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ISB-067

LMS ID: 35382.

MOCK EXAM: "ENGLISH ESSAY"

TOPIC: Why Nations Fail?

"Brainstorming"

Lack of innovation and Education.

Poor Governance

Political Instability

Social Inequality

Weak Institutions

Economic instability

External Factors.

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## Why Nations Fail ?

"The first lesson of economy is scarcity; the first lesson of politics is to disregard the first lesson of economy." (Thomas Sowell).

This quote highlights how poor governance and disregarded economy can drive nations to failure. There are almost 50+ of countries that are facing social unrest, economic collapse, political instability and can be termed as fragile states. Unfortunately Pakistan is one of those states as well. Pakistan struggles with political instability, weak institutions, and economic mismanagement which explains the broad phenomenon of ~~how~~ nations failures revealing how social instability, poor governance, lack of education and external factors hinders its development and threatens country's future stability.

Lack of innovation and Education is one of the root causes of why ~~not~~ capable nations like Pakistan fail. In global world, the strong and powerful states are highly innovative. Innovation brings many opportunities for the nations. And this cannot be done without education. Currently, Pakistan's literacy rate is 62.3%. Which means almost 60 million are illiterate in the country. Secondly, The education provided in educational institution is not of good quality. The syllabus is outdated and lacks practicality. The teaching methods are teacher dominated and students are deprived of an opportunity to express creativity. Lastly, the lack of labs and research centres also hinders the path to prosperity.

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Due to lack of resources, the current labs are short on lab materials. Students and Researchers find it difficult to work with limited resources. And many prefer to move abroad for quality research. Without quality education and investment in labs and research centers, a nation cannot succeed to path of development.

A nation cannot prosper with flawed Governance that lacks transparency, ~~poor~~ <sup>proper</sup> planning and execution of policies and ~~promote~~ practices nepotism and favoritism. To begin with, a lack of transparency leads to suspicions and creates distrust among citizens and governing institutions. It also leads to unethical and illegal activities like corruption, bribery and money laundering etc. Corruption has become an integrated aspect of Pakistani society and has become a norm. Accountability institutions like NAB are unable to function properly due to political interference and lack of resources. Second is the poor policy making. Most of the policies made ignore the demands of the majority. One of the reason is the lack of public input in policy making. In Pakistan, the policies formulated lack vision. Coupled with poor execution, governance is unable to function to its full spirits. Thirdly, evils like nepotism and favoritism question the effectiveness of good governance. Pakistan's social development is hindered due to nepotism and favoritism. It often leads to appointment of less qualified person for a highly qualified job.

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It contributes to loss of human capital and brain drain. This is why there is a need for good governance - Without it, a nation is bound to failures and instabilities.

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Political instability can be a major obstacle to the path of a country's development. Pakistani leaders are often weak and divided. They often lack cohesion. This results in inconsistent policies and directions. Inconsistency in policies and inefficiency of administration to maintain continuity with policies creates ~~mistrust~~ lack of trust among public and hinders foreign investments as investors seek stable environments. Another problem is the Power struggle among civilian governments and military. Leaders are more focused on gaining powers and often ignore pressing issues related to economy, healthcare and education. Pakistan has been under direct military rule for more than 3 decades. The democratic process is disrupted continuously. Long-term planning and progress is disturbed by frequent leadership changes. Lastly, the civil unrest in Pakistan also creates political instability. This is caused by economic inequality, religious intolerance, ethnic and sectarian violence. Civil unrest drains resources, creates an environment of fear and makes it difficult to achieve stability. In essence, political instability makes a state vulnerable to chaos and challenges.

Another cause for why nations fail is the social inequality. It is deeply connected with

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~~not~~ why potential states cannot succeed in global world. Pakistan is a land of many ethnicities and religious sects. The socio-economic divides weakens national unity and often leads to tensions. It has often lead to violence and biases specially in Baluchistan and Sindh. The fragmentation and lack of social cohesion creates barriers between rich and poor, and weakens social harmony. Inequality and injustice also fuels social unrest and impedes efforts for national development. Another leading cause of social inequality is the increasing unemployment and poverty. Unemployment has increased upto 6.34% and almost 40% of Pakistan's population is living below the poverty line. The increasing social inequality is a barrier in success of Pakistani nation and without addressing these deeply rooted issues, the nation cannot prosper.

Institutions are like foundations. Without strong institutions, the foundation of a strong nation shakes and eventually crumbles. There are many factors that have weakened institutions in Pakistan. Firstly, is the political interference. The politicians use their power and influence to interfere with the working of institutions. They often bribe or appoint their favorite candidates to influence the institutions. This hinders the smooth operation of institutions and development of a country. Second, is the weak rule of law. Laws are available but are not respected and followed as they should be. Weak Judiciary

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is unable to promote rule of law. This allows the elite and powerful to engage in illegal activities to get their gains. In Pakistan, there has been a question mark on the competency of individuals working in government institutions. Many politicians and ministers are accused of having fake degrees. How can a nation prosper when incompetent individuals are running the state? Lastly, the institutions lack resources. They need resources and funds to train staff and ensure effectiveness of institutions. Weak institutions that lack resources, is under political influence, with no rule of law prove to be a challenge for developing nations.

Economic instability is deeply rooted with the question of "why nations fail?" - Without economic stability a nation cannot succeed. There are many factors that contribute to economic instability. One of them is inflation. In Pakistan the inflation rate in ~~September~~<sup>August</sup> 2024 was 9.60% which reduced to 6.90 percent in September. Basic necessities are out of reach of a common man. The electricity and gas prices are out of roof. People are struggling to make ends meet. The standard of living has been drastically hit by inflation. Another problem is the currency devaluation. It is done to make a country's products cheaper so they can compete in global market. This has also backfired for Pakistan. The import export balance is highly unequal. Pakistan's imports are way

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more than its exports - Due to constant devaluation of rupee, the imported goods are bought at high prices. This further leads to the last problem, i.e. debt and budget deficit. Pakistan is left with no other option but to seek loans to pay its existing loans back. All these factors escalate its economic instability and slows down the ~~road~~<sup>path</sup> to stability.

Like internal factors, external factors also play a key role in impeding growth. For instance regional instability has spill over effects on neighboring states. Refugee influx, smuggling and illegal trade increases pressure on domestic security and resources. In case of Pakistan, a stable Afghanistan can help stable Pakistan. Similarly, global conflicts like Russia - Ukraine war and Hamas - Gaza conflicts have world wide repercussions. Energy prices have soared, trade routes are disrupted and diplomatic and economic ties have been seriously effected. Thirdly, The tensions at borders between Pakistan and India, Pakistan and Afghanistan keep defense expenditures high. It diverts the resources from infrastructure development and education. Lastly, Terrorism erodes investors confidence and weakens state authority. Pakistan has been battling with this issue for long. More than 80 terrorist groups are banned in Pakistan. These factors create a circle of instability and leads to nation's failure failure to achieve growth and stability.



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Despite the issues here are a few recommendations to tackle failure and promote growth. Firstly, promoting accountability. Ensuring that the institutions are working within the law. Making accountability of institutions stronger and more independent. Secondly, strengthening institutions by appointing individuals on merits. To ensure zero political interference. Thirdly, by promoting education to inform and the youth about their positive role in growth of a nation. Forthly, ensuring ~~economic~~ economic and social stability by reducing injustice and inequality. Lastly, efforts should be made for making governance better. These are a few recommendations on how to not become a failed nations.

To conclude, Pakistan struggles with political instability, weak institutions and economic mismanagement which explains the broad phenomenon of "why nations fail?", revealing how social instability, poor governance, lack of education and innovation along with external factors hinder its development and threatens country's future. In spite of all these challenges, we as a nation can work together for the betterment of our country and become a successful nation. For this collective efforts should be made by heart. Working selflessly for the collective good and not just ourselves. As Allah (swt) mentions

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in the Holy Quran :-

"Verily with every hardship comes ease."

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