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Karachi: Fifteen PTI Supporters Join PPP in Shift

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In a fresh political development in Karachi, 15 supporters of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) have formally joined the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), signaling another setback for the once-dominant political force.

The switch was announced during a press conference held at the PPP Secretariat in Karachi, where party officials welcomed the new entrants. The individuals, described as active supporters and local organizers of PTI, expressed their disappointment with the current direction of the party.

Speaking at the event, PPP leaders claimed the shift reflects growing disillusionment among PTI's grassroots members. "These individuals have seen the reality of PTI's leadership and decided to support a party that believes in democratic values and public service," a senior PPP official stated.

Although the names of the individuals were not disclosed in the official announcement, local reports suggest they had been active in district-level campaigning for PTI during the 2018 general elections. Sources within the PPP indicated that some of them were previously aligned with PTI's Karachi chapter leadership.

This latest wave of defections comes at a time when PTI continues to face internal and external challenges. The party has struggled to maintain unity following a series of legal cases against top leadership, a ban on its electoral symbol, and a weakening presence in several key constituencies.

Political observers note that this trend is not isolated. Over the past year, multiple former PTI members, including former lawmakers, have either distanced themselves from the party or joined rival political groups. The PPP, with its strong base in Sindh, has been a primary beneficiary of these defections.

The 15 new PPP supporters cited "broken promises" and "lack of internal accountability" as reasons for their departure. One of them, speaking anonymously, said, "We joined PTI with hopes for change, but it became clear that personal agendas were being prioritized over public service."

PPP officials said they plan to involve the new members in upcoming party activities and organizational planning. "Their experience and commitment to public engagement will strengthen our efforts at the local level," the party said in a statement.

PTI has not yet issued an official response regarding the defections. However, insiders within the party have downplayed the move, suggesting it is a routine occurrence in Pakistan's shifting political landscape.