

Essay : " There is no path to happiness ; happiness is the path "

1) Introduction

2) What does the statement signifies ?

a) Happiness is the state of mind

b) Happiness varies from person - person

c) One should create its own virtues, values and meanings of life to acquire everlasting satisfaction

d) Achieving true happiness is not a single day task but a lifelong process

3) Philosophical perspectives on happiness :

a) Aristotle's concept of "Eudaimonia" # emphasizes that the end goal of human life is pleasure

b) The concept of superior pleasures achieved through intellectual discourses, and the inferior pleasures achieved through bodily short lived satisfaction

c) J.S Mill on pleasure - " It is better to be human dissatisfied than a pig satisfied. "

d) Socrates Euthyphro dilemma - Are the people pious because they please god

or the god is pleased with those who are pious?"

e) Plato's philosopher king, who has the knowledge of forms, lives a fulfilling life

f) Upanishads - Hindu philosophy of self-renunciation to attain everlasting happiness in transcendental world

g) Teachings of Siddhartha Gautama and his philosophy of mindfulness and meditation

e) philosophy of Taoism, Confucianism, Buddhism and Islam as a golden mean between the two extremes of Asceticism and hedonism to achieve unending happiness

4) How countries around the world carved their path to happiness?

a) From being the <sup>most</sup> depressed country with highest ratio of suicide to the most happiest country of the world, Finland successfully navigated its challenges and steered its path towards happiness

b) From Estonia to E. Estonia, it successfully harnessed the potentials of technology and revolutionized its governance into digital governance

c) Japan - a phoenix who rose from the ashes - became a third largest economy of the world after the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

... on the world. Multiple, collective measures ||

d) Bangladesh has become a rising star of Asia with the world's leading garments industry - turned its tremendous population an asset

~~e) Sweden turned its waste into gold by selling  
an example of world's leading electricity generation~~

e) Sweden overwhelmed the world by turning its waste into gold - largest electricity generation through waste material

f) Bhutan has become a climate champion by installing modern technology like sensors to assess its carbon level in environment at limited level

5) Conclusion

# Economic Imperialism: Fact or Fiction?

- 1) Introduction
- 2) An overview of post WWII global economic landscape
- 3) How Economic Imperialism is a fact:

3a) The research of Nobel peace prizes laureates Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson proves that globalization <sup>led to</sup> neoliberalism and economic imperialism

3b) Dependency theory suggests that resources flow from peripheries to the core countries, leading to economic exploitation and imperialism

3c) Wealthier nations dominate the supply chain by limiting developing nations to supply of raw materials

4) Developed countries exploit the land, labor, resources and environment of developing nations to manufacture products

5) The markets of developed nations penetrate into local markets, threatening the domestic industries

6) <sup>The</sup> ↑ International financial architecture <sup>like IMF</sup> has been proved a blow to the political and economic sovereignty of countries

7) The expansion of china's economic power through BRI has been viewed by critics as a form of economic independence and imperialism

8) Inability to return loans on time ~~lead~~ <sup>poor</sup> forces countries to surrender <sup>land</sup> a part of country's ~~region~~, like in case of Sri Lanka's Hambathana port, leased to china for 99 years

5) How Economic Imperialism is a fact: An echo from the other side of picture

5a) The developing countries leveraged trade partnerships and gained traction in economic development

- The case of India's IT sector

b) The industries of developing countries gained prominence and exposed to diverse markets with the help of developed countries

- Bangladesh's Garment industry → world's second big industry

c) China has advanced its win-win economic model through BRI and improved the infrastructure of developing countries

d) Countries like Vietnam have ~~increased~~ received unprecedented FDI's and improved GDP growth to an overwhelming rate.

5) Conclusion

Thesis statement:- The post world war two global geoeconomic landscape has accelerated the process of integration of economies, which has resulted into the concept of economic imperialism. A long list of facts suggest that economic imperialism is a better reality of modern economies. However, an echo from the other side of debate also presents it ~~as~~ as a fiction and over exaggeration of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

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# Global Warming: Fact or Fiction

## Outline:-

1) Introduction

2) Global Warming : A necessary corollary of post-industrialization world

3) Global Warming is the necessary evil, evident from the number of reasons and facts :

a) Burgeoning global population and human activities

i - US Bureau Census → global population rose from 3 bn in 1960 to 6 bn in 2000 and 8 bn in 2024

ii - 2030 → 9 bn population estimated

b) Rapid expansion of the urban spaces and deforestation

i - Global Forest Watch → (2013-2018) → 10 million<sup>↑</sup> hectares of land is deforested

ii - Reducing carbon sinks

c) Improper and unsafe waste management practices

- i- UNEP → almost 95% of global wastes end up in landfills

d) Inefficient agricultural practices

- i- methane production from livestock emissions and use of fertilizers
- ii- Burning of crops residues
- iii- UNEP → New Zealand beef tax policy to reduce livestock emissions → one of the highest livestock emissions

e) Highest levels of <sup>CO<sub>2</sub></sup> emissions from industries, MNC's and transportations: Post globalization ramifications

- i- NASA report → last 50 years → 1.2°C rise
- ii- IPCC → 424ppm → CO<sub>2</sub> level in global temperature

f) Mining of cobalt for power lithium ion batteries

- i- IEA → extraction and processing contributes to 80% emissions

4) How global warming is taking its toll on the world: Impacts Assessment

a) Rapid melting of glaciers and floods

- i- Indonesia capital shifted from Jakarta to Nusantara



b) changing ~~weather~~ weather patterns: Torrential rains  
Erratic monsoons and long periods of drought

c) Biodiversity loss

i- IPCC → every 1.5°C → puts 20% - 30% of species at risk of extinction

d) Rising Air pollution and smog and decreased life expectancy

i- Pakistan → Lahore → AQI tops the list of most polluted city

ii- Human Rights Watch → every year 128000 deaths each year due to air pollution

e) Measures to avert the threat of global warming:

a) Environment diplomacy between regional countries

i- case of India and Pakistan over Punjab smog

b) Proper ratification of environmental policies and introducing strong regulatory and monitoring mechanisms and its implementation

i- Paris agreement  
ii- domestic environmental policies

c) Introducing carbon credits to regulate and limit industrial and NANC's emissions

d) Shifting to renewables through collective regional investments, green bonds and corporate social responsibility

e) Expansion of green urban spaces through roof plantation, tree-lined streets and green parks

f) Taking lessons from climate champions like Bhutan, Newzealand, Denmark and Sweden

g) Conclusion

Thesis statement:- Global warming is the bitter truth of modern world. It is undoubtedly a fact of 21<sup>st</sup> century owing to various reasons that has altogether put a heavy toll on the world. Therefore, collective measures are necessary to avert this threat.