

Title: Crisis faced in Pakistan - Is it moral or economic?

1- Introduction

2- Moral crisis and economic crisis - a comparison in the context of Pakistan.

3- Pakistan is facing a moral decline: (Thesis)

a- Individual conduct of youth in their daily course of life.

passive, lethargic and undirected

b- Social decay in Pakistan due to distance from social values and norms.

nepotism / favouritism in any department

c. demeritocracy

c- political flaws - as lack of morals do not allow people to serve, rather think for their own wellbeing and welfare.

Case: Corruption in Pakistan.

d- Issue of national integration on various fronts.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Case: Terrorism in Pakistan.

e- International / Global reputation  
reputation of country on stake;

Case: Passport ranking

f. Pakistan is facing an economic  
crisis. (Antithesis)

a- Individuals facing economic hurdles  
due to which such behaviours  
More taxes and less income.

b- Fragile social status

e.g: Human development Index (HDI) -  
unemployment.

c- Political figures also facing the  
economic ~~to~~ downfall, that's why  
involved in wrongdoings.

e.g: Political party's funding issues

d- Lack of resources in provinces, due  
to which national disunity/unrest  
Fiscal share of KPK and Balochistan  
in 7<sup>th</sup> NFC.

e- International reputation/image  
tarnished due to economic fall:

Case: IMF bailouts - loans from other  
countries.

5. The fall of Pakistan is more moral than economic: (synthesis)

a- Despite favourable economic conditions, individuals are more on decline in morality

Elite class / elite class children

b- Society is ~~failing on~~ unable to implement the morals: on how to make living conditions better in limited resources.

Education sector (daily conduct)

c- Despite economic stability, the country lacks moral/ethical sense to spend them on welfare rather involve in malpractices.

Case: Funding from International Organisations for disaster management (corrupt)

d- National integration does not solely depend on economy, it depends on many other factors: religious <sup>tolerance</sup> implications, ethnic lines.

Case: Separatism / ethnic divide.

e- International image distortion due to ~~lack~~ of misconduct ~~to~~ with

foreign ~~are~~ officials.  
Case: Sri Lankan doctor (Priyantha Kumaras) & murder on <sup>religious</sup> extremism.

6- Conclusion

Pakistan's darkest hours seem to converge due to ethical decay. Economic woes ~~can be~~ are just a more hyped version with real woes resting in morality. The crisis faced in Pakistan is more moral than economic. It is due to the unethical conduct of both, at individual and societal level, ~~that~~ expanding to <sup>tarnishing the</sup> the level of international reputation of the country, which could be dealt effectively by practicing the morals and norms. The moral decline in Pakistan is evident ~~at~~ from the individual behaviours, social stature, political uprisings and the national or international standing of the country. All these aspects provide a grim picture of the country, lacking moral standards and norms to ~~carry~~ <sup>hold</sup> the responsibility. Whereas, if ~~economic~~ downfall of nation can be viewed with economic lens, it is more bleak due to deficit

of norms to strengthen the <sup>existing</sup> economic model and direct country to the path of sustainability and development. In a nutshell, the dignity of a country's standing is measured by its conduct, which is lagging behind in Pakistan, due to which it is in a state of crisis and conflicts.

The Pakistan is facing a crisis since its birth but the current situation of Pakistan is severely chaotic. The economic crisis of Pakistan ~~was~~ originated since independence due to dollar crisis, import and export imbalance, debt culture and tax burden. These problems emerged and continued to increase and ~~th~~ at present, <sup>re</sup> at the leading causes of <sup>its</sup> default. ~~as~~ On the other hand, the conduct of individuals in day-to-day affairs is deteriorating and ~~in~~ people are learning to live without moral, norms, social values and

ethics. The people are, slowly and gradually, forgetting the virtues on which states are run—such as unity, discipline and coordination. The motto of Quaid: unity, faith and discipline proved to be a guiding-pillar for the ~~nature~~ nation, which is also not followed at any front—political, social, or economic. Thus, the downfall began when the state ~~was~~ become reluctant to coordinate, manage with patience, justice, the normative ideals and fell in the pit in economic spheres as well. Hence, Pakistan's earlier picture paints it to be in a more serious economic deficit whereas the present crisis ~~depicts~~ <sup>depicts</sup> ~~paints~~ a picture of moral decline as the real cause of crisis.

Pakistan is facing a moral decline which is evident from the ~~course~~ conduct of youth

in their daily course of life. The individuals; ~~are~~ the major pillars of society are reluctant to work hard, think critically and excel in any field. They are merely degree-centred or grade-centred with no focus on the skill acquisition and <sup>actual</sup> learning. They ~~or~~ are more addicted to the modern trends, <sup>and</sup> social media, which makes them passive and lethargic. They are ~~or~~ in a constant anxiety as their habits and lifestyle makes them unguided and directionless. They become frustrated and don't bother about <sup>the real</sup> emotions of sympathy, empathy, love and affection.

Consider modern ~~be~~ children, being unguided and still don't want guidance. Due to these vices; the lack of morality breeds stagnation in the society as youth - the pillar <sup>to bring</sup> for change, become the reason of moral crisis for state.



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The social fabric of the society is also depicting a decline due to the lack of social values and norms in Pakistan. The society is surrounded with multiple evils, due to its distancing from the social norms; merits, <sup>deadlock</sup> the strengthening of justice system, the control of crimes, ~~is~~ a dark reality, that it cannot <sup>be</sup> controll<sup>ed</sup>, due to poor vision and lack of wisdom. The priorities of society, here, do not go along with such ideals, rather they are more focussed on pomp and show. Their unreal-  
istic approach <sup>run</sup> towards the country and put it in the list of developed countries, ~~is~~ ~~a~~ deterring its growth (although a minimum one) and stability. The malaise of nepotism can be regarded as an example in the context where the individuals are put into workforce regardless of their skills, merit or a <sup>clear</sup> ~~any~~ vision in any department. This inturn weakens the societal fabric as competent individuals, due to

demeritocracy cannot contribute for the wellbeing of society. In this way, the state experiences a moral decline as social vices prevail to weaken it internally.

Moral decline in Pakistan is most common in political sphere. In this sector, due to lack of awareness, and wisdom, the politicians; the decision makers usually take in to account their own interests, and prioritise themselves to hold powerful positions and ~~him~~ <sup>the way of</sup> prove to be an obstacle in national development. Such entities and departments/institutions involve in malpractices ~~to~~ without having a consideration about public welfare and prosperity. They ~~become~~ ~~so~~ consider themselves ~~to~~ <sup>or</sup> ~~be at a top~~ powerful enough to engage in several corrupt practices, that are solely for their self-satisfaction and pleasure. It, therefore clearly highlights their priorities and ambitions, which is a prominent example of their

moral weakness. Pakistan is ranked 124<sup>th</sup> out of 180 countries on the Corruption Perception Index; highest amongst it was political corruption. This is how, the character downfall is depicted, when such people become part of decision-making in the state, leads to ~~the~~ turmoil in it.

Furthermore, ethical deterioration in Pakistan on the matter of national integration to combat any challenge is widespread. Nations unite to deal with challenges, but Pakistan is far behind this approach, as the nation ~~is~~ remains divided on any challenge. The ethnic divide, religious cause, ~~and~~ cultural and territorial bounds always serve as a barrier to unite and ~~can~~ fight for one cause. The difference of opinion and political choice is also a hurdle in this regard, whatever the problem may — may it be Covid, Disasters, terrorism or any other issue. The self-taught and socially practiced norms of

unity, patience, and cooperation ~~are~~ have eroded and the state has to face the consequences of ~~these~~ this decline.

On the issue of terrorism in Pakistan, the provincial <sup>and federal</sup> divide on the stance to launch the counter-terrorism operation clearly indicates ~~the~~ <sup>its</sup> non-cooperation and national disintegration for a common causes. (The News International- 'Reemergence of terror threats'- 2024).

This is how, the issues turn in to crisis when nations fail to unite.

In the same view, the erosion of moral fabric ~~is~~ distorts the international image of the country. Pakistan is among the bottom line of the developing nations in the world. The global reputation of the country is below average, as every sort of social crime, violence, threats and crises has invaded the country. The foreign settlers, the minorities, even the local population is unsafe in this nation, This is entirely the responsibility of nationals and the officials

to safeguard the residents and the foreign guests, the moral weaknesses, lack of vision and priorities of which has put the country at the brink of default. Moreover, the unethical attitudes of nationals in their foreign towns also depict the similar extremists or unjustified acts, thus tarnishing the global reputation. According to Henley Passport Index, Pakistan's Passport is 4<sup>th</sup> from the bottom among 103 countries. Also, the Pakistan passport holders can access only 33 destinations visa-free. This highlights the insecurity of the international world to send their citizens to a morally-weak country like Pakistan. This indicates the moral downfall in the country ~~deteriorates~~<sup>harms</sup> its international reputation as well.

Turning the new leaf, the counter-argument in this situation is that the country is grappled in economic crisis, rather than moral. Individuals in this scenario hold important place as they are the adverse affectees of

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economic crisis in the country. The individuals being unable to fulfill their needs due to unemployment or low wages, ~~are~~ get disturbed physically and mentally. The increasing anxiety and depression level is the real cause ~~rather than~~ of downfall, rather than the moral codes and conducts. Their behaviours are shaped negatively due to suppressed desires and wishes, as lack of resources and ~~no~~ money exacerbate the issue. This ultimately leads to deprivation ~~and~~ among youth. The more taxes and less wages push the individuals under extended burden and in the cases of unemployment prevailing in the country adds fuel to fire. (Daily Times Pakistan, 22 June 2024). As a result, the individual behaviours are affected negatively due to <sup>poor</sup> economic conditions of the country.

The social stature of Pakistan is also ~~badly~~ on decline due to economic inefficiencies in the system. The people are more inclined towards

wrongdoings and ~~the~~ misconduct in the society ~~due~~ due to unemployment, demeritocracy and other such evils that originate due to shortage of resources and financial constraints. The society experiences economic downfall due to which it ~~under~~ enters in ~~the~~ all sorts of vices. It endangers the lives of fellow citizens, when it does not get the chance to fulfill its own needs and necessities. The UNDP's Human Development Report of 2023-24 places Pakistan in the 'low' human development Index (HDI) with a global ranking of 164 / 194 countries. In such a ~~re~~ resource deficient environment, the social fabric of the country remains fragile.

The political arena is also a victim of economic downfall in the country. The political figures also face the economic death in their political parties, ~~so they get~~ ~~involved~~ they need funds and resources to ~~x~~ grab more supporters and to strengthen their

parties. Due to the economic and financial crisis which they face in attracting supporters and strengthening their parties, the political entities are involved in wrongful acts such as smuggling and corruption to spend more on them. This as a result, leads to massive following and strengthening of agenda and public trust on them. Many political parties in Pakistan face the issues of funding since they started forming alliances. When they became part of real-time politics, they were involved in corrupt practices to fulfill the gaps. This is how, it's the economic frailty that forces political parties to adopt wrongdoings (corruption).

The national integration also becomes a challenge due to lack of resources and fiscal share to all the segments of country. The provinces in Pakistan are in a constant clash with centre since birth, as they are not able to manage their expenses and projects' demands



due to less share in the budget. More specifically, th. the provinces of ~~KP~~ compete with each other, demanding more share to manage the debts and deficit, which produces national disunity and unrest in the country. The challenges such as terrorism, cross-border conflicts and natural calamities prove provinces to be vulnerable to fight them. The fiscal share of KP and Balochistan under 7<sup>th</sup> NFC got increased. Despite an increase in it, the provinces still compete for resources and compare them with the larger provinces: Punjab and Sindh. Such conditions act as a blockade to national peace and stability due to economic crisis.

Similarly, the ailing economy tarnishes the <sup>ter</sup>national image of the state. The economic dropout of Pakistan from all the 'major growing/developing' economic countries clearly holds its economic ~~for~~ crisis as the major cause. This shows the country's standing a ~~big~~ bigger in front of

challenges.

other countries. It has to borrow and take loans ~~fr~~ times and again to meet the expenses and to facilitate the public, which is an embarrassing act ~~infr~~ in the eyes of public and international community as well.

The 24th bailout package from IMF and request for <sup>the</sup> grant of loans from China, Azerbaijan and Saudi Arabia holds Pakistan's national image on stake (Jawad Saleem - 'Economy at crossroads' - 2024).

Therefore, economic crisis holds a significant position in the distortion of <sup>its</sup> global reputation.

However, ~~the~~ Pakistan, being a failing state in both ~~o~~ moral and economic domains, is more towards moral decline than economic. The moral decline is clearly represented by the ~~v~~ different segments of society, the ~~chie~~ major among them is the individual conduct. Despite <sup>in</sup> favourable economic conditions, ~~of~~ some parts of society, the lack of morals and <sup>absence of</sup> ethical discipline does not

allow youth to be a beneficiary for the society. They are merely status-oriented (as they are more financially strong and power-oriented), and ~~are mostly involved in~~ present the do not bother to improve themselves. They consider wealth to the relief of all pains and problems for them. The elite-Class hold in this regard is very realistic as they are more morally weak despite being economically well-off. This is how, moral weaknesses prove to be a reason of downfall of Pakistan.

Furthermore, there ~~are~~ are no ~~no~~ mechanism designed in the society for the conduct of people to make their lives better, even in limited resources. There is no sense of responsibility ~~to~~ or awareness mechanism to prepare the communities to act in a given situation. This is due to lack of visionary approach to ~~and~~ handle situations ~~at~~ carefully, the problem solving & skills among them.

This This is due to weaker implementation mechanisms to make community strive for a goal and put efforts collectively. The education sector is a very fine example, where till university course level, the rote-learning culture is prevalent, and research for just name sake is done to gain the <sup>a</sup> piece of degree, merely to satisfy the demand of society. (Rafia Zakria - 'Bridging the historic gap' - 2024) In this way, morals hold prime <sup>position</sup> ~~importance~~ in country's downfall rather than economy.

Pakistan receives funding and loans from the international community to secure its national needs and interests. However, it fails to utilize them effectively and efficiently for public welfare and to ~~confront~~ <sup>enough</sup> ~~manage~~ <sup>handle</sup> the victims, even if it is a <sup>enough</sup> ~~manage~~ <sup>handle</sup> the problem. Here, it demands shrewdness to handle the matter, the active skill and an all-encompassing <sup>and framework of</sup> policy ~~to~~ <sup>implementation</sup>, a visionary leadership, ~~etc~~ In such circumstances,

the managerial skills of the decision-makers ~~and~~ <sup>have</sup> unveiled. According to UNDP Audit report, Pakistan misused international flood relief funds in 2010, with \$350 million spent on unrelated projects and widespread corruption. This indicates the social and ethical weaknesses in Pakistan, even in economically stable conditions.

National integration can not only be brought when ~~an~~ <sup>its</sup> moral based principles are set to deal with any dilemma rather than economic security. This is because national <sup>integration</sup> security does not solely depend on economy, it depends on other factors such as religious tolerance, ethnic safety, a broadminded and thoughtful decision-making in bridging the gaps between <sup>all</sup> the segments of society. These factors ~~prove~~ to be ultimate needs for national cohesion to bring the country on one platform, so that all stakeholders can express and root-out the actual ~~a~~ cause behind their problems. The separatism ~~in~~ the and the ethnic divide is growing fast~~ly~~.

due to extremism and intolerance in Balochistan and KPK. Here, ~~the~~ ~~the~~ financial crisis <sup>will</sup> continue to grow, if people do not know <sup>how</sup> to manage the menace.

Under the same scenario, the misbehaviour <sup>conduct</sup> and international <sup>leads to downgrading</sup> of standing of Pakistan, ~~lessen~~ ~~due~~ The ~~a~~ heightened intolerance, frustration and extremism in Pakistan renders it an unsafe country rather than an economically-threatened state. The violent behaviours of citizens, cricketers, the attempts of assassinations and involvement in other criminal activities inside the country and in the foreign states, ~~and~~ retards its image in the global eyes. This ~~intern~~ poses a threat to the tourism sector, blockade of passports by foreign countries and deterioration of international ties. The assassination ~~of~~ of Sri Lankan doctor Priyantha Kumara on the name of religious extremism in Pakistan indicates the lack of

morality and tolerance. This is how international standing is more on state due to the conduct of individuals rather than economic fall of country.

In conclusion, the moral decline in Pakistan is more severely affecting it rather than the economic threat. It is due to the wrongful acts of citizens at social, political, national and international level.

These malaises are not just restricted to individual or national levels, but every institution and leadership in political sphere are also unfamiliar with the norms and morals, thus responsible for crisis in the state. Moreover, <sup>even</sup> economy does pose a threat, but in conditions of stability, the country fails to bring prosperity. Thus, the improvement in the moral standards is necessary to put the country on the track of growth and stability. (108).