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# **Political Development's Correlation with Social Conditions in Pakistan: A Longitudinal Analysis** Syed Husnain Haider\*, Dr. Sajid Mehmood Shahzad\*\*

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#### **ABSTRACT ARTICLE INFO**

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Political evolution is the ultimate objective of all political systems. Political development is the enemy of progress in several domains, as well as the syndrome of difference, equality, and mass ability creation. There is a substantial positive association between a country's national and socioeconomic circumstances and its political growth. This includes the Gross Domestic Product growth rate and the urbanization rate, mass mobilization and engagement, educational growth, and democratic principles. Since its birth, Pakistan has been on a path of political growth and has seen several social transformations and a modernization drive in its society. Pakistan has reached a modest rate of growth, and its society is in a transitional phase between a traditional agricultural civilization and an industrialized one. Although the development process is gradual, it is rather stable with few setbacks. The rapid expansion of information technology and increased communication platforms have ushered in new developments and modernization movements in society. Due to the complexity of the current study, and its complicated social dynamics, deductive reasoning was chosen, which helps make sense of ideas about politics and social development for this study. Much of the information used to find the developmental problems and difficulties with political growth was theoretical, making it challenging to look at and confirm linked features. In this paper, we will explore if there is any correlation between political development and social conditions in Pakistan. • •

## Introduction

Political development is a broad concept. It is decided by examining several indicators. Development syndrome is defined by three fundamental characteristics. The three components are: differentiation or specialization of government entities; equality or egalitarianism; and the political system's ability to deal with emergent conflicts. The purpose of this study is to assess and evaluate Pakistan's political evolution by examining the country's national and socioeconomic circumstances.

This article analyses and evaluates four political development elements for Pakistan's political growth. Economic Progress, Mass Mobilization, the Multidimensional Process of Social Change, and Democratization are examined as indices of Pakistan's political development. Data is collected for analysis from national and international sources that have been verified. In addition, a correlation test is also undertaken. The variables are also distributed values for measuring purposes. The researcher's observations are also incorporated into this study. For purposes of analysis and indexing, 1947 is the base year. Due to the absence of information, however, the base year is the year in which the information regarding that specific aspect is released. Comparisons are also studied using graphical representations in the form of bar graphs. In the end, the results are found by doing mathematical calculations and giving values to the variables based on

# how important they are. **Objectives of Study**

The goal of this study is to investigate whether there is a connection between the progress of Pakistan's political system and the country's overall social climate. The author intends to decide if Pakistan is politically developing or deteriorating in the chosen sectors of economic development, mass mobilization, and multidimensional process of social transformation and democracy. The goal of this research is to first do a quantitative analysis of the factors that have been found, and then to make a connection between those variables and how politics change over time.

Since the growth of any state's government should be an overarching priority, this study has great societal value. It looks at the economic climate in Pakistan and provides insight into the country's future. The rate of economic growth and population increase are also examined, providing important data for policymakers. The educational development of Pakistan is also studied. This research looks at the educational system and how fast it is adapting to the rising population. Observing how societies have evolved over the years may provide insight into the progress and tendencies of humankind. Finding out where society is headed and what it means will receive help from this study as well. This work, which provides insight into the functioning of the political system in Pakistan, also includes an analysis of democratic developments. To put forth a comprehensive study of each market segment, we've included graphics and images. Therefore, we collect crucial metrics towards this goal. This study will pave the way for more studies and the use of quantitative analysis in the social sciences by making use of novel mathematical approaches and index bases. Also, this research will make scholars want to investigate other political indicators in Pakistan in the future.

#### **Literature Review**

In his essay, Lucian (2021) describes the fundamental notion of political evolution. It supplies extensive political indicators. This page also provides information on developmental syndromes. It relates to the fundamental notion of political growth and its effects on every given civilization. This article provides an empirical analysis of the significance of communication for political growth. The researcher collected and statistically examined data about the usage of telephones in both industrialized and developing nations. He concluded that improved communication leads to political growth. Hussain (2010) explains that the essay examines public opinion about various social movements. The researcher examined the effects of social mobilization trends and their relationship to political advancement. The study found that there are beneficial relationships between social mobilization and political progress. This article describes the political and economic progress of Pakistan shortly after its establishment. This page provides key statistics on the early socioeconomic growth and society of Pakistan. According to Qureshi (2010), the researcher has concentrated on Pakistan's economic growth between 1950 and 1970. The researcher characterized economic growth throughout that period as smooth. In addition, he believes that the pace of GDP growth during that time was double the rate of population increase. The article by Abida (2013) discusses the influence of social media on political movements and politics in Pakistan. The researcher has experimentally shown a favorable association between media technology advancement and political consciousness. Due to the availability of social media platforms, the researcher also discussed various movements and the improvement of connections amongst Pakistan's many ethnic groups. Niaz (2010) explains in his paper how the discrepancy between East and West Pakistan is examined. This article gives an insight into the education situation in West Pakistan currently. This article also discusses the outcomes of the researcher's investigation into the methods Pakistan used to reach educational advancement. This article discusses Pakistan's earlier urbanization and socioeconomic transformations. The scholar also provides extensive insight into Pakistan's historical social composition. Khan (2009) comprehensively covers Pakistan's political and constitutional history. This scholar has also addressed significant constitutional cases. This book examines the obstacles Pakistan faces on its path to democracy and offers essential information on political growth. Moreover, it inspects the influence of the Pakistani military on Pakistani politics. The researcher investigated the military's advantage over civilians and the acceptability of military actions in Pakistan. The researcher has done a thorough look at what the military does and how aggressive it is.

#### Meta Analysis

Most of the economic sectors suffer severely when politics are unstable. Evidence from the past suggests that Pakistan's economy has grown at an annual rate of around 5%. The decision-makers are political actors; the policies are developed and implemented; the policies are disrupted by political instability; and most of the policies are ineffective because of governmental change, especially irregular governmental change. Hence, if the political climate is stabilized, the average rate of economic growth may simply be added to the number, and even this contribution may lead to greater levels of economic

development. There is no denying that the host nations gain from FDI in several ways, including the transfer of technology, the provision of scarce resources like physical and human capital, research and innovation, the improvement of skills and managerial ability, the creation of jobs, etc. It has been noted that in the case of Pakistan, foreign direct investment has been focused on the services sector, making society more consumer focused. The Human Development Index considers several other variables, not only FDI. Foreign direct investment and international competition may be crucial to national economic progress. Since incomes are so disparate in Pakistan, the country's human development index is unaffected by GDP. Even though political change in Pakistan is slow, the country is making great strides forward. The researcher has also investigated the idea that the economy of the country has grown quickly at times in the past. Even though there hasn't been any major progress lately, Only the indicator measuring people's willingness to get involved and act skyrocketed. This was made possible by the spread and use of cutting-edge technology, which got a wider range of people to act on important national and global issues.

#### Methodology

Considering the complex character of the current investigation, its multifaceted implications, and complicated security dynamics, the approach that was decided upon to provide a result that can be comprehended is primarily quantitative. For conceptual clarity, deductive reasoning is used to differentiate between political and security viewpoints. In this regard, the empirical argument is shrouded in uncertainty since most of the literature used to identify the security challenges and problems associated with political development was primarily theoretical. This makes it difficult to evaluate and validate associated aspects of the situation. In addition, the politically motivated literature, which has an overtly propagandistic tone, was not overlooked, or ignored because it had futuristic qualities about politics, national security, and industrial development. This was because the literature discussed politics, national security, and industrial development. Because of all this complexity, logical thinking was the most prudent course of action. The methodological technique used by this study is comprised chiefly of desk research, with the addition of a case study. The primary purpose of this is to figure out what information is already included in the index of political progress. After that, a comprehensive case study of Pakistan is presented and discussed in the article. This article delves deeply into a wide variety of various areas related to political development. It makes use of sources of data in addition to secondary ones.

### Results

- 1. In the 1970 elections, voter turnout was 63%. While in 2018, it was around 52%.
- 2. The population growth in Pakistan has dropped from 2.7% in 1961 to 1.9% in 2021.
- 3. The life expectancy rate has grown by 27% in 60 years.
- 4. The rate of urbanization has increased from 22% in 1960 to 37% in 2021.
- 5. In the last 70 years, the literacy rate increased from 21% to 73% in males and 14% to 52% in females.
- 6. Access to social mobilization and involvement has also risen substantially. The general populace's consciousness has been raised through technological developments. Communication among the people of Pakistan has expanded significantly, and the number of mobile and internet users continues to rise. The use of social media has increased public awareness of communal concerns. Pakistan now has more freedom of speech and engagement than in the past. This industry saw rapid expansion and brought about several societal changes. The media have been incredibly liberated. Cellular subscribers have increased to over 195 million, and broadband users have grown to over 119 million.
- 7. Voter participation in the electoral process remained low. There has been a 6.1% rise in the voting behavior of the populace. Pakistan has taken a little step forward in the direction of democracy, and the military's direct engagement is decreasing. Electoral rolls have grown to over 20 million.
- 8. The economic sector had a substantial increase in per capita income in 2020–21 compared to 1948–49, the base year. Even though Pakistan's GDP growth rate remained moderate throughout its history due to various factors, per capita income increased dramatically. The LSM (Large-Scale Manufacturing) and agricultural sectors also had minor increases. Gross National Product (GNP) is expected to grow by 14%, even though the government has always had a current account surplus.
- 9. The population growth rate has decreased to 2%, a positive indicator of Pakistan's dense population.
- 10. In the past, most people lived in rural areas, which shows that the economy was based on agriculture. Now, people have started to move to cities. In 1960, 22% of people lived in cities. By 2021, around 37% of people lived in cities.
- 11. The United Nations says that Pakistan has the highest rate of urbanization in the world, even though only 36.8% of its total population lives in cities. This fast growth is causing many problems for city residents, which may hurt development in the long run.

- 12. These developments have resulted in a good connection since the judiciary is now more active than in the past, despite Pakistan's complicated history with democracy.
- 13. Ineffective leaders, the populace's apathy, and the military's aggressiveness have beset the political system. As a result, the nation has seen four military interventions, and only the two most recently elected assemblies have fulfilled their constitutional terms. The elected leaders haven't lived up to the public's hopes and expectations, which has hurt trust in the institutions and helped the rise of anti-democratic forces.

### Discussion

#### **Political Development**

The word "political development" is unclear. Different scholarly perspectives exist on its definition. Different areas of expertise define political progress differently. Sociologists see political change as a trend in social change, while economists see it as a change in the economy. In terms of rights, human rights advocates evaluated political progress. Thus, political development may typically be seen through the perspective of three basic development syndromes: differentiation, equality, and political system capability (Vorys, 2015). Political development is also thought to be contingent upon economic progress. Political development is said to derive from economic progress. Regardless, this notion has highlighted the importance of economic development in both good and bad ways. States have prioritized economic development statistics above other social variables. Wealth and industrialization indicators are regarded as the defining characteristics of the political evolution of Western European nations (Sulehri, 2020). The knowledge and mobilization of the people are also seen as indicators of political growth, particularly in formerly colonial nations. This process of popular involvement illustrates the dispersion of power from a few hands to the multitude. The enhancement of communication led to the involvement of the people, which in turn contributed to the expansion of political development. Political evolution cannot be divorced from other societal developments. With political progress, societies are confronted with modernizing tendencies. In industrialized civilizations, urbanization and industry take root. Consequently, political evolution is not a unidimensional process but a multidimensional social transformation. These developments resulted in the rise of the middle class and the formation of new social movements (Amin, 2014).

Political development is also a prerequisite for democracy since democracy is exemplified by public engagement and democratic institutions foster political consciousness and capacity growth among the populace. Democratic institutions have the capacity to effectively address developing issues. This enhances the effectiveness of the political system.

#### **Economic Growth**

After Pakistan's inception in 1947, the country's economic situation was deteriorating. The country had no industrial base. Poor economic circumstances constituted a grave danger to the nation's stability and survival. From 1947 until the 1950s, Pakistan's economic prospects were intriguing. There were zero savings, and foreign currency obtained from the trade surplus was used to support investment. The country's economic growth was modest. Between 1950 and 1970, Pakistan's economy advanced significantly. The industrial and agricultural sectors of Pakistan grew without difficulty. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth was twice as fast as population expansion (Ziring, 2019). Pakistan's GDP is expected to increase by 3.94 percent this fiscal year (2020–21). This expected growth rate is much greater than that of national and international institutions. Even though the government has always kept a current account surplus, the Gross National Product (GNP) is expected to grow by 14%.

#### Table 1

GDP, LSM, PCI Comparison Between Base Year and Current Year

Year	GDP	LSM	Per Capita Income
1948-49	3.6%	20%	151\$
2020-21	3.94%	9.29%	1461\$

# Source 1: Derived from (Ziring, 2019)

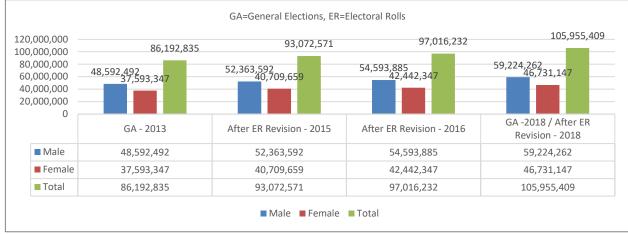
There are years and periods in which Pakistan's annual economic growth has exceeded 5%. Therefore, it may be concluded that Pakistan saw moderate economic development.

#### **Mass Mobilization and Participation**

According to most specialists, political growth may also be studied based on the general knowledge and engagement of the populace in national matters. Due to the political battle of the All-India Muslim League, the state of Pakistan was established, but owing to societal values and a lack of knowledge, mass mobilization was uncommon in the population. With the passing of time and the emergence of new social media trends, the engagement of the masses in national concerns has grown (Vorys, 2015). The movement of

lawyers for the reinstatement of the former Chief Justice Iftikhar Chaudhary, the creation of awareness by non-governmental organizations, and the accessibility of social media platforms not only raised awareness but also sparked discussions on social and political concerns. Although Pakistani culture has been characterized as a static society, the rights of women in Pakistani society have undergone development. Now that there is a law that lets women vote and take part in elections (Abbas, 2017).

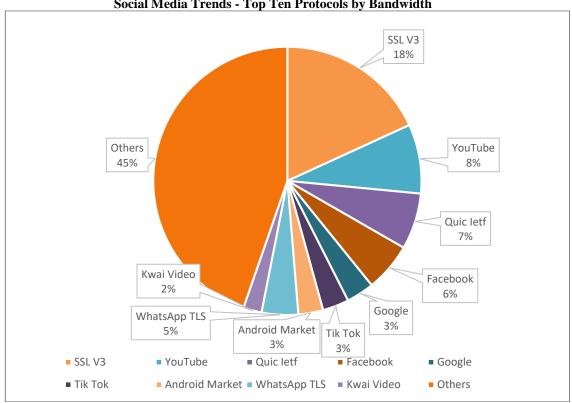
#### Figure 1 Electoral Rolls - Vote Bank (since GA - 2013)



Source 2: Retrieved from ecp.gov.pk

Pakistani society has been unified by the massive mobilization for employment and education. Social engagement has generated a sense of shared sentiment that is helpful to national integration.

Figure 2



Social Media Trends - Top Ten Protocols by Bandwidth

Source 3: Retrieved from pta.gov.pk (as of June 2022)

The fast growth of the Internet, and mobile connections shows the rising connectivity, mobility, and engagement of people.

Subscription	ribers Overview (in million) No. of Subscribers (in million)	
Cellular Subscribers	195	
3G/4G Subscribers	116	
Basic Telephony	2	
Broadband	119	

Table 2

#### Source 4: Retrieved from pta.gov.pk (as of June 2022)

The results show a rise in popular engagement and mobilization in the communication and social media industries. So, better communication and getting the public involved are signs of a politically developed country, and Pakistan has these traits (Khan, 2018).

# Multidimensional process of social changes

Every sort of development contributes to the modernization of society. Changes in society's worldview are brought about by political growth. It is the ultimate purpose of any state to give its social structure relevance throughout time. Indexation and comparisons of social change are regarded as the most important aspects of measuring progress.

Pakistan's literacy rate in 1951 was around 14% in case of women and slightly above 21% in case of men, which is among the lowest in the region. Pakistan is far behind in education, despite substantial advancements in the field.

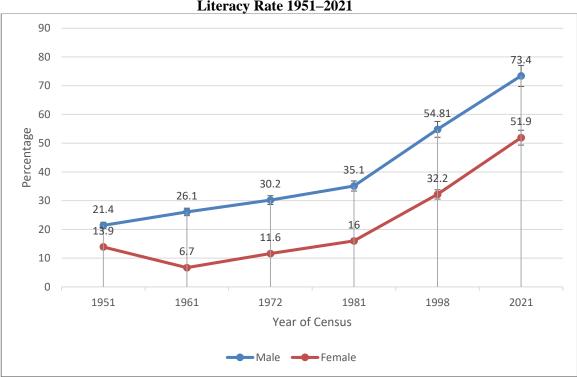
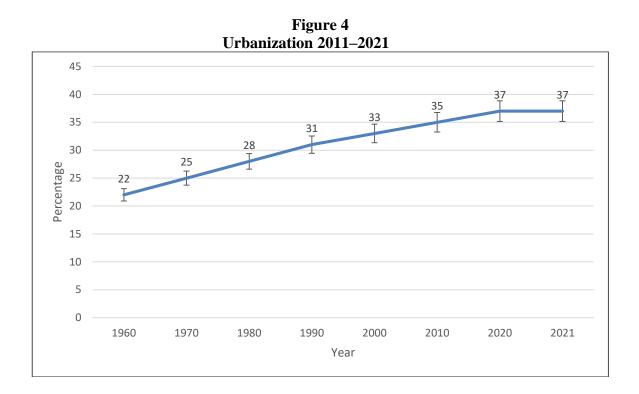


Figure 3 Literacy Rate 1951–2021

Source 5: Retrieved from pap.org.pk

With only 86,000 graduates across both wings and 45,000 in West Pakistan alone, Initially, a greater proportion of the population lived in rural regions, which is proof of its agricultural economy, but as time passed, the urbanization process began. In 1961, the urbanization rate had climbed from 22% in 1960 to around 37% in 2021. This dramatic shift in the Pakistani population is indicative of the transition from a rural to an industrial civilization.



#### Source 6: Retrieved from worldbank.org

At the time of independence, life expectancy was about 40 years, which was relatively low, but it has since climbed to 68 years, indicating a huge improvement in the growth of people.

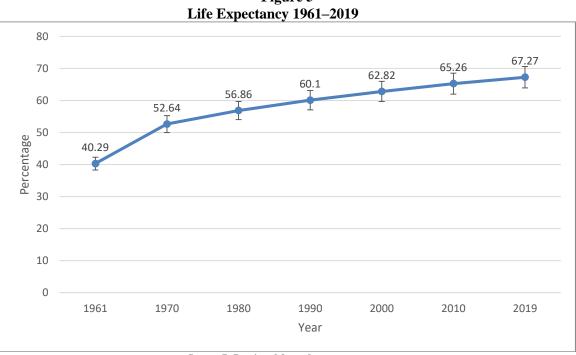
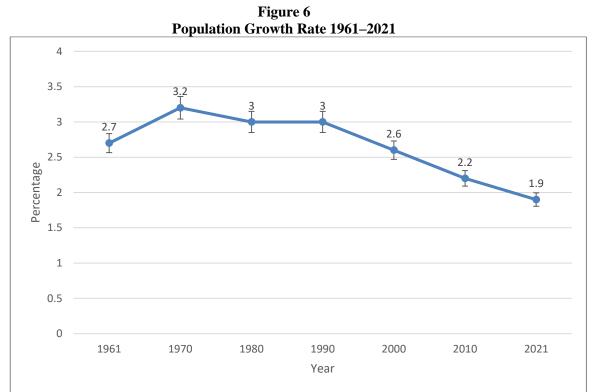


Figure 5

Source 7: Retrieved from datacommons.org

Pakistan's population growth rate in 1961 was 2.7%. In 2021, it went below 2%. Pakistan is still believed to have a high population growth rate.



Source 8: Retrieve from worldbank.org

According to the United Nations, Pakistan has the world's highest urbanization rate, even though its urban population accounts for only 36.8 percent of the total population (Ziring, 2019). This fast growth is causing several issues for city dwellers, which eventually has a negative impact on development.

#### Democratization

Another characteristic related to the process of political evolution is democracy. According to experts, political progress culminates in robust democratic institutions. Democratic political systems have a greater chance of fostering the capacity development of the people. These rules are egalitarian in nature and offer the people liberty.

Pakistan's complex history poses a threat to its democracy. The nation battled for its constitution until 1954, and it endured political instability until 1958, which undermined democratic standards from the start. In 1958, Pakistan saw its first martial law and the abrogation of its constitution (Soomro, 2019). This was the first instance of a military coup in Pakistan, laying the groundwork for future coups. General Ayub Khan implemented the presidential system and fundamental democracy in 1962. Pakistan conducted its first general elections in December 1970. Voter turnout was around 50% in both wings. This election was held based on the universal franchise. In the elections, every Pakistani over the age of 21 was eligible to vote. In 1973, with the separation of East Pakistan, the republic adopted a permanent constitution. However, the nation was unable to establish a stable democracy, and martial control was reinstated in 1977. This was the third time the military had abrogated the constitution. Consequently, democracy remained shaky throughout the nation. From 1988 to 1999, the nation had a decade of democracy, but democratic standards remained fragile, and the military retook power in 1999. Since 2008, Pakistan has been on a democratic road, and for the first time in its history, it has seen two democratic transitions and the fulfillment of the constitutional terms of elected legislatures (Abbas, 2021). Pakistan's democracy is not threatened from the outside. The country's democracy is endangered from the inside. The elected officials have failed to deliver and meet the public's expectations, which led to a loss of trust in democracy and supported the rise of undemocratic forces. Due to the Indian menace, the military gained prominence in Pakistani society. The recognition and respect of the public made the military stronger. This altered perspective jeopardized democratic ideals in Pakistan's young state. Pakistan is ranked among the worst four nations out of 169 in terms of voter participation. This reflects the Pakistani populace's lack of faith in voting. Until 2013, the average rate of return remained at 45.3%. In the 2018 general election, 51.5 percent of eligible voters cast ballots. This represents a 6.2 percent increase over the 2013 average voter turnout.

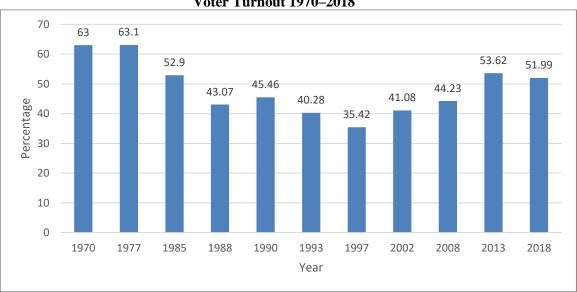


Figure 7 Voter Turnout 1970–2018

Source 9: Retrieved and derived from ECP/Wiki/FAFEN

#### Conclusion

Pakistan's political climate is evolving, although at a glacial rate, but the country is making progress overall. The researcher has also investigated the notion that the nation has seen sporadic instances of fast economic progress. Notwithstanding the general lack of significant advancement. The only indicator to record a tremendous growth rate was the mass participation and mobilization indicator. This was due to the advent and use of new technologies, which not only increased mass participation but also enhanced mass participation and response to important national and international issues. Alterations in society's many dimensions have been seen to be heading in a positive direction. There has been an expansion of both medical and educational facilities. The number of years that people may anticipate living on average is up, but at the same time, the pace of population expansion has slowed down significantly. Even though urbanization has been on the decline, the pace at which it is occurring is astounding, which may result in future issues as well. Pakistan is likewise making steps toward establishing a democratic government. In recent years, there has been a significant advancement toward democratic governance, and there has also been a small rise in voter participation. It is possible to say that Pakistan has advanced, although at a snail's pace, and this may be summed up as follows: There is a strong connection between the circumstances at the national and social levels and the development of political institutions. Economic and educational success have led to social change and democracy in Pakistan, which have led to Pakistan's political development in the long run.

#### Recommendations

- 1. Diverting the flow of foreign direct investment to export-focused businesses that are short on skills and technology is a good idea that policymakers should think about.
- 2. A peaceful and politically stable environment could help the country's current growth and average growth rate.
- 3. Let any political system develop in Pakistan; there must be no interruption of it since all things need time to mature. Because politics is the nerve center of Pakistan's growth, it's crucial that the political establishment be stable for the country's long-term progress.
- 4. There must be a connection between Pakistan's growth paradigm and the country's safety if the country is to progress. If this does not change, the nation's progress toward a better world and a happier society will always be jeopardized.
- 5. The industrial sector is crucial to the growth and prosperity of every nation. To expand industry, there is also a need to establish industry leadership since it is important for the expansion of the sector.

- 6. Making both low- and high-tech items and competing with international businesses should be prioritized. It is important to forge connections between universities and corporations, yet there's still a massive knowledge gap that needs filling immediately.
- 7. The country's resources need to be directed toward addressing the most pressing problems. The government and commercial entities should join for an inclusive, creative, and secure society.

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