

Pakistani Women Have The Same Chances as Men

Outline:

A) Introduction

- 1) Status of women in Pakistani society
- 2) How multiple avenues work for women in patriarchal society
- 3) Thesis Statement

"Although the Constitution of Pakistan attributes the principle of equality of both men and women in all spheres of life, still, women are lagging behind in number ways as compared to men. Therefore, Pakistani women do not have the same chances as men."

B) Facts that highlight that Pakistani women, at present, do not have same chances as men

- (i) Born equal but denied equality in Practical life,
 - a) **Case in point:** Article 9 of constitution of Pakistan guarantees Right to life to all citizens of Pakistan
- ii) Lesser educational opportunities as compared to men
- iii) Reduced representation,
 - a) at societal level
 - b) at political level
- iv) Compromised will and decision making rights
 - a) Right to marry a person of choice
 - b) Right to choose a profession
- v) More stress is laid on domestic chores than professional life
- vi) Situation of divorced women and hurdles faced by her
- vii) Infringement of inheritance rights,
 - a) Share of inheritance mostly claimed by brother in the name of gift
- viii) Fewer leadership positions held by women in jobs,
 - a) **Case in point:** "Men are perceived more credible in engaging with others"

C) Factors responsible for the deprivation of Pakistani women

- i) Illiteracy and ignorance
- ii) Character assassination of working women: cultural barriers
- iii) Preference to male over female
- iv) Lower wages given to women than men for the same amount of rendered work
- v) Weak laws and flawed policies by the government
- vi) Failure of NGO's and state machinery to achieve the requisite target.

D) An overview of steps taken by the government for uplifting the conditions of women

- i) legislative measures
- ii) A glance at different administrative measures

E) Way forward to ensure same chances to women as men

- i) Special focus on girls education
- ii) Stringent implementation of laws
- iii) Special initiatives for betterment and uplifting of women
- iv) Target oriented role of media for changing the mindset of society

F) Conclusion

The Essay

Since women constitutes half of the world population. It is important for the nations to include them in all spheres of life to progress at a faster pace. Thanks to United Nation and a number of other organizations that are working for the betterment of women. Today, the liberal democracies pay great attention towards the uplifting of women. If the case

of Pakistan is observed, it appears that the condition of women is still lying in the marshes of backwardness. To elaborate it further, few cases can be narrated highlighting the deprived condition of women in Pakistani society. From birth to death, a lot of expectations are attached to Pakistani women by their relations. The burden of domestic chores, taking care of the honour of family and pursuing high moral standards with dignity and grandeur is always put on the back of Pakistani women. The lack of trust in the abilities of women ~~are~~ ^{is} a different narrative to highlight. Other than this, lack of educational facilities, working platforms, job opportunities, wages disparity ~~are~~ are few more nails in the coffin of women chances of moving forwards with the same pace as their counterparts. Therefore, those who advocate that Pakistani women have same chances as men are unaware of the actual problems related to gender roles played by women. Despite number of laws and conventions for equal opportunity for women in all spheres of life, the women are not getting the same chances as men. The discourse below will lay bare the facts related to women limited chances in Pakistani society.

To begin with, it is a writing on the wall that in twenty-first century, almost all progressive societies admit the equal role of women as men. Same is the case with the constitution of Pakistan, which state in Article 9 of the constitution, 1973 that All men and women have right to life. But, this article influence is shattered in letter and spirit when the dead bodies of new born

baby girls are found in slums of Karachi and recovered by Edhi foundation. This stark reality poses the fact that women are still not considered as human as man in Pakistan and consequently they are denied their right to life.

Similarly, when a girl grows up, her problems proliferate with every passing year when it comes to her education. Some statistics show that literacy rate of women in Pakistan is 48% as compared to men which is 70%. The lack of educational institutions especially designed for women causes lesser chances for women to pursue education. Therefore, it clearly shows that women face a great deal of neglect in case of education as their counterparts.

Apart from education, the role of women in societal and political participation is limited. The candidature of women during elections is often considered as taboo. Likewise, the position of women in heading and social organization is also neglected in the societal environment of Pakistan. Pakistani women always remain on the verge of character maligning. Thus, this portrays the bleak picture of the male dominated culture in Pakistani society.