



Ambassador Salman Bashir

"Covid-19 devastating as it is, challenges our common humanity, testing its endurance and faith in higher values. Only by resorting to the imperatives of interdependence, international cooperation and innate resilience shall we succeed. To begin with, the international community needs to overcome its self-imposed restrictive world view imposed by geopolitical prisms. This is not the time to revel in conspiracy theories or contemplate political and economic rearrangements incident to the virus. Social harmony, discipline and a deep dive in bio and health sciences can deliver a vaccine and effective treatment. Political and governance systems that waste valuable time in mutual bickering or hiding incompetence will fail at huge human costs. Pakistan own internal inefficiencies can only be partly compensated by friends such as China. Self-reliance and total mobilization of national resources is a must. South Asia particularly India has the propensity to terribly mismanage the Covid-19 crisis. India may not be able to fully comprehend the virus's impact for its own people. Repercussions may reverberate beyond its borders. Pakistan must adopt an inward approach and overcome its national shortcomings soonest possible. Not play politics over virus. Give the experts a real handle and improvise health facilities with the help of armed forces."



Gen. Asad Durrani

1. I would focus on two practical aspects: this calamity is a challenge and an opportunity—as they say in China; coincidentally also the origin of the crisis.
2. The challenge had to be, and has been, faced by countries and communities according to their respective capacities and conditions. Though we have largely ignored the needs and the conditions of the poor – so far, we have been lucky due to the natural immunity of our people, and being out of the pandemic's main assault corridor.
3. The opportunities are three-fold: we can correct the imbalance in our ecosystem; improve, in fact restore, human relations; and concentrate on the welfare of masses who have been generally sidelined in all our policies – social, economic, and political.



Ambassador Aziz Ahmad Khan

The Corona pandemic has provided an opportunity to reflect on:

1. Factors that led to the delay in policy decisions at the leadership level.
2. Weaknesses in delivery by an administrative system that a few decades ago was the pride of the nation and an envy of many a countries.
3. Need to take urgent steps to improve delivery of health and education for the poor.
4. Start work on structures which are able to handle emergencies that are definitely going to hit us as a consequence of climate change. These will be in the form of droughts, floods, food shortages, health emergencies etc.
5. There is an urgent need to take measures that will lead to a change in the people's mindset and make it modern and scientific within our social and cultural values.



Professor Dr. Arshi Saleem Hashmi

The world is moving towards a transformation that will have far reaching implications. COVID-19 undoubtedly is the stimulus that has initiated the re-ordering of the world. The changes are not going to be just in the health sector, but significant change of direction in social, political, security and economic fields will lead to paradigmatic shift. Two arguments are dominating the discourse. First, that there will be more restrictions on democratic norms and states would become ultra-nationalist in their approach hence a blow to globalization. Second argument is that perhaps a new wave of global health, global happiness and global care will define the relationship between the states. Pakistan being a developing country has many concerns particularly about its economic situation that can lead to socio-political problems in the country. Pakistan needs to re-evaluate its priorities and a strong policy orientation towards human security is required. Post COVID -19 world will not be about conventional security but definitely about non-traditional human security paradigm.