Topic A: EXPLORING INSTITUTIONALISED RACISM

Topic: Investigation of human rights violation by NGOs

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TOPIC A

Racism – What is it?

Racism is the idea that one race has superior characteristics to those of another, based on various factors that include historical status, culture, political stance etc. It is the notion that a certain race possesses abilities that other races do not, which gives them a higher standing in society. This creates an element of hierarchies, usually establishing a dominant leader, who has power over the weaker minority.

Exclusion due to racism

Social

Social exclusion, as the term suggests, refers to ‘excluding’, or not taking someone into account, when making decisions pertaining to social, economic and political life. As per the UN, these factors include unequal access to resources, denying members of the society their rights, and preferring one segment of a social group over another in terms of opportunities. An example of this which can be linked to racism is the white vs black issue that has been around since the early 1800’s. The most obvious example is of the apartheid in South Africa, where non-whites were discriminated against, by creating laws and passing acts that restricted their movement in public places and affected them in terms of work and participation.

Economic

Economic discrimination occurs in terms of job availability such as labor market exclusion, poor quality jobs and isolation from opportunities. (Urban Institute, 2016) During the apartheid in South Africa, this economic exclusion restricted them to certain types of jobs, curtailed nonwhite labor unions, and denied nonwhite participation (through white representatives) in the national government. (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2018) This is still prevalent today where a study found out that, “two equally qualified racial minority job seekers might fare very differently in the labor market, depending on how effectively they prevent their race from ‘sticking out.’” (The Nation, 2016)

Political

Representation of minorities has always been a problem, throughout history, as presidents and prime ministers of first world countries have almost always been white. It was with Barrack Obama being elected in 2009, that some form of diversity was introduced and celebrated. Although this diversity can be seen nowadays with different races and cultures being involved, this discrimination still exists, as this year in Pakistan elections, the first sheedi woman was selected as member of the Provincial Assembly. This is a breakthrough since women of this African descent are usually considered illiterate and the only occupation deemed right for them is house work (maids).
Colonialism and Genocides

This refers to the idea that when figures of authority colonize certain areas, they become empowered systems who immediately establish a sense of superiority, creating a visible hierarchy between the ruler and those being ruled. Whenever the element of power struggle comes into play, violence becomes almost impossible to avoid, as those who are oppressed often rise, instigating those in power to act.

Jalianwala Bagh / Amritsar Massacre

When the British colonized India, they, too, made sure that the Indians knew who had the upper hand. The Jalianwala Bagh incident, or the Amritsar Massacre, in 1919 has long been considered as an example of racial dominance being shown by the ruling body.

The Jalianwala Bagh was an open space that was enclosed by walls and had only one entrance point. On April 13th 1919, a large crowd gathered at the Bagh for a peaceful celebratory event. However, General Dyer considered them- unarmed men, women, and children- to be revolutionaries who needed to be punished for disobedience. His troops opened fire, without any warning, and killed and wounded over 1000 citizens.

Although arguments still persist about the true nature of the celebration and whether it was a form of protest or not, this incident has also been referred to as a ‘cold-blooded genocide’.

Rwandan Genocide

On the night of 6 April 1994 a plane carrying then President Juvenal Habyarimana, and his counterpart Cyprien Ntaryamira of Burundi - both Hutus - was shot down, killing everyone on board. Hutu extremists blamed the Tutsi backed RPF (The Rwandan Patriotic Front) and immediately started a well-organized campaign of slaughter. The RPF said the plane had been shot down by Hutus to provide an excuse for the genocide. In just 100 days in 1994, some 800,000 people were slaughtered in Rwanda by ethnic Hutu extremists. They were targeting members of the minority Tutsi community, as well as their political opponents, irrespective of their ethnic origin. The Hutu extremists set up radio stations and newspapers which broadcast hate propaganda, urging people to "weed out the cockroaches" meaning kill the Tutsis. The names of those to be killed were read out on radio. Even priests and nuns have been convicted of killing people, including some who sought shelter in churches. The United Nations estimates that about 800,000 people lost their lives. A survivor recalls the horrifying incident, saying, “They had machetes, sticks, clubs and grenades. I remember seeing one of my friends hit by a grenade - it scattered his body parts all around.” (The Guardian, 2009)

Xenophobia, Terrorism, and Crime

Terrorism refers to the unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims.
The term Xenophobia is linked to inter-ethnicity, describing relations between the so-called "original" and "foreign" ethnic groups. Fear of foreigners and its impact is therefore directly related to ethnocentrism, i.e. the attitude that one group is superior to another. Such an attitude in the state or social groups can cultivate hatred among people or communities based on ethnic, social or religious differences. (IJHSS, 2017) This includes ethnic and racial phobia, as well as religious phobia.

A few examples in history of xenophobia towards different races are as follows:

- **America – The Ku Klux Klan:**
  Against the black people in the region, this Klan that was identified through their hoods and flowing white robes are famous for lynching whole black families, leaders, and sympathizers in the 1900’s.

- **South Africa – Apartheid:**
  A state imposed racial segregation, in which blacks were denied citizenship, access to quality healthcare, public services, education and all amenities which had long been declared as basic human rights.

- **Japan - Internment Camps:**
  With the fear of Americans of a Japanese descent siding with Japan during WWII, these people were confined to concentrations camps which were "tarpaper-covered barracks of simple frame construction without plumbing or cooking facilities of any kind." Even after release, many of the Japanese Americans could not live peacefully as they were always regarded with suspicion.

Actions influenced by xenophobic ideas do not only create a divided society, with dissent and disagreement between different social groups, but also signals towards human rights violation. The aspect of death and displacement of people are of crucial concern. This is because the immediate outcome of violence following such humanitarian crises comes with consequences that include those of accommodation, sanitation, and basic healthcare facilities.

**Islamophobia**

This refers to a prejudice or dislike against Islam or Muslims, and comes under Xenophobia, and in recent times as well as history, it has become a reigning force for terrorist attacks on Muslims that go unreported.

Terrorist attacks where alleged Muslims are the perpetrators and the victims non-Muslims overshadow news cycles very often. As noted by a study covered by the Washington Post, attacks by those who claim to be Muslim receive 449% more coverage than anyone else.

However, violence by non-Muslim attackers receive less coverage and are not usually categorized as religious terrorism. For example, the attack on a synagogue in Kansas by a KKK...
member, the attack on Planned Parenthood in Colorado, and the attack on the Sikh Temple in Wisconsin were not categorized as religious terrorism.

Racism and Nationalism

Although the idea of racism differs greatly from that of nationalism, since the former could be seen in a better light, the concept if merged with the idea of colonization forms a strong point in this debate.

While nationalism ran high during the rebellions that stood up against British colonialism in India, their rule nonetheless had an ethnically and racially supremacist nature, which became dominant and established itself as the national identity. They imposed their culture and language in a way that forced the oppressed to rethink and re-evaluate their own identity. This can be seen today also, with the perceived superiority of western language as well as lifestyle, particularly in Pakistan and India.

Apart from the subcontinent, even the American state is an example of the link between racism and nationalism. To separate nationalism from racism, one would have to be able to distinguish white supremacy from the American State, an impossible feat for a country founded on racial and ethnic genocide against native populations; where (prison) slavery was enshrined in the constitution, where every single governing body, federal, state and local, has been — and remains — majority white and male since the inception of the country.

Definition & Property

In the discussion of race, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, it's essential to give the definitions, classification and related properties of race, racism, racial discrimination, and xenophobia, due to the public policies related to racial topics usually being affected by the philosophy which the State parties adapt. Hence, we would give the precise definition and content in the following paragraph.

Racial classification is commonplace; people routinely catalog each other as a member of this or that race and assume everyone could be a catalog. But, the definition of race is not quite simple but controversial. There are several kinds of theories and views to race.

Intuitively, we define race by the biological and genetic traits, such as skin colors, faces, eye color, and other biological traits. Thus, we could classify human beings into many “race group,” i.e., biological race. However, this kind definition lacks of scientific foundations, since there are no biological races in Homo sapiens. What we have is the difference in the frequencies of certain alleles (or chromosome) in a great multiplicity of overlapping human groups. Then, it leads to a phenotypic variation on a number of traits. With a large amount of migration and interbreeding in recent centuries between hitherto isolated populations, the genetic difference between human populations is sufficiently small since interbreeding is more likely to increase fitness that reduces it, especially in a new environment. Therefore, there are no human races in the sense of well-defined subspecies, but partly genetically based behavioral differences between individuals,
sexes and age populations have been established. This kind of view is called biological constructivism, which is invented by Europeans for a serious and legitimate scientific reason leading to differing strikingly from non-Europeans. In biological constructivism, a theory of racial inferiority could explain why European domination of the other continents. Besides, many countries have used the ideas of racial inferiority to support restrictive immigration and naturalization policies. For example, slavery was rationalized by the theory of racial inferiority that blacks were natural slaves, unfit and unable to govern themselves.

On the other hand, another view of race is social constructivism. In social constructivism, the race is defined as a social race, classes of individuals that exists only because of our ideas, beliefs, and practices. The race is constructed by the society. The difference between two theses is that if the race is natural kinds, their members share essences because the members of natural kinds share essences; otherwise, they don’t share essences though they share important properties or conditions that justify their being classified together. Some social constructions are made intentionally and some unintentionally. For example, teams are made intentionally, but nations can be unintentionally. Briefly speaking, the main essences of social constructivism are quite complex. Different experts may have different accounts of how the races are socially constructed. Even the same experts will have different accounts if he has different views about what the conditions or properties are. Hence, by this view, there are no races as these are commonly understood.

In conclusion, there is a common view between two theses. We cannot rule out the possibility that there are biological races and that there may be important differences between them, even if it’s almost certain that the races as commonly understood are not biological races.

**Can a state be racist?**

A state can implement racism in various ways, and a clear example is of the US. As the graph below shows, America’s hate groups are centered around racial and religious preference. The first two on the list are those that discriminated against blacks, and then anti-Muslimism.

Apart from hate groups materializing in the US in recent years, there is another way as to how a state can be racist. That is, through economic exclusion. As the graph shows, rather than an improvement in the callback rates for the hiring of African Americans during 1990 and 2015, there is striking stability which shows that racial biases are still important for hiring, even after 25 years of struggles.
It is surprising, however, that two other surveys, one by Insider Monkey and another by Washington Post, show that it is not the US, rather it is India which tops the list of most racist countries in the world. Although several reasons come under this, the main one revolves around retaliation and intolerance. The former because of the colonial rule as well as the discrimination against Indians around the world, where they are considered somehow lesser than the western world. And the latter because of the diversity of communities living within the overly populated nation.
**Timeline of Racial Conflict in history (selected regions)**

**AMERICA (slavery)**

1619  The first African slaves arrive in Virginia.

1787  Slavery is made illegal in the Northwest Territory. The U.S Constitution states that Congress may not ban the slave trade until 1808.

1793  Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin greatly increases the demand for slave labor.

1793  A federal fugitive slave law is enacted, providing for the return slaves who had escaped and crossed state lines.

1800  Gabriel Prosser, an enslaved African American blacksmith, organizes a slave revolt intending to march on Richmond, Virginia. The conspiracy is uncovered, and Prosser and a number of the rebels are hanged. Virginia's slave laws are consequently tightened.
1808 Congress bans the importation of slaves from Africa.

1820 The Missouri Compromise bans slavery north of the southern boundary of Missouri.

1822 Denmark Vesey, an enslaved African American carpenter who had purchased his freedom, plans a slave revolt with the intent to lay siege on Charleston, South Carolina. The plot is discovered, and Vesey and 34 co-conspirators are hanged.

1831 Nat Turner, an enslaved African American preacher, leads the most significant slave uprising in American history. He and his band of followers launch a short, bloody, rebellion in Southampton County, Virginia. The militia quells the rebellion, and Turner is eventually hanged. As a consequence, Virginia institutes much stricter slave laws.

1831 William Lloyd Garrison begins publishing the Liberator, a weekly paper that advocates the complete abolition of slavery. He becomes one of the most famous figures in the abolitionist movement.

1846 The Wilmot Proviso, introduced by Democratic representative David Wilmot of Pennsylvania, attempts to ban slavery in territory gained in the Mexican War. The proviso is blocked by Southerners but continues to inflame the debate over slavery.

1849 Harriet Tubman escapes from slavery and becomes one of the most effective and celebrated leaders of the Underground Railroad.

1850 The continuing debate whether territory gained in the Mexican War should be open to slavery is decided in the Compromise of 1850: California is admitted as a free state, Utah and New Mexico territories are left to be decided by popular sovereignty, and the slave trade in Washington, DC is prohibited. It also establishes a much stricter fugitive slave law than the original, passed in 1793.

1852 Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, Uncle Tom's Cabin is published. It becomes one of the most influential works to stir anti-slavery sentiments.

1854 Congress passes the Kansas-Nebraska Act, establishing the territories of Kansas and Nebraska. The legislation repeals the Missouri Compromise of 1820 and renews tensions between anti- and proslavery factions.

1857 The Dred Scott case holds that Congress does not have the right to ban slavery in states and, furthermore, that slaves are not citizens.

1859 John Brown and 21 followers capture the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Va. (now W. Va.), in an attempt to launch a slave revolt.

1861 The Confederacy is founded when the deep South secedes, and the Civil War begins.

1863 President Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring "that all persons held as slaves" within the Confederate state "are, and henceforward shall be free."

1865 The Civil War ends. Lincoln is assassinated. The Thirteenth Amendment abolishes slavery throughout the United States. On June 19 slavery in the United States effectively ended when 250,000 slaves in Texas finally received the news that the Civil War had ended two months earlier.
SOUTH AFRICA (Apartheid)

1948 - The National Party defeats the United Party and apartheid begins.
1952 - The African National Congress starts the Defiance campaign.
1953 – The Bantu Education act is passed, separating education systems between blacks and whites.
1956 - Nelson Mandela is arrested for treason for four years.
1959 - Separate homelands are created for the major black groups.
1960 - Sixty-nine people are killed in the Sharpeville Massacre.
1962 - Nelson Mandela is arrested for treason. Lifetime imprisonment.
1974 - South Africa is expelled from the United Nations.
1976 - More than 600 students are killed in the Soweto Massacre.
1977 - Anti-apartheid activist Steve Biko is killed.
1990 - President Frederik Willem de Klerk ends the ban on the African National Congress.
1990 - Nelson Mandela is released from prison.
1994 - Nelson Mandela becomes president of South Africa.

NAZI GERMANY (1933-1945)

Hitler’s rise, holocaust, master race

EAST VS WEST PAKISTAN (1947-1971)

Discrimination against the East regarding resources, rights, and representation
### Past Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description of the Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16th – 17th century</td>
<td>Black people were considered to be slaves of the white people in the 13 colonies of Great Britain in North America.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1865</td>
<td>“Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution” – Abolition of slavery.</td>
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<td>1939 – 1945</td>
<td>World War II, a grave xenophobic act towards Jews, many of which were exterminated by the Nazis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 December 1948</td>
<td>“Universal Declaration of Human Rights”, which was declared by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>“Declaration on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>“International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>1964 – 1967</td>
<td>Campaign Against Racial Discrimination” (CARD), which was an organization inspired by Martin Luther King. It was mainly active in the United Kingdom and it managed to be awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>“First World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination”, which was held in Geneva.</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>“Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination”, which was also held in Geneva.</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 August – 8 September 2001</td>
<td>“World Conference against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance” in Durban, South Africa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>“World Conference against Racism” (WCAR), which took place in Geneva, Switzerland.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011–today</td>
<td>The outbreak of the Syrian civil war alongside with the Arab spring and the situation in the Middle East caused millions of natives to immigrate to other countries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013–today</td>
<td>“Movement Against Xenophobia” (MAX).</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 March annually</td>
<td>“The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination”, which was officially declared by the United Nations General Assembly in October 1966.</td>
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International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)
The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was adopted in 1965 and entered into force in 1969. In the convention, definitions of race and racial discrimination were given. Also, several articles were to prohibit any forms of racial inequalities in any nation’s policies, systems, law or practices. In the article 8 to 16, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) was established to govern the implementation of the convention through individual complaint mechanism. The last eight articles govern ratification, entry into force, and possible ways of amendment of the Convention. Until 2013m there are 87 signatories with ratification and 176 nations adopted.

World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination
The World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination was held in Geneva, Switzerland in 1978 and 1983, with the resolutions A/RES/33/99, A/RES/33/100, and A/RES/37/41. During two conferences, there were four goals of setting to monitor the related Programme-Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination-by resolution 3057(XXVII) in 1973. The following are the four goals:

* Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind such as race, color, descent, or national or ethnic origin.
* Resist all policies and practices that contribute to the strengthening of racism, racial discrimination
* Identify, isolate and dispel the fallacious and mythical beliefs, policies and practices that contribute to racism, racial discrimination, and apartheid
* Counteract the emergence of alliances based on mutual espousal of racism and racial discrimination.

In the conference, UN intended to solve the apartheid in South Africa, and call the international nations, NGOs and other organizations to assist the minorities all over the world, especially in South Africa through resolution A/RES/33/99 and A/RES/33/100 In addition, the conference in 1978 was to reiterate the importance of implement of Programme for Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and required all the assign countries to achieve the goal through domestic policies and legislation. In 1983, United Nations decided to strengthen the implementation of International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by several actions. In resolution A/RES/37/41, the actions to combat apartheid in Africa through several policies, included embargo actions in Security Council resolution 148 (1977), to strongly reaffirm the roles of education system and mass media in elimination for racism and racial discrimination, and to advance several effective measures for the promotion and protection of human rights of persons belonging to minority groups, indigenous populations and peoples and migrant workers who are subjected to racial discrimination.
World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCAR)

In 2001, the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance was held in Durban, South Africa, with a declaration raised. In the conference, UN intends to review and reaffirm the fundamental spirit of ICERD and the effort of conference in 1976 and 1983. The Conference objectives included

* Reviewing progress made in the fight against racism, xenophobia, and intolerance

* Increasing the level of awareness about racism

* Recommending ways to increase U.N. effectiveness through programs that combat racism and related intolerance.

Conference participants also aimed to recommend ways to improve regional, national, and international measures to combat racism, and ensure that the United Nations had the resources to combat racism. Compensation for Colonialism and Slavery were mentioned in the declaration, even though it’s controversial and leading to many arguments. Besides, several actions and measures, include mechanism construction, were taken to protect and promote the right of slaves, victims, refugees and African descent to national and domestic resources such as health system, education system, environment, and security protection function. Ratification and implementation of relevant international and regional legal instruments in non-discrimination were also a discussion in the resolution. In the end, the strategies to achieve full and effective equality was discussed.

The second World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance was held in Geneva, Switzerland in 2009, with the objectives to review, correct or strengthen the contents of declaration in 2001.

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
In 2010, the FIFA World Cup was held in South Africa. Therefore, the United Nations passed a resolution A/HRC/RES/13/27 to affirm and encourage the function of World sport in the elimination of racism and racial discrimination. Hence, United Nation took March 21, 2013, as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Current Situation

- **Case Study 1 – The USA**
With the election of Donald Trump as the President of the United States, it has been confirmed that America has always been, and continues to be a racist country. After all, he has insulted veterans, women, minorities, and countless other constituencies, and yet was elected as president. Racism, xenophobia, and discrimination fuels hatred and that are what many marginalized communities face because of the president-elect. On the Charlottesville protest, he said there were
"fine people on both sides" of the rally — both the counter-protesters and those members of the alt-right who did Nazi salutes and chants. He also called Mexicans ‘rapists’ and criticized the NFL prayers who refused to stand for the National Anthem, saying they did not have any proper reason, even though it was reiterated that this was because of police brutality and racism. The new government is not only affecting immigrants and minorities in this way but also making it difficult for them to live normal lives with equal opportunities. With Trump’s new immigration policies, apart from political discontent worldwide, the indifference towards the supposedly ‘illegal’ families, is apparent – for Trump’s America, all immigrants are bad. Regardless of their sufferings, they are not being allowed to enter America and follow the American Dream, the only hope they see. The policies also highlight a humanitarian crisis, since families are ripped apart at the border, the United Nations human rights experts said Trump’s policy of detaining children “may amount to torture.” Residents of Texas condemned this, saying, “It’s like we’re stepping back a hundred years with people put in this little camp, locking them up like animals. It’s twisted and shameful. It’s not right.” (The Guardian, 2018)

Case Study 2 – The Rohingya and Myanmar
The Rohingya are descendants of Muslims, living in Myanmar, but are considered illegal immigrants and thus, suffer from systematic discrimination. The Myanmar government treats them as stateless people, denying them citizenship. Stringent restrictions have been placed on Rohingya people’s freedom of movement, access to medical assistance, education and other basic services. (The Guardian, 2017) Conditions worsened, when in August 2017, violence broke out, to which the government reacted with a policy of ethnic cleansing. This caused them to flee to Bangladesh, over 600,000 immigrants, those who made it to the border walked for days, hiding in jungles and crossing mountains and rivers. Their villages were burned, and their women and children raped by Myanmar militants. A rape survivor narrated her story saying that while she tried to flee, two Myanmar soldiers dragged her away to a field and for the next two days raped her repeatedly, sometimes to the point where she lost consciousness. (Al Jazeera, 2018) She now mothers a child who was conceived due to rape but has not told people and refuses to leave the camp because she feels ashamed. The extent of this humanitarian crisis can be seen by the way minorities are treated and oppressed, just to force them never to return, and establish a sense of power over them. Another woman, Sunuara, who was eight months pregnant at the time, was tied to a bed and raped by nine men for six hours. These horrors show the discrimination against a Muslim community, which Myanmar assumes, just as Trump does, is the cause of all evil. Border camps had and still have a large influx of immigrants, creating a shortage of basic resources and supplies.

Case Study 3 - Israel and Palestine
Israel is the world's only Jewish state, located just east of the Mediterranean Sea. Palestinians, the Arab population that hails from the land Israel now controls, refer to the territory as Palestine and want to establish a state by that name on all or part of the same land. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is over who gets what land and how it's controlled. In 1948, after war broke out between the two
parties, it left 700,000 Palestinian refugees embroiled in one of the biggest humanitarian crises, leading to violence, displacement, restrictions on access to services and an adverse impact on people, especially children. Every time there is a clash, armed soldiers have been accused of beating, detaining and torturing Palestinians. Alongside this, a blockade on Gaza means food and medicine supplies have been reduced, creating a shortage and causing malnutrition as well as other health-related problems amongst the community. The main victims of this situation are the children, who face numerous issues, such as lack of education, child labor, living without parental care. It is important to note that the effect violence has had on children is enormous, which has caused a deterioration of their mental health. The exposure of children to distressing events” includes having had family members or friends or classmates killed or injured, the child’s exposure to tear gas, seeing injured or dead people, and witnessing shootings and funerals. Stress factors for children and adolescents include they’re not feeling safe, and feelings of exposure to attack, injury, house demolition, and arrest. (Convention on the Rights of the Child, 2010) As per The Guardian, “the common aim of displacing and replacing the Palestinian people, was to maintain a colonial occupation.” This clearly shows racist ideologies penetrating a humanitarian crisis.

**Statement of problem**

In 2001, the third World Conference against Racism, Racial discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance was held in Durban. It reaffirmed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and raised the attention to the problems of racial discrimination and related topics.

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance are global problems. They affect the life-chances of individuals, social groups, institutions and public policies that seek to promote cohesion, equity, and development. The world has certainly made progress in combating the scourge of racism and expanding the frontiers of citizenship. It’s difficult to find a State party that currently defines itself in racial terms or explicitly support public policies that are racially discriminating. However, a gulf remains between philosophical theory, law, and practice. Discussion on racism can be emotive as they often touch on issues of identity, dignity, justice and historical violations. The main problem of the statement could be discussed based on four parts: the social construction of race and citizenship; the socio-economic and political forces that drive racism and inequalities; organized responses to cultural diversity; and the impact of the various type of public policies on race relations. Hence, we will discuss citizenship, justice, poverty, prosperity, policing and human right, relevant to race, racial discrimination problems.

**Racism, citizenship, and justice**

Racism exists in varying degrees in all regions. It is now widely accepted that race is socially constructed. The construction of race as identity may be linked with ethnicity, especially when
variations in physical characteristics coincide with assumed cultural and religious difference. Examples include relations between peoples of Indian and African origin in Guyana, North and South Sudanese, Tutsi and Hutu in Rwanda, and Malays and Chinese in Malaysia, which some of them are still in conflict in the state. Racial ideas may influence discourse on social integration and distort perceptions about citizenship. Citizens are supposed to be bears of equals equal rights and obligations. Besides, migration often affects the constructions of citizenship. For example, the Middle East has experienced massive waves of immigrants from Asian and African engaged in short-term work. Also, migrations pose a challenge to traditional conceptions of the nation-state in Western Europe.

Furthermore, the institutional racism is currently widely debated the issue of racial discrimination. It often places the victimized group in continuous disadvantage such ad biased recruitment patterns in jobs, unequal access to health care, limited career opportunities, and lower quality of educations and social services. People as blacks and Latinos in the United States, Caribbean youth in the United Kingdom, Arabs and African in France, Turks in Germany and so on usually face these difficulties until now.

Racism and inequalities may be linked to discriminatory public policies, the way labor markets are constructed and different access to governance institutions. The labor market may be racially segmented because of past public policies, unequal development or efforts by individuals from specific groups to protect advantages in certain activities. Inequality also arises from the impact of development policies and practices on different groups. These issues still happen in the United States, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Southern Africa. Public policies that promote social justice are a fundamental requirement for achieving stability and responsible citizenship. Affirmative policies are associated with efforts to correct socio-economic disabilities, which certain groups may have suffered as a result of past discriminatory public policies. They focus on issues of employment, access to educational institutions, government contracts and broad areas of social policy. For example, inequalities in key socio-economic indicator, such as wealth are narrowed in Malaysia between Malays and Chinese due to the enforcement of ‘National Unity.’

**Xenophobia and Immigration**

Xenophobia about foreign workers and domestic workers, in particular, has three aspects. First, the preference for temporary contract labor which precludes the possibility of citizenship. Second, preferential treatment is usually given to nationals, although particular kinds of mental work have now been allocated to foreigners. Third, disdain and abuse towards those who are visibly different (especially Sri Lankans, Ethiopians, and other Africans) can be observed in the kind of treatment that is meted out to them by nationals, particularly employers. Besides, foreign female domestic employees and foreign maids are now often under the threat of violence and subjected to physical, sexual, psychological and emotional abuse. Many so-called suicides have been reported of Sri Lankans, Filipinas, and Ethiopian women. However, under the effort of the International Labor Organization (ILO), not all immigrant workers are treated badly. Many are treated with respect.
and dignity, are paid on time, give time off and return to their home countries having eared up to three or four times what they could have eared if they have not migrated. In West Europe, immigration also poses a challenge not just to labor market needs but also to the welfare systems. Usually, most of the countries would adopt the integration policies, which can be examined along two dimensions- the subjects and the fields aimed at. On the issues of subjects, a distinction can be made between general and targeted policies. When the focus is on the fields of integration, policies may be aimed at the welfare system or labor market. Moreover, the necessary basis for equality would be a body of the legal provisions, both in civil and in penal law, which, for instance, France and Germany don’t have. In conclusion, governments should go in every way possible combat irrational discrimination in all areas of society.

**Poverty and Prosperity**

In poverty and prosperity, we often focus on the economic trends in the relative economic well-being indicator, such as GNP or GDP. However, there are four areas, based on the social psychological view, to focus on this topic: racial disparities in wealth; perceptions of racial inequalities and emotional well-being; the perceptions of racial discrimination and rational attitudes; and the interrelationships among racial integration. For instance, in the US, blacks and whites with the same income tend to have different levels of economic security. In a national survey, African American families not only have lower levels of wealth and economic security, but they also have low expectations about their prospects for attaining racial equality in economic well-being. Besides, racial stratification has negative effects on racial minorities regardless of their socio-economic status. Lastly, there are still three major facets defined the contemporary race problem: racial integration, racial parity, and racial harmony. Racial integration focus on bringing members of each race into proximity. Racial parity focus on the goal of equalizing the distribution of outcomes for comparable whites and blacks in domains such as education, incomes, life, etc. Racial harmony reflects a situation in which antagonism is the low and positive effect is high. Although progress along one of these dimensions does not guarantee progress along the others, it still needs the efforts of State parties to reduce racial, economic disparities with policies. Possible solutions

To solve the problem of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, we need not only to promote the power of International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination through the legislation of national and domestic level. Besides, there are three important public policy issues that have been central to debates on racism-the citizenship, social justice, and equitable governance. These are needed to achieve stability and consolidate the values of citizenship. Redistribution policies could be considered, especially in the land problem, even though they are not always easy to implement. Integration policies are required to solve the immigration problem. Two additional public policy mechanism for addressing the employment problems of racial minorities are (a) enhance antidiscrimination enforcement in the housing market (e.g., rental, sales) to facilitate racial residential integration (b) enhanced anti-discrimination enforcement in the labor market (e.g., employer recruiting) to improve employment opportunities
for minorities. Last, education is essential to eliminate the racial discrimination, although there are still lacking an efficient educational policy to achieve it.

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**Introduction to the UN NGO system**

The World Bank defines Non-Governmental Organizations as “private organizations that pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote interests of the poor, protect environment, provide basic social services or undertake community development” (Shah, 2005). Numerous NGOs around the world are not only committed towards protecting human rights but also help eradicate any violations of them.

The term Non-Governmental Organization emerged with the formation of the United Nations in 1945. What NGOs had in common was that they were groups who vowed to work for social good, including but not limited to human rights, health work and environmental development. The United Nations Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations grants NGOs consultative status so that they can participate in the activities of the United Nations and report back to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Are NGOs sovereign? If NGOs are sovereign means do state laws (states where they operate on ground) apply to them or do their original state laws (where they come or originate from) apply?

There is not one defined kind of relationship that persists between state and NGOs. While some NGOs are closely tied with the state government, others are created or funded by the state itself. In some instances, state also restricts NGOs and limits their activities, creating obstacles in their plan of action. In some countries, like Bangladesh, the state attempts to strictly monitor and control the activities of NGOs which leads to donors putting pressure on the state. Because of the shortcomings of the state, NGOs are barely transparent and can easily violate state laws (Ahmad, 2001).

The United States hosts many foreign NGOs who are also funded by foreign governments and do not have any special restrictions put on them by the American government. They have permission to hold meetings and publish papers without any constraints by the US government. (Fact sheet, 2017)

**Roles of NGOs in strengthening governments**

NGOs play a crucial role in the strengthening of different sector like health-care, education and welfare. A study conducted in Pakistan aimed to find whether NGOs contributed much to the improvement of the health sector in the country. According to the results, NGOs have worked hard to bridge the gaps in the health sector flexibly planning and working on health education, health promotion, social marketing and community development and advocacy. (Ejaz et al, 2011).

Pakistan has been a victim of an education crisis because of which nearly 44% of the children are out of schools. Organizations such as The Citizens Foundation aim to promote education by eradicating barriers of class and privilege and promoting egalitarianism by creating opportunities
to improve the quality of life for the less privileged citizens of Pakistan. The organization started off by opening five schools and now has a network of over 1482 school units educating 220,000 children from rural areas and urban slums all over the country.

What are support and advocacy groups?

Advocacy groups influence public opinions or policies through the usage of various forms of public support. Support groups are group meetings where people with similar issues come together and discuss their problems, share how they tackle those problems and cope with what they are going through, thus creating a sense of community and empowering themselves. Other than that, they at times also work to engage public realm in order to gain support for a particular cause or policy.

A window into today: Human Rights Abuses by NGOs and support groups. Most common abuses by Ngo personnel

While there are NGOs around the world that are doing commendable work without any illegal interferences, there are still many that take advantage of their influential positions in the society and partake in illicit forms of actions. The most common abuses by NGO personnel include sexual exploitation and drug trade, alongside other forms of manipulations. A report by consultants working for UNHCR and Save the Children alleged that the aid workers were “among the prime sexual exploiters of refugee children”, exchanging supplies like food and shelter material for sexual favors. (Sharman, 2018).

Another NGO, Médecins Sans Frontières staff was accused of exchanging sex for medicines while working in Africa. A senior staff member believed that because so many young girls had lost their parents to Ebola, it was very easy to convince them to indulge in sexual activities in exchange for medicines. (Summers, 2018)

The crucial distinguishing factor: are all activists or activism organizations 'good' NGOs

The goal of NGOs, working to improve the living conditions of people, is achieved through engaging with the communities, exploring what the people want and then using their resources to help accomplish that. However, more often than not, NGOs start catering more to what their donors want, instead of what people of those communities need, neglecting the locals and their aspirations. (Banks et al, 2015).

A short film by Oxfam titled ‘Does aid work?’ argues that through enough financial aid by opulent countries and providing health interventions, people can lift themselves out of poverty. “But Oxfam fails to mention how a poor, educated person on anti-retroviral manages to magic themselves out of poverty in a system that is only interested in extracting their labor at the cheapest possible price” (Godrej, 2014)

Another popular concern against NGOs is that they hinder resistance movements by intervening and tackling issues on a smaller scale, benefitting a smaller population, thereby restricting the progress of such movements. According to an Indian activist, “they breed small hopes, solve small
issues and take small actions while the movement process is attempting to address the larger issues of displacement facing all our people, NGO beneficiary or not” (Choudry & Kapoor, 2013)

**Abuse at the borders and conflict zones and abuse in progressive countries**

In 2017, refugee charities were allegedly paying smugglers to ferry migrants in their rescue boats patrolling off Libya. Colonel Tarek Shanboor said he had obtained evidence that proved these charities were making payments to criminal groups who put migrants into boats unfit for sea voyage – leading to thousands of deaths each year (Jones, 2017). However, these charities defend themselves by claiming that they are saving lives and rescuing migrants.

Another example of an NGO taking advantage of its important position is Oxfam. Oxfam, a UK based organization, has admitted to hiring prostitutes for humanitarian aid workers in Haiti after the earthquake in 2010. Their staff has also been accused of withholding aid from those in need, and, have instead forced women into performing sexual activities.

Moreover, it’s not only the NGOs and the charities that have reportedly committed such abuse. More than a 100 UN Peacekeepers have been reported as being involved in child sexual abuse throughout the globe. According to a UN report, the Peacekeepers engage in sexual activities with young girls and women in exchange for material aid like food and medicines, with one-third of the activities involving minors below the age of 18 (UNICEF Report, 2015).
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