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Yemen, Conflict

Yemen: Unresolved Problems of the Past Affecting the Future Benefit In 2014, problems quickly rose as the people of Sana'a demanded. They requested lower fuel prices and a new government. Because they have a republic government system, the biggest and best represented group gets to control the country. So instead of voting, fights determine the strongest and weakest candidates. A riot broke out caused by the Houthis, "leading President Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi and his government to resign"(Cook, 2018). Houthi groups continue to fight against Saudi Arabia, leaving an estimated 15,000 injured or killed. "22 million Yemenis remain in need of assistance, 8 million are at risk of famine, and a cholera outbreak has affected over 1 million"(Cook, 2018). These problems are continuous.

Yemen's population is 63.36% out of 29.2 million people live in the rural area. Because of this, almost 4 million acres of land is cultivated. The average farm size is 2.7 acres, which is about 2.05 football fields. The major crops exported from Yemen are coffee beans and khat. While exporting, most of Yemen's people use khat because it is a drug that makes them lose their appetite. Climate in Yemen is subtropical dry. They have hot deserts with low rainfall and high temperatures. The deserts bring long droughts. The climate makes it hard to produce useful crops, so useful minerals are also produced. Along with the climate, the geography makes it harder to produce. They have the Mahrat mountains, deserts, and are partially blocked by three bodies of water. The Arabian Sea, Gulf of Aden, and the Red Sea are the three.

The typical lifestyle in Yemen is quite a bit different from the American normal. The population is quickly growing and 47% of the population is under 15. There are approximately 7 members per immediate family that lives in a several story building made up of mudbrick with many windows. Most of the buildings are more than 5 stories and lower levels are made up of hand hewn stone. Majority of families only eat bread, rice, and tea. Aseed is made up of wheat, salt and water. 4 out of 5 Yemenis are starving. A great number of their food comes from the World Food Program by the United Nations. The UN has been serving Yemen since 2015, when the fights first started. They feed about 40% of Yemen's population. Yemenis normally cook the food with firewood instead of fuel, because resources are limited. Yemenis have even cooked food on their roofs, making a homemade stove. It's easier for the ones who are home farming to try and make the stove. The popular jobs are farming and being a sales person. The average salary is \$23,116.85 in USD. Money isn't the only thing hard to get, so is education, health care, clean water, local markets, and electricity. Education is one of the government's top priorities but there out of the 46% of children that go, 30 % of that are girls. Health care is hard to reach because of the cholera outbreak. The clean water is hard to reach because farmers have ,in recent times, switched to cash crop harvesting instead of staying with sustainable sustenance farming. Because local markets are hard to reach due to only 11% of roads being paved, the rural population has an incredible terrible time getting

those supplies.

The situation of conflict outlook isn't improving. It's been almost 6 years since it all began. Yemen is ranked one of the most affected countries by conflict, as the first began of fights ever in Yemen began in 628. "Furthermore, the effects of the war have led to an increase in basic food prices of up to an average 30%"(Alles,2017). The effects are staying the same but aren't getting better, making it harder to live. It's harder to gain money, as more jobs aren't paying regularly. Some jobs have even avoided paying for a year. The more Yemen depended on imported goods, the harder it was for them, once conflict began and having no way of safely gaining that. The outbreak of Cholera, the fear of the country collapsing, and the continuous attacks contribute to the stage this country is in. Of course in different parts of the country, it hits differently. The rural population has a hard time reaching the markets for necessities. The urban population is more likely to be caught up in the fights, bombings, and shootings. Men are more likely to be in an eventful death, as they are the ones fighting. Women have the lowest work rate and are the first ones to give up their meal for another child. Children are too malnourished which continues through the cycle as the malnutrition carries into adulthood. In adulthood, it's harder to make a healthy baby when you are malnourished, and a malnourished baby makes the cycle continue. The elderly have a hard time getting the right healthcare. The marginalized population has a high rate of being attacked. Muhamasheens are the worst treated by Yemenis. Muhamasheens are a religious group who happen to live in the slums and have some of the lowest work rates. The environment even suffers. "Treating the symptoms of food insecurity will not be enough to reverse these trends"(Brown,2018). With the government focused on the conflicts, the environment is ignored. Most of the cyclones go unnoticed, but the damage is almost as bad as the damage caused by conflict. The cyclones aren't the only thing. There's also the sea level rising and desertification. No one sparks action because the people in charge are worried about conflict, education, and available food. The situation for everyone in Yemen isn't getting better, and over the years becoming worse.

To improve these situations, the talk of cease fire and a peace treaty could help. A cease fire is a pause in fighting to talk about a way of agreement or compromise. A peace treaty would stop all the fights from the Houthis. It takes at least two leaders to meet up and want to improve their state of place with another party. The leaders currently would be Abdul Malek al Houthi and President Adrabbuh Mansur Hadi The "pros" of this include stopping the conflict. Food would be attainable without the conflict. With food available, prices will become affordable. With the prices of food going down, more money could be gained in all families income and more families could be paid as jobs can make money. The economy has more room to incline as families begin to have food and more entertainment places could open. Affordable health care could be open for all. The non-profit organizations helping Yemen could worry about other countries that need help. Yemen could try to make their own food as resources can safely get and store. The environment could be worried about and taken care of as the government and people gain more money. Every plan has its obstacle. If the talk of war can't come to an agreement, the fights can continue for many more years. If the fights continue, it's estimated that the country will collapse and fail quicker than scientists thought or are thinking. Apart from the economy quickly rising, there's a chance of a bull rise and a collapse. Another downfall is the chance of the spread of C0vid-19. They could

possibly

video chat but they could hang up instead of working things out. Overall, a peace treaty is a beneficial idea.

Another solution to the circumstances is to have more countries and more nonprofit groups donating toward the benefit of Yemen. The benefits of this is the cycle of malnourished people creating more malnourished children stops with more food and care donated. More food improves the economy. With food, they could put more effort into stopping the fights and into the environment. Another benefit is more people are able to fight against when they are well fed and healthy. With more food being given instead of being sold at expensive prices, more Yemenis are able to afford and put more money into communication with others, clothing, entertainment, and healthcare. Jobs could also start to pay or pay more, with lots of people buying and selling. The economy would go up. But, there's a high chance of spreading C0vid-19, which would make things way worse. It could hurt those volunteering. Some of the volunteers could be in a battle and killed. Overall, this isn't a bad idea but it doesn't solve what caused them to go into hunger.

The third solution is to switch the type of government. The fear of the country failing would become a memory. The switch from republic to democracy could be beneficial. Going from the citizens choosing they choose as a whole. The people could have the chance to pick their leaders instead of the biggest group of people winning and forcing the government officials to quit. They could establish rules that make some of the fights and wars illegal. Though that wouldn't stop anything, it could be harder to get weapons and punishment can be worse. The fights could eventually stop. With more laws in place, they wouldn't have to fight other groups to find a way into the government. Yemenis could vote and want someone to become president. Switching government types wouldn't be easy and quick, but long and thorough. Though this would take a long time, some might oppose. The ones that opposed could start even more fights and could black mail some officials to stop what they could try to do. But if all goes well, the economy and food sources could become easier to make available and reachable. This plan isn't the best but has a decent idea to it.

These solutions would meet the needs of everyone. Since everyone's biggest needs are money and food, they could help with both of those. The Saudi Arabia government has already tried to solve this problem by giving the highlands to the Houthis but has yet to be successful. I would recommend the first solution, because it has less options to backfire and fail. To make this achievable, the president and Abdul would want to meet up. If both agree, they would make plans to meet up and put a ceasefire in place when they do. The leaders would have to place some rules like no physical fights during the cease fire. They, next, will chat and compromise to figure out their plans for the future. Hopefully, they can come up with an agreement and fighting can end. When the fighting ends, things can improve for Yemen. With the help of the United Nations, they could convene and still be safe on both sides. The United States already has donated \$721 million but 75% of Yemen still starves. Normal American citizens can even help by donating to charities and sign petitions. The petitions would like to stop the country to receive such deadly

weapons. If all works well, non-profit organizations could pitch in a little more to get even more food and other needed supplies to Yemen. The funding would come from civilians and possibly other countries to help rebuild the buildings, economy, and environment. Community members, the government, and organizations can help and have a big role in this solution. The government can start and everyone else can follow, making it sustainable.

The future of Yemen is unknown. Some predict that Yemen will continue to go hungry and fail as a country. The government is trying to stop and resolve the fighting but it has yet to happen. The economy is failing, the environment is dying, the people are sick and poor, the price of food is continuing to rise as more are unable to buy, and jobs aren't able to pay workers. The markets, like most food, are unattainable. "The five year conflict has left over a quarter million civilians dead and destroyed the economy, health, education and basic infrastructure"(Ryan, 2020). Out of the almost 30 million people, only 5 thousand aren't. In 2014, it all began and it's 2020 with no clue when it will end.

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