

Neglect of enhancing intellectual ability in our education system

1) Introduction:

Thesis Statement

The journey of education has apparently failed to flourish in Pakistan, due to negligence of intellectual learning where students believe in rote learning. This leads to the socio-economic crisis of Pakistan.

2) Bird's eye view of education system of system

3) Manifestations that shows education system of Pakistan neglects enhancing intellectual mindsets

(a) Overwhelmingly alarming illiteracy rate is speaking volumes about educational failure
stagnant literacy rate 60%. (P.E.S)

(b) Seemingly deathless democratic dilemma and political polarization bear out the failed educational system

(Reference: Governing the Ungovernable)

(c) The low productivity and abysmal conditions of export shows lack of intellectual and cognitive approach of students

d) There are more than fifty percent Chinese workers in CPEC rather than Pakistan's workers because they are not able to compete with Chinese workers.

e) Despite having more youth ratio Pakistan faces economic crisis due to failure of industries
Case study: PIA and Steel Mill

4) What are the reasons behind neglecting enhancing intellectuals in the education system

a) Dearth of practical learning due to non availability of advanced labs in educational institutions.

b) Unavailability of quality education in Pakistan is hampering progress of education system

c) Before child's birth, parents decide the future ~~at~~ without knowing instent of child

d) The growing gender discrimination have pushed it towards dark rather than progress!

e) Abysmal and lack of effective teachers training and professional development program has enervated it

b) Educational flower is further impoverished by imprudently poor educational policies on the part of government.

5) **What are pragmatic measures that should be taken to enhance intellect in education system.**

a) The advanced and effective resources must be provided to student in education system

b) The rote learning and cramming culture must be rooted

c) Institutions should work on enhancing mental capabilities by involving them in different intellectual activities
(Educational model of Finland)

d) Government should re-visit the and ensure the educational right which has given by Constitution.

(Article 25A of the constitution 1973)

3) Government should keep its checks and balances over institutions to ensure students intellectual and moral learning.

(Polarization of students over political parties)

4) An effective, transparent and stringent monitoring mechanism should be devised to extirpate the cancer of corruption.

(Pakistan ranked 140 : Transparency International index)

5) **Conclusion**

Essay:

"Education", maintains Paulo Freire, "does not transform the world. Education changes people. People change the world." It is indeed, axiomatic that education is supremely imperative for socio-economic development. It provides a people with a road that leads them to the zenith of national development. The gulf between the gate of education has gaped gulfily to change the gate of Pakistani populace. It is not bearing the socio-economic fruits for the already problems-torn nation. Moreover, one common denominator of success of prosperity of western nations is their good education system. On the other hand, one prominent factor-responsible for abysmal condition of developing nations, especially Pakistan, is the lack of quality based education. Education system is and has been struggling since its inception. This has never been the top priority of civilian and military governments. Dating all the way back to early years, the focus, though, remains same: how do we effectively indoctrinate students, while talking of critical thinking and moving away from

remote learning and mere reproduction while addressing educational issue Government should learn lesson from the other developed nations and try to fulfill the demands of the time. Indisputably, the flower of education has apparently failed to flourish in Pakistan, due to the negligence of intellectual learning and cognitive reasoning, students just believe in rote and outdated learning which add to fuel in existing pro socio-economic problems of Pakistan. It can be overcome through bringing advancement and modern based qualitative education.

To begin with, Pakistan is signatory of a host of international commitments and covenants vis-a-vis education sector and human rights, among others. Pakistan supported and upheld the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and United Nations (SIDH's). Domestically Pakistan has set up an 'Educational vision of 2030' under the aegis of Planning Commission of Pakistan. Despite these pledges, the education system of Pakistan has failed to progress however to provide only education is not the question, the real issue is quality based education, which has never ^{been} appeared in 75 years journey and still education system of Pakistan is in ^{crisis}.

Manifestations that show education system of Pakistan neglects enhancing intellectual mindsets. The first and foremost, overwhelming alarming illiteracy is speaking about educational failure. Pakistan's greatest need - and its single greatest failure ~~and~~ is tragic failure to educate its citizens. According to Economic Survey of Pakistan: Literacy rate of country is stagnant at 60 percent. Pakistan's literacy rate is very low as compared to its neighbouring country - India whose literacy rate is 77%. It shows how Pakistan is lagging behind in the region. Education system of Pakistan is and has ~~been~~ remained in crisis since its inception, where students are considered as a entity rather than the future or gate of the nation, because most of the students just know how to write their name and those are counted as 60% of literacy rate.

~~Stagnating~~ Besides worsening illiteracy seemingly deathless democratic dilemma and political polarization bear out failed educational system. Democracy and illiteracy are as water and fire; they cannot go hand in hand. Education system is the only which

strengthen the democracy because both are interdependent. "Illiteracy and ignorance of the masses about their legitimate socio-political rights brings about inevitable death to democratic ideals and political norms" (Francis Fukuyama, **Political order and Political decay**). As time progressed, it has become evident that political polarization created gap between masses and government. Where oppositions are fighting for their own interests rather than focusing educational needs which is backbone of the country.

Going forward, low productivity and dismal conditions of exports, ~~is~~ shows failure of education system in enhancing intellectual and skills in students. Because today's youth is the future of the country.

As per the report of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics: Human revenue in agriculture amounts for more than 39% and G.D.P condition of agriculture is 19%. Most of the graduates have only degrees instead of intelligence, skills and specialization. Institutes are focusing to produce quantity of graduates rather than quality based students. Every year more than 10,000 students graduate,

from the universities" (Higher Education of Pakistan). Low quality of education and unskilled labor is ~~the~~ chief cause of trade deficit - high import and low exports - because they have failed to fulfill the demands of ~~the~~ markets.

Along with it, literacy rate on paper does not change the status of the country, only intellectuals critical thinking, and sharp minds become the ^{bright} future of the nation. For example, Sri Lanka has 99% literacy rate but country has failed to save itself from default. The situation of Pakistan ~~is~~ ^{is} not ~~changed~~ ^{different} from Sri Lanka. However, under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) more than 50% Chinese labour is working because Pakistan's labour force is geared to meet requirements of Chinese projects. On the other hand, Apple company has invested billions of dollars in India, why not in Pakistan? because of lack of cheap and skilled labour. This decline of foreign direct investment indicates that Pakistan's education system is going in ^{the} wrong direction and Pakistan is appeared to be in quagmire.

Despite having more than 60% youth, Pakistan found itself, until very recently, in economic crises. Youth, however, considered as a blessing for the state. It can be seen through former President Andrew Jackson, who used "spoils system" very first time in the history of America. He fired around 10,000 workers who were aged and brought young people into his government because he says young blood can ^{change} the conditions of state. But unqualified and untrained youth ^{is} ~~have~~ becoming burden for Pakistan because their contributions in the progress of country is next to nothing. For example, state industries such as Steel Mills, and PIA are in continual crisis, on PIA loan is about 400 billion PKR ~~from~~ from which 58 billion PKR subsidised by the Government. Due to lack of intellectual and cognitive reasoning among the students and ~~and~~ employees, Pakistan is going through economic crisis.

There are many reasons behind neglecting enhancing intellectuals in the education system, the chief among them is death of practical learning because of non availability of advanced labs and school

infrastructure. Education has never been the top priority of any of the civilian or military government in this country. There are more than 200 universities and 3000 degree colleges but all are geared to train students. They are involved in theoretical based education instead of practical and exploring based. Most of the institutions don't have labs, and ^{those} who have that are nonfunctional.

"Tell me and I forget, Teach me and I remember, Involve me and I learn" (Former President of America, Benjamin Franklin).

Without their involvements and practical learning how can seed of true education grow in the country.

Moreover, Unavailability of quality education in Pakistan is hampering the progress of education system. The old and out-dated curriculum is being taught in schools and colleges. The importance of education and type of education can't be over-emphasized. There is no doubt that the future of our state will and must greatly depend upon the type of education we give to our children (Our founding father, Quaid-i-Azam, 15 August 1947). The outdated syllabus which is

gull of historical gallasies, puts the blocks on the road of development of ~~mind~~^{students} of mind.

Our education system kept it busy in those things that have been passed rather those challenges that are and would be faced very soon, such as Global warming and ~~the~~ artificial intelligence. If they grow in past gallasies than they remain in the past until death.

As touted, before child's birth parents decide future of their children. Most of the parents want to see their children as a doctor or eg engineers, without consulting and knowing inner capability of children. **According to political philosopher Plato:** the good education system always do justice with the students. Here the meaning of justice is that education system ^{should} help the students in realizing their inslent and specializations.

But it has been disappeared in the Pakistan's society, where students have to choose either of two - doctor or eg engineering. This culture turns off the mode of critical thinking of the childrens and they remain passive instead of active.

Furthermore, gender discrimination is ^{the} hot topic among societies ~~in~~ⁱⁿ general,

and in education institutions in specific. The literacy rate of girls is very low as compared to boys. There are 22.2 million children are out of schools specially girls (UNESCO). This discrimination is only based on girls and boys but what about transgenders? Only one transgender Sarah has become doctor in the history of Pakistan. They have also equal rights. However, other nations are trying to secure transgender's rights but in Pakistan ^{still} girls are deprived of educational right that has been given by Constitution of 1973. As per report of I.M.F, 30% GDP will grow, if women are included in economics. Our education system seems to be failed in enhancing intellectual due to the huge discrimination among girls, boys and transgenders.

It would not be wrong to say that teachers are responsible for the development of student's mind. When teachers are degree oriented and passive than students also become passive learners. The one sheet of Multiple choice question (MCQ) can't determine the capabilities of teachers. Many of teachers are recruited through

favouritism and nepotism. In fact, despite having job security, heavy amount of salaries and pensions they are failed to deliver quality education. Daniel T. Willing argues in his book: why Don't students like schools? "most of the teachers in public schools lack inspirational and skillful trained which result in unskilled students." Today's teachers become money mintors, they have concerns with their salaries instead of student's future and life.

Last but not the least, Government is responsible for the betterment of the nation, if Government remains silent than who will perform its duties? Failure of education systems is evidence of failure of Government. It can be seen that, Government has formulated National Education Policy of 1979, 1998, 2010 and 2018. The policy of 2018 depends on four pillars but of them three pillars are unfulfilled. However, unsustainable Government policies mounting the chance of failure of education system. "Pakistan is not deficient in devising educational policies, but it is the menace of adhering and delaying in implementation of Policies" (Zahid Hussain).

Education is not perceived as vital, central and need of Pakistan's societies, in fact it is in a perpetual struggle since country's inception.

There are some pragmatic measures that should be taken for the enhancing intellectual in our education system. Firstly, for the betterment and advancement in education system advanced laboratories and equipments are must required. Students learn only when they have resources and opportunities. So, there is dire need to bring advancements in education system. For example, Singapore educational model is best model in the world. The interaction between teachers and students is high. They goes on their single curriculum at all levels and strongly committed to capacity building at all levels of the system, especially the selection, training and professional development of principals and teachers. Beyond this institutional environment corporates top-down form of ~~student~~ teachers accountability based on the student's performance. Secondly, the rote learning, cramming and theoretical culture should be uprooted. This is 21st century ^{which} based

on technologies, there is no space for outdated theoretical learning. Educational institutions should promote practical and research based learning. The worth mentioning example is Israel, which spends more than 5.5 percent on Research and development. It also known as "Startup nation". On the other hand, Pakistan spend just 0.2% on research and development. State should focus on the demand of the time. Because it is educated and intellectual youth that ensures the bright future of a nation and it is only remedy for the all woes of Pakistan.

Similarly, there are many Muslim countries who have adopted Finland model - a country that has high literacy rate and secure top ~~of~~ position in World Happiness Index. Pakistan should adopt this model.

It is better for Government to take a leaf from Finland educational model. Where students spend less time in class rooms and engage themselves in different practical activities. **As Plato writes in his book Kolipolis** at the early age of children, it's government's duty to introduce those policies that enhance ^{the} mental capability of children such as gymnastic, music

and physical activities. When they become mentally stronger than they should read different subjects. For intellectual, cognitive, reasoning and critical thinking, students must be involved in rational activities.

Unfortunately, like other commodities education is also considered a commercial commodity, where the cost of education is sky rocketed. However, majority of children are belonging the poor families which are hardly able to bring bread on their tables. Government should introduce the scholarships and grants for those students who are capable and intelligent that they can complete their education. These students will not only change their family's status but have also been able to serve their lives in the way of development of the country. For example, Mexico Progress Program, which is based on conditions for students loans, so Pakistan should re-route its energies in the way of granting fundamental rights which enrishe by the Constitution's article 25(A).

Stemming with the fact education as a commercial or business, Government should keep its checks and balances over the

institutions. By the large, many public and private institutions promote ethno-centric biases. Students are divided among political parties and ethnicity grievances. The most recent incident which emerged in Islamabad Islamic University, where Sindhi and Pashtun students were down trodden over ~~one~~ ^{another} ethnicities. Current wave of polarization has diverted the students from their core purposes. So, Government should take strict measures to avoid this kind of hate. As, seed of hate is easy to sow but impossible to control what follows. It can ruin ~~our~~ generations. With intellectual and advance learning they should be able to tolerate and respect everyone.

Lastly, an effective, transparent and stringent monitoring system should be worked out to extirpate the cancer of corruption from education system. It is sad but bitter reality that from peons to officers all are deeprooted in corruption. However, from allocated educational budget they invest on education next to nothing, very small amount. Pakistan's ranked at

140 out of 180 countries (**Corruption Perception Index by Transparency International**). Hence, unless the pandemic of corruption purged out from Pakistan, educational sector is unlikely to witness tangible changes.

To conclude, educational system of Pakistan is on its deathbed. It has ~~60%~~ ^{low} literacy rate in the region, where its neighbour country - India has 77%. The main cause is negligence of intellectual and quality based education. What we have witnessed today, however, it was ~~of~~ ⁱⁿ the past, high inflation rate, low F.D.I and trade deficit. These all shows ^{that} Pakistan's youth which is more than 60%, is incapable to meet these challenges. Because they are rote learners, ~~th~~ rather than intellectual and critical thinkers. So, state government should re-visit its policies and transform the education system. "Politicians analyse the system of education. Statesmen build them. Implement them (**Neam Chamsky**)."
Pakistan's politicians have to do this very immediately. It is now or never.