

History:

Collection: 2026

Received: April 30, 2026

Status: Published

Identifiers:

ID: 32-26/DTN

Year: 2026

Volume: 2

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Funding Statement: The authors declare that no specific funding was received for this study.

Ethics Approval Statement: Ethical approval was not required for this study, as it did not involve human participants, animal subjects, or identifiable personal data.

Consent for Publication Statement: The author has reviewed and approved the final manuscript and consents to its publication in accordance with journal policies.

Additional information is available at the end of the article.



Analytical Review Article

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY: ACCOUNTABILITY AFTER MAJOR NATIONAL CRISES

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Abstract

National crises frequently expose weaknesses in governance systems, public administration, security institutions, political leadership, legal frameworks, and accountability mechanisms. In the aftermath of major failures, governments often establish commissions of inquiry to investigate causes, assign responsibility, restore public confidence, and recommend reforms. These commissions occupy a unique position within modern governance systems because they operate at the intersection of accountability, transparency, institutional learning, public trust, and policy reform.

Running title: Commissions of Inquiry, Hamoodur Rahman Commission, Public Accountability, Governance Reform

Keywords: Reform Implementation, Accountability Institutions, Comparative Public Policy.

Data Source: Archives, Biographies, Databanks, Encyclopedias, Libraries, Metadata Registries, Reports, Repositories, arXiv, Crossref, OpenAI, Wikipedia, World Health Organization, Zenodo.

Conflict of Interest Statement: The author declares all potential conflicts of interest and affirms that any such interests have been appropriately disclosed in accordance with standard ethical guidelines.

AI Tools and Assistance Statement: Artificial intelligence tools were utilized to support content structuring, data analysis, and evidence synthesis. All outputs were critically reviewed and validated by the author, who assumes full responsibility for the accuracy, interpretation, and conclusions of the work.

Introduction

Modern states inevitably experience crises. Wars, intelligence failures, governance breakdowns, political scandals, policy disasters, administrative failures, security breaches, economic collapses, and public emergencies periodically expose institutional weaknesses. While preventing crises remains an important objective, equally important is the capacity to learn from them.

Commissions of inquiry emerged historically as mechanisms for investigating complex failures that exceed the capacity of routine administrative review. Unlike ordinary investigations, commissions often possess broader mandates, greater independence, enhanced public visibility, and stronger legitimacy. Their purpose is not merely to identify immediate causes but to examine systemic factors, institutional behavior, governance shortcomings, and policy failures.

The significance of commissions extends beyond accountability. Public inquiries contribute to democratic governance by demonstrating that institutions are subject to scrutiny. They provide opportunities for transparency, encourage public debate, establish historical records, and facilitate policy reform. In divided societies, they may also contribute to reconciliation and trust-building.

The central question addressed in this study is therefore not simply whether commissions identify failures. Rather, the question is how commissions contribute to accountability, institutional learning, governance reform, and long-term state resilience.

Historical Evolution of National Commissions of Inquiry



The use of commissions of inquiry has deep historical roots. Governments have long established special investigative bodies following wars, rebellions, administrative failures, and political controversies. Early inquiries often focused on assigning blame or identifying immediate causes. Over time, however, commissions evolved into broader governance instruments concerned with institutional learning and reform.

The growth of democratic governance significantly expanded the role of inquiries. As public expectations regarding transparency and accountability increased, governments increasingly relied upon commissions to investigate major failures. Public inquiries became mechanisms through which states demonstrated responsiveness and legitimacy.

During the twentieth century, commissions became particularly important following military defeats, intelligence failures, human rights controversies, public health emergencies, and governance crises. Their mandates expanded beyond narrow investigations to include policy analysis, institutional evaluation, and reform recommendations.

Period	Primary Purpose	Governance Significance
Pre-Modern Era	Fact-finding	Administrative accountability
Early Modern States	Political investigation	State oversight
Twentieth Century	Institutional evaluation	Governance reform
Post-Cold War Era	Transparency and accountability	Democratic legitimacy
Contemporary Era	Learning and resilience	Institutional modernization

The evolution reflects changing understandings of accountability and governance.

Theory of Public Inquiries

Accountability as a Governance Mechanism

Accountability theory provides one of the most important frameworks for understanding commissions of inquiry. Accountability refers to processes through which institutions explain actions, justify decisions, accept responsibility, and face consequences when necessary.

Public inquiries contribute to accountability in several ways. They establish facts, evaluate conduct, identify failures, and assess institutional performance. Their importance lies not only in assigning responsibility but also in strengthening confidence that institutions remain subject to scrutiny.

Modern accountability scholarship distinguishes among multiple forms of accountability:

- Political accountability
- Administrative accountability
- Legal accountability
- Professional accountability
- Public accountability

Commissions often operate across several of these dimensions simultaneously.

Accountability Type	Inquiry Function
Political	Evaluation of leadership decisions
Administrative	Assessment of governance performance
Legal	Examination of compliance
Professional	Review of conduct standards
Public	Transparency and legitimacy

Effective inquiries therefore contribute to broader governance systems rather than functioning as isolated investigations.

Institutional Learning Theory

Learning After Failure

Institutional learning theory argues that organizations improve when they systematically analyze failures, identify causes, and implement reforms. Crises create opportunities for learning because they expose weaknesses that may otherwise remain hidden.

Commissions of inquiry serve as institutional learning mechanisms by collecting evidence, evaluating performance, identifying deficiencies, and recommending changes. Their findings help organizations develop institutional memory and avoid repeating mistakes.

However, learning is not automatic. Organizations frequently resist change due to political interests, bureaucratic inertia, resource limitations, or cultural factors. Consequently, the effectiveness of commissions depends partly upon implementation.

This framework provides a useful lens for comparative analysis.

Governance Reform Theory

Governance reform theory emphasizes that institutions must adapt to changing circumstances and correct weaknesses revealed through experience. Commissions often play important roles in this process because they identify structural problems and propose solutions.

Reforms may target multiple areas:

- Administrative systems
- Security institutions
- Intelligence organizations
- Public policy frameworks
- Accountability mechanisms
- Legal structures
- Oversight institutions

The success of reforms depends not only upon recommendation quality but also upon political commitment, implementation capacity, and public support.

Function	Expected Outcome
Diagnostic Assessment	Understanding failures
Policy Evaluation	Improved decision-making
Institutional Review	Structural reform
Accountability Enhancement	Greater legitimacy
Transparency Promotion	Public trust
Strategic Learning	Long-term resilience

Commissions therefore function as bridges between crisis analysis and governance modernization.

Public Trust and Institutional Legitimacy

Public trust is one of the most valuable assets possessed by governments. Major crises often damage trust because citizens question institutional competence, leadership decisions, and governance systems. Commissions of inquiry help address these concerns by demonstrating commitment to transparency and accountability.

Legitimacy theory suggests that citizens are more likely to trust institutions perceived as honest, responsive, and accountable. Public inquiries contribute to legitimacy by showing that governments are willing to investigate failures openly.

However, inquiries may also fail if they are perceived as politically motivated, insufficiently independent, or unwilling to address difficult questions. Legitimacy therefore depends not merely upon establishing inquiries but upon conducting them credibly.

Factor	Contribution to Credibility
Independence	Public confidence
Transparency	Trust enhancement
Expertise	Analytical quality
Fairness	Legitimacy
Evidence-Based Analysis	Credibility
Implementation Follow-Up	Long-term impact

These factors will become important when comparing different commissions.

The Hamoodur Rahman Commission in Comparative Perspective

A Foundational Case of Post-Crisis Accountability



The Hamoodur Rahman Commission occupies a unique place within the history of post-crisis investigations. Established after the 1971 crisis, it was tasked with examining events associated with one of the most significant national failures in Pakistan's history.

Its importance extends beyond national history because it illustrates broader challenges confronting inquiry commissions worldwide. These include questions concerning independence, transparency, accountability, implementation, political sensitivity, and institutional learning.

From a comparative perspective, the Commission raises several important questions:

- How should states investigate national failures?
- What forms of accountability are appropriate after crises?
- How can inquiries balance truth-seeking with political realities?

- What determines whether recommendations are implemented?
- How do inquiries influence long-term governance reform?

These questions will guide subsequent comparative analysis.

This framework will be applied throughout the remainder of the study.

From Theory to Comparative Practice

Why Comparative Analysis Matters



The value of comparative inquiry research lies in its ability to move beyond single-case explanations and identify broader patterns of accountability, institutional learning, governance reform, and public trust restoration. Although commissions emerge in different political systems and historical circumstances, they frequently confront similar questions. How should responsibility be determined? What degree of transparency is appropriate? How can investigations balance political sensitivity with truth-seeking? What mechanisms encourage implementation of recommendations?

The Hamoodur Rahman Commission can therefore be better understood when examined alongside major international inquiries. Comparative analysis reveals both common challenges and distinctive approaches. Some commissions focused primarily on establishing facts. Others emphasized accountability, reconciliation, institutional reform, or policy learning. Their differing experiences provide valuable insights into the conditions under which inquiries succeed or fail.



Islamabad 26.11.2025: Chairman Standing Committee on Interior and Narcotics Control Raja Khurram Shahzad Nawaz chairing the committee meeting at Parliament House.

The central analytical finding emerging from comparative research is that commissions are not judged solely by the quality of their investigations. Their long-term significance depends largely upon legitimacy, transparency, implementation, and institutional impact. Reports that remain politically isolated often produce limited reform. Reports integrated into broader governance processes are more likely to influence institutions and public policy.

Context, Mandate, and Historical Significance

The Hamoodur Rahman Commission was established following the 1971 crisis and the separation of East Pakistan. The Commission was tasked with investigating military, political, administrative, and institutional failures associated with one of the most consequential events in Pakistan's history.

Its significance derives from several factors. First, it represented an attempt to establish an authoritative account of events. Second, it sought to identify responsibility for failures across multiple institutions. Third, it generated observations extending beyond immediate operational questions to broader issues of governance, accountability, leadership, and institutional performance.

From a comparative perspective, the Commission faced challenges common to many post-crisis inquiries. These included political sensitivity, national trauma, questions of institutional responsibility, and debates regarding transparency. Like many inquiries established after major failures, its long-term influence became intertwined with broader political and governance developments.



Dimension	Analytical Observation
Historical Context	National crisis and state failure
Scope	Military, political, and governance dimensions
Objective	Accountability and fact-finding
Governance Relevance	Institutional learning potential
Transparency Challenges	Sensitive political environment
Long-Term Significance	Continuing accountability debates

The Commission therefore provides an important benchmark for evaluating other inquiry systems.

The 9/11 Commission (United States)

National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States represents one of the most influential inquiry commissions in modern history. Established after the September 11 attacks, the Commission investigated intelligence failures, security vulnerabilities, institutional coordination problems, and policymaking weaknesses.

Unlike many traditional inquiries focused primarily on assigning blame, the Commission emphasized systemic analysis. Its report examined organizational structures, information-sharing deficiencies, intelligence coordination failures, and broader national security governance challenges.

One of its most significant achievements was its emphasis on institutional reform. The Commission's recommendations contributed to major restructuring efforts, including changes in intelligence coordination and homeland security governance.

Dimension	Hamoodur Rahman Commission	9/11 Commission
Crisis Type	National disintegration and war	Terrorist attack
Focus	Political, military, governance failures	Intelligence and security failures
Accountability Scope	Broad institutional review	National security systems
Reform Orientation	Significant but contested	Strong reform emphasis
Transparency	Limited public accessibility initially	Extensive public engagement
Long-Term Impact	Continuing historical debate	Major institutional reforms

The comparison demonstrates differing approaches to accountability and implementation.

Accountability and Policy Decision-Making

Iraq Inquiry investigated the United Kingdom's involvement in the Iraq War. Unlike inquiries focused on operational failures, Chilcot concentrated heavily on decision-making processes, intelligence assessments, leadership judgments, and policy formulation.

The inquiry highlighted the importance of examining how decisions are made rather than merely evaluating outcomes. Its findings emphasized issues such as intelligence interpretation, risk assessment, institutional challenge mechanisms, and strategic planning.

This approach is particularly relevant for comparative analysis because many national crises result not from isolated mistakes but from cumulative decision-making processes. The inquiry therefore contributed significantly to governance and accountability scholarship.

Area	Governance Lesson
Intelligence Assessment	Challenge assumptions
Strategic Planning	Improve risk analysis
Executive Decision-Making	Strengthen scrutiny
Institutional Coordination	Enhance communication
Accountability	Document decision processes
Transparency	Support public trust

The Chilcot model illustrates the value of process-oriented accountability.

Fact-Finding and Public Legitimacy

Warren Commission was established following the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963. Its primary purpose was to investigate circumstances surrounding the assassination and establish an authoritative account.

Unlike many later commissions, the Warren Commission focused heavily on factual reconstruction rather than broad governance reform. Nevertheless, it highlights an important function of public inquiries: creating official records capable of reducing uncertainty and stabilizing public understanding.

The Commission's experience also demonstrates the importance of public trust. Persistent controversies surrounding its findings illustrate that inquiries may face legitimacy challenges even when extensive investigations occur.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission (South Africa)

Truth and Reconciliation Commission represents one of the most influential inquiry mechanisms in modern transitional justice. Established after the end of apartheid, the Commission sought not merely to investigate abuses but also to facilitate reconciliation and national healing.

The Commission's significance lies in its recognition that accountability can serve multiple purposes. In addition to establishing facts, inquiries may contribute to reconciliation, public recognition of suffering, institutional legitimacy, and democratic transition.

Its public hearings created opportunities for victims and witnesses to participate directly in truth-seeking processes. This participatory approach contrasts with more traditional investigative models emphasizing confidential proceedings.

Dimension	Traditional Inquiry	Truth and Reconciliation Model
Primary Objective	Accountability	Truth and reconciliation
Public Participation	Limited	Extensive
Focus	Responsibility	Recognition and healing
Outcome	Findings and reforms	Social reconciliation
Legitimacy Source	Investigative rigor	Participatory process

The comparison illustrates alternative approaches to post-crisis inquiry.

The Bloody Sunday Inquiry

Saville Inquiry investigated the 1972 killings in Northern Ireland known as Bloody Sunday. Conducted decades after the original event, the inquiry demonstrates that accountability processes may remain relevant long after crises occur.

The inquiry emphasized transparency, extensive evidence review, witness testimony, and public legitimacy. Its eventual findings significantly influenced public perceptions and governmental responses.

This case highlights an important lesson: delayed accountability may still contribute to legitimacy and trust if investigations are perceived as credible.

Historical distance does not necessarily reduce accountability value.

Permanent Accountability Mechanisms

Royal Commissions provide an important example of institutionalized inquiry systems. Unlike ad hoc commissions established after specific crises, Royal Commissions represent established mechanisms available for investigating major public concerns.

Australian commissions have examined issues ranging from banking misconduct and institutional abuse to public administration and governance failures. Their experiences demonstrate how inquiry systems can become integrated into broader accountability frameworks.

Feature	Governance Benefit
Legal Authority	Investigative effectiveness
Independence	Public confidence
Established Procedures	Consistency
Public Reporting	Transparency
Reform Recommendations	Policy impact

Institutionalization strengthens accountability capacity.

Governance Learning Through Investigation

Canadian Public Inquiries have investigated public health failures, policing controversies, indigenous relations, security issues, and governance challenges. Canadian experience demonstrates how inquiries can support policy learning and administrative reform.

Many Canadian inquiries place strong emphasis on implementation and follow-up. Their recommendations frequently contribute to changes in legislation, administrative procedures, oversight mechanisms, and public policy.

This emphasis on learning aligns closely with organizational learning theory.

Emerging Comparative Patterns

Across cases, several recurring patterns emerge. Effective commissions generally demonstrate independence, methodological rigor, transparency, public legitimacy, and implementation capacity. Less effective commissions often encounter political resistance, limited transparency, weak follow-up mechanisms, or credibility challenges.

Most importantly, successful inquiries contribute to institutional learning. They move beyond blame assignment toward systemic analysis and governance improvement.

These indicators provide a foundation for evaluating inquiry systems comparatively.

From Investigation to Institutional Transformation

The comparative analysis conducted throughout this study demonstrates that commissions of inquiry vary significantly in their long-term influence. Some commissions become historical

documents with limited policy consequences. Others fundamentally reshape governance structures, accountability systems, public administration practices, intelligence organizations, security institutions, and democratic oversight mechanisms. The difference rarely lies in the quality of investigation alone. Rather, it depends upon broader political, institutional, administrative, and societal conditions that determine whether findings are translated into reform.

The most effective commissions function simultaneously as accountability mechanisms, learning institutions, reform catalysts, and legitimacy-restoration instruments. They establish credible factual records, identify institutional weaknesses, facilitate public understanding, generate reform proposals, and contribute to governance modernization. Their success derives not merely from identifying what went wrong but from influencing what happens afterward.

Comparative evidence suggests that inquiry effectiveness should therefore be evaluated according to governance outcomes rather than report production alone. A commission that produces an excellent report but generates no institutional change may be analytically impressive yet practically limited. Conversely, a commission whose recommendations influence governance structures may achieve substantial long-term impact even if controversies persist regarding specific findings.

This distinction is particularly relevant when assessing the broader legacy of the Hamoodur Rahman Commission and other major inquiries. Their enduring significance lies not only in their historical findings but also in their contributions to accountability discourse, institutional memory, and governance reform debates.

Developing a Comparative Evaluation Framework

Effective comparative analysis requires criteria capable of evaluating inquiries systematically across diverse political and institutional contexts.

Evaluation Dimension	Key Question	Indicator of Success
Independence	Was the inquiry free from undue influence?	Public confidence
Transparency	Was information accessible?	Legitimacy
Investigative Quality	Was evidence rigorously examined?	Credible findings
Accountability Impact	Were responsibilities identified?	Institutional responsibility
Reform Influence	Did recommendations affect policy?	Governance improvement
Learning Capacity	Were lessons institutionalized?	Organizational adaptation
Public Trust Impact	Did confidence improve?	Legitimacy enhancement
Long-Term Influence	Did reforms endure?	State resilience

This framework reveals that commissions should be viewed as components of broader governance ecosystems rather than isolated investigative exercises.

Conditions Supporting Effective Accountability

Comparative evidence indicates that successful commissions typically possess several common characteristics.

First, they enjoy sufficient independence to investigate sensitive issues without undue political interference. Independence enhances credibility and increases public confidence in findings.

Second, successful commissions generally employ rigorous methodologies. Comprehensive evidence collection, expert analysis, witness examination, documentary review, and transparent procedures strengthen legitimacy.

Third, effective commissions maintain public engagement. Citizens are more likely to trust inquiry outcomes when processes are transparent and accessible.

Fourth, successful commissions benefit from political willingness to implement recommendations. Without implementation, even the most insightful findings may have limited impact.

Finally, institutional capacity matters significantly. States require administrative mechanisms capable of translating recommendations into policy reforms, organizational restructuring, and governance improvements.

Success Factor	Contribution to Effectiveness
Independence	Enhances credibility
Transparency	Strengthens legitimacy
Methodological Rigor	Improves accuracy
Public Participation	Builds trust
Political Commitment	Supports implementation
Administrative Capacity	Enables reform
Institutional Learning Culture	Sustains improvements

These factors appear repeatedly across successful international cases.

Barriers to Accountability and Reform

The comparative record also reveals recurring obstacles limiting inquiry effectiveness.

Political resistance remains one of the most significant challenges. Findings that threaten powerful interests often encounter opposition. Governments may delay implementation, restrict access to information, or minimize reform efforts.

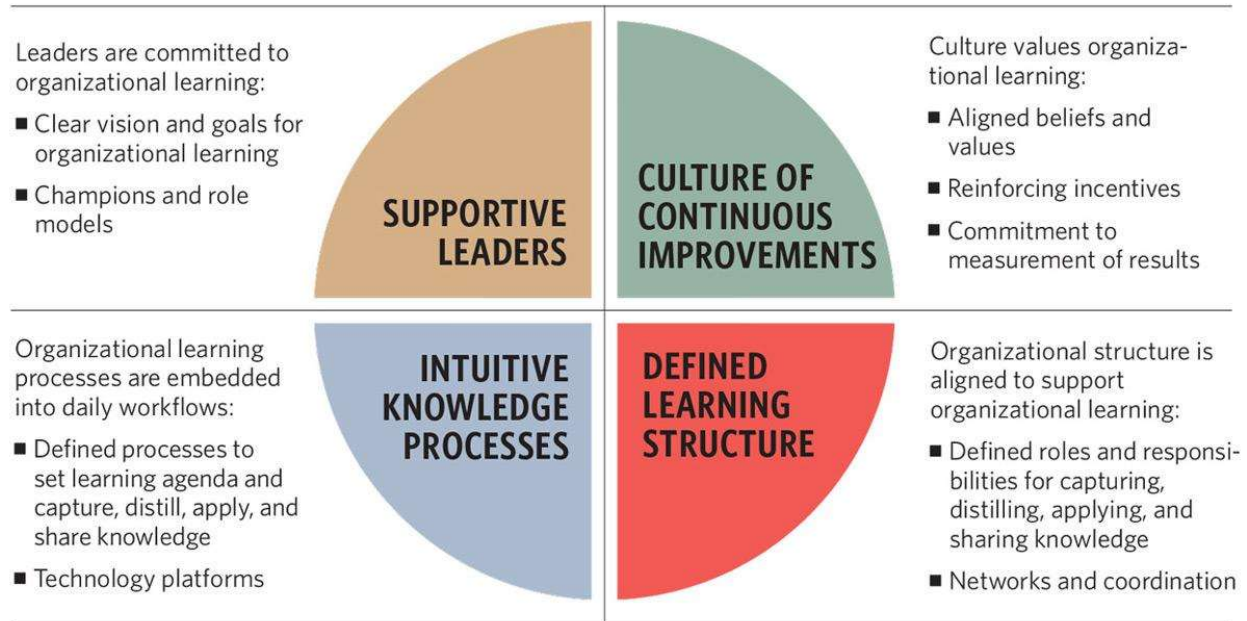
Institutional inertia presents another barrier. Organizations frequently resist changes that challenge established practices, authority structures, or professional cultures.

Resource limitations may also undermine implementation. Reform recommendations often require financial investment, administrative restructuring, legislative changes, and long-term monitoring.

Finally, public polarization can complicate accountability processes. In highly divided societies, inquiry findings may become subjects of political contestation rather than shared learning.

Institutional Learning and Organizational Memory Learning as a Strategic Capability

FOUR ELEMENTS OF ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING



One of the most important contributions of inquiry commissions is their role in institutional learning. Crises generate information about weaknesses that might otherwise remain hidden. Commissions help transform this information into actionable knowledge.

Institutional learning involves several stages. Organizations must first recognize failures. They must then understand causes, develop solutions, implement reforms, and evaluate outcomes. Commissions contribute primarily to the first three stages but can also influence implementation through recommendations and public pressure.

Comparative evidence demonstrates that learning-oriented inquiries often produce more durable outcomes than inquiries focused exclusively on blame assignment. While accountability remains essential, sustainable reform requires understanding systemic causes rather than merely identifying individual responsibility.

The effectiveness of accountability systems therefore depends partly upon learning capacity.

Transitional Justice and National Reconciliation

Truth-Seeking Beyond Governance Reform

The comparative analysis reveals that some commissions serve purposes extending beyond administrative accountability. Truth commissions, reconciliation mechanisms, and historical inquiries often seek to address societal divisions, restore legitimacy, and facilitate healing.

The South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission represents perhaps the most influential example of this approach. Its emphasis on public testimony, recognition, and reconciliation illustrates how inquiries can contribute to social reconstruction.

While not all commissions possess transitional justice mandates, many nevertheless influence collective memory and national narratives. By establishing authoritative records, they shape how societies interpret crises and understand institutional responsibility.

These functions often overlap in practice.

Strengthening Accountability Institutions

The comparative findings provide important lessons for Pakistan and other states confronting governance challenges.

First, accountability mechanisms should be institutionalized rather than activated only after major crises. Permanent oversight systems reduce dependence upon extraordinary inquiries.

Second, transparency should be strengthened. Public confidence depends partly upon access to information and understanding of institutional performance.

Third, implementation mechanisms require greater attention. Recommendations alone do not produce reform. Monitoring systems, follow-up procedures, and implementation reviews are essential.

Fourth, inquiry findings should be integrated into professional education, public administration training, military education, and governance reform programs.

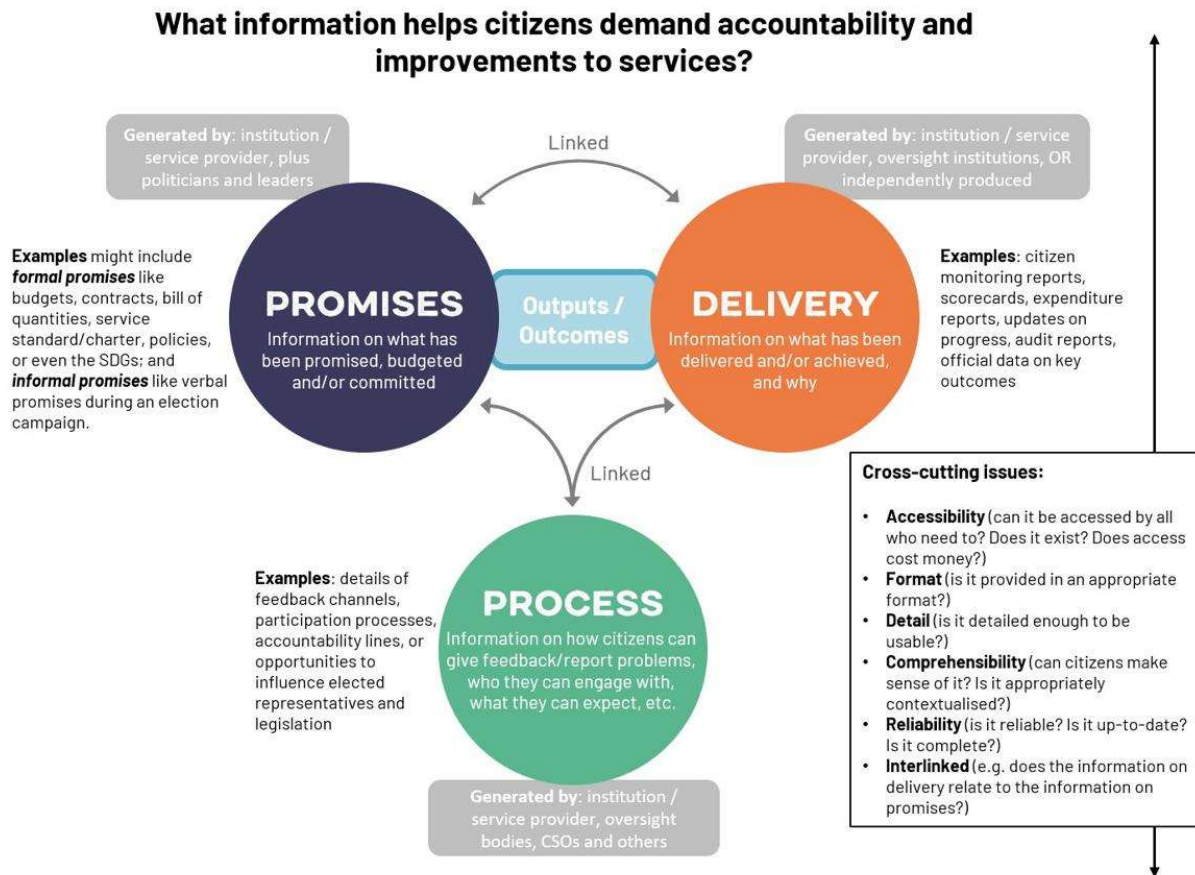
Reform Area	Strategic Priority
Accountability Systems	High
Transparency Mechanisms	High
Oversight Institutions	High
Implementation Monitoring	Critical
Institutional Learning	Essential
Governance Reform	Long-Term Priority

These lessons extend beyond any single commission.

Future Models of Public Inquiry

Accountability in the Twenty-First Century

Digital Governance and New Challenges



Future commissions of inquiry will operate within environments characterized by digital information systems, large-scale data analysis, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity concerns, social media, and rapid public communication.

These developments create opportunities for enhanced transparency and evidence collection. Digital archives, open-data systems, real-time reporting, and advanced analytical tools can strengthen investigative capacity.

However, they also introduce challenges involving misinformation, information overload, cybersecurity, privacy, and political polarization. Future inquiry systems must therefore combine traditional investigative principles with technological innovation.

Policy Recommendations

Strengthening National Commissions of Inquiry

Structural Recommendations

Establish clear legal frameworks governing inquiry independence.

Strengthen protections against political interference.

Enhance transparency and public access to proceedings.

Expand expert participation in investigations.

Improve evidence management systems.

Accountability Recommendations

- Develop permanent follow-up mechanisms for recommendations.
- Create implementation monitoring bodies.
- Require periodic progress reports.
- Strengthen parliamentary oversight.
- Enhance judicial review where appropriate.

Governance Recommendations

- Integrate inquiry findings into public administration reform.
- Strengthen institutional learning systems.
- Expand accountability education.
- Improve crisis-management evaluation frameworks.
- Promote evidence-based policymaking.

International Cooperation Recommendations

- Encourage comparative inquiry research.
- Share best practices among accountability institutions.
- Develop international standards for major public inquiries.
- Strengthen cooperation among governance reform organizations.
- Support professional development in investigative methodologies.

Conclusion

This study has examined the evolution, theory, practice, and comparative significance of national commissions of inquiry through the analytical lens of governance, accountability, institutional learning, public administration, transitional justice, and democratic oversight. By comparing the Hamoodur Rahman Commission with major international inquiries—including the 9/11 Commission, the Chilcot Inquiry, the Warren Commission, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Bloody Sunday Inquiry, Australian Royal Commissions, and Canadian public inquiries—it has identified common patterns, recurring challenges, and broader lessons for governance systems. Several major findings emerge. First, commissions of inquiry serve functions extending far beyond fact-finding. They contribute to accountability, institutional learning, public trust restoration, policy development, and governance reform. Second, inquiry effectiveness depends less upon report production than upon implementation, legitimacy, and long-term institutional influence. Third, independence, transparency, methodological rigor, and public credibility are critical determinants of success. Fourth, organizational learning represents one of the most valuable outcomes of inquiry processes because it transforms crises into opportunities for improvement. Fifth, accountability and reform are deeply interconnected. Accountability without reform often produces limited impact, while reform without accountability may lack legitimacy. The study further demonstrates that inquiries contribute to democratic governance by reinforcing oversight, transparency, and institutional responsibility. Their value lies not only in identifying failures but also in strengthening resilience. Societies capable of examining mistakes honestly and implementing reforms systematically are generally better prepared for future challenges. The Hamoodur Rahman Commission occupies an important place within this broader tradition. Its enduring significance lies not merely in its historical findings but in the questions it raises regarding accountability, governance, institutional performance, and national learning. Like many major inquiries worldwide, it illustrates both the

possibilities and limitations of post-crisis investigation. For modern states, the central lesson is clear. Effective accountability systems should not be viewed as instruments of blame alone. They are mechanisms for learning, adaptation, legitimacy building, and institutional strengthening. Governments that invest in credible inquiry processes are more likely to improve governance quality, strengthen public trust, and enhance state resilience. Ultimately, commissions of inquiry represent one of the most important tools available to modern states seeking to transform crises into opportunities for reform. Their greatest contribution is not merely revealing what went wrong but helping societies understand how institutions can perform better in the future. Through accountability, transparency, learning, and reform, effective inquiries strengthen both governance systems and democratic legitimacy, ensuring that the lessons of national crises contribute to the resilience of future generations.



Review Typology and Reporting

Review designs were classified into standard categories (scoping, umbrella, rapid, qualitative, and mixed-methods), with reporting aligned to established guidelines (PRISMA-ScR, PRIOR, PRISMA-RR, ENTREQ, and PRISMA/MMAT) to ensure methodological rigor and transparency.

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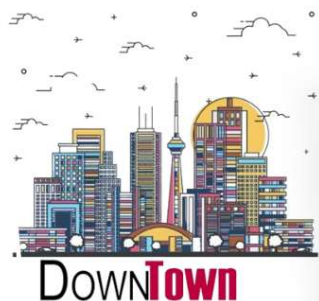
Peer Review Statement: This manuscript has not undergone external peer review, as it represents a structured synthesis and analysis of existing evidence. The methodological approach adheres to established standards to ensure rigor, transparency, and scientific validity.



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