

**PNP TASK 7**

**DECEMBER 30, 2024**

**PRESS CLIPPING- 'Letter to the editor'**



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Daily Times, 96-B, Pace Mail Building, M. M. Alam Road, Gulberg II, Lahore, Pakistan  
Phone: 92-42-35778217-18; E-mail: [letters.dt6@gmail.com](mailto:letters.dt6@gmail.com). Letters may be edited for length and clarity

### Importance of education

Sir: Through the columns of your newspaper, I wish to share my thoughts on the present situation of the deteriorating situation of education. Education. We, and I often tell people about the pros of education and how important it is for each human being, whether they are old or a young child. How important is it for the future of Pakistan, for the growth of Pakistan, for the benefit of Pakistan, and for being a good human being? But have we ever done anything for it? Have we ever raised our voices for it? Or even thought about the education of our own caretakers' children?


The educational system is deteriorating daily in Pakistan. I don't know what others' perspectives are on it, but after 2019, things are not the same as they used to be. Talking about our board systems, the syllabus is reduced this year (2024) as well, but why? Papers always leak before the exams start, no matter how secure the process is, and now most students partially depend on them. Every year, there's a change in the pattern of exams, courses, and even books, which causes lots of stress and confusion for the students. The system is also confused about whether we should move on to the OMR system or not because they still haven't stayed with one decision. Is it really, okay?

If we look at the primary education system, an estimated 22.8 million children aged 5-16 are out of school. Even middle-class people can't afford education now because of extremely expensive fees, which is one thing. Then there's daily transportation, uniforms, courses, and activities... more than Rs 10,000 per child. And what if each household has more than 2 or 3 children? This raises big question marks. Until when will we keep closing our eyes to all this?

"Education is a matter of life and death for Pakistan. The world is progressing so rapidly that without requisite advanced education, we lag others and may be wiped out altogether."- Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah

Not blaming anyone, but today's youth will become the future of Pakistan. It now depends on us whether we want our future to consist of beggars, phone addicts, cheaters, and easy-route seekers, or the bright ones, just like the meaning of Pakistan.

ANOSHKA KHALID  
Karachi



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Bob Marley

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## German president dissolves parliament

Frank-Walter Steinmeier,  
German President



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## Actress explains her sudden departure from Dallas event

Hania Aamir,  
Pakistani actress

## Voice of the People

Articles and letters may be edited for the purposes of clarity and space.

### Health: Critical condition

Pakistan's health infrastructure is in a state of crisis, with rural areas lacking basic medical facilities and urban hospitals overcrowded and under-resourced. Despite significant budget allocations, the healthcare system remains inadequate to meet the population's needs.

With only 0.8 doctors per 1,000 people and outdated equipment in public hospitals, the situation has reached a tipping point. The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed these vulnerabilities, leaving millions without timely access to healthcare and highlighting the urgent need for reform.

To address this, the government must prioritize increased funding for healthcare, build and upgrade facilities in underserved areas and provide incentives to retain healthcare professionals. Collaboration with international organizations to introduce technologies like telemedicine can help bridge the gaps in service delivery. Immediate action is essential to prevent further deterioration and ensure Pakistan's healthcare system can meet the needs of its people.

MUHAMMAD ZUBAIR

Vehari

### Fading humanity

Through the columns of your newspaper, I wish to share my thoughts on the harsh behaviour of people toward one another. Recently, I came across a column by Dr. Ramesh Kumar Vankwani, where he recounted a horrifying road incident and the public's reaction on the spot. Reading this deeply disturbed me for many days because, as someone who steps out of the house daily, it made me question

our priorities as a society.

Dr. Ramesh expressed sadness at how people did not stop their cars to help but were instead busy capturing the incident on their phones. This growing indifference and cruelty

mindset. Let's stop ignoring others in need and start helping wherever we can. A small act of kindness can save lives and restore humanity in our society.

ANOOSHA KHALID  
Karachi



### Road accidents

Through your esteemed newspaper, I would like to draw attention to the critical issue of traffic accidents. Traffic collisions in Pakistan are among the highest in the world and the country also ranks first in Asia for the most deaths caused by such accidents. Although the Government of Pakistan has launched its first long-term National Road Safety Strategy, this effort must be complemented by individual responsibility. We need to demonstrate and promote responsible behavior ourselves. When you slip into the driver's seat, you take on the immense responsibility of ensuring the safety of countless individuals sharing the road with you. Unfortunately, many fail to handle this responsibility. Most of us are unaware of the basic ethics and laws of driving. Road safety requires responsible behaviour from all users—drivers, pedestrians and others. All road users must refrain from aggressive driving, phone use, excessive horn use, inappropriate gestures, verbal abuse and the misuse of high beams. Additionally, schoolchildren should receive proper traffic education to build awareness from an early age. When encountering road accident victims, it is essential to show empathy, care and urgency in offering help.

MASHAL  
Chakdara

toward others is alarming. Is it really acceptable for people to record suffering but not extend a hand to help? Where are the compassionate souls like Abdul Sattar Edhi? Everyone seems to think, "This is not my problem," but where is our humanity? Does it truly need an affiliation to act? People have become emotionless. They comment and tweet on social media, but when action is required, they vanish.

We urgently need to reflect on our purpose and change this

### Politics without end

Everyone retires eventually. Sportsmen typically retire early in their lives, followed by soldiers, mine workers, and truck drivers. Then come white-collar professionals, who retire around the age of sixty after playing a long innings.

However, there is one category of individuals that doesn't retire, even at an advanced age—they are politicians. In politics, faces rarely change, and the concept of retirement is virtually non-existent. Unlike other professions, politics allows a career spanning sixty to seventy years, often without making any significant positive contribution to society.

If politicians embraced the idea of voluntary retirement, it would benefit them in several ways. Firstly, they could speak the truth without being bound by party lines. Secondly, retirement would give them the opportunity to reflect on their mistakes and shortcomings during their active careers. Thirdly, they could confront the reality of their waning popularity by experiencing the people's cold response to a retired politician. Finally, they could write memoirs to guide future generations or set the historical record straight.

A shining example of voluntary retirement is Nelson Mandela, who stepped down after serving a single five-year term as South Africa's president. Despite his immense popularity and global stature, he chose to retire, demonstrating the value of passing the torch and setting an example for future leaders. Politicians in Pakistan could learn from this precedent and embrace retirement as an opportunity to leave a legacy of integrity and service.

In Pakistan, very few politicians document their life experiences for the benefit of others or to preserve history. This tradition needs to change, and retirement is essential to foster such a culture. Considering these advantages, it is suggested that a retirement age of seventy years be fixed for politicians, with no provisions for a waiver. Such a measure could help dispel the disappointment that hangs over the political scene.

FARRUKH SHAHAB  
Lahore

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## Crumbling system

The educational system is deteriorating daily in Pakistan. Papers always leak before the exams start, no matter how secure the process is. Every year, there is a change in the pattern of exams, courses, and even books, which causes a lot of stress and confusion for the students. If we look at the primary education system, over 25 million children are out of school. The costs of education are also rising, with even middle-class families unable to afford the extremely expensive fees many schools now demand. How long will we keep closing our eyes to all this?

Anoosha Khalid  
Karachi