

Socio-Cultural Impacts of Urbanization in Hub City

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Abstract

Throughout the world urbanization has played a significant role in the uplift of the societies. Societies, which were inclined to adopt changes, reached the zenith of development. Despite some grey impacts upon the social and cultural settings, urbanization has proved a ladder for the development of societies. The result indicated that urbanization was caused by the rapid growth of industrialization. Which proved as a catalyst for urbanization .the researched explored that mass level of migration also has equal share in the growth of urbanization. Research further found that weak law and order compel the people to migrate from the rural areas. Moreover, the research explored the impacts of urbanization on social sector: family, marriages, institutions. Besides, the research unveiled the influence of urbanization on culture.it was discovered that urbanization has not affected the material culture, dressing, housing, but also it has changed the attitude, values and way of living. The research also indicated that issues caused by the urbanization in socio-cultural settings could be sort out by proper management.

Key words: Urbanization, industrialization, migration, social structure, culture

Introduction

Urbanization is the process in which a huge number of population shift has been seen from spread settlements to a concentrated settlements (Davis, Emergence of urbanization, 1995).

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Urbanization is the concentration of the people at a place earlier who were living in scattered places likewise in villages. People come to live in cities and add to their population. Urbanization is the increase of the population of the cities. (Urdal, 2013).

Urbanization takes place at that time when the number of the people living in the cities is increased. There are many rationales behind the increase of the population which ranges from economic to social and political. Hence urbanization is the increase of the population of the cities.

The process of urbanization is caused by the industrialization which is the main cause of it. As the industrialization takes place in cities; it attracts many people for job security. Therefore, a bulk of population migrates to cities (Palen).

There is no denying the fact that urbanization is caused by the industrialization. Industries when established in cities require labor for the smooth functioning. Keeping the shortage of labor in mind, industrialists announce multiple privileges and allowances for the labor which attract many people who were earlier living in rural areas. Understandingly, people come to cities for the jobs which increase the population of the cities and speed up the pace of urbanization. Therefore, it can say that urbanization is caused by the industrialization.

The process of urbanization was intensified by the industrial revolution which slowly and gradually engulfed the whole developed and developing world. (Davis, World Urbanization, 1950-70)

It was the industrial revolution which had completely changed the social structure of the world. It penetrated the urbanization which had begun with the plantation of the first factory. Factories and industries doubled the profits of the industrialists which further made them establish in industries in other parts of the world.

Urbanization is one of the important factors of global change process. Urbanization brings changes not only at country level but also it changes the global dynamics. (Dunarintu, 2012).

Undoubtedly, urbanization is a cause of changing the social and cultural structure of the society. It is the urbanization which influences the mode of earning, the mode of communication, transportation and more importantly it changes the behavior of the individuals. In most of the urbanized areas, urbanism is common among them. It is the adoption of the behavior which is

suitable in urbanized areas. Meanwhile a person has to change himself while living in a city.

Urbanization is a process in which the population of the cities is multiplied by the huge movement of the people from rural to urban areas. People migrate from the rural areas where they hardly earn their livelihood. Apart from economic factors, there are some natural and some man-made elements due to which a large number of people migrate to cities. (Ceclia Tacoli).

Cities can adjust people in accordance of their capacity. If the movement of the people from, rural areas to urban areas passes the limits of the cities, there are chances of chaos, anarchy and disturbances in the city. Poverty ratio would increase because the cities cannot provide jobs to all individuals. Hence, the migration of people not only increases the urbanization pace but also it creates some disturbances in the social set up of the cities.

Urbanization is directed the concentration of people in urban spaces. (Christensen & Levinson, 2003).urbanization is the process where by large number of people migrates from rural areas to urban areas in search of good life. Not only migration increases the urban population, natural factors are also responsible. Urbanization is the result of industrialization, modernization and sociologically rationalization. (Saha, 2014).

Industrialization requires man power for running the industries, people in rural areas who are attracted by the industrialization quit their agriculture activities, migrate to cities, and work in the factories for the industrialists. On the other hand modernization also provide invitations to the people who are far from cities, resultantly they travel to cities and cities' population increase. The process of urbanization began in Pakistan at birth. Earlier the formation of the factories and industries had begun by the British in the sub-continent, after the independence, there were factories and industries in the country, however the pace of urbanization was speed up at the period of president Ayub khan who built many industries in country which was followed by his successors. (Arif, 1998).

Urbanization is very good sign for the economy of the country which increases the trade and exports with other countries. Apart from some positive aspects it has some grey areas including lack of town planning and policy making for the people living in urban areas like wise in Karachi, Lahore, Faisalabad and Quetta(Kugelman, Urbanization in Pakistan; causes and consequences, 2013)

Similarly, urbanization has become a social problem in hub city and it is posing multifarious challenges with far reaching impacts.

Earlier Research conducted on Urbanization

Urbanization has multi-factors ranging from economics, political, geographic, demographic, to sociological. While keeping in view the sociological dimension of urbanization which is the area of focus, it is observed that urbanization throughout world increased rapidly. As in the 20th century, a mass of population movement from rural to urban areas have been seen in the world. A merely thirteen per cent of the global population lived in urban areas in 1900, which increased to twenty nine per cent in 1950 and crossed the fifty percent mark in 2009 (united nations,2009).

UN report shows that the pace of urbanization is going past. As the advancement engulfed the world with the help of industrial revolution, urbanization direct or indirectly was expanding. Resultantly, the percentage of urbanization increased. Net migration from rural to urban areas was seen in large numbers. Population of the villages moved towards cities in search of better life style with a lot of good opportunities, better health system, and better education. Resultantly, population of urban areas was enlarged.

Besides, urbanization has just as much impact on social courses as it does on economic and environmental processes. Societal organizations are transformed, demographic structures, the family role, the way an individual works and the nature of that work, whom we choose to live with and our cultures are influenced by urban environment. There is a variation of domestic roles and relations throughout the family, and a redefining of concepts of an individual and their social responsibility. Urbanization has not only changed the structure of the family but also it has brought some alteration in the roles of the members of family. Besides, in accordance with this research, urbanization has changed the demography of cities in shape of expansion of territories by merging the nearby towns and by the enlargement of the population. Urbanization has modified the domestic roles of husband and wife. Urbanization by and large affected the social lives of people in urban sittings.

Understandingly, migration from rural areas to urban has caused the increase of urban population. Idealizing the facilities of the cities, people access them and settle themselves there. Besides migration, low death ratio and fertility

rate is affected due to urbanization. As health is better in urban areas the death rate naturally drops, and as the healthcare is more advanced families are having less children as the mortality survival rate is much higher (pitts, 2015).

Consequently, the population growths decline as the reproduction of fewer children. It further affects the economic sector according to this research. The main reason of it is the development of health sector. It controls the infant mortality rate, and people reproduce fewer children. Hence, fertility rate is affected by the urbanization.

While considering the social impacts of urbanization, it comes in mind that there is a relationship between urbanization and violence. Sanidad- leans (2006) conducted a research that states demographic studies reveal that certain characteristics of urban communities: a mixing of different beliefs and behaviors, increased anonymity and mobility, and individuals who vary in race, age and values. All these predisposing factors breed criminality. Accordingly, amalgamation of different races, castes, ideologies, religions, sects increases the chances of crime in the urban sittings. Muggah (2015) conducted a research in which it is described that rapid increase in urban population can put an overwhelming pressure on authorities and residents to respond. The spread of urban poverty and inequality has increased with the expansion of cities populations; this increases the tension and results in greater violence within and around an urban area. These determinants along with the failure of governance in urban areas increase the chances of violence.

Similarly, a research is conducted in Arab countries in which it is revealed that Arab countries experience urban population growth at high rates, whereby over half the population lives in towns and cities, a trend which, in some cases, reaches more than ninety percent. Urbanization in the Arab world has been driven out by high fertility rates, large rural-urban migration, international labor migration and the concentration of economic activity in urban areas. Moreover, urbanization mixed with the high fertility rates and the large percentage of youth in the Arab world will continue to put pressure on federal governments to address the socio-economic problems. (Huassain, 2016).

Madlina Doccu(2012) writes in their research that the process of urbanization symbolizes the increase in the proportion of people living in

towns and cities as a consequence of migration of the people from rural to urban areas. Urbanization is widely accepted as a process with several consequences, such as social, economic or environmental and it usually occurs in developing countries. This complex course knows a strong global dimension that overcomes the spatial barriers, acting as real centers of progress with a significant impact on natural resources and on life quality. In the research the researchers explored the migration as a cause of urbanization followed with severe ramifications ranging from social economic to environmental. Besides, they are of the view that current global trend knows expansion of urban areas due to movement of the people from rural to urban areas. In the research urbanization is seen as an effect of globalization phenomenon, with socio economic aspect.

Urbanization is closely connected to modernization, industrialization, and the sociological process of rationalization. Urbanization is not only a modern phenomenon, but a rapid and historic alteration of human social roots on a global scale, whereby largely rural culture is being rapidly replaced by predominantly urban culture. Urbanization takes place when people are attracted by the improved opportunities for jobs, education, housing, and transportation. Many rural dwellers come to the city for reasons of seeking fortunes and social mobility. However the depiction of urbanization is not so much superb as it externally seems. Contemporary cities have grown in a disorganized and unplanned manner due to fast industrialization. It is due to the natural increase of population and movement of the people that the populations of cities in developing countries become over populated. The researcher pointed out the different impacts of urbanization in Indian society (Saha, 2014).

Apart from being a modern phenomenon, urbanization is the alteration of the social roots whereby rural culture is substituted by the urban ethos. In accordance with this research, people migrate from rural to urban areas in search of fortunes and changing of their status. While coming to cities and experiencing the culture of urban areas, they soon become disappointed from it.

Nasira jabeen (2017) in this regard conducted a research in which it is analyzed that increased urbanization in Pakistan may be recognized as natural growth in population and external and internal migration to metropolitan areas. Due to the varied definitions of urbanization and the absence of latest

census data research on the issue is quite challenging. This research advances that urbanization in Pakistan needs to have a tremendous focus on governance structure and policies including; access to education, housing, transportation, employment and public health at an augmented level. A stable political set up and empowered local government is *san qua non* for the economic well - being of people. Since urbanization is a context specific phenomenon, the issue needs to be addressed by policy makers and governing institutions in line with indigenous demands and relevant interventions in the form of sustainable policies and their effective implementation and evaluation. Norms of urban governance in the country need a renewed emphasis on efficiency, transparency, participation, accountability, social justice, and security for all individuals at all levels. Good or good enough governance in the Pakistan is only hoped for if political stability, economic growth and human development are aligned with rapidly increasing urbanization in the country.

Not only urbanization brings challenges to a country, it also creates stressful life and disorganized behavior among the dwellers. Besreli (2008) writes that urbanization is such a process that it leads to the growth of cities related to industrial and economic development. Urbanization leads to alteration in human behavior and division of labor. Besides, urbanization perhaps gives birth to problems including tense life events, poor social circle, and quick growth of cities due to immigration. All of these factors may negatively affect mental health, which makes it a prominent process that should not be neglected. The research highlighted the negative impacts of urbanization on mental health.

The remarkable transformation of the population from rural to urban areas has opened the ways for other underdeveloped areas to move to cities for a better living standard. Keeping in view the life styles of cities, people migrated to cities. Now it has been observed that for the first time in history, the majority of the world population now lives in cities. Worldwide, urbanization is growing rapidly. It is projected that the urban population will increase to three billion from 2010 to 2050. It is due to the natural increase, reclassification and rural to urban migration. This migration is expected to be particularly rampant in countries and regions most affected by the changing climate. It is observed that urban population generally enjoys a better life but in many cities in the developing world there are large slums which are

excluded from the urban facilities. Environmentalist security experts are of the view that dearth of resources in rural areas lead to migration to cities which is a factor of intense clashes. It is understood from this research that how population growth affects patterns of public unrest in urban centers within the context of crucial intervening factors like democracy, poverty, economic shocks (Urdal, 2013).

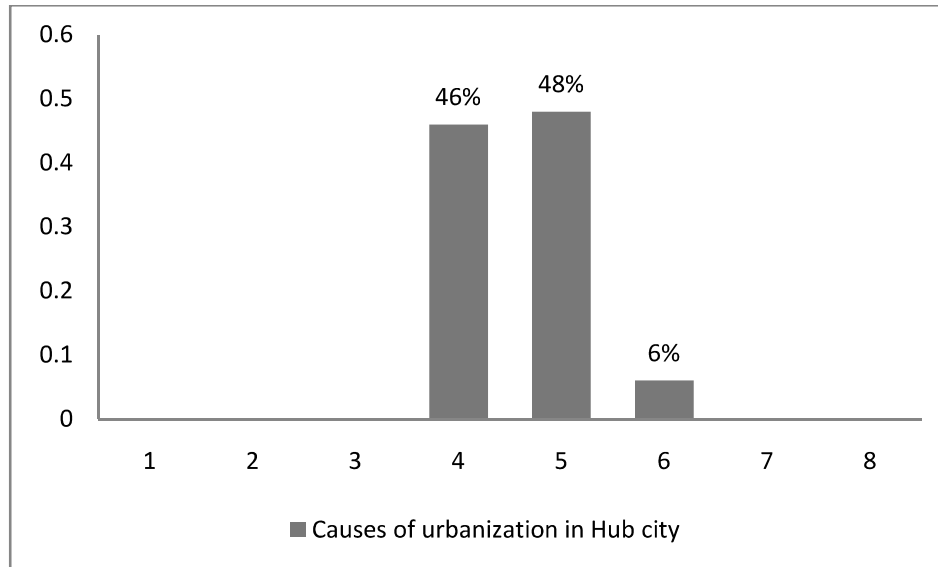
While coming to Pakistan's urban population, in Pakistan one out of three person lives in urban areas. It is estimated that this figure may reach fifty percent by 2025. Pakistan's urban population has increased due to large influx of refugees from India and Pakistan. Further rural population migrated to cities which increased the urban population. People moved from rural to urban areas for a better life, in order to avoid natural calamities and to avail themselves with the opportunities of urban life. The increasing urban population poses challenges for the policy makers; the machinery of industrialization may not employ such a large number of people. (Kugelman, 2013)

Findings and reflections

i. Rationale behind urbanization

As reflected in the findings that the main cause of urbanization were law and order situation, industrialization, and unemployment in rural areas. The industrialization factor stood at 46% whereas the law and order situation, unemployment in rural areas factors were a little higher at 48%. While comparatively assessing the rapid growth of industrialization, it has been noticed that there are similar factors in other societies in the world wherein industrialization has given birth to urbanization. It is industrialization which attracts thousands for better future which leads to the rapid growth of urbanization. Historically, the emergence of the cities had begun at that time when there facilities of the people where they could spend their lives in an easy way. It pulled thousands because these were the areas which economically better. Since the birth of industrial revolution, the main factor urbanization is shifted from others to industrialization. Hence today urbanization is mainly caused by the industrialization. However, lack of facilities factor in rural areas stood at meager rate of 6%.

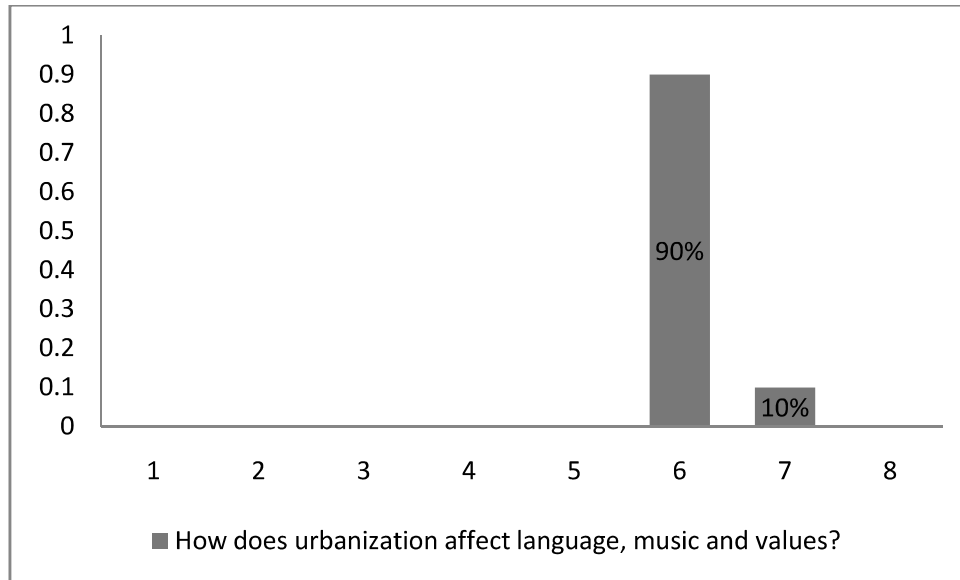
As discussed above, the following chart shows the results.



ii. Impacts of urbanization: cultural diffusion and modernization

The question arises how the urbanization affects the language, music and values? A huge chunk of population pointed out that cultural diffusion is the result of urbanization. This value stood at 90%. The remaining 10% of population is of opinion that urbanization has given birth to modernization which has led to alteration of our values. There is no denying the fact that urbanization not only brings prosperity and jobs to people, but also it brings some cultural alterations. Amalgamation of the people of distinct cultural background has some impacts upon the native cultural ethos and values. Researches on the urbanization have shown that urbanization has affected the attitude, behavior and cultural norms of the people. In the same way urbanization has caused changes in cultural ethos, values and music. Apart from the cultural diffusion brought by the urbanization, modernization is also one of the impacts of it. Worldwide it is an accepted fact that urbanization has brought modernization which directly or indirectly affects the existing culture of the area. Similarly, modernization, brought by urbanization, has changed the cultural ethos, values of the people in hub city.

Following graph shows the above discussed analysis in numerical.



Conclusion

Urbanization undoubtedly leads to the quality life. it brings prosperity and development to the cities and people. It reduces the poverty ratio by providing jobs to the people. It has the role of lessening the other social evils in the cities. Similarly urbanization has done these things in Hub city. It has become the source of income for the people of different areas of Pakistan. Apart from the positive aspect of urbanization, it has some grey areas which need to be tackled immediately. Urbanization, which has caused by the industrialization and migration, has caused environmental degradation. It has brought congestion and traffic issues. Because it attracts many people and bulk of population leads to many issues including crime, health and so many others. Hence, the research has found that urbanization has proved a blessing for the people in hub city. Despite its bleak areas, it is leading the people towards prosperity and development.

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