

Question :

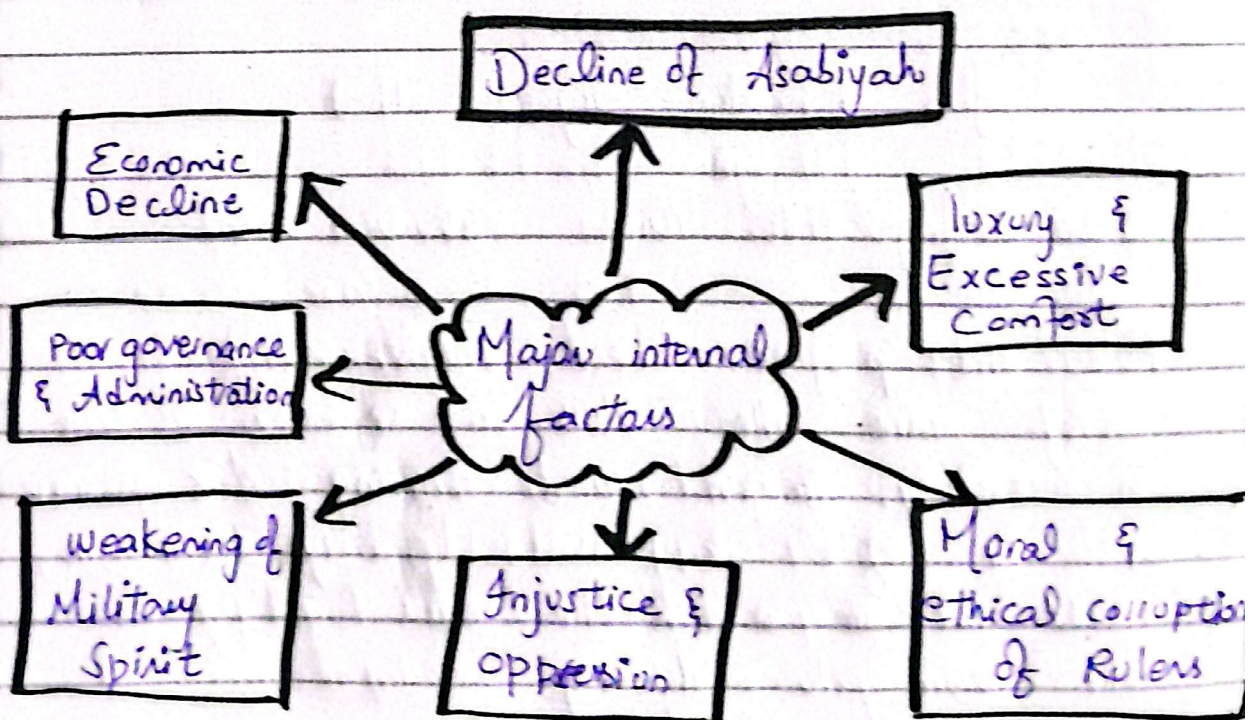
Ibn Khaldun while acknowledging the external factors, emphasize more on internal factors as decide for decline of nation.

Ibn -Khaldun is one of the greatest Muslim historian & sociologists, presented a Scientific theory of rise & fall of civilizations in his famous book "Mugaddimah". Ibn Khaldun emphasized ~~more~~ on social, moral, economic & political factors operating inside a society. For him the internal factors particularly the weak Asabiyah is the major cause of decline of nation. When the luxury and corruption raises in society, people started working for gaining their personal benefits rather than collective. The internal harmony and peace of society disturbs horribly and which in result invites the external forces such as invasion or foreign pressure and particularly the ~~rise~~ fall and decline of Asabiyah (social cohesion) ~~is~~ the decide cause of the nation's fall. For him, no nation collapses from outside unless it has already weakened from within.

MAJOR INTERNAL FACTORS FOR DECLINE OF NATION

Decline of Asabiyah :-

The core of Ibn Khaldun theory is weaker group solidarity (weak asabiyah). He argues that every nation raised with strong Asabiyah and falls when this unity weakens. When people lose honesty, loyalty and discipline, the state becomes fragile from within. The history has witnessed the Abbasid state, as it collapsed due to internal division.



Luxury & Excessive Comfort :

When the ruler of the state started living luxury life and ignore the collective welfare, the decline started. People are no longer loyal to the Ruler and everyone started working for their own comfort and this in result cause the ^{weak} Asabiyyah.

Moral & Ethical Corruption of Ruler,

Ibn Khaldun, in his book said that

"When Morals are Corrupted,
the dynasty is destroyed"

The moral decline of rulers and citizen made them selfish and when the ruler became corrupt, people became corrupt too and the state become weak internally.

Injustice & Oppression :

Ibn Khaldun argued that

"Injustice ruins Civilizations"

Rulers and people started treating different, which gave the ruler a superior position in society. Citizen started craving for power as they feel oppressed. Loyalty disappears, revolt increases and the state collapse as the Ummayyah dynasty collapses.

Weakening of Military Spirit :

He said that

"When people become accustomed to ease, the loss power of defense"

Early state are strong because citizens are warriors. Over time when people are morally corrupted and become selfish; the warriors also become power gainer and ultimately the state falls.

Poor Governance & Administration :

Ibn Khaldun said that

"Dynasty are destroyed by weak rulers who rely on other"

The weak Arabiyah results into the weak administration and poor governance. Rulers lost control, corruption spreads and the government becomes ineffective.

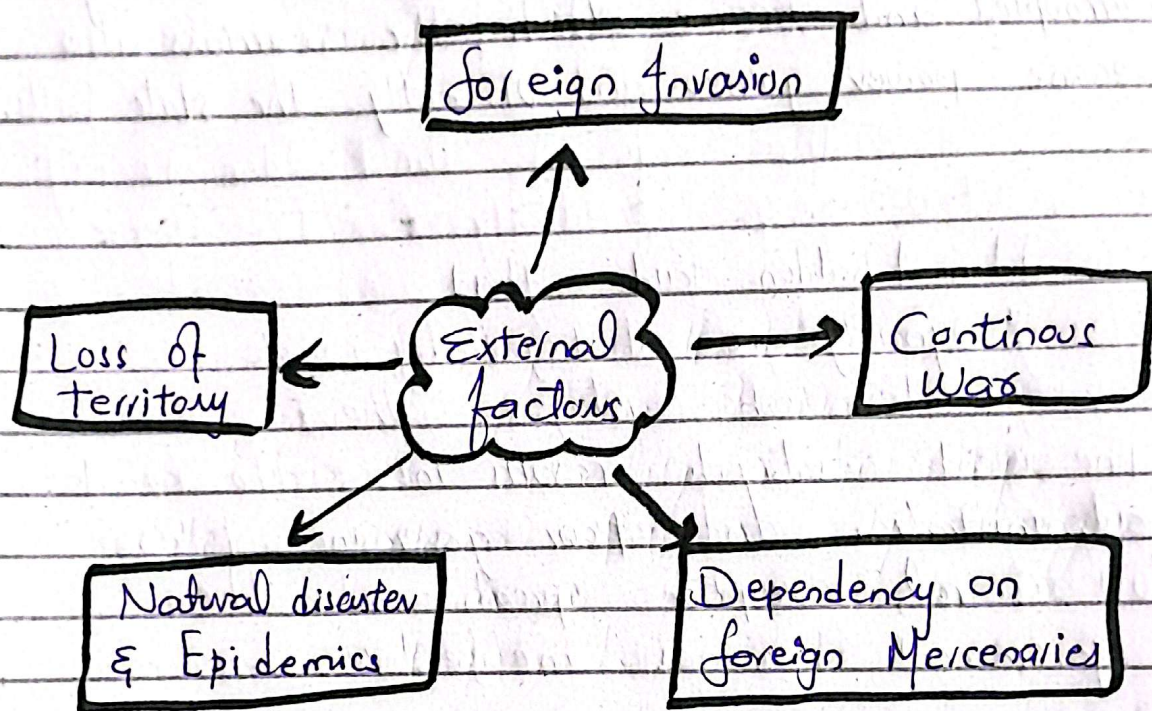
Economic Decline :

Ibn Khaldun explains that heavy taxes discourage work. People stop producing, trade declines and state revenue falls leading to economic collapse.

As he wrote :

"At beginning of dynasty, taxation yields large revenue; at the end, it yields little."

MAJOR EXTERNAL FACTORS FOR DECLINE OF NATION



Foreign Invasion :

Although, Ibn Khaldun see the internal factors as a real cause of decline of nation but there are some secondary cause like foreign invasion which may cause the decline of nation. Invasion succeed only when internal unity has already collapsed, leadership has become weak and people have lost loyalty to the state. Thus invasion is a final blow of decline.

Continuous War :-

According to Ibn Khaldun, continuous warfare slowly destroys a state's economic base & population. War consumes manpower, reduce agricultural production, increase taxes and create insecurity. When war continues for long time the state loses ability to recover. As many medieval Islamic & European states collapsed after long war that drained resources and weakened public moral.

Loss of Territory :-

Territory loss reduces a state's tax, manpower and strategic security. When a state becomes weak internally, it cannot defend its territory properly and a new stronger state captures its territory. Loss of territory leads to loss of power and revenue.

Dependency on Foreign Mercenaries :

Ibn Khaldun stated that :

"Mercenaries have no loyalty to the dynasty."

He warns the people to stop relying on foreign mercenaries as they fight for payment not for loyalty. They may weaken the internal unity.

Natural Disaster & Epidemics :

Ibn Khaldun recognize the natural disaster as external shock the speed up decline. Epidemic reduce population, weaken labor force and increase fear. However, disaster alone cannot destroy a strong civilisation.

FINAL REMARKS

According to Ibn Khaldun, the real cause of declining of Nation is the ^{weak} internal morality & integrity, while external factors only trigger or act as a final blow. A nation collapses from inside first, and only then the external forces succeed.