

## “Pakistan’s Scenario in Pandemic Situation of COVID-19”

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Emergence of Covid-19 in Pakistan is an element of continuing pandemic caused by (SARS-CoV-2) virus<sup>1</sup> It was confirmed in our country on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020<sup>2</sup>. By 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020, cases were confirmed in 4 different provinces of Pakistan,<sup>3</sup> and by 17<sup>th</sup> June, each district had recorded a minimum of one confirmed case of COVID-19. On 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020, WHO announced corona virus causes pulmonary disease among individuals of Wuhan City, China.<sup>4,5</sup> Pakistan has witnessed 4 waves of COVID-19. The first wave started in May 2020, and increased in June to 165,062. 4,944 new cases and 136 total mortalities. Till 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021 mortality rate in Pakistan reached to 28,850 cases. The first wave depicted sporadic death rate. Subsequent to the initial wave, COVID-19 situation in our country subsided, day to day mortalities and positivity rates of testing in the country sustained to moderate levels. By the end of November 2020, deaths and new cases again started rising, though, culminating within the second wave. This wave was comparatively less in strength, and it influenced Sindh peaking in middle of December 2020. The 3<sup>rd</sup> stream commenced in middle of March 2021, when testing ratio of positivity, with day to day established cases and mortalities began to increase. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab province were mainly affected by the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave. This wave gained its peak at the end of April 2021, new deaths, cases, positivity ratios are constantly falling. Punjab, by far has witnessed (334,000) established cases and (9,770) deaths. Sindh, second-highest registered patients (308,000) and (4,910) number of deaths, it has high registered cases compared to other provinces. Next to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab had the highest death rate. Third-highest number of registered cases of COVID-19 (129,000) were from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa faced an unusual high death rate of 3% and number of mortalities (3,920) were third-highest. Balochistan had less number of cases (24,500) and lowest number of deaths (270). Balochistan has low mortality rate, presently ranking around 1.10%. Islamabad has announced 80,300

number of cases and has witnessed 745 number of deaths, taking it to the next highest deaths rate per capita and a better number of victims per capita compared to any Pakistani province<sup>4-5</sup>. The Fourth wave of Covid-19 was commonly known as the Indian variant which increased the fatality rate up to a way high extent.

Pakistan imposed a country-wide lockdown from 1<sup>st</sup> April which was extended twice till 9<sup>th</sup> May. The fourth wave of Covid-19 in Pakistan commonly known as the delta variant took over its peak in the months of July- August 2021 bringing the country into strict lockdown. This brought the government to impose compulsion on the administration of covid- vaccines. By far Pakistan has administered COVID-19 vaccines like Chinese Sinopharm, Sinovac, CanSino-Bio, Russian Sputnik, Moderna and Astra Zeneca among individuals starting from age groups 60 to 50, 40, 30, 18 and below. Recently Pfizer booster shot.

Covid 19 not only increased the number of mortalities but also brought massive downfall to the economy of countries. Thus, it would take a lot of time for countries including Pakistan to come out of the long-lasting consequences the pandemic has brought over 2.5 years. Therefore, only way to prevent themselves from this virus lies in following the COVID-19 SOPs; wearing masks, hand washing, getting vaccinated and maintaining social distance. Lifelong imprint on the economy of the planet will be left by Covid-19, causing persistent changes and tutoring important lessons. The most important lesson learnt so far from the COVID-19 pandemic has been the significance of uniting together on difficulties that influence the entire humanity.

### Authors Contribution:

**Saima Mazhar:** Construct the Manuscript

**Farzeen Tanwir:** Proof Read, Plagiarism and Finesse

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