

## 6 Food insecurity: the defining challenge of the century ahead.

### 1 Introduction

#### a) Thesis Statement:

Food insecurity has become the defining challenge of the century ahead. There are some causes of food insecurity such as climate change, ~~poor governa~~ exploitation of under developed countries by developed world, and many others. Food insecurity is posing several challenges such as <sup>rise in</sup> gender inequality increases, rise in conflicts, and many others. However, there are some steps which can help to solve the problem of food insecurity.

### 2 Decoding Food insecurity as a challenge of the century ahead.

### 3 The causes of food insecurity in the world.

a) The big cause of food insecurity is the climate change

b) Exploitation of under-developed world by developed world



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c) Exponential growth of population makes this problem more serious.

d) Developing countries are still using old methods of agriculture

e) Wars and conflicts do not allow people to get food and water.

#### 4) Challenges posed by food insecurity in the century ahead

a) Inequality increases in the world due to food insecurity.

b) Crime rate increases when people do not have access to food.

c) Poverty prevails in the world when public do not have access to their basic needs.

d) Food insecurity threatens democracy

e) The cost of food increases when food is not available in sufficient amount.

f) Terrorism and injustice ~~prevails~~ <sup>spread</sup> due to food insecurity.



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g) Children and women are the first victims of food insecurity.

5) Way Forwards to reduce the challenges posed by food insecurity.

a) Developed world collaborate and coordinate with under-developed world

b) Provide <sup>farmers</sup> access to science and technology in the developing countries

c) Ensure the efficient use of natural resource in the whole world.

b) Conclusion.



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The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "Poverty leads a man to apostasy." Food insecurity is the major reason of poverty. Food insecurity and poverty are co-related to each other. This shows that poverty is also a big challenge for the belief. Food insecurity has become the defining challenge of this century and of the century ahead. Climate change and exploitation of under-developed countries by developed countries are also the big causes of food insecurity. Exponential growth of population, wars and conflicts, and the practices of old methods of agriculture are also the big causes of food insecurity. Food insecurity poses several challenges such as increase in gender equality, crime rate, poverty and in food prices. Terrorism and injustice prevails due to food insecurity. The children and women become the first victim



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of food insecurity. However, the following way-forwards can help to minimize the challenges posed by food insecurity such as poor farmers' access to science and technological ~~mechanical~~ devices, and efficient use natural resources. In this way, food insecurity problem can be solved.

Food insecurity means lack of access or no access to food to fulfill the basic needs of the people.

Food insecurity has become a challenge in this century and it also poses several other challenges. Food insecurity prevails when people face difficulty to access to food. Several developed and developing countries are facing this challenge due to several reason. This shows that food insecurity has become the defining challenge of the century ahead.

After decoding the food insecurity



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as a challenge of the century ahead,  
now the causes of food insecurity  
in the world are being discussed.

Climate Change is the big cause  
of food insecurity in the world.

The history is witness to the  
fact that developed countries  
are responsible for this phenomena

But the developing and under  
developed countries are bearing  
the consequences of this problem.

Food insecurity is also begets  
from the climate change. Because

Floods, droughts, and intense rain  
fall undermine the production of

crops. For example, under developing  
countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh  
and Sri Lanka are facing the

challenges of food insecurity due

to climate change. More than 35 percent  
people are living below the poverty

line in these countries, according



to the World Bank Report 2023  
This shows that food insecurity  
is prevailing in developing countries  
due to climate change.

Similarly, the exploitation of under-  
developed world by developed world  
is also a big cause of  
food insecurity. Major developed  
world rob the natural resources  
of developing countries and use  
them for their own benefits.

According to the World System  
Theory, The developed countries  
exploit developing and under-developed  
countries. They use the natural  
resources of under developed world  
for their own benefits. This  
means that food insecurity is  
prevailing in the developing and  
under-developed world due to  
developed countries.



Another cause of food insecurity is the exponential growth of population in the world. It is observed that developed countries have negative growth of population but the developing countries have tremendous growth in their population. Every day, many thousands people are adding in this world. It is also a fact that the earth can afford a limited amount of people, because it has limited natural resources.

Today, the world is facing the scarcity of natural resources due to tremendous growth of population.

According to United Nation, One billion people are adding to earth within fifteen years. This demonstrate that tremendous growth of population in this world is a big cause of food insecurity.

The exponential growth of population



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is not only the cause of food insecurity but also the practising of old methods of agriculture in the developing countries, is also a cause of food insecurity. Developing and under developed world do not have access to advanced technology and mechanics. Most of the people of under developed countries are illiterate. Therefore, they practised old methods of agriculture in their fields and get the low crops production. In this way, these countries fail to fulfill their food needs. For example, a developing country like Pakistan, where agriculture is major source of earning, still facing the problem of food insecurity. Pakistan ranked 102<sup>th</sup> position out of 121 countries according to the Global Hunger Index Report 2023. This shows that dependence on old methods of agriculture is the big cause of food insecurity.



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In the same manner, wars and conflicts do not allow people to get food and water. History is witness to the fact that the people suffer in the wars and conflicts. The head of states do not allow people to get food and water in the other country. In this way, they create an artificial scarcity of food and water.

Israel - Palestine ongoing war is the big example of this problem. Israel do not allow the people of Palestine to get food, water, medicine and fuel. In this way millions of people are facing this problem. This shows that wars and conflicts are also a big cause of food insecurity in this century.



After discussing the causes of food insecurity, now the essay discussed the challenges posed by food insecurity in the century ahead.

The first challenge posed by food insecurity is the increase in inequality. The world is suffering through this challenge due to several reasons. But it is also predicted that this problem will become severe in the century ahead due to unequal access to food. Women, children and other minorities are facing this challenge of access to food.

For example, the country like Afghanistan where women are not allowed to go outside the four walls of house, face the challenge of access to food and



water in their country. This shows that inequality will increase in the century ahead due to food insecurity.

Similarly, crime rate also increases when people do not have access to food. This is because many people feel that they have no access to food and water.

Now they have right to job the food and water of such people. In this way, many young and adults involve in criminal activities. According to

**Strain Theory**, when people do not have enough resources to achieve their goals, they feel strain and ~~become~~ involved in different kind of criminal activities to achieve their societal goals. This shows that people commit crimes when they have no access to food and



water.

In the same manner, poverty prevails in the society when public do not have access to their basic needs. Food and water are necessary for the human survival. If ~~we~~ human does not have access to food and water, it is considered a poor. Food insecurity does not allow people and world to achieve their sustainable goals. For example, SDG 1 is no poverty and SDG 2 is zero hunger. This shows that poverty and hunger are correlated. In this way, if people do not have access to food then poverty will increase.

• Another challenge posed by food insecurity is the threat to democracy. It is observed that



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Food insecurity threatens democracy. People like democracy because democracy provides people equal access to their rights. So if people do not have access to their basic needs such as food and water, then democracy will be threaten. ~~by the~~ Because poor people do not have access to basic need. It is also observed that those countries which are <sup>low</sup> ranked in hunger index, <sup>also</sup> have minimum grades in democracy. For example, a developing country like Pakistan, where it ranked 104 out of 180 countries in democracy index, it ranked 102<sup>th</sup> in Global Hunger Index Report 2023. This shows that Food insecurity threatens the values of democracy in the world.

In the same way, food insecurity



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is also become a major cause of hike in food prices. It is the rule of economics, when ~~people~~ a demand of good increases then the price of that food also increases. So if the demand of food increases in the world then the price of food also increases in the world.

**Russia - Ukraine war** is the best example in this regard. It is observed that due to Russia - Ukraine war, the global food prices increases. This adversely affected the poor people of developing and under - developed countries. This shows that food insecurity also results in hike in food prices.

Another challenge posed by food insecurity is the rise in terrorism and injustice in the



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world. Terrorist organization like IS-KP, TTP, Al-Qaeda, and many other ~~groups~~ try to manipulate poor people in the developing countries. These terrorist organization use these poor people for their own benefits. For example, The ~~Chinese~~ China's western province ~~Shang~~ is under developed.

So different terrorist organization operate in this province. Similarly, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, and many other developing countries are facing terrorism menace due to food insecurity and lack of development. This shows that food insecurity is directly proportional to terrorism, violence and injustice.

Likewise, Children and women are first victim of food insecurity.

It ~~has~~<sup>is</sup> been observed that children and women become the



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the first victim of food insecurity and violence. Women and children are facing inequalities in the whole world. Food insecurity makes this problem even worse. For example, In Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, and in Sudan, women and children faces the menace of food insecurity. Women and children have no access to clean drinking water in their countries. This shows that Food insecurity ~~mak~~ makes this world worse for children and women.

After discussing the challenges posed by food insecurity in the century ahead; now the wayforwards to reduce the challenges posed by food insecurity are being discussed.

The first wayforward in this regard is that developed world must



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collaborate and coordinate with under-developed countries to overcome the challenges posed by food insecurity. Many international organizations and NGOs are working in this regard. But the developed countries like USA, China, and other European countries must help financially under developed world to reduce the menace of food insecurity. For example, UNFAO, USAID and many other programmes are trying to overcome this issue. In this way, the problems of food insecurity can be resolved.

Similarly, another way forward in this regard is to help farmers to access to science and technological agricultural equipments. Food production can be increased if farmers use advanced



method of technology and science.

Farmers in developed countries use advance method in their

farms. In this way, they not only fullfill the needs of their farmers but also export

the crops to other countries to

fullfill their demands For example,

The country like USA where

farmers use advanced method

of agriculture and produce tremendous

amount of crop production. This

shows that advanced method of

agriculture production can help to

reduce the challenges posed by

Food insecurity in the world.

In the same way, food

insecurity can be resolved, if

countries ensure the efficient use

of natural resources in their

~~are~~ lands. No doubt, the world

is struggling with climate change,



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which is the big cause of ~~climate~~ change food insecurity. But the problems of climate change and food insecurity can be resolved if all the nations use natural resources efficiently. The advanced use of technology can help the world to address this problem. For example, drip irrigation system, use of AI in agriculture fields can help the whole world to not only increase the productivity of crop but also help to efficient use of natural resource. In this way, food insecurity problem can be solved.

In a nutshell, Food insecurity is the defining challenge of the century ahead. These are some causes of food insecurity such as climate change,



exploitation of under-developed world by developed world. Food insecurity is also posing several challenges in the century ahead such as ~~an~~ increase in gender equality, rise in conflict and many others. However this problem can be addressed if all the nations cooperate with each other, make sure efficient use of national resources and use advanced methods in the agriculture field. In this this problem can be addressed.