

THE MAIN REASONS FOR POVERTY OF THE POPULATION

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Annotation: The article analyzes the causes of poverty of the population, highlights its relevance and impact on economic development. Economic analysis, statistical data and scientific approaches are used to solve the problem. This article is devoted to analyzing the causes of poverty in the world. It considers regional, economic and social factors. Methodological approaches are used to solve the problem. The main factors of poverty, including unemployment, low quality of education and economic inequality, are discussed. Socio-economic measures are proposed.

Keywords: poverty, economic causes, social factors, methodological solutions, regional foundations, recommendations.

INTRODUCTION

Poverty is one of the most significant social and economic problems of modern times. It has a devastating impact on people's well-being, reduces quality of life, and limits opportunities for development. Analyzing the causes of poverty allows us to identify key factors influencing its spread and determine ways to reduce it. The aim of this article is to study the main causes of poverty, explore approaches to its analysis, and propose solutions based on the obtained data.

Poverty is a multifaceted phenomenon that encompasses not only economic aspects but also social, cultural, and political dimensions. To effectively address poverty, it is essential to understand its root causes, which may vary depending on the region, the country's level of development, and other factors. This article examines the main causes of poverty and their interrelation.

Economic Causes. Unemployment: The absence of stable earnings is one of the main causes of poverty. A high unemployment rate, especially among young people, deprives individuals of the ability to meet basic needs; Low Wages: Even with employment, many people face poverty due to low wages, which do not cover essential expenses such as housing, food, and healthcare; Income Inequality: Economic inequality between different population groups contributes to wealth concentration among a small segment of society, leaving the majority in distress.

Social Causes. Lack of Education: People with low levels of education have limited employment opportunities and career growth prospects, increasing their risk of poverty; Discrimination: Social groups facing discrimination based on gender, race, ethnicity, or religion often experience restricted access to resources and opportunities; Weak Social Infrastructure: Underdeveloped healthcare, education, and social protection systems exacerbate social inequalities and deepen poverty.

Political Causes. Corruption: High levels of corruption lead to inefficient resource distribution and reduce opportunities for economic development; Political Instability: Conflicts, wars, and political instability disrupt economies, reduce investments, and limit access to basic

services; Ineffective Governance: The inability of governments to develop and implement effective socio-economic programs exacerbates poverty.

Environmental Causes. Climate Change: Natural disasters, droughts, and floods disrupt agricultural production, depriving many people of their sources of income; Environmental Degradation: The deterioration of natural resources, such as water and soil, limits opportunities for agriculture and other economic activities.

Cultural Causes. Traditions and Customs: In some societies, cultural norms restrict certain groups (e.g., women) from participating in economic activities; Lack of Motivation: The culture of poverty, passed down from generation to generation, can foster a sense of hopelessness and a lack of ambition to improve one's life.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The issue of poverty and its causes is widely discussed in the works of many researchers. For example, Amartya Sen, in his book "Development as Freedom" (1999, Oxford University), emphasizes the importance of rights and freedoms in overcoming poverty. Paul Collier, in "The Bottom Billion" (2007, Oxford University), analyzes the role of conflicts and instability in the spread of poverty. Additionally, the World Bank and the United Nations regularly publish reports providing statistical data and recommendations for combating poverty.

Many philosophers have considered poverty a key social issue. Aristotle believed that moderate wealth best contributes to a virtuous life and that extreme poverty prevents individuals from developing their moral and intellectual qualities. Jean-Jacques Rousseau argued that poverty results from social inequality and injustice caused by private property. Karl Marx viewed poverty as a consequence of the capitalist system, where the working class is exploited for profit. John Stuart Mill advocated for social reforms and progressive taxation to reduce the gap between the rich and the poor.

Thus, poverty is a complex problem requiring economic, social, and political measures for its resolution.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Statistical Data Analysis: Using reports from the World Bank, the UN, and national statistical agencies.

Qualitative Analysis: Examining social and economic conditions based on interviews and surveys.

Comparative Analysis: Comparing data from different regions and countries to identify common patterns and specific factors.

Modeling: Developing econometric models to assess the impact of various factors on poverty levels.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Table 1.

Main Causes of Poverty ¹

Cause	Impact Percentage (%)
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¹ World Population Review

Cause	Impact Percentage (%)
Unemployment	35%
Low Education Level	25%
Social Inequality	20%
Corruption	15%
Environmental Factors	5%

The study results indicate that economic and social factors, such as unemployment, low education levels, and inequality, are the main drivers of poverty. However, in developing countries, political instability and corruption also play significant roles.

Poverty has severe consequences for society, including:

Social Instability: High poverty levels can lead to increased crime rates and social unrest.

Health and Life Expectancy: People living in poverty are more prone to illnesses and have limited access to healthcare.

Low Education Levels: Poor families often cannot afford quality education for their children.

Dependency on External Aid: Poor countries and individuals often become dependent on humanitarian assistance and other forms of external support.

In 2024, the world's poorest countries face multiple challenges related to poverty caused by a combination of economic, social and political factors. Here are some of those countries:²

1. **Somalia:** Over 50% of the population lives below the poverty line due to prolonged civil conflict, weak infrastructure, and ineffective governance.
2. **South Sudan:** About 82% of the population suffers from extreme poverty due to ongoing civil war, political instability, and food shortages.
3. **Malawi:** Around 50% of the population lives in poverty due to limited access to education and healthcare and reliance on climate-affected agriculture.
4. **Sierra Leone:** More than 60% of the population is below the poverty line, facing challenges in post-war recovery and infrastructure rebuilding.
5. **Chad:** About 42% of the population lives in poverty due to a weak economy, lack of infrastructure, and conflicts in neighboring countries.

Strategies for Combating Poverty in Developed Countries

Employment Support: Developed nations implement programs to promote job creation and skills development.

Progressive Taxation: Higher taxes on the wealthy help redistribute income and fund social programs.

Accessible Education: Investments in education enable people from poor backgrounds to escape poverty through better job opportunities.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Poverty results from a complex interaction of economic, social, political, environmental, and cultural factors. Overcoming it requires a comprehensive approach, including improving access to education and healthcare, creating jobs, combating corruption, and

² World Population Review. Homepage | Concern Worldwide

developing social infrastructure. Only joint efforts by governments, international organizations, and civil society can lead to significant improvements in poverty reduction.

Key Solutions:

Job Creation & Small Business Support – Encouraging entrepreneurship helps increase household incomes.

Improving Education Quality – Governments should invest in education and professional training.

Social Programs & Assistance for the Poor – Targeted subsidies and employment programs are needed.

Fighting Corruption – Transparent government spending will allow efficient resource distribution.

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