

Complete Essay

Topic: In Search of greener Pastures:

Outline:

1) Introduction:

Youth in Pakistan, a valuable asset for the nation, is faced with multiple challenges including educational, economic and unemployment. Faced with these challenges, a large number of ~~young~~ young individuals in Pakistan are seeking greener pastures abroad. It highlights the horrific reality of Pakistani state system, which demands urgent attention.

2) Youth Outflux in search of greener pastures abroad.

3) Unemployment: a grave concern for youth in Pakistan.

a. Mass Poverty in Pakistan

(i) - Poor prefer the illegal means of going abroad

(ii) - Lack of quality education

b. Demographic factors of un-employment in Pakistan

c. Technological advancements:

a leading cause of un-employment in Pakistan

d. Mismatch of skills with employment demands

e. Economic downturn and recession in Pakistan

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4) Economic Challenges in Pakistan:
forging youth out-flux abroad.

- a. Debt crisis of Pakistan
- b. Balance of Payment crisis
- c. Currency devaluation
- d. Inflation: a grave concern for Pakistan's economy
- e. Insufficient resources

5) Political upheavals in Pakistan:

- a. Political polarization in Pakistan
- b. Unstability of the governments
- c. Delayed Elections in Pakistan
- d. Un-democratic practices by the politicians

6) Remedies to prevent outflux of young individuals abroad.

- a. Employment opportunities for youth
- b. Poverty alleviation programs
- c. Economic stability in Pakistan
- d. Political stability in Pakistan

7) Conclusion.

Introduction:

Youth in Pakistan, a valuable asset for nation, is faced with multiple challenges including poverty, education, economy and unemployment. Faced with these challenges, a large number of young individuals in Pakistan are seeking greener pastures abroad. It highlights the horrific reality of Pakistani state system which demands urgent attention. These factors have driven thousands of people from their homes with many making perilous journeys in search of greener pastures. Youth outflux for seeking better future abroad, bore a devastating reflection of Pakistani society. The economic challenges of the country encompassing debt crisis, balance of payment crisis, currency devaluation, inflation and lack of sufficient resources are some of many reasons for this outflux. The political upheavals in the country including political polarization, instability of the successive governments, delayed elections and un-democratic practices by the politicians also contribute to the vulnerable situation of Pakistan. Another factor for this mass exodus of young minds from the country is poverty and unemployment. These factors contribute to the brain

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drain of Pakistani society which demands urgent attention.

With the certain difficulties faced by young individuals in Pakistan, they prefer to go abroad for better future. Pakistani youth is facing challenges in the wake of survival and to support their families. But, despite having talent, despite being educated they are barred from getting the required and desired credit to support their cause and are hence forced to leave the home country in search of better opportunities abroad. For example in 2023 alone the country witnessed outflux of more than four lacs highly qualified young Pakistanis in the desperate search of employment.

One of the major factor for this brain drain is un-employment ratio of Pakistan. Educated youngsters with huge potential to serve the country are unable to get employment. Dishearted people of this country are then left with no option other than choosing to go abroad for better opportunities and living standards.

As per data revealed by World Bank the unemployment forecasted to Pakistan stands at 8% for

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2024. Therefore it is a root cause for the mass youth exodus from the country. It also give rise to poverty which is another reason for young minds to leave the country.

Poverty in Pakistan is also a challenging issue with severe implications. The rich are getting richer and poor are getting more poorer. So, in order to support their families, livelihoods, better standards of living, the poor are compelled to move abroad in order to support their families.

According to the world Bank as of 2023, nearly forty percent of Pakistan's population has fallen below the poverty line.

Moreover poor people are often subjected to human trafficking in this pathetic society when they seek to go abroad. To avoid high travel cost they prefer illegal means of transportation out of poverty and hence making their lives endangered and subjected to human trafficking risks as well. A prominent

example to quote will be the 2023 Greece boat wreck incident which claimed lives of nearly 200 people on board.

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Education is another factor contributing to poverty. Poor people are unable to provide quality education to their children. Public Schools are often lacking the teaching staff or are created at such distances which become out-of-reach for poor people and they can not afford the transportation costs and hence prefer to not send their children to school. According to global human development rankings, forty percent of Pakistani's are illiterate, twenty-two million school-age children are out-of-school. Poverty in Pakistan poses great challenges in Pakistan to overcome unemployment. Pakistan ranks number five in list of countries in terms of population. Increasing population means scarcity of resources, more competition in finding jobs and hence contributing to the unemployment-ratio and forcing youth to find better opportunities abroad. World has become a global village because of globalization which created a wave of technological advancements across the globe. Technological advancements have not spared Pakistan as well. Fields like AI especially became another reason for loss of jobs.

of many across the globe including Pakistan. For example in Pakistan, many businesses prefer cash transaction to be replaced by digital methods, causing loss of jobs of those responsible for cash transactions. In this way AI and technological advancements are also responsible for the brain drain of country to much extent. Sometimes, it happens that the jobs are available but the job seeker doesn't have skills which match with the required job. It happens because of lack of awareness of market demand and while being discouraged people prefer to go abroad to find job relevant to their skills.

Pakistan is facing a worst ever economic downturn and recession in its history. The country is struggling to survive in this crisis and we can say that as of now it is only surviving because of bailout packages granted by IMF which is further pulling the country in the bog of extreme inflation, debt crisis, balance of payment crisis all in the end giving rise to already high rate of unemployment and the people with potential abilities are

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discouraged and go abroad in search of greener pastures. As per IMF, Pakistan's public debt-to-GDP ratio in fiscal year 2023 was 77.9% which depicts the grim reality of economic recession which the country is now facing.

In order to survive and combat the economic crisis, Pakistan has never failed to seek loan from international lenders to support its crippling economy. But, unfortunately these measures are just a short-term solution and act as adding a drop to the ocean. In the end pushing Pakistan into the debt trap.

According to a source as per Dawn, the unchecked borrowing spree caused external debt, including commercial loans, to rise from 20.6% of GDP in fiscal year 2016 to 34.6% by fiscal year 2023. Hence, making the economic situation of Pakistan even worse, giving birth to the balance of payment crisis.

Pakistan is trapped in the balance of payment crisis due to limited exports and rising imports. Along with debt the country is facing import and export problems which contribute further to already

worse situation. With increasing balance of payment crisis, currency devaluation has created another concern for Pakistan to make its economy sustainable.

With increased dollar rate, less export and more import and further dollar buying policies of Pakistani Banks gave rise to rupee depreciation. It engraves the young mind to not waste their talent in an environment where they are not fairly paid because of currency devaluation and they prefer to seek money abroad.

According to Dawn the rupee has gone from RS.150 to a dollar in May 2022 to beyond RS.300 in the summer of 2023.

Lack of resources in Pakistan to feed a huge population, is another major factor which contributes to the mass youth exodus abroad.

In order to find sufficient resources young minds prefer to go abroad for better future.

Along with the economic estrangements, Pakistan is also facing the serious political upheavals. Political polarization in Pakistan is the main reason for political instability in the country.

For example, if the leading parties PML-N, PTI can do some sort

of collaboration for the sake of Country's betterment then it can be better managed and kick off some very critical standoffs between them which cause instability.

Never ever in history, has Pakistan's democratic government completed its tenure completely and giving power peacefully to another government except for President Fardos's term. This has been to date a huge cause for instability of the successive governments and they face challenges in addressing the root causes and issues faced by millions of Pakistanis.

Elections are the soul of democracy. In Pakistan, elections are either delayed or rigged. Delay in elections causes challenges for the state to allow the government to come up with timely measures and reforms. For example, the current scenario is clearly depicting a further delay in general elections 2021.

Several un-democratic practices are also eating Pakistani state system like a moth. The parties do not prefer intra-party elections and instead prefer their closed ones to have the party ticket and hence raising the question to democratic practices of state.

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For example, currently PTI is being faced with the crisis of intra-Party elections to serve the nation democratically.

With these upheavals in the country, the youth becomes doubtful of any guaranteed safe future in Pakistan and end-up going abroad for better future.

However, with effective measures Pakistan can overcome these challenges and can also stop brain-drain of young, qualified professionals and compel them to serve their nation.

It includes providing better employment opportunities at home. It is quite challenging but not an impossible task to do.

Doing this will encourage youth to stay in their homeland and serve it.

Poverty alleviation programs should be initiated by the government especially in remote areas. For example, Sindh government has launched several programs in the province to alleviate poverty.

In order to make the youth stay and serve their country both political and economic stability is crucial for Pakistan. As of 2024, Pakistan has shown a 6 bil- improvement in the inflation, and overall economy.

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According to Dawn, inflation dropped to 24% from the last fiscal year's reading above 30%. However political stability is yet a pipe dream for the time being. In a nutshell, youth of Pakistan is forced to leave the country in search of better opportunities and future abroad. This happens because of rising un-employment, poverty and education problems and the most important and serious concerns regarding the economy and political situation of Pakistan. However, these challenges are not impossible to tackle. Pakistan has the potential to resolve these issues and compel the youth to stay in their homeland and serve it. By providing job opportunities, education, poverty-alleviation programs, stable economy and stable political environment, young minds will be left with no room to go abroad in search of greener pastures.