

## **SOCIAL ASPECT OF GLOBALIZATION AND INTERNATIONALIZATION OF SOCIO- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT”**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Globalization is characterized with multi-faceted aspects. It sometimes helps in social and economic development. On the contrary, it hampers social and economic development on the whole. It increases interdependency; therefore, it is the main cause of changes in the international system. Before the advent of globalization within the international spectra the personal roles and status were considered important. With its introduction personal activities, regarding the interdependency between the nations, the collective games have increased. Therefore, the concepts of social and economic development have totally changed. Those concepts are directly or indirectly reshaped or sometimes totally converted into the lobbies and whims of internationally controlled corporations, non-government organizations and global actors. This paper will review the process of globalization and its impact on international relations which causes socio-economic development.

### **INTRODUCTION**

One of the hot issues discussed at various academic forums is the subject of globalization and its overall impact on the economy and social development of the world. Globalization in a literary sense is the tool of globalizing, transformation of some things or phenomena into global ones. Generally, it is considered a holistic process in which the people from different regions of the world are unified into a single society and function together. This process on the whole is a combination of economic, technological, socio-cultural and political forces (Croucher, 2004). The importance of globalization in ushering socio-economic development is realized specially since last three decades when electronic media converted the world in a global village (Modelska, 1972).

In recent times the globalization is coincided with the economic concept where the integration of national economies into the international economy through trade, foreign direct investment, capital flows, migration, and the spread of technology has taken place (Bhagwati, 2004). As a result the issue of its expanded dimensions has created a very immense revolution in the human life. Therefore, the concept of globalization has got a very important place in academic circles of

economic and social researches (Krasner, 2001). A serious attempt has been made to interpret all of its impacts from all sides and corners.

The most important point of the impact of globalization is the socio-economic relations of the various stakeholders. The socio-economic development of any country depends on such relations. During the history of human being, societies have been dealing with each other in different ways and have formed all kind of relations. As per compatibility of the globalization the social and economic relations have been conformed.

The need is profoundly felt in the developing countries of the world. Pakistan is a developing country where socio-economic development is still in initial process. The interdependency on economic powerful countries of the world has made the process slow. The socio-economic indicators of the country are not good enough. Pakistan is loosing ground as compared to other countries of the region. Pakistani rupee is loosing the credibility against the foreign currency of the developed world. The high prices of fuel have hampered the socio-economic development of the common strata of the society. The gap between rich and poor is too high and soaring too high.

### **DEFINITION OF GLOBALIZATION**

Globalization has been defined in various ways and with different approaches. For example: Globalization as an idea, globalization as a pattern or project, globalization as a process of human being's history, globalization as a probable future, globalization as a situation, and finally, globalization as a trend (Nahavandian, 2007). There is not one and single definition about the term of globalization. Everyone has seen it in his/her point of view. Therefore, there are different opinions about it (Salimi, 2005). Different writers have different views regarding the definition of globalization. The most important explanation about the concept has been presented by Jan Aart Scholte (2000:15-17). Jan has given five definitions of globalization in the literature. His points are quite relevant to the issue of globalization. The points are as under:

### **Globalization as Internationalization**

In this part of the study the globalization is simply conceived the global international relations between different nations and the countries. The point leads to the concept of the development of exchange and the greater dependency on each other. Here economy is taken as exchange of commodities from one border to the next. As a result the globe becomes a village where business takes place at a quite ease (Hirst and Thompson, 1996).

### **Globalization as Liberalization**

In this part of the study the 'globalization' is regarded above than the borders where restrictions are removed with the purpose of creating borderless economy (Scholte 2000: 16). The researchers who have much sported the idea of doing with the regulatory business restrictions have included in this type of caption.

### **Globalization as Universalization**

In this section of the concept globalization is considered for granted as a worldwide phenomenon where the transfer of commodities and knowledge is spread in all corners of the world

### **Globalization as Westernization or Modernization**

At this point 'globalization' has been considered as a transformation of the cultural values cross the borders. As a result powerful cultures are supposed to imbibe the weaker. The system has threatened the various existent cultures present in various parts of the world.

### **Globalization as Deterritorialization**

At this juncture 'globalization' leads to the concept of the reshaping the notion of border, territory, or a country where the movement is free of all the restrictions without any hindrance (Held, McGrew, Goldblatt, Perraton, 1999).

As stated above there are various approaches and definitions of globalization. My understanding of globalization is well-matched to the last definition in which 'Globalization' is as a trend and process of the far past and is continued to the present time and will be continued in the future as well. All along this process every phenomena and social problems of human beings are being changed from the individual, racial, local and national into global ones. In this course of action the human being lives are more associated and dependent on each other. Consequently, instead of racial, local, and national different societies, there will be conformed a single and united global society.

All the people in this global society have memberships and have a dependency and concern toward it (Ohmae, 1990a). As a result, with mutual aid and partnership they try to do away with their desires and the difficulties of global society which can be removed (Keohane & Nye, 1977). With the definition presented here, the specific changes will appear in the globalization processes. They are as under:

- The elimination of the borders which disconnect the societies of the human beings,
- Vanishing away of racial, local and national issues and substitute of these with the faithfulness to global issues instead,
- The manifestation of global citizenship in place of national citizenship,
- The alliance of all human beings in societies jointly and the extension of communication and the get in touch with among these societies,
- The configuration of global cultural and the encouragement of common values accepted by all the universal people,
- Reduction of racial, local and national institutions on account of the significance of all the global and transnational organizations and institutions,
- The development of international general laws and the empowerment of global organizations,
- Manifestation of global phenomena and concerns. These changes are not restricted to particular areas such as political or economical ones.

However, it touches all the fields of human being's life. Therefore, due to the globalization practice, it contains all the human being life dimensions and causes their transform and changes.

## THE SOCIAL SYSTEM: STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

Social scientists, whose domain is to analyze the social life, do so at two levels. They are: interpersonal or microsocial level and the group or macrosocial level. On the microsocial level they focus on the way individuals relate to one another based on the position that each *holds in relation to the other. In this part of the system* the socio-economic development takes place at national level. The players of this game are people within a territorial boundary of the country. They usually have the same cultural background and competition is open to all at the national level.

On the macrosocial level, social scientists examine the relationships between and among groups or nations with multi-cultural opportunities and cultural backgrounds. They focus on the values and rules of behaviour that emerge when people live in various parts of the globe. In this category the concept of socio-economic development emerges at the global level. The competitors are countries and different nations. Powerful nations try to usurp the economic resources and control the weaker. As a result, the economic disparities are vehemently found among the developed and the developing world.

When the social life is observed then it has been noted that it takes place within a system, although the system is not rapidly apparent. The social system is an abstraction, a model that illustrates how social relationships work together. Every group, whether it consists of two people or many millions of people, is basically a social system. As is characteristic of systems, each part is connected to, and depends on, every other part. It follows that the way each individual in a group influences every other individual in the group. This interconnectedness and interdependence eventually result in shared patterns of behaviour that members come to expect of each other. Knowing what is expected of oneself, and what one can expect of others, makes life much easier and work much more efficient.

The orderly and fairly predictable patterns of interaction that emerge in a social system give that social system structure and organization. Social structure and social organization are terms that refer to the network of organized relationships among the component parts of a social system. They are the patterned and recurring ways in which individuals and groups interact.

## **IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON SOCIO\_ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Human beings are living in diverse and a variety of groups. Nevertheless, according to sociability of human beings, it is essential to maintain relation with others. This kind of need has caused the relation not to be confined to the people and individuals who are living beside each other in a human group, but also they attempt to relate with the other individuals and the people who live in other groups. Such human groups in far past of the time were as the very small communities like tribes. Their relations appeared as the relations of intertribal. But in the modern time the human groups were conformed as the national units. During this period the relations between the national units caused the appearance of the international relations (Kaplan, 1962).

To sustain life, people need a consistent supply of food, sufficient shelter, and clothing for protection from the external elements. These goods are scarce and require combined efforts to obtain. The institution of the economy consists of the patterns of behaviour that revolve around obtaining the scarce resources necessary for survival. Essentially, societal members must decide what to produce, how to distribute and exchange what is produced, and in what manner to consume it.

Pakistan is a developing country. The socio-economic indicators of the country are not encouraging. The economy of the country has remained under the pressure of various external and internal forces. The country has remained under the dictatorship or Marshall Rule most of the period after independence. The elite class of the country has kept themselves disdained from improving the socio-economic condition of the general masses. It is widely believed that Pakistani economy is under direct influence of the various international global donor agencies like IMF, World Bank etc. Those agencies have high jacked the economy. That is the main reason that some unpopular decisions are always imposed on the people of Pakistan. Due to the rising prices of edible commodities the socio-economic condition of the poor is worsening with every passing day.

To determine the impacts of globalization on the socio-economic development, a careful survey the five determiner indexes of the international system needs to be conducted. With due attention to what was brought up as the globalization, the intensive impacts of globalization on

these five factors can be foreseen and predicted. Thus, the process of globalization causes the changes. The changes which globalization causes are such as:

1. With regard to the process of globalization the international players will change. During the previous centuries the states were the only players at first, and then they became the most important international players. In the process of globalization the new players are being activated. In a few cases they replace the states, or the international non-governmental organizations and global organization that usually can disregard the states (Berton, 1999, Chap. 9). The most visible characters of new players are their collective, multi-national and global characters. On the contrary, the nation-states emphasized on the national interests of a nation and they attempted to make individual decisions to pursue their own targets. But the new players pay much attention to the interests which different nations take advantages of them, and they attempt with cooperation and collectively to pursue their targets (Ohmae, 2002). With activation of new players, the role of states and governmental players becomes limited (Ohmae, 1999b). The character of new players in the form of collective, multinational and global forms causes the loss of their validation about their old type of games.

2. The other impact of globalization is changing in structure of international system. Structuration and create a new structure is one of the most important impact of globalization. Robertson (1992) has argued that we can not understand globalization, without regard to structuration. Until the globalization period, the power was centered in specific areas. With the process of globalization the power in the global level went out of the hand of limited members of the states and was distributed in different centers all over the world. Meanwhile, the concept of military power was reduced. And the intellectual, cultural and social dimensions and social dimensions of it were outstanding. With these two changes, the situation in which only one or two super powers to exist and the others have to obey them begins to change. With changing in power concept, the different canon and institutions of power would be activated and affected. With the distribution of power the superiority and sovereignty would be removed. And a type of equilibrium of power would be conformed. The result of this situation makes conditions in which cooperation and collective decision making about the issues of human being society and human being interests would be more important. The situation in which the competitions are limited and cooperation are enforced.

3. The other impact of globalization is the elimination of limited borders which makes the global boundaries of international system in all dimensions. Before the twentieth century the borders of international system was limited and confined to the continents. After the twentieth century gradually the borders of international system changed into global ones and a world system appeared. Wallerstein (1974) has described that the world is the social system which is made up of various different people with different norms, cultures, and behaviours. As a result the tension, division, and conflict are unavoidable.

4. During the previous years the states and governments mostly with the emphasizing on national rules and laws could govern their affairs. Before the appearance of the impacts of globalization processes they emphasized on their national interests. The laws with the aim of acquisition of national interests are collected and executed. So each country and nation had various laws different from other laws (of other nations) and on basis of those they could act. The contradiction and conflict in nations, actions were the natural result of doing according on those different laws.

5. The essence of international system in the past was mostly military, security and political. Because of its indicators and its military, security and political elements could determine the compatible relations among the players inside this system. The change which after the globalization process takes place is this that the military, security and political essence of relations among these players fade away. And economical, social and cultural essences conquered their domains. Therefore, one can say that the international system in the process of globalization finds and gets the economical and socio-cultural essences. In these conditions the economical and cultural elements and indexes can determine the relations and the appropriateness among the different countries (Ohmae, 1990a, p. ix).

## **CONCLUSION**

Globalization has many faces. It is the process in which the people from different parts with diversified cultural norms are united into a single entity. Globalization is considered as a driving force to socio-economic development. The concept of business has been reshaped due to the global village system. The most important point of the impact of globalization is the socio-



economic relations of the various stakeholders. The socio-economic development of a country much depends on such relations. It has both positive and negative effects. On one way it has reshaped the world as a global village. On the contrary, it has divided the world into two categories i.e. developed and underdeveloped world. The weaker is going to be weaker due to limited available resources. Given that the stronger has the capability to divert the things at its own disposal. Pakistani economy is loosing its ground as compared with other countries of the region. As a result, Pakistani rupee is loosing the credibility against the foreign currency. The high prices of fuel have hampered the socio-economic development of the common strata of the society. The gap between rich and poor is too high due to the pressure of globalization.

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