

Is loyalty to the nation the same as loyalty to the state?

Outline

1. Introduction

Thesis statement: Some people say that loyalty to the nation is the same as loyalty to the state. However, there is a difference between loyalty to the nation and loyalty to the state. In fact, loyalty to the state is more important than the loyalty to the nation.

2. Difference between the loyalty to the nation and loyalty to the state

3. How loyalty to the nation is the same as loyalty to the state

- a) Citizens follow Laws and respecting values
- b) People foster democratic process and provide community services
- c) Masses Ensure Economic Contribution for state and community
- d) After a disaster, people render services to states and communities
- e) People make sure Cooperation with law enforcement agencies
- f) People provide health facilities to all
- g) People Work for Human Rights for all

4. How people are more loyal to states than nations

- a) Philosophers talked of being loyal to the state
- b) Glorification of patriots by fictional writers
- c) Encouragement of people to be loyal to state by songs
- d) Loyalty to the state is emphasized by Media
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- f) During wars, leaders of the states gather people in the name of state
- g) Soldiers belonging to different nations fight for one state
- h) Occurrence of proxy wars for making states stronger
- i) State is preferred to nation in making foreign policy
- j) Governments avoid making new provinces for strengthening the states
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- l) Constitutions of the states talk of protecting sovereignty of the countries
- m) People want to be independent
- n) Sports people are loyal to their states

5. Conclusion

Humans do not live without hope. Some of them have hopes with religion. However, other people have their hopes with their nations and states. They are always ready to sacrifice their lives for their religions, nations and states because they think that their existence depends on these three institutions, but there is a debate between two sections of people. Some people say that loyalty to the nation is the same as loyalty to the state. However, there is a difference between loyalty to the nation and loyalty to the state. In fact, loyalty to the state is more important than the loyalty to the nation. Those who consider that loyalty to the nation is the same as loyalty to the state uphold that people take care of national values and laws of the states. Besides, they contribute in democratic process as well as community services. Their financial contribution in the economics of their countries and for the welfare of their nations is apparent. Whenever a disaster occurs, they do not restrict their aid to their communities. Instead, they ensure to facilitate as many people as they can. They also cooperate with the institutions of the state. What is more, they facilitate people in health. In other words, they work for human rights. People try their utmost to prove that there is no difference between the loyalty to the nation and loyalty to the state. Nonetheless, their claims do not carry weight because the loyalty to the state is more important to people than the loyalty to the nation. Thus, philosophers, fictional writers, songs and media emphasise on the loyalty to the state. Furthermore, children are taught to be loyal to their state, and during wars leaders gather people to fight for their state. Therefore, soldiers fight for one state, even though they belong to different nations. Proxy wars take place for making states stronger. Besides, while making foreign policy, states are given preferences to nations. Due to fear of disintegrating, Governments are refrained from making new provinces. They ensure devolution of power to existing provinces. When it comes to the constitutions of the countries, they talk of protecting the sovereignty of the states. What is more, people want to get independence. Sports people are also loyal to their states. In short, it can be said with full confidence that loyalty to the state is more important than loyalty to the nation.

Loyalty to the nation is different from the loyalty to the state. The loyalty to the nation means that one is loyal to one's nation or community. Nevertheless, loyalty to the state refers to one's allegiance to one's state. Those who love their nations more than anything else are ready to die for it. Sometimes, they go against their states. On the other hand, those who are lovers of their countries, do not care of their nation. Their only purpose is to serve their country, no matter their nation is angry with them or not. Besides, people who love their nation are called

nationalists; and those who love their country is called patriots. In a nutshell, there is a difference between the loyalty to the state and loyalty to the nation.

Some people uphold that loyalty to the nation is the same as loyalty to the state; they say that citizens follow laws and respecting values. It means they take care of their state and their nation. One can see people abiding laws in different countries. They are also giving importance to their national values because loyalty to the state and nation is equal. For example, people do not break the traffic signals, so that their country remain peaceful. They also participate in their national festivals without creating problems for their state. In sum, in order to show their loyalty to their state and nation, people abide laws and participate in their national activities.

What is more, people foster democratic process and provide community services. They want them to progress. Thus, they participate in the elections of their states. They also do work for the welfare of their communities. For example, The Hazara community of Pakistan shows its loyalty to Pakistan by taking part in the electoral process of the country. Its educated people try to increase the literacy rate of its community. In this way, people show their equal loyalty to the state as well as their nation.

Besides, masses ensure economic contribution for their state and community. They do not feel any difference between the two. They think that their success hinges on the success of their states and communities. Thus, they pay taxes to make their country progress. They also try to bring ease in the lives of the poor members of their communities by financially supporting them. In conclusion, people render economic support to their states and to the poor segments of their communities.

Moreover, after a disaster, people render services to their states and communities. The reason is that they both, the former and the latter, are equal to them. Thus, they do not leave one at the expense of other. For example, in the floods of 2022 in Pakistan, people did not leave their nations and country in a lurch. They did whatever they could to bring maximum people out of misery. In short, people consider their states and nations equal; thus, they help them in their hour of need.

In addition, people make sure cooperation with law enforcement agencies. In doing so, they serve both their nation and state. Culprits can affect the state after getting away with their crimes that they committed against a community. Thus, people aid police in bringing the culprits whether they belong to their communities or not. In sum, to protect their nation as well as state, people cooperate with law enforcement agencies.

Furthermore, people provide health facilities to all. It means they facilitate those belonging to their communities and other people. They go to the areas which are dangerous, but they go, so that humanity can be facilitated in a long run. For example, Polio teams work in all over Pakistan. They want to facilitate all the nations of the country. They face terrorist attacks, even though they do not refuse to render their services. In conclusion, people provide health facilities to all the nations in a country because they are loyal to state and nation.

In fact, people work for ensuring other human rights for all. There is no discrimination. Organisations that work for human rights are not restricted to one nation. They facilitate all the nations to make a state prosperous. For example, All Pakistan Women Association (APWA) is working for all the females of Pakistan. It aims to create ease in the lives of women of the country. In sum, one can say with surety that people work for ensuring human rights for those in need no matter to which nation he or she belongs.

Although people try to prove that loyalty to the nation is the same as loyalty to the state, yet people are more loyal to the state than the nation; philosophers talk of being loyal to the state. They do not have any value for nation. They uphold that state must be protected rain or shine, which means one can be disloyal to one's nation. For instance, Machiavelli in his book *The Prince* (1532) teaches kings to be loyal to their states. According to him, kings can do anything legal or illegal to protect the interests of the state. Besides, Thomas Hobbes in *Leviathan* (1651) wants people to surrender everything to the king of the state; and the king has to look after the state that means state is important to him. In this way, philosophers talk of being loyal to the states.

Additionally, one can see the glorification of patriots by fictional writers. They praise those who loyal to their states, instead of lauding those who render their services to their nations. All their novels depict patriots hero. They think that other can follow their heroes and sacrifice themselves for their states. For example, in his novels, Urdu fictional novelist Tariq Ismail Sagar narrate heroic deeds of intelligent agents who worked secretly for their country. To conclude, fictional writers commend patriots in their writings.

Like fictional writers, there is encouragement of people to be loyal to the states by songs. The purpose of these songs is to get people emotionally attached to their states. After listening to these songs people feel attached to their country. They do not think of their nation. For instance, "This is your Pakistan, this is my Pakistan. We are ready to die for it". "Long live Pakistan". Given this, songs are sung to make people loyal to their states.

Besides, loyalty to the state is emphasized by the media. It arouses the feelings of patriotism in citizens. There are several dramas and movies that are made to show the value of patriotism. Moreover, they show state institutions are for the welfare for the people. The purpose is to make people believe that state is more important to them than their nation. For example, Drama Serial Ahd-E-Wafa depicts Pakistan as the best state because its institutions work for people. Besides, one must be ready to die for Pakistan all the times. In short, media shows that people must be loyal to the state because states are for them.

When it comes to education, teaching of loyalty to the state by education institutions is apparent. Children are taught to be dutiful to their countries. From initial stages, they are told the story of the valor of those soldiers who died while protecting the honour of their state. Those, who were traitors, are bemoaned. For example, Major Aziz Bhatti is appreciated for his bravery in the schools of Pakistan. On the other hand, Mati ur Rehman is disregarded for doing things against the state. In a nutshell, schools increase the feelings of patriotism in children.

Besides, during wars, leaders of states gather people in the name of state. They do not refer to any specific nation that one is brave and other is not. He knows that people can be on the same page in the name of state because state is important to them. For example, in 1965 Indo-Pak war, President of Pakistan General Ayub Khan gather people in the name of Pakistan. He did not mention any specific nation. To conclude, people are gathered in the name of state because they love their state with their heart and soul.

Moreover, soldiers belonging to different nations fight for one state. They cannot consider their nation while fighting for their states. They fight for their states because they are fully aware of the fact that their safety depends on the sovereignty of their states. For example, in the Armed Forces of Pakistan, there are soldiers who are not Muslims, but they are loyal to Pakistan. They are ready to fight those belonging to their religion for Pakistan. In short, soldiers fight for their country, not for their nation.

Additionally, there is occurrence of proxy wars for making states stronger. States want to be hegemonic and weaken other states. Therefore, they do not have any problem in prolonging proxy wars against their own nations. For instance, Saudi Arabia and Iran are Muslim countries. Nonetheless, they have been aiding civil wars in Yemen and Syria to make each other weaken. They do not deem that they two are Muslim countries; and they are supporting civil wars in other Muslim states. Given this, support for proxy wars by two Muslim countries show that the interests of the state are more crucial than those of nation.

What is more, state is preferred to nation in making foreign policy. It means the interests of the state are more important than the sentiments for one nation. In the past, several states signed pacts with those countries that are enemies of their nations. They did so because they came to know that status quo could help them attain interests in the world. For instance, Israel has been making life difficult for many Muslims living in Palestine. However, on September 15, 2020, The UAE, Bahrain and Israel normalized their relations by signing Abraham Accords (Tova Norlen, “The Abraham Accords”, October 2020). Given this, the state has more value for people than the nation.

Besides, governments avoid making new provinces for strengthening the state. They think making new provinces can be a danger to the sovereignty of the state. Several countries have big provinces, but their governments do not seriously think of converting them into small provinces, even though people want separate provinces for themselves. For example, Pakistan has only 4 provinces; and population size of some of its provinces is bigger than that of many other countries. However, successive governments of the country did not convert it into small provinces, siding threats to the sovereignty of the country. In short, to intact the integrity of the state, governments do not want to make new provinces.

Instead of making new provinces, governments ensure devolution of power to existing provinces for making state strong. In doing so, people living in different provinces are not angry with the country; they are loyal to their state. Therefore, several countries have given many powers to the provinces. For example, 18th amendment and Seventh NFC Award give many powers to the provinces of Pakistan. Besides, Article 141 (A) of the constitution of Pakistan talks of local government. In short, in order to increase loyalty to the state among people, countries are sharing powers with provinces as well as local governments.

Moreover, constitutions of the states talk of protecting the sovereignty of the country. There is no place for one’s nation in them. According to the constitutions of several countries, people must be loyal to their states at all costs. Article 5 of the constitution of Pakistan deals with the loyalty of the state; and article 6 deals with high treason to the state. Given this, constitutions of the countries bound people to keep the interest of the state higher than other things.

In addition, people want to be independent. They do not want to be integrated with their nations. Several territories are integrated with specific countries. Nevertheless, people have been trying to get rid of them, even though ruling elite and other citizens of those countries belong to their nation. For example, in 1707, Scotland was integrated with the Great Briton,

but dwellers of this county want to be separated from it. In short, people want to be independent and have their own state because they do not have any attachment with their nation.

Furthermore, sports people are loyal to their states. They believe that their state is their identity, not nation. Hence, they play matches even against those belong to their nations. For example, South African cricketer Imran Tahir, who played against Pakistan, even though he was born in Pakistan; and Muslim is his nation. In a nutshell, like many other people, sports men love their state more than anything else.

To sum up, some people argue that loyalty to the nation is the same as loyalty to the state. They say that people regard their national activities and laws of the states. They are present in elections and rendering their services to their communities. Additionally, they support their countries and people economically. During calamities, they are seen in facilitating people whether they belong to their nation or not. They also help those doing public duties. They give health facilities to people. They also work for providing rights to humans. Claims of the people who say that loyalty to the nation is the same as loyalty to the state do not hold water because loyalty to the state is more important than the nation. People can observe that philosophers, novelists, songs and media make people love their states. Children are told to love their states as well. When war breaks out, leaders gather people by referring them to one state. Resultantly, soldiers fight for one state. The reason behind supporting proxy wars is to make state stronger, no matter a nation weakens. In foreign policies of the countries, the interest of the state is considered. In order to make the states strong, governments do not make new provinces. Instead, to win the interests of the provinces, governments give powers to provinces. Besides, constitutions of the countries strictly emphasise people to be loyal to the state. Many people want freedom for their counties from their nations. What is more, sports people play for their states, rather than playing for their nations. Given all that, loyalty to the nation is not the same as loyalty to the state because people love their state more than their nation.