

Topic: Is Pakistan ready for Digital Revolution.

Outline

1. Introduction

(Thesis Statement) Pakistan is ready to embrace digital revolution and the positive changes along with with zeal and zest. By doing so, knowledge, skills and technology can be integrated to shape Pakistan for the best.

2. How Pakistan is ready for digital revolution?

3. Pakistan is more than ready to accept this change. (Thesis)

a. Digitalization is the need of modern era.

b. Digitalization will revolutionize many fields such as education

c. It is become easier and user friendly.

d. The technology is already rapidly spreading in rural areas as well.

e. Digital revolution would catalyze the process of progress.

4. Not everyone is of the view that Pakistan is ready for revolution:
(Anti-Thesis)

a. Pakistan is stuck in multifaceted problems and is far from being modern.

b. Lack of digital infrastructure for the use of latest technology.

c. Large population is still technology-illiterate.

d. ~~The increased screen time has its own repercussions.~~ Pakistan lacks policies for improving the current state of technology.

e. Availability of digital technology is directly proportional to cybercrime.

5. The benefits of the digital revolution outweigh the apprehensions (Synthesis):

a. Pakistan needs to take step one for self improvement and learn from regional counterparts.

b. Investing in digital technology can generate ~~bring~~ capital manifold.

c. Recent outbreak of covid and online education broke many barriers.

d. The use and abuse of technology depends ^{society} on the users.

e. Cybercrime control should be taken seriously.

6. conclusion

“Digital transformation is not about technology at all. It is about people.” (Josh Bersini). Digital technology has taken the entire world by storm. Recent advances - even though owe to years of headscratching and development - have rapidly reshaped the face of earth. May it be a private affair or a public one, the influence of digitalization cannot be negated. Digital revolution has empowered people to grow as individuals as well as ^{countries} nations to thrive. It now plays a crucial role in everyday life and has ^{even} modified the activities at industrial level. From agriculture to production and packaging industry, digital revolution has done many wonders throughout the globe.

Likewise, Pakistan is also ready to take on and benefit from the digital revolution. It is high time for Pakistan to view the success of nation with a broader lens. Right now, Pakistan is in the deepest depths of despair. In such times, the only option for Pakistan is to break

completely transform many fields. Of these, education field is the one that would be thriving the most. Not only would it improve the quality of education but also promise better employment opportunities. It is noted that in 2023, Pakistan was set to become the 47th largest e-commerce market with a growth rate of 6%. Despite economic challenges, e-commerce transactions grew by 34% last year (Colicapk, Booming global e-commerce space, November 2023). Therefore, it proves that Pakistan is more than ready for a digital revolution.

This fact is also undeniable that digital revolution is important as it is increasingly becoming easier and user friendly. For example; businesses have customer care services that addresses the doubts and questions of customer. Utilizing AI bots can create ease for the companies and aid them (simple learn. com, Top Digital Marketing Trends, November 2023). Thus, it will assist the users and improve

the quality of life.

Pakistan is already on the road to development and incorporation of digital technology. This is most notable that even rural areas are being included in the digital sphere. Hence, with a little more effort a lot can change for these areas. For example, it was estimated that around 400 cities are now being provided with internet that were previously kept in the dark. (wikipedia.com, Information Technology in Pakistan, 2021). This shows readiness of Pakistan to be revolutionized digitally.

Keeping this in mind that now even rural areas are ^{being} included in digitalization, it can be deduced that this digital revolution would catalyze the process of progress in Pakistan. Pakistan is bound to improve various sectors such as agriculture, governance and industrial sector. The government's vision for a 'Digital Pakistan' is extensive and encompasses infrastructure, e-governance, finetech and digital skills (Paktoday.com, Is Pakistan Ready For Digital Revolution,

January 2023). This reflects the seriousness of government to enhance and improve the digital face of Pakistan.

However, not everyone in Pakistan is of the perspective that Pakistan is ready for digital revolution. They believe that Pakistan has a long road ahead and still has to solve basic life issues. They are of the view that Pakistan still lacks basic necessities of life such as food, clean water, electricity etc. ~~According to them~~ As per a United Nations Report, 1 in every 4 Pakistani lives in poverty (UN report, 2021). Thus, it is crucial to solve day to day lives of people before jumping to digital revolution as Pakistan is stuck in multifaceted problems that need urgent attention.

Such people are also of the view that Pakistan lacks digital infrastructure for the use of latest technology. In order to provide people with digital technology, alot of capital needs to be invested - the

kind of capital that Pakistan is severely lacking. According to a famous analyst, the country's digital infrastructure remains chronically underdeveloped, with low optic fibre coverage and poor cell tower density. (dawn.com, The world is digital. When will Pakistan catch up, 2023). Therefore, Pakistan is already drenched in economic crisis and soaring inflation that it cannot afford to invest in digitalization.

To make things worse, Pakistan lacks the digital literacy. In Pakistan, people are unable to tackle with digital devices. It is important to note that there are only 24% adults capable of browsing internet in Pakistan (dawn.com, The world is Digital. When will Pakistan catch up, 2023).

This reveals the astonishing truth that Pakistani citizens are digitally illiterate and digital revolution in Pakistan seems to be a far fetched dream.

on top of that, Pakistan

lacks policies that would support digital revolution. Theoretically, as well as in the wake of elections, various politicians are luring voters by giving them incentives such as digital revolution. According to an interview, a famous politician said that the government's vision for a digital Pakistan is extensive and a foreseeable future, provided they get elected (Paktoday.com, Election Banter, 2024). However, stone hard policies lack and so does its motivation.

Moreover, skeptics also point out that availability of digital technology is directly proportional to cybercrimes. ~~It~~ For anyone who has tinkered around digital world knows of its daunting consequences. Every day the rate ^{at which} of cybercrimes is occur is accelerating. It is estimated that global expenditure of- cybercrime control will reach over \$10.5 trillion till 2025 (cybersecurity venture, cybercrime Report, 2023). This astonishingly high number denotes how digital revolution is a horrific turning point in

human lives.

However, it is safe to claim that the benefits of digital revolution outweigh its apprehensions. It is an undeniable fact that ~~for~~ currently Pakistan is an economic and political turmoil. Even then, Pakistan needs to start from somewhere and take step one for self-improvement. It should also learn from regional counterparts who are excelling in the world due to digital revolution. In a very famous quote, it is lamented that "your first step determines your fate and it is usually the first step that is the hardest" (Josh Bersin). Therefore, Pakistan needs to step up and work its way to a better future.

Skeptics who claim that Pakistan is a poor country and cannot afford digital revolution need to understand that investing in said field can generate capital manifold. Not only will it provide employment opportunities but would improve the overall ~~life of~~ quality of life. It is estimated that AI is projected to

add \$15 trillion to global economy by 2030 (International Trade Association, 2023). This ~~also~~ reflects the impact digital revolution is bound to bring with it and Pakistan, too, should benefit from it.

In surprising turn of events, the covid-19 pandemic proved to be a blessing in disguise. While people were quarantined in their homes, the shift from physical to virtual school and workplace was unreal. Soon, students were studying online and jobs had also shifted on it. and that is how the recent outbreak of covid broke many barriers. In an official report, IMF claimed that the pandemic accelerated adoption of digital technology and shielded productivity (Imf.org, How Pandemic accelerated Digital transformation, March 2023). Therefore, it shows that setting heart on digital revolution can yield positive results.

For those who claim that crime rate will increase due to digital revolution should accept that

the use and abuse of technology depends on a person. It is the user who determines whether to benefit from something or draw evil from it. In the wise words of Stephen Hawking, 'The success in creating AI would be the greatest event in human history. Unfortunately, it might also be the last - unless we learn how to use it (Stephen Hawking)'. This shows that fear of abuse should not stand in the way of digital revolution.

Where it is true that cyber-crimes are projected to increase with digital revolution, however, it should not barricade the process. Cybercrime should be controlled and taken seriously.

This is a simple example of problem solving where it is said that the real problem is not whether machines think but whether humans do (B.F. Skinner). Thus, it is crucial to stop cybercrimes that are a real threat to peace and sanctity of people.

To sum it all up, it is crucial to point out that in this changing world order and age of

digital technology, digital revolution in Pakistan is an absolute need.

Not only will it cure internal issues such as poverty, education and employment but will also affect external affairs. It will make Pakistan competent enough to be heard on the stage at global level. This, too, is undeniable that several problems are to arise alongwith. However, tackling these problems should be goal if moving forward in the world is target. How true it is that shift to AI is everybit as necessary as PC (Bill Gates, Forbes Magazine, 2023).