

CSS (2018)

Anthropology.

(Q6)

Religion is a significant commonality in Pakistani Culture. How sectarianism can be controlled to use religion for national integration. (20).

Introduction:

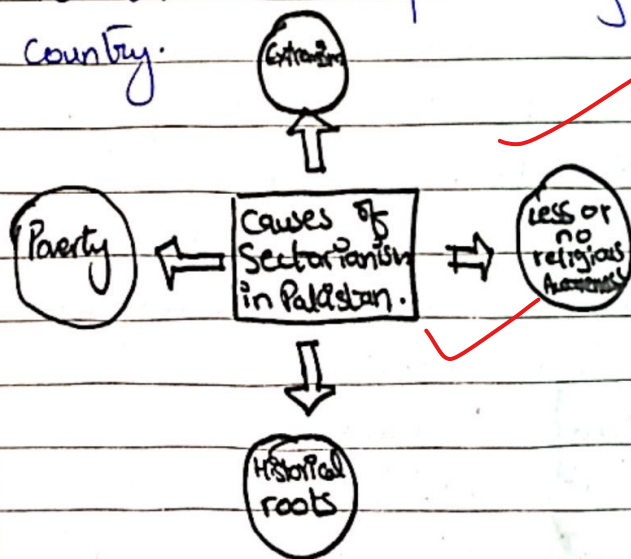
Pakistan has always been ~~under~~ the siege of religious intolerance and sectarianism. The result of these tensions have led to a number of casualties and little has been done to bridge this gap.

People of Pakistan are emotionally connected to their religion and most of the times, when ~~religious~~ sentiments are hurt, they resort to violence, mob violence, burning and ~~destroying~~ the infrastructure. Thus, it is high time the Pakistani policymakers take the right actions to end sectarianism in Pakistan and this can only be done

by using the common religion: Islam.

The issue of Sectarianism in Pakistan:

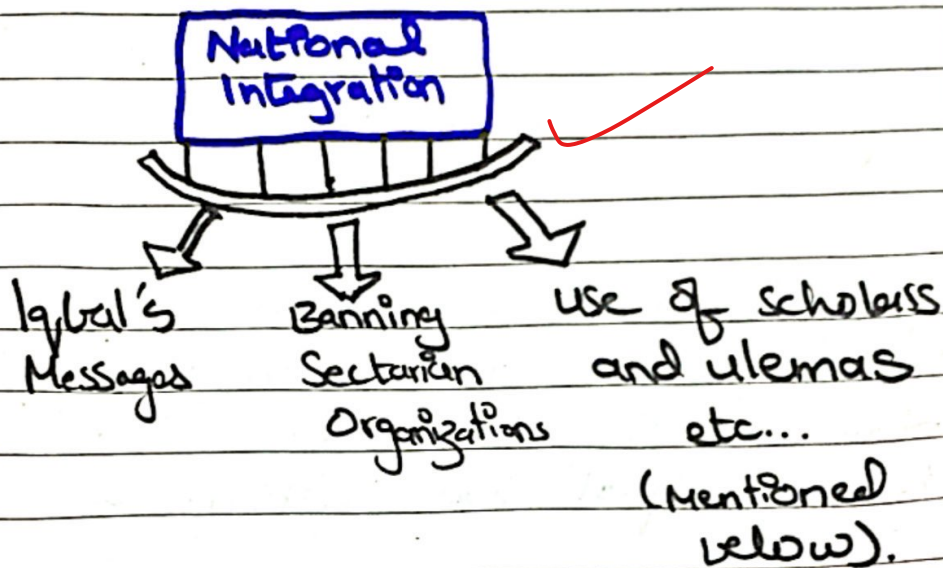
Pakistan has been a victim of sectarianism. This problem has been fanned by dictators and foreign forces, especially after the incidents of 9/11 and Soviet's invasion of Afghanistan. According to Dawn Reports, the recent sectarian issue Pakistan faces is in ~~the~~ Kurram District, Hazara and in the form of mob-lynching, People burn non-Muslims alive who allegedly commit blasphemy against Islam. Therefore, it is ~~the~~ crucial to take wise steps to integrate the country.



Measures to use religion for

national integration:

The policymakers have done little to eradicate sectarianism in the country but following steps can be taken to minimize the effects of sectarianism:



Spreading Iqbal's message in the country:

Iqbal has been one of the greatest poets of Pakistan. Undoubtedly, every Pakistani respects and honours him. His teachings need to be inculcated in the hearts and minds of Pakistanis as through madaras, schools, curriculum etc. These teachings will inculcate sentiments of Islamic brotherhood among

The citizens and ultimately it will preserve national unity. The following poetry remains the foundation of Pakistan's unity:

آپ کی صف میں کھڑے ہوئے پھر واپس
نہ کوئی بندہ رہا نہ کوئی بندہ نواز

- **Translation** it means all rich poor elite and common men are the same in the eyes of Divine law irrespective of cast color and creed

Mehmood and Ayaz stood in one line during supplication and no difference was left between any of the people because of Muslim brotherhood.

Encouraging scholars to take the lead and create awareness among the people:

Religious scholars need to be brought to the forefront in order to eradicate sectarianism. For instance, the scholars can highlight the teachings of Islam and how it prohibits sectarianism among Muslims. People of Pakistan tend to listen to religious scholars who are the credible source of Islamic teachings. This unity does exist in the

Muslims of Saudi Arabia became a number of scholars spearhead khutbas (sermons) to unite the people.

Elimination of Poverty and Lesson of Patience:

Pakistan is an impoverished state. According to Malinowski, when people are deprived of their basic needs, they resort to **crime, extremism and suicide**. Pakistan needs to eradicate poverty and in the meanwhile, it can use **religion as a tool to teach people patience** while fulfilling the goals of economic stability.

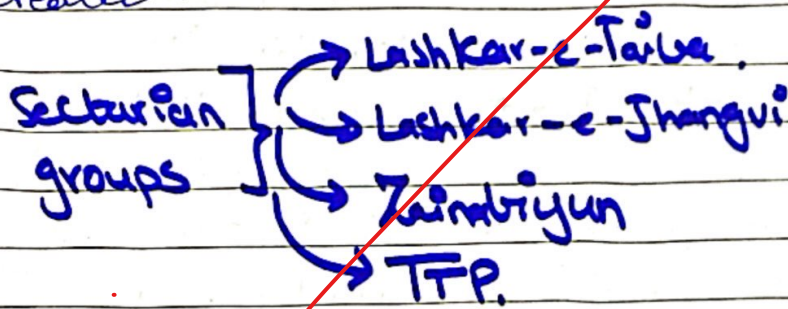
Opening Religious Madrasahs for all sects:

To subdue religious sectarianism, the policymakers need to open religious madrasahs for all sects where ~~they~~^{people} could unite over the main teachings of Islam and avoid ~~is~~ talking about difference in their teachings.

Banning Sectarian Organizations:

already done by government

Sectarian organizations need to be banned as soon as possible. According to Khuram Iqbal in the book, "Negotiating the Siege of the Lal Masjid", sectarianism rose after Pakistan sided with US in its global war on terror and following sectarian/extremist groups were created.



Therefore, Pakistan needs to ban all these groups and must be declined spaces in Pakistan.

Curriculum Reforms to teach the youth about religious tolerance:

Youth plays a fundamental role in Pakistan's economy. To inculcate religious harmony and national integration, the government should focus on the youth. Education should

include chapters related to religious harmony, ~~stories~~ stories of Prophets and widely accepted and common principles of Islam.

Proper use of media to put a halt to extremism:

impractical opinion

Different Non-governmental organisations can aid in such goals. They can use social media handles like **Facebook, Twitter and Whatsapp** to circulate videos of religious harmony and explain the repercussions of sectarianism in Pakistan. Such type of social media usage is missing in Pakistan.

Conclusion:

This time in present is perilous for Pakistan and it can only be fixed by taking religious teachings into consideration. Quaid's poetry is a great source of national integration and it has been frequently used to unite the people of Pakistan. Important steps must be taken before the country

dear student this is the question of anthropology not pak affairs or current affairs

you are supposed to solve it through the lens of the syllabus not a general answer

need improvement use jorgan and technical terminology of subject and correlate the syllabus with contemporary opinions asked in the question

gets divided and loses its identity. Religious teachings can play an important role to unite Pakistanis. Iqbal has rightly said:

آئیں سید ہی مرزا ہی، افغانی ہو
سب کچھ ہو تو کیا تم مسلمان بھی ہو؟