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Cultural and creative industries: Roadmap to expanding Pakistani exports to Africa

JHSS

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Vol. 30 (2), 2022

Ayesha Siddiqi¹

Abstract

Although Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) are increasingly becoming engines of sustainable economic growth and national image building globally, in case of Pakistan, their vast potential remains relatively untapped. This paper outlines the role of culture as a strategic sector to boost economic growth, sustainable development, and cultural diplomacy. Drawing on an extensive literature, interviews, and focus group discussions, the paper maps the general trends in Pakistan's CCI trade performance to propose policy measures that can promote CCIs for Pakistan's socioeconomic development generally and its engagement with Africa particularly. The study explores the role that CCIs play in sustainable development; how Pakistan's CCIs can be deployed for economic growth and cultural diplomacy; what specific sectors of CCI represent maximum potential for economic cooperation between Pakistan and Africa; and what policy frameworks can be developed for them. The study argues that Pakistan's socioeconomic challenges require a strategic approach to devising national and foreign cultural policies that foster healthy avenues of social engagement, an inclusive national identity, economic growth, and international diplomacy. While the paper is focused on addressing a significant gap in the government's "Look Africa Policy" that does not factor in the immense potential of CCIs, its findings and recommendations are applicable to Pakistan's national and foreign cultural policy in general. Finally, the research makes a contribution to the sparse literature on CCIs in Pakistan.

Keywords: Creative industries, creative economy, Pakistan, Africa

Introduction

In today's globalized world, the significance of culture for sustainable development, social innovation, and economic growth cannot be overemphasized. Indeed, the creative economy is one of the most rapidly expanding sectors of the global economy, with global trade in creative products more than doubling between 2002 and 2015 (KuKu et al., 2018).

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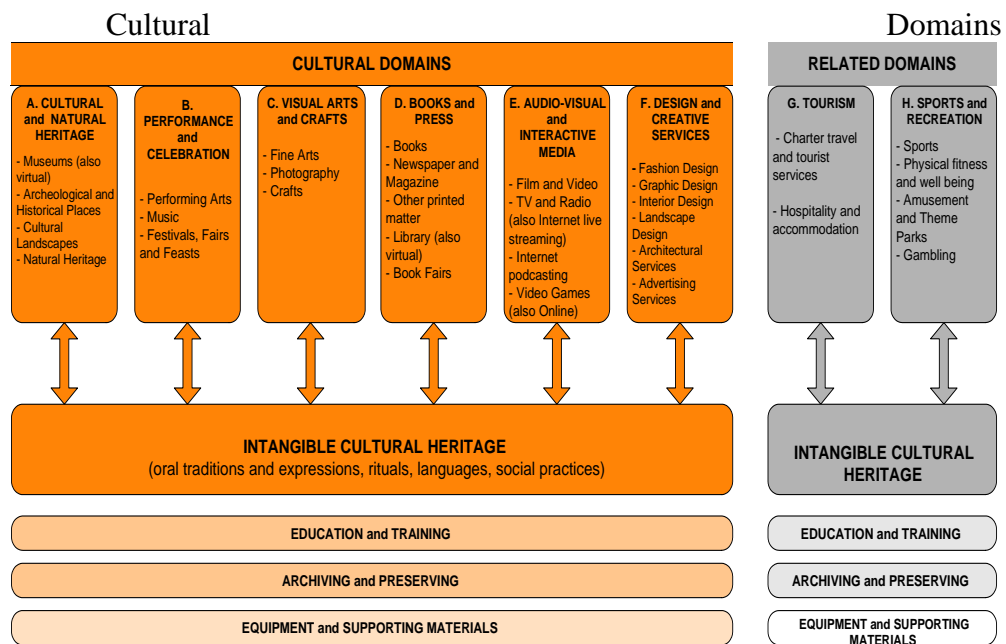
Located at the intersection of economics, innovation, social value, and sustainability, the creative economy has at its core Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) that include visual arts and crafts, performing arts, media, advertising, design, books and press, sports and recreation, tourism, and cultural and natural heritage. CCIs help generate jobs, revenues and taxes, export earnings, and competitiveness. With an annual global worth of \$2.25 trillion, CCIs account for over 3% of the global GDP and employ 30 million people (UNESCO, 2017). This outdoes the global revenue of telecom services (\$1.57 trillion) or India's GDP (\$1.9 trillion) and represents more job production than the car industries of Europe, Japan, and the US combined. These trends, however, are unevenly distributed across the world. While Asia-Pacific, Europe and North America have documented tremendous growth (93% of the global CCIs revenue and 85% of jobs), Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean have not yet capitalized on their potential (EY, 2015).

Since 2004, the United Nations has consistently highlighted the role of CCIs in sustainable development especially for the low- and middle-income countries. While the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions provided a framework for the development of CCIs, UNESCO Culture for Development Indicators and Creative Economy Report and UNCTAD's Creative Economy Program helped monitor the implementation of the Convention. Indeed, the 74th session of the UN General Assembly declared 2021 as the "International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development". However, Pakistan is among a handful of countries that has still not ratified the 2005 Convention. Indeed, CCIs represent an estimated \$1.5 billion untapped potential of the Pakistani economy (Rafi, 2014). In 2017 Pakistan launched its "Look Africa Policy Initiative" that was extended in 2019 with the "Engage Africa Policy" to enhance economic ties with Africa; however, the policy, does not factor in the vast potential of CCIs. This paper, therefore, foregrounds culture as a strategic sector to foster Pak-Africa trade and diplomacy vis-à-vis their shared challenges. While this policy paper is focused specifically on addressing a significant gap in the "Look Africa Policy", its findings and recommendations are applicable to Pakistan's CCIs in general as the study contributes to the very limited literature on CCIs in Pakistan.

What are Cultural and Creative Industries?

While the term “cultural industries” was coined by Adorno and Horkheimer in 1948 to critique commercial entertainment produced under industrial capitalism, it has evolved dramatically over the subsequent decades. Modern use of the term can be traced to the British Labour Government’s 1997 initiative to develop “an innovation and technology-based economic model” through “IP-based, culturally-rooted businesses” (Trembath & Fielding, 2020, p. 24). Labour Government set up a Creative Industries Task Force as part of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) to map the economic contribution of the creative sectors for policy feedback. This mapping document became the steppingstone for an international policy discourse on CCIs (Flew, 2012). The document defined CCIs as “activities which have their origin in individual creativity, skill and talent and which have the potential for wealth and job creation through the generation and exploitation of intellectual property” (DCMS, 2001, p. 5). Although the UK, Australia, and the EU have used varied terms and definitions vis-à-vis their development needs and cultural strengths, all definitions converge on the central ideas of creativity, innovation, and intellectual property as means to socioeconomic welfare.

CCI Domains: Creative economy is a subsection of the overall economy while CCIs are a subgroup of the creative economy (Trembath & Fielding, 2021). The UN divides CCIs into 6 primary and 2 related domains (Fig. 1).

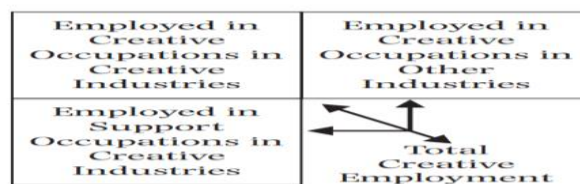
Figure 1

Note: From *The 2009 UNESCO framework for cultural statistics*, by Pessoa & Deloumeaux, ©2009 United Nations. Reprinted with the permission of the United Nations.

Workforce: CCI's workforce includes three categories: specialist creatives; embedded creatives; and support professionals (Fig 2).

Figure 2

The Creative Trident

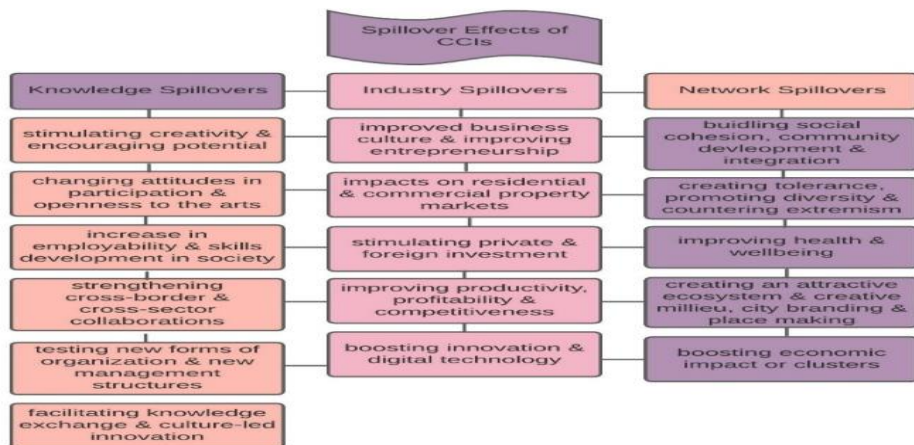


Note: "Creative Industries Mapping", by Higgs & Cunningham, 2008, *Creative Industries Journal*, 1:1(7–30). Copyright Higgs & Cunningham 2008.

Economic Impact: The total economic impact of CCIs is divided into (i) direct impacts reflected in the income directly produced or consumed by CCIs and (ii) indirect impacts or “spillover effects” on the rest of the economic system (Figure 3).

Figure 3

Spillover Effects of CCIs



Note: “Research Case Studies 2016-2017,” by The European Research Partnership on cultural and creative spillovers, 2017, p. 5. Copyright CSS 2017.

Funding: CCIs have four revenue sources: earned income; government funding; private sector support; and other sources.

Significance of Study

Given the global economic challenges especially in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, we need “new approaches of inclusive growth” that can account for “limited natural resources” and “protection of bio diversity”. This calls for “new patterns of production and consumption based on the smart use of IT, biotech and nanotechnologies”. Indeed, in a post-industrial service economy, economic development is grounded in innovation, technology, and creativity (Moore, 2014, p. 738-9), which is evident in the unprecedented growth of CCIs in recent decades. A study comparing the total impact of CCIs on per capita income in 78 developed and developing countries in 5 continents,

275 European regions, and 518 municipalities showed that the average effects of CCIs are positive and economically significant in both low- and high-income locations across geographic scales (Domènech et al., 2021). Hence, this study identifies two main components of the potential of CCIs for Pakistan: a source of sustainable economic development that can increase Pakistan's foreign reserves and a cultural diplomacy resource to project the country's soft image globally.

Conceptual Framework

The study of foreign policy traditionally focused on security and economic affairs until Joseph Nye's concept of "soft power" redefined the field in the post-Cold War era. Nye defines "soft" or "co-optive" power as "the ability of a country to structure a situation so that other countries develop preferences or define their interests in ways consistent with its own". While hard power has to do with "*ordering* others to do what [one] wants," soft power allows a "country [to] get other countries to want what it wants." The latter, for Nye, is "associated with intangible power resources such as culture, ideology, and institutions." Indeed, "[i]f a state can make its power seem legitimate in the eyes of others, it will encounter less resistance to its wishes. If its culture and ideology are attractive, others will more willingly follow" (166-168). Thus, over the past few decades, cultural policy has come to be regarded as the "third pillar" of foreign policy alongside security and economic concerns (Martins, 2005).

However, Liland (1993) notes that despite the increasing acknowledgement of culture in foreign policy, little is done to incorporate it given scholars' inability to "see" the "link" between culture and foreign policy. Liland proposes three theoretical approaches to understanding this link. The "perspective approach" views "culture as a foundation of foreign policy" in that the foreign policy establishment operates within the cultural framework of a society. The "incremental approach" views culture as "a part of foreign policy", for the implementation of cultural policy is assigned to the foreign policy establishment. Both approaches render culture secondary to "foreign policy proper", focused on political, economic and security issues. The "extra-dimensional" approach, however, views culture "as a foreign policy resource of its own". This approach analyzes culture as "an additional aspect to the traditional power resources" of the political, security and economic approaches. The extra-dimensional approach postulates "interchange between societies" and "people-people contacts" aided by trade,

tourism, immigration, and audio-visual and interactive media (Liland, p. 7-22). This study situates CCIs within the extra-dimensional approach to foreign policy.

Potts and Cunningham (2010) propose four models of the relationship between CCIs and the economy (i. welfare, ii. competition, iii. growth, iv. innovation) with each requiring a respective policy framework. The welfare model presumes CCIs to “consume more resources than they produce” becoming “a net drain on the economy” whose effect is nevertheless “welfare positive”. Policy intervention for this model focuses on “income and resource reallocation or price maintenance” to protect a “valuable asset” against threats from market economy. The competition model views CCIs as “just another industry” change in whose size or value has a neutral effect on the economy, thus requiring “no special policy treatment”. The growth model directly links growth in CCIs to the aggregate economy, thus requiring “special” policy measures to power growth in other sectors. Evidence for this model comes from the generation of jobs; commodities; services; and new technologies, industries, and markets. Finally, the innovation model views CCIs less as an industry and more “as an element of the innovation system of the economy” that creates “change in the knowledge base of the economy”, and, therefore, has crucial policy significance. The evidence for this “evolutionary model” comes from the creation of new industries (Potts and Cunningham, p. 165-171). This study makes a case for the growth model of CCIs based on evidence from international CCIs performance and proposes a similar path for Pakistan.

Research Questions

1. What role do CCIs play in sustainable economic growth and development?
2. How can Pakistan’s CCIs be deployed for sustainable development and cultural diplomacy?
3. What specific sectors of CCI represent maximum potential for Pak-Africa collaboration?

Methodology

Given the wide scope of the creative economy, this research was projected to identify, for an in-depth study, three specific sectors of CCIs with maximum potential for Pak-Africa collaboration with a specific focus on the top three African economies in the “Look Africa Policy” (South Africa,

Kenya, Nigeria) that also represent the most thriving CCIs in Africa (Hruby, 2018). However, the orientation of the research shifted in view of the initial finding that CCIs are a misunderstood and unregulated arena in Pakistan. Indeed, Pakistan does not have a CCIs policy, and local and national culture policy documents reflect a limited, if any, engagement with CCIs. Therefore, this paper begins with a general overview of the creative sector in Pakistan; it goes on to map the general trends in Pakistan's global CCI trade performance; and, finally, it reviews Pak-Africa CCI trade to identify areas of intervention for enhancing Pak-Africa collaboration.

Given their usefulness in cultural studies (Cunningham & Flew, 2019, p. 61), the research used qualitative methods to gather data in two phases: a desk-based literature and statistical review and fieldwork consisting of interviews and focus group discussions. Literature review drew on books, newspaper reports, op-eds, and research articles on national and foreign culture policies and CCIs of developed and developing countries; key international policy documents, case studies, and reports on cultural policies; qualitative and quantitative data from UNESCO, UNCTAD, and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Commerce, and NHCD. Generally, both literature and statistical data on CCIs in Pakistan are sparse and incomplete. Although this research consulted Pakistan Bureau of Statistics; Pakistan Economic Survey; and Ministry of Commerce Trade Statistics, none of these sources had adequate data to enable an accurate mapping of the cultural sectors' performance, especially in the services domain. Therefore, major data sources for this study were the UNCTAD, UNESCO, WIPO, and the British Council reports. In the second phase, fieldwork was carried out consisting of interviews and focus group discussions with academic experts on Africa and cultural studies, practitioners, policy makers, public and private sector organizations personnel, and diplomatic representatives. Semi-structured interviews with 10 open-ended questions were designed as they provide in-depth information on specific topics while also providing latitude in focusing on important aspects or offering new directions (Galletta, 2013; Brinkmann, 2014; Currie, 2005). Interview data was studied using a thematic analysis drawing on the 6-step framework by Braun and Clarke (2006). Patterns of themes were identified which were then linked with the desk review data to arrive at findings and conclusions.

Literature Review

CCIs in the International Context

One of the first creative industries policy, the UK's DCMS aligned "British creativity" with "intellectual capital" to foster economic growth (Flew, 2012, p. 11). While the 1998 DCMS Mapping Document cited the CCIs to be worth 5% of national income, the 2001 Document recorded an 87.5% revenue increase. As of 2018, Britain's creative sector was growing more than five times faster than the national economy worth £224.1 billion (Trembath & Fielding, 2020). Australia's first official cultural policy *Creative Nation* (1994) also reflected a shift towards art as a commercial project that was pledged a \$252 million funding (Hawkings, 2014), and broadened the definition of culture to include new media. As of 2020, Australia's creative economy contributed A\$111.7 billion and employed 868,098 people besides having reshaped Australian national identity as multicultural. The EU represents another CCI success story based in robust policymaking. The EU's Culture 2000 program, Creative Europe 2011-2027, and other initiatives invested billions of Euros into the cultural sector. Today, CCIs in the EU employ 8.3 million people and generate €558 billion (Dronyuk et al., 2019).

Developing Asian economies have likewise increased their "stake in the culture-economy nexus" with active policy making (Lim & Lee, 2020, p. 1). South Korea, for instance, set off with dedicating 1% of its annual budget to supporting CCIs in the 1990s (Flew, 2012, p. 44). In 2019, the Korean Wave (Hallyu) contributed \$12.3 billion to the economy besides having augmented South Korea's global influence. China is home to the world's largest CCIs given Chinese government's significant measures to deploy the sector for economic growth and soft power (Trembath & Fielding, 2020). In 2015, China recorded the world's highest creative trade surplus (\$154 billion), surpassing the US fourfold. Besides, Hong Kong, Japan, India, Singapore, Taiwan, Turkey, Thailand, Malaysia, Mexico and Philippines are the top ten developing CCI economies (KuKu et al., 2018). Unfortunately, however, Pakistan, is, not part of this emerging success story of Asian CCIs. Lim and Lee's (2019) handbook reviews case studies from over 13 developed and developing Asian economies, without making a single reference to Pakistan, not least because the country has neither ratified the UNESCO 2005 Convention nor formulated a CCI policy.

Indeed, even “national” cultural policy is an underdeveloped area in Pakistan given the historical deployment of religion as a counterforce to the subcontinent’s pluralistic cultural heritage. Ethnic diversity and multiculturalism have been perceived as threats to national integrity as opposed to being deployed as sources of an inclusive identity and global diplomacy. Indeed, education and curriculum in Pakistan need to move beyond a clichéd understanding of culture as a fixed set of values to the modern notion of culture as a complex set of intersecting subcultures in a multicultural, interdependent world. Examples of how social and cultural values can be deployed for progressive enterprises despite being grounded in religion and history are available in the CCI trajectories of Turkey, Indonesia, and Malaysia that are among the rising Asian CCI economies. Finally, with some exceptions, a major chunk of cultural activities in Pakistan are of non-commercial value. The commercialization of culture requires a reconception of the latter in education, academia, and popular imagination. This can particularly be achieved through a serious investment in cultural policies.

Pakistan’s CCI Landscape

There is very limited literature available on Pakistan’s CCIs. Academic and research studies on the developing CCI economies do not figure Pakistan (Flew, 2012; Hartley et al., 2015; Comunian & Gilmore, 2016; Lim & Lee (2019). *Pakistan Institute of Development Economics* has recently started a webinar series on creative industries and there are occasional articles on the cultural sector (Samad et al., 2018; Ali & Zulfiqar, 2020). However, by and large, the only major works on Pakistani CCIs are UNESCO publications and the British Council Report (Taylor et al., 2014). As per the latter, CCIs in Pakistan contribute to employment both urban and rural, and reflect a growing skills base in audio-visual media, interactive media design, animation, film and TV, photography, and festivals (p. 4-5). However, Pakistan does not “possess an international brand identity or profile for its creative products and services” especially in new media. Likewise, CCI business environment is compromised by “poor...practices and dealings, intellectual property theft and unreliability in financial matters”, which owe to “wider economic conditions where corruption, tax evasion, business illegitimacy and lack of financial transparency encourage circumspection” (Taylor et al., p. 5-6). Finally, there is lack of awareness regarding CCIs on part of the national banking system, investment and financial sectors, and public policymakers. While this study

extends the report's findings vis-à-vis the new data available, it provides specific recommendations for Pak-Africa collaboration.

Pakistan-Africa Relations

Pakistan's relations with African countries can be traced back to their independence movements. Pakistan's support of the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa was acknowledged by Nelson Mandela's state visit to Pakistan in 1993. In 1986, Pakistan established its Specialized Technical Assistance Programme that has been providing military and diplomatic training to African officers. Currently, Pakistan has resident missions in 16 African countries; however, Pakistan's trade relations with Africa are not very strong while cultural engagement is almost entirely ignored. While Pakistan's trade with Africa remained stagnant at around \$3 billion from 2012-2017, the \$1.6 billion increase it recorded in 2018-2019 dropped again by \$0.42 billion in 2019-2020. Goods exports to Africa include cereals, cotton, textile products, sugar, and paper while services exports include government and business, transportation, travel, telecommunication, and ICT. Top export destinations are Kenya, South Africa, Madagascar, Tanzania, Egypt, Nigeria, Mozambique, Swaziland, Libya, and Mauritius. Although Pakistani export destinations continue to grow, its share in total trade of African countries remains 0.4%. This low trade volume reflects Pakistan's limited exploration of avenues of trade, which has allowed the African continent to be dominated by China (\$90 billion) and India (\$30 billion) given their active presence and robust marketing. Indeed: "[I]ack of information, mutual understandings, business interactions, connectivity and people to people contact between Pakistan and African countries are the ground of the low economic relations" ("Pakistan-Africa Bilateral Trade", 2020).

In 2017 Pakistan launched its "Look Africa Policy Initiative" that focused on enhancing political, diplomatic, and economic ties with the top 10 African economies. The policy was extended in 2019 with the "Engage Africa" initiative as part of which an envoys' conference was jointly organized by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Commerce in November 2019 in Islamabad that emphasized the need for high-level civil, military, and diplomatic dialogue. This was followed by the participation of a Pakistani delegation at the first Pakistan-Africa Trade Development Conference (2020) in Nairobi. Other initiatives include upgrading 2 and opening 5 new embassies in African countries in 2020; meetings between Pakistani and African heads of state; Pakistan's delegation to the 47th session of the OIC CFM in Niger in

November 2020; visit of the African Union’s parliamentary delegation to Pakistan in December 2020 (Altaf, 2022, p. 1-2); opening of trade wings in Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan and Tanzania (Khan, 2021); and Pakistani Foreign Minister’s visit to Egypt in 2021. These initiatives bore fruit in the form of a 7% growth in Pak-Africa trade despite Covid-19 restrictions; however, the progress has been slow especially in the cultural domain (Altaf, 2022, p. 1-2) that is overlooked in the “Look Africa” and “Engage Africa” initiatives.

Africa, frequently called “the continent of the future” is the second-largest continent with an estimated 1.37 billion population. The continent boasts “promising economic potential, lucrative investment opportunities, abundant natural resources and...high percentage of youth population” (Khan, 2021). Africa shares with Pakistan its history of colonization, postcolonial instability, and multiple security challenges. To achieve self-sufficiency, postcolonial nations must tap into their cultural heritage as means to foster growth and development. However, despite the “cultural revolution” that Africa is experiencing, like Pakistan, its nascent CCIs contribute less than 1% to the GDP and require robust legislation and investment. Secondly, amid the forceful narrative building that characterizes current geopolitical reality, Pakistan is faced with a stronger pressure to assert itself. As key drivers of cultural diplomacy, CCIs can project Pakistan’s soft image across the African continent. Likewise, Africa can deploy cultural sectors to “foster collective security and prosperity” (Africa Creative Industries Summit, 2021). This research addresses these gaps through providing policy recommendations that can enhance Pak-Africa CCI collaboration.

Analysis

Pakistan’s Cultural and Creative Industries

Given Pakistan’s rich and diverse cultural heritage, its growing young population, and its expanding tech ecosystem, the future of CCIs in Pakistan looks promising, however, only if it is harnessed by a targeted CCI policy. While there is a federally administered NHCD, cultural sectors are provincial domain. Nevertheless, there is limited national and provincial investment in arts and culture, and the bulk of contribution comes from private investors, philanthropists, and international donors. Besides, institutions lack awareness regarding the financial investment requirements or potential of CCIs. Pakistan’s CCI skills base is also patchy; audio-visual media, design, film,

television, photography, animation, festivals, and event management are areas of strength whereas human resources, finance, investment, communications, and public diplomacy pose challenges. Current skills development also owes mainly to interventions by international organizations (UNESCO, Goethe Institute, the British Council), international exchange and scholarships programs (Taylor et al., 2014).

Physical infrastructure of the cultural sectors (theatres, museums, galleries, art institutes etc.) also requires expansion. For instance, over the last 10 years, the number of cinemas in Pakistan has declined by over 64%; while in 2008-9 Pakistan had 203 cinemas, in 2018-19 they were reduced to a meagre 72 with Punjab having a bulk of that and Sindh and Balochistan following with 12 and 1 respectively while Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had no operational cinemas. NHCD website lists 27 museums and 9 art galleries in Pakistan; however, they need investment and rehabilitation. Although there has been a gradual increase in the number of visitors to archaeological museums between 2015-2020, the total number as of December 2019 is a meagre 271340 (2966 being foreigners) with 142066 in Islamabad, 83101 in Punjab, 39289 in Sindh, 6814 in KP, and 70 in Balochistan. Heritage sites fare better with a total of 485983 visitors in December 2019; however, foreign visitors made only 1365 of these (PBS, n.p.). This reflects the need that key informants emphasized recurrently for the rehabilitation of and investment in heritage sites.

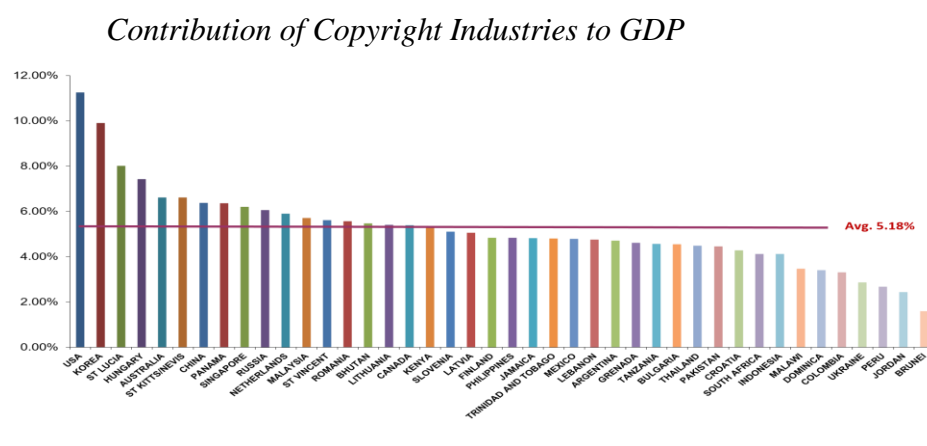
In the domain of digital and technological infrastructure (television, communication devices, technical equipment, broadband etc.), Pakistan fares better. There has been a proliferation of private TV networks since 2000, resulting in a dramatic rise in the production of content both at home and abroad. As per the Ministry of Planning *Annual Plan (2020-2021)*, there are 7 state TV Stations, 110 TV Transmitters, 88 Satellite Channels, 4060 cable TV licenses, 144 million total TV viewership, and 96 million Total Cable & Satellite viewership. As per the PSLM Survey (2021), 98% urban households in Pakistan have mobile phones and about 45% individuals own them. Number of cellular phone subscribers with active SIMs reached 182 million at the end of March 2021 while broadband subscribers reached 100 million. The total broadband access stood at 47.6% in March 2021 posting an increase of 19.7% as compared to 2020. 12% of the population have access to a computer, laptop, and/or tablet; however, these numbers are expected to rise significantly. Interviewees repeatedly underscored the need to harness this technological

upsurge for CCIs through developing a market for cultural goods and services in the digital environment.

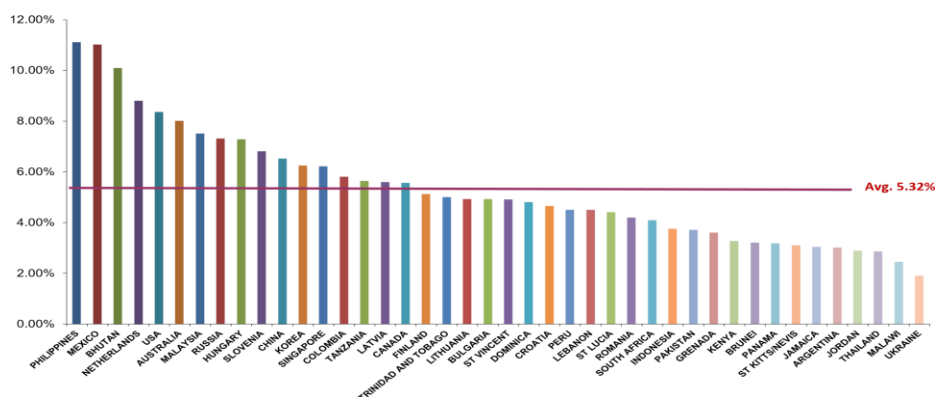
Contribution of Copyright Industries to National GDP and Employment

As per WIPO (2014) that collected data from 42 countries up until December 2013, the average contribution of Copyright Industries to National GDP and National employment are 5.18% and 5.32% respectively. Pakistan stands below average on both with its share of 4.5% and 3.7% (Fig. 4 and 5).

Figure 4



Note: *WIPO Studies on the Economic Contribution of the Copyright Industries*, by WIPO, 2014, p. 3. Copyright WIPO 2014.

Figure 5*Contribution of Copyright Industries to National Employment*

Note: *WIPO Studies on the Economic Contribution of the Copyright Industries*, by WIPO, 2014, p. 4. Copyright WIPO 2014.

WIPO divides copyright industries into 4 groups: core, interdependent, partial, and non-dedicated support industries. Generally, more than half of the total contribution of the copyright industries to GDP and employment comes from the core copyright industries. Pakistan's performance in the sector is once again far below the average in both the GDP and employment shares (2.77%) at 1.4% and 0.7% respectively. Interdependent stands at 0.1% and 0.0%; Partial at 1% and 1.4%; and nondedicated at 2% and 1.6%.

International Trade Performance in CCIs

As per KuKu et al. (2018), world creative goods exports more than doubled over a 13-year period, from \$208 billion in 2002 to \$509 in 2015. Developing economies surpass the developed in both increase and value, posting a staggering \$265,081 billion in 2015 up from \$84,365 in 2002. Likewise, developing Asian economies contribute 52% of CCI exports worldwide. Pakistan is generally missing in this picture except figuring in the top 10 exporters of Art Crafts from developing economies with a market share of 0.4% in 2015 (Table 1).

Table 1

Top 10 Art Crafts Exporters among Developing Economies 2015

	Value (in millions of \$)	Market share (%)	Annual Growth (%)2003-2015	Avg. rate
China	17.383	48.7		12.9
Turkey	2.754	7.7		13.58
Hong Kong (China)	1.759	4.9		-4.32
India	1.592	4.5		6.31
Mexico	222	0.6		-3.09
Taiwan, Province of China	1.063	3.0		4.05
Pakistan	138	0.4		-11.07
Saudi Arabia	102	0.3		-0.02
El Salvador	70	0.2		32.08
Brazil	67	0.2		-1.21

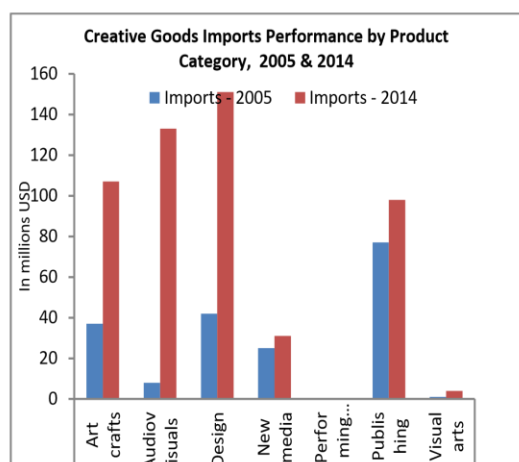
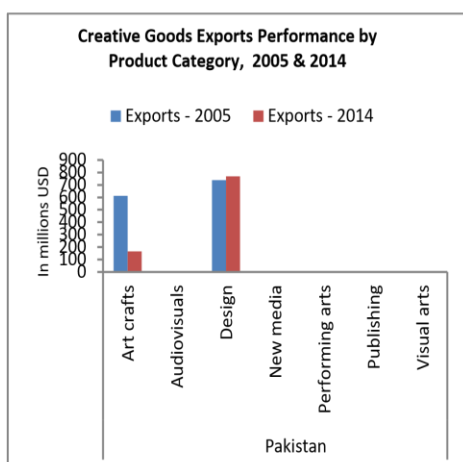
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However, despite being among the top ten Art Crafts exporters, Pakistan's share has declined with an annual average growth rate in the negative (-11.07%). Design reflected the largest share of exports, also posting an increase. In the remaining sectors (Visual Arts, Publishing and Printed Media) China, followed by Hong Kong, India, and Singapore dominate. Indeed, as opposed to these upward trends, Pakistan's creative goods trade

performance has declined over the same period. Exports dipped from \$1.363,11 in 2005 to \$940,59 million in 2014 while imports increased from \$189,96 to \$525,48 million, bringing the trade balance down to \$415 million compared to \$1.173,25 in 2005 (Fig. 6).

Figure 6

Pakistan's Creative Economy Trade Performance (2005-2014)



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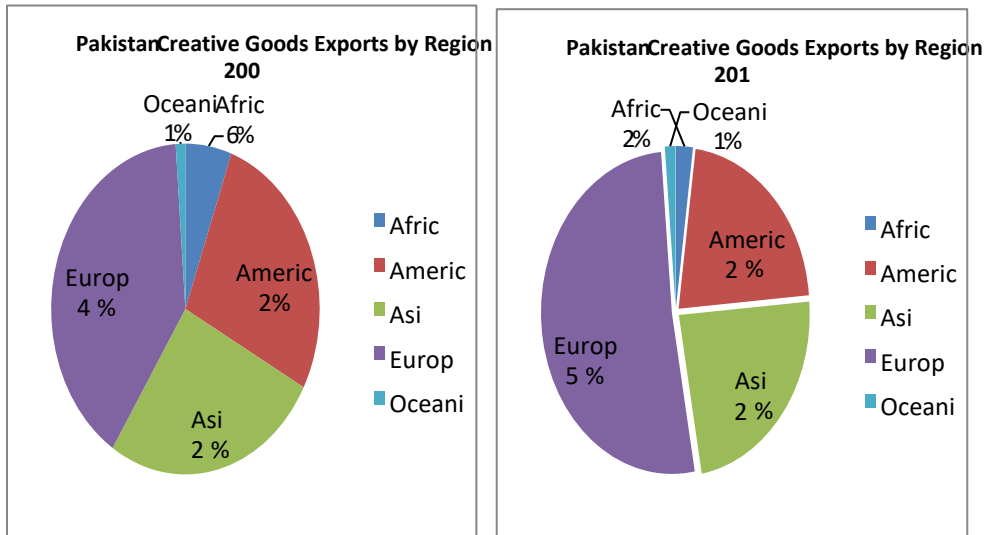
As for specific sectors, Design made the largest share with fashion goods and jewelry exports at \$652 and \$106 million respectively; Art crafts

was next at over \$100 million; carpet exports stood at \$123. Pakistan's handmade carpet industry that has its roots in the 11th century and employs around 1 million people has been on the decline facing challenges ranging from production to market access (KuKu et al., 2018). Carpet "export value declined by more than 50% from \$278 million in 2005-06 to \$98m in 2015-16". The Ministry of Commerce replaced machine-made carpets in the FTA concession list with handmade carpets; while the latter take 6-12 months to make, they have high demand in the international market as opposed to the former (Khan, 2016, p. 51). Finally, while Design and Arts crafts posted an increase, audiovisuals, new media, performing arts, publishing, and visual arts did not.

While Pakistan has performed modestly over this 9-year period, its engagement with Africa has been worse. Pakistan's creative goods exports by region has remained almost static: except for a 10% difference in exports to Europe, America and Asia posted similar figures (Figure 7). The main markets for exports are Europe (51%), Asia (24%) and the Americas (22%) while top ten export partners are US, Germany, UAE, UK, France, Spain, Netherlands, Canada, Belgium, and Sweden. Except for Sweden and Germany, Pakistan's exports to all 10 countries have declined (Table 1). In case of Africa, exports not only reflect the lowest figure, they have also declined from 6% in 2005 to 2% in 2014. South Africa was the only country among top ten trade partners in 2005, but it does not figure in 2014. (KuKu et al., 2018).

Figure 7

Pakistan-Creative Goods Exports by Region (2005=2014)



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Table 2*Pakistan's Top 10 Export Partners for Creative Goods (2005-2014)*

	TOP 10 EXPORT PARTNERS FOR CREATIVE GOODS, 2005 AND 2014							
	2005				2014			
Economy	Values in Million US \$				Values in Million US \$			
Ranking	Partner	Exports	Imports	Balance	Partner	Exports	Imports	Balance
1	United States	340,57	15,01	325,57	United States	163,92	55,40	108,52
2	United Arab Emirates	184,40	14,17	170,23	Germany	160,14	3,79	156,35
3	Germany	105,81	14,73	91,09	United Arab Emirates	128,46	10,41	118,06
4	United Kingdom	95,65	12,33	83,32	United Kingdom	53,84	21,67	32,17
5	Saudi Arabia	68,64	4,88	63,76	France	51,67	1,68	50,00
6	France	64,31	2,99	61,31	Spain	47,39	1,10	46,29
7	Spain	60,01	1,50	58,50	Netherlands	39,01	6,56	32,45
8	South Africa	57,35	0,33	57,02	Canada	29,23	8,06	21,17
9	Italy	51,03	0,78	50,24	Belgium	26,87	0,35	26,52
10	Belgium	33,59	0,87	32,72	Sweden	26,73	45,87	-19,14

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As for the creative services exports, Pakistan posted \$390 million in 2014 compared to \$201 in 2010, reflecting a big increase (Table 3). However, most of this came from telecommunications, computer, and information that added \$379 million. Interestingly, Pakistan has not posted any creative services exports in personal, cultural, and recreational services; audiovisual and related services; and the use of intellectual property (KuKu et al., 2018). This reflects significant potential for Pak-Africa trade.

Table 3

Pakistan's Creative Services Exports and Imports (2005-2014)

PAKISTAN	Values in Million US \$				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
EXPORTS	201,0	244,0	274,0	312,0	390,0
Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e					
Other business Services	8,0	4,0	7,0	4,0	11,0
Research and development (R&D)	8,0	4,0	7,0	4,0	11,0
Personal, cultural and recreational services			1,0		
Audiovisual and related services			1,0		
Telecommunications, computer, and information services	193,0	240,0	266,0	308,0	379,0
Computer services	193,0	240,0	265,0	308,0	379,0
Information services			1,0		
IMPORTS	169,0	196,0	190,0	178,0	184,0
Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e					
Other business Services	1,0	2,0	6,0	1,0	
Research and development (R&D)	1,0	2,0	6,0	1,0	
Personal, cultural and recreational services		2,0			
Audiovisual and related services		2,0			
Telecommunications, computer, and information services	168,0	192,0	184,0	177,0	184,0
Computer services	156,0	174,0	170,0	158,0	168,0
Information services	12,0	18,0	14,0	19,0	16,0

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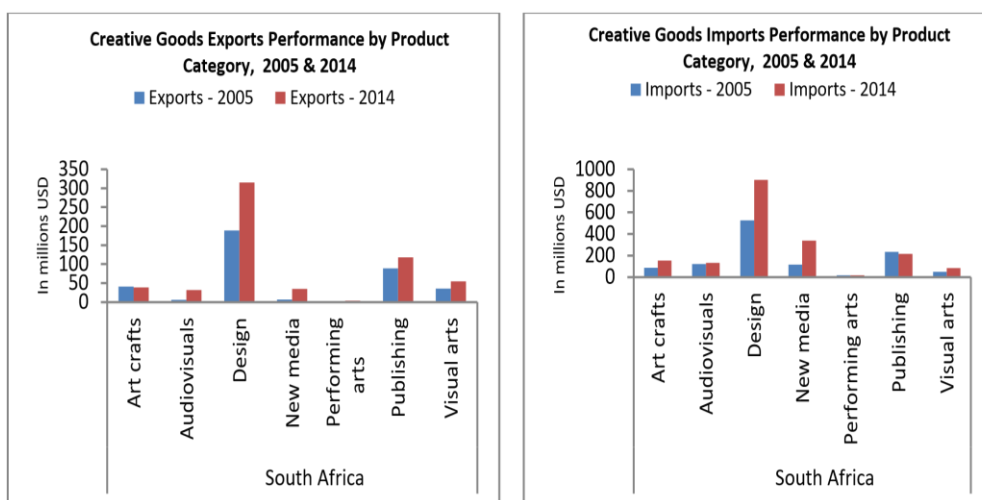
Pakistan-Africa CCI Performance

Pakistan's creative goods and services trade with Africa reflects huge untapped potential. In 2015, the entire Africa accounted for 2% of Pakistani creative exports with no African country in the top 10 markets or trade partners. While Pakistan and Africa can collaborate in any of the CCI sectors, the most thriving ones globally are design, fashion, and film. Fashion goods, interior design, and jewelry accounted for a 54% of creative goods exports globally in 2015. Asia, Latin America, and Africa are rising fashion markets (KuKu et al., 2018). Indeed, both desk review and key informant input

unanimously show that Design and Creative Services especially Fashion, Audiovisual and Interactive Media especially Film; Visual Arts and Crafts; Performance and Celebration; and Cultural and Natural Heritage represent the greatest promise for Pak-Africa collaboration. The following section provides a brief overview of the possible collaboration in creative goods and services with top three African economies.

Figure 8

South Africa-Creative Goods Imports by Region (2005-2014)



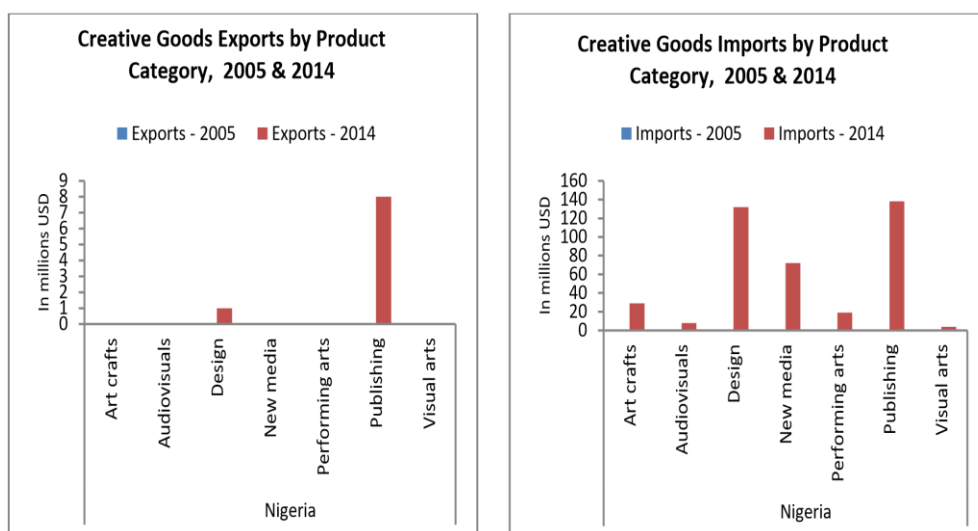
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South Africa has a huge trade deficit in CCI trade; in 2015 its imports were \$1.8 billion, three times higher than the exports at \$598,79 million despite being among the top 10 exporters of visual arts among developing economies. In creative goods imports, Design has consistently remained the highest from 2005-14 followed by new media; publishing; art crafts; and audiovisuals (Fig. 8). Pakistan and South Africa have an overall bilateral trade of \$1.1 billion; however, Pakistan is in a trade deficit with South Africa (Ilyas, 2021). Pakistan's decent performance in specific CCI sectors and a corresponding market in South Africa (Fig. 6 & 8), offer an opportunity to address this deficit. South Africa's need for import especially in Design and Art Craft make it an attractive market for Pakistan that is among top 10 Art

Crafts exporters from the developing economies with Design taking the second largest share. Likewise, in services imports, South Africa offers a huge market to Pakistan for personal, cultural, recreational, and the audiovisual given its need and Pakistan's rich cultural and recreational sectors. South Africa's major trade takes place with Europe, Africa, and America while its partnership with Asia stands at barely 5% with no country figuring in top 10. While in 2005, Pakistan's CCI exports and imports to South Africa stood at \$5735 and \$0.33 million respectively with an attractive trade balance of \$5702 million, in 2014, South Africa did not figure in the top trading partners (Table 2). Thus, a huge market for Pakistan's CCI export has been lost that can be renewed with a liaison between the Ministry of Commerce and NHCD and South Africa's National Department of Arts and Culture and South African Cultural Observatory.

Figure 9

Nigeria-Creative Goods Imports by Region (2005-2014)



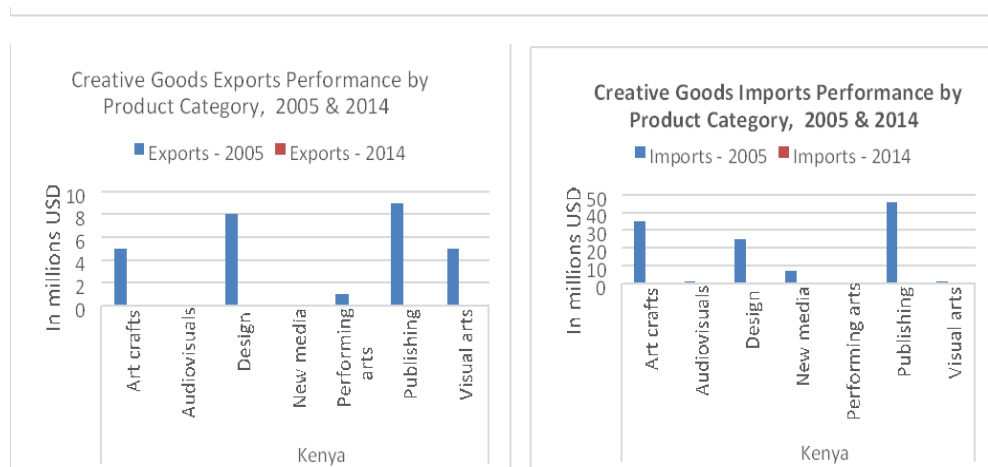
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Pakistan's overall trade deficit with *Nigeria* stands at \$87.2 million. Among the 29 million goods that Pakistan exports to Nigeria are apparatus for the reception/transmission of voice/images, fabrics, and chewing gum (Ilyas., 2021). This deficit can be addressed through CCI trade. Nigeria's balance of

trade for creative goods export has been in the negative through the 2005-14 period with exports and imports at \$912 and \$40189 million respectively. Publishing (\$140 million) and Design (\$130 million) are both high potential import and export categories with New Media (\$70 million), Art Crafts (\$30 million), Performing Arts (\$20 million), Audiovisuals (\$10 million) and Visual Arts (\$5 million) following. As Design (\$758 million) and Art Crafts (\$106 million) are Pakistan's areas of strength with \$150 million worth of exports, these offer great potential for Pakistani creative products in Nigeria. Likewise, Pakistan's export performance in Publishing (\$100 million), Audiovisuals (\$130 million), and New Media (\$30 million) also offer potential for expansion. Nigeria's trade with Asia stood at 9% with a huge trade deficit with China. Creative services imports took place in telecommunication, computer, and information services—sectors that are among Pakistan's strengths (KuKu et al., 2018). Nigeria shares with Pakistan challenges like post-disaster reconstruction and security threats; therefore, the two countries can work together to find areas of collaboration that also help tackle challenges and boost economic growth.

Figure 10

Kenya-Creative Goods Imports by Region (2005-2014)



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Kenya's imports of creative goods also exceed its exports making it a potential market for Pakistani CCIs. In 2013, Kenya's exports and imports were \$4092 and \$19511 million respectively with a trade deficit of -\$15419. Among the main import categories were Publishing (\$45 million), Art Crafts (\$35 million), Design (\$25 million), New Media (\$8 million), and Visual Arts (0.1 million). Services trade was dominated by telecommunication, computer, and information. Kenya's creative goods demands offer huge potential given Pakistan's international standing in Design and Art Crafts. Likewise, Kenya's services import needs can be matched with 97% of Pakistan's share of creative service exports (Table 3). Kenya's major trade takes place with Africa and America while its trading partnership with Asia stands at 3% with no country figuring in top 10 (KuKu et al., 2018).

There are approximately 233,111 people of Pakistani origin in Africa representing just under 3% of the global body of overseas Pakistanis. South Africa hosts 200,000 Pakistanis; Kenya has 10,000 Pakistanis; and Nigeria has 2050 (Yearbook 2019-20). Over 90% of overseas Pakistanis in Africa reside in these three countries which makes them the top choice for expanding CCI trade. This diaspora provides a relatively unexplored market for Pakistani CCIs. For instance, Pakistani fashion and textile brands like Khaadi, Bareezé, Gul Ahmed, Chen One etc., that have started expanding in Asia, Europe, Australia, America, and the Middle East also need to tap into the unexplored African region. Besides, given the shared cultural heritage of India and Pakistan, the Indian diaspora in Africa that constitutes approximately 2,710,6545 people (Vasudeo, 2022) also represents a potential market for Pakistani CCIs (e.g., Pakistani TV dramas are popular among Indians globally).

As per the data discussed above, the top creative export categories for Pakistan are Design and Art Crafts while services exports include R&D and Telecommunication, computer, and information services. All these figure widely in the creative goods and services imports of African countries, which makes them a potential market for Pakistan. Africa is recognized as a rising fashion market with a high demand for fashions goods, interior design, and jewelry especially in Nigeria and South Africa (KuKu et al., 2018). Pakistan is already performing well in these areas; with policy interventions, Pak-Africa trade in these can become the country's strength amid the current economic meltdown. Interestingly, China that is leading world creative trade has no significant presence in South Africa and Kenya while India has no

major presence in all three countries vis-à-vis creative trade. This vacuum can be filled by Pakistan with pertinent policy frameworks and mutual trade agreements. Significantly, Pakistan's overall performance in creative trade has posted a consistent trade surplus over the entire nine-year period (2005-14) despite a gradual decline (Fig. 6). Likewise, Pakistan has maintained a trade surplus with 9 of the top 10 trading partners. This shows that Pakistan has carved a niche market for its creative goods and services which may be lost without intervention and can be extended to Africa and East and Southeast Asia with effective policies.

Conclusion

There are multiple reasons for Pakistan's modest performance in CCIs both locally and internationally. To begin with, without a cultural policy in place, Pakistan cannot regulate and promote CCIs. Second, Knowledge Economy demands reevaluation of education, research, and training systems vis-à-vis international standards of innovation and competitiveness. Pakistani educational system significantly lags in this context. While the average education and skill subindex score of Asia and the Pacific (4.66) in the Knowledge Economy Index is around half the average score of the OECD countries (8.01), Pakistan unfortunately stands at a meagre 1.44 (ADB, 2014). Third, Pakistan has consistently lagged in the Ease of Doing Business (EDB) index over the past decade. From 2008-2019, the EDB in Pakistan posted an average of 117.17 with the lowest and highest scores of 85 and 148 in 2009 and 2015 respectively. As per the 2020 Report, Pakistan stands at 108th. While this 28-mark improvement from the previous year's 136 is encouraging, recent economic and political meltdown darkens the prospects of any sunny predictions. Recently, S&P Global Ratings lowered Pakistan's credit rating to CCC+ from B- in December 2022. Likewise, Moody's credit rating for Pakistan has been set at Caa1 with negative outlook while Fitch's credit rating for Pakistan was also CCC+ with n/a outlook. Besides, unprecedented floods, rising inflation, growing global interest rates, debilitating foreign exchange reserves, and political instability will continue to haunt Pakistan's economic landscape in 2023 (Trading Economics, n.p.).

Fifth, although there is a high potential for entrepreneurship in Pakistan given the country's huge young population and rising digital consumption, as per the Global Entrepreneurship Index 2018, Pakistan ranks 120 among 137 countries. This is due especially to a lack of investment in the following three areas: effective policies and infrastructure; funding for start-

ups; and promotion of local talent (Bokhari & Syed, 2019). Indeed, there is a general lack of policy vision and will accompanied by bureaucratic inertia that preclude major policy innovations. Finally, Pakistan's security situation has been the biggest challenge in the face of its advancement in the Knowledge Economy in general and the CCIs in particular. Over the two decades following 9/11 and the war on terror, Pakistan's economy paid a huge price of up to \$126.79 billion related to terrorist activities (Zakaria 2019), which further strained a teetering economy's struggle for survival. Pakistan's Terrorism Index averaged 7.87 from 2002-2019, reaching its peak at 9.07 in 2013 (Pakistan's Terrorism Index). Consequently, tourism suffered a major blow; theatres were closed; musical events were banned or discouraged; and entertainment venues became deserted. This not only damaged the creative sector substantially, it also tarnished Pakistan's global image silhouetted against a landscape of terrorism. While CCIs were negatively impacted by the security challenges faced by the Pakistani state and public, interestingly, they also represent a way out given their promotion of tolerance and diversity. Indeed, while authoritarian regimes can exploit culture to marginalize communities (Hammoudi, 1997), the arts and culture also offer powerful tools to challenge fascism. South Korea, UK, and Australia represent major case studies of the deployment of culture to promote multiculturalism and project soft power. Pakistan must invest in similar endeavors that will allow the country to promote its CCIs and cultivate its soft image. In this context, this section lists major findings of this study and provides relevant policy recommendations.

Findings

1. Pakistan does not have a CCI policy. CCIs are a misperceived sector information regarding which is limited even among academics and policymakers. Besides, CCIs do not figure in current policies for culture, education, trade, and finance.
2. While the average contribution of Copyright Industries to National GDP and employment is 5.18% and 5.32% respectively, Pakistan stands below average on both at 4.5% and 3.7%.
1. While world creative goods exports more than doubled between 2002-2015, Pakistan's creative exports declined from \$1.363,11 to \$940,59 million.

2. Despite decline, Pakistan has maintained both an overall trade surplus and surplus with 9 of top 10 trading partners, reflecting a niche market which may be lost without intervention.
3. Pakistan is among top 10 Art Crafts exporters from developing economies with a market share of 0.4% in 2015 despite a negative growth rate from 2010-2014.
4. Despite high demand, Pakistan's handmade carpet industry posted a massive decline of 183% in 2015-16.
5. Likewise, cultural products like Peshawari chappal have a huge international market that is being appropriated by foreign designers.
6. In 2014, Africa accounted for 2% of Pakistani creative exports, down from 6% in 2005, with no African country in top 10 markets.
7. Art Crafts and Design, personal, cultural, recreational, audiovisual, R&D, telecommunication, computer, information, and intellectual property reflect maximum potential for Pak-Africa trade.
8. Major challenges faced by Pakistan's CCIs are lack of vision and will at the policy level; bureaucratic bottlenecks; security challenges; economic and political instability; weak governance; lack of institutionalized support, regulatory frameworks, and public investment; international brand identity; insufficient financial and technical resources; non-conducive business environment; and absence of official data.

Recommendations

A National CCI Plan (NCCIP) needs to be developed as part of the National Culture Policy that is tasked to develop the following entities: 1. Pakistan Creative Economy Network (PCEN), 2. Pakistan Creative Economy Taskforce (PCET), 3. Pakistan CCI Policy (PCCIP). NCCIP must take as its first step the ratification of the UNESCO 2005 Convention.

1. PCEN will consist of representatives from national and provincial academic/research/cultural institutions, artists, creative entrepreneurs, and civil society members. The network will create awareness regarding the nature and scope of CCIs through organizing annual Pakistan Creative Economy conference; annual Creative Economy

Festival; and Creative Economy Skills and Training Programs. PCEN will provide recommendations to PCET for implementation.

2. PCET will include representatives from relevant ministries (Education, Communication; Commerce; MOFA; Information Technology; Interprovincial Coordination) tasked with mapping Pakistan's CCIs to determine their value and potential; identifying sectoral needs for preferential treatment; and evaluating CCI performance for policy review.
3. PCET will be responsible for drafting, implementing, and monitoring of a comprehensive PCCIP that includes intervention in Legislation; Capacity Development; Market Accessibility; and Investment as follows:
 - conducive environment, governance, and policies to boost creative productions/expressions
 - tax exemptions, discounts, and deferrals for CCI sectors
 - introduction and enforcement of copyright laws
 - access to digital technology, internet, other telecommunications in CCIs
 - international agreements for cultural goods/services trade
 - record and generate CCI sectoral data
 - Pak-Africa collaborations in capacity building across CCI sectors
 - special fast-track visa services for CCI artists/professionals
 - identify/broaden markets for Pakistani creative goods and services in Africa through surveys, consultations
 - identify requisite infrastructure, human resources for the dissemination of creative goods and services in Africa
 - ensure equal opportunities in CCIs across ethnic, gender, religious groups
 - promotion of CCIs in non-cultural sectors to encourage investment

- investment between all levels of government, financial institutions, private sector, individual creators, civil society, media, international organizations
- USAID-funded business incubation centers at research institutions
- incorporate culture in educational policies from primary to higher education

The recently launched *National Security Policy of Pakistan (2022-2026)* has reoriented the focus of Pakistan's foreign policy towards geoeconomics; however, like the "Look Africa Policy," this also does not consider culture's potential. Given the current economic crisis, a targeted CCI policy and its implementation could increase Pakistan's exports, especially since the estimated untapped potential of CCIs in Pakistan is in \$billions (Rafi, 2014). This investment in CCIs could provide a much-needed rise in the foreign exchange reserves that have fallen to a meagre \$6.1 billion (State Bank of Pakistan, 2022)—a development that will certainly be hailed by the international Monetary Fund. However, for any cultural policy to take root, an environment conducive to its aims and objectives is a prerequisite. Therefore, to reshape its cultural and creative future, render its CCIs a dynamic industry of socioeconomic prosperity, and improve its global image, Pakistan must work to promote the values of tolerance, diversity, and equality across all dimensions of social life.

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Household size and living standard: Evidence from Khyber District of Ex-FATA

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Abstract

The objective of this study is to understand the living standard of households and to assess the net impact of household size in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (ex-FATA). For reaching these objectives, this study uses primary data collected through an interview schedule. First, descriptive statistics are used for comparing the living standard of the households from the study area with province and country. Second, the “consumption quintiles” method is used for assessing the net impact of household size on the living standard. For this analysis, the OECD equivalence scale is used which adjusts the household size for incorporating the economies of large household size. The results of the study show that 71% of people live below the poverty line and per capita income is 490 USD in the study area. Households allocate 58% of expenditure to food consumption. All these results indicate a very low level of living standard in the study area. Finally, the study finds out the net impact of large household size on living standard to be negative. In the end, the study recommends certain policies for improving living standards and controlling population growth.

Keywords: Living standard, poverty, household size, Ex-FATA, consumption function, PCI

Introduction

Improving living standards is one of the main goals of policymakers around the world, yet world data show a major portion of the population is stuck in a very vulnerable condition (UNDP, 2019). The situation is even worse in developing countries like Pakistan. As the population is rising in developing countries, people find it almost impossible to break the shackles of low levels of living. The lower living standard is reflected by reduced consumption, education, health, living space, household facilities, etc. Due to low incomes, the basic life necessities like food, health, and education are not availed as needed and, therefore overall lives are badly affected. Extensive

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literature is available on the factors responsible for it and the measures needed to improve it. This study takes consumption as a proxy for living standards; higher the per capita consumption, better will be the living standard of the households. The analysis of the consumption pattern explains the impact of income and other factors on consumption and living standard. It also tells us about the relative importance of different goods consumed by households. Therefore, the study of the living standard through consumption patterns is one of the fundamental approaches for modern-day researchers. Finally, literature shows that income, education, gender, and household size are all positively affecting consumption while it decreases with age (Ajmair & Akhtar, 2012). This study focuses on understanding the living standard of the households and to estimate the impact of household size in District Khyber, ex-FATA.

Khyber is one of the prominent districts among all the tribal districts due to its vicinity to the provincial capital, Peshawar. The overall living standard in this tribal area is very unattractive. As compared to the HDI score of 0.7 in Pakistan, it is only 0.3 in the study area with 60% people living below the poverty line (Rafi, 2017). Furthermore, including only 12.7% female literate, the overall literacy rate is 33% in this area. There is a high infant mortality rate (80/1000) and maternal mortality rate (04/1000) which reflect the poor health conditions of the masses. Proper toilets, sewerage, and drainage facilities are enjoyed by only 10% of the population while safe drinking water is available to only 42% of the population (UNDP, 2016). To summarize, the study area is as backward as any other unfortunate region in the world (UNDP, 2017).

There are two important objective behind conducting this study in this region: First, the government, so far/till date has not conducted any organized and detailed survey (e.g. HIES or PSLM) for the assessment of the living standards in the target area due to its hardness, scatteredness, and security conditions. Second, in this area, people typically live in joint families with a sufficiently large household size sharing their incomes and consumption. However, to date, no such research has been conducted for assessing the impact of household size on consumption and living standards in the region. Therefore, the purpose of the present work is to investigate the living standard of the households in detail, understand the factors responsible for it, and suggest some solutions, which will be useful for policymakers.

Literature Review

How Should the Living Standard be Defined?

Akekere and Yousuo (2012) define consumption pattern as “the combination of qualities, quantities, acts, and tendencies, characterizing a community or human group's use of resources for survival, comfort, and pleasure.” It gives an understanding of how consumers distribute their expenditure between necessities and luxuries and, at the same time, enlightens us about the living standard of households. So one objective of this study is to understand the living standard of the households using consumption patterns.

Factors Affecting the Living Standard of the Households

Consumption of individuals is positively affected by income, gender, education, and family size, whereas age negatively affects it (Ajmair & Akhtar, 2012). Aziz and Malik (2010) found that expenditure on food items increases at a decreasing rate with every increase in income, therefore, all food items are in the group of necessities. Another important indicator of the living standard used by this study is the average propensity to consume (APC). According to Keynes (1937), APC will be lower for the richer than the poorer. There are also other variables like PCI, and the percentage of the population living below the poverty line, which are used by economists for understanding the living standard of the households in a region. Using the mentioned economic variables, this study will test the following hypothesis:

H₁: The living standard of the households in the study area is far lower than the average of the country.

Size of the Household and Living Standard

Families in developing countries have higher fertility rates due to many cultural and economic reasons, however, it has serious consequences on their living standards. Orbeta (2005) found a net negative impact on the welfare of the households with each additional child, and this impact is more severe for poorer families. He also concluded that larger families are more vulnerable to poverty. On the other hand, for Nigeria, an increase in household size results in an increase in expenditure without any significant change in income (OGBE, 2018). But economic literature shows economies of scale in consumption with every increase in household size. This argument is valid for public goods or goods that could be shared without additional expenditure like TV or Fridge, however, this effect is reversed in the case of private goods. Lanjouw and Ravallion (1995) worked on the elasticity of household size regarding expenditure. The study cautions that though large size households enjoy economies in sharing some public goods, there is certain evidence that

per capita expenditure decreases with an increase in household size affecting living standards negatively. It further describes that for Pakistan, the size elasticity of the cost of living is 0.6. This means that to be able to stay on the same level of living standard, the income of the family should increase by 0.6 (not by 1 due to deduction for shared public goods) with every single addition to the family. In light of the above discussion, this study proposes the following hypothesis:

H₂: Household size has a net negative impact on the living standard of the households.

Research Methodology

Descriptive Statistics

First of all, this study uses descriptive statistics for understanding the economic and social conditions of the households in the study area. These statistics are then used for comparison with the province and country.

The Consumption Model

Based on Keynes' (1936) psychological law of consumption, the following Linear Consumption function is estimated:

$$C = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Y_i + \beta_2 HS + U_i$$

Where:

‘C’ represents Consumption of the household

‘Y’ represents the Income of the household

‘HS’ represent the Household size

‘ β_i ’ represent Coefficients

‘U_i’ shows Random Error

The Consumption Quintiles Method

For finding relationship between consumption and household size, the “quintiles method” is used. In this method, the households are divided into five groups based on their consumption from least to the most, and the average household size is calculated and written against each quintile. This study uses adjusted household size for emedding the economies of scales into the per capita consumption.

Data Collection

Interview Schedule

A comprehensive interview schedule addressed to the Household representative was evolved. In addition to social and economic features, information on consumption was collected keeping in mind the following four categories:

1. Food Items
2. Non-Food Items
3. Consumer Durables
4. And Housing

Sample and Population

The population of this study was the households in Tehsil Landikotal, district Khyber. A random sample of 250 households was selected through a two-stage sampling technique (Methodology adopted from PSLM Survey) and interviewed. Primary data was collected from the selected households through an interview schedule.

Analytical Technique

The following analytical techniques are used in conducting the study:

1. A multi-stage sampling technique is used. In the first stage, 21 out of 136 stratas were randomly selected from the target area. In second stage, 14 households/stratum were chosen from those stratas using systematic sampling technique (Methodology adopted from PSLM Survey).
2. The Ordinary Least Square technique of Regression is used for finding the relationship between consumption, in, com,e, and household size.
3. SPSS software is used for the analysis of data.

Variables

The study has assessed a variety of variables in its analysis. The main area of concern according to the objectives of the study is an assessment of the living standards of the households. Therefore, data were collected on those variables that are directly related to the study. It includes household income, consumption, food consumption, education, and size of the household.

Analysis of Results

Household Size and its Comparison

One of the objectives of this study is to evaluate the impact of the household size in the sampled area on living standards. Household size has a dual impact on the living standard of the households. On one hand, economies of large household sizes reduce the per capita expenditure while keeping the household members at the same level of living standard. But on the other hand, the earned income is shared by more members, thereby reducing the per capita income of the members. Therefore, the household net welfare increases if the economies of larger households are greater than the decrease in the per capita income, and vice versa. Our analysis in the later part approves the fact that there is a net negative impact of the size of households on the living standard of the household. Table 1 shows a comparison of the household size of the study area with the province and country.

Table 1 **Average Household Size Comparison**

Year	Khyber	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Pakistan
2019	11.5	7.41	6.24

Source: HIES (2018, pp19)

The sample data reveals that the average household size is 11.5 persons in the study area. In contrast, the national and provincial figures for the average household size are 6.31 and 7.34, respectively (HIES 2018). This shows that people prefer to live together in larger households sharing their incomes and consumption. But we will find the impact of such a larger household size on the living standard of the households in the latter part of the study.

Income of the Households

The sample data reveals variations in absolute income across households. The distribution of the income variable is normal. As the data reveals, the average income of the household is 700,696 pkr, with an average household size of 11.5 persons. So per capita income in the study area is 60,930 pkr, which is equivalent to 490 US dollars in February 2019 (124 Rs = 1 USD). In contrast, the per capita income of the whole country is 1,507 US dollars (HIES, 2018). While, based on the analysis of Provincial GDP (Pasha, 2015), KP per capita GDP was 94% of the national figure, which makes it 1,416 US dollars. Based on this analysis, the per capita income in the study area is far below the province and country.

Table 2 Per Capita Income Comparison (US Dollar)

Year	Khyber	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Pakistan
2019	490	1,416	1,507

Source: Field survey and World Bank (2018)

Food and Non-Food Expenditure

One aspect of this research is the analysis of how households spend their incomes on necessities and non-necessities. Therefore, data is collected, and analysis is made regarding the consumption of food and non-food items. A higher percentage of expenditure on food items indicates poor living standards and vice versa (Engel, 1857). As the data reveals, consumers spend 58% out of the total expenditure on food items, with a minimum and maximum of 38% and 84% respectively. While food as a percentage of total expenditure in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Pakistan is 45% and 37% respectively. This comparison undoubtedly implies a far lower living standard in the study area in comparison with the province and country.

Table 3 Food Consumption as a Percentage of Total Expenditure

Year	Khyber	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Pakistan
2019	58%	45%	37%

Source: Field survey and HIES (2015)

Poverty in the study area

Being neglected for decades, the study area is economically underdeveloped in comparison to the country. There is a lack of physical and social infrastructure including roads, electricity, communication, hospitals, and schools. Politically, the area was governed under Frontier Crimes Regulation 1901 (FCR). Thus, the masses don't have the luxury to enjoy the political and economic opportunities that exist in other parts of the country (Factfile IPRI, 2008).

As a result of the above-stated conditions, the living standard is fairly low in the study area (Ex-FATA). Data reveals that, based on the poverty standard of 1.9 US dollar income per day, 71% of the households are living under the poverty line and this is the highest for any region in the country. On the other hand, a very large average household size of 11.5 gives certain economies of large household size to the residents, but even then, the incomes are fairly low

in the region. Alam and Hussain (2013) found the average household size to be 11.07 in 2013 and a poverty level of 51% based on the calorie consumption method, therefore, the current study reveals a further aggravation in the conditions of the masses.

APC in District Khyber is Larger Than Pakistan

Keynes (1937) provided the idea of the average propensity to consume (APC) which shows the proportion of total current income consumed. The theory further suggests that the value of APC is higher for richer than for poorer. This study finds that the value of APC in the target area is 0.96 as compared to 0.86 in Pakistan (HIES, 2018).

The study used many methods for understanding the living standard of the households in the study area. All the above results indicate the fact that the living standard of the households residing in district Khyber is far lower than the average Pakistani household. Therefore, we accept the first hypothesis (H1) which states that the living standard of the households in the study area is far lower than the average of the country.

Regression Model Summary

Regression analysis is used for finding the relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variable(s). Due to the nature of the data, log-log model is used, therefore the coefficients show percentage change in dependent variable due to any change in the independent variable. Goodness of Fit is checked with the help of the R-Square coefficient. Then ANOVA is used to find out the overall significance of the model or the significance of the coefficients together. Finally, the regression coefficients are evaluated for the strength of the relationship between dependent and independent variables.

A significantly high R Square value in Table 4 signifies the impact of independent variables.

Table 4: Goodness of Fit

Model Summary					
	Multiple R	R Square	Adj. R Sq.	Std. Error	Sig
1	0.960	0.921	0.921	1.2892E5	0.00

Table 4 shows the results of model fit, measured by ANOVA (F-test). Since the p-value is less than the level of significance, it is concluded that the fit

between dependent and independent variables is significant, implying a good model.

Table 5: ANOVA

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Regression	4.819E13	2	2.409E13	1.450E3	.000
Residual	4.106E12	247	1.662E10		
Total	5.229E13	249			

The Consumption Function

Table 6: *The Consumption Function, The impact of HH income and size on HH consumption*

Model	B	SE	t	Sig
Constant	3.135	.191	16.38	0.0000
PC Income	0.73	.016	46.35	0.0000
HH Size	0.160	.020	8.142	0.0000

Table 6. explains the household consumption function in the study area. The impact of income and household size on household consumption is statistically significant with a probability value of 0.000, which shows that both the variables are independently significant predictors of changes in the dependent variable, household consumption, at a 5 percent level of significance. The results of the current study are in parallel with both, the theoretical and empirical literature. The coefficient value of income is 0.73, which shows that a 1% increase in income level leads to an increase of 0.73% in household consumption. Similarly, the impact of household size is statistically significant. The coefficient value of the household size is 0.16, which shows that a 1% increase in household size leads to an increase in household consumption by 0.16%. This analysis brings us to the conclusion that, in addition to the income of the household, household size is a very important variable in determining the consumption expenditure of the household.

Relation Between Household Size and Living Standard

Larger household size is one of the dominant demographic characteristics of the tribal areas and has a significant impact on the share of income each member receives for consumption. By taking per capita consumption as a proxy for living standards, it reduces with every single increase in the household size in the Philippines (Orbeta, 2005). Similarly, HIES (2015) divides the households into quintiles based on their incomes. The data shows the fact that families with smaller household sizes enjoy larger per capita incomes and vice versa. Lanjouw and Ravallion (1995) quote many studies and conclude that there is a negative relationship between household size and per capita income (consumption) and further state that the impact on poverty is severe in developing and underdeveloped countries. Herrin (2002) professes that helping families achieve their desired family size directly increases their living standard, all other things being constant.

There are certain economies of scale in larger household sizes which provide certain advantages to the household members (Lazear & Michael, 1979). First, certain family goods could be used by additional family members without any increase in the cost e.g. electric light, space, lock, etc. Second, scale economies received in purchase in the bulk and the use of certain indivisible goods e.g. tv, internet, cable, etc. Third, specialization in the duties of the household raises efficiencies in the tasks performed and saves time. This shows that the per capita cost of living reduces with an increase in household size, although there will be a certain fixed increase in expenditure due to the need for private goods. To bring them together, per capita income and economies of scale move in opposite directions to one another as a result of any change in HH size.

Though there are economies of the larger household size, this study hypothesizes a net negative impact of household size on the living standard of the members in the target area. To know the exact impact of household size on the living standard, we utilize the adjusted household size method first and then create the quintiles. As the size elasticity in Pakistan is 0.6, (Lanjouw & Ravallion, 1995), this means that to keep the households at the same level of living standard, an additional member needs only 0.6 of expenditure. Therefore, to incorporate this advantage or economies of scale, this study reduces the sizes of all households by a fraction of 0.4 (to keep it at only 0.6) by multiplying it by 0.6, and adjusted household sizes are found. This modification will in effect show a reduced HH size and hence, an increased per capita expenditure and represent a higher living standard for all households to the exact extent of economies of scale. Finally, households from poorest to

richest (based on Per capita expenditure) are divided into five quintiles of equal sizes with their respective household size as follows:

Table 7: Consumption Quintiles and Their Average Household Size

Variable	Quintiles					Overall
	1 st (20%)	2 nd (20%)	3 rd (20%)	4 th (20%)	5 th (20%)	
Per Capita Consumption PKR	42,760	59,393	74,587	100,155	164,662	67,320
Household Size	16.8	10.8	10.6	10.2	8.8	11.5

Source: Survey Data

Table 7 summarizes information on quintiles, per capita consumption, and household size. The 1st quintile shows the per capita consumption expenditure and household size of the poorest (worst living standard). Moving along quintiles 2nd to 5th, their household size is decreasing and living standard, represented by PCC, is improving. This reflects the fact that families with smaller household sizes are better off in terms of living standards, and vice versa. Even though the household size is adjusted for the economies of scale, per capita expenditure is lower for larger households and vice versa. In other words, though there is a certain advantage of the larger household to the members living together, still a decrease in per capita expenditure is larger than the received economies of scale. Hence, we accept hypothesis H₂ and conclude that larger household sizes negatively affect the living standard of the household in the study area.

Findings of the Study

The people in the study area, on average are living a poor life than the average of the country and the province. The per capita income, 490 USA dollars is lower than the national and provincial figures. The major portion of the income (58%) of the households is devoted to food consumption. The average propensity to consume in the study area is (0.95) larger than APC for the whole country. All these figures indicate a lower living standard in the region.

Likewise, a larger household size, no doubt provides certain economies to the household members, but its negative impact on per capita consumption is more than the economies of scale. This brings us to the finding

that household size has a net negative impact on the living standard of the households.

Conclusion

This study was designed to assess the living standard of the households in the district Khyber, KP (Ex-FATA), and to investigate the impact of large household sizes on the living standards of the households. The data used in this study is collected through a well-designed interview schedule from randomly selected households of district Khyber. The results show that the living standard is far lower as compared to the national average. Incomes are lower, the percentage of people living below the poverty line is very high, and a very large average size of the household. The study further concludes that the net impact of household size on the living standard of the households is negative.

Being neglected for decades and organized under Frontier Crimes Regulation (FCR), now this area needs special attention to help them live a better life. Before taking any action, a thorough understanding of the situation is necessary which is possible only by extending the country-level PSLM and HIES surveys to this region. To bring short and long-term improvement, sufficient investment would be required in physical and human capital. As this study found out that a large HH size is against the living standard, not only a well-planned population program is needed but also actions are needed for increasing female education and awareness for overall social change. In addition, a provision of technical education will not only create the skills for earning incomes but also the outlook of individuals will change towards life goals and personal achievement.

Though this study covered living standards in detail, still there is space for future work. Ex-FATA is so much neglected by the government as well as academicians in terms of research. Due to its distinct social and economic nature, there is so much gap in conducting academic research in this area. Finally, as we dig deep into this topic, we find a distinct role of large household size in the living standard of the household. Therefore, this study recommends the study of household size from different perspectives.

Finally, there were certain limitations in conducting this study. The first of those was the security problem in the area. Secondly, the area is so abandoned by the governments that even PSLM and HIES surveys don't cover this area. Therefore, too little reliable secondary data is available to properly evaluate the conditions of the area. Thirdly, there are still security threats expected for any survey program. Therefore, this study selected only accessible areas for avoiding any unexpected situations. Also, due to the

nature of research, it was not possible to include more variables in the study. In addition, it was very hard to collect all the relevant information from the respondents, especially economic data, due to their attitude towards surveys.

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An analysis of total factor productivity and economic growth in Pakistan

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Abstract

The broad aim of this paper is to find-out the contribution of Total Factor Productivity (TFP) to economic growth of Pakistan in the presence of human capital and check its sensitivity to share of capital, proxies for human capital and length of period. The study used Growth Accounting Method for this purpose. The study is of a different nature in sense that it has used three different proxies for human capital and the calculations of TFP have been made by using different shares of labour and capital. The results show that TFP contributed 38.47% to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita in Pakistan during the period 1971-2008, with education as measure of human capital. The contribution of TFP to GDP per Capita increases irrespective of measure of human capital when minimum share of capital is used. It increases to 46.72%, 57.08% and 24.14 % in case of education, health and Research & Development (R&D) respectively. However, in case of maximum share of capital, the TFP becomes 20.99%, 27.80% and 6.3% with education, health and R&D as a measure of human capital. The study suggests TFP to be an important determinant of economic growth in Pakistan, hence, the determinants of TFP needs to be explored to attain sustained economic growth.

Keywords: Total factor productivity, economic growth, sensitivity analysis, growth accounting method

JEL Classification I15, I25, J24, O15, O49

Introduction

The growth performance of Pakistan experienced huge ups and downs since its inception. The growth performance of Pakistan on average remained very good in 1980s. Its economic growth rate on average was 6.42 % during the period 1980-1989 (State Bank of Pakistan, 2005). The average growth rate remained 4.8% and 4.6% during the periods 1990-99 and 2000-2008 (State Bank of Pakistan, 2005; Economic survey of Pakistan, 2008-09). The national

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economy grew at a respectable rate of 5.8 % and 6.8% in years 2005-06 and 2006-07 (Economic Survey of Pakistan, 2007-08). It was a better performance than countries like Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Bangladesh. In order to achieve a sustained economic growth, the determinants of economic growth need to be explored in Pakistan.

There has been a lively debate on the determinants of economic growth over the last three decades. It is being studied whether factor accumulation or TFP is the determinant of variation in per capita GDP growth. The economic growth empirics are considered incomplete without taking into account the Total Factor Productivity (TFP). A major problem in growth empirics of Solow type models is the value of residual. The study of TFP is mainly the computation of this residual. Therefore, TFP is also known as Solow Residual. The TFP is mainly calculated by using the Growth Accounting Method (GAM), which breaks the economic growth into its associated components. Nehru and Ashok (1994) estimated TFP for a sample of 83 countries and found human capital an important factor for explaining the economic growth. TFP growth in high income economies was found comparable with the low and medium growing economies. Moreover, according to the study, the cross country variation in income is due to political stability and initial conditions of the economies. The actual TFP growth in Sub Saharan Africa remained lower than the TFP predicted on the basis of the political stability and initial conditions.

Pakistan is endowed with rich human resources but unfortunately, instead of properly harnessing these resources, most of human resources are engaged in traditional agriculture sector and resultantly underutilized. There have been very few efforts to find the determinants of economic growth in presence of human capital. Human capital in different forms can be utilized to cover the fluctuations in economic growth rate and get a sustained growth rate. Apart from the traditional determinants of economic growth, the study of TFP can prove an effective tool for this purpose. But, considering only TFP as determinant of economic growth can give misleading results (Nelson and Howard, 1997). The initial level of TFP, physical and human capital is responsible for explaining the cross-country variation in TFP levels (Sinhaji, 1999). The economic growth literature relevant to Total Factor Productivity (TFP) is rich in case of developed countries but we find fewer studies in case of developing countries. The foremost reason is data availability problems in these economies. In case of Pakistan, we find limited studies but most of them concentrated on sector- wise TFP especially on agriculture and manufacturing sectors. Khan (2006) found macroeconomic stability, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and financial sector development as major contributors to

TFP in Pakistan in the period 1965-2005. Ahmad (2007) suggested rapid domestic investment, losing the private credit, enhancing trade and more expenditure on education to reap the fruits of economic growth.

The aim of the present study is to find the contribution of TFP in presence of human capital. We are using different measures of human capital for this purpose. An effort has been made in this paper to find the sensitivity of the contribution of TFP to different measures used as proxoies for human capital and the share of capital.

Data and Methodology

The present study is based on secondary data for the period 1971-2008. The has been taken from Economic Survey of Pakistan (Various Issues), State Bank of Pakistan (2005), World Development Indicators (various issues), Human Development Reports. In order to achieve objectives of the study, Growth Accounting Method (GAM) is being employed here. Growth Accounting is the process, which breaks the observed economic growth into elements associated with variation in factor inputs (Barro, 1999). The growth accounting has been widely used in economic growth literature. A number of studies like Solow (1957), Kenderick (1961), Jorgenson and Zvi (1967), Jorgensen and Fraumeni (1992), and Young (1995), used this method for finding the effects of various factors on economic growth. This method is considered best because, it provides estimates of factorial share in economic growth. The problem, which is faced in growth regressions, is the value of the residual which is unknown. This value is referred to as Solow residual or Total Factor Productivity. The calculation of TFP is placed in a central position in the empirical growth studies as it covers all omitted factors. Chen (1997) called it, a measure of our ignorance. The Growth Accounting Method (GAM) helps in calculation of this residual. The Starting point of this method is standard production function as given below

$$Y = F(A, K, L)$$

(1)

Where Y shows output, A shows the level of technology or effectiveness of labour, K is capital input and L is labour input

Differentiating (1) with respect to time and dividing by Y , we get

$$\frac{Y'}{Y} = g + \frac{F_K K}{Y} \cdot \frac{K'}{K} + \frac{F_L L}{Y} \cdot \frac{L'}{L}$$

(2)

Where

The symbol ' g ' shows growth due to technological change. $\frac{F_k K}{Y}$ and $\frac{F_L L}{Y}$ are the capital and labour input shares in total output. As the share of capital is its rental price and the share of labour is wages, so we denote their shares in the output by S_k and S_L respectively.

So the form of equation becomes

$$\frac{\dot{Y}}{Y} = g + S_k \frac{K'}{K} + S_L \frac{L'}{L} \quad (3)$$

If $y = \frac{\dot{Y}}{Y}$, $k = \frac{K'}{K}$ and $l = \frac{L'}{L}$ then

$$y = g + S_k k + S_L l \quad (4)$$

Now the share of technological progress can be computed as

$$g = y - S_k k - S_L l \quad (5)$$

The value of ' g ' is generally known as Total Factor Productivity, which shows contribution of other factors in economic growth than the observed factors. This is also called Solow Residual.

As major objective of the present study is to find out the role of human capital in economic growth of Pakistan, therefore by introducing human capital in TFP Model, the model becomes of the form

$$g = y - S_k k - S_L l - (1 - S_k - S_L) h_c \quad (6)$$

In equation (6), ' y ' is the growth rate of the GDP Per Capita, ' k ' is the growth rate of physical capital (Gross Fixed Capital) and h_c is growth rate of human capital. The human capital has been measured by Education and Health for calculation of TFP.

A different approach to the calculation of Total Factor Productivity is the dual approach elaborated by Barro (1999). In dual approach, TFP is computed by using growth of factor prices instead of growth of factor quantities. This approach computes TFP from the given equation

$$Y = rK + wL \quad (7)$$

Where 'r' is the rental price of capital and 'w' is the wage rate of labour. Taking derivative of equation (7) with respect to time and dividing by $\frac{Y}{Y}$

$$\frac{\dot{Y}}{Y} = \frac{1}{Y} [r\dot{K} + K\dot{r}] + \frac{1}{Y} [w\dot{L} + L\dot{w}] \quad (8)$$

And after simplification we get

$$S_K [r / r] + S_L [w / w] = TFP \quad (9)$$

Where, S_K and S_L are the shares of capital and labor in factor incomes.

The computation of Total Factor Productivity becomes easy, if the factor shares in total factor incomes or the rental price of capital and wage rate of labour data is available. This is done mostly in case of developed countries but unfortunately the data relevant to rental price of capital and wages of labour in developing country is mostly unavailable, which creates hurdles in computation of TFP. The same is the case in the present study, where wage data is not available so the factor share is difficult to compute.

In order to tackle the problem of factor shares, different solutions are suggested in empirical studies. One solution for this problem used in literature is the partial elasticities obtained from the regression of Cobb Douglas Production Function. But in this method major problem is of endogeneity as the growth of factor inputs can be correlated to the value of the residual.

The second solution for the problem of non-availability of factor shares as adopted by number of studies is the use of constant share of labour and capital. The constant share of capital used in economic growth literature varies from 0.3 to 0.40. Besudeb and Bari (2000), Baier *et al* (2002), and Iwata *et al* (2002), used constant capital share in the range of 0.30-0.35. Some of the studies used this share in the range of 0.25 to 0.50 in economic growth literature⁴

Therefore, due to non-availability of proper data for factor shares and on the basis of studies relevant to Pakistan and similar economies, the present

⁴Young (1992), Sarel (1997), Nelson and Pack (1999), Ahmad *et al* (2008) and Park (2010) used the fixed capital share from 0.25 to 0.50 for the estimation of Total Factor Productivity in different countries.

study has used constant shares of factors as 0.33 for capital and labour, and 0.34 for human capital⁵. The equation used for TFP estimation is given below

$$g = y - 0.33k - 0.33l - 0.34h_c \quad (10)$$

The Total Factor Productivity has been computed on five and ten yearly basis. This is done to find out the expected effect of time variation on TFP. The study has also used different measures of human capital to find the extent of sensitivity of TFP to these measures. The extreme bounds of TFP in economy of Pakistan have been worked out by exercising the extreme shares of capital, labour and human capital used in literature. Therefore, by taking into account these shares the following models are used for this purpose.

$$g = y - 0.25k - 0.37l - 0.34h_c \quad (11)$$

$$g = y - 0.50k - 0.25l - 0.25h_c \quad (12)$$

In equation (11) and equation (12), 0.25 and 0.50 are the extreme shares of capital. These equations are expected to give an extreme contribution of the TFP to economic growth of Pakistan. It will provide the range in which TFP can lie in empirical studies relevant to TFP and determinants of economic growth.

Results and Discussion

The present study is based on Growth Accounting Method (GAM) for calculating the TFP in Pakistan Economy during the period 1971-2008. The major obstacle in calculation of TFP was the factor shares. It was a tough task to get appropriate shares of physical capital (S_K), labour (S_L) and human capital ($1 - S_K - S_L$). Following the Studies relevant to Pakistan and other economies of same nature, the constant share of capital has been used as 0.33, the share of labour as 0.33 and share of human capital as 0.34⁶.

It may be useful, to give a cursory look to the growth of variables relevant to Total Factor Productivity before proceeding to empirical results. The variables of the study grew at different rates during the study period as shown in Table 1. The Gross Domestic Product Per Capita (GDPPC) grew at

⁵ Besudeb & Bari (2000), Baier et al (2002), Ahmad et al (2008), and Park (2010) used similar shares for South Asia, Vietnam, Indonesia and a set of 145 countries.

⁶ Besudeb & Bari (2000), Park (2010), Ahmad et al (2008), and Baier et al (2002) used the capital share within the range of 0.33-0.40 for various developing countries including Pakistan.

4 percent during 1971. It showed handsome increase in next two years but a visible fall in 1975 and 1976. Its growth rate remained in double digit till 1984 but it remained in single digit the following years till 1989. In 1990s, the growth rate of GDPPC remained good but at the end of the decade it fell to 0.05. The growth rate of GDPPC stayed stable in 2000s. The overall growth of GDPPC remained 13 percent during the period 1971-2008.

The growth rate of physical capital (GFCF) showed huge variation in the study period. In 1971, the growth rate of physical capital was 3 percent but in 1974 and 1976, it remained exemplary. The growth rate of physical capital remained stable during 1980s and 1990s with the exception of last few years of 1990s. During the 2000s, it showed much higher fluctuations. As a whole, it grew on average at 17 percent during the study period.

The labour growth rate was 3% at the beginning of the study period. The growth rate of labour remained mostly below 5% annually during 1970s. During 1980s, the growth rate behaved in similar fashion with the exception of two years 1982 and 1989, when it remained 5% and 12% respectively. The growth rate of labour mostly remained below 5% till the end of the study period except the years 1996 and 2005. The overall growth of labour during 1971-2008 remained 3% per annum. Human capital in form of education (ENRG) also elucidated massive variation. The growth rate of ENRG increased from 3% in 1971 to 7% per annum in 1973 and 12% in 1976. The growth rate of ENRG remained substantially low from 1977 to 1980. However, the growth rate increased to 11% in 1984 but the rate was not stable as it fell down in next 4 years. The overall growth of ENRG during 1971-2008 is 4% percent. The growth rate of health (Life Expectancy) remained mostly within the range of 1% to 3%. It showed zero growth for many years during the period 1971-2008. The R&D sector in Pakistan experienced dramatic fluctuations. Its growth rate was negative (-15%) in at the beginning of the period but it increased very rapidly in following years of 1970s. The same behaviour of growth rate of R&D continued in 1980s and 1990s. Its growth rate seemed exemplary till mid of 2000s but huge shocks can be seen 2006 to 2008. The overall growth rate of R&D remained 18.9% during the study period.

Table I Annual Growth Rate of Variables during 1971-2008

Year	GDP Per Capita	GFCF	School Enrollment	Labour	Health	R&D	Year	GDP Per Capita	GFCF	School Enrollment	Labour	Health	R&D
1971	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	-0.15	1991	0.15	0.20	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.06
1972	0.19	-0.03	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.19	1992	0.08	0.26	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.23
1973	0.29	0.12	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.32	1993	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.03	0.02	0.12
1974	0.23	0.39	0.07	0.04	0.02	0.15	1994	0.16	0.09	0.06	0.03	0.00	0.21
1975	0.12	0.15	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.41	1995	0.18	0.13	0.09	0.04	0.02	0.16
1976	0.10	0.87	0.12	0.04	0.01	0.21	1996	0.13	0.16	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.12
1977	0.14	0.16	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.22	1997	0.10	0.08	0.05	0.02	0.00	0.07
1978	0.08	0.10	-0.08	0.02	0.00	0.26	1998	0.05	0.02	0.10	0.02	0.01	-0.71
1979	0.15	0.09	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.31	1999	0.06	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.01	0.13
1980	0.14	0.25	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.08	2000	0.30	0.48	0.04	0.02	0.00	0.23
1981	0.14	0.21	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.33	2001	-0.16	0.09	-0.10	0.01	-0.02	0.00
1982	0.10	0.14	0.05	0.05	0.00	-0.17	2002	0.08	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.01	1.62
1983	0.11	0.13	0.06	0.01	0.02	0.38	2003	0.39	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.33
1984	0.12	0.12	0.11	0.00	0.03	0.24	2004	0.15	0.18	-0.06	0.01	0.00	0.55
1985	0.09	0.13	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.33	2005	0.14	0.15	0.06	0.10	0.01	0.34
1986	0.08	0.12	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.14	2006	0.12	0.57	0.02	0.05	0.00	0.34
1987	0.10	0.14	0.07	0.03	0.00	0.14	2007	0.19	0.15	0.02	0.02	0.00	-0.03
1988	0.07	0.11	0.04	0.02	-0.01	0.22	2008	0.19	0.16	0.01	0.03	0.01	-0.34
1989	0.08	0.20	0.16	0.12	0.00	0.39	1971- 2008	0.13	0.17	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.189
1990	0.16	0.11	0.11	0.00	0.02	0.18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Author's Calculations based on data from Economic Survey of Pakistan (Various Issues), State Bank of Pakistan (2005), World Development Indicators (various issues), Human Development Reports

The Total Factor Productivity has been computed on five yearly basis and for the whole period. The results show that TFP has been a very important contributor to economic growth. It contributed 59.8 % during 1971-1975. Its contribution remained 7.9 %, 32.9%, 13.6%, 42.8% and 39.3% during periods 1976-1980, 1980-85, 1986-1990, 1990-95 and 1996-00. The total factor productivity share remained very high during the period 2001-05 but it again exhibited a shock of 50% in next five years period. This means that only observed factors are not responsible for economic growth for Pakistan but also the unobserved factor played a significant role in economic growth of Pakistan. The overall contribution of Total Factor Productivity to growth rate of GDPPC in Pakistan remained 38.76% during the study period. The results are more or less similar to the estimates of Besudeb and Bari (2000), Ahmed *et al* (2007) and Ahmad (2007)⁷. The results are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Total Factor Productivity during 1971-2008

Period	Contribution of factor inputs (%)			Total Factor Productivity	
	Capital	Labour	Human Capital	Estimate	Contribution (%)
1971-75	25.03	4.55	10.55	0.10416	59.86
1976-80	79.52	8.66	3.90	0.00966	7.92
1980-85	43.02	7.66	16.39	0.03688	32.93
1986-90	45.8	11.45	29.14	0.01334	13.61
1990-95	38.11	2.33	16.76	0.06078	42.80
1996-00	38.67	9.28	12.75	0.0503	39.30
2000-05	29.15	11.55	2.26	0.07388	61.57
2005-08	56.29	5.82	4.00	0.0576	33.88
1971-2008	43.15	7.62	10.46	0.0504	38.77

Source: Author's Calculations based on data obtained from Economic Survey of Pakistan (Various Issues), World Development Indicators, State Bank of Pakistan (2005). Note: The sum of percentage shares may possibly be not equal 100 as the figures are rounded off

⁷ Ahmed (2007) derived the estimates for contribution of TFP as 36.61 percent for manufacturing sector and 33.86 for agriculture sector in Pakistan. Ahmad *et al* (2007) and Besudeb and Baari (2000) also derived more or less similar results for economy of Pakistan.

The share of TFP in GDP per capita growth shows high fluctuations, when the TFP is figured on five year basis. Therefore, decade wise TFP has also been computed. The sensitivity of TFP to human capital measures have also been analyzed by using education, health and R&D as proxies for human capital separately. The TFP has been estimated by using the following model.

$$TFP = y - 0.33k - 0.33l - 0.34h_c$$

where 'y' shows the growth rate of GDP Per Capita, 'k', 'l' and 'h_c' are growth rates of physical capital, labour and human capital respectively. This model takes the optimum shares of capital and labour. The results have been displayed in Table 3. The fluctuations in TFP values seemed to be reduced when education was used as proxy for the human capital and the TFP was calculated decade wise. The maximum value of TFP remained 47.98 during 2001-2008 and the minimum value was 22.87 during 1981-90. The TFP has also been computed in similar fashion by using health as proxy for human capital instead of school enrollment. The contribution of TFP to GDP per capita increased when health was used as proxy for human capital.

The contribution of TFP to GDP per capita increased to 47.74% during the study period with health as measure of human capital. The fluctuation in TFP value, were also reduced as the extreme values remained 44.22% in 1981-90 and 47.32 in 2001-08. The contribution of health to GDP per capita growth remained very low with a range of 0.94% in 2001-08 to 1.65 in 1981-90. However the overall input of TFP to economic growth remained 47.74% in case of health as measure of human capital.

Research and Development is considered another form of human capital in New Growth Theories (NGT). When R&D was exercised as human capital, the TFP contribution knocked down to 18.27% during the study period. Interestingly, high jumps were noted in TFP when health was replaced by R&D. Surprisingly, the contribution of TFP seemed negative in the period 1981-90. The TFP remained very low with a value of 0.81% in 1971-80 but very high with a value of 47.76% in 2001-08. This high value may be to very huge investment in the R&D and higher education sectors during 2001-08.

The effects of factor shares on TFP were captured by incorporating two separate models for the estimation of TFP. In first model minimum possible share of the capital as 0.25 was taken. The model used in this case is given below

$$TFP = y - 0.25k - 0.37l - 0.38h_c$$

Where, 0.37 is the labour share and 0.38 as human capital share.

The results are displayed in Table 4. The results show that the TFP contribution to GDP per capita growth rate increased to 46.72 % in case of Education and 57.08% in case of health during the study period. However, it remained 24.14 % during the same period in case of R&D. The share of Capital in GDP per capita growth decreased to 32.64 % during the study period. The contribution of labour and education also showed some improvement. This shows that the TFP is sensitive to capital share.

Table 3 Decade Wise Total Factor Productivity

Period	Contribution of Labour and Capital to GDP Per capita (%)		Contribution to GDP (Education as Human Capital) (%)		Contribution to GDP (Health as Human Capital) (%)		Contribution to GDP (R&D as Human Capital) (%)	
	Capital	Labour	Education	TFP	Health	TFP	R&D	TFP
1971-80	46.93	6.78	7.67	38.62	1.64	44.65	45.48	0.81
1981-90	44.58	9.55	23.00	22.87	1.65	44.22	70.36	-24.49
1991-00	38.44	5.68	15.15	40.74	1.60	54.28	15.33	40.56
2001-08	42.37	9.37	0.27	47.98	0.94	47.32	0.49	47.76
1971-2008	43.09	7.72	10.72	38.47	1.45	47.74	30.93	18.27

Source : Author's Calculations based on data obtained from Economic Survey of Pakistan (Various Issues), World Development Indicators, State Bank of Pakistan (2005)

Table 4 **TFP Model with Minimum Capital Share**

Period	Contribution of Labour and Capital to GDP (%)		Contribution to GDP (Education as Human Capital) (%)		Contribution to GDP (Health as Human Capital) (%)		Contribution to GDP (R&D as Human Capital) (%)	
	Capital	Labour	Education	TFP	Health	TFP	R&D	TFP
1971-80	35.55	7.60	8.57	48.28	1.84	55.01	54.04	6.02
1981-90	33.78	10.70	25.71	29.81	1.84	53.68	51.34	23.12
1991-00	29.12	6.37	16.93	47.58	1.78	62.73	44.26	47.39
2001-08	32.09	10.50	0.30	57.09	1.04	56.35	48.79	56.84
1971-2008	32.64	8.66	11.98	46.72	1.62	57.08	49.61	24.14

Source: Author's Calculations based on data obtained from Economic Survey of Pakistan (Various Issues), World Development Indicators, State Bank of Pakistan (2005). The formula used for calculation of TFP is $TFP = y - 0.25k - 0.37l - 0.38hc$

The share of capital if increased to 0.50 and shares of the labour and human capital decreased, TFP shows variation. This has been analyzed by using the following model.

$$TFP = y - 0.50k - 0.25l - 0.25h_c$$

The results are displayed in Table 5 which show that by taking maximum value of capital and minimum value of labour, the share of TFP declines from 46.72% (with capital share 0.25) to 20.99%, if education is used as human capital measure. The contribution of TFP is 27.80 % in case of Health and surprisingly, 6.13 % in case of R&D. the share of capital.

Conclusion and Recommendations

It is concluded on the basis of the results that TFP contributes 38.47% to the GDP growth rate of Pakistan. Among the set of factor inputs, the contribution of capital is highest and of labour is smallest. The contribution of TFP to the GDP growth rate depends on measure of human capital to a great extent which means that the contribution of TFP to economic growth of Pakistan is sensitive to the proxy for human capital. Similarly, TFP shows higher jumps in short periods but when calculated decade wise the fluctuations were controlled to some extent. Similarly, the share of factors is also an important determinant of TFP contribution to economic growth. The higher capital share leads to higher contribution of capital to economic growth and lower share reduces its contribution to economic growth. In short, it is concluded that the contribution of TFP to economic growth is sensitive to the measure of human capital, share of capital and length of period.

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Table V **TFP with Maximum share of capital**

Period	Contribution of Labour and Capital to GDP		Contribution of TFP to GDP with Education as Human Capital		Contribution TFP to GDP with Health as Human Capital		Contribution TFP to GDP with R&D as Human Capital	
	Capital	Labour	Education	TFP	Health	TFP	R&D	TFP
1971-80	71.11	5.13	5.64	18.12	1.21	22.55	33.44	- 9.68
1981-90	67.55	7.23	16.91	8.30	1.21	24.00	51.73	- 26.52
1991-00	58.24	4.30	11.13	26.32	1.18	36.29	11.27	26.19
2001-08	64.20	7.10	0.20	28.50	0.68	28.01	0.36	28.34
1971-2008	65.28	5.85	7.88	20.99	1.06	27.80	22.74	6.13

Source: Author's Calculations based on dataset of Economic Survey of Pakistan (Various Issues), World Development Indicators, State Bank of Pakistan (2005). The formula used for calculation of TFP is $TFP = y - .50k - 0.25l - 0.25h$

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Children or Vampires: The Parasitic Drainage of Parenthood in Edward Bond's *The Testament of This Day*, *The Angry Roads* and *The Hungry Bowl*

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Abstract

Parents children relationship has acquired new dynamics in contemporary world. The draining of parental faculties by children has received considerable attention in contemporary times. The research addresses the problem of parents being driven to extreme measures of self-torture and self-destruction in sustaining their children who grow at the emotional and financial expense of their parents. This raises the question of whether to categorize children as badgering human beings or modern vampires that are draining their parents. The badgering attitude of children depicts how parents are alienated by the children who divest them of their role as human beings and later abandon them. The current research paper endeavours to explore the siphoning relationship of children with their parents and how the paradoxical relationship saps the lifeblood of the parents. Judith Orloff's theory of energy vampires will be used as a theoretical pulpit to explore this paradoxical dilemma in the selected plays of Edward Bond. The study employs qualitative research design as it uses close textual analysis to examine the parental affiliations. The study's major findings reveal that Bond highlights the parasitical relationship of parents and children in a capitalist society where filial affection is clouded by monetary considerations and where parents lose their faculties in sustaining their children.

Keywords: Vampires, children, parental, Edward Bond, capitalist, paradoxical

Introduction

Edward Bond, a British playwright who has authored about fifty plays is considered one of the most influential, prolific and radical dramatists of the living times. The nature of brutality in his plays, along with the radicalism of his views about modern theatre and society, and his beliefs on theatre, have

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been the centre of much critical debate. Klein in her paper entitled “Edward Bond's Use of Sociolects” comments that Bond’s plays irritate the audience due to obvious language exaggeration, yet the author employs these tactics to draw the audience's attention to the dichotomy of the truths presented in his social criticism. Klein further develops on how he allows the audience to build their own reasonable and discerning perception of the scenario portrayed in his plays (95). She reflects upon his work to be tending to build a ‘negative anthropology’ through debate, dramatic occurrences, and the language spoken by various characters, with an emphasis on the deformities of the human beings generated by an illogical society. To convey his message, Bond has carefully sought appropriate forms of speech for each circumstance portrayed in his plays to emphasize the character's participation in the action.

Bond touches on all contemporary issues with great seriousness and force, and the powerful metaphors of abnormality, irrationality, and social injustice in his dramatic world constantly illuminate the “situations of injustice” (Bond 13). Bond's mutual connection is built on aggressiveness, egotism, arrogance, and sex. In many of his plays, Bond sought to show the qualities of an industrialized human being based solely on buyer behaviour, which is completely dehumanizing and creates circumstances of friction that finally lead to violence (97). In terms of language, his plays show something of the need to unleash this energy, which is seldom used in daily routine; it is an energy that, in Bond's opinion, may easily erupt into violence; it serves as a mirror of the social reality of the surroundings (97). Finally Klein ends on her critical note, appreciating his linguistic ability and musical ear; depending on the scenario, there is a continuous rhythm in his plays that transmits either the incommunicative environment or aggression, which can be vividly observed in *The Testament of This Day*, *The Angry Roads* and *The Hungry Bowl* selected from his tenth collection of plays.

This portrayal of violence points in the direction of the child and parent relationship. The current paper endeavors to discuss this violence in terms of the vampiric drainage of life energy of the parents by their children through interaction or upbringing. Judith Orloff’s Energy Vampire Theory will be used as a theoretical framework to address the parasitic nature of such consumption.

An energy vampire is someone who feeds on other people's emotional or mental energy. Individuals that show energy vampire traits often lack empathy, compassion, and/or emotional development (Orloff 82). Energy vampires are addicted to feeding on the vitality of others in an attempt to alleviate their own inner pain caused by sorrow or uncertainty. A friend, family member, coworker, acquaintance, child, son or daughter, or even a love partner might be an energy vampire. If a person is extremely empathetic and

caring, he or she may purposefully attract energy vampires into their lives. Many experience persistent weariness, depression, anxiety, irritability, or anger as a result of frequent interaction with an energy vampire. Energy vampires can be classified into Martyr, Narcissist, Dominator, Melodramatic, Judgmental and Innocent categories of energy vampirism as discussed by Aletheia Luna in her article, "6 Types of Energy Vampires That Emotionally Exhaust You" which is very metonymical to what Judith Orloff has to say about the subject. As a psychospiritual writer, Luna's writings address spiritual awakening and deliverance of an individual from the dark chasms of his/her psyche. Her enthusiasm was initiated as a result of her claustrophobic disorientation with religion as a Christian, at a tender age. Despite having a different approach to her pursuit, she happens to share a mutual interest in addressing the dilemma of psychological drainage in metonymic variance with Dr. Orloff who acquires her insight about it by her vast experience in empirical practice of the dynamics of human behaviour as a clinical psychiatrist. Talking about the categorizations and the nature of their psyches of parasitic individuals (Loner Wolf), she moves from the delusion of self-pity to other classifications in parallel with Orloff's perspective

Victims/Martyrs believe they are at the mercy of the world and suffer most as a result of others' acts. They continually accuse, manipulate, and emotionally blackmail their victims rather than accepting responsibility for their own lives. Orloff in her work dedicated to the survival of empaths, describes them as observing life with "“the world is against me” attitude" (Orloff 89). She explains further how irresponsible is their stance towards life and how they blame others for their inconveniences and misfortunes (89). Their abnormal conduct is caused by their severely low self-esteem. Victim/Martyr Vampires feel inherently worthless and unacceptable since their troubles most likely come from a lack of affection, acceptance, and approval as children - and they try to address this suffering by underhandedly seeking sympathy/empathy from a person by making him feel guilty.

A Narcissist energy vampire is incapable of displaying empathy or real interest in other people. The underlying ideology of Narcissist Vampires is ME FIRST, YOU SECOND. As a result, Narcissist vampires will want one to always put themselves first, fuel their whims, and do what they say - no matter what. When the fancy strikes them, Narcissist vampires will likewise deceive one with fake charm, but will just as swiftly turn around and attack the person in the back. If a person has a Narcissist Vampire in life, he may feel extremely disempowered as he is crushed beneath the gaze of such people. Dominator Vampires enjoy feeling superior and prefer "dominant" guys or females. Dominator Vampires must intimidate one to compensate for their

deep underlying anxieties of being fragile or wrong and so harmed. Dominator Vampires are frequently boisterous individuals with strong opinions and black-and-white views.

The Melodramatic energy vampire delights in wreaking mayhem. Their need to create constant drama is usually the outcome of a dark, profound void in their lives. Melodramatic vampires like looking for crises because it gives them a reason to feel victimized, an exaggerated sense of self-importance, and an escape from life's actual challenges. Melodramatic vampires also like dramatic outbursts since the negative emotions they feed on are compulsive for them.

The Judgmental energy vampire likes picking on others as they have low self-esteem. Their treatment of others is only a reflection of how they treat themselves. Judgmental vampires like preying on people's weaknesses and bolstering their egos by making them feel small, pathetic, or humiliated.

Energy vampires, like innocent vampires, are not necessarily malevolent. They might also be vulnerable individuals who truly require assistance, such as children or close friends who have come to rely on them excessively. Playing the role of continuous support can drain their energies. As a result, one will have little courage to keep oneself going.

Moving to Bond's selected plays, violence depicted in his plays can be observed from the lens of energy vampirism amongst other perspectives. My discourse is directed to the parasitic drainage of parental faculties, committed by children. This drainage is unintentional in nature yet one cannot turn one's eyes from the notion that such action is vampiric in its practice. It sucks out the life-force of their parents making them hollow within. They become self-destructive, melancholic even agonizing to themselves. Parents are consumed to fight on many fronts in their daily life. This as a part of routine does not badger them so much. However, a parent's heart is sourly charged when it comes to his or her own children. This siphoning of life-force is sometimes due to the narcissistic attitude of the child where he/she is consumed in his own being and does not perceive the dilemma of his/her parents even when the basic mental faculties are present for such understanding, regardless of the age.

Bond's plays among many aspects discuss the nature of violence perpetrated by different elements in society which tend to be social and/or political in nature. In the selected plays for the current paper, violence is discussed on a domestic level in terms of parent-child relationship in which the child is the oppressor. In the tenth collection of Bond's plays I hold three

of them i.e. *The Testament of This Day*, *The Angry Roads* and *The Hungry Bowl* to address the contention stated above.

The first play in the selection is Edward Bond's third original radio drama aired by BBC in 2014. The play centres around "a jobless youth who, struggling in a world imprisoned in technology, catches a train to the edge of reality" (Good Reads 210). However, there is more to it than meets the eye.

In eight acts of the play the scene oscillates between a mansion in the mountainous region and a train compartment. A mother along her son is undertaking a journey across the dense undergrowth to a grand house on the edge of a cliff. The son is reluctant to go further on foot and nags his mother for travelling the mountain in the first place. She instructs him to move further in the dead of the night towards the mansion on his own as his father awaits him. He moves but falls in the ravine. However, his fall is arrested by a ledge which lies down in the path of the ravine and he survives. A man approaches him, disclosing his identity as his father. He further tells him that his mother in instructing him to move forward, meant to kill him and accuses his mother to be responsible for making his life miserable. The boy does not believe him and hears the sound of his mother entering the mansion. He tells what his father had told him but she blames the father in turn. She tells him how he told everyone to leave the house and made her scrub the floors at night for no reason. She believes that the father wants to cut her hands.

During the play where the mansion holds the prime focus, there are short intervals comprising the acts which take place in the train compartment. These acts give an insight into the ravages of capitalism and destituteness of people in the modern times. The dreams of the woman about the boy, in the train gives a foresight regarding the development of the play. In the play, the son undertakes two journeys; one in the train which is the concrete one and the other, across the mountain to the mansion, which is an abstract one. He will find, however, that there is return from neither of the two. The play concludes when the woman remembers the forgotten fragment of the dream from the train compartment which is the depiction of the aforementioned intentions of the father for the mother while living in the mansion. She had dreamt that two hands cut to the wrist are lying on each side of the table. This happens when the son and the woman reach his house through taxi. When they reach there, the house due to reasons unknown, crumbles to the ground, leaving the taxi driver raving for his fare to be paid.

The play progresses on the path of two timelines, one which develops in a house of Georgian times and the other in a train compartment. In the commencement of the play, an abrupt exchange of dialogues takes place

between the mother and the son. The son holds fast to his decision of going back home. His selfish insistence upon the idea gives him the shadow of an energy vampire, narcissistic in nature with no care for his mother concerning the obstacles of the journey she had braved to get to the house and which on the point of arrival at destination is becoming something of an unbearable nuisance:

Mother You will understand when you see it.

Son What will I understand? How far is it...?" (Bond 97).

And further,

Son I am going back

Mother You'd never find your way. Without me you'd

Son I am going-" (97-8).

It does not only stop at that. The son constantly complains about his conditions, not observing the plight of his mother which clearly implies as per the play that the upbringing of the boy had not been easy for the mother. He had been a constant reminder to her of being the trace of a person whom she could not apparently face or like. Not only in this play but in other plays also, there is a clear implication that in terms of being an energy vampire, a child does not adopt a single stance. He may be fulfilling different conditions of energy vampirism at the same time. While he is undertaking the narcissistic drainage of his mother, one can also observe that he is acting as a Martyr vampire at the same time. He is under the perception of having suffered too much on the journey to the house. The mother figure here feels drained, giving curt responses to the son and not being elaborative. Rather, the mother feels her life force drained due to having such a conversation with the son which happens to open her inner wounds afresh. She does not move towards the house with the son herself. Rather she instructs her son to make his way to the mansion:

Son Watched?

Mother (*with him*) From the house.....

Son Who lives there? Whose is it?

Mother Yours

Son No who owns it? Whose house is it?

Mother Yours

Son Mine (Bond 100)

The mother seems to have had enough of the son's badgering. Her deprivation from any reprieve in the past, besides the consumptive nature of conversation the child is having with her, asphyxiates her compassion as a parent. She encourages her child to move forward towards the house without warning him about the ravine which lies concealed in the dark of the night. The abrupt conversation between the two produces a harmonic affect through which Bond carries the reader on at a pace to keep him engrossed in this disturbing journey of the two. Further in the play, the son is procured by his father who had been watching him from the house and had come down in the hope of saving him. The son's presence in front of the father is siphoning the life force in the father. No matter how hard he tries to make the son see what may have actually happened with him and how by luck he had escaped death, he is unable to make the son see that his mother is a traumatized and that it was she who pushed him in the ravine, "She was too quick. As soon as you were on the cliff she pushed you in the ravine" (104).

The futility of his endeavours to make the son understand sends him in one of his rages as his happiness is drained by the energy vampire son and though he becomes violent for a moment, he manages to compose himself somehow:

She tried to kill you! She needs you dead to be at peace! (*Recovers.*) No not like that. I'm with my son today. Tomorrow will be ordinary. Practical. Foolish. You 'll find out about the money. The paintings are priceless. List and inventories. Common vulgar things. Today's almost over and we haven't been happy or at peace in it. We'll pay for that. Tomorrow we'll be much older because we wasted today. Time always makes you pay. You're wet and cold but you're too shocked to shiver. If I fetch you some of my dry things will you- (106)

The parents' side of the stories about each other has great ambiguity about them. It confuses the reader about what side he should take. Who is telling the truth and who is lying? Then, the different timelines which seem to run parallel to each other raise a great many questions regarding the placement of the son in the different scenarios of the play and how his presence tends to exist in a parallel form between the two timelines. These two timelines eventually seem to converge in the end to pave way for a great disaster i.e. the destruction of the house. The presence of the son in the house acts as a Guilt Tripper (a kind of energy vampire) for both the parents who are prompted now and then within the play to give an explanation of the discord in their relationship matters. For the father perhaps the intensity of guilt is too high, for he happens to come up with elaborative reflections regarding the

relationship with his mother. His explanations justify the remorse he feels about not being able to be with his son previously. The presence of the son is the presence of a victim vampire at the moment whose anxiety and confusion are draining the life energy out of both parents.

The second play in the selection, *The Angry Roads* is a verbal vs. non-verbal scuffle by the child with his father regarding the truth about past, about his mother's abandonment. Norman is the son who wants to know the actual reason behind his mother's leaving of the house. It also reveals that he was perhaps not the only son; he had a stepbrother. He was six at the time of the murder and has a very vague trace of it in his mind. The reason of the scuffle is not clear until the end of the play but one does come to realize that the memory of the dead woman he had an affair with and the child is a torture to his father. One can sense the scars of trauma clearly evident in the father's silence. He, despite the longitude of time between the incident and the timeline of the play had not come to make peace with the incident of the death for which he holds himself to be the sole cause of it as it is implied. Norman, struggles to make the pieces of the puzzle come into place, which also entails how long his father, guilt-ridden, had kept mum:

...-you said your last-what did you say? -tell me your last words-(*taps with one finger on the table.*) -whisper-whisper-tell me your last words- they are stuck in your throat choking-tell me so your voice will come back- (**Father starts to knock. Norman grips his hands to stop. Struggle.**)- no say it proper way (167).

This argument pushes further as Norman pushes his father to break his self-constructed barricades of silence, "I want to hear my father's last words in the proper way-. **Father stamps on the ground**" (167).

The father ran the woman down with his car. The incident is imprinted very deep in his mind. The shock seems to have wiped out the verbal ability of communication from his existence.

His vow of silence is his effort to come to terms with himself and forgive himself for the incident. And this is where we see Norman playing an active role of an energy vampire. Instead of trying to understand his father's silence, he plays the role of a Guilt Tripping or Victim Vampire and a rageaholic. He is also a narcissist in this matter as he disregards the fact that his father's shock despite the fact that it had been a long time has not subsided. He seems to be worming confessions out of the aggressive tapping of his father's hands. One almost starts to think that Norman's father is a mental patient, but there are patterns of aggressive tappings by his hand on the table,

not to forget his body language within the play on different occasions when Norman has something to say:

Norman Look the head's come off..... Thanks a lot.

Father stands. *Goes towards the kitchen. Stops. Comes back.*
Raps on the table (160).

Father rattles the mini-puppet on the table (162).

Father hammers out angry regular isolated beats (163).

Father hammers out angry regular beats (163).

Father stamps on the ground (167).

The above references are some of the many references in the play which signal father's anxiety and his impatience. Norman's rigid stance as a Guilt tripper is making his father consume within himself. His rageaholic attitude is making his father descend into the abyss of silence which keeps on reminding him of his guilt of being responsible for the death of the woman and his illegitimate child and therefore he is unable to make peace with himself. Norman's approach to truth regarding the actual occurrence of their deaths is Narcissistic. It develops more into a sense of self-obsession as if the whole world revolves around the tragic incident. He badgers or rather tortures his father verbally which is draining the life force of his father. Norman's demeanour is preventing him from returning to normal psychological condition. Instead he performs absurd actions which depict his aggression towards Norman, as a result of consistent confrontation. This can be observed in some of the following instances:

What was she shouting? What was the row? (**Father** *hammers on the table.*) ... she ran down the – (**Father** *begins to rap a slow regular denial beat with both fists clench together. Jeering*) ... **Father** *hammers in agitation...*What's she shouting? You got out- (**Father** *hammers rapidly.*) ... (166)

He becomes more depressed and reclusive in himself. It consolidates his father into not making a return to normal life and makes the seal of silence even more difficult to break.

The vampiric assault of Norman continues until the final episode of the play which shows a possibility that the murder of the woman and the child might have been unpremeditated, but it was a gruesome deed done in the heat of anger to reach home on time in order to escape the suspicion of his wife (Norman's mother). The father eventually exhausts under the parasitic

drainage of his composure and faints in the final stage of the play before getting up to go about his work.

The third play *The Hungry Bowl* tells the story of a family in an endangered city. The nature of threat is not clear but one thing is certain, that a ghostly loneliness dwells in its streets. People are afraid of the blasts of air which shake the vicinity and damage their houses. The parents have to face the dilemmas inflicted from the external world and things get even more painful when their daughter start having an imaginary friend which turns out to be very real in the end although its physical presence is never stated throughout the play. The girl despite all the entreaties of her parents does not stop believing the 'friend' with whom she spends most of her time. She does not know that her behaviour brings despair to her mother and fuels a self-consuming rage in her father, "She is my own daughter and I'm not comfortable in the same room with her. I don't know where to look when I'm talking to her. I she won't do-" (Bond 182).

Despite her father's strong stance against her 'friend' she does not see the difference between the reality and the imagination she had concocted. She pacifies her 'friend' by telling him to not be upset. She deems him to be 'better than proper' (182). She thinks her parents are jealous of her because she is happy (183). Her father's confrontations with her from the perspective of reality backfire on him. When the girl brings a cushion for her ghost friend, he picks it up and throws it away. This ought to have proved to her beyond any doubt that she is just seeing things but it goes in vain. She does not realize that by her unnatural behavior she is banishing her parents and particularly her father from the locale of reality. She thinks her ghost to be more real than the care and concern of her parents. This behavior traumatizes her father. Seeing the ghost's mauve bowl makes him feel depressed and he does not feel like eating with the bowl on the table (183). On the contrary, his act of cushion-throwing infuriates his daughter:

He fell on the floor! He could've broken his leg! (*Stands over the chair.*) Please get up. Please-you pushed him on the floor on purpose! -please, please. (*She puts the cushion back on the chair. Waits a moment. Then goes to her place. Leans her elbows on the table and covers her head with her arms. Cries.*) I am so ashamed of him! He did it on purpose. Why won't he leave us alone? Why, why, why? He doesn't do him any harm. If he drives him away I'll never forgive him... (184).

The above incident and many different others occur between the daughter and the father. As the reader begins to move to the end of the play, it

is revealed that it was her father who ate the food from the mauve bowl which strengthens her belief about her 'friend' in the first place. A person may rightly say that he had quite a role in the creation of her imaginary friend. Later it is seen that there is a 'No One' who makes its entrance into the house.

The girl's attitude has consumed the patience and sanity of her father. He starts with depressive emotions which well up into frantic outbursts thus leading him to insanity. There is a great question mark about the authenticity of the makings of this 'No One', but its presence speaks for itself. However, this complicates things in the play for it is only the father and the daughter who can see it, while the mother cannot and gets to keep her sanity.

In the girl, the clear representation of an Energy Vampire can be observed. She acts as a narcissist for whom the whole world revolves around her imaginary friend and not around the reason to which her parents adhere. She worries consistently about the friend which does not even exist in the first place. She acts like a victim and believes that a great wrong is being done in reprimanding her for the superficiality of her 'friend' to the extent of 'insensitivity.' Judith Orloff while discussing the different categories of Energy Vampires in her book, *The Empath's Survival Guide: Life Strategies for Sensitive People* sheds light on the classification of Victims,

Energy vampires with a victim mentality drain empath's with their "the world is against me" attitude. They don't take responsibility for the problems that happen in their lives. Other people are always the cause of their distress. Empaths often fall into the compassionate caretaker role with "victims," trying to solve their list of problems . . . the victim's barrage of complaints is too much for sensitive people to take (89).

Furthermore, the girl fulfills the criteria of another kind of Energy Vampire i.e. Drama Queen. Orloff discusses this category in her book right after the Victim classification. She distinctively reflects from an empirical point of view as a psychiatrist asserting that Drama Queens and Kings get energized by the reaction to their drama, but they don't get rewarded when the latter remains calm (90). The Girl has been breeding like a parasite on her father's overwhelming concern for her well-being. She emphasizes vehemently the existence of her figment of imagination as a narcissist to an extreme degree. Her delusion along with her vampiric behavioral traits during the course of the play brings about the parasitic drainage of her father's sanity and composure and he runs out of the house leaving his daughter 'energized' as ever. While it is true that Bond's plays hinge on social and/or political perspectives and contentions on violence, the self-consumption of parents and

the evident parasitic drainage of parental faculties in terms of composure and life force by their offspring gives rise to skepticism about children's inherent innocence, making a person wonder whether a child is really a child or a vampire.

Conclusion

On a concluding note, Bond's plays have been explored in terms of rationality and theatre of violence. Through his plays he calls to attention the ravages wreaked by capitalism and the dichotomy of standards of life existing in a society. This goes on to necessitate that no stone should be left unturned regarding the exploration of binaries of society i.e. parents and children. The current study endeavoured to establish that while societal atrocities are being perpetrated, the established governing systems do not go unexplored, and even the familial binaries do not go unaffected. Under problematic societal and governing structures, in Bond's selected works, the parasitic nature of parent-child relationship exists as a parallel, where symbolically, the child is a vampire and the parent, a victim. Among the dilemmas of modern times, is the consumptive nature of the filial bond, as it exists underneath societal violence.

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Assessing the economic causes of children dropout from primary education in District Lower Dir of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa

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Abstract

Children dropping out of school is very common in Pakistan. In the present research study, the researchers aimed to investigate the economic reasons children drop out of primary schools in the study area. A community-based study has been conducted in Tehsil Timergara, District Lower Dir, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. The researchers used a purposive sampling technique and 40 respondents were selected while a questionnaire was used for the primary data collection. Descriptive statistics (frequency, percent, mean, median mode, and cumulative percent using SPSS version (16) were used to test the study hypotheses. The study results indicated that family low income, poverty, and parental unemployment are the main economic factors that hinder children's education and the drop of already enrolled students in the study area. The present study suggested to reduce the high dropout of children government needs to start a cash incentive program for poor and unemployed parents. Further, it is suggested that government should fix some amount for children stationary they required throughout the year in schooling besides the free books. The civil society and government concern stakeholders start sensitization sessions in the community about the importance of children's education.

Keywords: Children, economic, causes, dropout, schools

Introduction

Education is the process of learning and changing the behavior of a person along with the enhancement of mental and technical skills. The earlier phase of education is of higher importance for the edifice of a career. The more this stage is important the more it is ignored in developing countries (Behrman, Foster, Rosenweig, & Vashishtha, 1999). Developing and underdeveloped

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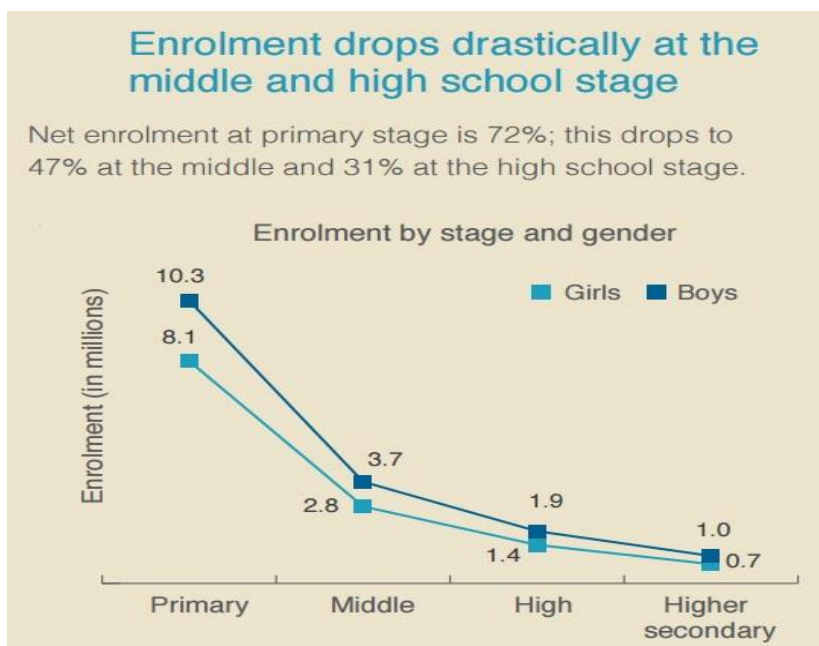
nations face this phenomenon very common. There are many factors which contributes to this problem alarmingly in Pakistan (Memon, 2007).

According to Chaudhry and Rahman (2009), at least 3.4 percent of children left school before October 2009. It has been studied that the most important factor which enhances the issue is poverty because students who belong to lower-class families left schools five times higher than students who belong to the elite class. The students' rate of dropout is high in higher schools which are termed dropout factories. In developed countries specifically the 15 states North, West, and South of the U.S are found with higher dropouts, where these are influenced by poverty and location. In national total, they are only 12 percent but they produce half of the country's dropouts (Balfanz, Legters & Jordan, 2004). The dropout ratio is also high in neighboring countries as the ministry of human resource development (MHRD) In India claims that 62.1 million children escaped from schooling. According to MHRD, the basic cause is veneration for traditional cultural practices. The practice of non-attending schools leads to low enrollment in schools which further leads to dropout (Yadav & Singh, 2020). The Campaign for popular education reports that there were socioeconomic reasons for children dropping out of school. In addition to this poverty is also one of the most important factors in the dropout of children in Bangladesh (de Freitas et al., 2017). The annual statistical report shows that the school dropout ratio is 44% and 40 % at primary and secondary schools. It has been shown in the reports that 685000 students got admission to preparatory classes in 2012-13 but the schools had 369163 students after six years. According to the reports by UNDP 76.9 % of Pakistani youth are leaving education school because of financial reasons (Arif & Khan, 2019).

According to UNICEF (2011), the issue is quite worsening for girls than boys as 38.9% of the girls are leaving school after their primary education. Children from poor families are more out of school than the richest families. A total of 570 million primary-age children are enrolled in schools while 72 million are still out of school. The family elders in Pakistani families are mostly interested to earn more and more and only to build houses and buy more lands while on other hand they are less attentive to their children schooling and education (Alam, Tang and Tu, 2004).

According to data from the World Bank (2022), approximately 44% of children in Pakistan are not enrolled in primary school. This is one of the highest rates of out-of-school children in the world, and it is particularly pronounced for girls, as only 39% of girls in Pakistan are enrolled in primary

school compared to 49% of boys (UNESCO, 2020). Poverty is a major factor contributing to these low enrollment rates, as many families living in poverty cannot afford the direct or indirect costs associated with education, such as school fees, uniforms, and transportation. In fact, a survey by the Pakistan Ministry of Education (2017) found that the most common reason for children not attending school was the lack of financial resources to cover the costs of education.



Source; Pakistan Ministry of Education

Literature Review

Education is the basic right of every human being. It has been guaranteed by international as well as national documents (Thompson, 1977). The convention on the rights of children has made education compulsory for every child. Education is not only to realize and know oneself it is the knowing others (Covell & Howe, 2001). Regarding this, the world conference on education for all in Thailand marked a new goal for the world inhabitants to achieve and to wipe out illiteracy from the universe. In the same way, MDGs also pledged to fad away illiteracy and to make education possible for every individual in the world (Haddad, 1990).

Education functions as a kind of cure-all for all societal ills (Ghafoor, 1990). It serves as the cornerstone for all aspects of social interaction. Unfortunately, Pakistan's education system is suffering from a high rate of school dropout (Nabeela, & Hafeez, 2012). Primary school dropout is a big issue in Pakistan since more kids lack access to education due to financial constraints. There are 27 million individuals in Pakistan that live in poverty (O'hare, & Southall, 2007). Many pupils leave school extremely early due to a lack of financial support, and most of the students are poor and engage in child labor (Bruneforth, 2006). Every year, 35,000 high school students in Pakistan leave the educational system. The issue of child dropouts is made worse by economic factors, which will affect society's future generations the poor economic signs (Hunt, 2008).

To address the economic factors that contribute to kid dropout from school, the current study was done (Obunga, 2011). The study's main goal is to increase access to education for all children in the nation by concentrating on the issue of school dropouts (Tilak, 2002). In the future, these children will increase the number of young people who are illiterate and eventually become adult illiterates, aggravating the vicious cycle of poverty and illiteracy if the issue of out-of-school children is not addressed urgently (Drewry, 2007).

Definition of children dropout from primary education

Children dropout from primary education refers to the phenomenon of children leaving school before completing their primary education (UNESCO, 2018). This can occur for a variety of reasons, including economic, social, and cultural factors. Dropout rates from primary education can have significant implications for the development and future prosperity of individuals and societies, as primary education is an important foundation for further education and employment (World Bank, 2019). According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the definition of children dropout from primary education varies across countries and contexts (2018). In some cases, children dropout is defined as children who leave school before completing a certain number of years of primary education, while in other cases it is defined as children who do not transition to secondary education after completing primary education. In general, however, children dropout from primary education is considered to be a major barrier to achieving universal primary education and to improving the quality of education for all children (UNESCO, 2018).

Importance of addressing the economic causes of children dropout from primary education

According to a review of the literature by UNESCO (2013), children from disadvantaged households are more likely to drop out of school due to poverty-related constraints, such as the need to work or contribute to the family income. These children may also face barriers to education, such as lack of access to quality schools or materials. Dropout rates are also higher for children who are marginalized or disadvantaged due to their gender, ethnicity, or disability. Addressing the economic causes of child dropout can have numerous benefits for individuals and society as a whole. Education is associated with a range of positive outcomes, including increased employability, higher wages, and improved health and well-being. Investing in education can also lead to economic growth and development at the national level (World Bank, 2015).

Furthermore, ensuring that all children have access to quality education can help to reduce poverty and inequality, as it provides a foundation for individuals to improve their socio-economic status over the long-term (UNESCO, 2013).

Assessing the economic causes of children dropout from primary education in District Lower Dir of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa is an important issue, as it has significant implications for the development and future prosperity of the region. Dropout rates from primary education can be influenced by a variety of factors, including economic, social, and cultural factors.

One of the main economic causes of children dropout from primary education in District Lower Dir is poverty. Many families in the region are unable to afford the costs associated with sending their children to school, including uniforms, books, and transportation (Ahmad & Ali, 2018). This can be particularly problematic in rural areas, where access to education is often limited and the costs of attending school are higher (Akhtar et al., 2019). In addition to poverty, other economic factors that can contribute to children dropout from primary education in District Lower Dir include lack of employment opportunities, lack of access to credit, and lack of access to markets (Haq et al., 2016). These factors can all contribute to a cycle of poverty and limited educational opportunities for children in the region. To address the economic causes of children dropout from primary education in District Lower Dir, a number of interventions have been suggested. These

include providing financial assistance to families to help cover the costs of education, increasing access to credit and other financial resources, and improving access to employment opportunities (Ahmad & Ali, 2018). Other interventions that have been suggested include increasing access to education through the construction of new schools and the improvement of existing facilities, as well as providing teacher training and support to improve the quality of education (Akhtar et al., 2019).

Therefore, the economic causes of children dropout from primary education in District Lower Dir of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa are complex and multifaceted. To effectively address these issues, it will be necessary to implement a range of interventions that address poverty, employment, access to credit and markets, and other economic factors that contribute to children dropout from primary education in the region.

Assessing the economic causes of children dropout from primary education is an important issue, as it has significant implications for the development and future prosperity of individuals and societies. Dropout rates from primary education can be influenced by a variety of factors, including economic, social, and cultural factors. One of the main economic causes of children dropout from primary education is poverty. Many families are unable to afford the costs associated with sending their children to school, including uniforms, books, and transportation (Ahmad & Ali, 2018; Akhtar et al., 2019; Haq et al., 2016). This can be particularly problematic in rural areas, where access to education is often limited and the costs of attending school are higher (Akhtar et al., 2019).

In addition to poverty, other economic factors that can contribute to children dropout from primary education include lack of employment opportunities, lack of access to credit, and lack of access to markets (Haq et al., 2016). These factors can all contribute to a cycle of poverty and limited educational opportunities for children. To address the economic causes of children dropout from primary education, a number of interventions have been suggested. These include providing financial assistance to families to help cover the costs of education, increasing access to credit and other financial resources, and improving access to employment opportunities (Ahmad & Ali, 2018).

Other interventions that have been suggested include increasing access to education through the construction of new schools and the improvement of

existing facilities, as well as providing teacher training and support to improve the quality of education (Akhtar et al., 2019). Research has also shown that the effectiveness of interventions to address the economic causes of children dropout from primary education can be influenced by a variety of contextual factors, such as the socio-economic and cultural context of the community (Bhaskar & Rose, 2015). It is therefore important to consider the specific needs and challenges of a community when designing and implementing interventions to address children dropout from primary education.

According to data from the World Bank (2019), approximately one in four children living in low-income countries are not in school. This represents a significant proportion of the global population, as low-income countries are home to approximately 75% of the world's children (UNICEF, 2018).

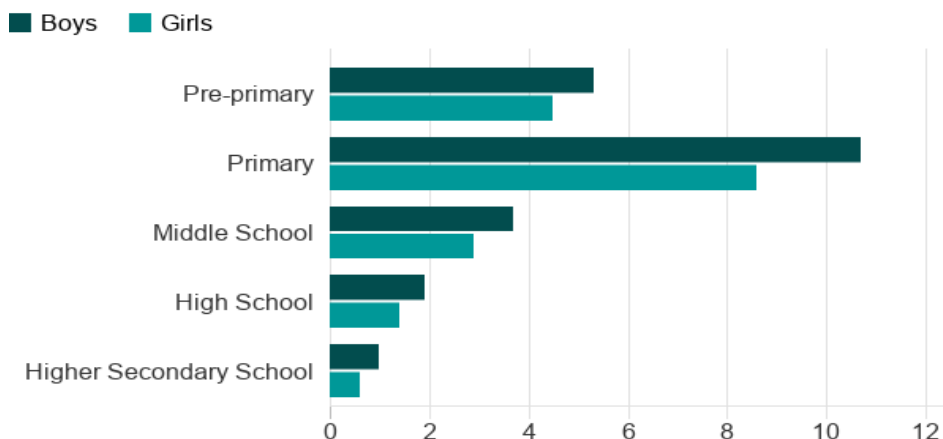
Poverty is a major factor contributing to this situation, as many families living in poverty cannot afford the direct or indirect costs associated with education, such as school fees, uniforms, and transportation. In Sub-Saharan Africa, for example, poverty is the primary reason for low enrollment and high dropout rates (UNESCO, 2013). Research has also shown that addressing the economic causes of child dropout can be effective in improving enrollment and retention rates. A study by Glewwe and Kim (2002) found that providing scholarships to primary school students in Ghana and Peru led to an increase in enrollment and a decrease in dropout rates. Similarly, a review of the literature by Psacharopoulos and Patrinos (2004) found that interventions aimed at reducing the economic barriers to education, such as fee waivers or cash transfers, can have a positive impact on enrollment and retention.

According to (UNESCO, 2011) hundreds of millions of children are leaving school each passing year end to drop out of school each school passing

year.

Access to education in Pakistan by gender

Students aged 5-17, numbers in millions



Source: Pakistan Ministry of Education

BBC

Theoretical Framework

A theoretical framework is a set of concepts and ideas that provides a structure for understanding a particular phenomenon. In the context of assessing the economic causes of children dropout from primary education, a theoretical framework can help to identify the key factors that contribute to children dropout from school and to understand the relationships between these factors. Therefore, human capital theory was applied to the issue of children dropout from primary education. According to this theory, education is an investment in an individual's future productivity and earnings potential (Becker, 1964). Children dropout from school when the costs of education, such as the opportunity cost of lost wages and the financial costs of tuition and other expenses, outweigh the expected benefits of education (Psacharopoulos & Patrinos, 2004). Similarly, the issue of children dropout from primary education is the economic theory of the household. This theory suggests that households make decisions about education based on their economic resources and constraints, as well as their beliefs and values (Behrman & Deolalikar, 1988). Children dropout from school when their families are unable to afford the costs of education, or when the returns to education are perceived to be low (Lopez-Acevedo, 2017). Furthermore, the issue of children dropout from primary education is the capability approach. According to this theory,

individuals' capabilities to function and to achieve their desired outcomes are influenced by their economic, social, and cultural contexts (Sen, 1999). Children dropout from school when they lack the capabilities or resources to access or succeed in education, such as when they face economic barriers or social and cultural barriers that limit their opportunities (Baliamoune-Lutz, 2013).

Objective

1. To find out the economic causes of children drop out of primary education

Research Question

1. What are the economic causes of children dropout of primary education?

Hypothesis

1. Lowest the wealth quintile of the family higher would be the children's dropout in education
2. The higher the parental unemployment higher would be the children drop out of education

Methodology

The present research study investigates the economic reasons children drop out of schools. A community-based, study has been conducted in Tehsil Timergara, Lower Dir Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Pakistan.

Since the study is mainly concerned with children, the population of children especially those working in various working places belonging to poor families has been taken into consideration. However, the primary data was collected from the teachers of the dropout students. This research study was conducted through the quantitative research method under the positivist research philosophy (Babbie, & Mouton, 2010; Sandelowski, 2000). The total number of teachers was not known as the researchers used the purposive sampling technique of non-probability sampling (Rubin and Rubin, 2012). Further, the researchers collected empirical data from 40 respondents because the saturation point came out in the data collection process (Sapsford, & Jupp, 2006). For the collection of the primary data questionnaire was used as a tool of data collection because the respondents were educated (Remenyi, & Williams, 1996). The analysis of the primary information has been framed under statistical implication including descriptive statistics (frequency,

percent, mean, median mode, and commutative percent using the SPSS version (16).

Results and Discussions

Table-1 Poverty is a cause of children dropout from schooling						
Poverty	F	P	C.P	M	Median	Mode
I don't agree	3	7.5	7.5			
The poverty compel the children to earn money	11	27.5	35.0	2.1 2	2.00	1
Their parents don't allow them, because of their limited resources	10	25.0	60.0			
They perceive that education is not our destiny	10	25.0	85.0			
They observe that education facilitate only the rich	6	15.0	100.0			
Total	40	100.0				

Denotation: F (Frequency) P (Percent) C.P (Cumulative Percent).

The Table above shows an aggregate of 40 (100%) 3 of (7.5%) conveyed that poverty is not responsible for children dropout. Then 11 of (27.5%) expressed that poverty compels the children to leave school. Further, 10 of (25%) expressed that children of poor families perceive that education is not our destiny therefore they startsimitating their parents directly. In the last 6 of (15.0%) explained that children leave school because of the development of their schemas that education only benefit the cream peoples of society while for us it is the wastage of time. The statistical analysis was conducted in addition to providing descriptions of frequency and percentage in order to validate univariate analysis. To verify the numbers, the cumulative percent has been created. Similar to this, the central tendency measure has been compared to the normal distribution. The proposed hypotheses are

verified and the univariate analysis is valid when the mean, median, and mode values fall within the acceptability range.

To get proper and required outcomes from education, poverty is one of the most hurdling factors in the provision of other facilities in UPE. According to Tilak, (2002), one-third of the global population is suffering from poverty which is further accelerated in 2004 to 23.10 % in rural areas compared to Urban areas of Pakistan. According to a survey by the Government of Pakistan (2008), 40 % of people in Pakistan live under the poverty line. However, a recent survey shows that about 40% of the population in Pakistan lives below the poverty children line. Previously various research studies have shown that poverty is one of the important

indicators in creating obstacles to children's education. A research study by Thompson (1977) shows that 79% of dropout occurs in low-income families. In most poor families these children are the earning hands for supporting their families' finance. They are restricted to assist their families otherwise the families would not back them in their education (Ghafoor, 1990). A research study by obunga (2011) in the same way found that poverty is one of the main obstacles to education it rarely allows a child to continue his education. According to Ghafoor (1990) that those institutes having second shifts programs were very efficient in tackling the issue because the prior time the students' children were earning which was their primary need.

Table 2: Parents, Unemployment and Students' Dropout						
Parents Unemployment	F	P	C.P	Mean	Median	Mode
I don't agree	5	12.5	12.5			
They cannot support their children education	7	17.5	30.0			
The basic needs of children remain unfulfilled	12	30.0	60.0	2.18	2.00	2
Their parents stop them from schools and direct them to workplace	8	20.0	80.0			
They earn money in order to help their parents difficulties	8	20.0	100.0			
Total	40	100.0				

Denotation: F (Frequency), P (Percent), C.P (Cumulative Percent).

The aforesaid Table below explains the relationship between parents' unemployment and children's dropout. In a total of 40(100%), 5 (12.5%) stated their disagreement with the dilemma of unemployment to dropout, Then 7 (17.5 %) narrated that parents could not support their family and therefore coerce them to leave school. Then 12 (30%) express that the basic needs of children remain Unfulfilled therefore they leave school. Further 8 (20%) view that their parents stop them from going to school. Their parents direct them to workplaces to fulfill their economic needs. Similarly, 8 (20%) expressed that poverty and unemployment exploit people in every aspect. Such peoples have no importance for an education they earn money to bring out their parents of the quagmire of unemployment. The arithmetic analysis has been conducted independently of the explanation of frequency and percentage to validate univariate analysis. To verify the numbers, the cumulative percent has been created. Similar to this, the central tendency measure has been compared to the normal distribution. The proposed hypotheses are verified and the univariate analysis is valid when the mean, median, and mode values fall within the acceptability range.

Unemployment means the rising number of laborers and loss of job opportunities in job markets. This phenomenon has a great impact on the family of a person because they could not avail of the primary needs. It compels the parents to stop their children from school in order to earn money for the running household (Bruneforth, 2006).

Demands labor from their children they turn away from their studies. Unemployment makes the children's burden on their parents they are not taking interest in their children. It affects their socialization, education, and behavior. The children of unemployed parents get disturbed by the miseries of their families. They are anxious about the economic condition of their families. As they have low income have less economic competency they are lagging behind other children who belong to an aristocratic family. They are discouraged and suffer from an inferiority complex. They feel that education is not our destiny and leaves the school forever (Bruneforth, 2006).

Low per-capita income and Dropout

Table 3 Low per-capita income and dropout						
Low per-capita income	F	P	C.P	M	Median	Mode
I don't agree	6	15.0	15.0			
the expenses of domestic chores don't allow a children to get education	8	20.0	35.0			
the child stand by their parents to live auspicious life	7	17.5	52.5	2.10	2.00	3
they indulge in child labor	14	35.0	87.5			
they are in pursuit to fulfill their basic needs	5	12.5	100.0			
Total	40	100.0				

Denotation: F (Frequency), P (Percent), C.P (Cumulative Percent).

The table above shows the relationship between low income and dropout of children. In a collective of 40(100%), 6 out of 9(15.0%) noted their disagreement with the effect of low per capita income on the family. Then 8

out of (20%) expressed that the unbearable expenses of domestic chores do not allow children to get an education. Further, 7 (17.5%) narrated that children work along with their parents to assess the family economically. In addition, 14 (35%) of the children have no other properly learned skills they directly start child labor which not only keeps them out of school but has prolonged effects on their personalities. Laterally 5 (12.5%) poor peoples are in pursuit to fulfill their basic needs above all which is vital for them. The statistical analysis was conducted after the frequency and percentage descriptions to validate the univariate analysis. To verify the numbers, the cumulative percent has been created. Comparable measurements have been made of central tendency about the normal distribution. The mean, median, and mode values are within the acceptable range, which verifies the proposed hypotheses and supports the validity of the univariate analysis.

Alam, Tang and Tu (2004) express that other factors contributes to dropping students from schools. It includes the insufficiency and low income of parents to fulfill the demands of children. It has been noted that low-income parents are taking loans for managing the increased needs of the family. They could not bear the expenses for books and uniforms, shoes, pocket money, and other costs.

Conclusions

An unpleasant result is that economic reasons like child labor, Low per capita income, poverty, Unemployment, and subsistence farming are the major causes of children dropout from school. The study's findings showed that a large majority of respondents agreed that one of the main reasons for the high dropout rate is the nation's underdeveloped economy and the people's low per capita income.

They also think that poverty is the main obstacle standing in the way of achieving the goal at hand. They believed that rather than their families being unable to pay to send them to school, youngsters must work to assist their families. According to the respondents, the major issue preventing children from low-income households from enrolling in or continuing their education is poverty. A large number of respondents viewed that weak economic conditions affect the education of children in Direct or indirect ways. Narrated children have no other properly learned skills they directly start child labor which not only keeps them out of school but has prolonged effects on their personalities as well as on their careers.

Recommendations

The present research study suggested to reduce dropout among children; government should start a cash incentive program for their parents. The government schools are required to provide free stationery throughout the year for poor children to reduce parental financial burden due to children's education. The civil society and government school teachers sensitized the community about the importance of children's education for their personality development and family support in the future.

Education is a panacea therefore it is the responsibility of every stakeholder to come forward and combat the alarming rate of children dropout from school. It is of utmost necessity to support poor families so that they bear their household expenses. The standard Government school and every private school have to give scholarships to talented and poor students for their motivation. The government or other business-related sectors have to start such schemes which deliver skills to unemployed laborers.

The parents have to analyze their kids before admission that which kind of school will suit them most. They have to share their experiences with teachers and visit them properly to check the performance of their kids in school. As it is the need of the hour to educate the students about the current day technologies in school.

Unemployment is a menacing problem of the state, this problem must be tackled to reduce its impacts on the education carrier of the students. The students with economic stress from their families divert their attention to the outside environment. In these conditions, the unemployed parents could no more tolerate their children alone with themselves in the state of unemployment.

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A journey of the experiential world of COVID-19 survivors: From myth to reality

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to explore the experiences of COVID-19 survivors. This is a qualitative study using descriptive phenomenology. Data have been collected from 15 COVID survivors using purposive sampling. Six major themes emerged: experiential reality, psychological distress, coping strategies, fortifying primary & secondary social groups, treatment regime, and post-traumatic experiences. It is found that initially, COVID was perceived as a myth and media hype. Awareness of the disease spread gradually, and people took proper precautions.

Keywords: COVID-19, psychosocial effects, Phenomenology

Introduction

The outbreak of different diseases has been persistent throughout human history, but not all reached the level to be declared a pandemic (Archer-Diaby, 2020). Even then, the world has witnessed many pandemics in known history, like the Athenian plague (430 BC), the Antonine plague (165–180 AD), the Justinian Plague (mid-16th century AD), the Black Death (Plague) (1334-1400 AD), Spanish Flu (1918–1920), HIV/AIDS (since the 1980s), Smallpox Outbreak (1972), Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in 2003, Swine Flu (2009), and Ebola (2014-16), (Huremović, 2019; Sampath et al., 2021). The recently declared pandemic by WHO is new coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) (Sampath et al., 2021).

Modern means of communication have not only facilitated human travel but have also allowed viruses to be transferred from one place to another, from one continent to the other (Archer-Diaby, 2020).

The COVID-19 outbreak started in China and spread all over the world. Pakistan was no exception; cases began to be reported, and the first case was reported in February 2020 (Waris et al., 2020). Initially, people did not bother, but gradually the virus spread around the country, and the

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government was compelled to decide countrywide lockdown. Offices and educational institutes were closed, and operations went online. Markets were open for a limited time so that people could buy groceries and other items. People started to get infected, the number of infected people started to rise, and the death toll began to increase (Waris et al., 2020).

This situation had psychological, social, and economic effects. Media were reporting infection rates and mortalities hourly, and people were scared. Many myths about Coronavirus existed, and many remedies got popular among the people. International news, mainly from Europe, was horrifying, and the situation in the neighboring country of India was grave.

This phenomenological study aims to understand and discover the perceived psychological and social effects of COVID-19 on survivors of the disease. At this stage in the research, COVID-19 will be generally defined as a contagious disease that has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Literature Review

A pandemic wave emerged from China city of Wuhan, carrying the coronavirus infection around the globe. The common symptoms include fever, myalgia, fatigue, and dry cough, along with other referred symptoms of nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea (Chen et al., 2020; Shi et al., 2020). World Health Organization (WHO) exclaims that 80% of people have recovered from the disease and show no symptoms afterwards (Jebril, 2020). Coronavirus is contagious and can spread from one person to another (Yang & Wang, 2020). Alongside the physical symptoms in COVID-19 patients, psychological and social effects and influences were observed and studied among survivors of the disease.

In a study by Xiang et al. (2020), it was found that people who tested positive for the virus seemed to have high rates of fear and anxiety regarding the consequences of the infection, which may lead to shortness of breath and worsening symptoms of Coronavirus. People tend to stay at home, and this quarantine situation has aggravated negative psychological symptoms that can last long (Brooks et al., 2020). Duan and Zhu (2020) conducted a study in China, and they claimed that there were other related psychological and social symptoms, such as depression, anxiety, loneliness, depression, anger, and boredom which negatively affected patients' mental health overall.

Mazza et al. (2020) concluded in a study with colleagues that, like other viruses, COVID-19 is associated with psychiatric consequences. In this study, 55% of the sample showed that there must be at least one mental

disorder in patients surviving COVID-19. The more period spent in hospitalization for the treatment of Coronavirus, the more psychological impact can be seen among surviving patients (Mazza et al., 2020). The results also depicted the gender differences in suffering from psychological health issues among COVID-19 patients, according to which the females suffered more than males and were rated with high scores in all the measures applied for the study, including psychological measures (Mazza et al., 2020).

Most commonly and as expected, the risk factors of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder seemed to prevail among COVID-19 patients after the pandemic outbreak (Liu et al., 2020). There can be psychopathological consecution due to coronaviruses as this viral infection directly affects the central nervous system, or it may indirectly affect the immune system (Wu et al., 2020). Thus, the immune system's response to coronaviruses may cause psychiatric symptoms by triggering neuro-inflammation (Dantzer, 2018). This inflammation is supposed to raise the psychopathology impacts, ultimately leading to psychological stress and stress-related infection (Miller & Raison, 2016).

Studies have been carried out since the outbreak of the 2020 pandemic. Still, results of previous pandemic situations show that there is a prediction for survivors of the virus, in this case, COVID-19 survivors, of being at high risk of developing psychological symptoms of depression or PTSD (Mak et al., 2009), which can be dependent upon personal traits of patients such as resilience, social support availability and its quality in addition to worries regarding recovery from illness (Bonanno et al., 2008).

There are some other experiences in COVID-19 patients in addition to immunological mechanisms such as fear of illness, vague future, fear of being labelled, illness-related distressing memories, and social remoteness and feelings of loneliness which are considered substantial psychological stressors that may lead to psychopathological consequences (Brooks et al., 2020).

In Pakistan, several factors affect mental health amid COVID-19, including impaired psychosocial, psychological, and emotional functioning. Due to quarantine, people are uncertain of novel disease, risk of self-isolation, and social distancing. This has harmed an individual's normal social life and interpersonal issues. (Mukhtar, 2020). COVID-19 can have a destructive influence on people's psychological and mental health. These influences lead to psychological suffering, anguish, stigma, PTS symptoms, substance abuse, anxiety, stress, and depressive symptoms, along with feelings of worry concerning socioeconomic status (Mukhtar, 2020).

In a study by Rogers et al. (2020) on COVID-19 survivors, they were found to be having inflated rates of PTSD along with depressive symptoms, anxiety, insomnia, and Obsessive-Compulsive symptomology. In a study by Mazza et al. (2020), there was expected to be a higher-than-average incidence of PTSD, major depression, and anxiety among COVID-19 survivors. In addition to this information, it is observable that there are many factors responsible for mental health issues during the COVID-19 break, which are psychosocial. These factors cover social isolation, loneliness, anxiety, fear, hopelessness, genuine worries regarding the security of a job, provision of supplies, and concerns about ending the virus (Armitage & Nellums, 2020).

For studying the psychological and social effects among COVID-19 survivors, it is crucial to notice the pathway it is taking. There must be some reasons behind the infection leaving marks on mental health and leading towards psychosocial consequences. Relevant to these reflections, it has been suggested that this virus contagion can announce cytokine storm resulting in programmed cell death, referred to as pyroptosis, which is common in virus infections (Shi et al., 2020). This process can lead to an unregulated inflammatory reaction that can facilitate various organ failures (Tay et al., 2020). In COVID-19 survivors, these neurological processes and brain neural circuits may get damaged, possibly when the immune deposit is harmed in brain circuits.

This immune-inflammatory damage can make the body vulnerable biologically and psychologically as well. The body is now at risk of numerous psychosocial and psychopathological issues weakening the patient's overall mental health (Dinakaran et al., 2020). Neufeld et al. (2020) study shows that ICU survivors of COVID-19 are at intensified risk of psychological impacts. Another study found that almost one-third of ICU survivors suffer from depressive symptoms and anxiety after the first year of recovery (Bienvenu et al., 2018). As mentioned above, PTSD symptoms are found to be most prevalent among COVID-19 survivors and show clinical symptoms which can have a severe and long-lasting impact on one's life overall (Bienvenu et al., 2018).

Dealing with these issues among COVID-19 patients is substantial so that they may cope with disturbing psychological and social conditions after survival. ICU diaries written by family members or hospital staff summarizing patients' daily activities may be effective (McIlroy et al., 2019). These diaries may improve psychological recovery and weaken negative psychosocial (Aitken et al., 2013). These often help to fill the memory gap for patients and assist them in creating a sense of coherence and endurance in life, thus improving the social relations of COVID-19 survivors (Aitken et al., 2013).

The symptoms of PTSD can be seen to reduce once social support from family and friends is provided consistently, thus ultimately improving mental health and quality of life among survivors of the disease (Tingey et al., 2020).

Research Methodology

This is exploratory research using qualitative methodology. Phenomenology has been used as the qualitative research approach. As illustrated by Creswell and Poth (2018), “a phenomenological study describes the common meaning for several individuals of their lived experiences of a concept or a phenomenon.” (p.121). Phenomenology is a thoughtful and value-free reflection on the lived experiences of humans (Van Manen, 2016). This experience could be human emotions or disease (Moustakas, 1994).

Creswell and Poth (2018) have discussed two broad categories of phenomenology, one by van Manen (2016), termed hermeneutic phenomenology and the other psychological phenomenology proposed by Moustakas (1994). Another important category of phenomenology is descriptive phenomenology which deals with the essence or essential structure of lived experiences (Morrow et al., 2015). The work of (Colaizzi, 1978) and (Giorgi, 1985) is of immense importance in descriptive phenomenology. However, the method of (Colaizzi, 1978) has been extensively used in health sciences (Morrow et al., 2015). In this study (Colaizzi, 1978), methodology has been used. However, for data analysis (Gioia et al., 2013) methodology is used. In (Gioia et al., 2013) methodology, important quotes of the informants are called first-order concepts, these first-order concepts are then clustered under second-order themes, and second-order themes are clubbed in aggregate dimensions. The whole process is then exhibited in a diagram that is called a data structure (Gioia et al., 2013). Though (Gioia et al., 2013) used this data analysis for grounded theory; however, authors have found it equally effective in phenomenology, as qualitative research is all about extracting important themes from data and reflecting on those.

A total of fifteen informants participated in the study. All these were COVID survivors. Semi-structured interviews were conducted online (google meet), through phone calls, and in person. All the interviews were audio recorded with the consent of the informants. The interview duration varied from 30 minutes to 45 minutes.

Procedure

In this study, the procedure explained by (Colaizzi, 1978) has been used as it deals with psychological phenomenology. It consists of

familiarization, identification of important statements, formulating meanings, clustering the themes, developing an exhausting description, producing the fundamental structure, and seeking verification of the fundamental structure (Colaizzi, 1978).

All the interviews were audio recorded and then transcribed. Transcripts were read repeatedly to familiarize the data as prescribed by (Colaizzi, 1978). Repeated readings of the transcripts helped identify the important themes; for example, one informant said, “I feared death.” The survivors’ statements are the 1st order concepts, written exactly as the informants told (Gioia et al., 2013). A number of 1st order concepts emerged at this stage which were again analyzed, and similar 1st order concepts were clubbed under one 2nd order theme. This procedure was repeated for all the concepts. 2nd order themes helped develop an aggregate dimension explaining the phenomenon related to those particular themes (Nag & Gioia, 2012).

Sampling

In phenomenology, all the study participants must experience the phenomena under investigation (Creswell & Poth, 2018). As COVID-19 was the focus of the study, the sample constituted those individuals who were confirmed or perceived COVID positive patients. Purposive sampling is best suited in situations where subjects qualify for a specific purpose (Bryman & Bell, 2015; Saunders et al., 2011; Sekaran & Bougie, 2003). Data were collected from fifteen informants using semi-structured interviews. This type of interview is preferred as it is flexible and allows for improvisation according to the situation (Bryman & Bell, 2015). In a phenomenology study, data can be collected using any source (Colaizzi, 1978). These sources can be face-to-face interviews, written narratives, or online mediums (Morrow et al., 2015). In the current study, face-to-face, online (using google meet) and telephonic interviews have been used to collect data from the informants.

Sample Size

In phenomenology, data from 5 to 25 informants is sufficient to ascertain the lived experience of the informants (Polkinghorne, 1989). According to Creswell and Poth (2018), a heterogeneous group of 3 to 4 or 10 to 15 informants to explore the lived experiences of the individuals may be used. A sample of 5 to 25 informants in a qualitative study is considered sufficient (Steinar, 2007).

Data Analysis & Discussion

Table 1 provides the details of the informants.

Table 1: Details of informants

Informant	Gender	Age	Marital Status	Mode
1	Male	50	Married	Online
2	Male	49	Married	Online
3	Male	39	Married	In-person
4	Female	39	Married	In-person
5	Female	25	Married	Online
6	Male	37	Married	Online
7	Male	16	Unmarried	In-person
8	Male	14	Unmarried	In-person
9	Male	69	Married	On phone
10	Male	55	Married	Online
11	Male	47	Married	On phone
12	Male	34	Married	On phone
13	Male	48	Married	Online
14	Male	25	Married	Online
15	Male	27	Married	Online

Figure 1 depicts the data structure of the questions related to getting infected by COVID. Five 2nd order themes emerged: perceptions, precautions, symptomatic experiences, confirmation, and perceived susceptibility.

Perceptions depict the notions held by the informants regarding the pandemic. Many people in Pakistan considered COVID-19 as a myth and foreign propaganda. We asked people about their perceptions regarding COVID. One informant replied, “I thought there was no COVID, and all these were false information as there was nobody sick in my social circle and my friends or family, so we did not take it seriously initially, and this is just a foreign agenda”. This informant was so severely infected that he spent 25 days in ICU on the ventilator. One informant told, “I had no doubts about this disease.” People had different views before getting infected. Some had no doubts that it was a virus that caused this pandemic and they needed to follow SOPs. One informant said, “Yes, I know it is due to one virus. It causes chest infection, could cause death.” An informant told, “my child had a fever around 100 F, and I took him to a paediatrician who was a professor; I asked him do

you suspect my child COVID positive? The doctor laughed and said there is nothing like COVID, don't believe in this." Later, the doctor himself fell prey to COVID. Some people considered this a hype created by the media.

We asked the informants about the precautions they took to avoid COVID. People reported following SOPs like social distancing, sanitizing, wearing face masks, and wearing gloves. However, some people didn't believe in the precautions and didn't follow any. People were asked to share the symptoms they experienced related to COVID; the most common symptoms were fever (mild to severe), cough, sore throat, severe body pain, loss of smell and taste and flu-like symptoms, which have been clubbed under the second-order theme 'Symptomatic Experiences'.

One of the interesting phenomena was the confirmation of the COVID. Getting a COVID test has some associated issues; first, for a COVID test, the person must provide his/her National Identity card Number to the diagnostic lab; the information goes into the national health database, and the person is traceable. These measures for some people were intimidating, and people tried to avoid COVID testing. Second, it is still an expensive test; it costs from Rs. 4000 to Rs. 6000 if done by a private lab; this is a big amount, and if there are 3-4 persons, the cost goes even higher. So, the cost factor also prohibited people from going to COVID testing. However, knowing the economic conditions, doctors too relied on symptomatic diagnosis and less costly tests like Complete Blood Count (CBC), chest X-ray and use of an oximeter when required. More than 50% of the informants (08) didn't undergo PCR tests to diagnose COVID. But they were declared COVID-positive based on these mentioned measures.

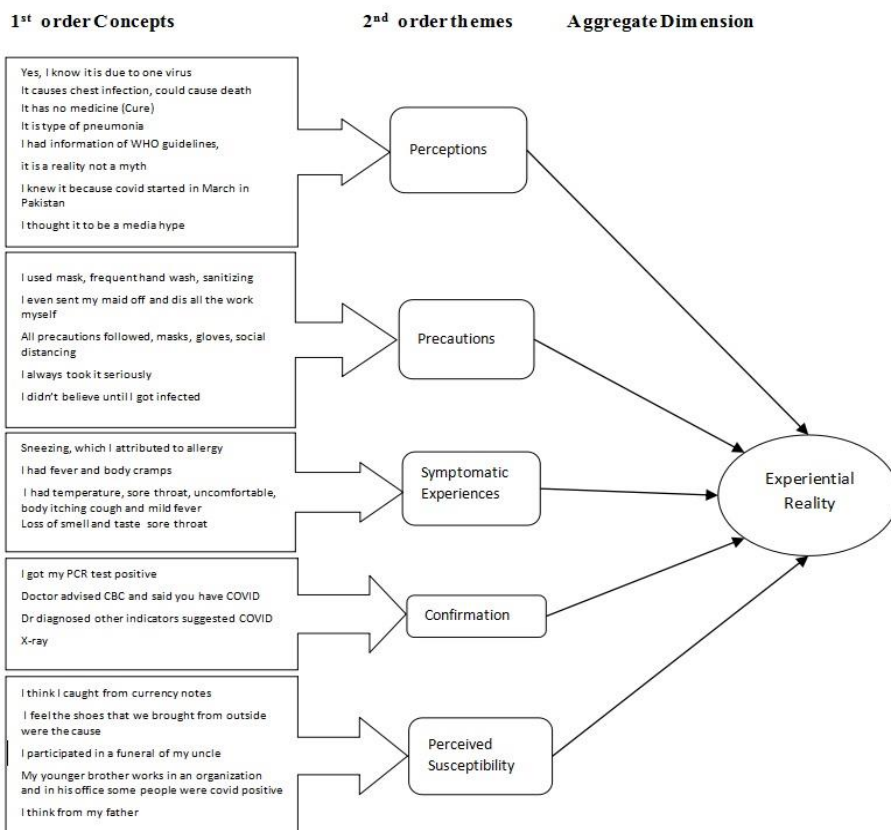


Figure 1: Getting Infected

We asked informants, “in your opinion, how did you get infected?”. People replied based on their perceptions. The 2nd order theme that emerged is ‘Perceived Susceptibility’. One informant said, “I think I got it at a barber’s shop,” and another suspected currency notes and another informant thought “, I got it from my father as he was the first one to get sick”. 2nd order themes, perceptions, precautions, symptomatic experiences, confirmation, and perceived susceptibility made up the aggregate dimension of ‘Experiential Reality’. Experiential reality is an experience that informants underwent in the real world; whatever notions and perceptions they held about COVID became a reality. Those who thought it propaganda or myth now had to believe it was a bitter reality. They experienced trauma, body pain, high-grade fever, weakness, and loss of senses of taste and smell. Some even faced severe shortness of breath, and one was shifted to ICU. After getting sick, whether the PCR test was done or not, peoples’ experiential learning made them believe the severity and reality of COVID-19.

Informants were asked about their feelings during the disease, the reactions of the family and relatives, and the severity of the disease. Five 2nd order themes emerged from several 1st order concepts, including initial reaction, death anxiety, skepticism, social isolation, and stress. Figure 2 shows the data structure that emerged from the informants' responses. At this stage, the informants were experiencing the disease (COVID) whether they had done PCR tests or otherwise diagnosed by their doctors.

Initial reactions of the informants were mixed; some could not believe it and were shocked, some were not surprised, and a few knew sooner or later, it had to happen; an interesting comment was made by a boy of 14 years "I was not much worried rather I was happy that now I will not have to study."

Some informants were traumatized and feared horrible consequences, hospitalization, and ICU; some feared death. One informant told, "I wrote my will; I thought I might die." A female informant explained, "I was afraid of getting admitted to the hospital; I thought people didn't return alive from the hospital; my grandmother had died of COVID". People who got sick were afraid for their health and survival, as a 69-year-old informant told, "My survival was difficult as I was 69 years." It was common that COVID was deadly for older and weak people. All these people were facing "death anxiety" as they feared death.

A rumour was common that the government was getting funds for each COVID positive patient and more funds from foreign agencies for deceased persons. This rumour created "skepticism" among the general public and especially among admitted patients. An informant hospitalized due to poor condition said, "Rumours that doctors kill the patients terrified me."

Whoever was diagnosed with COVID had to isolate and go in quarantine; this was necessary. People had different feelings about this 'Social Isolation'.

1st order Concepts

2nd order themes

Aggregate Dimension

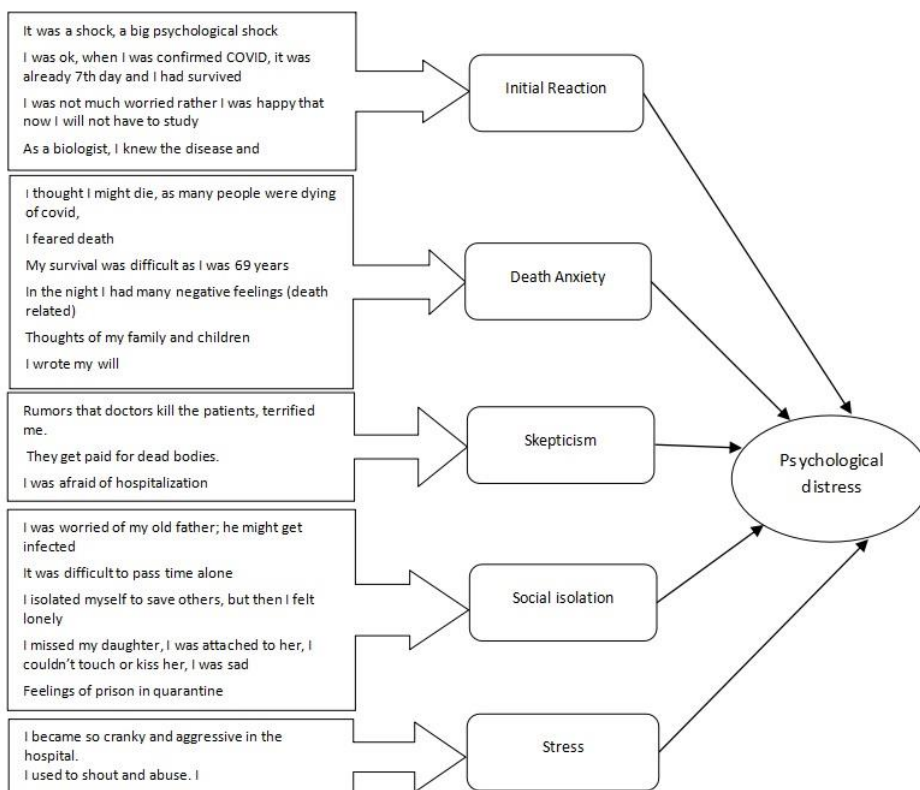


Figure 2: Feelings during illness

Another theme that emerged was 'stress'. Apart from the feelings of trauma and disease, people were also stressed. Living in quarantine meant social isolation for at least 15 days, which was tough. It was more difficult for individuals who were alone in this social isolation. A family of 07, including 05 children (ages 5-16 years), spent 04 weeks in quarantine in a house with other issues, like children's boredom. The father said, "when the children were so tired, I took them with me in my car and had a round of the town, with closed windows; this became our routine in the evenings". People experienced different issues during the isolation period, which caused stress.

Initial reaction, death anxiety, skepticism, social isolation, and stress lead to the aggregate dimension of psychological distress. As cited by Ridner (2004), "psychological distress refers to the general concept of maladaptive psychological functioning in the face of stressful life events". Psychological distress has five characteristics: perceived inability to cope effectively,

change in emotional status, discomfort, communication of discomfort, and harm (Ridner, 2004). People getting infected by COVID-19 showed most of these symptoms. They faced discomfort caused by body pain, high-grade fever, and emotional issues; as one informant said, “I missed my daughter, I was attached to her, I couldn’t touch or kiss her, I was sad”. They also communicated the discomfort faced during the illness. Psychological distress remained even after the recovery as some of the informants were afraid of getting infected again.

Informants were asked how they spent time during illness and isolation and how they fought against COVID. From their responses, four 2nd order themes: Religious activities, social media & Entertainment, Engaging, and Defensive Behavior emerged, which have been shown in figure 3(a) Combating strategies which is the data structure.

All the informants were Muslim by religion and mostly took refuge in religious rituals. They recited the holy Quran, listened to the recitation of Sura Rahman, read religious books, and offered prayers regularly. This is quite understandable; whenever people are in pain and fear, they connect to Allah, giving them spiritual relief. During difficult times Muslims offer special prayers and divert themselves to Islamic teachings, as one informant told, “I was in ICU and could barely move, but I offered prayers on the bed by gestures only”. A female said, “in the day, mostly recitation of Sura Rahman was listened to, which was termed as Rahman therapy and recommended by my relatives”. Those who could not offer prayer only listened to Sura Rahman; see one comment “I was too weak to do anything, just listening to Quran.”

Apart from religious activities, people used the internet and cable TV to spend their time and divert their attention from their illnesses.

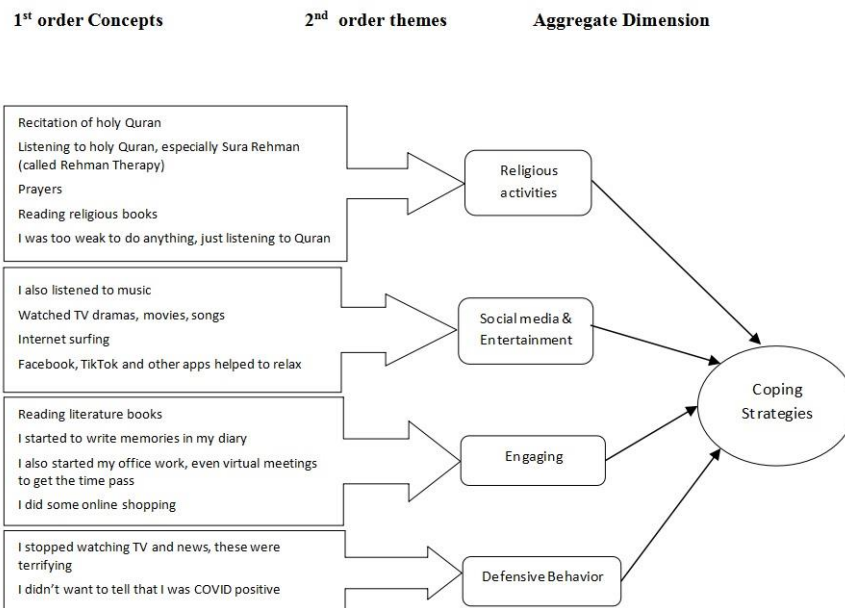


Figure 3(a): Combating the disease

Informants listened to music, watched movies and dramas, and used social media like Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, and TikTok. A family quarantined in a house bought a heavy internet package and used social media as the young boy said, “my father had bought a good weekly package of internet data; we watched movies and cartoons.” Spending time in isolation becomes difficult once it is established that a family is COVID-positive, so social interaction has to be limited. Hence, people use social media and entertainment to spend time.

Not all were fond of using social media or the internet to spend time. Some people used this time to engage in literary readings, do official tasks, and write memoirs. A professor said, “I started to write my memories of this isolation period”. During the lockdown period, women also did some online shopping as businesses pushed online selling, especially for women’s clothing. The second-order theme, “engaging”, encompasses all such activities.

Another second-order theme that emerged from 1st order concepts was “defensive behavior”. There was information overflow in the media regarding the COVID pandemic, and many people felt threatened and vulnerable, especially news of casualties caused by the virus was intimidating. To block such information, many people stopped watching the news to avoid further fear. The doctors and relatives advised those who got infected not to get

indulged in information gathering, which helped to some extent. For example, one article said, “I stopped watching TV and news; these were terrifying.” People tried to hide their status of getting infected to avoid unnecessary social advice, social stigma and unwanted sympathies. As one informant revealed, “I didn’t like phone calls of friends and relatives.”

Religious activities, social media & entertainment, engaging, and defensive behavior formed the aggregate dimension of coping strategies. All these were the coping strategies during the illness. People become more religious and pray to Allah during difficult times; they seek spiritual satisfaction through this act. Moreover, according to the personality, circumstances and severity of the disease, people indulged in different activities, especially the children focused more on net surfing and social media.

The data structure presented in figure 3(b) portrays another dimension of the illness and quarantine period. This period lasted from 03 to 04 weeks generally. Imagine a family socially isolated for 3-4 weeks in the house; apart from other activities like social media & entertainment along with religious activities, what else could they have done? One informant explained the time spent in illness as “Feelings of prison in quarantine”. Several 1st order themes emerged, revealing that this is not just a difficult and painful time but a special time too. For example, one female informant expressed, “We had plenty of time to spend together after such a long time.” So, this quarantine gave a break too, from the busy schedules of the people and families spent a very close time with each other. Another informant expressed, “This quarantine brought one thing special, after 20 years of married life, we had not much to share, here we rediscovered our relationship.” So, the 2nd order theme has been labelled as ‘rediscovering relationship’. The quarantine period brought family members closer and strengthened family ties.

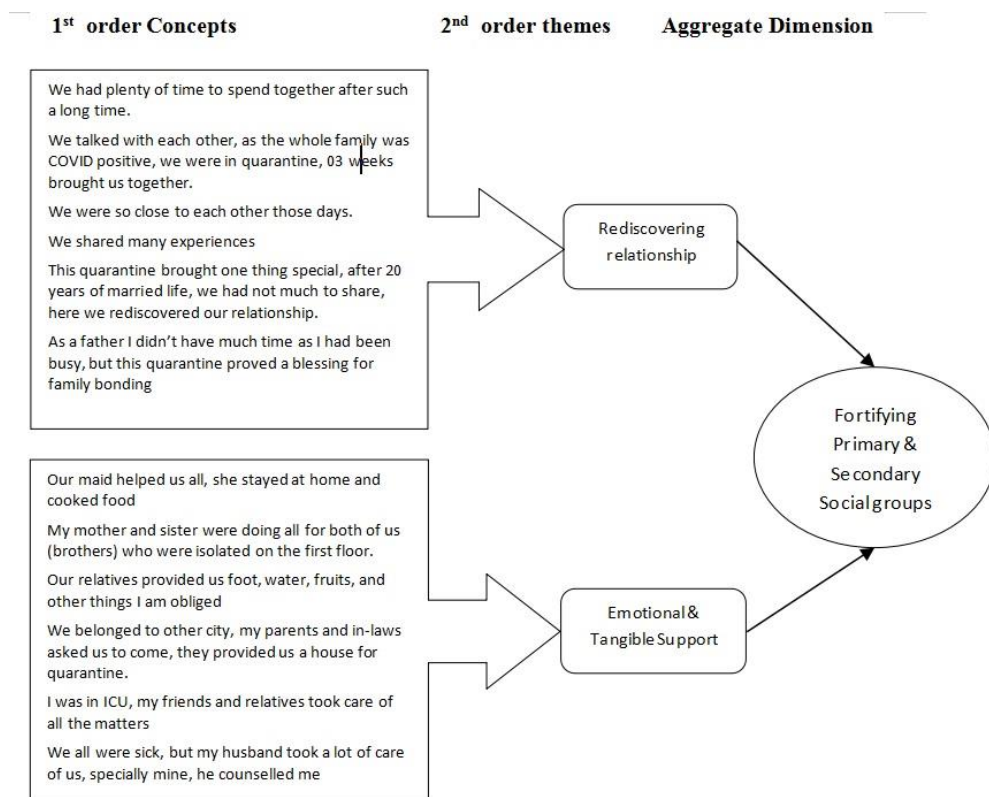


Figure 3(b): Combating the disease

Pakistani society is collectivist; people are knitted in their relationships and help each other in their hour of need. The same happened in the COVID outbreak; on the one hand, people were concerned about the spread of the virus, and on the other hand, infected families were not abandoned. This sample includes two families who were all infected and quarantined in separate rooms and two brothers in one house who were infected and stayed in the upper portion of the shared house where other family members lived. According to one survivor, “my younger brother and I were infected, and we stayed in the upper portion, my sister, mother and another brother we on the ground floor; they provided all the food, medicine and other necessary things”. This is an example of a caring family who cared for their infected member. Another family quarantined in a separate house was taken care of by the relatives, who provided all the food, water, medicine, and fruits. And the house was vacated for them by another relative as these members came from another city. The head of the family told, “We belonged to another city; my parents and in-laws asked us to come, and they provided us with a house for quarantine.” Another informant said, “Our maid helped us all; she stayed

home and cooked food.” An informant who was hospitalized and spent one month in ICU told, “I was in ICU; my friends and relatives took care of all the matters”. There were several examples of how people helped each other when they required the most. People backed up each other emotionally as well. Based on these 1st order concepts, a 2nd order theme, ‘Emotional & Tangible Support’ was extracted.

‘Emotional & Tangible Support’ and ‘Rediscovering relationship’ formed an aggregate dimension ‘Fortifying Primary & Secondary Social groups. The primary social group is the family members like siblings, while the secondary social group consists of friends and relatives. These groups were strengthened in such circumstances as people helped each other during testing time.

The most common medicines prescribed were paracetamol, azithromycin, and cough syrups. In severe issues, along with these medications, the patients took Ceftriaxone (IV) injections, steroids, nebulization, and steam. We term this as medical advice. However, in Pakistani society, there is too much social advice; the most common social advice was using steam, ginger tea, mutton soup, and other herbal fluids. Though doctors didn’t recommend such, these were used. Medical and social advice constitute the aggregate dimension of the ‘Treatment Regime’. Data structure related to this is shown in figure 4.

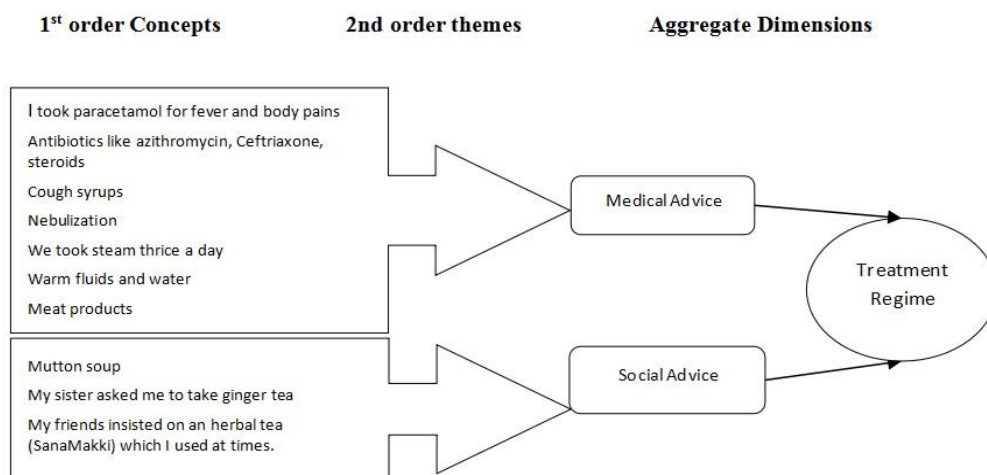


Figure 4: Getting Recovered

We asked the informants how do you feel after surviving COVID. Two types of aftereffects were reported, physical and psychological, as shown in

figure 5. The most frequent physical aftereffects included weakness, low-grade fever, and joint pain. One old informant reported, “My hearing was affected”, and another said, “My eye-sight was affected”. However, these were less reported effects.

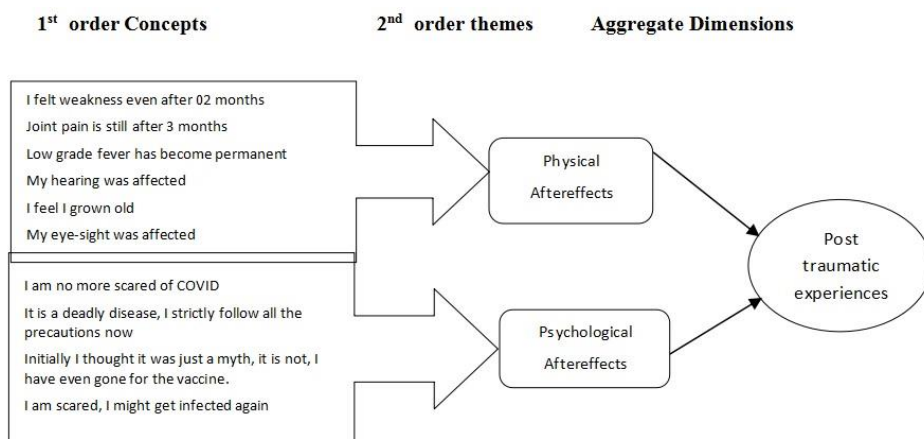


Figure 5: Post disease effects

Some informants were no longer afraid of COVID. “I am no more scared of COVID,” said an informant. However, some were more scared “It is a deadly disease, I strictly follow all the precautions now”, “Initially I thought it was just a myth, it is not, I have even gone for the vaccine.”, and “I am scared, I might get infected again”. Physical and psychological aftereffects formed the aggregate dimension of “Post traumatic experiences “. These experiences vary according to the severity of the disease endured by an individual.

Conclusion

COVID-19 is a stressful disease; it has physical and psychosocial consequences. People experience psychological distress and social isolation. Fear of death is common due to media hype; people avoid media as a defensive behavior. In a collectivist society like Pakistan, family, relatives, and friends provide emotional and tangible support to face this deadly disease. The quarantine period also provided some special moments to rediscover the relationships.

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