

# GHANI KAKAR

## TOPIC: Water Crisis in Pakistan

### Outline:

#### A. Introduction

1. General statement:

A woman belonging to Thar confronted harassment to bring water from distant place

2. What does it mean by water crisis

3. Thesis statement:

Indeed, water crisis is an undeniable phenomenon in Pakistan. Its drivers, impacts and wayforwards will portray this fact.

#### B. Causes of Water Crisis in Pakistan

1. Constant violation of Indus Water Treaty by India;

a. Constructions of dams on Western rivers

b. Obstructs flow of water

2. Absence of dams;

a. Minimum dams and water reservoirs in Pakistan

b. Government's apathy to build dams

~~3. Provincial discord;~~

3. Politicization of water issue;

a. Water crisis is manipulated by politicians

b. Politicians little concerned about masses

4. Government's negligence;

a. Lack of appropriate policy for water preservation

b. Water sustenance not prioritized by the government

### C. Implications of Water Crisis in Pakistan

1. Escalate wars between India and Pakistan;

a. Water stoppage from India's hand can prompt Pakistan for conflict

b. Case in point: Prediction of expert about future wars on water

2. Deteriorates agriculture sector;

a. Minimizes production

b. Snatches livelihood from youth working in fields

3. Enhances urbanization;

a. Affected people migrate to cities

b. Increases burden on meager resources of cities against ample population

4. Weakens national integration;

a. Provinces shift blame on one another for water theft.

b. Case in point: The emergence of discord on canals issue recently

5. Devastates industries;

a. Farmers demands from industries vanish

b. Results in the shift of industries

### D. Way forwards to Handle Water Crisis in Pakistan

1. Construction of dams;

a. Pakistan has capacity of 750 dams

b. Addressal of Kalabagh issue

2. Public awareness;

a. Inclusion of media and institutions in awareness

campaign about water's importance

b. Equipping students with water's importance

3. Diplomatic measures;

a. Prompting World Bank to ensure preservice of Indus Water Treaty

b. Approaching concerned forums for appraisal against India's violation

### E. Conclusion

Hence, Pakistan is faced with the misery of water crisis. Only sincere eagerness from Pakistan's hand can mitigate this threat.

## ESSAY

A woman in Thar confronted harassment while bringing water from a distant place. She informed her family about the incident. Her family and tribe went to take revenge of her breached esteem. This culminated in a detrimental fight between the two tribes. This unfortunate event exposes the vulnerability of Pakistani women owing to emerging water scarcity in Pakistan. Water scarcity means the absence or dearth of required water. There exists numerous reasons for water scarcity in Pakistan. The violation of Indus Water Treaty is the major one. India is reluctant to endorse Pakistan's share in water as per the agreed provisions of the treaty. The absence of dams and reservoirs have worsened this scarcity - likewise, there seems no consensus

among the provinces  
for the addressal  
of this issue. Pakistan  
is bearing the brunt  
of this phenomenon in  
multiple ways. Its  
agriculture is witnessing  
unprecedented setback. There  
exists a constant  
hazard of war  
between India and  
Pakistan on this  
impasse. Its other  
repercussion are also  
not negligible. Therefore,  
there must be immediate  
measures in this regard.  
The government should  
apprise the people  
about water importance.  
The government should  
not spare any endeavour  
in this regard. Hence,  
water scarcity is an  
undeniable phenomenon in  
Pakistan. This essay will  
underscore its contributors,  
repercussions and solution  
to mitigate or halt  
it.

The violation of  
Indus Water Treaty  
is the major cause  
of water crisis  
in Pakistan. This treaty  
was initiated by World

Bank to regulate the distribution of water between the two countries. The Western rivers were granted to Pakistan. India was stopped and urged from any sort of construction on these rivers. With time, India failed to sustain its pledge. It commenced construction of dams on these rivers. India's construction created the scarcity of water in Pakistan. The recent abeyance of Indus Water Treaty by India is case in point. India is reluctant to reveal the design of ongoing projects on Western rivers. This will bring ample scarcity of water in Pakistan. Hence, India is the major culprit of water scarcity in Pakistan.

Besides, the political rifts have resulted in the water crisis. There exists no consensus among the provinces in this regard. They manipulate this issue for their political gains. Politicians utilize it as a tool

of winning public sentiments. They are little concerned about the miseries of water scarced masses. The differences of Kalabagh dam is case in point. This dam became the victim of political priorities. ~~the~~ narrow political priorities hindered the construction of this dam. Despite its potential to erode the water crisis, there exists no grave measures for its establishment. Hence, political disparities enhance water crisis in Pakistan. Moreover, minimum dams and water-reservoirs have added fuel to the fire of water crisis. These bodies assist in the accumulation of water. However, their presence is minimum in Pakistan. Governments lack will to construct dams. ~~Pakistan~~ Despite having the capacity to build 750 small dams, there are only hundred plus dams in Pakistan. Their absence enhances the wastage of water without appropriate

mechanism of water accumulation. Hence, the dearth of dams bring water crisis in Pakistan. Moreover, the outdated canal system also generates water crisis in Pakistan. Canal system means the system for the conveying of water. Its weakness affects the preservation of water. We all canals do not ensure adequate sustenance of water. Pakistan's canal system is very old and obsolete. It wastes a lot of water. It brings 40 percent of water loss in conveyance. The entire world has adopted the modern canals. Regrettably, Pakistan still relies on that obsolete canal system which results in the waste of ample water. Hence, outdated canal system also adds to the pool of water crisis.

Lastly, government and public's negligence also create water crisis. Negligence means indifference towards any vital matter.

Both the government and the public are unaware about the preciousness and worth of this rare commodity. People waste water in domestic works. Similarly, no government has devised a framework about water's preservation. They treat water preservation in isolation from other matters of grave concern. This negligence has brought Pakistan in the top of water crisis index. Hence, the mutual negligence of government and public intensify water crisis.

The above paragraphs discussed the causes of water crisis. The upcoming paragraphs will emphasize its repercussions. The water crisis can bring future wars between India and Pakistan. Many countries in the world have realized this fact. Water acts like a blood in the vessel of any state. It is the lifeline of nations. Its dearth can prompt

countries to adopt  
perilous measures. Therefore,  
the future wars between  
India and Pakistan is  
no different phenomenon.  
Hence, water scarcity can  
escalate tensions between  
two conventional rivals.  
Likewise, the agriculture  
sector bears the brunt  
of water crisis. It fails  
to preserve its effectiveness  
in the absence of  
water. It snatches the  
opportunity of livelihoods from <sup>the</sup> ~~you~~  
working in fields. There  
emerges a decline in  
the production of cotton  
and textile. These are  
the backbone of Pakistan's  
export. Agriculture sector  
fails to meet the need  
of the people and economy  
in absence of water.  
Pakistan has been witnessing  
the decline in cotton  
production owing to  
meager availability. Hence,  
it would not be wrong  
to blame the water  
crisis for agricultural  
decline.

Water scarcity has  
culminated in urbanization.  
Urbanization means the escalation  
of population in cities.

Water crisis compels people to migrate towards cities. They see no longer prosperous future in rural areas. They choose cities as their destination. Cities hold proper water system as compared to the villages. Government pays heed to this matter in the cities. It try to ~~provide~~ ensure the supply of water. Similarly, the decline of rural agriculture ruins the lives of rural people. They consider it appropriate to approach cities for future. Hence, water scarcity has pulled people to migrate towards cities. Water crisis undermines national integration. Integration means to unite people irrespective of caste, ethnicity and religion. When there emerges the issue of water shortage, the provinces blame one another for water theft. There arises biasness on the grounds of ethnicities and provincialism. This biasness results in the weakening of national unity. The

recent discord on canals issue manifests this phenomenon. The country witnessed multiple public demonstration in this regard. Country was mired in protests. No one was poised to endorse the writ of the government. Hence, it proves that water scarcity can trigger national disunity.

Water crisis impacts tourism. Tourism means the capacity of any country to attract people from worldwide. Water scarcity tarnishes the image of country. It prohibits the willing people to visit any water-scarce country. They do not expect any positive outcome from that particular country. Their desire of observing such a country erodes. They establish negative perception about water-scarce country. Hence, water scarcity erodes the plights or trend of tourism.

Last but not least, water scarcity ruins industrial progress. Industries are the heart of

countries. It meets the needs of country in every walk of life. There appears ample closure of industries in the shortage of water. Farmers demands for industrial production decrease. They no longer need industrial products for their usage. Industries witness massive setback in this scenario. Many industrialists shift their industries to another countries. Local industries suffer closure for decades. Hence, water crisis deteriorates industries.

The above paragraphs highlighted the implications of water crisis. The upcoming ones will explain the wayforwards to handle or eliminate water crisis.

Construction of dams and small reservoirs can regulate water crisis. Dams accumulate water for rainy days. Pakistan holds the capacity to construct 750 small dams. Therefore, there should be an immediate measures in this regard. The government should initiate the building of dams on

an urgent basis. It should address this matter in emergency. Government should allocate adequate funds for construction of dams. Without erecting ample dams, the country would confront water crisis. Moreover, there should be the broader consensus among provinces on Kalabagh dam. This dam can mitigate enough miseries in this pursuance. Hence, ample dams can minimize water crisis.

Secondly, public awareness campaign can also de-escalate water crisis. Campaign means to apprise the people about the value of water. The government should empower the media in this regard. Media bears the potential to establish the perception of people. Likewise, it can gain or shift public attention towards water crisis. Similarly, the government should launch a broader campaign in educational institutions. Today's students are tomorrow's policymakers, their timely empowerment will benefit the nation in a long run. Hence, public

a awareness campaign can  
restrain the water crisis  
Moreover, diplomatic  
negotiations with India  
can defeat Pakistan's  
water crisis. As India  
constantly breaches the  
Indus Water Treaty, Pakistan  
should hold its hands  
through diplomatic measures.  
Pakistan should indulge the  
World Bank in the matter.  
World Bank can better  
resolve this stalemate because  
it remained the founder  
of this treaty. Apart from  
this, Pakistan should hold  
India accountable for  
treaty's violation by raising  
its voice on multiple  
forums. These forums entail  
United Nations Security  
Council, United Nations  
General Assembly and  
China's assistance as  
upper riparian in the  
case of India. Thus,  
diplomatic initiatives with  
rival India can lessen  
the magnitude of  
water crisis.

To sum up the  
discussion, water crisis  
in Pakistan is evident.  
India's violation of Indus  
Water Treaty has

enhanced Pakistan's vulnerability as a water scarce country. Furthermore, there does not seem <sup>only</sup> serious endeavour about the construction of dams from government's side. This negligence or apathy has faced the country with massive miseries. Pakistan is striving to sustain its agricultural prosperity. Agricultural decline has reached an unprecedented level. Water scarcity has culminated in national disintegration. However, an immediate halt can protect the country from severe repercussions. The country need to adopt timely measures. Only viable and tangible measures can bring this evil to its legs. Therefore, the government should not spare its energy in defeating water crisis. Indeed, it is an existential and insurmountable barrier. However, commitment and eagerness erode every constraint. Similarly, the water crisis is not a different phenomenon.