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# "Globalization and Human Rights: Progress and Setbacks"

## Outline:

### A) Introduction:

a) Hook

b) Overview of the Essay

### B) Globalization and Human Rights: Progress

1) Human Rights organisations are formed: NGO's, ILO, Amnesty

2) Social Media's role in Human Rights: awareness of H. rights abuses, war crimes

3) Awareness for Political Rights: Arab Spring 2011, Dhruv Rathee vs Modi regime, right to self-determination

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4) Women Rights movements:  
feminism in Pakistan  
economic opportunities

5) Anti-Racism movements:  
Black lives matter 2020

6) Right to a Healthy life:  
COVAX programme WHO  
and global immunity  
WHO food security programmes

C) Globalization and  
Human Rights: Setbacks

1) Cross border terrorism  
and Human trafficking:  
TLP, child trafficking and  
labour

2) Imperialism: The Highest  
Stage for Capitalism:  
labour exploitation (low wages)

- ✓ underpaid individuals.
- ✓ Rural-Urban migration and exploitation
- ✓ Damage to local industries

### 3) AI and cybersecurity threats:

- ✓ mis-information (Tarakwala incident  $\checkmark$  caused by misinformation on social media)

### ✓ Threat to privacy:

Ducky Bhai's wife deepfake video, Dark Web.

### 4) Food insecurity as a weapon of war:

- ✓ Russia-Ukraine <sup>war</sup> food and food insecurity worldwide

### 5) Economic inequality and job loss:

immigration and job loss of local people, shut down

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of local industries: poverty and joblessness.

6) Environmental Damage and Displacement:

✓ Global warming and climate catastrophes causing displacement, deaths and poverty in innocent civilians and loss of right to education

~~Conclusion~~ ..

D) Conclusion

## The Essay

### Introduction:

From connecting continents to connecting people, Globalization has made the 21st century world a "global village". Apart from boosting trade, economy and connectivity, it has also given voice to oppressed and marginalized communities via Human Rights movements, social media and so on. But as light is always followed by a shadow, so is Globalization's progress for human rights followed by setbacks. From giving voice and opportunities to marginalized communities, it

has also created unprecedented problems for them in the form of food insecurity, climate change and exploitation. This has pushed millions into poverty and caused unprecedented loss of life jeopardizing their right to life and freedom.

Globalization has given a platform (social media) for like minded people to connect and further their goals and aims. One such example is the creation of NGOs and Human Welfare programmes. Amnesty international is one such example. UN's International Labour Organisation also plays a crucial role in preserving

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and protecting labour rights.

With the world just one click away on your device, social media has created awareness for human rights abuses, war crimes. In the Israel-Palestine conflict, Motaz Aziza played a crucial role in highlighting human rights abuses using Instagram and Tiktok. Palestinian civilians have also created content covering their day to day life during war. One such blog is of a young Palestinian Zain. This connectivity has kept the Gaza conflict and human rights violations ~~do~~ alive.

Globalization has helped create awareness among people for their right to self-determination. It has helped to inspire people to overthrow their oppressive authoritarian regimes.

Arab Spring, 2011, began in Tunisia and inspired states like Syria and Lebanon to fight against authoritarian regimes. Dhruv Rathee, an Indian YouTuber, used his social media clout to expose the authoritarian regime of Modi and inspired people to use their right to vote wisely.



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Globalization has helped inspire women rights movements and has created economic opportunities for them.

Feminism movements in Pakistan beginning in 1970's have inspired a generation of women to stand up for their rights. The movement itself inspired from American and European movements' books and news. Awareness through social media, news and speeches of influential women worldwide have created a desire in women to stand up for their rights and overthrow the patriarchal dominance.

Apart from women rights, anti-racism movements have also gained momentum in the wake of a globalized

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world. "Black lives matter", a 2020 movement aimed at eradication of killings of black people on the basis of racism. The video circulated on social media where a police officer was seen suffocating a black man using his body weight. The man eventually succumbed to death but inspired a global movement for ~~human~~ anti-racism.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, WHO's Covax programme vaccinated millions of people creating global immunity and ensuring the right of each individual to access to health care. This underscores the role of globalization in ensuring health and safety for each individual.

Globalization has received significant criticism for giving rise to unprecedented challenges for millions worldwide ~~cross~~ violating their right to life, freedom, education and economic freedom.

Increased connectivity and technological advancement has given rise to the menace of <sup>cross borders</sup> terrorism and human trafficking. Organisations such as TLP find safe haven in Afghanistan and carry out terrorist activities in Pakistan. Child trafficking on Pak-Afghan border and drug trafficking have all added to the woes of globalization. All of this has caused loss of lives, exploitation and child abuses.

Lenin's "Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism" aptly points out the role of capitalism in furthering imperialism. With the rise of global capitalism due to globalization, capitalists have exploited developing countries for cheap labour and resources. A Core-periphery dependancy creates poverty, food insecurity and health issues in developing (periphery) states. Underpaid individuals and job insecurity are manifestations of global capitalism and neo-slavery.

Where a hyper connected world can save lives in the form of "Black lives matter" movements, it can also cause loss of lives due to misinformation

A video of a man accusing a ~~the~~ Christian of blasphemy made rounds on social media and within a few hours the world saw the "Jaranwala" mob incident unfold. The accused was lynched without giving him the right to defend himself in a legal proceeding. Threats to privacy are another menace associated with Artificial intelligence and social media. A deepfake nude video of famous Pakistani YouTuber, Ducky Bhai's wife, Aroob Jaboi quickly made rounds on social media with authorities unable to detect the origin and culprit.

A hallmark feature of globalization is that affects in one region are felt in another region thousands of km apart. This can create food insecurity and jeopardize the right of every individual to access to safe and nutritious food as mentioned in SDG's and MDG's. Russia-Ukraine war fought in Europe, resulted in a famine like situation in Africa. In the Asian continent, food prices soared to extremely high level. Wheat prices in Pakistan soared and caused extreme food insecurity in the poor.

War in one region can trigger immigration / refugee crises in another. The Afghan-

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Pakistan refugee crises post 9/11 caused serious burden on Pakistan's resources. Loss of jobs, competition and shortage of food supplies created immense problems for both the refugees and civilians. Brain drain in one state can also cause ~~an~~ increased competition and loss of jobs for civilians of receiving state.

Global warming and climate catastrophes have caused displacement of millions, poverty, loss of education, decrease in access to safe drinking water causing violations of basic human rights. Exploitation of resources by capitalists and industrial development cause environmental degradation

and climate catastrophes in developing and under developed world. Rights of education, access to safe drinking water, gender equality are all violated in the wake of this environmental degradation triggered by globalisation.

To <sup>balance the</sup> ~~make~~ globalisation's pros and cons of Human Rights, there is a dire need to formulate binding policies on environment, labour rights and wages and to strengthen platforms like SAARC and SCO in order to combat cross-border terrorism and promote regional security.

To make <sup>of</sup> the benefits of globalisation more equitable, it must be made more inclusive in terms of race and gender



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• For countering the human rights abuses caused by social media, AI and misinformation, a strong global cybersecurity governance system is a must.