes across centers: The scaling effect (Punjab ≈ 1300 , Lahore ≈ 750 , Center Punjab ≈ 700) suggests pre-filled or pre-distributed patterns rather than region-specific turnout.

Lack of transparency: Polling agents listed on the sheets are almost entirely from the ruling group.

Single-day, rushed counting: Large-scale counting without verified independent observers.

No published turnout statistics: No voter roll, no independent audit, no cross-verification.

No verification of ballot authenticity: Stamping and signatures exist, but oversight remains internal and unchallenged.

Misuse of Power and Unethical Behavior of the Ruling Group (since 1978)

Over decades, the Professional Pharmacists Group has cultivated a closed ecosystem where:

Nepotism dominates

Relatives, allies, and financially connected pharmacists routinely circulate leadership roles.

Intimidation of independent candidates

Professionals who challenge the group face character smearing, social media attacks, or professional pressure.

Control over trainings and certifications

Workshops, CME programs, and certificates are used as political tools for compliance.

Use of professional influence for personal gain

Favors, contracts, and pharmaceutical dealings remain linked to loyalty.

Institutional capture

The association functions like an internal syndicate rather than a professional representative body.

Unethical and Illegal Interference by External Entities

The 2025 election environment shows significant interference from several external bodies whose involvement violates professional norms and legal boundaries:

Pharmaceutical industries

Company-sponsored pharmacists support and finance preferred candidates to influence regulatory and inspection outcomes.

Pharmacy councils (Provincial & National)

Council officials allegedly favor ruling group candidates to maintain mutual benefits in licensing, curriculum approvals, and regulatory permissions.

Health department officials

Senior bureaucrats use their influence to ensure friendly leadership in PPA that does not challenge departmental malpractices.

Retired healthcare professionals

Individuals no longer active in practice act as powerbrokers, lobbying for the continuity of old networks.

Drug mafias

Black-market medicine suppliers prefer weak, compromised PPA leadership that never raises issues of counterfeit drugs, illegal pharmacies, and adulterated medicines.

Corrupt pharmacist businessmen

Owners of illegal distribution networks, unlicensed pharmacies, and unethical procurement systems support candidates who will ensure silence.

The combined influence of these forces transforms PPA elections into a non-professional, politically engineered event rather than a legitimate democratic exercise.

Conclusion

The Pakistan Pharmacists Association's 5 December 2025 elections cannot be considered legitimate by any democratic or professional standard. The coordinated vote patterns, restricted membership, external interference, internal cartelization, and negligible pharmacist participation confirm that the election was: **dummy, pre-decided, engineered, unfair, and devoid of real mandate**. The PPA leadership elected through this process represents only a *manufactured minority*, not the 75,000 pharmacists of Pakistan. The association remains institutionally captured, professionally compromised, and structurally incapable of representing the pharmacy community until a transparent, audited, and independent electoral framework is implemented.



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