

# The Dangers Of Blind Devotion:

## OUTLINE:

### 1. Introduction.

#### Thesis Statement :

Blind devotion is dangerous as it causes social, political and religious manipulations and unrest in a society.

However, the consequences can be mitigated through fostering education that promotes critical thinking and cultivating a culture of skepticism and independence of thoughts.

### 2. How Blind Devotion ~~is~~ is dangerous ?

#### 2.1: The social manipulations and Implications of Blind Devotion.

a) The Practice of Honor killing and Social conformity.  
(The popular case of Qandeel Baloch).

b) Potential to encourage people to in a mass murder-suicide practice  
(The Jonestown Massacre in 1978).

c) The eruption of civil war between ethnic groups.  
(The Rwandan Genocide 1994)

### 2.2. The Religious manipulation of Blind Devotion.

a) Creates Religious Extremism and violence.

(Murder of Salman Taseer, TTP attacks).

b) Intolerance, ethnic cleansing of other beliefs.

(Israel-Palestinian War).

c) Blind Devotion: a Psychological Disorder.

(Burari Deaths in India 2018)

### 2.3: The Political manipulations of Blind Devotion:

a) Zia-ul-Haq Political regime.

b) Blind Devotion of Pakistanis to Political Dynasties.

c) The rise of extremist, totalitarian regimes

(Nazi Germany)

(North Korea)

### 3. Ways to counter Blind Devotion :

- a) Promoting critical thinking and media literacy.
- b) Encouraging personal growth and introspection.
- c) Promotion of empathy and tolerance towards other groups.

### 4. Conclusion:

# The Essay

Voltaire, a famous philosopher once said. "Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities." This quote addresses the dangers of blind devotion, emphasizing that how false or harmful beliefs could lead to disastrous outcomes. The Blind devotion in a society change the whole course of a society by the domination of cult leaders, political regimes and societal manipulations. Blind devotion is often dangerous as it causes social, political and religious manipulation and unrest in a society. However, the consequences can be mitigated through fostering education that promotes critical thinking and cultivating a culture of skepticism and independence of thoughts. Hence, without critical thinking, proper education, personal growth and promotion of empathy and tolerance towards other groups could mitigate the consequences related to blind devotion.

Blind devotion is dangerous in many ways. One of the reasons blind devotion is dangerous is its social implications on society. Firstly, the practice of honor killing is most prevalent in the countries that are underdeveloped. In Pakistan the practice of honor killing is often related to social conformity. In many parts of Pakistan, specially in rural areas or conservative areas, honor is considered as the key element of family's regulation and social standings. And women are the main victims of this practice. The popular case of Qandeel Baloch illustrates the example of honor killing that is related to social conformity. Qandeel Baloch was Pakistani model, actress and feminist activist. She was first Pakistani social media celebrity who got fame through social media. She belonged to the rural area of Punjab. As, ~~at~~ the Qandeel Baloch got recognition through social media in 2013, when she auditioned for Pakistani singing competition.

But later this recognition became the cause of her death. Her brother in the name of honor killed her in July 2016 at the age of 26. He claimed that Qandeel brought shame to the family working in the Showbiz industry. Thus, due to social conformity and satisfying the societal influence honor killing become prevalent in the society.

Second, social implication of blind devotion is its potential to encourage people in a mass murder-suicide practice. The Jonestown massacre is a classical example of blind devotion in a social context that led to the tragic deaths of over 900 people. The members of People's Temple, a religious cult led by Jim Jones, blindly followed his teachings and divine leadership led to a mass murder-suicide. John manipulated his followers into a mass suicide by cyanide poisoning in the remote settlement of Jonestown, Guyana. The followers of the Jones were so devoted to him that

followed his teachings till death with questioning. They didn't question # their leader about his intentions and true nature of the act. This tragedy illustrates the social implications of blind devotion that followers of Jim Jones did not question about the act and put themselves to death.

Third social implication of blind devotion is the eruption of civil war between ethnic groups. The extreme ethnic ideologies of two or more groups could lead to war between them. The Rwandan genocide was indeed driven by extreme ethnic ideologies and blind social devotion to the Hutu majority's Perceived loyalty and superiority over the Tutsi minority. The Hutu-led government along with their extremist group used propaganda to dehumanize the Tutsi population portraying them as a threat to the political power and safety of the Hutu people. This created an atmosphere of intense fear and hatred, which led to the massacre.

of approximately 800,000 Tutsis and few Hutus over a period of 100 days. Social pressures particularly the manipulation of ethnic loyalty played a significant role in encouraging people to turn on their neighbors, friends and even family members. This genocide highlights how social ideologies and loyalty, when manipulated by power structures, can lead to catastrophic consequences.

## Conclusion:

Blind devotion is considered dangerous as it causes social, political and religious manipulations and unrest in a society. However, the consequence can be mitigated through fostering education that promotes critical thinking and cultivating a culture of skepticism and independence of thoughts. As we have seen in the history ~~told about~~ that blind devotion could foster social unrest, Political totalitarian regimes and religious extremism. The famous Qandeel Baloch case of honor killing, the mass-murder-suicide in Jones town,

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Murder of Salman Taseer and TTP attacks over innocent people illustrates the negative effects of blind devotion. However, these atrocities and social unrest could be mitigated through promotion of critical thinking, media literacy, personal growth and promotion of empathy and tolerance towards others groups and religions.