

Question No. 7

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Topic: Educate to Empower and Liberate.

The Outline:

(1) Introduction

(2) Why must the focus of educational institutions be to educate the nation to empower and liberate it?

(a) An empowered nation can elect a democratic government.

(b) It demands liberty, its basic right.

(c) It can contribute to ^{its} economic growth.

(d) Other nations follow ^{it} them.

(e) An empowered and liberated nation can rule other nations.

(f) The females enjoy more rights in its.

(g) Nobody dares to suppress its freedom of speech.

(3) What are the reasons behind failure of education system of Pakistan in building an empowered and liberated nation?

(a) Divided educational administration has failed to build an empowered and liberated nation.

(b) For political point scoring, politicians implement superficial educational policies.

(c) Quantification of education does not build critical thinking skill in the students.

(d) Incompetent teachers encourage rote learning.

(e) Due to language barriers, students fail to clear competitive examination.

(f) Vicious cycle of poverty exacerbates the ratio of illiteracy.

(4) How can these loopholes be filled?

(a) The state need to see education as a right not as a favour to its citizens.

(b) It issue teaching licence.

(c) Hiring should be based on merit not domicile.

(d) Shift towards inclusive curriculum method.

(e) Parents need to be engaged with their children's learning habits and not just daily homework.

(f) Awareness campaigns regarding facilities being provided by the state should be launched.

(5) Conclusion

Essays

"Nothing is politically right which is morally wrong." Such a powerful statement Daniel O'Connell has given. So, keeping it into the mind, let there be more light in the corridors of the educational institutions, for they are responsible to build character of a nation. This nation which can become so empowered and liberated that it can demand liberty as its human right. It can elect a democrated government; it can contribute to its economic growth and nobody dares to suppress its freedom of speech. However, in Pakistan, divided administration of educational institutions have failed to build such a nation. Incompetent

teachers encourage ~~to~~ learning here. Due to language barriers, students fail to clear competitive examination, and vicious cycle of poverty increases the ratio of illiteracy. If ^{the} state sees education as right of the citizens, hire ^{teaching} staff on the basis of merit, the situation can be improved. Also, ^{the} parents will have to play their part in this regard, so that the focus of educational institutions can be diverted to educate the nation to empower and liberate the nation. Yet, certain loopholes exist in the educational institutes of Pakistan. If they are filled, one can hope for the best.

Before highlighting a lackings and suggesting reformative

measures for educational institutes of Pakistan, let us discuss why the focus of educational institutions must be to educate the nation to empower and liberate it.

To begin with, an empowered nation can elect a democratic government. Albert Einstein said, "Education is not the learning of facts, but training of mind to think". So, when a nation starts thinking, it is in a better position to elect a democratic ruler. It can better understand by comparing the democratic governments of developing and developed nations. In the United States of America, the well read nation has rejected Joe Biden and compelled him

to leave presidential base. Contrarily,
In Pakistan, the nation could not
elect its desired representative, ^{in 2024} elections.
Thus, it is the responsibility of
an educational institutes to educate
a nation and empower it to
elect its ~~representative~~ desired
Candidates.

Along with electing its
desired candidate, an empowered
nation demands liberty, its basic
right. There are three basic right
of an individual & the right of
birth, education and liberty,
and a nation is made up of
individuals. A literate nation
knows how to get its rights.
It even stands against its
rulers while they are unwilling
to give its rights. Who can
forget freedom movements

of history. These movements were run by educated ones.

It was education which empowered them and finally, they liberated.

For instance, in the subcontinent, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

started Aligarh movement.

Though its purpose was to educate the Muslims, but those people

who got educated from Alig-

ah Institutes played a

vital role in ^{the} freedom move-

ment of Pakistan. So, it

is education which ensures

the basic right of liberty

to a nation. That's why

educational institutes should

educate a nation to empower

and liberate it.

After getting liberty from oppressive rulers, an educated nation gets rid of poverty by contributing to its economic growth. ^{The} literacy rate and GDP growth ^{rate} are directly proportionate. The economic analysts have observed that the countries having high literacy rate enjoy high GDP growth. And otherwise is the case in other countries.

For instance, in Pakistan, (where) from 1947 to 1950 literacy rate was upto 20%, the GDP was approximately 3%

of the state. In 2010, the literacy rate was 58%. Here, GDP increased to 5.8%. Therefore, the educational institutions must

focus to empower the nation so that they can ^{become} ~~put~~ good in a cause ^{to increase} the ^{economic} growth of their state.

Similarly, when the economic indicators of a state are improving, all ^{other} states, including developed and developing ones, follow it. ^{the} Developed states follow it to launch similar projects for growing tough time to its competitors. The developing state follow it because they have borrowed money from it, ^{so} and they ~~have~~ to follow its instructions. China has been such a state to whom developed and developing nations both are following. The USA has launched many projects keeping in view the Belt and Road initiative ^(BRI) of China, and Pakistan has to follow ^{the} instructions of China because it has borrowed money from China. Hence, the main focus of educational institutions should be ^{to} empower nation to

(Contributors) lead the world.

where an empowered nation is being followed there at a certain point it starts suiting other nations indirectly. The educated nation became financially so independent that it establishes global institutions. The poor nations borrow ^{money} from these lenders. As today, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India and many other developing state borrow money from IMF (International Monetary Fund) ^{which has been} established by the US. This is how the US is indirectly suiting the under developed and developing world. It is education ^{that} has ~~the~~ empowered and liberated it that much.

Another motive that can motivate the educational instit.

utions to ^{another} make empower and
liberate ~~the~~ ^{nation} is the
rights of the females. Nobody can
deny that fact that gender
gap exists in the ^{whole} world, but
it is comparatively low in
educated nations. Even certain
female prime ministers, young
prime ministers have been
appointed in those nations. The
^{names of} females are being proposed for
presidential race in those
state. As Joe Biden has
proposed the name of
Kamala Harris. Therefore, the
empowered nation ~~and~~ liber-
ated nation give more
freedom and enforces rights
of the females. to

Similarly, the females, males

and everybody enjoys freedom of speech in that nation. The ~~less~~ states where educational institutions are weak^{er} are ^{the} states where the citizens have less freedom of speech. The media and social media is censored there. For example in Pakistan, the state has banned X. The firewall has been installed. The journalists are being detained. These kinds of challenges are not being faced by an educated and empowered nation. Such as in Bangladesh, PM Hasina tried to impose a law but students revolted and she had to leave the state. This is the power being granted by education.

But unfortunately, the Pakistani nation is not

enjoying this power owing to weak educational institutes.

The reasons behind weak educational institutions which could not developed, ~~and~~ empowered and liberated nation are ~~the~~ ~~the~~ disursed below:

First thing first, an empowered and liberated nation cannot be developed under a divided educational administration. The educational institutes of Pakistan are being operated under ~~two~~ different types of administration: public, private, Madrasas etc. An empowered nation is a united nation, but on the very basic level Pakistan has divided its nation. It is producing students with different minds

Madrasa students have religious mindset, while private students are more liberal. (This divide creates educational polarization)
Here, this divide cannot empower and liberate the nation.

Second, for political point scoring, the politicians implement superficial educational policies. In Pakistan, political instability is a major cause of ^{the} failure of its educational system. The rulers (~~die~~ ^{die} ~~eyes~~) hold the seat for very short periods and the new rulers implement new policies. This is why the long term policies are not devised. The incumbents chalk out short term policies for enjoying their ^{short} terms in the office. As an illustration, the E-bike policy for extraordinary students of Punjab government

as an example

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can be quoted here. Therefore, the educational institution could not empower ^{the} nation.

Third, quantification of education does not build critical thinking skill in the students. The ability of the students is judged by their marks in the tests. The students learn the text books. Their critical thinking ability is not polished. Thus, this quantification of education is one of the many causes of failed educational institutes and ultimately the underpowered and oppressed nations.

Fourth, Incompetent teachers encourage rote learning. ^{The} Pakistani nation has addicted to passive entertainments. It has

left reading newspapers, books and magazines. It has caused incompetency in not only uneducated but ^{also} educated people as well. As stated by former chairman of HEC that during interview of phd ^{Candidates} ~~scholars~~ some names of some newly published books were asked. Surprisingly, they could ^{not} give answer. This is the situation of research scholars then how ^{can the} empowerment and liberty of this nation be expected.

Left but not ~~there~~ ^{Fifth} ~~left~~, due to language barriers, ^{the} students fail to clear competitive examinations. Though Pakistan got independence in 1947, the slavery still exists in the form of English.

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language in the state. The fortunate privileged ones manage to get good grip on the foreign language, but the poor classes keep struggling. This ^{language} barrier is the biggest hurdle in getting allocation on prestigious ranks. For instance, for joining civil services a child must be a good English speaker, reader, writer and listener. Yet, students the aspirants fail the English tests and fail in central superior examination (CSE). So, the language hurdle is also one of the major causes of the failure of the system to empower and liberate the nation from the slavery.

However, last but not the least, the vicious

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Cycle of poverty exacerbates the ratio of illiteracy. The poor Pakistani nation hardly manage to put food on table for ~~their~~ ^{its} children. The population ^{rate} is ~~is~~ ^{is} increasing; ~~the~~ ^{the} employment rate is decreasing. So, poverty is not allowing the parents to send school to their children. AS more than half of the population is below poverty line similarly, (62%) more than half of the population is illiterate. Thus, poverty is an impediment in the way of liberation and empowerment.

However, these loopholes can be filled by adopting certain remedial measures. Although, the path is filled with thorns, but these is

always light at the end of the tunnel.

For educating the youth first of all, the state need to see education as a right not as a favour to its citizens. The education in fact quality education is constitutionally guaranteed right of the students. Yet, the ^{government} state present superficial policies and shows it as a favour to the citizens. The ~~student's~~ constitution of Pakistan clearly grant this right to the students. In Article 25A of the constitution it has been stated, that state provide free quality education to the children from age 5 to 16 years. Hence, student must enjoy this right that can help them in empowering

and liberating.

Also, the government issue license to the teachers. It can be for an important initiative.

The teachers who get this license must be considered

competent. The sind government had ~~started~~^{designed} this plan, but could not implement

this ~~more~~ than six hundred teachers cleared the test

for getting license. After

getting it, they could be

promoted to grade 16 from

grade 14. Yet, the weak

implementation of this

plan failed this plan. So,

not only sind but other

governments too ~~implement~~^{must take} such

initiatives.

Moreover, the hiring of teachers should be based on merit not domicile. Another issue with the educational institutes / system is that these hiring process quota system. The rural, urban quota has divided the institutes too. This quota system caused posting of incompetent teachers in rural areas. In urban areas, competition is high, so the urban students are more competent than rural ones.

Therefore, the merit system should be preferred. Only competent students should be posted in rural areas, as well.

And the level of competency can be judged by teaching license. This criteria can

~~exercise~~ helps in reforming the systems to ensure empowerment of the nation.

Furthermore, ~~in addition~~ the nation must shift towards inclusive curriculum method.

~~The~~ ^{The} People of Pakistan belong to different communities. They should be taught in their regional language. For instance, people from Sindh should be taught in Sindhi, people in urban areas particularly those who enjoy the company of foreign peers they should be taught in English. There must not be barrier of language in the learning process, and according to the will of ^{the} people ~~they~~ ^{their} syllabi should be decided. This is how they can be empowered.

In addition to this, the parents need to be engaged with their children's learning habits and not just daily homework. The trend of nuclear families keeps the parents busy in earning. They don't pay attention to the learning habits of their children. They do not visit schools and attend PTMs. The parents should visit the schools and check the progress report of their children. They must keep in touch with their teachers and after proper counselling opt a career opportunity for their children. The well learned children will become empowered.

Lastly, the awareness campaigns regarding facilities being provided by the state should be launched. Most of the students are not aware of the facilities being provided by the state.

They waste their time and energies ⁱⁿ finding cheaper and quality education. ~~So,~~ the government should advertise the newly launched facilities for the ~~students~~ for instance in Gujranwala, The facility of E-library and Jinnah library is available for the student. A few students know about them. So, the government should advertise the new and old education related initiatives.

In a nutshell, education empowers and liberates a nation; the educational institutes should educate the nation.

In Pakistan, the education institutes have fail to fulfill this responsibility. There are certain issues in the system for

instance, division of the educational administration in public, private

institutes, grade system and

many others. These issues

can be resolved by hiring

licensed holder teachers,

launching campaigns and

by giving student education as

their constitutional right.

Hopefully, after implementing the

above suggested measures,

soon the nation will be able

to break the shackles of

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be the
slavery and ~~creator~~ ^{writer} of its
own destiny. And will say,
"Nothing is politically right
which is morally wrong."
