

DAY: Monday

DATE: 20-10-23

Syeda Taeed fatima

NOR-OB-69

Mock-4

Essay:

**"Disaster Management in
Pakistan: Challenges and
Way Forward"**

Outline

1. Introduction

- (i) Hook (Barak Obama)
- (ii) General sentences
- (iii) Thesis statement: Poor disaster management in Pakistan accompanied by multidimensional challenges can be tackled by effective policies and institutional reforms by government.

2. Challenges to disaster management in Pakistan

- (i) Unpreparedness of government and administration
 - (a) No plan B for affected areas
 - (b) Slow response by administration
 - (c) Learning no lesson from past

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(ii) Old and traditional early warning system

- (a) Use of old and ineffective sirens
- (b) Un-able to inform civilians prior the incident

(iii) No use of technology in era of AI

- (a) Technology can predict disasters
- (b) AI can assist in managing disasters prior and post the incident

(iv) Unawareness about disaster management

- (a) Educating the civilians about sudden disasters
- (b) Training of administrative and health officers about disaster management skills

(v) Weak and ineffective policies

- (a) Policies of words and not of actions
- (b) Weak implementation

(vi) Poor and corrupt administrating

- (a) Officers confiscate the resources
- (b) They do not prioritise compensating civilians
- (c) Delayed administrative actions

(vii) Poor and unfriendly infrastructure

- (a) Disaster sensitive infrastructure across country
- (b) Lack of dams and water storing bodies

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3- Way Forward to disaster management in Pakistan

(i) Disaster management awareness and trainings

(a) Training administrative officers

(b) Educating civilians upon responding to disasters

(c) Prioritising survival and safety

(ii) Having a prepared plan B

(a) About accomodating civilians

(b) Providing food to affected areas

(c) Healthcare facilities

(iii) Incorporating modern technology

(a) AI driven disaster suspecting systems

(b) Use of advanced machinery to clear roads

(c) Free internet service across country for contacting anyone

(iv) Compensating the effecties of disaster

(a) Providing loans and employment

(b) Managing their accomodation

(c) Compensating their agricultural and livestock loss

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(v) Transparent and effective implementation of policies

- (a) Accountability of ruling elites
- (b) Policies for institutional reforms regarding disaster management.
- (c) Introducing policies and separate institute for disaster management.

4. Conclusion

Concluding poor disaster management skills of Pakistan.

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The Essay

"We are the first generation to witness the disasters of climate change and the last generation who can do something about it - Barack Obama" This is how former president of USA insisted to manage the disasters of climate change. In a climatic and economically vulnerable country like Pakistan it is the foremost need of the hour to focus on disaster management oftenly influenced by human activities and climate change. Multiple floods and earthquakes in Pakistan have exposed poor disaster management skills of the government. Every disaster added a new lesson in Pakistan but failed to influence the government enough to take practical actions against these disasters. Undoubtedly disasters are natural and bring an immense chaos with them. Our adequate responses toward those disasters determine the vulnerability of respective disasters. First world countries are more exposed to multiple disasters but their effective preparedness protects them to

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face the deadliest consequences. Pakistan is prone to natural disasters and the poor disaster management skills of Pakistan adds cherry on top of these disasters. The flawed disaster management in Pakistan is accompanied by structural and institutional weaknesses, weak implementation of policies, lack of awareness, unpreparedness, old and traditional early warning system and poor technology. These weaknesses can be mitigated by introducing a separate disaster management institute, disaster managing training of administrative officers, early warning system and well-preparedness.

To understand the challenges faced by disaster management in Pakistan let's explore its multi-faceted dimensions. The utmost challenge faced by disaster management in Pakistan is unpreparedness. Beside being exposed to similar disasters multiple times, the unpreparedness for any spontaneous disaster in Pakistan is the irony of government. The unpreparedness against

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disasters costed Pakistan a loss of \$30 billion in floods of 2022 - world bank. Pakistan never has a Plan B against any disasters. The echoes of past have been listened again multiple times across the country but there was never a plan B to respond to the vulnerabilities of disasters. This unpreparedness and late response towards disasters costed millions of death to Pakistan. Lack of adequate transport and machinery, stored food, planned accomodation for effectives and all kind of help for affected areas has never been the priority of government. Learning no lessons from past is new normal in Pakistan. In every disaster, the effectives have suffered the most due to unpreparedness of the government. These disasters can be made less vulnerable if administration and government are well-prepared. To limit the echoes of past, disaster management in Pakistan must be fully prepared to understand and tackle the vulnerability of disasters.

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Other than unpreparedness disaster management in Pakistan is accompanied by old and traditional early warning systems. Currently, this has been experienced as a challenge to the disaster management in Pakistan. In the recent floods of 2025, Punjab police officers were seen as using old manual sirens for flood warnings—reported by news channels. This shows how Pakistan is on the horns of dilemma in revolutionary age of modern technology. Manual and traditional sirens are not loud enough to reach and warn maximum people. Resultantly, most of the civilians are left uninformed and eventually exposed to disaster. Disaster management requires all the pre-requisites essential to lessen their vulnerability. In Pakistan, disaster management is followed by various challenges and hindrances depicting the eroded structural and institutional picture of Pakistan.

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Counting on the challenges to disaster management in Pakistan, the crucial one is abandoning the use of artificial intelligence and modern technology. When the contemporary world is living in age of revolution and artificial intelligence Pakistan is lagging behind in utilizing technology for the welfare of state and people. Pakistan can easily incorporate AI in managing disasters. Artificial intelligence is well capable of assisting, telling us how to respond in case of any disasters. In many countries of Global south, AI is used to predict and manage disasters. Thus, Pakistan can easily utilize modern technology for the welfare of state and people.

This poor utilization of modern technology is accompanied by lack of awareness in Pakistan. For most of the people in Pakistan are unaware about disaster management and its grave challenges. This unawareness exerts the vulnerability of any disaster. The disaster management and the basic survival skills are crucial and must be known by urban and rural

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people. To enhance disaster management, government must initiate a program to aware civilians.

The floods of 2010, 2022 and 2025 made it evident that civilian and administration are unaware of disaster management. Any

vulnerable disaster can be easily tackled if an individual is aware about its grave consequences.

People in Pakistan are well-aware of disasters and their consequences but they are unaware about disaster management.

In addition to these challenges, weak and ineffective policies are a great challenge to disaster management in Pakistan.

Over the period of time after experiencing multiple disasters Pakistan has formulated multiple policies to combat and mitigate the effects of disasters. Unfortunately, these policies have proven ineffective and shallow. Weak institutions have been failed in implementing policies to manage disasters. The few policies and programmes that were implemented were failed when the disaster returned. For instance,

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the billion tree tsunami program installed in 2022 to combat floods and global warming was washed away in the floods of 2025. Thus the program that was introduced to improve green belt of Pakistan proved to be shallow and weak in the floods of 2025. Pakistan right now requires policies of actions and not of words to manage the recurrent disasters in the country.

Additionally the corrupt administration of Pakistan is a great challenge to disaster management. The amount of money diverted and funds divided among districts to manage and compensate the disaster loss is unjustly confiscated by the authorities. Eventually, the effects of the disaster remain in misery. Pakistan listed 108 out of 156 in among least corrupted countries (global corruption index 2023) The unaccountability of public officers motivate them to make corruption delaying to manage the post disaster effects in their districts.

Lastly, the most common threat to disaster management in Pakistan is poor and weak infrastructure. The infrastructure across Pakistan is abrupt and prone to a slight disaster. In climate vulnerable country where floods are mostly likely to happen, building fragile and incompetent buildings hinder the disaster management. Moreover, the disaster management in Pakistan is in dire need of dams and water storage bodies. Every year floods in Pakistan destroy the infrastructure and that water is lost. The flood disasters can be managed by building dams and water storage bodies specifically in areas that are more prone to receive floods.

Though the disaster management in Pakistan is facing various challenges however to achieve excellency in disaster management skills is not illusive dream for Pakistan to achieve. By various structural and institutional reforms Pakistan can achieve its disaster management goals.

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Teaching disaster management skills and prevailing awareness about disaster management in rural can improve the disaster management skills of Pakistan. Disasters are universal across the world however they can be controlled and managed if their vulnerability is known. For most of the people in Pakistan are unaware of managing disasters. The government must higher specialized teams to inculcate disaster management skills among administration and civilians. Specifically, people in rural areas must be taught to prioritise survival and safety in case of any disaster.

In addition to this, for a country exposed to multiple disaster threats, government must prioritising having plan B in case of any disasters. The disasters and their vulnerability is always unpredictable so government must plan food and medicine supply and accommodation for the disaster effective. Government must plan policies to provide healthcare and hygiene facilities to people in case of disasters.

Keeping in view the sensitivity and challenges of disaster management in Pakistan must introduce AI driven technology to control the vulnerability of disasters.

AI based technology will suspect the intensity of disasters and will in managing it.

Moreover, government of Pakistan need to introduce advance machinery to clear out mess of disasters and a free internet service across country to make contacting anyone possible.

An important factor that counts in disaster management skills is compensating and assisting the affectives of disasters.

Gort of Pak must introduce policies to provide small loans and jobs to the people affected most by the disasters. This compensation could be in form of loans, jobs, and accomodation.

Henceforth, there is no doubt that Pakistan is sensitive to disasters and so does to the disaster management skills. For the time being now, the

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disaster management in Pakistan is poor & and exposed to multiple structural and institutional weaknesses.

But it is not illusive dream to achieve for Pakistan. It could be made possible by combine efforts of government & civilians.

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Disaster Management in Pak

Challenges

- no early warning system
 - e.g European countries
- Poor technology
 - in era of AI
- Lack of DM trainings
 - among civilians.
- Poor & corrupt administration
- Poor and unfriendly infrastructure
- No plan B for climate vulnerable areas
- Unpreparedness
 - no lesson from past
- Weak policies.
 - unstable economy.

Way Forward

- Training of healthcare officers & administration
- Always a plan B
- Early warning system
- Quick & effective action
- Build back better
- Incorporating automatic warning systems
- DM & health kits among civilians.
- Effective policies
- Providing loans and employment to civilians.
- Compensating the infrastructure, agriculture & livestock damage.

————→ Hook ←————

We are 1st generation to witness the disasters of CC and last gen who can do something about it — Barack Obama.

Thesis: DM in Pak is exposed to multidimensional ^{poor} challenges accompanied by ominous/unfavourable policies, ~~pushing~~ can