

Influences of Coronavirus on Societies

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Abstract

Coronavirus disease 2019 is a tiny self-replicated agent that is peculiarly found in humans and animals. A total of seven human Coronavirus types have been well-known to cause infectious disease in humans. They are known to infect the neurological and respiratory systems mostly. The first human Coronavirus identified in mid-1960's and then have seen widespread outbreaks in the form of Middle East respiratory syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and severe acute respiratory syndrome related Coronavirus (SARS-CoV). However, we see the emergence of another outbreak due to a new virus called the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This COVID-19 novel disease infected people first time in Wuhan, China. As the number of infected cases rises, it is clear that these pandemics pose a threatening impact on social and economic sectors. The general overview of Coronavirus will be explained in this article and also enlightened some of significant social and economic factors influenced by the novel COVID-19.

Keywords: Pandemic, Coronavirus, COVID-19, Social and Economical Influences.

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Introduction

A new Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is believed to be the cause of an outbreak of many health problems, including respiratory diseases, neurological, enteric infections, etc. over and above social economic issues that are not easy to be handled. Globally this pandemic is scattering day by day and every person is facing this problem in any way, within a very short span of time this virus caused enormous effects on world economy and politics. Since the initial case reported on 12th December 2019 in China, where have been 44 cases registered and 11 of which are severely ill, and unfortunately within 4 month this pandemic spread across the globe with almost one million confirmed cases, more than 48 thousand deaths, and more

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than 2 million recovered. The first case of COVID-19 was diagnosed in Pakistan in February 2020, and then within 3 months 3208¹ cases were reported within 8555 recovered and unfortunately 706 died. During this disastrous situation federal government imposed nation lockdown from 1st April 2020 to 9th May 2020¹. Although the provincial government of Sindh announced 14 days lockdown from 23rd March 2020 and shuts down all the public places and transports.

With the ease of global travel, increased human contact with wild and domestic animals, land use changes, social contracts etc. novel disease emergence is no longer unusual. In the past 20 years, we have seen the three main Coronavirus emergence including SARS in 2002 and MERS in 2012 and now SARS 2 COVID in 2019-2020. Coronavirus disease is a newly infectious disease has been discovered in human from the local sea market of Wuhan, Hubei province, central China and getting attention nowadays. Older people and children above than one year whose immune system are weaker facing this virus attack more than

younger. It's an infection varies from mild to moderate where special care and treatment recovers patients immediately, but with a higher degree of infection can cause a respiratory tract illness which is leading to death. Since past four decades, Coronavirus related infectious diseases, including the emergence of novel virus SARS² Covid-19 have formed not only medical issues, but also affected social, economical and political responses at global. These pandemics influenced both at a regional and national level as well as the expectations and anxieties of the public³. With the exposure of new Coronavirus in 2019 we are now once again in the critical region of life span⁴. This virus is causing several deaths and infections simultaneously affecting the different aspects of social and economic life. Different research studies confirmed that it spread due to human-to-human transmission and can be resolved by social distancing and cut off physical communications.

The whole world is now experiencing the lockdown situation, although the intensities of the lockdown are dissimilar in different countries, and even different in a same country to slow down the spread of the pandemic. The social distancing is a key to 'flatten the curve' but has a drastic impact on social life and economical condition of people and countries. This condition leads to decline in tourism, business, cottage industries, export and supply disruptions, etc. and the employment situation in worldwide became a more serious concern specially in underdeveloped countries.

Background

A virus is a tiny infectious agent that can replicate itself only in the living organism either human plants or animal⁵. Millions of different types of viruses are found in almost every ecological community on Earth and can infect many living creatures. Not only spreading diseases and infections, they are independently surviving as virions particles, consisting genetic material, i.e. DNA, RNA molecules, protein coat and lipid coatings approximately 26-32 kilo bases in size⁶.

Coronavirus is a group of viruses related with sub family Orthocoronavirinae that cause diseases in avian, mammals, and humans. Basically, the name Coronavirus is derived from the Latin corona, meaning 'crown', which refers to the characteristic of a crown or a solar corona around the virions. Coronavirus has infected both human and animals. Due to Coronavirus many diseases like cold, fever, flu, respiratory infections, diarrhea and many more illnesses have been found in chicken, pigs, cows, camels, and as well as in human⁷⁻⁸.

There are four main sub-groupings of human Coronaviruses, known as alpha, beta, gamma, and delta, and seven types that can infect human⁹. First two 229E and NL63 are alpha Coronavirus, OC43 and HKU1 are belong to beta family, MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV is the beta Coronavirus that causes Middle East Respiratory Syndrome or MERS, and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome or SARS and finally the last one is SARS-CoV-2 the novel Coronavirus that causes Coronavirus disease 2019 or COVID-19.

The first human CoV 229E was discovered in mid of the 60's, when people complained about cold, sore throat, sneezing and breathing problem. This novel agent was adapted to grow in lung fibroblast cell lines of human which led to a respiratory tract illness¹⁰⁻¹¹. Both 229E and NL63 human Corona viruses have been detected in bats as well, so the infection in human might be penetrating direct from the bats or maybe any intermediate hosts are the reason in transmission and the emergence of these Corona viruses¹². Whereas, OC43 was discovered in 1967 which infected human and cattle, symptoms are similar as 229E but serologically they are distinguished¹³. Eruption of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) was diagnosed almost 18 years ago, a large number of beta Corona viruses (SARSr-CoVs) have been discovered in their natural reservoir host, bats¹⁴⁻¹⁵. In 2002-2003 in the South China most people got infected through so-cow disease. Natural source of the SARS outbreak is bat confirmed by Chinese scientist and health officials¹⁶⁻¹⁷, but that time logical and molecular stud-

ies are less successful and vaccines under processing to get 100% virus free patients, unexpectedly new disaster emerged as COVID-19, which caused an epidemic SARS2 in human in Wuhan, China, December 2019. World Health Organization (WHO) announced the disease caused by this novel virus Coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19) on 11th February 2020. The repeated emergence and outbreaks of CoVs indicate a public health threat. This suggests the possibility of animal to human and human to human transmission of newly emerging CoVs¹⁸. This novel epidemic started on 12th December 2019, had infected almost laboratory confirmed 3000 people, including over 100 deaths by Jan 2020¹⁹. Previous studied showed characteristics of both patients with SARS-Cov and nCov are 80% identical as well as the genome level of bat Coronavirus and nCov is 90% similar. COVID-19 belongings have been reported in a growing number of around 200 countries, US health groups World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are continuously observing, monitoring the situation, and posting updates on their website. WHO declared a global pandemic in March 2020 and issuing recommendations for preventing and treating the illness side by side?

Social Influences

A community is a social unit of a person with commonality such as norms, religion, values, customs, or identity. Communities may share a sense of place situated in a given geographical or in virtual space through communication platforms. Unfortunately, this novel virus not only infecting person, but it is destroying the community's graceful life. Community is established through communication among peoples where they share, understand, and get knowledge, but regrettably this pandemic virus is spreading through communication and social networking. The impact of this virus is also clearly shown in hospitals, the behavior of health staff and their appearance are completely changed, the fear of serious and SOPs are being strictly followed in hospital setups²⁰.

As we know that social life is very necessary for every person thought out the world and this deadly pirate is getting paralyze whole world by enforcing bad impact on society. Where the pandemic has revolted and killed more than thousands of people worldwide and the countries sealed their borders and restrict resident's movements. The outcome for this action can be seen as clear air, water, and nitrogen free atmosphere. This impact should also be notified due the Coronavirus which has imposed positive effect on the earth. Life is covered with many social influences, including religion, sports, politics, education, health and economy etc. and COVID-19 destroyed almost all social aspects of life.

Sports influence:

Sports are a significant element for the development of any country. But due to the 2019-20 pandemic Coronavirus many sports events have been cancelled and postponed around the world²¹⁻²². Drastic Coronavirus spreading has impacted the staging of sports events. World big international games event Olympic committee confirmed Tokyo 2020 games which had to begin on 24th July 2020 has suspended until next year²³. All golf and football tournaments in England and America with woman championship league have postponed until 23rd August.

Considering the current situation regarding the Corona virus, the sports council all around has decided that general rules which normally applied to national players will not apply for international team players either in cricket or football. The qualifying matches for Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) world cup in both Asia and South America have already been postponed avoiding any unnecessary health risks and also situations of potential sporting unfairness²⁴. The recommendation is international matches which take place in March now be postponed until such time that they can take place in a safe and secure environment, both for players and for the general public²⁵. Famous cricket T20 matches, including

Pakistan Super League (PSL) 2020 semi finals, final and Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020 has deferred due to fear of corona diseases spreading and will reschedule after clarity from COVID-19.

All major North American sports league Major League Baseball (MLB), National Basketball Association (NBA), Major League Soccer (MLS), National Hockey League (NHL) in USA, Philippine Basketball Association (PBA) Philippine cup and many more leagues have suspended due to the rapid spreading of Covid-19. This pandemic has swept the world widely in the last few weeks has not only had a significant impact on public health, society and the economy as a whole, it has also destroyed world sporting calendar. Due to that, professionals and amateur leagues of all continents deeply took the unpredictable slept to postpone or suspend their season by the order of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to avoid mass gathering and public interactions. The biggest 8 hours entertainment event of WWE Wrestle mania 36, which was to be held in Tampa, Florida's Raymond James Stadium now it will be held in the WWE performance center on 4 and 5 April with zero attendance due to good care of public health, whereas last year in Wrestle mania 35 crowd of people was 82,265²⁶.

Religious influence

The most important issue which has affected due to COVID-19 is cancellation of the worship services of different faiths and beliefs. Every person belongs to any religion which means more than giving its beliefs and contributing to its rituals. Religion and faith are the foundation of a life for any person whose teaching knowledge contributes to a person's life from birth to death. There are seven big religions, world widely has affected drastically due to COVID-19 termite virus. For many spiritual leaders it was very hard to close the churches, temples, shrines and mosques, including two Holy mosques of MAKKAH and MADINA in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

But, according to current situation due to the deadly virus which is spreading through social connections and gathering its great decision through governments to close holy sites for the time being. Saudi Arabia has suspended the holding of daily prayers with Friday prayers inside and outside walls of Holy mosques. As well as congregational prayers in all mosques, including Mosque Aqsa and all Muslim countries has suspended since mid of March 2020 due to limit the spreading COVID. Umrah and Hajj application have been currently halted and because of severe condition this year Hajj the big event of Muslims might be rescinded. The Islamic society of Americans and Canadian Council of Imam recommended suspending mosque prayers and gathering. In Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei councils issued a fatwa to Muslims pray at home. The famous shrines of Imam Reza, Fatima Masumeh and Shah Abdul Azim and Jamkaran mosques in Iran have been closed. The famous shrines of Hazrat Ali Hijweri in Lahore, Abdullah Shah Ghazi and Lal Shahbaz Qalander as well as all Sufi places are closed where the danger of spreading virus due to a large gathering of people can be possible. Many catholic churches are contributing to nonprofit organizations to rely on the donations of their members. For this because churches are partially open for distributions of foods and personal goods.

We are living in a difficult period of the 21st century where people spiritually attached to religion, partially losing their way of worship and the feeling or expression of reverence and adoration for a deity.

Educational influence

Education is the essential part of any country development. The pandemic COVID-19 has affected education system throughout the world, leading to the widespread closure of every education system. As of 28th March 2020, around 2 billion students globally were out of Universities, collages, and schooling system in response of COVID-19. More than 200 countries almost have affected due to closure of such system not only students, but teach-

ers, families, economic consequences badly affected²⁷. Social distancing and self-isolation are the primary non-pharmaceutical interventions and preventive measures. To overcome this spreading Coronavirus of primary, secondary, and tertiary schooling in over 200 countries has been closed. Previous studies showed whenever pandemic situations or infectious diseases occurred in any country transmission rate was highest among school children due to close communication. During the 19's century influenza pandemic, Spanish flu, Asian flu in the different countries, school closures and public gathering bans were associated with total lower infected rates. In China, schools, universities and office closures have slowed the spread of infections. Counting of infection cases which are started from 82000 till Jan 2020, now it has become only around 2000 by 31st March 2020. China, Korea, Italy, Iran and some heavily impacted countries now took risk control decisions for saving millions of peoples' lives. For this purpose, home online schooling and working has been established. Somehow, these changes have caused a degree of inconvenience, but it has set up a new example of educated and working innovations.

In just the past few weeks, the ministry of education and information technology have assembled many clouds based, online learning and broadcast consortiums as well as upgrade a suite of education infrastructure. These digital platforms are beneficial for every stakeholder including government officials, publisher, education professionals, technology providers, and telecom network operators. This COVID-19 is also troubling for international students who studied abroad, where they enrolled in higher education and all their education scheduled before taking admissions. Especially, among the international student community a lot of students have difficulty coping with the Coronavirus crisis. Since many universities have closed, students cannot focus on their study. Due to additional restrictions in movement and travel it has become very hard for students to return to their home country.

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) canceled the examinations for its Diploma Program and Career-related Program candidates scheduled between 30th April and 22th May 2020, reportedly affecting more than 200,000 students worldwide. Worldwide more than 2 million students are also affected due to cancellation of international exam conducted by the British Council. Matriculation and intermediate boards of educations in Pakistan postpone their exams, which will reschedule after the clarity of corona pandemics.

According to WHO, till 2nd April 2020 in 203 countries 980,799 cases of Covid-19 confirmed and 50,277 has been died. For the sake of lives of millions of people, it was better decision to halt all the social activities for time being and main the social distance²⁸.

Political influences

Where the economic impact due to Coronavirus on the societies of the countries is distressing, the virus also drastically affects political regions of the communities. The Administrations under provisional level in many countries have dismissed their work due to the handling of Coronavirus by quarantine themselves. Additionally, the protest is going on in some administrative regions of Hong Kong and Taiwan, which have strengthened due to fears of immigration and traveling ban from mainland China. The most affected Islamic country is the Islamic Republic of Iran, which has been heavily infected by the COVID-19, in which 10% of Iranian legislature and 15 other government officials including vice-president²⁹ being infected.

Meanwhile, some other country's political parties are doing great social work to overcome that pandemic. They are distributing food to the poor and needy people who are working on a daily basis, and due to lock down they are not fulfilling their families' hunger desires. Specially in India and Pakistan such kind of donations and helps are seeking. The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors in Washington, USA approved \$200 million

package on 2nd April 2020 to help Pakistan in the crisis of COVID-19. The China border friend of Pakistan has sent medical personnel and supplies to fight the spread of the Coronavirus in one of the world's most populous nations³⁰.

Whereas the social and economic challenges and consequences are potentially distressing where political consequences are harder to predict but might be the most enduring. In Japan, the handling of a COVID-19 outbreak in population, the government took actions cancelled the Tokyo Olympics. In other countries such as in Iran and Italy, a lenient response by the country's healthcare system led to a loss of containment of the epidemic, which is now spreading to the rest of the country.

Due to the pandemic Coronavirus export import communication have slipped after a long-time world widely. Imports from China has fallen a big economical loss, over thousands of people killed, led to a widespread shutdown of production in the region's largest economy. But still China cooperating with other bordered countries by exporting health care goods and vaccine on first basis.

Economical influence

The world's economic system has got the financial burden as the Coronavirus pandemic spread throughout the countries. Everything in the global economy is affected by it and the prices are increasing and decreasing drastically. Worldwide the commercial sectors are closed to stop spreading of this virus which has huge impact on the economy and daily life of people. The oil prices became as low as was in 2002 and interestingly the demand and the price of orange juice increased because it contains the immune boost vitamin C.

Due to closure of many educations system country is facing high social and economic losses. Colleges and universities operate as 'mini profit cities' which generates healthy amount revenue in billions for cities, states, and regions. College and university closures have a domino effect on economies with far-reaching implications. According to

studies, local hotels, restaurants, cafes, shops, car rental agencies and other local businesses obtain a significant share of annual revenue from graduation week and college reunions these communities will suffer a lot of economic damage if the colleges remain closed at that time. The obstruction they cause affect people across communities, also their impact is more severe for deprived children and their families, including interrupted learning, compromised nutrition, childcare problems and consequent economic cost to families who cannot work. Daily wages people are facing many problems, including food, work and incurring wage loss in many instances and negatively impacting productivity.

The governments of different countries did not properly respond to this pandemic disease due to quickly spread around the world. Due to lockdown situation people cannot go outside of work and their jobs. The contractor and the daily wage worker lost their jobs and business shuttered down their operations. The airlines also shut down their operation and the exports also became zero due to this pandemic. Due to the shutdown of factories and operations of business the stock markets globally decrease their points as shown in Table 1³¹. Kuwait has only one death till 1st April 2020 due to COVID-19 but the stock exchange decreased 21.5 % due to oil crises. Whereas the Iranian stock exchange (TEDPIX) interestingly increased 161550 points which 42.06% since the beginning of 2020 and with 545649 points on 1st April of 2020. We only showed the statistics of 10 stock markets, which are around the Pakistan or has the direct relation with her. The initial estimated losses of different sectors of Pakistan's economy are around Rs. 1.3 trillion³². Although the Prime Minister has announced the Rs. 900 billion economic packages for low income people those affected by this pandemic. Including the Rs.100 billion to support the agricultural sector and small industries and the loan interest for exporters has been postponed temporarily.

Table. 1 Stock Exchanges Status since January 2020

S. No.	Stock Exchange	Point Decreases Since Beginning of 2020	Decreasing Percentage	Points on 1st April 2020
1.	India (SENSEX)	13108	31.73%	28265
2.	Pakistan (KSE 100)	12000	28.99%	29453
3.	UAE (ADX General)	1355	26.57%	3745
4.	Israel (TA-100)	379	23.34%	1243
5.	Saudia Arabia (TASI)	1805	21.60%	6569
6.	Kuwait (BKA)	1301	21.50%	4748
7.	Hong Kong (HSI)	5417	19.0%	23085
8.	China (SHCOMP)	335	10.86	2735
9.	Japan (NIKKEI 225)	852	4.5%	18065
10.	South Korea (KOSPI)	69	3.9%	1695

In the scenario of low impact of COVID-19 in Pakistan the rate of poverty will increase 9.4% and become 33.7% as compared to baseline poverty and followed by 44.2% (19.9% increment for medium impact) and for high impact scenario it will be 55.9%. Besides that, the vulnerable groups of the population those are nearer to baseline fall into the poverty group³³.

The impact of COVID-19 cannot be overlooked on the economy. The world economy affected by the panic of COVID-19 with a drastic negative impact on aviation and maritime, trade, construction and real estate, small scale industries, agriculture and tourism and leisure. Additionally, the worldwide stock markets fell down, poverty rate increased especially in underdeveloped countries.

Conclusion

The malevolence COVID-19 is spreading rapidly across the globe at a frightening rate. It has caused higher degree of infections and deaths as compared to SARS and MERS. Social distancing and self-isolation are the best prevention methods to overcome this problem. As this time there are no specific vaccines, treatments and medication 100% cure COVID-19 patients. As well as it badly impacted not only public health but also socio-economic sectors of the countries. So, we should follow WHO protocols of health to beat this deadly virus and stable the social and economic life at their prior location.

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