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Topic: Pakistani women have the same chances as men.

Outline

1) Introduction

Thesis statement: Pakistani women don't have the same chances as men. They don't entertain same opportunities as men in economic, political, education, health, and social realms.

2) A contemporary overview of gender equality in Pakistan

3) How do Pakistani women not have the same chances as men?

(I) Discrepancies in Economic Field

A) Wage differences at workforce places

Case in point: As per the WB, average income of women is 16.3% less than that of men.

B) Less participation in workforce

Case in point: As per the ILO, only 22.6% representation of women in workforce

(II) Inequalities in Political Field

A) Low political representation as a candidate

Case in point: As per the ECP, only 16.2%

women are present in National Assembly.

B) No women as leader of any political party

Case in point: All leaders and chairmen are men.

(III) Differences in Education Field

A) Disparity in the enrollment ratio of male to female

Case in point: As per PES (2022-23), Men 72% and Women are 51.8% enrolled at primary level

B) High dropout ratio of women from schools

Case in point: As per the UNICEF, 32% dropout ratio of girls at primary level

(IV) Differences in Health sector

A) No power to decide family size

B) Difficulties in access to health services

Case in point: As per the UNFPA, 186 deaths per 1,00,000 women due to pregnancy issues

(v) Victimization in Social Field

A) No right to intervene in social affairs

Case in point: Patriarchal culture

4) Anti-Thesis

A) Women have political representation.

Case in point: PML(N), PTI, PPP

B) Women have Educational rights.

Case in point: Article 25(A) Constitution of Pakistan

C) Women have economic rights.

Case in point: Civil Services of Pakistan

S) Rebuttal to Anti-Theses

A) Women are only in mainstream political parties

Case in point: out of 167 parties, 5% representation of women is only in 3 mainstream parties.

B) Article 25(A) has failed to provide girl education.

Case in point: As per the PES (2023-24), 26.2

Million children are out of schools.

C) Only 5% Women are in Bureaucracy.

Case in point: Report of the Establishment Division of Pakistan.

6) Conclusion

Women are building-blocks of any nation. They perform their roles in country for overall development. They are an asset for a nation because without their effective role and participation no country can achieve sustainability and long term stability. In Pakistan, where population of men and women is almost equal, but there is huge gap of opportunities between them in different domains. As per the reports of Gender Gap Index, World Bank, International organization, and Pakistan Economic Survey, women don't entertain same chances as men in Pakistan. Initially, in economic field, there is a huge gap of wage difference and participation at workforce places between them. Similarly, in political field, representation of women in legislative body is also less than that of men. In educational field, enrollment ratio and dropout ratio are also more than the ratio of men. In a same way, women face many difficulties in health and social realms due to pervasive presence of male dominating society. Interestingly, on the other hand,

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Some people argue that women are present in political parties with substantial representation. They are of the view that women have same educational rights as mentioned in Article 25(A) of the constitution of Pakistan. They say that women's presence in the bureaucracy is the explicit proof for endorsing the idea that women do have same chances as men in Pakistan. Unfortunately, their claims are failed because political representation of women is only in mainstream parties. Moreover, Article 25(A) has failed to provide same educational rights because government has decided to enforce educational emergency. Similarly, presence of women in bureaucracy is not same as of men. Hence, it is aptly right to say that Pakistani women don't have the same chances as men because they don't entertain same opportunities as men in economic, political, education, health, and social fields.

Today, Unfortunately, the situation for providing gender equality in Pakistan is very drastic. There is a huge gap of opportunities between men and women. Recent study conducted by Global Gender Gap Index, an international watchdog, 2024, it shows Pakistan's ranking

in gender gap is 145th out of 146 countries, which is really terrible and shocking. The study highlights that women in Pakistan are facing more challenges as compare to men in different fields. They face issues of wage difference and less participation at workforce in economic field; majority of women are attached with pink jobs. Similarly, political landscape of their opportunities is also not good in comparison to men. There are manifold educational disparities ranging from enrollment ratio to dropout ratio; their literacy rate is 48% whereas literacy rate of men is 73%. They also confronts with health difficulties, and patriarchal culture has suppressed their decision making abilities in society. Therefore, study is showing and substantiating that women donot have same opportunities as men in Pakistan.

To begin with it, there is a big difference of wages between men and women in Pakistan in the field of economy. Women donot get same amount at workforce places as men. As per the report of World Bank, average income of women is ~~less~~ 16.3% less than that of men in Pakistan. It means;

They do not receive same salary or stipend as men posted on the same designation. Although, both man and woman have same degree and are eligible for the post, but their wages are different because it is perceived that woman due to her compulsions of doing job would do job at low wages. Their wage for the same post is almost 15,000 less than that of men. Thus, women do not obtain same amount at the workforce places in Pakistan.

Furthermore, presence of women at workforce places is also not greater than the presence of men. Their representation is minimum and limited. As per the report of ILO, in Pakistan, representation of women at workforce places is only 22.6%, and rest of all are men. Unfortunately, their representation is not more than one-fourth $\frac{1}{4}$ in public as well as private offices. These figures are clearly justifying that men have an upper edge in economic field in Pakistan in comparison to women. In a brief, women participation as personnels in the offices are not compatible to that of men in Pakistan.

Moreover, in politics, representation of women as a candidate is also less than that of men. Only few women contest for general seats, and majority of them don't win elections because men in Pakistan are more liked by public as comparison to women in Pakistan as a politician. As per the report of Election Commission of Pakistan, only 16-2% women are present in the National Assembly of Pakistan. They don't get party tickets easily in their respective territories because of social recognition and influence of men, which provide benefits to men to get ticket easily. When women contest as an independent candidate, they loose with huge margin due to priority of masses to men in deciding their future. In a nutshell, women in politics as a candidate are very meagre number in comparison to men in Pakistan.

Additionally, all political parties in Pakistan have their leaders are males; not a single party has woman as a leader. These discrepancies are proving that men are more liked by people than women in politics of Pakistan. In Pakistan, from mainstream

to local political parties, every party has given its commanding and decision making authorities to men as a leaders. Men as a political leaders favours and assign men members on key posts; they undermines the representation and decision making abilities of women. Due to lack of women as political leaders, they don't get acceptable recognition in the political affairs and general masses. Ergo, it is not denying that women in Pakistan don't have same chances as men.

Besides it, in educational field, enrollment ratio of women is also lesser than men in Pakistan. Although, population of both genders are same, but their enrollment disparities are high. As per the report of Pakistan Economic Survey 2022-23, women's enrollment at primary level is 51.8% whereas men's enrollment ratio is 72%. This shows that women don't have same educational rights. Education creates sense of awareness among masses and helps them to build better future, but unfortunately, in Pakistan, from basic to higher level, women's representation is widely different from men's representation. Only few women reach at higher level education.

So, huge gap of enrollment ratio is a clear evidence of disparities between men and women in educational rights.

Next to it, dropout ratio of girls is also more than that of boys at primary level. Owing to economic crises and lack of provision of basic facilities in schools by the government, girls don't get easy access at the primary level. As per the report of UNICEF, in Pakistan, the dropout ratio of girls at primary level is 38%, and dropout ratio boys is 22%. Girls don't continue their education owing to poverty and negligence of the government. On the other hand, families also prefer boys for getting education in comparison to girls. To sum up, dropout ratio of girls is also more than that of boys in Pakistan.

In addition to it, women in health sector also face more challenges in comparison to men. They don't have right to decide family size. Family size and power of family planning is decided by men; they undermine the role of women in decision making related to health their health. Men use women as

a source of enjoyment and don't ponder about the health difficulties and hardships of women. faced by women. The negligence of men over the health issues of women creates much problems for women related to their healthy conditions. Hence, no role of women in deciding family size undermines its ~~decision~~ ^{decision} making abilities.

Consequently, in health sector in Pakistan, women don't get easy access to the health centers in comparison to men. They don't get timely checkup opportunities owing to poverty or family constraints, which resultantly, impacts their physical and mental health. As per the report of UNFPA, in Pakistan, ~~at~~ **186** deaths occur is every 1,00,000 women due to delays in their pregnancy checkups. Additionally, their issues of malnutrition and physical health are also very dire as compare to men, which get timely access to health centers. Study shows that women don't have same chances as men in Pakistan. Thus, issues in easy access and health facilities of women are also more than that of men in Pakistan.

Further, women in Pakistan have not equal opportunities as men in social affairs. They don't have right to intervene in social affairs and ~~decision~~ making policies. Owing to patriarchal culture in society, man is considered as superior to woman in the society. Male dominating society has provided leverages to man in comparison to woman in the society. Patriarchal society has undermined the roles of woman in the society; it has also weakened the bond between man and woman because this pervasive culture has provided an upper ^{decisions} hand to man to decide and take ~~decisions~~ about social affairs. Therefore, it is true to say that patriarchal culture has hindered women to interfere in the society and its affairs and highlighted the importance of men.

In above section, it is discussed about wide gap between the opportunities for men and women in Pakistan. Now, it is apropos to define anti-thesis of some analysts, which argue that men and women have same chances in Pakistan in every domain.

Firstly, some people are of the view that women in Pakistan have same political chances as men. They are of the view that Chief Minister of Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif, is a woman. Similarly, there are many women present in political parties, like PML(N), PPP, and PTI. History tells us that women in Pakistan have also remained as Prime Minister, Speaker of National Assembly, and minister of different departments. They argue that women in Pakistan get party tickets easily, and they also have same right of decision making in political affairs. Thus, it is wrong to say that women don't have same chances as men in political field in Pakistan.

Secondly, women have same educational rights in Pakistan as men. They are present in every public and private educational institute from basic to advanced education level. They are of the opinion that Article-25 (A) of the constitution of Pakistan has provided same and equal opportunities to all citizens regardless of any difference of sex, race, colour, or language. Women are getting admissions in educational

institutes without any constraint of society or negligence of government same like men are getting educational rights in Pakistan. So, it is not true to support the stance that women get less educational opportunities in comparison to men in Pakistan.

Thirdly, women in Pakistan also entertains same economic chances as men. They have become economically independent and are enjoying their financial lifestyle without any discrepancies and compulsions. They have same economic rights as men in Pakistan. For instance, the number of women as Civil Services of Pakistan (CSPs) and bureaucrats ~~is~~ ^{is} increasing day by day. Women are getting more interests to become part of bureaucracy of Pakistan; they are also competing with men in economic realms. There are no any coercions from society nor any negligences of the government, which hamper economic rights of women in comparison to men. Hence, women in Pakistan have same chances as men - in every domain.

In above paragraphs, stances of opponents are clearly mentioned. Now,

it is pertinent to shed light on the rebuttal arguments in order to endorsing the stance that women don't have same chances as men in Pakistan.

Regrettably, women in Pakistan don't have same chances as men in political field. Their representation in political parties is very scant. As per the report of Election Commission of Pakistan, out of 167 political parties only 3 political mainstream parties have women representation upto 5%. Rest of others have men as their political leaders, candidates, and workers. So, out of 167, only ~~pr~~ representation in mainstream parties is a blatant proof that women are not getting same political rights as men in Pakistan. How ~~it~~ is it possible to penalize that women have same political chances as men in Pakistan only on the basis of mainstream parties out of 167 political parties? Therefore, it is clear that representation of women in political parties is not same as men in Pakistan.

Similarly, women in Pakistan don't have same chances as men in educational field. As per the report of Pakistan Economic

Survey 2023-24, 26.2 Million children are out of school in Pakistan, and majority of them are girls. It means Article 25(A) has failed to provide same educational chances to all citizens because government has also enforced educational emergency in country in May 2024. Despite Article 25(A) number of girls as out of school children is increasing day by day, and government has not provided them basic education. To cut in short, dropout ratio of women and failure of Article 25(A) have proved that women in Pakistan don't have same educational rights as men.

Lastly, women in ~~educational~~ economic field are also not in substantial numbers. Their presence in the economic institute is not compatible with the presence of men. As per the report of Establishment Division of Pakistan, only 5% women are present in bureaucracy rest of all are men. So, how is it possible to say that women's presence in the bureaucracy is same like men? Women are present in bureaucracy; majority of them are those who have good financial and academic background. What

about the women of rural areas and poor class families, which constitute more than 40% of women population in Pakistan? No one can justify that only presence of women in bureaucracy renders that they have same chances as men in Pakistan. To sum up, number of women in bureaucracy in Pakistan is very low than that of men.

To conclude it, Pakistani women don't have same chances as men. They don't entertain same opportunities as men in economic, political, education, health, and social domains. There is a huge difference of chances and rights between men and women in every realm in Pakistan. On the other hand, some people are of the opinion that women do have same chances as men in Pakistan. They are of the view that women are present in politics of Pakistan as a leader, candidate, and worker. They have also the same educational rights as men because Article 25(A) has provided same chances to women and men in Pakistan without any discrimination. Similarly, they argue that women have same economic rights; their presence in bureaucracy is a good proof. Unfortunately, it is not true to say

that women do have same chances as men in Pakistan. In political sphere, out of 167 parties women are present only in 3 political parties. Additionally, Article 25(A) has failed to provide equal education because failure of government is clear from decision of education emergency. Moreover, only 5% presence of women in Pakistan's bureaucracy does not substantiate the stance that women have same economic opportunities. Hence, there is a big difference of chances between men and women in Pakistan.

AFAQUE AHMED JUNEJO

Topic: Pakistan has one of the most divided, fragmented, and inequitable education system in the world.

outline

1) Introduction

Thesis Statement: Pakistan has one of the most divided, fragmented, and inequitable education system in the world. There are many reasons for this unusual education system of Pakistan. Pakistan government should need to take some pragmatic measures to ensure education to every citizen with uniformity and without any discriminations.

2) A contemporary overview of education system in Pakistan

3) How has the education system of Pakistan is the most divided, fragmented, and inequitable in the world?

A) Divided Education system of Pakistan

(i) Education system in Pakistan is divided into three mainstream tiers.

Case in point: Public, Private, and Religious institutes

(ii) Education system is divided on the basis of socio-economic domains.

Case in point: Urban Education Vs Rural Education

iii) It is also divided on academic grounds.
Case in point: Schools, Colleges, and Universities

B) Fragmented Education System

i) It is based on old method of one-way communication system.

ii) It is based on cramming practices and patterns.

Case in point - UNESCO's report on Education

System of Pakistan

ii) It is fragmented into traditional assessment methods that don't measure rational thinking.

C) Inequitable Education System

i) Education system in Pakistan is inequitable on the basis of gender.

Case in point = Pakistan Economic Survey 2022-23,

Literacy rate of Men is 70% and women is 48%.

ii) It is also inequitable on the basis of qualitative differences.

Case in point = World Bank's report on quality of education in Pakistan

iii) It is also inequitable on the basis of unequal employment opportunities to the graduates of three tiers.

4) What are the reasons behind the most divided, fragmented, and inequitable education system of Pakistan?

i) There is an issue of proper and progressive planning in the institutes.

Case in point: Almost 25 policies have been announced, yet education system is facing challenges.

ii) Patriarchal culture is also the main actor behind it.

iii) Lack of modern technological training in the institutes is also responsible for it.

Case in point: Report of UNESCO

iv) Feudalism and political interference are also obstacles for good education system in Pakistan.

Case in point: Report of International Crisis Group

5) Way Forward for Education system of Pakistan

i) There should be inclusive adoption and implementation of National Education Policy (NEP).

ii) Teaching and assessment methods should be reformed.

iii) There should be implementation of Single National Curriculum (SNC) in country.

6) Conclusion