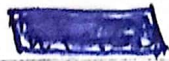


Date: Balochistan crisis and

Solution.



Outlines

I. Introduction

Thesis Statement

Balochistan has been going through worst crisis political, economic, administrative and social. Enough reason behind these challenges like provincial autonomy, exploitation of resources, deprivation and lack of development, large government's neglect, role of Sardars and religious extremism. The most important 7th NFC award and 18th constitutional amendment. However the government has taken steps to solve the issues

II. History of conflicts

III. Reasons behind the crisis

a) provincial autonomy and ethnic culture

b) Exploitation of resources

c) Deprivation and lack

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of development

- (d) Lack of basic facilities
- (e) Government's neglect
- (f) Role of Sardars
- (g) Religious extremism

IV Geostrategic importance of Balochistan

- (a) Gwadar port
- (b) Relco Dike
- (c) Energy resources

V Solutions to the crisis

- (a) Ensure provincial autonomy
- (b) Ensure share of resources
- (c) Infrastructure development
- (d) Basic facilities and fundamental rights
- (e) Empowerment of local government
- (f) Cohesion between center and province
- (g) Ensure governance, stability and security
- (h) Release political prisoners

VI

Conclusion

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Balochistan, a largest province of the country in terms of area and least populated province, is situated in the south western of the country. Its population is 5% percent of the total population of the country. Its geographical location is, it shares border with other three provinces. KP in the north, Sindh in the west, Punjab in the extreme north east, Arabian Sea in the south, Afghanistan in the north west and Iran in the west. It has coast of 1046 km in the south. Further, the province is blessed with natural resources like gas, oil and minerals. In addition, gold, copper and marble is in enormous position. Its geostrategic location is very important in terms of trade with other countries in the region. Cracker ~~out~~ lies at the opposite of

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the Strait of Hormuz. Strait of Hormuz is most important in the globe in terms of trade and global supply of oil and natural gas. It has a role to play in the regional connectivity. Further, it offers opportunities to the landlocked countries. Further, it is a gateway to middle east, Central Asian Republics and Europe. Middle East and Central Asian countries are rich in natural resources. A gas pipeline has been spread Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. Iran-Pakistan and India pipeline. However, despite rich in natural resources and geostrategic significance, the province has been witnessing enormous challenges since the inception of the country. Following the downfall of the British government in the subcontinent, these challenges

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include governance issue, terrorism, socio-economic challenges and role of Sardars.

Controversy in Balochistan began in the late of nineteenth century when British government demarcated ~~the~~ Durand Line between Pakistan and Afghanistan in 1893. It divided Baloch and Pashtun into Pakistan and Afghanistan. That is why the Afghanistan objected at UN over the Pakistan becoming the member of United Nations.

Further, Afghanistan vigorously protested against inclusion of Baloch and in Pakistan without providing the inhabitants with an opportunity of self determination. Since 1947 this problem had led to incidents and disruption of trade pattern between the two countries. The most serious crisis lasted from 1961 to 1963.

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when diplomatic, trade, transit and consular relations between the two countries suspended. Baloch nationalist demanding great political rights, and autonomy and control over their natural resources, have led to previous five insurgencies in 1948, 1958-1959, 1962-1963, 1973-1977 and 2005 to date. The fifth insurgency began in 2005 between the nationalists and center and this time the insurgents have gone a step further demanding for secession.

Divided in the nineteenth century among Iran, Afghanistan and British India, the Baloch found their traditional nomadic life frustrated by the presence of national boundaries and the extension of central administration over their land. Moreover, many of the more militant Baloch nationalists were

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also vaguely Marxist Leninist and willing to risk Soviet protection for an autonomous Balochistan.

In 1947 Pakistan and India got independence from the British. Princely states were given the choice of either joining Pakistan or India or being independent.

Initially, Khan of Kalat, Mir Ahmad Yar Khan declared Kalat's independence. But, in 1948, the princely state of Kalat was annexed to Pakistan. According to the then ruler of Kalat the agreement had been to accept the unique status of the state by incorporating it into Pakistan as sovereign, independent and autonomous unit. But he then signed an accession agreement ending Kalat's de-facto independence which he later claimed he had only done under duress. However, Khan was never an

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an absolute monarch. He was required to act under the provisions of Rawaj and was undoubtedly under the influence of British empire.

In 1748, prince Karim Khan, the younger brother of Khan of Kalat decided to conduct a rebellion against the Pakistan army basing himself in Afghanistan. It is said that he had a personal grievance in that Pakistan recognizes Sardar Gichki as Makran ruler instead of accepting him governor. This ended with the arrest of prince, who was imprisoned in Quetta jail. He was later sentenced to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment.

After this Nawab Noroz Khan took up arms in the resistance of the one unit policy of Ayub Khan. He and his followers were charged with treason.



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and arrested and confined Hyderabad jail. Five of his family members, sons and nephews, were hanged. Nawab Nowroz Khan later died in captivity. Later on, more serious insurgency happened in 1963-1969 led by Sher Muhammad Bijrani Marri against the establishment of Pakistanis army garrisons in the troubled areas of Balochistan. And the fourth conflict in 1973-1977 was led by Nawab Khair Bakhs Marri. Undoubtedly, this was provoked by Mr. Bhutto's arrogance and federal impatience, high handedness and undemocratic conduct.

The current scenario of the conflict in Balochistan standing up when the federal authorities started ~~to~~ developing of Quaid with road and rail links. The development projects of the

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coastal highway and the Cawadar port have been also opposed both and rail by Baloch nationalists. Balochi resistance to defy the government's effort to start Cawadar was based on the charge of that it will change Balochi ~~eth~~ ethnic culture. Further, another major reason of the fifth insurgency is that an army officer, posted at Pakistan Petroleum Limited in Balochistan, raped a doctor, Shazia, at gun point. The Baloch nationalist demanded justice and the army officer should ~~not~~ be punished. But unfortunately he was acquitted with impunity. It gave birth to movement for the justice of the victim. In addition, Jirga of Baloch called for the army officer to be handed over to us for justice which was refused. Clashes started between the nationalists and

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security agencies, army and paramilitary forces. They also started attack on army personnel and the then president Gen Pervez Musharraf passed comments "~~For~~ They will not know them". The protestors also attacked Musharraf. In return Musharraf decided to launch operation against the protestors to disperse the people. In this operation, Nawab Akbar Khan, the leader of the Baloch and former Governor and chief minister of the Balochistan killed. The demise of Baloch leader gave birth to a movement against the army. Bugti had been accused of killing of his own people and the mainly rocked attack against the then Gen president and army chief of the country. This shut the doors of negotiation between Baloch nationalists and government.

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During this time the political parties, opposition and ruling, did not play their positive role to solve the issue of deprivation and neglect at the serious level. In All parties conference that was held in 2007, to plan a collective line of action to deal with the different problems faced by the Pakistan, the Balochistan problem was not even included in the agenda. Lack of representation and and inability of the government led to the past insurgencies in Balochistan.

There are many reasons behind the crisis of Balochistan. These include lack of provincial autonomy and ethnic culture, resource exploitation, deprived and lack of development, lag government neglect, role of Sardars and Religious extremism. The martial policy of the center and in dealing with

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The recent insurgencies had added fuel to fire. The main complaint of the Baloch nationalists has always been the provincial autonomy promised in the 1973 constitution has not been recognized and practically nonexistent till today.

The Baloch people have demanded the right of self determination to the province through the process of complete decentralization of powers. Moreover, the silent but visible war by army and paramilitary in past few years has raised the level of resentment in ordinary Baloch. The action against the Baloch nationalists has also been seen as the imperialism of the state. The set up of military military contingents was also seen a way to suppress them.

Balochistan like other three provinces has its unique culture identity. Thus, some nationalists complain, has

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not been given its due share representation in the centre. Therefore, whenever people from different ethnic groups feel desertion on national level, they feel being neglected and this creates frustration among such groups. Resultantly, they resist any new development or modernized lifestyle due to fear that they will lose their traditions and cultural identity.

Baloch nationalists main grip and grumble relates to Pakistan's domestic natural gas. They complain that the gas industries well paid managers and technicians are drawn from outside the Balochistan, local Baloch inevitably with some viewed with some suspicion were mainly employed in low and end jobs as day laborers. No efforts were to remedy the shortage of technically skilled Baloch such as providing

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government funding of technical training institution in Balochistan. However, the strongest dissatisfaction is about Balochistan's lopsidedly deficient share of revenues from the government's sale of natural gas. Balochistan receives proportionately only one-fifth as much in royalty payment as the other two gas producing provinces. This means that poor province actually subsidises the richer provinces. The nationalist also maintain that historically little of the huge earnings in central government in natural gas revenues was ever returned to the province in the form of development expenditures.

There also complaints of the Baloch nationalists the province has been lacked facilities even basic facilities like health, education and communication.

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There are many social issues in that province like education, health and infrastructure development. According to the Baloch nationalists the province has been neglected by the center in terms of basic rights like education, health and infrastructure development. Balochistan is much less developed province in several aspects least developed province according to the statistics of Pakistan Economic Survey. Balochistan has lowest literacy rate in comparison to other provinces. The literacy rate of the province is 51.5 percent according to the Economic Survey report of fiscal year 2020-2023 and 47 percent of children aged 5 to 16 are out of school in that province highest in comparison to other provinces. Dilapidated condition of the school building only 15 percent of schools have electricity.



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Access to internet facility is also rare in Balochistan. Health condition is so poor in Balochistan. Infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate is so high and stunted the growth due to malnutrition. Poor health facilities in hospitals and shortage of staff. Lacked of equipment. Infant mortality rate is highest in the South Asia.

In addition to, no infrastructure development in the province. Only Gawadar is being developed due to EPIEC project. People has been living poverty and unemployment. Unemployment and poverty rate is also high in the province than other provinces. No industries established in the provinces. Funds for development have not been equally distributed among the provinces.

Gawadar is a classic example of development project that has

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suffocated in the clutches of a  
land grab mafia of Pakistan.  
The Baloch nationalists claim that  
it would ultimately favour the  
Punjabis and not Baloches. They  
also allege the government that  
these projects have largely been  
bypassed local communities and  
have been set up to marginalize  
them. A senior journalist, Var  
Muhammad Badini, speaking at  
the recently held seminar in  
Quetta, asserted that Balochistan  
had been rewarded with five  
military operations over the  
past sixty years in return of the  
massive resources it has provided  
to the whole country in energy  
sector. He called for an end  
to the economic exploitation of  
Balochistan which he insisted  
it was the biggest source of  
discontent and disillusionment  
in the volatile province.

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The central government's neglect and inactivity to identify the and tackle the problem for long period is the major reason for the prevailing situation. But the provincial government has also never represented the provinces genuine issues and interests of the people of Balochistan. The elected representatives of the province have shown an apathetic and non-democratic attitude instead of highlighting the genuine need and interest of the people. Conversely, people's representatives supported the extrajudicial activities in the region through dictating their orders to the local police. Pakistan central government has adopted and established strong centralized state powers have not been devolved to the province and provincial authorities have not transferred

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the powers to the local government. This is the basic reason that the people of Balochistan remain neglected. This hindered the development in the province.

This is certainly a weight ~~that~~ in the argument that the ~~federal~~ federal government has neglected the Balochistan in terms of development but equal responsibility lies with the Sardars of Balochistan who enjoy immense power in their tribes. These very Sardars have been part of the ruling elite in the province both under the military and civilian rulers. Perhaps not surprisingly, the same Baloch leaders have censured the development plans which were ~~immensely~~ likely to bring immense opportunities for the progress of their people. Even the horrific human right atrocities taking place in the province

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have been defouted by the tribal chiefs in the name of their cultural norms. Prof. Mulkhar Ali Naqvi writes that the demands of a "Fair Deal" have also been set forth by these Sardars and not by the elected members. They are unwilling to come into the main stream society, have monopoly over the laws and regulations of the state, while themselves sit in the provincial and national assemblies, yet they do not work for the development of their own people. Through brutal customs and practices, they target their own people. The opposition to the development plans stems from the apprehensions that employment opportunities and consequent change will liberate people from their bondage.

The state of deprivation has made the people of the province

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vulnerable to the aggravation and militant tendency promoting religious extremism in Balochistan. Lack of education and awareness and extreme poverty among the people of Balochistan had led to terrorism, extremism and sectarianism in the whole province. Further, extreme poverty and lack of education created space for extremists and terrorism in the people of province. According to Abdul Rehman Ziaratwala, former parliamentary leader of the Pashtunخواه ملی آوازی Party also alleges that government itself promotes the extremist activities in the province. He pointed out while speaking to a seminar that "This policy had previously radicalized the Pashtun areas of the province but it now had also expanded to the Bravi speaking belt of Balochistan

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whose scores of young people being being inclined towards sectarian militancy and violence. Despite being a major factor, the backwardness and development lag is not the sole explanation of the insurgency in Balochistan.

There are many external factors that have been playing role in the crisis and challenges of

Balochistan. There are multiple reasons of this external involvement

in the province. The most common is that the significance of geo strategic location of the Balochistan and crucial port. The crucial port lies near the Strait of Hormuz.

In addition to, it is most important for China due to Malacca dilemma in the South China Sea.

CPEC, an integral part of the China's Belt and Road Initiative project, now One Belt One Road. It is also the gateway to

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of China in the region.

Iran views it unfavourably, since it does not want Orwadar to become prominent and Chabahar to be sidelined, especially since the Iran is isolated in the world at the moment. Iran has huge reserves of gas and it would like to extend the trade with India. Iran is also afraid of Jundallah's (the terrorist group of CIA) covert operations against Iran from Balochistan. Russia would not like trade from central Asia shifting southwards and therefore like to keep Afghanistan and Balochistan turbulent.

Afghanistan's side has been used against Pakistan to cause trouble inside the country currently, Baloch Liberation Army, Baloch Liberation Front and Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan ~~are~~ are also working in Balochistan to keep



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The situation uncertainty. Bh As enjoys support from RAW in terms of finance, logistics, and weapons. In recent report Christine Fair of RAND corporation says "Kabu is motivation for encouraging these activities are as obvious as India interest in joining them."

India is at the moment chief section ally of US, and NATO. India believes that Pakistan is at the brink of break up and India must focus on building relation with Central Asia, Iran and Afghanistan, and capture oil and gas reserves from from Central Asia and Iran through Afghanistan and Pakistan. India also believes that independent Balochistan will ~~also~~ likely become a proxy of Iran, India and Afghanistan.

The current issue in Balochistan is that disappearance of people.

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political prisoners and various check posts in Balochistan. Recently Haq DO Tehreek, protested against the authorities for their legal. The movement started in 2001 and last till late 2003. Another movement of protestors is on march in Islamabad led by Mahrang Baloch. They are protesting for the recovery of the missing persons of their loved ones.

To solve the issue it is not ~~impossible~~ impossible but difficult. Everything is possible but could be difficult in the world. Some measures can be considered to solve the problem of the Balochistan.

Provincial autonomy is one of the most important steps that has to play to remove crisis in Balochistan. The <sup>province</sup> should be given its constitutional right of provincial autonomy promised in the constitution of 1973. This is not the

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Illeged demand of the people of Balochistan. This is the constitutional right of the Balochistan. An autonomous province can take bold steps for the development of the province and people of that province. Therefore, the center should provide provincial autonomy to province to address the issues in Balochistan. Similarly, the demand of equal resources is also not beyond the constitutional right. The province has been deprived of its' due since its inception. The center is exploiting the natural resources of the province but deprived of its' due share. That is why the province lag behind the other provinces in terms of development, education, health, shelter. NFE award should be restored. It will bring development in the province. It will also restore the peace and stability in the province.

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The center should draw its attention towards the development of the of province. The has no infrastructure development. One of the most important reason of lack of infrastructure development in the province is that it is stripped off of its due share of resources promised in the 18th amendment to the constitution. Infrastructure development and connectivity in the whole province can bring economic opportunities in the province. Only development in Islamabad is not responsible for the development in whole province so, the authorities should pay heed to the infrastructure development in the province. Basic facilities like education, health and food must be ensured. One of the most important reasons of the crisis of Balochistan is lack of basic facilities: Education and health. ~~in~~ Lack of education

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leads to poverty and unemployment that ~~is~~ resulted into terrorism, extremism and sectarianism. Still the province ~~is~~ lack of educational institutions and facilities. Balochistan has lowest literacy rate only 54.5 percent. It means that 46 percent population is uneducated causing uncertainty and issues. So, the government should pay attention towards education and health to get the province out of crisis.

Another most important step can play a major role to address the crisis of Balochistan is empowerment to local government. Because local government is well aware of the issues being faced by the poor and middle segments of the society. For more than 75 year the local government has not been equipped with empowerment that is causing the unbridled issues in the

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province.

Another vacuum between center and local government that is creating hurdles in the way of solving the issues of the province is lack of cohesion between the center and province.

This further deteriorated the situation in the province. It gave birth to conflicts between the Baloch and government. The solution of the crisis is impossible without integration between center and province.

Poor governance is also an important issue in the province. Poor governance itself is an issue for the people that paves the way for issues and conflict to resurge.

Poor leadership leads to poor governance. Weak institutions are responsible for poor governance. Uneducated leadership cannot ensure good governance in any

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country. Dynastic politics is also contributing to aggravate the situation. So, the province plagued with governance for the last 75 years. It leads to political instability, economic instability and sectarianism and extremism.

Currently, one of the most important issues is political prisoners in Balochistan. Many people are confined due to political reasons that is the wrong step at the government. People are disappeared from their homes and dead bodies dispatched to their ~~own~~ homes. The case was raised at various forums but the issue of missing persons could not be addressed. A number of times JIT was formed but could not prove to be fruitful to address the issue. People have been waiting for their loved ones to return home. But the issue is floating between the center and supreme court and other courts.

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In conclusion, Balochistan has been facing many issues since the last 75 years. There are multiple reasons behind the issue. First and foremost reason of the conflict is that Duran Line between the Afghanistan and Pakistan. It was established in the British era in 1893. That is why Afghanistan objected the creation of Pakistan and becoming the member of the United Nations. Following the creation of the Pakistan Khan of Kalat acceded to Pakistan. The younger brother of the Khan conducted rebellion against the Pakistan. Nawab Nowroz Khan also started rebellion against Pakistan's army. After that Sher Muhammad Bijrani conducted rebellion against the army. Nawab Ishaq Baluch Khan led the rebellion due to the arrogance of Bhutto family. The current rebellion was started in 2005 when ex army chief



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killed Nawab Akbar Khan Bugti, the leader and Sardar of the Baloch people. The current issues that leading to the crisis in Balochistan are ~~poor~~ provincial autonomy, ethnic culture, resource exploitation, deprivation and lack of development, governments neglect, Role of Sardars and religious extremism. In addition, missing persons is also an important reason to the conflict. Due to strategic significance of Balochistan, Cawader port has so much importance in terms of trade, economy, development and connectivity to Middle East Europe and other parts of the world like Central Asia. The enemies of Pakistan are playing role in Balochistan to exploit the resources of Balochistan. Enemies of the country wants to see Pakistan destable economically and politically. Afghanistan, India and Iran are playing role to destroy the peace and

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stability in the province due to its ~~that~~ rich in natural resources and geostrategic significance in the region. However, these challenges could be addressed by taking some measures by the centre and province. These include ensure provincial autonomy, recognition of Baloch culture at the national level, ensure share of resources promised in the 18th amendment to the constitution, infrastructure development investment in education sector, infrastructure development of the education sector, withdrawal of army from conflict areas, job quota to be increased, ensure good governance and empowerment to local government. Strict action and implementation in these areas can be helpful to address these issues and grievances of people of Balochistan.

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Middle East, Central Asia and Europe. It also provide corridor to the warm water of Indian Ocean. It is also full of natural resources like, gas, oil and precious and rare minerals. One of the objectives of the external elements is that they do not want to see Pakistan stabilize politically and economically since its first day of existence on the world map. India is first enemy of Pakistan and has been a bad blood between the two countries. Pakistan has a chance to exploit the energy resources of the Central Asia via Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India pipeline. It also leverage from Iran, Pakistan, India gas pipeline. China is interested in Iran gas pipeline to western China and US ~~but~~ is not happy. Because US does not want the influence