

Digital Freedom without Digital Responsibility: A New Challenge for Pakistani Society

Outline

I. Introduction

1. Human rights: Right of freedom of expression and right of freedom of speech
2. Define digital freedom and digital responsibility
3. Thesis Statement

II. How Digital Freedom without Digital Responsibility is a Challenge for Pakistani Society?

1. Spread of misinformation and fake news
 - a. Fake news and misinformation on social media during recent escalation between India and Pakistan

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2. Online harassment and cyber-bullying

a. Meesha Shafi case

b. Bullying social media influencers such as Samiya Hijab

3. Violation of privacy and data breach

a. Online stalking and hacking of accounts and websites

4. Hate speeches and extremist content

a. Ethnic, and religious and political groups promoting extremist content

5. Weak accountability mechanism

a. Inefficient institutions

b. FIA take a long time just to verify the crime before proceeding the investigation process

6. Censorship vs freedom dilemma

7. Psychological and mental health impacts

a. Young generation addiction

a. Addiction to pornography among young generation

III Way Forward for the Challenges

due to Digital Freedom without Digital Responsibility

1. Promote digital literacy and ethical awareness
2. Strengthen cyber laws with safeguards
3. Youth engagement in positive digital activities

IV. Conclusion.

Essay

After World War 2, the establishment of international organisation i.e. United Nation ^{set} the foundation of modern concept of human rights. These human rights includes the individual rights to freedom of speech and freedom of expression. which continued for the digital world as well. But along with a spread of digital & social media accounts, challenges also gain spikes. Digital freedom refers to the freedom to access information, access the internet and digital platform freely, and to express opinions online without undue censorship, surveillance or discrimination.

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Whereas, digital responsibility means ethical ^{and lawful} use of digital technologies. However, in Pakistan, with increasing numbers of digital technology users, challenges stemming from them are also elevating. Some of these challenges are spread of mis-information and fake news, online harassment, data breach and extremist content. Nevertheless, the awareness about the challenges and is limited. Therefore, state level engagement is necessary in order to address these challenges. Hence, digital freedom without digital responsibility is contributing in creating new challenges for Pakistani society.