

English Essay

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Good Governance is the key to Prosperity

Outline:

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement:

The key to prosperity of a state is good governance brought about by ^{the} honest and competent leaders. However, incompetent leaders with vested interests and lack of will pose a great challenge to country's prosperity through bad governance. In order to ensure a state's prosperity, the elements of good governance will have to be implemented.

2. Understanding good governance and its role in a state

3. Good Governance is the key to prosperity of a state:

a - Good governance contributes to economic prosperity

- b- Good governance brings prosperity by ensuring rule of law
- c- Good governance ensures equal opportunities for all
- d- Good governance maintains accountability of powerful
- e- Good governance ensures transparency hence allowing dissent
- f- Good governance upholds the principles of democracy by protecting human rights
- g- Good governance works for the formation of a welfare state

4 - Hurdles in the way of good governance:

- a- Incompetent leaders discourage good governance
- b- Weak institutions work for the powerful instead of public
- c- Lack of Transparency and accountability enhances bad governance
- d- Control of media and authoritarian policies of governments hamper the growth of society
- e- Lack of will by Government to create equal opportunities paves the way for economic crisis

5- Good governance is a pre-requisite for prosperity of the state:

a. Need for better leadership with a vision

b. Structural changes required in institutions

c. Rule of Law to protect human rights

d. Mechanism for ensuring accountability of transgressors.

6- Conclusion

There are around 200 countries in the world right now and all of them have different governance systems, some are governed by democratic system and some by monarchist system. The strength of these countries depend on how good their governance is. Governance can make or break a state. If it's good, it can make a state a great power and if it's not good, it can make a state inhabitable. Good governance ensures human rights, rule of law, equal opportunities and economic prosperity in a state. Through the principles of accountability and transparency it ensures

better performance of institutions. However, if a state is in the hands of an incompetent leader, there will be ineffective policies, weak institutions, economic crisis, lack of accountability and all the other elements of bad governance. Hence, good governance is the key for the prosperity of a state and bad governance can hamper the way to prosperity. It is important to mend the obstacles in the way of bad governance to make a state prosperous.

Good governance means a kind of governance and governing body that upholds the principles of equality, accountability, transparency, economic prosperity, rule of law and welfare state. Good governance is very important for the prosperity of a state as without it a state and its people are unable to grow. The practical manifestation of good governance can be seen throughout the history and it can be inferred that states that had good governing body were successful. Ancient Greece, Rome and Egypt are famous examples of states with good governance. Good governance is not

only responsible for political prosperity but also for economic, social and diplomatic prosperity. This essay will discuss how good governance leads to prosperity of a state, what are the challenges to good governance that hamper the path to prosperity, and what steps can be taken to ensure good governance so that the state can become prosperous both domestically and globally.

Good governance brings about economic prosperity. Good governance causes economic prosperity by implementing effective policies for creation of jobs, and ease of doing business. Moreover, good governance involves holistic approach towards economy to strengthen the state. In an attempt to resolve the problem of unemployment and boost economy USA has announced a new economic policy known as Inflation Reduction Act. This act is projected to create 10,000,00 new jobs and revive domestic industry of USA. Moreover, China has become second biggest economic power due to principles of good governance.

The Chinese governance has enabled effective economic policies that ensured economic prosperity of the country.

Good governance causes prosperity of a state by upholding the principle of rule of law. No state can be prosperous without ensuring this principle. Rule of law enables a society where justice prevails and wrongdoings are punished. Such a society believes in morals and portrays a strong national character. In the state of Madina, although all the principles of good governance were implemented, the principle of rule of law was specifically emphasized. Due to this principle of rule of law, the state of Madina is considered a prosperous and welfare state in history. Moreover, in today's world the Scandinavian countries are recognized as most peaceful and happy due to implementation of rule of law. Hence, rule of law as a principle of good governance causes prosperity of a state.

Good governance brings prosperity by providing equal opportunities to all. In a society where everyone gets equal opportunities of education and employment, prosperity is ensured. One of the principles of good governance is to create equal opportunities for all the classes and ethnicities. It is responsibility of good governance to remove all the biases of class, religion, ethnicity, and gender when it comes to provision of opportunities. A society where equal opportunity is maintained is based on meritocracy and is more prosperous.

Moreover, good governance maintains the principle of accountability of power holders. This leads to better performance and discourages corruption, which in turn bring prosperity to a state. Good governance and accountability go hand-in-hand. Any department or official, if not held accountable for its poor performance or any corrupt action, will be reinforced to do it again. This will lead to perpetuation of corruption. Good governance makes sure

everyone is held accountable. USA has a system of "Division of powers" to ensure accountability of all those in government. Even the President is held accountable for its poor performance. This is why, American system of governance is efficient. Hence, accountability principle of good governance leads to prosperity of a state.

Another way of good governance that leads to prosperity is transparency of government policies and decisions. The principle of transparency not only makes people aware of government actions but also allows people to dissent against government. Transparency allows public of a state to directly contribute and give suggestions to governments policies. It allows for more inclusion and prosperity of a society.

Moreover, good governance upholds principles of democracy by ensuring human rights. This leads to a prosperous society and in turn prosperous state. Bill of Rights was incorporated into USA's constitution

in the era of George Washington and since then every government has maintained the sanctity of human rights in the state. Moreover, the holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) emphasized on the importance of human rights in his last sermon and protected human rights during his governance. Hence, good governance brings social prosperity by protecting human rights.

Lastly, good governance brings prosperity of a nation and state by striving for implementation of welfare policies. Good governance is manifested in the form of welfare policies. Any government that enacts welfare policies for the marginalized community of a state works towards inclusive prosperity. This principle makes a state a welfare state.

Public-centered policies of any government make it a good government. There has been many welfare programs for people of Pakistan during different governments like BBISP and Ehsas Program. One of the

good welfare policies was Sehat Card as it enabled poor people of Pakistan to access healthcare free of cost. Good governance brings prosperity by enacting welfare policies in a state.

However, the path ~~of~~ to good governance is not that smooth. It is full of turns and twists. First of all, incompetent leaders of a state hinder its path to prosperity due to bad governance policies. An incompetent leadership lacks a vision for the future of a state. They lack the ability to lead people towards prosperity. Incompetent leaders enable poor policies and mostly work on the counter-productive projects. An incompetent leadership becomes a hurdle in the way of prosperity of a state due to bad governance. Sir Winston Churchill said, "People would not look up to a leader who has his ears to the ground."

In addition to incompetent leadership, weak institutions also contribute to bad governance and hinder a state's path to prosperity. Weak institutions fail to perform well for the public welfare as they work for the vested interests of powerful elite of the society. Weak institutions disrupt the principles of good governance due to rampant corruptions and favoritism. This leads to weakening of state's roots both on domestic and international level. A state that has weak institutions is not trusted by international investors so it suffers economically as well. These factors lead to bad governance and failure of state to achieve prosperity. Pakistan is a textbook case for weak institutions, that serve political elite instead of public of Pakistan.

Some other factors of bad governance that act as blockers of prosperity of a state include lack of transparency, accountability, and political will. Moreover, ~~and~~ control of media by the

government leads to false narrative building in society. All these factors are components of bad governance and hurdles to the way of prosperity.

Lack of accountability allows the powerful to exploit people of a state. It also leads to suppression of law and persecution of people. It enhances economic disparity in a society as the system enables powerful to exploit more.