

Topic:-

Ethnicity in Pakistan: A threat to National Integration

Outline:-

A Introduction

Pakistan is an ~~ethnic~~ ~~diverse~~ country that accommodates various culture within its boundaries. Due to such variety there often leads to internal clash that threaten the country's peace.

Thesis statement:-

Despite of ethnic diversity, ethnic rivalry is a threat to national integration. As multifaceted challenges like political instability, ~~unique~~ NFC award distribution threatens peace. Yet, by removing deprivation among provinces may ensure to develop national cohesion.

B How ethnic rivalry threatens Pakistan's national integration

- i) Fuels political instability by evoking multiple opinions.
- ii) Provokes extremist and anti-state narratives.

- iii) Provides opportunities to non-state actors in exploiting national cohesion.
- iv) Threatens life, liberty and property of the subjects.
- v) Creates a vacuum for forcing independence.

C why ethnic rivalry threatens Pakistan's national integration

- i) Centralization of power to the federal
- ii) Unequal distribution of resources among provinces.
- iii) Frequent political shift or oligarchic democracy frustrate the subjects.
- iv) Unresponsive government and lack of accountability of state institutions.
- v) lack of productive engagements initiatives for unemployed youth.

D way forward to strengthen National Integration

- i) Ensure political stability by providing mandate of the public.
- ii) Identify irregularities in 18th amendment and ensure equal distribution of resources.
- iii) Guarantees responsiveness and transparency by state institutions.

- iv) Initiates skill development programs to engage youth.
- v) Promotes pluralism and inclusiveness among diverse culture.

E Conclusion

Ethnicity shapes the rich culture of Pakistan but the situation worsens when it becomes a threat to substance. But this challenge can transform into opportunity by comprehensive policing. This will move Pakistan towards prosperous future.

**"We are all Pakistanis;
not Balochis, Pathans,
Sindhi, Bengalis, Punjabis,
and so on. Let us be
proud of being Pakistanis"**

(Jinnah)

The words of Muhammad Ali Jinnah abolish all the ethnic identities when it comes to single nationality. This shows to embrace all the difficulties as a ^{united} nation. Every nation has diversity which inculcates within the society and in the present day many countries especially

~~South Asian states are rich in culture.~~
~~Also Pakistan is a country which is~~
~~multicultural and multilingual state,~~
~~having various identities and traditions.~~

~~This variation not only shapes image of~~
~~a country with culture but also a~~
~~challenge for state's internal peace.~~

~~This may be because of discriminatory~~
~~distribution of resources, on the basis of~~
~~race, caste or language rather than the~~
~~origin and supply point of resources which~~
~~is due to frequent shift of state leader~~

plz avoid such references
~~ship from one party to another political~~
~~superiors. Despite of ethnic diversity,~~
~~ethnic rivalry is a threat of national~~
~~integration. As multifaceted challenges~~
~~like political instability and unequal~~
~~resource distribution -imaiens peace.~~

~~Yet, by removing deprivation among~~
~~provinces may result to create national~~
~~cohesion.~~

~~Ethnic diversity leads to ethnic~~
~~university when the top leadership of~~
~~the political parties feels the~~
~~narrative of deprivation and~~
~~marginalization among its subjects.~~

when the public feels that they lack funds, infrastructure and all other facilities because of their ethnic group belonging then this is the individual bias and ambiguous which leads to the long run rivalry. For instance, the Sindh government especially the Mayors of suspicive Sindh province always manipulate and conceal their eligibility by creating a narrative of shortage of funds from the federal. This situation creates a discrimination among citizens of the same country. So, particular parties should frame their narrative in a careful and responsible manner.

Along with this this ethnic conflict provides a room and opportunity to the non-state actors of the country to exploit the peace and prosperity of the country. When there is an ^{already an} shift of political shift from one party to another leader then such actors move forward to take control of specific community, considering their lost interest on governance. It can be illustrated in Balochistan example where

The people show more obedience to their feudal lords rather than their governing leaders. The Musa Khan incident in which around more than 70 passengers holding on identities of Punjab were kidnapped and murdered which further aggravates the situation. This portrays a negative image of Balochi's for Punjab citizens and ultimately leads to cultural separation. Thus, through raising awareness such outcomes can be overcome.

Furthermore, it leads to threats, life, liberty and property of the country's individuals. Now it becomes equal to impossible for citizen to even travel freely from one province to another. People feel reluctant to go to some places of country due to raised hatred among them. As an illustration, the Pasni, Gujadar incident where a passenger bus was returning from Balochistan to Srinagar and brutally murdered all the natives of other province and snatched all their belongings. Not only this, the bomb

blast which further questions the basic needs of the citizens. This further results in ethnic disparity. It is required to ensure the basic rights of an individual for sustainable society.

Moreover, when a country is weakening internally then it ultimately attacks foreign influence especially from neighbouring countries. Because a strong bonding factor strengthens the country's roots but these roots are being eradicated then creates a vacuum which is ultimately filled by the opponent. For example, Rabehushan Jhadav, an Naxal agent was arrested from Balochistan ^{after spending 102} almost six years stay in the same province. This shows that any opposition can get the shelter from some places which work as a safe zone for their sustenance and accommodation. Also the arrest of Professor Usman Gazi from Balochistan on facilitating the Balochistan Liberation Party further reveals the grave situation of the province which should be considered.

and resolved politically.

This may occur due to the centralization of power to the federal, which holds a upper hand on provinces' decision making power. Some of the provinces always complain on hindering the development of the particular area by the federal government. This is evident by an example that the military operation initiated under governance of General Musharraf in Balochistan, after the death of S A Kbar Khan Bhugti and missing person cases further sidelined the provincial autonomy. The leaders of respective province have no hold on the decision and reform making procedure of the province which is being controlled by the federal. Consequently, lost confidence and trust on their leaders and leads to ethnic deprivation.

Unequal distribution of resources is another reason behind such conflict. While National Finance Commission award (NFC) is a constitutional sharing of revenue taxes

from central to the provinces on the basis of population, poverty and the density of the concerned province. It usually awarded after every five years and the numbers often fluctuate from the previous. Many provinces claimed that Punjab is developed and advanced more because most of the funds is awarded to single province, even more than its justified share.

The backwardness of Sindh and Balochistan is being alleged due to the unequal distribution. This can be supported by an example, that Sui provided natural gas to the whole country but the natives of this province are themselves deprived of this facility which creates a differences among natives of some state which should be address timely.

Not only this, the frequent power holdership from one party to another leads to a changing narrative more often. Every party and leader have their own policies and description, some followed

their party's manipulations while free of them from their own opinion as per situation and mindset of the subjects.

Many of the leaders develop a narrative considering "decade of necessity" and prioritize their personal gains over national benefit which can help them to increase their vote banks on provincial level. For instance, the Asif Ali Zardari's famous words "Pakistan Khayay" in Sindhi attracts many other political leaders in acknowledged positive manner but some create a narrative that evoke a sense of marginalization due to their linguistic difference which should be eradicated as a political parties official guidelines.

ALSO - the unresponsive and lack of accountability of state institutions neither speaks the ethnic divide within the country. The people have lost their trust and confidence on the law enforcement and decision making institutions of the country. This forces them to

Take control of such significant departments on their own. For example, the Kano-Kano incident highlights the superiority of local influential people of that area. who they were sure that they would never be held accountable on any count which ultimately proved wrong. Also the locals rely more on their officials for decision making due to the delayed and often unresponsive judiciary of the state. This can be overcome when every institution and their holders respect the stated promises and minorities of their institutions.

Moreover, the youth of our country is educated yet unemployed and it is an alarming situation which is being overlooked by the state holders. If the youth is not involved in any productive or heating activity then it ultimately involved in joblessness that would not only an individual problem but hinders country's prosperous future also.

For example, the ~~criticistic~~ narrative that was shaped through social media, formed by educated but unemployed youth which results into their apathy on electronic and social media. So, it is necessary to protect the potential of youth and invest this energy in their skill development.

For this purpose, the political stable governance is required in the country that allows a party to ~~class~~ complete their tenure and deliver more effectively in a particular manner. All other parties, especially opposition should avoid a non-confidential movement against any leader to ~~suspect~~ ^{consider} the already existing challenges through which country is facing. And these crises ~~giving~~ accelerates with the changing political dynamics of the country. For instance, political instability leads to many socio-economic and political crises which should be maintained by protecting the mandate of the people until the more

completion.

Also the eighteenth amendment of the constitution that discourage the concentration of power in few or confined to federal. And initiated the decentralization and transfer many authorities to the other provinces but still it creates many loopholes in its implementation which actually hinders the development and decision making powers of the provinces. Also the equal distribution of resources should also be considered. Every province is a part of the country and they all should be treated equally. The resource rich Balochistan should be as much developed as other country. The CPEC project that includes most of the Balochistan part should consider the consent of local and the provincial government that highlights the importance of their opinions and contributions in reforms making.

The institution of the country should also play their role as per their

guidelines and constitutions. The Election Commission of Pakistan should conduct free and fair election. The Judiciary should provide responsive and justified decisions preferring the constitution rather than the doctrine of necessity.

The law enforcement agencies should enforce law and order for every citizen and law maker should prom the law for the betterment and welfare of the country and its citizens. Also the accountable agencies like NAB, FBR should ensure transparency by exposing all the offenders under same framework.

As it takes time to create a surplus of jobs for unemployed graduates but steps should be taken to engage them in certain productive activities to enhance their innate skill and contribute in country development. The projects like TEVTA, PSDP and NAVTAC should be implemented nation wide that could be accessible for the youth of even tribal and rural areas. But a long term planning should also be introduced by encouraging

entrepreneurs to invest their resources and energies in developing their own business that provides them confidence by the stock holders on line for policies.

To conclude, ethnicity in Pakistan is not a threat to national integration.

It shapes the rich culture of the country while ethnic rivalry actually threatens the bonding pattern of the citizens to strengthen national cohesion.

This happens due to drastic shift of political regime that weakens the roots of peace and stability of the country.

Also the involvement of non-state actors in controlling the responsibilities of institution further aggravates the situation. But it should be addressed timely.

"The time to repair the roof
is when the sun is shining"

However, with collective resolve and responsible governance, Pakistan can transform its ethnic challenge into opportunity to develop national cohesion and move confidently towards a

prosperous future.