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A Research Review on the Need of Islamic Education in Modern World

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Abstract

The main aim of this research manuscript is to explore the importance and need of Islamic education leading to progress in all fields of life. Every nation must whole heartedly focus and invest on education if that nation aspires to develop by leaps and bounds. This can be done if education particularly Islamic education is prioritized by the state having the commitment to awarding state patronage to it. In modern world, importance and need of Islamic education in the light of Quran and Hadith cannot be denied. Education is prioritized by various developed countries in the present world like USA, China, Russia, Finland, Singapore, England, France and Germany etc. Consequently, these countries have surpassed other counties economically and politically, progressed in the field of technology tremendously and are the most progressive and prosperous countries of the world. So, the way to social, economic and political advancement in all walks of life is paved by the investment and development in education particularly. In this country of the pure, the nation needs urgent attention to invest in education if it wants to progress by leaps and bounds. Continuous Priority needs to be awarded to education by the government especially.

Keywords: Importance, Islamic Education, Development of a nation, prosperity, Modern world

Introduction

The Holy Quran and Hadith emphasize on acquisition of Islamic education. Islamic education is a blessing by Allah Almighty, and has set excellent rules for life to live a prosperous and peaceful life in this modern era. To achieve Islamic education, Allah ﷻ has commanded us in the very first revelation of the Holy Quran.

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ﴿١﴾ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ﴿٢﴾ اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ ﴿٣﴾ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ﴿٤﴾ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ﴿٥﴾¹

Translation:

Read with the name of your Lord who created (everything).¹ He created man from a clot of blood.² Read, and your Lord is the most gracious.³ Who imparted knowledge by means of pen.⁴ He taught man what he did not know.⁵

Quranic revelation starts from the word “اقراء” with repetition to show the importance of Islamic education. Firstly, to mention “اقراء” is to mention creativity along with the command to acquire knowledge. This is the evidence that the purpose of a Muslim’s existence is familiarity with and acquisition of religious knowledge.

Secondly, Quran and hadiths of the Prophet (PBUH) indicate that if Muslims want to be honored in this world and the hereafter, they should acquire Islamic education.

Caliph the third, Umar Farooq “رضى الله عنه” has stated;

تَفَقَّهُوا قَبْلَ أَنْ تُسَوِّدُوا. وَبَعْدَ أَنْ تُسَوِّدُوا، وَقَدْ تَعَلَّمَ أَصْحَابُ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فِي كِبَرِ سِنِّهِمْ.²

Translation:

Hazrat Umar رضى الله عنه advised to understand religion before giving leadership role, because even the companions of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ learned religion in their old age.

So, is evident that the acquisition of Islamic education is the primary commandment of Allah for Muslims. This reality serves as a strong foundation for dignity and honor in life, enabling true adherence to leadership and sovereignty in the world. Therefore, Islam has not made religious education optional for Muslims but deems it obligatory. Thus, the Noble Prophet ﷺ advised;

Translation:

Acquiring religious knowledge is obligatory upon every Muslim.

For a Muslim, acquiring Islamic education is not only a compulsory duty but also holds great significance and virtue.

يَرْفَعُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ⁴

Quranic education, a source of progress and prosperity

The Noble Prophet ﷺ advised:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرْفَعُ بِهَذَا الْكِتَابِ أَقْوَامًا وَيَضَعُ بِهِ الْآخَرِينَ⁵

Translation:

Undoubtedly, Allah Almighty raises nations through this book and, in return, lowers nations through this same book.

Therefore, the one who reads the Quran and acts upon it, Allah elevates it, and the nation that disregards the Quran and refrains from acting upon its teachings, Allah humiliates it.

Islamic Education is always a pathway to better economic prospects in the world. People with higher levels of Islamic education tend to have a bright access to more job opportunities, higher earning potential, and increased job security. Islamic Education can break the cycle of poverty and promote social mobility due to its divine principles. It provides people with the tools they need to improve quality of their life and quality of their families.

Education undoubtedly helps individuals become abreast and engaged global citizens. It fosters an understanding of diverse cultures, perspectives and global issues. It encourages empathy and cooperation.

A well-educated population is essential for technological advancement and innovation. Education effects progress in science, technology, medicine and various other fields.

Education develops critical thinking skills, enabling individuals to analyze information, make informed decisions, and solve complicated problems. Education is

significant for better health outcomes. Educated individuals are more likely to make healthier lifestyle choices and access healthcare services.

It also preserves cultural heritage and traditions by passing knowledge and values from one generation to the next. It fosters a sense of belonging and social cohesion within communities and nations. It helps bridge cultural, social, and economic divides. It can raise awareness about environmental issues and promote sustainable practices, contributing to the conservation of our planet.

Importance of Education in the Modern World

Education always plays a crucial role in a country's progress and prosperity. It is often referred to as the "great equalizer". Its impact on the progress and prosperity of a country is profound, touching various aspects of society, from economic growth, innovation to social cohesion and health outcomes. Education influences a nation's progress in all aspects of life

Economic Progress

Education is a key driver of economic development and prosperity for countries. Educated populations are more likely to participate in the workforce, contribute to economic growth, and adapt to changing labor markets. According to the World Bank, each additional year of schooling can increase an individual's earnings by 10% or more.

A study by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) found that increasing the average education level in a country by one year can lead to a 3.6% increase in GDP per capita. The example of Singapore can be taken up. This is a small nation with limited natural resources but has prioritized education as a means to fuel economic growth. Through a world-class education system, it has transformed itself into a global financial and technological hub.

Innovation and Technological Advancement

Education fosters a culture of innovation and technological progress. Countries with well-educated populations are better equipped to engage in research and development activities leading to breakthroughs in various fields. The Global Innovation Index

consistently ranks countries with strong education systems as leaders in innovation.

A report by the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) found that higher levels of education are positively correlated with a number of patents filed and technology exports. The example of Finland's education system must be referred to because it is often cited as one of the world's best educational systems. It has contributed to the country's reputation as an innovation powerhouse. Companies like Nokia and Rovio (creators of Angry Birds) have roots in Finland's strong educational foundation.¹

Social Progress and Equity

Islamic education, no doubt, plays a pivotal role in promoting social progress by reducing inequalities and fostering social cohesion. UNESCO reports that education is one of the most effective ways to lift people out of poverty and reduce income disparities.

The Global Education Monitoring Report shows that educated populations are more likely to be engaged in civic activities, leading to stronger democracies. In this connection, Brazil's Bolsa Família program, which provides cash transfers to low-income families, includes a condition that children must attend school regularly. This policy has not only reduced poverty but also increased school enrollment and improved education outcomes among marginalized populations.

Health and Well-being

Education is closely linked to health outcomes. It empowers individuals to make informed decisions about their health and leads to improved access to healthcare services. Studies by the World Health Organization (WHO) reveal that higher education levels are associated with healthier behaviors and longer life expectancy.

UNESCO reports that educated mothers are more likely to seek prenatal care and immunizations for their children, resulting in improved maternal and child health. Sri Lanka's investment in education has been instrumental in achieving remarkable improvements in

health indicators. The country's high literacy rates have contributed to lower maternal and child mortality rates and the successful control of diseases like malaria.²

Education is not just a fundamental right, rather, it is an engine for progress as it shapes the destiny of nations. Countries that prioritize education, invest in quality schools and ensure equitable access to learning opportunities are better positioned to realize economic growth, foster innovation, reduce inequalities, and enhance overall well-being. The path to a brighter future for any country begins with a commitment to education.

Literature review

1. "The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything" by Sir Ken Robinson is a book which emphasizes on the significance of discovering one's passion and how education can play a vital role in helping individuals find their true calling.
2. "The Smartest Kids in the World: And How They Got That Way" by Amanda Ripley is a book about the educational systems of various countries. Amanda Ripley explores the education systems of different countries and their impact on student success. The book highlights the importance of effective education in shaping a nation's future.
3. "Dumbing Us Down: The Hidden Curriculum of Compulsory Schooling" is a book written by John Taylor Gatto. John Taylor Gatto criticizes the conventional education system and discusses how it can stifle creativity and individuality. This book encourages readers to think critically about the purpose of education.
4. "Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover is a beautiful story book. Tara Westover's memoir tells us the story of her journey from childhood without formal education in rural Idaho to earning a PhD from Cambridge University. It illustrates the transformative power of education.
5. "The Republic" is a well-known book of Plato. In this classical work, Plato discusses the importance of education in shaping the ideal society and the role of philosopher-kings in educating citizens.

Research Methodology

Qualitative and exploratory methods will prevail throughout this research article to assess how prioritizing, commitment to and investing on education are the key to advancement, peace and prosperity for the world and Pakistan and how it can play its

outstanding role in the establishment of a dynamic Islamic society in Pakistan. Different books of scholars, educators, various websites and articles will be referred to in this article.

A few examples of progressive countries are, hereby, cited to prove that progress and prosperity are effected by focus and investment on education:

U.S.A

Nelson Mandela³ says that education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

Education plays a crucial role in the development of a nation, and the United States serves as an exemplary case of how education can transform a country from its early origins to the global powerhouse as America is today. The United States' commitment to education has played a significant role in its economic growth, technological advancements, social progress, and global influence.⁴

Foundational Education Systems

One of the key elements of the United States' success lies in its establishment of a strong educational foundation. The Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890, for example, played a vital role in the development of the American higher education system. These acts provided federal land grants to establish universities, which led to the foundation of numerous educational institutions, including land-grant universities such as Cornell University and Purdue University.¹ This system boosted scientific research, technological innovation, and human capital and thus fueled the country's development.

Accessible Public Education

The United States has made important strides in providing accessible public education. The establishment of free, compulsory education through the Common School Movement during the early 19th century paved the way for education to reach all social and economic classes.² Horace Mann, often referred to as the father of the American public school system, advocated for equal education opportunities, which contributed to the country's commitment to democratizing education and enhancing social mobility.

Emphasis on Higher Education

The United States substantially stresses on higher education as a cornerstone of its economic growth. The focus on higher education and research has led to a surge in technological advancements and innovation. Top-tier universities, such as the Ivy League institutions and public universities like the University of California system, have consistently produced pioneering research and nurtured talented individuals across various fields.³ The presence of these prestigious educational institutions has fascinated some of the brightest minds from the world, helping the United States maintain its leading position in many sectors.

Strong Workforce Development

Another way in which education has contributed to the development of the United States is through the development of a highly skilled workforce. The country's commitment to vocational education has been instrumental in preparing individuals for specific trades and professions. Community colleges and technical schools have played a vital role in offering practical skills to meet the demands of the labor market. This focus on vocational education, combined with academic education, has helped create a versatile and skilled workforce that drives economic growth and innovation.⁴

Education has been the driving force behind the transformation of the United States into a developed nation. From establishing a solid foundation through access to public education and granting federal land for universities to emphasizing higher education and fostering a highly skilled workforce, education has played a pivotal role in the country's social, economic, and technological development. By prioritizing education, the United States has demonstrated how investing in human capital can lead to significant progress and enable a nation to thrive in the modern world.

RUSSIA

William Butler⁷ Yeats says that education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.

Russia also serves as a compelling example of how education can contribute to the transformation of a country into a successful and developed nation.

Education in Russia has a rich history dating back to the medieval period. However, it was during the 18th and 19th centuries that significant reforms were initiated to modernize the education system. The reign of Catherine, the Great, saw the establishment of the first Russian universities, such as Moscow State University (founded in 1755), which played a pivotal role in shaping the intellectual landscape of the country.

Accessible Education for All

One of the key factors having contributed to Russia's development as a nation was its commitment to providing accessible education for all citizens. This commitment is rooted in the reforms of the 19th century, particularly those initiated by Tsar Alexander II. These reforms aimed to expand the educational opportunities available to both urban and rural populations and then they led to increased literacy rates. As education became more accessible, it empowered individuals to participate in various sectors of society, from politics to industry.

According to historian Geoffrey Hosking⁸ in his book "Russia: People and Empire, 1552-1917," the expansion of education in 19th-century Russia was instrumental in nurturing a sense of national identity and unity among the diverse Russian population.

Scientific Advancements and Technological Progress

Education in Russia played a crucial role in driving scientific advancements and technological progress. The establishment of institutions like the Imperial Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg and the widespread dissemination of knowledge through educational institutions contributed to Russia's scientific achievements. For instance, Ivan

Pavlov's groundbreaking work in psychology and Dmitri Mendeleev's periodic table in chemistry are just two examples of Russia's contributions to science, which were made possible through a strong educational foundation.

In her book "The Making of the Soviet System: Essays in the Social History of Interwar Russia," historian Moshe Lewin discusses how the Soviet Union continued to prioritize education and scientific research, leading to significant advancements in various fields during the 20th century.⁶

Cultural and Artistic Renaissance

Education also played a significant role in fostering a rich cultural and artistic heritage in Russia. The country produced world-renowned writers, composers, and artists whose works continue to be celebrated globally. Fyodor Dostoevsky, Leo Tolstoy, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, and Wassily Kandinsky are just a few examples of Russian cultural icons whose education and creativity contributed to the nation's cultural renaissance.⁹

In his book "The Russian Experiment in Art: 1863-1922," art historian Camilla Gray highlights how education and intellectual exploration played a central role in the development of Russian avant-garde art movements.¹⁰

Russia's journey from its historical roots to its current status as a developed nation. Accessible education, scientific progress, and cultural contributions are just a few of the ways education has shaped Russia's development. The nation's investment in education has not only enriched its culture and society but has also empowered its citizens to contribute significantly to global progress.

CHINA

Malcolm X¹¹ says that education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.

China has a long and rich history of education, with a tradition dating back thousands of years. Historically, education in China was deeply rooted in Confucianism which emphasized the importance of knowledge and virtue. However, modern education in China has evolved significantly over the years, especially during 20th century.

Universal Access to Education

China's commitment to providing universal access to education has been a fundamental driver of its development. Under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping in the late 20th century, China embarked on a series of reforms, including educational reforms. These reforms aimed to lift millions of people out of poverty and transform the country into a global economic powerhouse. These reforms led to the expansion of primary and secondary education in rural areas, improved literacy rates and fostered a more educated workforce.

In his book "China's Great Transformation," economist Loren Brandt discusses how China's investments in education contributed to its rapid economic growth and development.¹²

Emphasis on STEM Education

China's emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education has played a pivotal role in its development. The country has consistently produced a large number of skilled scientists, engineers, and innovators. This focus on STEM education has fueled China's technological advancements and made it a global leader in fields of artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and telecommunications etc.¹³

In "The Third Revolution: Xi Jinping and the New Chinese State," author Elizabeth C. Economy explores how China's investments in STEM education have positioned it as a leader in technological innovation.¹⁴

Higher Education Expansion

China's expansion of higher education has been instrumental in fostering a highly educated and skilled workforce. The establishment of prestigious universities like Tsinghua University and Peking University, as well as the significant increase in the number of universities and research institutions, has attracted talent from the world and contributed to China's scientific and academic achievements.¹⁵

"China's Higher Education Reform and Internationalisation" by Futao Huang and "The Changing Landscape of China's Consumerism" by Li Sun discuss how higher education expansion has influenced China's development.¹⁶

Education has played a pivotal role in China's journey from a predominantly agrarian society to a global economic and technological powerhouse. Universal access to education, a focus on STEM disciplines, and the expansion of higher education have all contributed to China's remarkable development. As China continues to invest in education and research, it remains a key player in shaping the future of the global economy and technology.¹⁷

SINGAPORE

Christine Gregoire¹⁸ says that education is the foundation upon which we build our future.

Singapore is a small city-state that has achieved remarkable development and prosperity because education has played a pivotal role in this success story. The key factors that contributed to its development will follow below:

Singapore's education system has evolved significantly over the years. In the early post-independence period, Singapore faced numerous challenges, including high unemployment rates and a lack of natural resources. The government recognized the importance of education in addressing these challenges and embarked on a series of comprehensive educational reforms.

Investment in Quality Education

Singapore's commitment to investing in quality education has been central to its development. The government has consistently allocated a significant portion of its budget to education, focusing on teacher training, curriculum development and infrastructure. This investment led to a highly skilled and educated workforce, which has been a key driver of Singapore's economic success.

In his book "From Third World to First: The Singapore Story," Lee Kuan Yew, the founding Prime Minister of Singapore, discusses the importance of education in the country's development and how it helped Singapore transition from a developing nation to a developed one.¹⁹

Meritocracy and High Standards

Singapore's education system is known for its meritocratic principles and high academic standards. The emphasis on meritocracy has ensured that the most talented individuals have opportunities to excel in various fields. The rigorous curriculum exemplified by the Singapore education model in mathematics and science, has produced high-performing students who are competitive on a global scale.

Education researchers such as Oon-Seng Tan and Ee-Ling Low, in their book "Curriculum Reforms in Singapore," delve into the educational policies and practices that have made Singapore's system highly effective.²⁰

Internationalization and Global Recognition

Singapore has embraced internationalization in its education system because it attracted students and researchers from around the world. The establishment of renowned institutions like the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has placed Singapore on the map as a global education hub. These

institutions have not only contributed to knowledge creation but have also attracted foreign talent, boosting Singapore's research and innovation capabilities.²¹

In the article "Singapore's Global Schoolhouse: An Analysis of the Development of the Education Services Sector" published in the "Asian Studies Review," authors Su Ho Lim and Elizabeth A. Bacon discuss how Singapore's internationalization efforts have influenced its education sector and its status as a global education hub.²²

Education has been a driving force behind Singapore's transformation from a struggling nation at the time of independence to a developed and prosperous city-state. The government's commitment to quality education, a meritocratic system, and internationalization efforts have all played significant roles in Singapore's development. As a result, Singapore has become a model for other countries seeking to improve their education systems and achieve economic growth and prosperity.

FINLAND'S EDUCATION SYSTEM

Benjamin Franklin²³ says that an investment in knowledge pays the best interest.

Finland's education system is often praised for its high quality and innovative approach to teaching and learning. Here are some key features and aspects of the Finnish education system:

Comprehensive Education

The Finnish education system offers a comprehensive, publicly funded education from early childhood education and care (ECEC) to higher education. Education is free at all levels, including university education.

Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC)

Finland strongly emphasizes on early childhood education and care, starting as early as age 1. ECEC is not mandatory, but it is highly accessible and often of high quality.

No Formal Schooling Until Age 7

Finnish children typically do not start formal primary school until they are 7 years old. Before that, they focus on play-based learning and social development.

Short School Days and Minimal Homework

Finnish students have shorter school days compared to many other countries, with an average of 4-5 hours of instruction per day. Homework is minimal, with a strong emphasis on student well-being and balance.²⁴

Highly Qualified Teachers

Finnish teachers are required to have a master's degree in education, and the teaching profession is highly respected. This leads to a well-educated and motivated teaching workforce.

Student-Centered Learning

The Finnish education system prioritizes student-centered and personalized learning. There is less emphasis on standardized testing and more on assessing students' overall development and understanding.

Less Standardized Testing

Finland uses minimal standardized testing compared to many other countries. Instead, assessment is often based on teacher evaluations and qualitative assessments.

Flexible Curriculum

The national curriculum framework in Finland provides broad guidelines, but teachers have significant autonomy in designing their curriculum and teaching methods.

Individualized Support

Students who need extra support or have special needs are provided with individualized support and special education services.

Equity and Inclusivity

Finland places a strong emphasis on equity and inclusivity in education. Efforts are made to ensure that all students, regardless of their background or abilities, have access to a high-quality education.

Emphasis on Teacher Collaboration

Teachers in Finland often work collaboratively, sharing best practices and ideas. This collaborative culture helps improve teaching quality.²⁵

Focus on Well-Being

Finnish schools prioritize student well-being and mental health. This includes providing nutritious meals, counseling services, and fostering a positive school environment.

Less Homework, More Play

Homework is minimal in Finnish schools, and there is a strong emphasis on allowing children to have time for hobbies and extracurricular activities.

Shorter Summer Vacation

The long summer vacation common in many countries is shorter in Finland, which helps prevent learning loss over extended breaks.

Overall, the Finnish education system places a strong emphasis on creating a supportive, student-focused learning environment that values both academic and personal development.

It is important to note that while Finland's education system is often praised, it may not be directly applicable to every country due to cultural, social, and economic differences.

Pakistan

Aristotle²⁷ says that the roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.

Education is, no doubt, the key to the socio-economic development of a country. It plays a significant role in the construction of human capabilities. It improves economic growth through knowledge, skills and creativity of a society. Education reduces poverty and inequality. It improves upon health status and good governance in a country. Pakistan is a developing country, which is a populous country, needs to redesign educational policies for

promoting education. The government must make earnest efforts to improve the quantity and quality of education by enhancing educational facilities within the minimum possible time. The overall literacy rate for the years 10 and above was 55 percent during 2006- 07 compared with 45 percent in 2001-02), indicating a 10 percentage points increase over a period of only six years.²⁷

To achieve sustainable growth in Pakistan, it is obligatory to continue assistance in poverty reduction and develop social and economic infrastructure more importantly in education. Since many years the economic growth is worrisome in Pakistan. The factors responsible for this situation are unfavorable economic growth, political instability, negligence in education sector, worse law and order situation and poor attraction for the foreign investors.

It is beyond doubt that education is a significant contributor to economic prosperity. To achieve a strong growth, education should be given top priority in Pakistan. As a basic instrument of development, education enhances work skills and life skills such as confidence and sociability. These skills in individuals promote economic growth on a societal level via increased productivity and better governance. In conclusion, it is observed all over the world that not a single country has ever achieved sustained economic development without substantially investing in education sector. Though education by itself does not guarantee successful development, yet it promotes various essential skills among individuals in a country.

Historical background

When Pakistan got independence in 1947, West Pakistan had got only one institution for higher education, the University of the Punjab while East Pakistan had the University of Dhaka. Then within next 20 years, many private and public educational institutions were established to fuel the country's socio-economic development. In the early 1970's, national educational institutions were nationalized during the government of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. In the next decade, Pakistan's system of education was state run. However, then the country saw the establishment of new public universities.

Then the system could accommodate only 25 percent of the High school graduates at higher education institutions. Then the wealthy Pakistanis went abroad to seek university

degrees in the United States, Great Britain and Australia, while others sought out private tutors at home or entered the job market without a degree.²⁸

In 1979, a government commission reviewed the consequences of nationalization by concluding that the public sector can no longer be the country's sole provider of education. By the mid-1980s, private educational institutions were allowed to operate on the condition that they would comply with government-recognized standards. Until 1991, there were only two recognized private universities in Pakistan: Aga Khan University established in 1983; and Lahore University of Management Sciences established in 1985.

By 1997, there were 10 private universities and in 2001-2002, this number had doubled to 20. In 2003-2004 Pakistan had a total of 53 private degree granting institutions. The quick expansion of private higher education is even more remarkable if someone looks at the number of institutions established on a year-by-year basis.

In 1997, for instance, three private institutions were established; in 2001 eleven new private institutions were opened; and in 2002 a total of 29 private sector institutions came into existence. Then the government decided to introduce 'English Medium Education' on a phased basis and to substantially end the right to 'Mother Tongue Education'. This new policy is termed as 'Education Sector Reforms (Policy decisions)'. It states that "English language has been made compulsory from Class-1 onwards." and the "Introduction of English as a medium of instruction for Science, Mathematics, Computer Science and other selected subjects like Economics and Geography in all schools in a graduated manner."²⁹

So the situations worsened when different streams of education sprang up in the form of state-run educational institutions, public educational institutions, semi government educational institutions and Madrassa system of educational institutions. A difficult to comprehend system of education at local, provincial and national level is being run. And it results in chaos, law and order situation and disintegration in the country. It has impacted the economy growth and peace substantially.

In recent years, Pakistan's economic growth has remained unsustainable and unpredictable to an alarming extent. It has caused serious concern to policy-makers, professionals, and foreign donor agencies.

The quantitative evidence shows that the real GDP growth is related to education. It implies that education is a prerequisite for a country's growth. Therefore, education must be considered as the foundation-stone upon which the economic development in Pakistan can be erected. The Government is supposed to provide education to all nationals to improve the literacy rate within a minimum time-span.³⁰

The policy makers suggest that the measures should be adopted to improve the education system in Pakistan at primary, high and higher level, so that a universal enrolment rate in primary education may be achieved in near future. In addition to it measure may also be taken to enhance the literacy rate in the country to give boost to economic growth in Pakistan. The nation is not disappointed to recover from the very difficult situation in the country as Ralph Waldo Emerson³¹ says that the remedy of all evils in democracy is more democracy, similarly, the remedy of all evils in education is more education.

Education is of paramount importance in every society as it plays a significant role in individual development, societal progress, and advancement of humanity as a whole. Education equips individuals with knowledge, skills, and critical thinking abilities. It helps them discover their interests and passions, fostering personal growth and self-awareness.

Education is often a pathway to better economic prospects. People with higher levels of education tend to have access to more job opportunities, higher earning potential, and increased job security. Education can break the cycle of poverty and promote social mobility. It provides people with the tools they need to improve quality of their life and that of their families.

Furthermore, education helps individuals become informed and engaged global citizens. It fosters an understanding of diverse cultures, perspectives and global issues, encouraging empathy and cooperation.

A well-educated population is essential for technological advancement and innovation as well. Education drives progress in science, technology, medicine and various other fields.

It promotes critical thinking skills, enabling individuals to analyze information, make informed decisions, and solve complex problems. Education is linked to better health outcomes. Educated individuals are more likely to make healthier lifestyle choices and access healthcare services.

Education helps preserve cultural heritage and traditions by passing knowledge and values from one generation to the next. It fosters a sense of belonging and social cohesion within communities and nations. It helps bridge cultural, social, and economic divides. It can raise awareness about environmental issues and promote sustainable practices, contributing to the conservation of our planet.

An educated citizenry is also essential for the functioning of democratic societies. Informed citizens are better equipped to participate in political processes and hold their leaders accountable. Education can reduce disparities in income and opportunities. It provides a pathway for marginalized and underprivileged individuals to improve their circumstances. It does not just bring about economic or societal benefits; it also brings personal fulfillment and a sense of accomplishment. Learning can be a lifelong pursuit that enriches one's life in various ways.

Education is a fundamental human right and a cornerstone of individual and societal development. It empowers individuals, drives economic growth, fosters social progress, and contributes to the betterment of society as a whole. Recognizing and investing in education is crucial for building a more equitable, prosperous, and sustainable world.

Conclusion

Education is of paramount importance in every society as it plays a significant role in individual development, societal progress, and advancement of humanity as a whole. Education equips individuals with knowledge, skills, and critical thinking abilities. It helps them discover their interests and passions, fostering personal growth and self-awareness.

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Education promotes critical thinking skills, enabling individuals to analyze information, make informed decisions, and solve complex problems. Education is linked to better health outcomes. Educated individuals are more likely to make healthier lifestyle choices and access healthcare services.

Education helps preserve cultural heritage and traditions by passing knowledge and values from one generation to the next. It fosters a sense of belonging and social cohesion within communities and nations. It helps bridge cultural, social, and economic divides. It can raise awareness about environmental issues and promote sustainable practices, contributing to the conservation of our planet.

An educated citizenry is essential for the functioning of democratic societies. Informed citizens are better equipped to participate in political processes and hold their leaders accountable. Education can reduce disparities in income and opportunities. It provides a pathway for marginalized and underprivileged individuals to improve their circumstances. Education does not just bring about economic or societal benefits; it also brings personal fulfillment and a sense of accomplishment. Learning can be a lifelong pursuit that enriches one's life in various ways.

In a nutshell, education is a fundamental human right and a cornerstone of individual and societal development. It empowers individuals, drives economic growth, fosters social progress, and contributes to the betterment of society as a whole. Recognizing and investing in education is crucial for building a more equitable, prosperous, and sustainable world.

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