

Brain storming

Challenges

Weak Institutional framework

→ Poor Coordination

→ Lack of funding

→ Community Awareness

→ Climate Shift
pattern

Way forward

→ Strengthen Institutions

→ Family warning
systems

→ Capacity building

→ Public Awareness

→ Tech Adaptation

→ Use of Int
Forums

20/10/25

NOA Mock Exam "English Essay"

Topic:

Disaster Management in Pakistan:
Challenges and Way Forward.

① Outline

① Introduction:

1.1 → Understanding ~~the~~ Disaster Management

1.2 → Thesis Statement

② Challenges:

2.1 → Weak institutional framework

2.2 → Lack of coordination among departments

2.3 → Poor Early warning systems

2.4 → Insufficient Funding

2.5 → Community Awareness

2.6 → Climate Change & Environmental degradation.

③ Impacts:

3.1 → Human losses

3.2 → Economic Crisis

3.3 → Agricultural & Infrastructure destruction

④ Way forward:

4.1 → Strengthening Institutions (NDMA)

4.2 → Investment in early warning and data systems

4.3 → Capacity building and training at local level

4.4 → Public Awareness

4.5 → Adaption of Technology (GIS & RS)

4.6 → Climate Resilient Infrastructure

4.7 → International Cooperation & fundings.

(5)

Conclusion.

(2)

Introduction:

Disaster Management has become the most ~~important~~ urgent need of time in Pakistan. The recent floods and their devastating impacts clearly highlights the country's weak institutional capacity, poor coordination among relevant departments, lack of early warning systems, improper fundings, and regions increasing vulnerability to climate change. These shortcomings have resulted in massive human as well as economic losses, with displacement of millions of people and destroying of their livelihoods as by products. To counter these challenges, Pakistan must strengthen the concerned department; National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), improve infrastructure, develop early warning systems, community awareness and local trainings, ~~adaptation~~ adaptation as well as integration of modern technology, and implementing of climate resilience policies with help of international platforms and fundings.

Thesis Statement:

This essay discusses the major

challenges in disaster management and outlines the way forward, with particular focus on the most recurring disaster in Pakistan - floods.

③ Challenges:

One of the major challenges in disaster management in Pakistan is the weak institutional framework. Although the NDMA and similar provincial bodies exist, they often lack coordination and authority to implement policies effectively. For instance, during the 2022 floods, the rescue operation delayed due to confusion of responsibilities between PDMA and NDMA, also affecting the efficient use of resources. Moreover, the absence of strong disaster management plans at district level further weakens the response system. Unless these concerned institutions are strengthened with their presence of responsible individuals, trained staff and adequate fundings, country's disaster management capacity will remain fragile.

Another major challenge in disaster management is the lack of coordination among government agencies. Despite presence of multiple government bodies like PDMA, NDMA, local agencies, district administration, their role and efforts seems to overlap, delaying the rescue and relief operations further. ~~Such incidents~~ During flood 2022,

poor coordination between civil and military departments led to delayed evacuation in ~~this~~ flood hit areas of Balochistan and Sindh. Furthermore, the absence of unified command system means the resources are not efficiently distributed to the most affected areas leaving flood victims empty handed. So, strengthening inter-agency coordination with integration of central command structure as well as updated real-time information sharing is essential to ensure a swift and effective disaster response.

• Further discussing the lack of coordination, then it's just not limited to government institutions, but also among the ~~&~~ cross provincial governments and their poor cooperation. The recent past blame games of Sindh and Punjab executives are the testimony of how the ~~govern~~ public representatives want credits from their respective provinces. Sindh wants Punjab to acknowledge their BISP initiative which they used to provide relief to flood victims. But Punjab denies any such usage of mechanism and responded to make ~~any~~ new mechanism. Such arguments among the provincial executives are only to earn and improve their political image and leaving public bare handed. So, such conflicts among the provinces must be avoided ~~to go~~ for personal gains and dealt with cooperation.

A persistent challenge in Pakistan's Disaster management is the shortage of funds and if present then lack of accountability. Disaster preparedness and mitigation are of the lowest priority in our national and provincial budgets, with most of the funds being diverted only after disaster occurs. For instance, despite recurring floods of 2010 and 2022, we didn't learn any lessons and let pass the disaster without improving our infrastructure and drainage bodies. This non-serious attitude resulted in another devastating flood of 2025, which could have been prevented if proper flood resilient infrastructure were constructed during the past rehab period. So, Adequate and consistent funding ~~is therefore~~ and policies implementation is essential to shift from emergency relief to proactive disaster risk reduction in Pakistan.

Another critical weakness in Pakistan's disaster management is related to preparedness and response capacity. Let's discuss the lack of early warning systems coupled with low public awareness. Both of these weaknesses compliment each other very well, for instance if we look at the swat valley incident during the flood 2025, it clearly shows that early warning system is of how much importance. The family stranded in the middle of river with waves of water passing by, swept away like them.

nothing. The 25 lives could have been saved if any single one of ~~them~~ the either workers were present. If early warning system was not present then the awareness could have saved them from such incident, but unluckily not a single family member as well as locals around them warned ~~them~~ the group if such catastrophe and they remained busy enjoying the meal without bothering for a single minute unless water surrounded them leaving no ~~space to~~ room of survival. So, this lack of ~~over~~ awareness amplifies the damage once disaster occurs.

Strengthening early warning systems, ensuring timely communication and promotion of disaster education through schools, media and public gatherings can significantly reduce the human as well as economic losses.

Last but not least, climate change has emerged as one of the most serious challenges resulting in disasters in Pakistan. Although we are less than 1% of contributors to global GHG, but ranked in the top 10 countries most vulnerable to climate change catastrophes. Rising temperature, glacier melting in up north have intensified floods, at the same time period of droughts and heat waves across the entire length. Meanwhile, the supporting factors of such disasters also include unplanned globalization, deforestation and poor waste management, so addressing these

issues at national level as well as international forums are required to restore environmental ~~disproportion~~ balance ~~environmental~~ with rapid increasing temperature.

④ Impacts:

All of these challenges results in weak disaster management system in Pakistan with devastating social and economic losses as well as human lives. Repeated floods, earthquakes and draughts have caused large scale loss of human lives, displacement of millions and destruction of homes and infrastructure. The 2022 floods alone affected 33 million people with loss of more than 30bn\$. The devastation of recent 2025 floods are yet to be calculated but a rough estimate is also in millions of victims and billions of economic losses to people and state.

Agriculture - the back bone of country suffers most each time, leading to food insecurity and unemployment. In addition frequent disasters increase poverty, diseases outbreaks and psychological trauma among affecteds. Furthermore, the displacement of such large number of people to other areas results in increased crime and unplanned settlements. These all cumulative effect is a heavy burden on the national economy and a setback to sustainable development goals.

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Way forward:

Having understood the challenges and their far reaching impacts, it becomes essential to identify practical steps for improvement. Effective disaster management in Pakistan now demands a proactive and coordinated approach that emphasizes preparedness, resilience and long term planning rather than reactive relief operations.

To ensure effective disaster management we must adopt a proactive, coordinated and climate resilient approach.

First, the NDMA and provincial bodies should be strengthened through legal authority, technical expertise and decentralization to the district level. Institutional coordination must be improved by establishing an integrated command and communication system among federal, provincial and local agencies.

Second Investment in Early warning systems and data technologies is vital. Use of modern forecasting tools, satellite monitoring, GIS (Geo Information System) and RS (Remote Sensing) should be in practice to ensure timely alerts and local level communication.

Along side this, we must learn from Japan how they made the earthquake evaluation and procedure training the mandatory at school and professional level to minimize the most recurring natural disaster effects. So we should also, start campaigns through schools, madressas, masjids which can enhance preparedness and reduce panic during crisis.

There is sustainable infrastructure and urban planning, flood resilient infrastructures, drainage improvements and controlled urban expansions.

Furthermore, the international cooperation plays a central role. Pakistan should actively engage with global climate initiatives and fulfill its NDC's under Paris agreement to attract green financing and technology transfer. Partnerships with UN, World Bank and Neighboring countries can support regional early warning systems, knowledge exchange and capacity building.

In, essence Disaster Management in Pakistan require shift, shift from a reactive mindset to a preventive one - with strong institutions, climate adaptation and international bodies cooperation for a safer, sustainable and resilient future.