

Youth: The powerhouse of national glory

View



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cation that has become an integral part of global digital culture. China's meticulous investment in education and technology has cultivated an environment where young minds consistently challenge the status quo, reinforcing the country's trajectory toward becoming a global superpower.

Education alone is not sufficient; nations must also guide their youth toward productive endeavours. This is not about imposing restrictions but about ensuring that young individuals contribute meaningfully to national progress. History provides compelling examples of structured youth development. Take the Spartans, for instance. Their unparalleled military supremacy was not a stroke of luck but the result of a meticulously designed system. From the age of five, Spartan boys were enrolled in rigorous training programs, instilling in them discipline, resilience and an unwavering commitment to their city-state. Only those who endured the gruelling regimen were honoured as warriors. Had Sparta failed to impose this structured upbringing, it would not have cemented its legacy as one of the most formidable military powers in history.

Nations must therefore take an active role in shaping the aspirations and pursuits of their youth. This is not a curtailment of freedom but a strategic investment in the country's future.

A nation's identity is rooted in its cultural, social and religious values. When societies fail to preserve these traditions, their youth drift into an abyss of identity crises. The Roman Empire, once an indomitable force, crumbled when its youth succumbed to decadence and moral cor-

ruption. The erosion of societal values led to internal conflicts, disintegration and eventual collapse. A nation that loses its identity inevitably becomes subservient to foreign influences, squandering the potential of its youth and allowing external forces to manipulate its destiny.

Pakistan's youth struggle to find a clear direction in life. Many have resorted to social media platforms as a means of income, often prioritizing entertainment over intellectual growth. The education system remains compromised, failing to equip students with the tools necessary for innovation. Consequently, the true potential of Pakistani youth is largely untapped. Moreover, the unchecked infiltration of Western values through social media has led to a moral and ethical decline among young individuals. Rather than cultivating intellect and creativity, society has glorified frivolous activities that offer no real value.

Pakistan must take immediate steps to harness the potential of its youth. The first and most crucial measure is to reform the education system to prioritize intellectual development and innovation. Secondly, there is an urgent need to provide clear direction to young individuals. Government policies must ensure that youth are encouraged to pursue careers that drive national progress. One necessary step is to regulate social media content, filtering out distractions that hinder intellectual and moral growth. Banning useless content on platforms like TikTok and YouTube would be a pivotal move in steering youth toward meaningful engagements.

Lastly, preserving cultural and moral values is non-negotiable for Pakistan to prevent its youth from succumbing to the forces of cultural erosion. Youth play a decisive role in shaping the future of nations. Without their active and productive participation, countries are doomed to mediocrity. Pakistan must take proactive steps to empower its youth with education, discipline and a clear sense of purpose. Only by doing so can the country compete with developed nations in the realms of innovation, productivity and intellectual prowess.

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THERE was once a time when human lifespans stretched beyond 500 years, yet even then, individuals struggled to realize their full potential. Humanity is endowed with immense capability to shape its destiny, but the extent to which this potential is harnessed depends on upbringing and the environment in which individuals grow and thrive. A progressive and intellectually stimulating environment—one cultivated by scholars, policymakers and visionaries—is essential for transforming raw potential into tangible achievements. Such an environment must uphold moral and ethical values to ensure that the younger generation can channel their abilities into groundbreaking contributions for their nation. It is a fallacy to assume that youth can bring glory to their country without proper guidance and cultivation. Potential, no matter how vast, requires the right ecosystem to mature into concrete success.

History stands as an unyielding testament to the rise and fall of nations. Societies that failed to provide clear direction to their youth eventually faced downfall and disintegration. Harnessing the potential of young minds demands a structured framework—one that aligns individual aspirations with national priorities. Education serves as the cornerstone of this framework. It refines raw potential into a formidable force, equipping young individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to propel their nation forward. A student must be trained to prioritize personal and intellectual growth over fleeting distractions that squander the most precious years of their life. This early training lays the foundation for a future where youth emerge as leaders, innovators and catalysts of progress.

China stands as a prime example of a nation that has effectively leveraged the potential of its youth. Liang Wenfeng, the 39-year-old founder of the AI startup DeepSeek, is a testament to this. With a team of young innovators and limited resources, it has astounded the world, leaving even Silicon Valley in awe. The groundbreaking advancements of DeepSeek did not materialize overnight; rather, they are the result of a rigorous education system, strategic upbringing and a culture that fosters intellectual curiosity. Similarly, Zhang Yiming, the visionary behind TikTok, revolutionized social media with an appli-