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Write From Here

Digital freedom without digital responsibility: A new challenge for Pakistani Society.

- 1) Introduction
- 2) In post truth world, digital responsibility is a necessity:
 - a) To prevent the spread of misinformation.
 - b) To ensure public order.
 - c) To protect people against hate.
- 3) How lack of awareness of digital responsibility is impacting Pakistan.
 - a) weaponization of religious sentiments have incensed minorities.
 - b) The media trials have costed millions their reputation.
 - c) Echochambers are amplifying engineered narratives.

d) Disenfranchised youth is using media to build anti-state narratives.

e) Misinformation has made it tough to reach the reality.

f) The abuse of freedom of speech has widened the gap between the political opponents.

g) Privacy of people under threat.

h) Deep fakes have jeopardized security of women.

i) Baseless mobilization by digital platforms have threatened social order.

j) Lack of awareness of digital responsibility has given impetus to materialism.

k) Lack of digital regulation has compromised the relations of many.

4) Awareness about digital responsibility is a need of the time:

a) Make digital awareness part of the curriculum.

b) A special course should be devised to train influencers about digital responsibility.

c) Strict penalty against those who violate the law Digital responsibility.

5) Conclusion.

"I disagree what you say but I will defend to death your right to say", but sometimes things should be left undefended for the sake of peace and stability. Digital freedom which was acted as a voice of marginalized, a tool to ensure accountability and a sword to make the authoritarian governments pay the price has become a carrot in the hands of the monkey. The unchecked access to technology and digital platforms have thwarted the society. The lower strata unaware of its impacts are promoting obscenity to generate revenue while the rich ones are using it to target the dissent and perspective of political opponents. The spread of misinformation has added another layer of complexity to the digital freedom. The role of media in democratizing the speech is undeniable but unchecked digital freedom has the potential to corrupt the morals of the society. Therefore, digital responsibility should be inculcated in masses to prevent the society from the harms of misinformation, hate speech and negativity.

In post truth world, using the digital media with care is necessity. In this era, news has the potential to spread like a wild fire. A single tweet, a careless

Statement or a slight smirk has the potential to incite masses. As recently seen in United Kingdom (UK) a single tweet of the involvement of a ^{muslim} man in killing of three school going girls lead to mass protest in the country. Protestors were chanting anti-immigrant slogans. Hence, to avoid chaos emanating from misinformation, media should be used with responsibility.

In addition to the role of digital responsibility in preventing spread of misinformation, it also maintains public order. In the age of algorithms, echo chambers are at play. Many people are unaware of thoughts that they are carrying. They are oblivious to the fact, may be narrative that they carry is intentionally engineered for their own good any specific mission. As recently happened, whole social media was flooded with this news that Pakistan is going to normalize its relations with Israel. People re-shared the news without attempting making any effort to reach at the roots of the issue.

Coupled with maintaining order, digital responsibility prevents the spread of hate speech. In the post truth age, videos are doctored, clips are edited in a way to antagonize people. Recently, an actor came for interview on Mazak raat show, she gave a statement

about Saba Qamar but that was not wide but social media warriors combined to different clips and placed it on the internet, which completely jeopardized the image of both actors. It is therefore a manifestation that how responsible use of social media can prevent hate speech.