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English as a medium of Instruction

1- Introduction

a- Factors behind using English as a medium of Instruction

- (a) International Language
- (b) Language of Technology and science
- (c) Language of Diplomacy
- (d) Colonial Past / Historical Background
- (e) Social Justice and equality
- (f) Economic Opportunities

3- Disadvantages of English as medium of Instruction

- (a) Nationalism
- (b) Cultural Diversity
- (c) Access to Quality
- (d) Human Rights

4 Conclusion

To study these people their academics who do not have English as their National language is the phenomena of English as medium

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of instruction. The English language since its inception has gradually arose to the status of an International language, with many countries in the world mostly under developed or developing countries have started using English as a medium of instruction. Pakistan has no exception to this.

Using English as a medium of instruction has certain reasons or factors behind it; varying from Historical factors to the other technological, diplomatic and socio-economic factor in the countries not having English as their national language. Apart from that there are some disadvantages of English as a medium of instruction including National, Patriotism, Cultural and Quality differences etc.

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The rise of English language to the current level has not come overnight but a process of gradual pace. There are some factors that have contributed in the development of English as medium of instruction.

The major factor behind using English as medium of instruction is its wide usage both orally and verbally. Majority of the population in the world is English speaking population. Out of the world's approximately 7.8 billion inhabitants 1.35 billion speak English. Almost in 88 countries and territories English is used at different levels. It is no doubt, clearly be said that English is an international language, and sometimes it is taken as global language. The international status of this language

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has also made it a language of opportunities.

The many opportunities English language has provided also include the major opportunity in the shape that the mostly acknowledged work of science is in English language.

The most recent developments in science are found to be available in English language.

Even the works of the ancient Muslim scientists and Physicists have been converted into translated into English language. In majority of the countries the English is used solely as medium of instruction for science subjects. Besides this the English is the language of the technology, latest technology including computer, information technology and artificial technology have

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only one language that is English. Therefore In this era when every country of the world is using the computers or other technology it is indispensable for them to use English as a medium of instruction. If the students of any country specially under developed or other developing countries like Pakistan, are not conversant with English language they cannot get benefits from science or other technology in a proper way, and ultimately they will not be able to contribute in the development of their country.

It is not a myth that the English is an international language as well as the language of technology and it is also a fact that the English is the language of diplomacy.

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All the diplomatic dealings in the world are done in English language. The diplomats of the whole world use English as a primary language that make it easier for them to make foreign relations smooth because medium of English language seems easier for them to negotiate. The United Nations also called the "Organization of the world" has English its official language along with other unpopular languages. Every person of a country is considered as its ambassador though unofficial, if he is unaware of English language he will not be able to propagate the social, cultural and other goodwill of his country to the other nations in a proper way. Therefore English language ~~is~~ a focal point

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of diplomacy.

The major countries of the current world have been the colonies of the different countries which had English their national language. The such colonial masters have tried to promote their language by implementing and converting all the policies of their colonies in their national language mostly English. and the colonial countries ^{people} had to learn the English language for their survival and to get themselves included in the state affairs and employment. After a long shadows of English language when these colonies got independence they continued to use English as their medium of instruction at various level and state level. Their own local or

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National languages remained state thus inducing the English language even after independence, thus a great factor of using English as a medium of instruction.

Many theologians and the leaders of the modern world

consider English language's usage at all levels and as a

unitary language a symbol of social justice and equality.

The said theory says that no one will be discriminated on

the basis of race and caste

if English is used by all the nations and all the people

that will promote social justice

and equality. There will be no

difference between countries and

post colonies's people, English

speaking and non-English speaking

The language will no more

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be a tool of discrimination
They want English to be
a symbol of Unity at international
and social level.

Along with the social advantages
arising from the use of
English as medium of instruction
the major factor of English
as a medium of instruction
is the economical opportunities
that arise of its use. It
is easier for the people
of underdeveloped countries or
① those countries not having English
as their national language
to fetch new economical opportunities
in all over the world.

It is easier for them to
find good jobs at international
level using international language
their language will not be a
constraint for them. The business
of people will also be

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5) expanded when they can easily interact with the whole world.

As there were many factors of using English as medium of instruction but such usage has no impunity from disadvantages the disadvantages of such usage are always paralleled to each other.

It is a natural phenomenon that every citizen of a country which is an independent country has inborn love for his mother tongue and also a same affection for national language. There are many countries in world having English as their national but on the other side many countries have not but other languages as national language and national language is always considered a sign of nationalism.

If English is being adopted as a language of instruction then this can lead to the destruction of nationalism and patriotism. The inborn love and affection in the heart of an individual of a nation will go out and the nation will stay no more together.

The concept of nationalism becomes more stronger when the people of cultural diversity come together and become a single nation. The cultural diversity is the beauty of a country. Different people of different parts or region of a country have their distinct values and languages. People of every cultural group have great love for their mother tongue. Thus using English as medium of instruction is a foreign language for them.

and is a totally different concept. The English language can totally destruct the cultural diversity.

The main disadvantage of using English as medium of instruction in the other language country is the low quality of English language. The English is not taught properly as the local teachers and educationists cannot receive the training programmes and therefore the students or other nationals do not receive quality foreign language, and consequently the people even after learning English language cannot get benefits from it.

The infliction of English language as a medium of instruction on such a country which does not have English as their

Primacy or national language can be termed as the violation of human rights. The UN Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 clearly depicts the right of linguistic, every person has the right to language of his own choice. Therefore such a forced infliction of English language on a layman shall be construed as pure violation of Human Rights.

In the above mentioned words it is clear that using English as a medium prima facie seems to be beneficial, the factors necessitate its usage are considerable and in that context it is need of the time to use English as medium of instruction for the underdeveloped nations for their progress

and development. But such medium of instruction should be adapted by keeping in view the above mentioned disadvantages so that the national integration might not be disturbed.