

15 Jan 2025

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Topic: Are the Objectives of Globalization Inclusive?
- Outline -

A. Introduction

- a. From the era of liberal democracy to the era of de-globalisation : A criticism on Fukuyama's "End of History and the Last Man"
- b. Globalization is a panacea for all the "ills and underdevelopment"
- c. Thesis Statement.

B. The Objectives of Globalization;

- (i) To stimulate the economic growth.
- (ii) To expand markets for goods and services (Coca Cola's global reach)
- (iii) To facilitates the spread of technology and innovation across borders (Silicon valley and global tech-hub)
- (iv) To improve people's standards of living.

C. How the Objectives of Globalization are not Inclusive;

1. Neo-Imperialism; A new form of globalization;
 - a. In his book "Heart of Darkness", Joseph Conrad has given the concept of White man's burden.
 - b. The concept of 'othering' given by Edward Said in his book

~~Colonialism~~

2. Role of IMF in the failing globalised world ;

a. Criticism on International Financial Institutions (IFIs) given by John Perkins in his book "The Confessions of an Economic Hitman"

b. '99 Globalization Failing US', Joseph Stiglitz, a prominent economist, has given the concept of political, economic & cultural, and military globalization.

3. The concentration of wealth and resources by the elite class and the exploitation of working class amid poor working conditions ;

a. Oxfam reports only 1% of wealth captured by wealthy elites.

b. The incident of Bhopal Junction represented in the movie "The Railway Men", left hundreds of people dead

c. The shell's oil drilling operations in the Nigeria's Niger Delta region.

4. Rising income inequalities, exacerbating food insecurity, unemployment rate, and unprecedented rise of poverty issues ;

a. Case studies: Phillipines, Argentina, ^{and} Bangladesh

b. lower wages in the garment

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industry of Bangladesh

c. In Kenya farmers are compelled to grow cash crops

5. Challenging national sovereignties;

a. The American Fellen, Trump's sinister expansionist designs to seize control of Greenland and Panama Canal.

b. The U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003 and Afghanistan after 9/11

c. ~~Brave~~ interference in the domestic politics of other countries

6. Dismal of local values due to western cultural imperialism, engulfing the world;

a. The concept of ~~cultural~~ assimilation as a form of cultural imperialism given by **Frantz Fanon** in his book "Black Skin, white Masks"

b. The concept of "unhomeliness and dislocation of identity" portrayed in his influential work "The location of culture" by Homi K. Bhabha

7. Intensifying hate speech, xenophobia, against Muslims through social media platforms and growing individual alienation

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from society ;

- a. Meta has abandoned third-party fact checking on social media platforms such as 'X'
- b. **Havasi** in his book "**21 Lessons for the 21st Century**", reiterated the idea of disappearing traditional communities in today's globalized world
8. **Cyber Security Challenges and its disproportionate impact on less-developed countries due to lack of resources**;

- a. Report by WFP's "**Global Cyber Security Outlook 2025**"

9. The disproportionate impact of climate change on vulnerable nations ;

- a. COP-29 failed to agree on \$1.3 trillion climate finance, agreed for only \$300bn

10. **Gender Discrimination in the globalized world ;**

- a. WFP's "**Gender Pay Gap Report**", 2024; women earn 20% less than men globally

- b. Exploitation of women during the industrialisation era

(11) Globalization failed to maintain ^{universal} peace and infringed human rights ;

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- a. UN's failure to ensure ceasefire in "Gaza-Israel" war
- b. The Expansionist agenda of Israel backed up by the U.S.
- c. Division among the Muslim communities and failure of OIC.

12. Unequal access to technology and exacerbating jobs polarization, deepening economic disparities from within and between countries;

- a. the concept of "Silicon Curtain" given by Harari in his book "Nexus"
- b. The spectacular rise of China; cheap labour "Elephant Curve"
- c. Kishore Mahboobani, in his 2008 book "The New Asian Hemisphere: The Irresistible Shift of Global Power to the East", argued the 21st century will witness serious challenge to western commerce.

D. Why the objectives of globalization are considered Inclusive - (A Country Perspective)

1. The assistance of International Financial Institutions (IFI's) are helping countries to stabilise their foreign exchange reserves
2. Scholarships for all - rising global education standards
3. Poverty reduction and generation

of employment opportunities
 E. Re-asserting the stance that Globalization is indeed an Agent Behind Growing Exclusion

F. Ways to Turn Globalisation into an Equalising force ;

(i) Skilling, reskilling, and dealing with job displacements

(ii) Financial Markets that work for all (The Declaration TRIPS Agreement and Public Health)

(iii) Increasing fair competition, avoiding crony capitalism that work for all

(iv) Fostering a new era of international cooperation (UNDR - 1948 by UN)

G. Conclusion

with the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989 and the demise of the Soviet Union in 1991, a new concept of globalisation entered the world's political consciousness. The cold war had ended, and a unipolar world emerged with the US as its centre. Analysts predicted that the world would be one global village with a high level of interdependence between economies and cultures, and freer flows of goods, services, finance, and people. Some analysts declared the victory of the liberal democratic order and

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and market economies. Francis Fukuyama in his famous 1989 article 'End of History' asserted that the evolution of political science had culminated in the triumph of liberal democracy and market economies over competing political systems. There were euphoric expectations that the globalised world would benefit rich and poor nations alike because of interdependence. Thomas Friedman in his 2005 book 'The World is Flat', noted that in the globalised world, historical and geographical divisions would gradually become irrelevant, and with a level playing field, traders would compete in a global market. This notion of Friedman's is true. Globalization is perhaps the most widely discussed, sometime contested phenomenon of our time. Moreover, it is widely believed that globalisation is a panacea for all the 'ills' and underdevelopment. The growing size of pie does not ensure that everyone will get his or her piece of pie. The rules of the game for globalisation are unequal in construct, and inequitable in outcomes. Today, we see many of the same things although not identical. The concept of globalisation is like the neo-colonialism across the world, leading to the ^{emerging} markets has all dried up. Debt default is becoming a reality. Unemploy-

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Context
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ment is on the rise and global economy is in recession. Multi-National Corporations (MNC's) are extracting the resources of the poor countries, often on the expense of workers' health. The technology sector is in shambles, creating disparities among the countries.

However, ~~the~~ many people think that globalisation has more significance in terms of global integrated economies, peaceful cooperations, educational benefits, people to people interaction that has also generated employment opportunities worldwide.

But the practicality of this fact lies much different than it seems to be.

~~In addition, globalization continues to exert its destabilizing and often unqualizing effects.~~

There is the need for mutually supporting economies and equal rising of all the states.

To sum, although globalisation has integrated world economies, reduced poverty levels, and increased employment opportunities, yet its objectives lack inclusivity in the political, social, economic, technological, and environmental domains, rising to disastrous unqualizing effects; necessitating the need for global mutual cooperation.

Firstly, globalisation has been considered a new form of colonialism in this contemporary era. On the

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context of International Relations, the term "Neo-Imperialism" is used for it. During colonialism, the country used to physically impose its will onto another country by going there, but today a country can be dictated through surveillance systems alone. In his book "The Heart of Darkness", Joseph Conrad ^{has} explained this phenomenon very critically by giving the concept of "white-men's burden". He ~~had~~ ^{had} the view that the whites, considered themselves more civilized, came to the African countries and manipulated the minds of the people by wishing them that they were there to civilise them by making them just like the whites. In such case, they exploited their resources, brutally made use of them in the form of labourers. ~~The same globalised~~ ⁱⁿ concept can be applied even ⁱⁿ today's world. as the powerful countries still exploit the resources of the less-developed countries. Similarly, the concept of "othering" given by Edward Said in his book 'Orientalism' is a practical reality of the 21st century. Said highlights how orientalism divides the world into binaries: the rational, civilised West versus the irrational, barbaric East.

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This process of "othering" dehumanises Eastern societies, portraying them as mysterious, dangerous, and incapable of self-governance. While globalisation promises inclusive objectives to adopt, the practical reality shows that its objectives are exclusive in nature.

Secondly, the goal of International Financial Institutions (IFI's) in this globalised world is also not inclusive. It has further strained the economies of the developing and under-developed world, hindering their growth and sustainable development. In his book, "The Confessions of an Economic Hitman", John Perkins has asserted that the Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAP's) proposed by IMF (International Monetary Fund), a global financial institution, has further constrained the macro-economic growth of countries, causing economic instability. For instance, countries like Pakistan have fallen under the debt trap of these financial institutions. Pakistan had \$130 billion debt; however, it had to pay \$190 billion. Joseph Stiglitz also has also criticised the "one-size fits for all" approach of IMF, its generic guidelines to the economies

facing different problems. Also, its flawed surcharge policy as such institutions made the countries to pay additional money so that they are unable to repay and fall into the debt-trap of IMF. Joseph Stiglitz in his book "Is Globalization

Failing us?" has discussed the pitfalls of IMF during the time of East Asian Crisis 1997-98, the fall of Soviet Union, and the Global Financial Crisis, 2008. By introducing the term 'conditionality' in 1980's 'Washington's consensus', countries like Thailand went for severe devaluation of its currency. In addition, IMF has pulled its hands off from the time of global economic recession of 2008. To conclude, the International Financial Institutions' objectives are also not inclusive in today's globalised world.

Furthermore, globalisation has also failed to uphold its promise of inclusivity as it has empowered wealthy nations and Multi-National Corporations (MNCs) to exploit the natural resources of the poor countries on the expense of their health conditions. The poor working conditions provided to the workers of the developing countries by the wealthy

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elites have not only compromised their health, but also exacerbated the poverty levels by providing low wages as compare to the load of work they ^{have} done. This has benefited only ^{1 percent} powerful elite group who has captured the wealth of the 99 percent of the total global population, according to **Oxfam report**. Similarly, in the movie, "**The Railway Men**", the gas explosion of the Bhopal Junction has left hundreds of people dead including factory workers, village population, and the people waiting at the railway station. This deadly incident has taken place because of the ill-attitude of the wealthy English owners towards the working conditions ^{they} set for Indian workers. Similarly, the **Shell's oil drilling operations** in the Nigeria's Niger Delta region, has for decades, extracted billion of dollars worth of oil, yet the region remained mired in poverty, environmental degradation, and violence. Thus, globalisation's lack of inclusivity is evident in the exploitation of developing economies by big corporations.

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So far the essay has presented the claim the globalisation has unequalizing effects due to its lack of inclusive approach in different domains; there is another side of the story that challenges this notion by claiming the inclusive approach of globalisation in the 21st century.

While globalisation has been considered a major cause of the stagnating economies of the developing countries, most people think that the global financial institutions such as IMF, WTO, and WIZ have pushed the economies towards their macro-economic stabilisation. For instance, countries like Iceland and Sri Lanka have improved their structural policies and ultimately paved their ways towards sustainable progress. In such case, globalisation in its ~~even~~ integrated economic approach has benefited most countries to achieve their economic progress during the time of their financial crisis.

Moving forward, it is because of the globalisation's inclusive objectives that assisted most nations to improve their

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educational standards. For instance, most developing countries are helped by the international private universities to make their educational standards up to the mark as per the need for the today's job-market. Financial Assistance by the developed countries also help such states to improve their educational standards and ensure the hundred percent literacy rate. For instance, global primary school enrollment rates has reached over 90% with many developing nations achieving near-universal access to primary education. Therefore, scholarships programmes, improved enrollment rates globally, and improved curriculum in the developing countries proves the fact that globalisation has succeeded in its inclusive objective.

It is true that globalisation has improved the living standards of the people, ensured people to people interaction, and improved education system. However, the reality is different. Today, the world is moving towards the era of de-globalisation. with

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Technology in shambles, exacerbating the jobs polarization within the developed and developing countries. The Globalisation has resulted into the Global Financial Crisis of 2008^{and} East Asian Crisis in which many countries witnessed their economies moving in default. Although, the Financial Institutions has improved the Foreign exchange reserves, but the flawed rigid conditionalities of IMF has constrained the social development of many countries. The neo-imperialist nature of western economies only exploit the resources of the less-developed nations under the -disguised- form of liberalisation of trade. Similarly, it has further aggravated the cyber security challenges due to unequal access of the resources between the developed and the developing nations. Also, it has heightened the poverty levels and employment, leaving the people of developing nations more vulnerable. Moreover, there are many other factors which are the testimony to the fact that globalisation lacks the inclusive approach, benefiting only the wealthy elites while leaving the poor nations in vulnerable conditions.

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The above discussion came to the need for turning the globalisation into an equalising force. First, to mitigate globalisation's negative effects and capitalize on its advantages, international governance must be reformed in the fields of trade, data and technology, finance, tax and climate change. There is a dire need to invest in life-long learning to retain, retool, and reskill - perhaps ^{providing} grants to individuals for training throughout their working lives in the form of Individual Skill Accounts; providing adequate public resources to support effective active labour market policies (ALMPs). There should be a stronger private sector involvement in trainings and skill development. The public education must be improved with an emphasis on genuine skills acquisition to meet the changing needs of the labour force. Second, there must be a robust policy change in the financial markets that will work for all equally. The declaration of an TRIPS Agreement and Public Health is one such step. The policies made by International Financial Institutions such as IMF, WTO, and WB should

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benefit all equally by formation of flexible policies as per the demand of economic situation of a country facing economic stagnation. ~~Third, there must~~ be coordinate efforts to deal with the crony capitalism and wealth capturing by the power elites by ensuring the fair competition in the global supply chains. ~~Moreover, lifting~~ ~~barriers to~~ entry to ensure competitive markets, including high-tech industries, facilitating technology transfer is crucial for inclusive growth. ~~The~~ last but not the least is the need to foster a new era of international cooperation. Countries must sit together and resolve the global issues ~~such as terrorism,~~ ~~climate change, violence,~~ genocidal campaigns occur during wars, to ensure the global peace and prosperity that which is inclusive in nature.

In a nutshell, globalisation has changed people's life and nations' economy. At its very beginning, its sole aim was to reduce wealth inequalities, but its outcome was totally opposite; the wealth inequality actually increased. Not only in the economic domain, but also created inequalities in social, cultural,

political, environmental, and technological domains. However, ~~one~~ some people might believe that globalisation is much more significant in today's era as it has turned the world into a 'global village', ~~as has~~ created many job opportunities, pushed the nations to trade transfer, deeper and cheaper, ~~improved the economic stabilisation with the help of financial institutions, and people to~~ people interaction in improving educational standards, cultural assimilation, and more interconnectedness. However, the ~~mentioned~~ aforementioned facts are valid in some sense but the actual practical reality seems different as the globe is moving towards de-globalisation. Countries emitting less carbon emissions are more prone to the vulnerabilities of climate change with the lack of financial assistance by those emitting much higher. Similarly, gender wage gap is exacerbating at the unprecedented level. Globalisation in the form of cultural imperialism by the powerful states is another fault stating its exclusive nature. ~~These~~ Also, there has been immense technological disparities between the developed and the

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developing world, resulting in the cyber-security challenges faced by countries with scarcity of resources. Therefore, in a recent speech on social justice, British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown had rightly observed that the issue is not whether we should have globalization or not. It is how well or badly, fairly or unfairly we manage globalization. Hence the burdens and blessings of globalization should be shared and managed through open democratic, transparent, and participatory multilateralism. If globalization is not made to work for everyone then it might not work for anyone. The challenge is to manage globalization for the benefit of all. Either we all win or we all lose. Choice is ours to make.

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The End