

"Honor killing in Pakistan: Date:

A Persistent Social Evil"

Outline

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement: Pakistan continues to suffer from menace of honor killing owing to socio-economic backwardness of women and fragile law enforcement leading to a tarnished image of Pakistan in the comity of nations.

2. What are factors instrumental in aggrandizing the menace of honor killing in Pakistan?

a) Association of honor with women leads to the crime.

b) Outdated tribal customs linger on leading to the persistence of the evil.

• Karo-Kari in Sindh

c) Fragile writ of state provide breeding ground for the heinous act.

d) Existence of loopholes in law provide escape to culprit fanning the fire of honor killing.

e) Penury of political will leaves the issue unaddressed.

• Musharraf's remarks on Mukhtara Mai case

g) Women's disadvantaged socio-economic standing perpetuates the conundrum.

h) Patriarchal conception of women as property results in the felony.

3. What are horrific ramifications of the crime on the people and state of Pakistan?

a) It is flagrant violation of the constitutional rights and guarantees.

b) Tarnished image of Pakistan results from the imbroglio.

c) Writ of the state is challenged.

d) It nibs in bud capabilities of women.

e) Pakistan's international obligations suffer dent owing to the crime.

4. What are some doable and implementable recommendations to weed out the social evil?

a) Getting rid of legal loopholes is the way-out.

b) Making it a policy priority is the need of the hour.

c) Uplifting women through upskilling and financial assistance is the pertinent way-forward.

d) Imparting gendersensitive education from an early age would assist in curbing the social evil.

5. Conclusion

'Essay'

Men have honor and women have shame; once she brings shame to family, the only way to clean the blot is through her blood. This is what motivated Gandel Baloch's brother to murder her in order to regain the family's glory. It is mind-boggling that

in 21st century when the world discusses progressive debates pertaining gender equality, Pakistan still struggles to save women from their own family. This heinous crime makes mockery of the constitution and mines Pakistan's image in mire. It brings the state's writ into question on the most rudimentary merit of safeguarding its citizens' lives. Moreover, women are reduced to four walls due to fear hindering their growth and potential. The pertinent question to be asked is whether ameliorating legal system provides hope of curbing the evil. Can education and upward social mobility free Pakistan from the monsters. How can policy priority help address it? In short, Pakistan continues to suffer from menace of honor killing owing to socio-economic backwardness of women and fragile law enforcement leading to a tarnished image of Pakistan in the comity of nation requiring immediate action.

"Social Media: The opium of Masses"

Date: _____

Outline

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement: Social media distracts masses from reality, hinders critical thinking and makes them pawns in the hands of high-tech elites serving as opium of masses in Marxian sense.

2. Social Media: A bird's eye view

3. How social media is a source of awareness: counter-perspective.

a) It serves as medium of political awareness.
• Arab Spring

b) Education of rights takes place due to social media.

• #MeToo Movement

c) Economic potential is realized by all and sundry owing to social media.

4. How is social media the opium of masses?

a) Social media is inherently unsuitable for awareness.

• "Amusing ourselves to Death"
by Neil Postman.

b) Masses are addicted to social media like opium.

c) Reduction in focus of people is result of social media.

d) It distracts from contextual understanding of political issues creating a mere facade of political discourse.

e) It is a platform of engineering consent of masses.

• "Manufacturing Consent" by Chomsky

f) It enriches high-tech elites at the expense of masses.

g) A utopic world is created through social media.

h) Youth suffer from mental health issues owing to addiction.

i) It distorts facts and reality

through fake news.

j) "Now... This" phenomenon of social media discourages critical thinking.

5. How can social media be made a source of awareness rather than distraction?

a) Media literacy be made part of curriculum.
• Finland's Model

b) Enhancing parental control to save future generation is the way-forward.

c) Social media platforms must be made accountable for any mal-practices of gaining attention.
• EU Legislation

d) Fostering critical thinking to judge between fact and fiction is the pertinent *modus-operandi*.
• Descartes' method of inquiry.

6. Conclusion

Marx considered religion as the opium of masses. In the modern world, social media is the opium of masses. People have become addicted to social media which has reduced their focus thus reading and critical endeavors are in decline amongst the youth. In "Brave new world" of Huxley, masses consume a drug, "soma" which make them believe in a utopic reality blurring lines between fact and fiction. Social media is the soma of the age. Meta, Twitter(X) and Instagram make billions at the expense of attention of masses. They sell their audience to corporation through personalized ads, they make buy what they want and believe the narrative which the algorithms dictate. People are reduced to echo-chamber under a false notion of free-choice. Furthermore, it has created a culture

of comparison and validation leading to severe mental health issues amongst Gen-Z.

Can media literacy assist in addressing the precarious side of social media?

How can legal system regulate social media to make it user-friendly? How would critical thinking be handy in addressing the imbroglio?

In short, social media distracts masses from reality, hinders critical thinking and makes them pawns in the hands of high-tech elites serving as opium of masses in Marxian sense.