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TEST: 01

# English Essay

## 4. Women in Power Structures of Pakistan: Presence, Impact, and Limitations

### I. Introduction

**Thesis Statement:** The presence of women and their influence in power structure of Pakistan is shaped by multiple political, social and economic factors. However, some limitations exist in the path which requires certain suggested measures.

### II. Understanding of power structures of Pakistan:

#### A. Administrative units

- i. Parliament
- ii. Local Government
- iii. Judiciary
- iv. Military
- v. Bureaucracy and civil services

#### B. Social Institutions

- i. Higher Education Institutes
- ii. Health sectors
- iii. Think tanks and policy institutes



### III. The presence of women in the power structure of Pakistan:

- A.** Reserved seats of women in the Parliament of Pakistan.
- C. i. ii.** Representation of women in the local Government framework.
- D. i. ii.** Association of women as cabinet members
- E. x.** Participation of women in the legal reforms.
- F. y. i.** Allocation in administrative units or bee bureaucracy and civil services through CSS or PMS.
- G. y. ii.** Representation in superior and subordinate courts as female judges and lawyers
- H. y. ii.** Participation in higher education sectors
- I. i. ii.** Role in the public health sector
- J. x.** Representation as major or captions through LCC in military

### IV. The <sup>potential</sup> impact of women's inclusion in power structures:

- A.** Boosts the confidence building
- B.** Reduces the gender disparities
- C.** Produces literate votes
- D.** Ensures inclusive decision making
- E.** Reshapes the power dynamics
- F.** Brings a shift from dynastic politics
- G.** Reduces socio-economic pressure



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- H.** Brings positive change in health policies  
**I** Promotes national integration.

#### **V. The inclusion of women in power structure of Pakistan is hindered by limitations:**

- A.** Lack of awareness at national level
- B.** Gender disparities in <sup>some</sup> institutions
- C.** Patriarchal political culture
- D.** Weak <sup>and less-</sup> informed decision making in party leadership.
- E.** Lack of family-friendly work environment
- F.** Gender norms and character assassination.
- G.** Religious and cultural misinterpretations

#### **VI. Some suggested measures to counter effect of limitations in women's inclusion in power structures of Pakistan:**

- A.** Ensure the presence of women in decision making process
- B.** Awareness of women regarding their rights and duties
- C.** Highlight the importance of women in informed policy making struggle.

#### **VII. Conclusion**



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Power in any society reflects who is heard, who decides and who benefits.

Historically, political and institutional power has been concentrated in the hands of men across much of the world. **Pakistan is no exception.** However, over the past few decades, women have gradually entered formal power struggles, challenging traditional norms and reshaping governance. The presence of women in the power structure of Pakistan constitutes reserved seats in the parliament, presence in the local government framework and cabinet. In addition to it, women's participation in the legal reforms, administrative units or civil services and representation in superior and subordinate courts as female judges constitutes their inclusion in power structure of Pakistan. Moreover, the participation of women in higher education sectors, public health sectors and representation as the major or caption through LCC (lady cadet course) in military, guarantees the women's participation in power structure of Pakistan. However, the potential impacts of women's inclusion in power structures of Pakistan ranges from <sup>boosting</sup> the confidence building, reducing gender disparities, producing



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literate voters to ensuring inclusive decision making. Furthermore, reshaping the power dynamics, shifting from dynastic politics, reducing socio-economic pressure and promoting national integration are the positive impacts brought by women's participation in power structure of Pakistan.

On the contrary, lack of awareness at national level, gender disparities in some institutions, patriarchal political culture, and other areas of life is hinders the inclusion of women in power structure of Pakistan.

Therefore, some suggested measures ranging from ensuring the presence of women in decision making process, promoting awareness of women regarding their rights and duties to highlighting the importance of women in informed policy making struggle, are required to counter the affects of limitations in women's inclusion in power structure of Pakistan. Women's presence in Pakistan's power structure has increased and yielded meaningful contributions, yet structural and cultural barriers combine to limit their full impact. These barriers require certain suggested measures to counter it.