

# General instructions to be followed to pass essay

1- Spend time on rightly comprehension of the topic, you won't pass the essay unless and until you addressed the asked part : *Forced Marriages in Pakistan : Causes & consequences*

2- Try to make your main heading in the outline from the words in the question statement

a- Forced marriages encapsulated by 'Sangha Marmar' drama

b- Overview of forced marriage landscape in Pakistan

3- Try to add hook in the introduction. The length of introduction must be of 2 sides

2- Causes of forced Marriage

in Pakistan

2.1- Entrench ethnocentrism and xenocentrism values

2.2- Preserving tradition and culture, a system of patriarchy

2.3- Family pressure and control

2.4- Issues of finance

2.5- Preserving property within family

2.6- Phenomena of shame and dishonor to family

2.7- To settle dispute and conflict

7- Do not add new idea or point in Conclusion

8- You won't pass the essay if make more than 4-5 grammatical mistakes

3.1- Exacerbate gender-based violence (GBV)

3.2- High risk of gender-based violence in newborn children

3.3- Perpetuate cycle of violence and marital rape.

10- always try to be relevant to the topic, if even your 1 or 2 arguments are irrelevant, the examiner would not pass your essay.

Work on your Argumentation

Words selection must be improved

S.s must be improved

Paper presentation should be

improved

3.5- Incentivises underage marriage.

3.6- Lead to death of women

Must attend the tutorial session

for further suggestions and

mistakes

3.7- Create mental health

problem in the women.

#### 4- Ways to Discourage Forced Marriages in Pakistan

4.1- Formulate stringent and implement

anti forced marriage law

4.2- Develop crisis center for victim.

4.3- Heavy fines and punishment on perpetrators.

4.4- Maintain database to trace and track

4.5- Educate masses on consequence of forced marriage.

#### 5- Conclusion

Change some of your points.

Improve your words selection

Phrasing and

paper presentation must be improved

In the famous, Sangah Maah, drama a young 18 year old Kubra Khan was forced by her brother Amir Khan to wed an already married man for the sins that Amir committed earlier. In the drama Amir murder Ubaid Khan the groom brother over property issue.

**Language is too weak.  
Must improve it**

in Pakistan  
These are just a tip of an iceberg.

As in Pakistan, countless Kubras are being forcedly married due to preserving traditional values <sup>solving</sup> prevalent and at times to clean the shame of dishonor. While finding the reasons of forced marriages, one can deduce that it is due to prevalent entrenched ethnocentrism

and xenocentrism mindset in Pakistani society. Due to this mindset, infamous practices like Dowry and Child marriage still prevalent. Similarly,

Social honor issues, coupled with wealth control and family pressure also incentivises this practise. This exacerbate gender based violence (GBV) and perpetuate a cycle of violence and marital rape. Moreover, deprive

Your topic is confined to women only. Forced marriages happen to all genders. Underage marriage, which lead to high risk of gender disorders in new borns. Likewise, it accelerates mental health problem and in extreme case the death of women. Hence, under these circumstances it becomes imperative that the state formulates and implements stringent laws to end this menace. Moreover, courts must implement heavy punishment and fine <sup>the</sup> on perpetrators of forced marriages. and the government must maintain a data base to track and support victims and work on rehabilitation. In the pages to come, this essay will discuss in detail the causes and what consequences forced marriages menace poses to society and how state can end this practise.

Forced marriages in Pakistan is due to innumerable reasons. However, entrenched ethnocentrism and xenocentrism values is the most significant cause of this practise. Sociologist view that strong belief over ones ethnicity and disregard toward other ethnicity lead to practise of forced marriage.

For instance, the practise of ~~Watta Satta~~ in Southern Punjab and rural Sindh is a classic case in point. In these areas, parents often forcefully wed their ~~family~~ <sup>daughter to</sup> who are closely related to them. Hence, one can concur that ethnocentrism and xenocentrism is a major cause of this practise.

Similarly, the idea of preserving traditional values and mores is another cause of forced marriage. As families want to retain and foster their beliefs, ideas and aspiration, which often time result in practices like forced marriage. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa practise of 'Wanni' is common, whereby a girl is often times forced to be married to a person much older and unknown to her.

Though such practices do retain tradition and culture but deprive the girl of her rights and voice.

Thence, traditional values is another cause of forced marriages in Pakistan.

In Pakistan, the concept of extended family is prevalent. This leads to control and put

No Argumentation. You are supposed to provide your own analysis

everyone in check. However, this control and family pressure often leads to forced marriage. Like, in Pakistan cousin marriages are common. Needless to say that cousin marriage is not a bad phenomenon. <sup>b</sup> But when it is forced on either boy and girl this leads to severe mental health problems and in extreme cases causes bad blood within family. So, in this context one can conclude that family pressure and control is another major cause of forced marriage.

Socio-economic issues is yet another cause of forced marriage. As poor families often time give away their <sup>elder young</sup> daughter to marriage so that they can sustain their other children. With World Bank reporting that poverty level in Pakistan being risen to 44%, one can assume that many poor families may have married their young daughters to resolve inflationary effects. The issue of finance and socio-economic deprivation is the central cause of forced marriage in many cases. Therefore, one can come to the conclusion that

Socioeconomic deprivation  
forced marriage is a cause of  
forced marriage in Pakistan.

While looking at  
the landscape of Pakistan one  
can see that property is the  
treasure of all families irrespective  
of rich or poor. The practice  
of holding property within  
the family is another at time  
a reason of forced marriage.

In many urban and suburban  
areas, girls are <sup>forcefully</sup> married off  
to immediate family members.

Why your arguments are confined  
to women only?  
The ~~main~~ <sup>main</sup> reason is holding property  
within the family. This  
practise is common in Sindhi  
feudalistic landlords as property  
<sup>power</sup> signifies wealth and hold over  
resources.

Likewise, phenomena  
of bringing shame and dishonor is associated  
only with women and girls. For  
instance, And if a girl bring novel idea,  
a new thought or do anything  
which is not expected of her.  
She is labeled as a person who  
has brought dishonor in the  
family. This leads to her  
forceful early marriage as a  
punishment. However, if she refuse  
to comply leads to her evident  
death.

used as forced marriages is an instrument to solve disputes and conflicts. such practise are common in Pakistans tribal areas, whereby girls are married off to opposite enemy clan to maintain equilibrium in the society. This practise makes girls vulnerable to domestic violence and marital rape, which not only lead to physical health deterioration but also destroy bride mental health. so, one can conclude that to settle dispute and conflict forced marriage is used as an instrument to maintain equilibrium in society.

Forced marriages bring one of the profound consequences on bride, physical and mental health. As she is prone to gender based violence (GBV). This ~~gender~~<sup>GBV</sup> phenomenon is not only limited to physical health but <sup>also</sup> destroying her mental health. Human Right commission of Pakistan (HRCP) in its annual 2023-24 report mention more than 2000 gender based violence (GBV) <sup>which</sup> have been reported in Pakistan. Arguing further that

this is grossly under estimated number. As many cases go unreported due to family pressure.

Similarly, the scourge of forced marriage often time exacerbates genetic disorders. In Pakistan, where cousin marriages is high and common leads to genetic disorder in newborn children. Several studies have highlighted that cousin marriages leads to high prevalence of genetic disorders.

No Argumentation. Your own thoughts are missing

As in forced marriages many time the bride and groom are immediate cousin, which increases risk of genetic disorder.

Likewise, another consequence of forced marriage that it perpetuate a cycle of violence. This cycle of violence manifest in the form of marital rape. The idea of consent and willingness is not <sup>mostly</sup> <sub>cases of</sub> flaunted in forced marriages. This is because the bride is on the disadvantage side, and the marriage of convenience holds <sup>only</sup> till she remain subservient to her inlaws. As per All Pakistan women Association (APWA) countless marital rape are happening which

not only degrade autonomy but also soul.

Resultantly, freedoms and rights of women are altered in a forced marriage. Already, the woman is in a low position, so she is susceptible to violence and only obedience. This deprivation of one's fundamental rights: right of freedom, association and thought is curtailed, which is another consequence of forced marriage.

Similarly, practise of forced marriage is not only limited to 18 years old girls, but this scourge is practise as well on underage girls.

In Pakistan, only Sindh government has adopted stringent laws and has criminalised underage marriage. However, the rest of provinces have yet to criminalize the scourge of underage marriage.

The phenomenon of underage marriage not only destroy young children of their health but destroy their mental health, nourishment and exposes them to host of burdened problem of child rearing, house hold chores and <sup>adult</sup> responsibilities.

If a forced marriage does not go as planned the ultimate result will be the death of women. A PLWA report that thousands of women in Pakistan are killed everywhere and on charges of <sup>and</sup> honor.

The latest Balochistan case is an example whereby a young girl was killed only because she wanted to marry a person of her choice.

In extreme cases when a girl refuse to toe the family line death is the ultimate silence for her.

Lastly, <sup>forced</sup> marriages accelerate mental health problems. As the marriage is forced then question of one's consent and approval is violated by both respective family. The forced bride is forced to accept the new normal. This exacerbate <sup>for her</sup> mental health problems which encompasses physical and verbal abuses resulting into deterioration of bride health.

There are many ways the state can end this menace. Firstly, existing anti forced marriage laws must be

implemented in true letter and spirit. All provinces in Pakistan must formulate and criminalize practices of forced marriage. This will create deterrence and will protect young men and women. Moreover, establishing helplines can be another solution to end this scourge.

Similarly, focus should be on victim rehabilitation by establishing victim crisis center. The psychological and emotional support can help victims ameliorate the trauma they had gone through. Practices like focus group discussion, therapy and other activities can help victims overcome their bad memories.

Courts must play a pivotal role in discouraging forced practices. For instances, priority daily court hearing and low adjournment can lead to speedy justice. Moreover, heavy fines and penalties can deter such practices. However, it is important that punishment must be made severly, so that no such incidents occur in the future.

Fourthly, government must maintain a data base that track and trace both victim and perpetrator. As by integrating data efficiently better policies can be made to estimate the number of cases. Similarly, data driven policies can lead to effective, efficient and time bound intervention which can curtail this menace.

Lastly, efforts must be made to educate masses via school curriculum, tabloos, shows, holding conferences and by making social issues drama. A national effort is the need of hour. Hence, it can be said that collective effort must be made so that this scourge of forced marriage can come to an end.

In conclusion, this essay has articulated in detail that in Pakistan forced marriage practice is due to entrenched and cultural, socio-economic, and deeply patriarchal mind set. Which has led to normalisation of GBV, perpetuated a cycle of violence and marital rape against women.

Moreover, it has deprived women and girls of their basic fundamental rights and freedom. And resultantly has incentivised the practise of under age marriage which has profound physical and mental health problem for young girls.

The essay in this regard recommend that the state must implement the existing anti forced <sup>marriage</sup> laws stringently.

Moreover, focus should be shifted toward establishing victim crisis center for rehabilitation. Adoption of technology and data base maintenance can be crucial in formulating effective anti forced marriage policies. Lastly, a collective whole of a government and societal approach can end this menace because otherwise failure will lead to proliferation of such social ills which will cost on generations of dreams and aspiration.