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Can Women be Equal to Men in Pakistan?

I. Introduction

Pakistan is a country with high gender inequality. By reforming socio-economic and political sphere, the gender gap can be bridged and women can be equal to men in Pakistan.

II. Current Status of Women in Pakistan

1. Gender inequality in social, economic and political sphere

- In global gender gap, Pakistan stands at 145 out of 146 countries

~ World Economic Forum 2023

III. Women can be equal to men in the future of Pakistan

1. Reduction in political hegemony by men will provide equality to women

- Only one female PM till now; Benazir Bhutto

- Male vote turnout in 2018 general elections exceeded female votes by 9%.

2. Women involvement in economy will lead to equality

- Only 20% women in Pakistan contributes in labour market

3. Women needs equal access to education

- Adult female literacy rate is 51%.

- Adult male literacy rate is 72%.

4. Glass ceiling effect needs to be eliminated

- Hinders women to achieve leadership positions

5. Restricting ~~limitations~~ of women only to Pink collar jobs needs to be addressed

- Professions like teaching, nurse, doctors considers to be the only suitable profession choices for women.

6. Misinterpretation of religion to maintain patriarchy has to be restricted

7. Violence against women has to be stopped to attain equality

- 32% of women have experienced violence in Pakistan.

8. Backlash ^{on} against women movements hinders equality

- Extreme backlash on Aurat March

9. Eliminating gender pay gap to achieve gender equality
Gender pay gap in the country is around 34%.

10. Fight against the ~~sex~~ inequality in the sector of health and survival.
- Pakistan has gender gap of over 5% in health & surviving sector

11. Eliminate the obsession over son instead of ~~girl~~ daughter
- Son preference ~~culture~~ ideology

12. Increase the trend of men taking care of homes

13. Reduce the normalization of existing inequality
- Culture theory
People ~~see certain things~~
- People see inequality throughout their upbringing and consider it "normal".

IV Gender Equality and the Future of Pakistan

1. Growth in economy
- 50% of ~~economy~~ population is

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constituted by women. Their economic contribution will provide growth.

2. Growth in politics

- Diverse ideas

- Women are better decision makers

3. Growth in social sphere of Pakistan

V Conclusion