

# Globalization and Human Rights: Progress and setbacks

## Outline:

### A: Introduction:

- a) Deconstructing the terms 'globalization' and 'human rights'
- b) cursory outlook of adverse and prosperous impacts of globalization
- c) **Thesis Statement:** Globalization is an increasing trend of interlinked nations and economies. Certainly, it has rendered great progress to human rights by improving and safeguarding the human lifestyle. However, it has caused great setbacks to human rights by sabotaging them. Hence, globalization is a double-edged weapon doing both good and harm to human rights.

### B: Progress of Human Rights under the umbrella of globalization:

- 1) The global organizations have guaranteed **fundamental human rights to all.**
  - a) The fundamental human rights charter by United Nations
  - b) Human progress is proportional to human rights
- 2) The global unions and cohesions have **granted right to live peacefully.**
  - a) Multilateral and bilateral efforts to uproot terrorism in Sudan, Afghanistan etc.
  - b) Joint military operations

3) Globalization has upgraded the living standards of human beings.

a) The declaration of 17 Sustainable Development Goals by United Nations

b) Efforts of global forums to ensure better living to humans.

4) The global checks have ensured balance of power and transparency.

a) Indicators of good governance set by global institutes i-e IMF, UNO, WB etc.

b) Role of transparency institutes i-e Amnesty international.

5) Globalization have provided financial assistance and moral support to the struggling nations.

a) The structural aid, concessional loans and grants to developing nations.

b) Emergency funds to tackle human crisis

6) Globalization has uplifted human rights by doing infrastructural development.

a) Global development agreements have changed the infrastructural horizon of the world i-e CPEC

7) Globalization has provided economic freedom and trade liberty to all humans

a) The right to free trade and ease of trade

b) Global narrative of trade supporting laissez-faire principle.

## C: Setbacks to human rights due to globalization:

1) Globalization has targeted the national integrity of human beings.

a) The intrusion of global powers in other nations. i.e Iraq, Afghanistan etc

b) Globalization has threatened <sup>the</sup> national integrity

2) Globalization has harmed the international peace of the world.

a) The global hunger of powers

b) Proxy-wars have shattered the human rights.

3) Globalization has caused the fall of economies.

a) Imposition of undue sanctions on trade

b) Currency devaluation i.e rupee depreciation

4) Globalization has supported anti-human activities.

a) Tendency of extremism is supported by weapons

b) Use of global platforms by terrorists groups

5) Globalization has widened the disparity among humans.

a) The difference between rich and poor has increased

b) Humans are hit hard by global disparity.

6) Globalization has increased the dependence of humans on donors.

a) Global donors are merely a hindrance to the progress of human rights

## D: Conclusion

## Essay

Globalization is a growing tendency of interlinked economies, communities, and markets glued together by technology, services, goods and labor. Human rights are the basic necessities of human beings in order to live a decent living. It is evident that human rights are influenced directly by the growing trends of globalization. The advancement of globalization has rendered great services to human rights in the form of upgrading the living standards, developing the economies, uplifting the infrastructure, cherishing the fundamental human liberty and supporting the financial machinery of human settlements. However, the prosperous side of globalization is stained with the serious setbacks that it has threatened mankind. The rise of terrorism, surge in extremism, sway from religion, trade sanctions, excessive reliance upon donors, increase in disparity and global wars are heinous impacts of globalization on human rights. Therefore, globalization is a **double edged-sword** that has ensured prosperity and triggered adversity of human rights.

There are numerous reasons which equate globalization as the harbinger of progress to human rights. One of the reasons of declaring globalization as the prosperity of human rights is the grant of fundamental human rights. It is evident that international organizations, for example United Nations, have declared the necessary rights of all humans in all the corners of the world. These fundamental human rights are categorically stated in **United Nations Charter of Human Rights** which involves all the

basic rights of humans in order to spend a contented and prosperous life. Hence, the trend of globalization has set global institutions that have set the international constitution to safeguard human rights.

Globalization aims at rapid progress and prompt advancement. It is clear that human progress induced due to globalization is directly linked with human rights. As the **progress without the progress of human rights is no progress.** All the agendas and principles of globalization target progress and in the hunt of progress human rights are guaranteed. Therefore, it is explicitly evident the globalization brings human progress which in turns ensures human rights.

The boon of globalization has ensured progress of human rights by successfully fighting with the anti-human agencies. Globalization provides an opportunity of multilateral and bilateral ties so that terrorism, extremism and serious conflicts can be sought out. **For instance, globalization allowed global powers to enter in countries fighting against terrorism to help them in doing so. China is equated as the best mediator due to its mediation strategies that ended war in African countries. Also, America has smashed the terrorist network of Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan.** Hence, the global efforts have eliminated terrorism and granted human rights.

The struggling nations cannot cope with interna crisis and external threats and resultantly the human rights suffer a serious setback. Certainly, the

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efforts by powerful global nations not only help the struggling nations but also grants human rights and ultimately progress is ensured. Hence the joint operations of combating internal and external threats under the global guidance and support are a means of granting human rights.

The global progress of human rights is not possible without uplifting the living standards of people. Globalization is the only source of uplifting the living conditions of the whole world having a population of over **eight billion**. The global efforts and programmes provide assistance to the human conditions and progress is guaranteed. **For instance, globalization has helped to improve the living standards of refugees and down trodden people of the world.**

The global forums are set with an aim to improve the living conditions of the people across the globe. There are multiple global organizations that work for **gender equality, individual liberty, legal empowerment, education, and health**. These global organizations are undoubtedly the saviours of human rights. Hence, globalization is protecting human rights through multiple forums which support progress.

The grant of human rights is impossible without the practice of good governance. Globalization is an amalgam of different institutions and nations <sup>in order</sup> to promote progress. Therefore, a nation is not isolated from the

powerful eye of globalization which compels a nation to have a good and competent governance so that the human rights are ensured. For instance, United Nations have declared different indicators of good governance which promote prosperity and progress of human rights.

The human rights are breached when unlawful practices are done by the government. Globalization puts a hindrance to such practices as it keeps a check on all nations by rating their economies, trade, and conduct. The international forums like **Amnesty International**, **Transparency International** etc are a means of keeping a balance in the power in nations and eradicating corruption. Hence, in doing so human rights are guaranteed.

The increasing internal issues and external rifts of nations demand finance. Globalization is a saviour to such nations that are unable to provide human rights due to lack of funds. **IMF**, **World Bank**, **USAID**, and other international institutions provide financial assistance to the needy countries across the globe. The concessional loans, grants and packages are used to ensure the progress of human rights. Furthermore, emergency funds are also provided by global organization to cope with natural emergencies. Hence, the providence of financial assistance by global organizations protects human rights.

The human rights cannot progress in the undeveloped infrastructure and broken roads. The primary condition of progress is to have road. Globalization is doing good to human rights by providing infrastructural aid to the countries across the globe so that the human rights may prosper. For instance, China has initiated BRI in 2013 so that the infrastructure of the region will improve. Therefore, the infrastructural development of the world is initiated by globalization and is highly beneficial to the progress of human rights.

The development of human rights is directly linked with the opportunities of free and fair trade. Globalization promotes the principle of *laissez-faire* in which trade is done freely without any interference. Such initiatives of globalization are boon for human rights as human rights progress with the prosperity of trade.

However, the slogans and initiatives of globalization are not merely restricted to the progress of human rights. It is evident that globalization has caused serious setbacks to human rights. One of the heinous setbacks of globalization is the undue interference of nations <sup>not only</sup> in the international affairs but also in the internal matters of countries. For instance, America conducted the Operation Neptune Spear to kill Osama Bin Laden without informing and taking consent of Pakistan. Therefore, globalization is a serious threat to human rights.

Additionally, the national integration of countries is at risk due to the immense influence of globalization. The increasing powers of globalization are considered as threats to the peace of the countries. For instance, Russia and America have breached the national integration of Afghanistan. India have breached the internal peace of Pakistan for multiple times. Hence, the easily breachable national integration of nations is due to globalization and ultimately the progress of human rights is stopped.

The growing trends of globalization has increased the lust of power. As it is said **the more one gets, the more one longs for**. Globalization is a source of fulfilling the lust of power that is why countries are involved in rat race of power and proxy wars are on. Therefore, globalization is promoting evil passions of power and intolerance and in doing so human rights are compromised.

The serious setback suffered by nations due to globalization is the undue sanctions and heavy barriers on trade. Globalization has triggered a biased trade in which favorite nations are profited and others are targeted. These trade sanctions are aggravating the economic disparity which is a serious setback to human rights.

The rise of globalization is the rise of global currency. This tendency has seriously effected the currencies of the developing and under-developed countries. The continuous rise of globalization is the continuous fall of struggling economies. For instance, Pakistani Rupee has suffered depreciation due to the stable and continuous flight of dollar. Hence, the currency depreciation is one of the serious setbacks to human rights.

Globalization is a highly biased amalgam of countries in which the cause of the friend is supported and the concern of an enemy is discarded. It works on the principle of **for my friends: everything, for my enemies: the law**. This unbiased tendency of globalization has unfortunately supported extremism and terrorism in multiple regions for instance, America condemns Russia's attack on Ukraine but it supports Israeli attack on Palestine. These differences are aggravated by globalization and human rights are sabotaged.

Furthermore, the globalization policies and practices are not equally applicable to all human beings. As it is evident that the poor countries are advancing to more poverty and prosperous nations are advancing to <sup>more</sup> prosperity. The uneven global progress is

supported by globalization and such a progress inhibits human rights.

Lastly, the globalization is a false trap which increases the reliance of countries on foreign aid. Unfortunately, the excessive dependence upon foreign donations have diminished progress in countries. For instance, Pakistan is a regular recipient of foreign aid yet the conditions of human rights in Pakistan is regrettable.

It is concluded that globalization is a double-edged weapon that renders good services to human rights on one hand while, on the other hand, it breaches the progress of human rights. The prosperous impacts of globalization include good governance, free trade, open market, financial assistance, mutual cooperation and healthy atmosphere of nations across the globe. However, the prosperity of globalization is marked with the ill impacts which include trade hindrances, increased disparity of rich and poor, support of extremism, interference in the internal matters of countries, heavy dependence on donors and biased treatment of countries. Keeping in mind the positive and negative implications of globalization on <sup>human</sup> rights, it is required to develop an unbiased and transparent global network which will work solely for the development of human rights. It is never too late to mend therefore the adversity of globalization must