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Topic:

Brain Drain is
Better than Brain
in the Drain

Outline

1- Introduction:

- i- Hook
- ii- General statement
- iii- Thesis statement

2- Why Brain Drain is Better
than Brain in the Drain

A- Brain Drain is a way of
acquiring better opportunities:

- (a) Better Employment
- (b) Opportunities to excel in one's
respective fields

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B- An Escape from social unrest:

- (a) Religion-based persecutions
- (b) Gender inequality
- (c) Terrorism

C- A way to avoid Political Turmoil:

- (a) Political Polarization
- (b) Lack of freedom of expression and speech

D- Better Education and learning opportunities:

- (a) To avoid Abstract Research culture
- (b) More learning and inclusivity in developed countries

E- Better Health-Care Facilities:

- (a) Developed countries provide advanced and effective health-care
- (b) Negligence in hospitals in developing countries

F - Brain Drain saves from the hazardous

impacts of pollution:

(a) Better Air Quality in developed countries.

(b) Surge in respiratory illnesses in developing countries.

G - Improves socio-economic conditions of developing countries

3- Conclusion:

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The Essay:

The term **Brain Drain** was first used by the United Kingdom in 1960. When the skilled work force started emigrating from developing or underdeveloped countries to developed countries. It refers to the situation when highly qualified and well trained people leave their country to permanently settle down in other countries. It is also known as human capital flight. With the beginning of globalization ideas, opinions and skills in the form of labour started being exchanged, between countries. Brain Drain is better than Brain in the Drain because of various reasons.

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A few of them are highlighted as:
It is a way of acquiring better opportunities in foreign country, it provides an escape from the social unrest and political turmoil in one's own country, it provides better education and learning opportunities, it gives better health-care facilities to emigrants, one can save oneself from the hazardous impacts of pollution and Brain Drain is also a way of improving socio-economic conditions of developing countries.

The foremost benefit of Brain Drain to emigrants is the availability of better opportunities. Due to demotivating working conditions and low salaries in their born country people prefer to migrate to developed countries.

In 2000 almost 75 million people, or 2.9 percent of the world's population, were living outside their country of birth for more than a year. Of these about 65 million were economically

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active. This form of migration has in the past involved many health professionals. Nurses and physicians have sought employment abroad for many reasons including high unemployment in their country. In 1972 about 6 percent of the world's population were located in the USA, UK and Canada.

The majority of the emigrants were from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

This shows that healthcare professionals in ^{developed} countries find better opportunities of employment and excelling in their respective fields than in their own countries. Continuing disparities in working conditions between richer and poorer countries offer a greater 'pull' towards the more developed countries.

Second comes the social unrest in developing countries, pushing people particularly young and educated to developed countries. Brain Drain provides an escape from religious persecutions such as after the Taliban take over and U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan.

a large number of migrated
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to the neighbouring countries like
Iran, Pakistan and Turkey. According
to an USCIRF's report on Religious
Minorities in Afghanistan, the Taliban
continues to persecute religious minorities
and punish residents in areas
under their strict interpretation of
Shariah law. Moreover, severe
restrictions on women's rights are
also causing migration of educated
and independent women. Gender
inequality is one of the significant
reasons of Brain Drain. Even in
21st century women are facing
extreme gender discriminations in
~~almost~~ developing countries. Current
Taliban government in Afghanistan
has imposed inhumane restrictions
on women, which is a significant
step to exclude women from
all spheres of life and confine
them within the four walls of
their houses. To avoid this kind of

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gender disparities. Many skilled and professional women including doctors, engineers and journalists have migrated to other countries.

Terrorism is a significant factor that is pushing the youth to leave their own country. Developing countries like Afghanistan and Pakistan are struggling with terrorism, which is a cause of social unrest. The sense of insecurity and fear compels young and highly qualified population to migrate to developed countries like USA and UK where terrorism is comparatively less than the developing countries. In 2012, Malala Yousafzai was attacked by some terrorists. Since then she has been living in England which is a more ~~secure~~ safer country. She even won the Nobel Peace Prize and living a more secure life there than her own country. Hence Brain Drain provides an escape from the social unrest in developing country.

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Here comes the political turmoil which forces people to leave their country of birth and live in more developed countries. In developing countries like Pakistan and India political instability is increasing. Political instability hinders economic growth as well as overall development of the country and its people. Political instability in the country impedes the dream of a bright future. As in Pakistan political instability is a cause of stagnant economy and deterioration of education system. The people of Pakistan has to face internet disruptions, road blocks and closure of schools and colleges during the days of political unrest. Moreover, due to political polarization freedom of speech in developing countries have become a far distant dream. To live more peaceful and free life people of developing nations migrate to developed countries. Because of

political turmoil businessmen prefer to leave the country instead of investing in it. Many journalists have fled Pakistan in recent years. The exodus is driven by security fears. A 2023 report from Freedom Network, an Islamabad based civil liberties organization, echoed concerns, noting a more than 60 percent increase in threats and attacks against journalists over the past years. So in order to live a peaceful and fearless life Brain Drain proves itself better than Brain in the Drain.

Fourth comes the major reason of Brain Drain, better education and learning opportunities. Young, well-educated and healthy individuals are most likely to migrate, especially in pursuit of higher education and better learning. In developing countries investment in education and research areas are very less as compared to developed

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countries. The majority of doctors acquire specialized and post graduate professional qualifications in developed countries. As among the doctoral graduates in science and engineering in the USA in 1995, 79 percent of those were from India.

The recent study on brain drain from 24 countries published by the World Bank also showed that most of the immigrants to the USA are from South Asian countries. More demand of high skilled people by high tech and research and development (R&D)

industries attract people from developing countries. Furthermore, the abstract research culture in developing and underdeveloped nations forces graduates and post-graduates to move abroad. It has been estimated that foreign scientists from developing countries who are involved in research and development produce 4.5% more publications



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and 10 times more patents than their counterparts at home. Why is there such a vast difference in productive capacity? The context and conditions in which science and technology are able to prosper because political decision, funding, infrastructure, technical support and a scientific community; these are generally unavailable in developing countries. Hence there are more opportunities of learning and industry in developed countries than in under-developed countries. So scientists, doctors, scholars and other professionals chose Brain Drain over Brain in the Drain.

Again comes the most concerning issue of 'developing and under-developed countries, poor health-care facilities. In developed countries health-care facilities are better and advanced because in many developing countries health-care

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systems are suffering from years of under investment. According to an article published in Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine, health expenditure in India is 3 percent of GDP compared to 13 percent of GDP in the USA and the ratio of doctor to patient in India is 1:2083 compared to the USA where the ratio is 1:500.

In addition to poor investment, the negligence in hospitals in under-developed and developing countries is another prominent cause of concern. For example in one of the renowned hospitals of Pakistan HIV has spread due to the negligence of the staff and the administration. In these circumstances Brain Drain provides a way of getting better and efficient health-care facilities in developed countries.



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Here comes the hazardous impacts of pollution, compelling people to move to developed nations for better air quality. Due to increase in air pollution the air quality of many developing countries including Pakistan and India has deteriorated. According to **DAWN** newspaper the Air Quality Index in one of the cities of ^{Pakistan} crossed 1000 in ^{November 2024} which is dangerously more than the standard AQI set by WHO. While in developed countries like USA the average AQI in 2023 was 28, ^{which} falls in the range of Good Air quality. Rising air pollution is posing serious health problems such as respiratory illnesses. According to WHO estimates of death rate attributable to outdoor air pollution, more than 140,000 people in Pakistan died from Air pollution in 2019. Hence good air quality and better life and health conditions attract people to

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developed and advanced nations. Last but not the least Brain Drain also improves socio-economic conditions of many developing countries. Such as remittances from expatriates living abroad constitute a significant proportion of foreign revenue for developing countries. In Bangladesh, 2 billion US dollars is received from citizens who have emigrated overseas and these remittances are the second largest source of foreign revenue. These foreign revenues can be used for social development ^{projects} in developing countries. Moreover, remittances also protect developing and under-developed countries from economic crisis. Thus Brain Drain is beneficial not only for the emigrants but also for their countries. In a nutshell, Brain Drain is better than Brain in the Drain because it benefits people in

a variety of ways such as it helps people to pursue their dreams by getting better employment and excelling in their fields of interests, it is a way of escaping the social unrest; religious persecutions, gender inequality, terrorism in one's own country, it gives a safer exit from the political turmoil in the country, people migrate to developed countries particularly OECD countries to acquire better education, it helps people to live a healthy and safe life by accessing the better health opportunities in their born country, people settle permanently in first world countries to protect themselves from the hazardous impacts of the pollution, last but not the least Brain drain also helps under-developed countries economically. As human beings in general, have an

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inherent desire for improvement and progress and Brain Drain provides ways to them to flourish. Instead of draining their brain in poor and under developed countries young and highly educated people move to developed countries and convert the Brain Drain into Brain Gain.
