

# 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

Essay

Forced Marriages

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

Causes and Consequences

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

1.1 Hook statement

1.2 Background

1.3 Thesis statement

Provide proper headings

4- your topic sentence in your argument must be aligned with the ending sentence

2- Causes of Forced Marriage

2.1 Patriarchal Norms and Gender inequality

2.2 Economic pressure and poverty

2.3 Patriarchy, Family and Community

Your ideas may be

7- Do not add new idea or point in Conclusion, but the way you have phrased

Insecurity

8- You won't pass the essay if make more than makes them grammatical mistakes

vague.

2.6 Lack of education and aware

9- outlines that are not self explanatory or does not aligned to with the essay statement are liable to mark 0 and the essay would become null and void

2.7 Misinterpretation of Religious and cultural beliefs

3- Consequences of Forced marriages

3.1 Psychological and emotional

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.

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Keywords

3.2. Physical and Reproductive health issues

3.3. Economic and educational marginalization

3.4. Intergenerational cycle of poverty and violence

3.5. Loss of legal and civil rights

3.6. Human rights violations and Global exclusions

3.7. Security and social instability

4. Cultural Analysis

4.1. The paradox of culture vs. rights

4.2. The role of modernization

4.3. Limitations of current policy approaches

5. Recommendations

5.1. Strengthening legal enforcement

5.2. Promoting education and awareness

5.3. Economic empowerment of women

5.4. Reeducation and reintegration

These wouldn't be the consequences

Your whole essay is your critical analysis

- Relation of religion
- 5.5 Survivor support system and rehabilitation
- 5.6 Community based campaigns and international cooperation

## Conclusion

- 6.1 Reaffirmation of thesis
- 6.2 Moral and religious appeal for consent and dignity
- 6.3 Call for society built on choice, not coercion

## The Essay

"Marriage should be the choice made by two hearts not a decision imposed by many hands." But across the continents, thousands are forced into marriages they never consented to. What is celebrated as the sacred bond often becomes a lifetime of servitude and trauma. Forced marriage, unlike consensual arranged marriage occurs when one or both individuals are forced to

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many against their will, under physical, emotional or social pressure. According to UNICEF 2014, over 100 million children worldwide are married before they are 18, often forceably. In

Never provide information in your introduction. You are supposed to introduce your points in your introduction.

Pakistan Human Rights Commission and Aqal Foundation document hundreds of such cases annually, particularly in Sindh, Punjab and tribal belts.

While defenders label it as a family matter or tradition, the essay examines the root causes from patriarchy and poverty to religious Friedman's expectations — and explores the devastating effects on individuals, society and national development, concluding with actionable reforms to eradicate the centuries old justice.

Forced marriage is defined by UN as "a marriage where one or both parties have not given their free and full consent." It differs

Why are you providing me the information only. Where are your thoughts?

From arranged marriage, where families facilitate but individuals consent. Islam and International law both emphasize choice and do not prevent them from remarrying their husbands if they agree between themselves in a lawful manner.<sup>99</sup>

legally, Pakistan's Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929 sets the minimum marriage age at 18 for boys and 16 for girls but regional enforcement remains uneven. Globally, despite the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, millions still face coercion through social norms, family pressure, or economic need.

At the root lies patriarchy, a social order that privileges male authority over female autonomy. In many parts of South Asia and Africa, women's identity is tied to family honour, purity and obedience. Marriages are arranged to consolidate property, power, or alliances.

Your arguments are completely irrelevant. It is because you are providing me the information. If examiner would want to get some piece of information, he would get it from Google. He won't require to read your essay. You are supposed to provide your own thoughts

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~~Patiala, Pakistan. Customs like Dowry and child marriage - where girls are married off to settle tribal disputes. These are prevalent despite legal bans under the section 340-A of the Pakistan Penal Code. Similar practices exist in Afghanistan, where daughters are exchanged to restore tribal peace. These traditions reflect not religion but the deep-rooted gender control: women as family assets, not individuals.~~

~~Poverty and financial insecurity drive many families to marry off their daughters early. Marriage is seen as a means to reduce household burdens or gain financial advantage. After the 2010 floods in Pakistan, humani~~

~~itarian organizations observed a sharp increase in child marriages in Sindh and Southern Punjab as families sought economic relief.~~

~~Across sub-Saharan Africa~~

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The bride price system comm-  
odifies girl as source of income.  
In countries like Somalia and  
South Sudan, families exchange  
daughters for livestock or  
cash. Poverty transforms marriage  
into transaction, making  
coercion as "necessity".

In many societies "honour"  
is a fragile social currency  
maintained through female  
compliance. When a girl is seen  
as violating family expectations  
by choosing her own partner,  
seeking education or rejecting  
marriage - forced marriage  
is used to restore the honour.

In Pakistan, honour-based  
marriages and killings remain  
intertwined. The study of  
Qandeel Baloch (2016), though  
not a marriage case, revealed  
how patriarchal notion of  
honour police women's choice.  
Similarly, tribal jirgas and  
panchayats often decree  
marriages to settle disputes  
(Sulah-e-Rasm) ignoring  
human rights and constitution.

safeguards.

These zones amplify women's vulnerability. Families, fearing sexual violence or insecurity, force their daughters into early marriages as protection. During the Syrian civil war, forced marriage among refugee girls in Jordan and Lebanon rose from 12% to 32% between 2011 and 2021 (UNHCR Ctr.).

In Afghanistan after Taliban's 2021 Takeover, many parents married off their girls fearing school closure and economic collapse. Similarly in Yemen, famine and conflict have pushed child marriage rates 60% in some provinces.

Even when laws exist, weak implementation sustains the problem. In Pakistan, while Sindh sets 18 as legal age to get married, Punjab and KP retain 16 - enabling loopholes. Police often treat forced marriage as "Family matter".

In Nigeria, dual legal systems (customary and sharia) create

ambiguity about age and consent, allowing parents to justify coercion. The absence of enforcement mechanisms emboldens perpetrators and silence victims.

Education is the strongest defense against coercion. UNESCO (2023) reports that girls with secondary education are <sup>three</sup> times less likely to be forced into marriage. Yet in rural Pakistan, female literacy remains below 50%.

In areas like Tharparkar and Balochistan, early marriages correlate directly with deposit rates. Literacy strips the girls of awareness about rights, health and economic independence trapping them in life long dependence.

No religion sanctions forced marriage. Islam specifically demands free consent.

"A previously married woman shall not be married until her command is sought, and a virgin until her consent is sought."

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Yet cultural practices often cloak coercion in religious legitimacy. Misinterpretation by local clerics or elders distorts faith into social control. Similar misuse occur in Christian and Hindu communities, where "duty" to family overrides personal choices.

The first victim of coercion is mind. Victims of forced marriage experience chronic depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress. A UK Home Office (2019) study found that 80% of victims required psychological counselling. In Pakistan, NGOs like Razan and Aman Foundation report growing cases of self-harm among young brides forced into marriage.

Early and forced marriages often result in premature pregnancies and mental health crises. According to UNFPA (2023) girls aged 15-19 are five times more likely to die

during childhood than women in their 20s. In rural Sindh and Southern Punjab, child brides face malnutrition, domestic violence, and obstetric complications like fistula.

The lack of agency also means no control over contraception or spacing of children, worsening maternal and infant mortality.

Forced marriage interrupts education, cutting off girls from future opportunities.

Save the Children (2020) found that additional year of schooling reduces the likelihood of early marriage by 6%. In Pakistan, female participation in the workforce remains below 22% largely due to early withdrawal from education.

Economically dependent and socially confined, women in forced marriages become trapped in the cycles of poverty and disempowerment.

The consequences of forced marriage ripple across genera-

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action. Children born into unions often witness domestic violence and Intrafamily violence is normal. A study by UNFPA (2021) found that daughters of child brides are more likely to be married early themselves.

When state institutions fail to protect victim, people turn to informal system like jirgas eroding trust in rule of law. In Pakistan, several panchayat mandated marriages sparked national outrage after being upheld by local authorities. When law enforcement legitimize coercion, it signals that justice is selective - weakening national integrity and governance.

Forced marriages violate fundamental human rights - freedom, dignity, education and health - guaranteed under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 16). Countries failing to curb it risk diplomatic criticism.

and international panels.

Under Sustainable Development of goal (SDG) 5, nations are obliged to eliminate all harmful practices.

ISPs and Boko Haram institutionalized sexual slavery and forced union as strategies of terror. In conflict regions, such practices deepen ethnic and sectarian tension, dispute education, and destabilize community.

Forced marriages exist despite legal and moral opposition. In Pakistan they are hide behind the label of "arranged marriage". This issue is rooted in patriarchy and misuse of tradition rather than religion. Laws exist but weak enforcement and social silence sustains problem.

Forced marriages violate human dignity and Islamic principles of free will. They breed misery, injustice and gender inequality. The solution lies in education, strict law enforcement, and community

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awareness. As the Quran remind  
~~There is no compulsion in~~  
~~religion - the same truth~~  
~~applies to marriage. Only a~~  
~~consent-based society can~~  
~~ensure harmony and justice~~