

# Political Polarization: Governance and Society

## Outline

### ① Introduction

### ② Political polarization: A cause of weak governance

References should be more solid  
Further improve your expression

① International conflicts and rising nationalism are results of increasing political polarization.

a. Russia-Ukraine war

b. Israel-Palestine war

c. Hindutva and Jewish Zionist ideology

② Political polarization produces stalemate in legislative processes

a. Hung Parliament in Pakistan

③ Polarized leaders focus on undermining opposition leaders

a. Aimless parliamentary discussions in Pakistan

Unclear supporting detail

iv

Lack of consistency in policies leads to economic meltdown  
a. IMF Report

v

Poor enforcement of law and order in the country.  
a. Weak law and order situation in Pakistan.  
b. Case study of Argentina

3. Political polarization leads to societal disunity and disintegration.

i

It promotes extremism in the society  
a. Lynching of Sri Lankan citizen in Pakistan

ii

Upurge in sectarianism and ethnic disintegration in the society.  
a. ~~Rise~~ Revival of BLA in Pakistan.

iii

Rise in intolerance against minorities and women.

4. Conclusion

4. Way Forward to reduce polarization and improve governance.

- i Formulating strict laws against hate speeches
- ii Increasing awareness through civic education.
- iii Ensuring rights of minorities and women to promote build a healthy society.
- iv Promoting true leadership in the country to ensure harmony and peace.

## 5. Conclusion

### ESSAY

In 2018, a student was ~~been~~ brutally lynched in ~~the~~ his own university campus by his own fellows and staff community. The student, named Mashal Khan, had raised some questions about Islamic history. He was ~~outspoken~~ killed unlawfully with the blames of blasphemy. However, is it really the right approach to prosecute any person with such

blames of blasphemy. It demonstrated the intensity of extremism developed in the society of Pakistan. Political polarization is a state when leaders become self-centered and extremist. The polarized leaders engage in undermining other leaders, nations, and even they start discriminating on the basis of ethnicity and religion. The rise in international conflicts and nationalism, and upsurge in intense activities such as countless discussions in the legislative assemblies, centralized decision-making, stalemate of parliamentary decisions, and undermining of opposition leaders. Political polarization also promotes disintegration of the society, breeding grounds for sectarianism, extremism, and intolerance against minorities and women.

To counter such detrimental affects, there should be control ~~over~~ of rising polarization in the society. For instance government should formulate strict laws against hate speeches, discriminatory activities, and extremism. Hence, promotion of true leadership and stringent policies against fanaticism will promote peace and harmony in the society.

To start with, widespread international conflicts, such as Russia-Ukraine war, and Israel-Palestine conflict, Saudi-Arabia-Iran rivalry are all due to rise in polarization ~~in~~ <sup>of</sup> leaders of the world. Because of such conflicts, the world has faced long-term repercussions. These conflicts have resulted in casualties of thousands of people, their forced displacements and disappearances, and huge economic losses. There is increased nationalism in Indian leaders promoting Hindutva, and Jewish ~~for~~ Zionist leaders killing thousands of Palestinians. This shows upsurge in political polarization in the world that impacts <sup>the</sup> society in draconian way. Another example of such ideology is Kashmir issue. This issue is unresolved because of rigid and polarized behavior of Indian leadership. Therefore, most of the international conflicts in the world are because of increased polarization ~~of~~ <sup>the</sup> leaders.

In addition to the international

Conflicts, there is a stalemate in legislative assembly of Pakistan. The electoral process is ~~too~~ vague, and results of last election are still ~~under~~ discussions. It has produced a hung parliament where no ~~any~~ party with absolute majority

Avoid using strong words

a coalition government was formed. The coalition government is in power but with confusions of electoral decisions. The polarization has created divisions in the legislative bodies impacting the governance. Hence, weak governance is the result of political polarization.

In addition to this, Pakistani parliament has become a ground where polarized leaders are ~~not~~ busy in undermining the opposition and they engage in aimless talks in the parliament instead of focusing on actual problems of the country. These activities highlight the detrimental impacts of polarization in the society. Pakistani society is facing poverty, unemployment, food and water crisis, and low socio-economic status.

Instead of formulating comprehensive policies, the government is seen busy in undueing the opposition leaders. ~~and the climate conditions of Pakistan, especially Lahore and Karachi are at the state of emergency. The air quality index (AQI) indicates Lahore as one of the most populated city and it was at the top for several months.~~ **Irrelevant details** However, polarized leaders of Pakistan payed less attention to these emergency situations. Therefore, political polarization produces weak governance and compromise the safety of society.

Furthermore, political polarization leads to inconsistent policies and economic meltdown of any country. Pakistan has faced frequent changes in the government, and each government produces its own policies. Frequent changes in policies without completion of previous ones leads to heavy economic losses. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) presented a

report that Pakistan <sup>needs</sup> ~~requires~~ almost 10 trillion dollars to complete its ongoing projects. This highlights how inconsistent policies ~~the~~ weaken economy of the state. The polarized leaders strive to influence the public with their new framework. In the efforts of gaining fame and influence, the country's economy is deeply impacted. Hence, political polarization leads to deeply fragile economy.

Moreover, political polarization produces weak law and order situation in the country. When legislative bodies are divided, ~~and~~ they segregate the public as well. When such leaders can not unite on one decision, it produces chaos and confusion <sup>in the state.</sup> In this way, government loses its credibility. Then, the public has less confidence in governments' policies. One such example of polarization is Argentina's government in the United States that is segregated on the issue of constitution. Hence, the

State of America is facing weak law and order situation and social injustice. It indicates how polarized leadership plays role in weak law and order situation in the country, weakening the governance as well.

Additionally, political polarization promotes extremism in the country. The weak law and order situation in the country produce a vacuum for extremism in the society. Many such examples of extremist activities exist in the society. The lynching of Sri Lankan national in the public is an example of intense extremism. If there was law and justice, no one could have done such draconian act in the public. This indicates if the political polarization divides leadership, it produces segregation in the society on political and religious basis. Hence, it leads to extremism and violence in the society.

the polarized leaders encourage ethnic discrimination and sectarianism. Pakistan is a multi-ethnic nation. It has Sindhis, Punjabis, Balochis and Pashtuns. The Balochistan province faces discrimination in the resource distribution. The leadership from other provinces often gives less priority to this province. Hence, it is least developed with rich natural resources. The political polarization, in this way, produces ethnic divisions. It is evident from revival of Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) in the province. The Public ~~express~~ <sup>express</sup> grievances against the biased policies of the government. Similarly, polarization promotes sectarianism. The Shia-Sunni conflict is rising due to sectarian differences. In this way, political polarization leads to disintegration of the society.

In addition to this, political polarization gives rise to intolerance against minorities and women. The women of Pakistan

face several problems when they work in the public especially in the political sphere. The polarized leaders undermine women in many ways. Pakistani female political leaders often face inappropriate commentary on their attire. Similarly, minorities face issues in political and social sphere due to leaders' polarization. This intolerance ~~of~~ <sup>against</sup> women and minorities leads to weak ~~nations~~ <sup>societies</sup> and ~~and~~ fragile nations. Therefore, political polarization encourages intolerance against women and minorities.

To address the menace of political polarization, the government should formulate stringent policies against hate speeches. There must be regulation of polarized activities, and those who are involved in fueling discriminatory practices should be prosecuted. These laws and regulations will hold accountable those politicians ~~who are involved in hate~~ who promote

hate speech. It will create example for others as well. In this way, a harmonious and peaceful society will be created.

In addition to this, the government should promote civic education. There should be campaigns and seminars to aware the public regarding their rights and responsibilities. The government should promote healthy dialogue and discourage biased practices. In this way, the leaders will shift their focus from producing hate speeches to taking efficient measures for betterment of the society. The strict ~~laws~~ laws will promote better governance with enhanced ~~offer~~ accountability and transparency. Therefore

Similarly, the rights of women and minorities should be ensured. For such purpose, the government should provide safety to the women.

and minorities. Policies should be formed to encourage their participation in the political sphere. Along with this, true leadership should be promoted to ensure peace and harmony in the society. True leader is one who is free from discriminatory laws and is involved in betterment of the society. Pakistan lacks true leadership, therefore, it is facing weak governance and disintegrated societies. It is a dire need of the hour that true leadership should be promoted to ensure a prosperous and peaceful state.

To conclude, political polarization is ~~the~~ a menace and a serious threat to the governance and the society. Good governance and better society can't be achieved with political polarization. It is responsible for widespread international conflicts and wars. Years long war in Ukraine - Russia highlights rise in

polarized leaders who do not prioritize peace and harmony. Similarly, Pakistan is facing weak governance and low-socio-economic status due to polarized leadership.

The stalemate of legislative body and

frequent efforts of undermining the opposition ~~to~~ demonstrate polarized nature of the politicians.

They involve in frequent transitions of policies leading to the economic meltdown of the country.

Similarly, polarized leaders promote extremism, sectarianism, and ethnic discrimination leading to the disintegration of the society.

The government should produce strict laws and regulations against hate speeches. They should promote civic education with public campaigns.

In addition to this, the government must ensure safety and rights of women and minorities. Healthy dialogues and true leaderships will produce

strong nations, otherwise, such countries will lag behind in the world embroiled in conflicts produced by polarized politicians.