

Is Pakistan progressing towards a Globalised and multi culture country.

Outline:-

### 1) Introduction

- Hook

- Background

- Thesis: Pakistan, in this era of globalisation, has also increased its connectivity. Despite having issues with its governance economy and human development, it is progressing towards becoming a globalised country through increasing economic, political and cultural interconnectivity.

### - 2) Factors that are hindering globalisation Process (Antithesis)

#### 2.1) Governance

↳ State controlled markets

#### 2.2) Economic Instability

#### 2.3) Human development

### 3) Pakistan on its way for becoming a globalised economy country (Thesis)

#### 3.1) Economic Interconnectivity

#### 3.2) Increasing exports

a) Removing trade barriers

b) Trade regime

c) Increasing textile exports

d) Exports in services

e) Upgrading quality of Products.

### 3.3) Economic interconnectedness with International organisations and countries

a) Funds Procurement

↳ IMF, W.B.

b) Foreign investments and Trade opportunities

↳ Saudi Arabia, EU.

### 4.1) Political interconnectedness.

a) Multilateral platforms

↳ U.N., WTO.

b) Multilateral trade corridors

↳ BRIC CPEC, INTSC (Russia)

c) Regional interconnectedness

↳ BRICS, SAARC, SCO.

### 5) Cultural interconnectedness.

5.1) Food and language

5.2) Digital media

5.3) Increasing tourism and role of social media

b) Conclusion:-

"Globalisation is not something we can hold off or turn off. It is the economic equivalent of a force of nature — like wind or water" — Bill Clinton. This quote highlights the inevitability of globalisation and how it permeates all aspects of modern life. This profound observation from Bill Clinton was ahead of its time, made during the second wave of globalisation. In 1994. During his era, in the 1990s, the world was witnessing resurgence in global interconnectedness driven by advances in technology, communication and trade liberalisation, following the end of the Cold War. Indeed, the process did not halt; and world <sup>rather</sup> ~~however~~, it is on the forward track with a tremendous speed. Certainly, ~~with~~ every country has <sup>sought</sup> ~~started~~ to wash its hands in the Ganges, as globalisation <sup>has</sup> brought significant benefits with itself. Globalisation has increased trade, people to people communication and political alignment. Pakistan, in this era of globalisation, has also increased its interconnectedness through cultural, political and economical aspects. Despite having issues within its governance, economy and human development, <sup>it</sup> ~~country~~ is progressing towards becoming a globalised country through increasing economy, political and cultural interconnectedness.

Starting with the factors that are hindering Pakistan's globalisation process, <sup>the</sup> first one is bad governance. Since its inception, Pakistan has ~~issue of bad gov.~~ Since inception, bad governance ~~is a~~ has been a pertinent issue. Whether it ~~is~~ was military, bureaucratic or elected government, none of them could solve the bad governance issue.

Bad governance has leads to poor policy implementation and, creating an unfavourable environment for foreign investment. For instance, Pakistan, in the past, made agreement with international companies for establishing independent power units (IPPs) on very harsh conditions. However, when <sup>cost of</sup> electricity prices has reached sky high prices, and other production units are sufficient for the ~~use~~ country's usage, Pakistan's government is considering to ~~reverse~~ the agreement. Such ~~in~~ steps causes apprehensions <sup>among</sup> within foreign investors, and they hesitate to invest in country. Furthermore, government is reluctant to provide free markets ~~which~~ for the investors, leading to lack of assurance in Pakistani market.

In free markets, businesses can set prices on the basis of supply and demand, which is an attractive factor for investors for lucrative opportunities.

However, governments intervention is setting the prices - especially food for food items - has made Pakistani market not an ideal place to invest. To illustrate, Punjab government, in July 2021, through a notification, had capped the wheat prices between

Rs 2800 as Rs 3050 per 10 kg, while wheat was being trade at around Rs 3200 - 3400 per 10 kg. Thus, this implies that new prices were even lower than the production cost, and contradicts all principles of free economy. Hence, bad governance has increased the apprehensions of foreign investors due to weak policy implementation and not creating a suitable environments for private businesses.

So Secondly, economic instability is also hindering Pakistan for becoming a globalised country. Pakistan. Economic instability, in Pakistan, is caused by various factors. Economically unstable country is the least favourable country for a investor to invest in. Sadly, Pakistan's economy is supported by no solid pillars, which makes it unpredictable. It mostly relies on foreign loans; if not provided, it <sup>then one</sup> can leads to an instant default. Recently, when there was delay in funds procurement <sup>from</sup> IMF, Finance minister had to beseech friendly countries for loan roll over, so that he may secure a bailout package from the IMF. Furthermore, Pakistan a major portion of Pakistan's GDP goes into debt repayment, which <sup>both</sup> make it further not an ideal location for foreign investment. For instance, according to National Financial Division, Pakistan debt to GDP ratio in 2023 was 74.8%. Therefore, To manage high debt, a government is has implemented austerly measurements and in recent budget for Fiscal year 24-25 heavy

taxes were levied on private businesses. Therefore, economic instability and high tax debt to GDP ratio has made Pakistan not a favourable location for foreign investment, resulting in less economic inter-connectedness with the world.

Furthermore, low human development is also hindering Pakistan's way for becoming a globalised country. Low human development index means workforce may lack in the necessary skills and knowledge to

Furthermore, Pakistan has a weak education and health sector, which also hinders also its way for becoming a globalised economy. ~~Weak~~ Weak education system <sup>leads</sup> ~~makes~~ the population in to lack the necessary skills and knowledge to compete in the competitive world. Furthermore, weak health infrastructure makes the population less productive. Such factors discourage the foreign investors to invest in the country. Unfortunately, according to UNDP, Human Pakistan stands at 161 out of 192 countries ~~making~~ in human development index, making it one of least performing country in such category. Such indicators discourage the investors to invest in country. Therefore, weak education and health sectors are not only making population less productive but also discouraging foreign investors, <sup>thereby</sup> ~~leading to~~ hindering in the globalisation process.

Although bad governance, Economic instability and low human development are hindering Pakistan way for becoming globalised country. Pakistan has increased its global interconnectedness and it seems to moving on forward track. The following part of essay will discuss Pakistan's progression for becoming as globalised country.

Pakistan has introduced changes in its trade regime that favour trade. Pakistan has reduced tariffs on the exports item that helped it to increase its exports. Reducing tariffs is beneficial. However Although reducing ~~tariffs~~ <sup>tariffs</sup> leads to less generation of revenue, it <sup>promotes</sup> ~~increases~~ exports. Also For instance, according to a report published by Ministry of commerce and textile, National tariff policy 2019-24, the applied weighted mean tariff in Pakistan was significantly reduced from 23.1% in FY 2000 to 8.9% in FY 2011, which coincided with a substantial increase in exports from US 9.2 billion to 25.1 billion dollars. Therefore, reducing tariffs has increased exports, leading to an increase in economical interconnectedness.

Additionally, the expansion of service exports in Pakistan marks a crucial step towards economic diversification and growth. The ways to do business has changed with the changing world dynamics of the world. A whole new market for <sup>online</sup> services is yet to be captured. Developing countries has opportunities to take advantage from changing world dynamics, as it can ~~produce~~ provide cheap online labour force. India has <sup>been</sup> already <sup>been</sup> focusing on dominating this market. Although Pakistan has started late, it is on a forward track to gain profit from it. To illustrate, according to Pakistan bureau of statistics, IT exports has brought 2.925 billion dollar in 2023, reflecting a net increase 68% year on year increase. These startling figures reflects Pakistan's active participation in world's IT trade, driven by increasing interconnectedness through technology.

Moreover, not only IT exports, <sup>but</sup> Pakistan has also ~~done~~ made efforts to increase trade in other sectors by <sup>improving</sup> increasing quality of the products. Subpar products are often difficult to be <sup>sell</sup> sold in international markets, as competition is increasing day by day. Pakistan has increased <sup>to</sup> quality of its products for increasing exports. To illustrate, according to Pakistan standard and Quality control authority (PSQCA), over 10000 companies in Pakistan have ISO certification. Such international certifications



increases brand value of the ~~pro~~ products, resulting in more acceptance in international markets. Additionally, Pakistan National Accreditation Council has been formed to check quality of products ~~in order to~~ to align Pakistani manufacturing standards with international standards. Therefore, Pakistan has made <sup>its</sup> efforts to increase its production standards, thereby increasing <sup>its</sup> economical interconnectedness.

Furthermore, Pakistan has <sup>also economically</sup> ~~politically~~ connected itself with the world by joining international organisations. Pakistan is a member of almost all the Bretton Woods organisation formed to connect all the world economically. Moreover, these organisations has helped Pakistan every time ~~whenever~~ its economy was in need. To illustrate, ~~in~~ Pakistan is under 25 loan programme of IMF, and it has acquired billion of dollars in ~~in terms of~~ loan. It must be noted that ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> at the beginning of 2021, Pakistan was on the verge of default. If IMF has not provided Pakistan its 24<sup>th</sup> loan, it ~~could~~ <sup>would</sup> have defaulted. Additionally, despite <sup>recent</sup> loans, Pakistan has <sup>obtained</sup> got tremendous amount of economic assistance from international organisations. Such assistance has played a pivotal role in stabilising Pakistan's economy. ~~The~~ To provide evidence, World Bank has stated that it has provided Pakistan <sup>with</sup> over 46 billion in assistance since 1950, when it became <sup>a</sup> its member. Hence, international global organisations has ~~for~~ played a pivotal role in fostering Pakistan's economy, and their continues support implies that Pakistan is taking full advantage from the economical interconnectedness.

that, recently,

Another point to consider is Pakistan has attracted foreign investments, and economic interconnectedness has opened the doors to many trade opportunities. Pakistan has developed Special Investigation Facilitation Council (SIFC) to attract and facilitate foreign investors in sectors like defence, agricultural, energy mines and minerals. Additionally, Pakistan's aim to privatise its state owned institutions like PIA and power distribution centre will attract more foreign investment, leading to a more liberalised and business friendly environment. So keeping in view enhancing business friendly environment, Saudi Arabia has announced to invest 20 billion dollars in Pakistan under its 'Vision 2030' programme initiative. Furthermore, globalisation has brought trade opportunities with itself. Pakistan International Organisations has provided opportunities to Pakistan to increase its trade. For instance, Pakistan has been provided by Generalized Scheme of Preference (GSP+) status from the European Union, which duration has been extended till 2027. This status has increased economic ties with between Pakistan and the EU. Additionally, after the formation of WTO, international community has terminated Multi Fibre Agreement. The agreement was enacted to give quotas to textile exports all over the world. Termination of this agreement has provided Pakistan with enormous opportunity to expand its textile exports, as cotton is one of the major cash crops of Pakistan. Hence, to put in briefly, Pakistan's economy is on the track of globalisation, as increasing foreign investments

and economic interconnectedness has paved the way to achieve this goal.

As Pakistan's economy is moving progressing towards globalisation, Pakistan is, also, progressing towards political interconnectedness.

As Pakistan's economy progresses toward globalisation, the country is also advancing in political interconnectedness, strengthening its ties with global and regional partners.

To start with, Pakistan has been a member of multilateral platforms like U.N and ~~the~~ WTO and OIC, which fosters Pakistan's political interconnectedness.

These multilateral organisations allow a country to ~~engage~~ engage with each other politically, diplomatically and on security measures.

Pakistan is an active member of such organisation.

To illustrate, it has served eight times in the UNSC, with the most recent one concluding in 2013, and

it has applied is a nominee for next security council election. Additionally, Pakistan is one

of the founding member of Organisation of Islamic Council, which aims to promote

interconnectedness among Muslim countries. Hence, ~~has increased its political interconnectedness~~

by actively joining various multilateral organisations, Pakistan has significantly enhanced its political interconnectedness, fostering cooperation and dialogue on crucial global issues.

Additional<sup>ly</sup>, Pakistan is not <sup>only</sup> a member of multilateral ~~org~~ organisation, but also it ~~is~~ a member has joined trade corridors. Trade corridors provide regional interconnectedness specifically through trade and generally through political interconnectedness. It is crucial to regional for countries to regionally ~~so~~ interconnect themselves as well, as global dynamics is evolving. Pakistan, ~~has also~~ having an ideal geographic location, has ~~it~~ also interconnected well through trade corridors. To illustrate, Pakistan is a member of China's BRI initiative, and an ~~a~~ very ~~opp~~ arterial branch of the initiative — China Pakistan economic corridor — runs through it. The ~~init~~ initiative will provide Pakistan to trade with different countries like Central Asian countries, and will provide trade route from middle east ~~and~~ China. Furthermore; Land lock countries, including Russia and Central Asian countries, can gain access to <sup>the</sup> warm waters. Additionally, Pakistan has recently joined Russia's International North South Transport corridor (INTSC). The corridor will ~~in~~ aims to provide ship, rail and road route for moving freights between India, Russia, Europe and Central Asia. It will ~~inter~~ <sup>bring</sup> interconnectedness <sup>across various</sup> on ~~many~~ aspects; as ~~with~~ ~~no~~ trade interconnectedness <sup>increases</sup>, ~~will~~ <sup>ultimately</sup> increase on ~~different~~ aspects increases, other areas will ultimately benefit as well.

Furthermore, Pakistan has regionally globalised itself as well. Pakistan is a member of various regional multilateral platforms, which has provided it to opportunities to globalise regionally. Pakistan is a member of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), which is platform for South Asian <sup>countries</sup> to increase, cultural, economical and political interconnectedness. Not only in South Asia, but Pakistan has also increased its interconnectedness <sup>at</sup> <sup>with</sup> other platforms: regions. To illustrate, Pakistan is a member of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, a Eurasian political, economic and social alliance, which <sup>that</sup> aims to promote interconnectedness among its member states. Additionally, Pakistan has also plans to interconnect ~~in~~ the with global south. As evident to provide evidence, Pakistan has applied for BRICs membership in June 2023. All things considered, Pakistan is driving enhancing its political interconnectedness through by joining regional organisations.

Aforementioned paragraph has discussed globalisation of Pakistan's ~~eco~~ economic and political structure. The following paragraph <sup>will</sup> ~~constitute~~ cultural globalisation of Pakistan.

Firstly, Pakistan has ~~@~~ cultural globalisation has changed food and language choices of Pakistanis. Pakistan has witnessed a rise in the demand of western fast food chains. Pakistan now has variety of western fast <sup>food</sup> outlets all over the country, and their popularity has risen.

To illustrate, Dynamic Research Consultancy, a online research platform, has concluded ~~we~~ <sup>popularity of</sup> that western fast food chains like KFC and Macdonalds ~~were~~ <sup>are</sup> more most popular fast food chains among Pakistani youth. Additionally, language choices of Pakistanis has also changed. English is preferred as an official language in the Pakistani offices. Moreover, in metropolitan cities some parents are raising their children to speak english as their first language. Given these points, Pakistan is ~~moving~~ <sup>progressing</sup> towards becoming a culturally globalised country.

Secondly, Pakistan has increased digital media has also a pivotal role for increasing cultural interconnectedness. Growing media Digital media is a optimal option to increase the cultural interconnectedness, as it increases cultural familiarities among people on a wider and effective way. Pakistan has also used digital media to promote multi cultural familiarities. To illustrate, Turkish drama, Estigral Ghazi, got a widespread popularity. The drama has introduced pakistani with Turkish indigenous culture. Moreover, cultural exchange through digital media is from both sides. For instance, during recent visit of Saudi Crown Prince to Pakistan, minister Fawad Chaudry, ~~has~~ announced that Pakistan will air Pakistani drama and movies in Saudi cinemas. Furthermore, Pakistani t.v commercials of shan ads, aired in 2017, featuring chinese couples cooking and sharing biryani, highlights increasing cultural interconnectedness.

Ultimately, digital media is spreading cultural awareness mutually among Pakistan and other countries, fostering cultural interconnectedness.

Thirdly, the surge in tourism has significantly enhanced cultural globalisation by facilitating cross-cultural exchanges and fostering mutual understanding among diverse populations. Pakistan's tourism has been increasing amidst growing interconnectedness. As evident by World Bank's report that Pakistan attracted 10 billion dollars in visitor spending in 2022, which is projected to touch 30 billion dollars in 2033.

Hence, increasing tourism has attracted many foreign YouTube vloggers in Pakistan, which ~~promotes~~ highlights Pakistan's culture among western countries.

For instance, American YouTuber College Free, makes vlogs in Pakistan while travelling in Peshawar and speaking Urdu with locals. Consequently, such measures also introduce foreign culture among Pakistanis. Additionally, Pakistan has witnessed rise in religious tourism. Religious tourism is one of the finest ways to increase cultural familiarities. To illustrate, <sup>opening</sup> of Kartarpur corridor has significantly enhanced cultural familiarity between Indian Sikhs and Pakistanis. ~~So~~ In summary, Pakistan has ~~as~~ increased tourism in the country, leading to greater cultural interconnectedness.

In retrospect, Pakistan has to suffer from challenges like ~~Gov~~ governance, economic instability and lesser human development, which hinders its progression towards globalisation, as such issues ~~results~~ leads to lack of confidence among investors to invest. However, Pakistan rise in exports driven by new policies and increasing economic inter-connectedness has put Pakistan on the track of becoming a globalised economy. Moreover, Pakistan has ~~efficiently~~ inter-connected itself politically as well by actively participating in ~~no~~ multilateral organisations and trade corridors. Moreover, Pakistan is on the ~~track~~ path to becoming multicultural economy, as language, food and cultural familiarity is increasing with the foreign cultures. Therefore, from all aspects of globalisation Pakistan is progressing towards a globalised and multi cultural country, and this process is ~~no~~ inevitable for country's prosperity, as John B. Talyor has rightly said, "Globalisation is a fact of economic life."