

Real development should transform people's lives, not just economic statistics.

1) Introduction

Thesis Statement

2) Key Manifestations of Real Development

- a) Access and availability of basic facilities to all and sundry.
- b) Improved standards of living
- c) Equitable wealth distribution
- d) Good performance of Human Development Index
- e) High literacy rate
- f) Well developed civic infrastructure across the country
- g) No discrimination on the bases of gender, ethnicity, race, creed and colour
- h) Low unemployment rate

3) ~~How economic growth~~ causes

3) Features of economic growth without real development

- i) Widespread corruption
- ii) Concentration of wealth in a few hands
- iii) Lack of access to basic facilities.
- iv) Rise in poverty
- v) Dismal performance on Human Development Index

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- vi) High unemployment rate
 - vii) Absence of Meritocracy
 - viii) Poorly developed civic infrastructure
- 4) How to achieve real development along with economic growth

- i) Curbing corrupt practices
- ii) Ensuring equitable distribution of wealth
- iii) Meritocracy in awarding government's services
- iv) Controlling population growth
- v) Transparency in government institutions
- vi) Strengthening local institutions

5. Conclusion

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Real development of any country is, indeed associated with the masses inhabiting the country. Their happiness and prosperity are apt yardsticks to measure the real development. Undoubtedly, real development can only be achieved when proper attention is directed towards the betterment of people along with economic growth. Notwithstanding this, there are certain factors which impede real development, and thus demand immediate attention. Real development can be manifested through multifarious factors, such as masses having access and availability of every basic facility. They have improved living standards and wealth is distributed equally across the broad spectrum of society. The country is showing good performance on human development index (HDI) and it has high literacy rate. Additionally, the civic infrastructure is also well developed in such countries and discrimination hardly have any footprints here. Also, unemployment rate is reasonably low in such an environment. Whereas, in order to achieve real development along with economic growth requires a country to curb corrupt practices, ensure equitable distribution of wealth and

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Let not nepotism and favoritism take lead on meritocracy, control population growth, introduce transparency in both public and private institutions and strengthen its local institutions, among others. However, it has been noticed that some countries are showing remarkable growth, they are sailing quite dromally on real development indicators. Widespread corruption, concentration of wealth in few hands, lack of access to basic facilities, increase in poverty, dismal show on HDI, high unemployment rate, absence of meritocracy and poorly developed civic infrastructure pave the way for evasion of real development in such an environment.

To begin with, there are numerous indicators which manifest real development of any country. One of these factors is access and availability of basic facilities to the common men. In a country, where masses are easily accessing the basic facilities, such as education, health, energy, water and others, these societies are termed as real developed societies. However, if a country is failing to avail its citizens of these basic requirements can

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considered as performing below the mark of really developed countries. Thus, to make it to the level of really developed countries, it is imperative to cater to the basic requirements of the citizens

Alongside this, transformation in the standards of living of people who are residing in the country indicates real development. Various studies and surveys have confirmed this point that real development can not be ensured without uplifting the standards of living of people. Also, better living standards in the developed countries of global north has further substantiated to the argument that improving people's living standards is necessary for real development. All in all, bettering the lives of people pave the way for real development of any country.

Apart from this, one of the signs of real development in any country can be gauged from how ^{much} equally and equitably wealth is distributed in that country. Equitable wealth distribution is highly necessary for real developed countries. Many countries has shown sound progress

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thanks to equitable distribution of wealth across the broad spectrum in such countries. Those countries which allow wealth accumulation in few hands, in such countries wealth disparity becomes quite noticeable. And this leads to alienation and trust deficit between the rulers and the ruled. Hence, equitable wealth distribution is necessary for real development.

Furthermore, real development of any country can inferred from its standing on human development index. HDI is a valuable touchstone method for making sense of real development in any country. HDI positions various countries on the bases of their performance on various indicators, such as status of poverty, unemployment, education and so on. Furthermore, it has been noticed that the countries who rank well on HDI, they have sound indicators of real development as well. Hence, HDI is a valuable instrument in measuring real development in any society.

Additionally, literacy rate is high in those countries where real development indicators are quite positive. A society, deprived

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of quality education, can not be counted as really developed society. To the dismay of global south, things are pretty bad here. Global north has dominance in the world because the countries in this region has invested handsome amount of money in scientific research and enquiry. Resultantly, real development indicators are significantly high in such countries. To sum up, high literacy rate is a symbol of real development of any country.

Besides, well-developed civic infrastructure is also an indicator of real development. For instance, how well-built road and railway network is and how efficient the government is in building various systems such as sewerage system and drainage system. Currently, pluvial flooding has become a routine phenomenon, without having proper drainage system it can hamper government services seriously. Similarly, efficient road and railway infrastructure connect distant localities and promote trade and business which is necessary for real development. So, well built infrastructural facilities are necessary for real development.

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Also, in order to see how a country is really developed, it is necessary to see the role of discrimination in it. It has been found that those countries are showing good results in terms of real development where discrimination hardly exists in any form. A country can only make a consequential progress when its every citizen feels confident and equal in availing opportunities possible in it. No one should be left accessing government opportunities because of one's gender, ethnicity, race, creed and colour. Thus, for real development in a country, there should be no discrimination in it in any form.

Finally, low unemployment rate is also one of the indicators of real development in any society. The more the low unemployment rate, the more the access people have to job opportunities. While real development is concerned with the progress of masses, in highly employed society people have good living standards and viable economic conditions. Hence, a country is directing its ^{focus} towards providing more job opportunities is a really developed country.

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This essay has discussed the key manifestation of real development in the above paragraphs. While in the following paragraphs it will discuss the features of economic growth without real development.

Firstly there are many factors which impede any country's real development despite its sound economic growth. One of them is corruption. Any country which is infested with corrupt practices, in such country dividends of economic growth never reach to the masses. Corrupt officials embezzle most of the funds directed towards the betterment of people's lives. It is thanks to corruption that such countries inspite of economic growth hardly make any significant impact on the lives of common people. For example, Bangladesh has been showing viable economic growth for a few years, people still dislodged the Hasina Wajid government. It is because corruption was prevalent in Bangladesh. Hence, despite economic growth, corruption impedes real development.

Second, when wealth distribution is not regulated and it is allowed to be concentrated in few hands, then despite economic growth of a country

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real development never occurs. Unfortunately, in recent times the whole world is operating under capitalism where wealth is not regulated. In Ayub's era though Pakistan was demonstrating a significant economic boost, yet due to concentration of wealth in few hands its benefits did not trickle down to the people. This shows real development cannot occur always with economic boost if wealth distribution is not equitable. Hence, concentration of wealth in few hands hampers benefits of economic growth to pass down to grassroots and in turn dwarfs real development.

Third, if, despite significant shoot in economic growth, people are denied of getting access to basic facilities, real development remains more a dream than reality in such condition. Unfortunately, in Pakistan commonfolk has always made a hue and cry in pertaining to access to basic amenities. Pakistan's economic growth has never been sustainable it continues to be in boom and bust cycle. However, in times of sound economic growth, the people at lower strata has never gotten any dividend

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Thus, it validates the point that where people are deprived of basic amenities, real development does not occur despite economic growth.

Fourth, when a country makes sound show in economic growth, still poverty keeps on rising, real development does not occur there as well. As related in previous paragraphs, in 1960s, Pakistan was titled as Asian Tiger for its economic growth, people at the grassroots hardly saw any transformation in their lives. The same goes with Bangladesh in quite a recent past, the country was on average growing at GDP rate of 7 percent. However, common citizens were still bearing the brunt of high inflation, increasing unemployment and unfold suffering. In all, when poverty is not controlled, then despite economic growth, real development does not occur.

Fifth, dismal performance on human development, (HDI) while a country is making headlines due to economic growth, demonstrates absence of real development. India has been experiencing sustainable economic growth of 7 percent GDP rate on average for some years, but it is perform-

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ing poorly on HDI. It means dividends of economic growth are not trickling down to the general masses but they are going in the coffers in of already rich people. Consequently, the society at a large is stripped of real development. Therefore, abysmal HDI standings, despite high economic growth, speaks volumes about absence of real development.

Sixth, high unemployment rate at a time when a country's economic growth is good, denotes to the fact that real development is missing in such a country. UK is one of the largest economies, yet currently it is facing a rise in anti-immigrants riots in Southport. However, there are cited multiple reasons for these riots, one of them is high unemployment rate in white community of Southport.

Similarly, unemployment is high in the US, France, Germany and various other countries. Hence, this testifies to the fact that high unemployment suggests of absence of real development in these high economic growth countries.

Seventh, how big a country goes in economic growth, if it has no meritocracy in recruitment and various

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other processes, it will not achieve real development. For instance, in Bangladesh, recently, protests erupted out against discriminatory quota system which was to award 30 per cent of jobs to freedom fighters. People took to the streets to have this quota system rescinded and finally ended up in dislodging the Hasina Wajid government. However, Bangladesh's economic growth was enviable in previous few years, yet favoritism and nepotism in government services caused this all. To wind up, this shows that economic growth without meritocracy in government services leads to absence of real development in a society.

Finally, poorly developed civic infrastructure despite economic growth reflects absence of real development. In Pakistan there are multiple areas where there is no electricity and internet. Similarly, in these areas road infrastructure is poorly developed. However, currently Pakistan's economic growth is not good, in previous it has witnessed economic booms and foreign funding. Yet in these areas things have always remained un-

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changed. Thus, it demonstrates that without developing civic infrastructure, a country cannot ensure real development of people despite its viable economic growth.

The essay has detailed the features where despite economic growth, real development remains illusion in the preceding section. Whereas, in forthcoming section it will discuss the ways to achieve real development along with high economic growth.

There are multitude of ways through which real development can be ensured along with economic growth. One of these ways is to curb the corrupt practices. China is the most pertinent example to relate to in this regard. China is, on average since 1980s, growing at 9 percent GDP rate. In order to have the benefit of this economic growth reached to the grass roots, it has taken stringent measures to curb the corrupt practices. With vision and hardwork, China has elevated almost 800 million people out of poverty since 1980s. Hence, real development can be achieved along with economic

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growth when corrupt practices are curbed.

Furthermore, equitable distribution of wealth is necessary if the world want a real development of the world along with economic growth. However, owing to wealth concentration in a few hands, benefits of economic growth hardly make it to the social uplift of the poor.

In 1960s, military government introduced reforms in agriculture, law and education among others. But the society at a large did not reap the benefits of economic boost in the country. Moreover, it was alleged that the twenty-two families were getting benefits of the economic growth then. It was indeed the fallout of no equitable distribution of economic wealth. Above all, equitable distribution of wealth is necessary to achieve real development along with economic growth.

Similarly, meritocracy is crucial for real development along with economic growth. Even economic growth fails to maintain sustainability in the countries where favoritism and nepotism rules at large, much less real development. Meanwhile, merita-

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ocracy boosts confidence of citizens and creates opportunity for real development in the society. When people are fully assured that only meritocracy prevails in their system they take painstaking efforts to avail the opportunities. This leads to the equality and in turn real development of society. Thus, meritocracy is must for ensuring real development along with economic growth.

Apart from this, population should be controlled to make sure that everyone is provided enough as per his needs. If population grow at alarming rate, government can not fulfil the needs of everyone why not it has significant economic growth. For instance, the way Pakistani population is increasing nowadays, it needs more than 6 percent economic growth to cater to their needs. In this backdrop it has become the need of hour to control population growth to ~~keep~~ achieve real development along with economic growth.

Alongside this, in order to achieve real development with economic

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Growth, transparency is mandatory in government institutions. If institutions do not feel concerned about transparency in their transactions, it eventually leads to the failure of governance. Moreover, good governance is quite important for real development. Many countries are making sound economic growth such as Bangladesh, yet they are failed to realize real development. It is all because of lack of transparency. That said, transparency is necessary for real development along with economic growth.

Finally, anything which is the most important to materialize the dream of real development along with economic growth is strengthening of local institutions. Any country whose local institutions are underfunded, weak and underrepresented, that country hardly succeed in uplifting its the lives of its dwellers. Unfortunately, in Pakistan, despite passage of 18th amendment and constitutional provision of 140A to ensure local governance, things are pretty same as they were before 18th amendment. Provincial governments are reluctant to devol-

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ve to the local institutions. It suggests to the fact that without strengthened local institutions, real development hardly becomes reality along with economic growth.

Conclusively, real development can only be achieved when proper attention is directed towards the uplift of people alongside the economic growth. Nonetheless, it is impeded by certain factors which demand immediate attention. There are several indicators to measure real development in any country. For instance, people have access to their basic amenities, their living standards are improved and wealth is equally distributed across the broad spectrum of society. Also, HDI standings of such countries are commendable and they have high literacy rate among others. Unfortunately, it has ^{been} witnessed that some countries are sailing quite dimly in real development indicators despite their tremendous economic growth. It is because of widespread corruption and concentration of wealth in few hands. Also, absence of meritocracy, weak local institutions and people having no access to basic amenities among others. However, it

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quite possible to achieve real development along with economic growth. In order to achieve real development along with economic growth, it is necessary to curb malpractices, ensure equitable wealth distribution, control population growth, strengthen local institutions and ensure meritocracy in the system. Hopefully, one day Pakistan achieve real development where its people live happy and prosperous life.