

CAN WOMEN BE EQUAL TO MEN Date: _____

IN PAKISTAN?

OUTLINE:-

1. Introduction:
 - 1.1 Hook
 - 1.2 General Statement
 - 1.3 Thesis ~~Statement~~ Statement
2. Significance of Women's Equality in Pakistan
3. Women can be equal to men in Pakistan in navigating their personal life.
4. Women can be equal to men in deciding educational path
Case in point: Haripur's 5 ~~SPs~~ sisters
5. Women can be equal to men in initiating their own business
Case in point: Sana Safinaz and Maria B.
6. Women can be equal to men in Politics
Case in point: Benazir Bhutto and Mariam Nawaz
7. ~~Pakistan~~ Women can be equal to men in ^{getting jobs} jobs
8. Women can be equal to men in sports industry
Case in point: current captain of Pakistan women's cricket team, Bismah Maroof

9. Women can be equal to men in social welfare
case in point: Women Rights Activist, Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy

10. Women can be equal to men in litigation and advocacy
case in point: Supreme Court Judge, Justice Ayeshah A. Malik

11. Counter Argument:- Women can not be equal to men in Pakistan

11.1 Still men dominance and Patriarchy

11.2 Rebuttal: Quota based system in government sector and in competitive exams, requirement of at least 1 woman in Board of Directors in private companies as per SECP.

12. Conclusion

"No nation can rise to the height of glory unless your women are side by side with you."

Muhammad Ali Jinnah. After the independence in 1947, founder of Pakistan mentioned this statement in his address. This quotation highlights the importance of women's equality in Pakistan. Women, who once used to be buried alive in the dark ages, have struggled a lot for their basic rights.

Women were considered as inferior than men in multiple societies and regions. Thanks to those series of revolutions, that not only brought men rights but also provided equal chance to

women in every sphere of life from their ~~basic~~ personal lives to ground fields women are almost successful in ~~their lives~~. Unfortunately, underdeveloped countries and unprivileged areas women are still suffering, just like Afghanistan and remote areas of Pakistan, ^{they are deprived} from the basic rights and ^{unequal treatments} ~~their are~~ ~~treated unequal~~. International human rights organisations are working painstakingly to reduce ^{the} ~~their~~ gap and offer equal chances ~~of~~ to women so that inequality between women and men do not prevail. Therefore, this essay will explore about the significance of women's equality in Pakistan at first. Moving forward, it will discuss about women can be equal in Pakistan in navigating their personal life, deciding their favourite educational path, initiating their own business, can be part of politics, can do jobs, participate in sports industry, work in social welfare program, ~~and~~ and lastly women can be equal in litigation and advocacy. At the end, ~~rebutting~~ the argument that women ^{can} ~~do not have~~ be equal to men in Pakistan because of male dominance and patriarchy. Rebutting that ^{with} ~~which~~ quota-based system, and ^{compulsory} requirement ^{beg of} ~~the~~ Security Exchange of Pakistan in the organisations.

~~Be~~ To begin with, women's equality in Pakistan is fundamentally important and crucial. As according to Pakistan census 2023, 49% ~~approx~~ ^{approx} ~~minimal~~ approximately of Pakistan's total population

consist of women. Mainstreaming women^{is} not only just a matter of justice but also a necessity for Pakistan's social, economic and political progress. Countless of women are performing astonishingly in their lives apart from their personal lives. Some of them are successful entrepreneurs, politicians and sports women. Such women inspire other girls and succeeding generations to take stance for themselves in their life. ~~They~~ Improving Pakistan's standing internationally by showing and adhering commitment to human rights and modern development goals like Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, women's equality in Pakistan is significant as it ~~also~~ motivates other women and creates better global image.

Firstly, women are equal to men in deciding and navigating their personal life in Pakistan. Women have equal chance to decide their life partners, marry late, establish careers and have opportunity to travel around the world without spouse, brother and father. Pakistan's constitution and state do not bound women ~~are~~ from any angle of life. Women are allowed to do whatever they want unless it is not against the ^{sanctity} ~~sanctity~~ of state and harming others. ~~Car~~ Help of women drives the car, ~~stands~~ the ~~right~~ sides the bike and cycle. Women have freedom in Pakistan. Thus, having equal chances to men.

Secondly, there is no criteria which can restrict women to in deciding their educational path. All the disciplines in education sector are open to women. Admission in colleges and universities is conducted on competency not on gender bases. There is quota system in ~~all~~ all competitive exams to give equal chance to both genders. The quintessential example is Haripur's five sher sisters, ~~also~~ ~~qualified~~ these five sisters qualified the competitive exam without any references, or any ~~ambiguity~~ ambiguity. This ensures that women have equal chance in education as men and women are allowed to decide their favorite educational trajectory.

Thirdly, women are allowed to run the business. At innumerable festivals, women run stalls and carts. Every year more than 80% of the businesses are owned by women in Karachi Eat Festival and Soul fest. With that, women are encouraged to register their own brand and business in SECP that help women to acquire loans and subsidies by the government. When businesses are registered under SECP, it becomes easy for government to monitor and regulate ^{any} the business. ~~Women~~ In case of trademark, patent and copyrights violation women can easily file a suit against the ~~accused~~ accused. Sana Safinaz and Maria B are the one of successful business women who had set precedent that women

can do entrepreneurship successfully. This also motivates home-based ~~or~~ business to effectively ~~run~~ operate their business. & clearly, successful businesses by women ~~aspect~~ showcase that women are equal to men in business sector.

Benazir Bhutto and Mariam Nawaz are the leaders who proved that women can be in politics. After burning midnight oil, Benazir Bhutto became first woman Prime Minister of Pakistan and currently Mariam Nawaz is serving first ^{women} Chief Minister of Punjab. This highlights that women can also participate and have equal chance in politics as well. Just like minority reserved seats, women's seats are also reserved with 20 per cent representation in each house of parliament. ~~Women~~ ^{women} are having drive, enthusiasm and eagerness to be part of politics, women can ^{be} representative in the parliament. Hence, women ^{can} ~~be~~ in ~~politic~~ politics and have equal chance as men.

According to Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) data showed in early 2021 that over 58% of Pakistani listed companies had women on their boards. Private businesses and limited companies hire women ~~for~~ in order to ensure inclusive of women in their organisation. With women, companies ~~become~~ code of conduct is strictly followed. Companies prefer to hire women staff. ^{20% share} First like Habib Bank Limited (HBL) is following fifty-fifty ratio of women and

men staff ~~that~~ in their ~~or~~ whole organisation. So much so that, it is their policy of having 50:50 men to women participation and representation in their company. Moreover, ~~the~~ Human Resource department of companies ~~earlier~~ candidate is competent ~~than~~ regardless of ~~their~~ gender. Therefore, women can be equal to men in job employment if they are competent.

Have you ever seen a woman playing any sports in broad daylight? The answer can be no because of ~~sex~~ ~~or~~ culture and norms of the Pakistani society. But still many women are ~~even~~ breaking the stereotypes. ~~such~~ Countable number of women are taking part in sports industry such as hockey, ~~cricket~~ as cricket and football. Bismah Maroof is the current captain of Pakistan's women cricket team. Setting examples like these, ~~with~~ women can be equal to men when social norms and cultures are sidelined by women.

~~So~~ Equity in social welfare is the seventh goal where women can be equal to ~~women~~ men. Countless women have contributed their significant work in social welfare. Malala Yousafzai, Parveen Rehman, ~~and~~ Bilquis Eddi are some of those women. A social activist who highlighted highlighted issue like honor killing and acid attacks through her documentaries, Sharmeen

Ghazal-ching contributed her excel work in the social welfare ⁱⁿ of Pakistani society. There are women who proved that women can be equal to men in Pakistani society in the realm of social welfare.

lastly, women can be equal to men if she choose ~~her~~ ^{career} ~~careers~~ in litigation and advocacy. ~~she can~~ women can get chance to enroll in any bar court and present case in the courtroom. women can be civil and criminal judge if she qualified the respective exam. Justice Ayesha A. Malik created an example when she became supreme court judge. she ensured that women can be advocate, and judge after the qualifying exam. Rest of women can follow her steps and create a goodwill in the judiciary as well. Ergo, women can be equal to men in judiciary also.

Women can ^{not} ~~do~~ be, however, equal to men in Pakistan, because majority of women believes and witness that Pakistan is still patriarchal society and everywhere they encounter is male dominance. As per Global Gender Gap Ranking, Pakistan ranked at bottom in WEF Gender report 2025. This stats undermines broad systemic inequality across Pakistan in economy, politics, education and health dimensions. To combat this dominance, government had already introduced quota-based system in the government sectors and in competitive ^{exams.} ~~sectors~~ Furthermore, to reduce patriarchy, SECP, on the

directives of states had made a compulsory requirement of at least one female or ~~the~~ one-third female in board of directors and fifty-fifty ratio of men and women in job employment. Therefore, these quota based system and SECP requirement ensure that women ~~can~~ be equal to men in Pakistan.

To cap it all, if women are equal to men in every aspect of life, then Pakistan ^{would} ~~can~~ flourish. Women are equal to men, but ~~the~~ other factors such as political instability and economic ~~instability~~ uncertainty have sidelined the women's equality in Pakistan. Legally, the constitution already ensures ~~equality~~ equality as per Article 25, which grants women right to education, property, inheritance, and dignity. If 49% of the population is ~~can~~ not consider equal then Pakistan will face persistent economic instability. Awareness campaigns ~~can~~ among the masses must be provided about women's equality because equality is not just about right for women, it's about national progress as no country can rise if half its population is held back. Thus, this essay shed lights on significance of women's equality and then ~~raised~~ ~~can~~ pin pointed women ~~can~~ ^{be} equal to men in their personal life, ~~educational~~ education, business, politics, sports, social welfare, advocacy, and ~~every~~ ^{counter} argument about male dominance and patriarchy that was rebutted by quota-system and SECP's compulsory requirement.