**Oladeji Emmanuel oluwatobiloba**

**16/sms09/071**

**400L**

**Brief background of COVID-19**

COVID-19 is caused by a new coronavirus. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in people and many different species of animals, including camels, cattle, cats, and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread between people such as with MERS-CoV, SARS-CoV, and now with this new virus, named SARS-CoV-2.

**Great powers and Covid-19**

Firstly ,China took the lead in curbing the menace of the virus. It launched a very successful campaign to counter it by authoritative or totalitarian order of strict social distancing in Chinese society and mass-decoronaising with sprays and medicines. However, the rest of the world got late in responding to deal with the situation effectively and emphatically. Moreover, China is leading from the front in donating and giving medical/precautionary supplies (masks, medical aid and safety gadgets) to the world, especially Europe.

Secondly , upper and great powers are limited to their own selves for dealing with Covid-19. However, only China is going all out in the challenge for global leadership. Its ‘mask diplomacy’ is successful and it is running from pillar to post to win the hearts and minds of global audiences. Is it a show of power or a tool to influence the world? The answer is a blunt no.

Thus, China’s mask diplomacy is a modern ‘Xi Plan’ (after Xi Jinping) to save humanity from the scourge of Covid-19. As per a ‘don’t let any crisis go waste’ policy, if the Xi Plan succeeds, a New World Order is in the offing. It has been witnessed in history that all world orders were pronounced either by Europeans or the US. However, this time the world order will be marked and dominated by the East ie China. Hence, it will be East-oriented; this post-Covid world will be led by China.

Furthermore ,Covid-19 also uncovered a lack of coherent global leadership. US President Trump preferred to call Covid-19 a ‘Chinese Virus’ cynically. During the Wuhan crisis in China, none of the world countries was so farsighted that it offered any assistance. No one can substitute honest and proactive leadership that Italy, Iran and now Spain lacks. Countries like Pakistan need to take lessons from them and learn from China – a country with a robust, effective, on-the-spot and immediate decision-making mechanism. It also proves that the global leadership is in crisis. The post Covid-19 era will emerge with a New World Order with new trends in it .

Also, A former Tory cabinet minister has blamed China for allowing the coronavirus outbreak to spread and said diplomatic relations with Beijing should mirror the UK's Cold War-era ties with Russia.

Damian Green, who was Theresa May's de facto deputy, criticised China's handling of the crisis and said it was "undeniable" that the outbreak had been triggered by "unhygienic practices" in its markets.

In conclusion , presently there is no cure for covid-19 as various great power countries and non great power states are taking measures as to reduce the spread of covid-19 and trying to help people who are with this virus .

**REFERENCE**.

Dr. S.H Soherwordi(2020). Covid-19 and new World order. The News International.

Lizzy Buchan(2020) “Coronavirus: Senior Tory calla for Cold War style relationship with China in wake of Pandemic”. Available at: (the link)