

Dear Sir, please mention in the checked assignment whether the material suited the title or not. And that the structure of paragraph is right or not. Also, what else do you expect in it.

# Nationalism at threat

## Outline

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"Nationalism is both a vital medicine and a dangerous drug" Nationalism is the feeling of allegiance and loyalty towards the state and its organs. It is a condition that makes one proud of its nation, urges one to struggle and strive for its success, and most importantly remain loyal to one's nation. The factors that shape nationalism are numerous. Of these, few important ones are the language, race, religion and cause. The above factors make a nation and the feeling of allegiance towards these generates nationalism. Nationalism has helped nations achieve independent, sovereign states like India, Pakistan, Italy and South Africa. The same sentiments of nationalism have waged wars as well, the examples of which are found in the books of history. One <sup>such</sup> example of dangerous nationalism is Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy. The feeling of superiority of one's nation over the others is a fruit of nationalism.

which at sometimes a blessing, while at times, a curse. Nationalism steers a nation ahead, while the lack of it can sink the boat of any nation.

The birth of Pakistan on 14<sup>th</sup> of August, 1947 is a golden example of nationalism. Hundreds of muslims of subcontinent struggled for the same cause i.e. independence, and through these efforts succeeded in getting independent, sovereign state. It was through nationalist sentiment that they started steering the damaged, non-functioning, and ill-equipped boat of Pakistan. It was again this feeling that they became willing to fight a deadly war of 1965 and so on. Pakistanis are proud of Pakistan, their borders are prevented by soldiers who are loyal to Pakistan and its internal affairs are controlled by people who have sworn their allegiance to it. Thus, nationalism has proved a nirvana for Pakistan in its initial days.

Nationalism is not only the situation in Pakistan, but also great powers of the Past and present also thrive with it. It was the feeling of superiority of Great Britain that made it to rule the world. The British proud of their language, religion and race conquered most of the world for the sake of the prosperity of their state and nation. Nationalism has made a colonial America to fight a war of independence and grow into the superpower. Basically, the history of the world is replete with examples of nationalism that made nations strong and independent, proud and loyal.

However, Pakistan is facing a threat to nationalism that could greatly undermine it. Pakistani nationalism is threatened by disruptive forces of tribalisation, sectarianism and language riots. The nation that once got independence as being only Pakistanis is now divided into Sindhis, Balochis,

Punjabis, and muhajirs. They all once fought for Pakistan but now they have held their weapons against Pakistan. There are various causes of it. First and foremost being the sense of superiority of one race over other, and the prejudice towards remaining. The notable example of this attitude is Baloch supremacy over Pashtuns or vice versa. At the time of independence, due to the fear of being rendered a minority in their own province, these races did not let the migrants settle in their province. This attitude is prevalent even today, with the killing of Punjabis settling there. They also fight with each other on the basis of tribe. This has undermined nationalism and surmounted tribalism. People of these tribes have sworn their allegiance to tribal leaders ~~and~~ instead of state authorities, and thus participate in spreading unrest, disorder and violence throughout the region.

Secondly, people are discontented with the state policies and arrival of other people in their region increases their concern. This is understood and somewhat justified. Sui gas was first discovered in Sui, but transported to the people of Sui in the last. These regions also do not get their fair share of revenue <sup>generated</sup> from the sale of minerals discovered in those areas. A large portion of this revenue is spent in other regions, thus, depriving the rightful honors. These ineffective state policies have generated hatred among people for the other Pakistanis and they thus, engage in sectarian violence and violence against state.

Thirdly, racism has grown in other provinces of Pakistan as well. Punjabis consider themselves superior over Sindhis and sikhs <sup>& vice versa</sup>. This led to alienation of both provinces of Punjab and Sindh. There arises language issue many a times in Sindh between 'Muhajirs' and 'Sindhis'.

The speakers of both languages want the supremacy of their language and, hence engage in frequent riots and riots. Fourthly, growing extremism has also proved to be a threat for nationalism. People have become far less tolerant than they were before. Continuous engagement in sectarian violence between Shia & Sunni sects have destroyed the image of Pakistan and deteriorated its economy. Foreign investors shy away from investing in Pakistan despite the assurances of the government. Lastly, the elites of Pakistan, unlike the elites of other nations are corrupt and greedy. Residential elites of other countries are also corrupt and greedy, but they still work for the betterment of their nation, but such sentiment is not found in the elite families of Pakistan. They strengthen themselves on the behalf of Pakistan.

The above factors are posing serious threat to nationalism.



And, people of Pakistan instead of fighting it are falling for it. Desperate measures are needed on the behalf of state and its organs to combat the threat. The state policies are the just sector to work in. State should make sure that the profit is equally divided, so that the four provinces can jointly grow and progress. Theologians and tribal leaders should be called for discussions and together they should formulate a policy to address all the underlying issues. Nationalism, for third world countries is a panacea and it should be prevented at all costs, so that people can work together for the progress of nation as a nation.

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