

# Youth Bulge in Pakistan: an asset or a liability

## 1 Introduction

**Thesis statement:** Youth bulge in Pakistan is an asset as well as ~~the~~ liability. However, it is an asset due to <sup>potential of</sup> changing the order of a country.

By taking measures its negative effects can be minimized.

## 1- An overview of a youth bulge

## 3- Youth Bulge as an asset

- a- A Youth bulge as a demographic dividend
- b- Contribution to national human capital
- c- Contribute in the economic conditions
- d- can change the socio political order

## 4- Youth Bulge as a liability

- a- lack of jobs in the country
- b- lack of quality education

c- Limited opportunities

d- Traditional mind set of society.

### s Liability can be converted into asset

a- Providing job opportunities to people

b- Quality education programs

c- More opportunities for

regular class on marginalized class

d- Educating society by role of media and parties

### b- Conclusion

A Tale unfolds akin to the age-old fable of 'The sower and the seeds'. Just as seeds hold the promise of the beautiful harvests, Pakistan's bulge embodies the potential to change the future of the country. Yet as seed needs proper care same as the case with youth bulge. Similarly, youth bulge in Pakistan is an asset as well as the liability. However, it is an asset due to changing the potential of changing the order of the country. By taking measures its negative measures can be minimized. Similarly, youth bulge is an asset as it can contribute to human capital, economy, political and social order and it is a demographic dividend. However, it can become liability

as there are less jobs, lack of quality education, limited opportunities and a traditional mindset of society. Meanwhile liabilities can be converted into assets by providing job opportunities, quality. In a nutshell, opportunities are more than the increasing population as a liability.

Youth bulge is an asset as well as the liability depending upon how government utilizes it. It is however, important to discuss an overview of a youth bulge.

According to the **National Human Development** report published by UNDP, Pakistan's 64 percent population is below the age of 30 while 29 percent is between the ages of 15 and 29 years.

After having discussed an overview it is important to shed some light on the benefits of having youth bulge in a country. Youth bulge is a dividend for a country. Demographic dividend has the potential to accelerate the economic growth. As youth bulge is a demographic dividend it can shape the country's economy altogether.

**"China's Case Study"** is the

best example how the country utilize their youth bulge that directly effect their GDP. Similarly, youth bulge has the potential to change the future of a country.

Youth bulge can have the potential as a demographic dividend not only this it has the potential to

contribute in the national human capital. National human capital is essential for a country that it should be increased. Increase in national human capital is directly proportional to increase in the GDP of the country. A country is prosperous if it is paying attention to the human development index. Moreover

**Ethiopia** has the fastest growing population in world approximately 80% below 25. Ethiopian government recognized the potential to this demographic trend into to assets by investment in education, empowerment of women etc; (Kiros, F, and

Asrat, A. 2016) **The Demographic**

**Dividend in Ethiopia: opportunities, challenges and policy implications, 2016**

This is how youth bulge can contribute to the national human capital.

Contribution in national human capital as well as the increase in the economy and changing the shape of the economy of a country is another feature of the youth bulge. It should however be noted that population is not important. Political influence comes from the wealth that only comes from the contribution in an economy. India experienced the condition in 1990s. It helped the India to change the economic conditions; (Ejaz Ghazi, why a young India is blocking the global down turn). In nutshell, you'll have this potential to shape economy.

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Not only youth bulge contribute in an economy but also it can bring change in the socio political order of the country. Active participation of the youth in the political sphere is important. A socio political order can only be changed in a society when everyone participated in the society. Youth has potential for social change.

**In 1960 American youth by protests changed the American politics and the foreign policy of the country and called as the "Baby Boomers"**

This is how youth can bring social change in the society.

Youth bulge is an assets not only this another argument that prevails in a society is that it is a liability for Pakistan. Pakistan surpassed the population growth of the 24 crores. Increase in population needs opportunities for a standard living. Unfortunately, job opportunities are very limited in the country.

**According to the Labour force survey 2017-18** the unemployment rate for the year 2020-21 has been estimated at

**9.56%**. This shows that they are more dependent on the other which is a burden on an economy. This limits the growth of the country.

Not only unemployment the other issue is the lack of the quality education. Our education system fails

to include civic education to equip the young generation for an active and leading role in the current setup.

Another issue is people are facing is our system is not producing quality & skilled human resources to meet the challenges of the competitive job market.

**Education system of Pakistan does not focus on learning outcomes and largely resorts to traditional means of employing education that focus on cramming knowledge; (Raesa Fatima, Youth Bulge in Pakistan - an Asset or Liability? July, 2022).**

In a nutshell we lack the quality of education our system is based on cramming rather than providing technical skills.

not only flawed educational system is issue an other issue is pakistani society is traditional and it didn't develop by the time.

traditional mind set is the problem and not growing by the time. Youth in countries bring social change but in our country youth bulge can cause riots and disturbs the social peace

In a recent incident of the arrest of ex-prime minister the country turned by youths in the battle field and public properties and government destroyed by

it. This is because the lack of education and lack of political participation. Similarly the society considered it about law education is necessary part.

After having discussed the youth bulge as a liability it is important to discuss how this liability can <sup>be</sup> converted into assets.

Providing job opportunities to the people is the best way. The more the jobs more will be the wealth of the country.

Jobs can change the future of the country. China changed the youth bulge into the factor of the growth in economy.

Providing jobs will end the dependency on others. According to the commonwealth secretariat's Global Youth Development Index report, Germany has been named the world's best place to be a young person. Providing opportunity

is the best way to harness  
the potential of the  
youth.

Not only job opportunities  
providing education and  
specially quality education  
is necessary. Pakistan  
is currently working on  
this. Our education is  
based on cramming the  
knowledge. To meet the  
international standards

**Higher Education Commission  
in Pakistan in its vision**

**2025** has begun to emphasizing  
academia, industry linkage,  
encouraging projects revolving  
around real life issues.

Field exposure and internship,  
for faculty and people alike;

**Paesa Fatima, Youth Bulge  
in Pakistan - Asset or**

**Liability? 2022.** Most of  
the universities have adopted

this model reforms in education are necessary.

Providing quality education is necessary but creating opportunities for the rural areas are marginalized class is necessary. <sup>people</sup> Pakistan and women are

facing the issues of the opportunities. **Prime Minister's**

**youth programme** was launched in **2013** for the

development of youth that

focused on granting loans, socio-economic development,

and engaging youth in

public policy making. Programms like this can be

helpful in providing

opportunities to young

people.

Not only opportunities

for people are essential

but also their role in

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The society is important. Politically educated youth can be helpful in providing bringing change in the society. The change in society is directly related to participation in the political structure of the society. Increase in the political participation of youth by political parties can be helpful in this perspective.

**Engaging 15 million young voters in mainstream politics** can impact the foreign policy and social structure in a positive way.

In a nutshell, educating society by role of media and political parties is essential for change in the society.

In a nutshell, youth

bulge is an asset and liability respectively. Every country either developing or developed depends upon how its youth is participating in the economy, politics and education. To change the liability into an asset, it is necessary that country provides opportunities to the youth. A fair analysis reveals that opportunities are more than liability. However, along with opportunities the liabilities are hanging like a sword of Damocles. These can be delt by adopting some meticulously analysed measures like providing job opportunities, quality education and providing opportunities especially to women and role of political parties and media. Moreover

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growing youth population  
is not a liability. It  
can shape the whole country  
by changing the country status  
from developing to developed. However,  
there is need to harness the  
potential of the youth.  
The earlier we realise,  
the better it is.