

# Rising Religious Extremism as a Challenge to economic Development

## 1. Introduction

Thesis statement: Pakistan has been witnessing religious extremism since her inception. It has barricaded the economic development of country. The government needs to take preventive measures to curb religious extremism.

## 2. Religious Extremism has Hindered the Economic Development of Country.

## 3. Challenges to the Economic Development

- a) Erosion of Foreign Direct Investment
- b) Augmentation in security expenditures

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c) Hurdle in the growth of tourism

d) Threat to education

e) Extremism in different areas may hindered the exploitation of natural resources

f) Threat to law and order

i) Case study of TLP

protest

g) Bad global perception

h) Brain drain

#### 4. Steps to curb Religious Extremism

✓ a) NACTA and other intelligence agencies should be revamped.

✓ <sup>Increasing</sup> b) Social cohesion among

the masses and the govern-

ment <sup>Spreading</sup>

c) Awareness among the masses to understand the differences between the social, political and religious beliefs.

d) ~~Trained~~ the teachers to

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understand the extremists and radical views of students in the schools.

e) Education can hinder the way of religious extremism

f) Social inclusion of neglected people

marginalized

g) Cumulative effort by all the stakeholders

h) Mutual cooperation between the religious clerics<sup>sp</sup> and the government institutions

5. Conclusion

## Rising Religious Extremism as a challenge to the Economic Development

Attention grabber

Gist of the outline

Pakistan has been witnessing religious extremism since her inception. It has incessantly barricaded the economic development of country. The government needs to take preventive measures to curb the religious extremism.

Foreign direct investment plays an important role in the growth and development of economies. Religious extremism has hindered the way of foreign direct investment in the country. Foreign investors often remain in a drowsy state to invest in the country which is plagued by the religious extremism. One per

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cent increase in extremism reduces FDI by 0.164 percent, domestic investment by 0.002 percent and economic growth by 0.002 percent (Taylor & Francis online, Effect of terrorism on economic growth in Pakistan: an empirical analysis, 2023). It is apparent that the religious extremism has further impeded the way of economic growth and development.

Along with the erosion of FDI, it has further augmented the security expenditures of the country. Pakistan spends a big chunk of budget on its security issues but the recent increase in the budget of security is due to the rampant extremism. Pakistan is already fragile.

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and deteriorated in her economic growth, the further augmentation of expenditure in security will further add to the agonies and woes of country. "Investing in peace and security is not an expense; it's an investment in future. By allocating resources to curb religious extremism, we sow the seeds of tolerance, stability and a brighter tomorrow for all." Pakistan is already facing economic challenges, securitisation will further impede the growth of economic development.

Religious extremism is a curse in the way of economic development in the shape of more securitisation but it has also challenged the tourism sector of country.

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Tourism plays an important part in the prosperity and economic growth of a country. Every year, Pakistan was getting a major chunk of finance from its tourism sector but the recent religious extremism has eroded the tourism's leverage of the state. The World Economic Forum Travel & Tourism competitiveness report placed Pakistan in the top 25 percent of global destinations for its world tourists (Wikipedia, Tourism in Pakistan, 2023). Tourism has the strength to bolster the economic growth but unfortunately, Pakistan's tourism industry has been badly affected by the violent religious extremism.