

Despite being vital, water scarcity
is the most neglected issue in
Pakistan

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement:

Water-scarcity is ~~the most neglected issue~~ **has become an emerging challenge** in Pakistan despite being of vital importance. Poor water governance, lack of political consensus, unsustainable ~~exploitation~~, and ~~abandoned~~ water diplomacy makes up for this negligence.

2. Bird's-eye View of Water Scarcity in Pakistan

- 1) Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resource (PCRWR)
per capita water below 1000 m^3 - water stressed country.
- 2) World Wildlife Fund (Formerly World Wildlife Fund)
WWF - per capita water availability 930 m^3
making it water-scarce country.
WWF - Pakistan 15th most water-scarce country.

3. How Water-Scarcity - Despite Being Vital - is the most Neglect Issue in Pakistan

a. Outdated policies leading to poor governance

- 1 Colonial era policies - Canal and Drainage Act, 1873

b. Lack of political Consensus on interprovincial water management

- 1 Cholistan canal project - Provincial dispute in May 2025.
- 2 Kalabagh Dam construction

3 Abandoned water diplomacy with resource sharing neighbours

- 1) ~~Absence of Indus water Treaty with India~~
- 2) ~~Shakti Dam Construction on Kabul River in Afghanistan.~~

4 Unsustainable exploitation of water resources domestically.

- 1) Flood irrigation demands 96% of total water (WWF report, 2024)

5 Resistance to innovative water conservation strategies

- 1) Reliance on dams only for water conservation

6 Lack of awareness in mass regarding water management

- 1) ~~No proper education in schools~~
- 2) ~~No community education regarding ^{water} education~~

7 Limited use of modern technology for water management

- 1) ~~No satellite data integration in policies~~
- 2) ~~No Remote sensing, GIS provision~~

8 Lack of legal actions to deter water crimes

- 1) ~~No penalty for water theft exercised.~~

9 Impacts of neglected water-scarcity despite being vital;

1) Domestic water needs uncatered

- 1) PIDE 2025 report " 43% urban dwellers lack access to safe water

2 Economic back-break due to failing water demands of industries and agriculture

UNESCO \Rightarrow Agriculture demands 70% fresh water

\Rightarrow Industries take away 20% of fresh water supply.

3 Disrupt social fabric due to interprovincial water animosity.

1 Tensions in Sindh and Punjab in Pakistan.

4 Strained regional relations due to lack of water diplomacy.

1 India - Pakistan "water wars"

2 Pakistan - Afghanistan strains over lack of water diplomacy.

5 Ways to Trek Pakistan on Journey from Water-Scarcity to Water-Sufficiency

1 Upgraded and just water governance

- Accountability and transparency in water management

- Carrot and stick approach in ensuring water policy adaptation.

2. Innovative water conservative strategies for sustainable use

- Rain Water Harvesting Mechanisms

- Drip and Sprinkle irrigation methods.

3. Awareness of masses on importance of water

- Educating children in early education of the importance of water

DATE: ___/___/___

4 Active water diplomacy in the region for efficient water management transnationally.

Armenia-Turkey water management despite diplomatic deadlock since 1993 can be an example to South Asia.

Conclusion:

Hook sentence: "The Water Princess"
by Georgia Bedrel (2016).

well organized and quite relevant good

try to improve word choice please