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# THE IMPORTANCE OF GWADAR PORT FOR GLOBAL PLAYERS

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## **ABSTRACT**

Gwadar port possesses an important geo-strategic location and has increased interdependence between Pakistan and China. The port was constructed with the assistance of China. Now the control of this port is under the supervision of Chinese authorities. China wants to use this port as a corridor. This study highlighting various aspects whereas, The Gwadar port gives an edge to Pakistan over India, because through this port China can move her goods easily targeting other regions of the world. In this context China's active role is being influenced in the presence of other internal as well as external elements. Both US and India are feeling threatened by Chinese naval presence at Gwadar port. Because through this port, China can monitor US and India maritime activities. To counter this, India is focusing on Iran's Chahbahar port and wants to use that as an alternative when it supplies would be blocked by China in any critical time in future. Simultaneously, the paper aims at economic, strategic, and geopolitical aspects prevalent in the region and as how Pakistan has been dealing with such circumstances.

Key Words: Geo-strategic, Assistance, Economic, Encirclement, Infrastructural, etc

#### Gwadar Port and its Strategic Location

The strategic location and Gwadar port also is causing of instability in Balochistan. This port is the competitor of Indian New Dahli Port, Iran Chahbahar Port and UAE Dubai port, so these regional forces are trying to sabotage this deep sea port. Due to strategic locations China is constructing this deep sea port for its own trade

because it is the shortest passage way of trade for China. USA and Russia also wants to have access this port for entrance of CARS countries natural resources. Afghanistan and Russia wants to have access to deep sea warm water port in south. As Balochistan is the part of New Great Game, energy corridor and CPEC, for future the regional and global force wants to have their influence in Balochistan. For this purpose they were trying and in past tried, to make Independent Balochistan with supporting militancy, insurgency and separatist movements in province.

#### Global Powers Rivalry in Indian Ocean

US worries and feeling threat of Chinese influence this region, and may use this port for military purpose and naval bases. US consider Chinese advancement in this regions may threat for their activities in Persian Gulf and may monitor their Maritimes activities in Indian Ocean. According to Us Pak China bilateral ties may change the balance of power of the region and china will not only expand economic activities but also the military activism in Indian Ocean toward African countries, Asia pacific and Antarctica through Gwadar port. US thinks that Chinese may have intention to become a leading power in war against terrorism in Afghanistan as they have connection via KKH to India Ocean and it would vulnerable the NATO supply route. Indian fears that Chinese naval military may convert this Gwadar port for nuclear submarines and aircraft carrier with the passage of time. India believes that Chinese presence in Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea will benefit Pakistan, while giving to control over strategic significance Sea route and monitoring Shipping, Coastal lines, Choke Points.

#### Silk Route of New Great Game

Brahma Chellaney a political analysts stated that "There is a new Great Game in Asia where major players are trying to create alliances and partnerships. India has to be a player and there is a need to pursue initiatives. China's rise signals an unbridled desire to dominate Asia. Robert D Kaplan say that, in world Indian ocean is important busiest trade route, in which 50% of all the containers traffic passes through this region. In Indian Ocean 70% of the world oil tanker passes through it. So the port city Gwadar can

Nunziante Mastrolia, "Asian Players: India and China," *Quarterly*, Year v N3 – (A-2007):23-76.

be the nexus in new silk route. Gwadar can provide the shortest and cheapest trade way to Afghanistan, China and CARS counties. Gwadar may be the Key toward Chinese energy route in south near the Strait of Hormuz. China can use it as energy corridor for oil trade from Gulf countries via Pakistan. China influence in Indian Ocean will increase toward Atlantic and Pacific Ocean. After the completion of Gwadar china will bypass strait of Melaka, as currently 80% of its trade passes through this long and heavily cost route. China is going to link Gwadar port with it Kashghar port in Xinjiang, through CPEC route.

Russia has also interests to reach the Gwadar port with the help of china and currently Russia is trying to develop its relations with Pakistan. India and other countries like US are trying to sabotage this route and Port because it will help in increasing the china economy due to shortest and safe distance for trade, toward Middle East and African countries.

#### IP (IPI) Gas Pipe Line

Iran-Pakistan Gas Pipeline has amplified the back door proxy war against terrorism and its aim was to secure over oil and gas reserves. In Pakistan US ambassador was not happy with it and he said that

"Pak-Iran gas pipeline is not a good idea, however, the plan to get gas from Turkmenistan is a better idea,"

It was showing that US and its allies were not accepting it as they have clash with Iran on nuclear program. This statement was indicating US playing of its New Great Game in the regions. In Pakistan Mr. Zardari and PPP took a strong step with argument that

"Islamabad will not accept any dictation regarding its internal affairs from any foreign country. Gas from Iran is in the country's best interest."

India has withdrawal from the IPI gas pipe line project, while Russia and China have shown their interests and promised for the developments 780 km gas pipe line. This agreement pinches and worries US as agreement with Iran will boost Iran economy. In geo political interests of the region IP gas pipe line project with Iran is against and

harmful for America. After the Indian withdrawal from IPI gas pipe line project than it became only IP gas pipe project and later the name was changed as "The Peace Pipeline" it has prompted a new great game between the pro-project and anti-project actors. India purported that this gas pipe line is "A Risky Venture" and alleged that security situation of the Balochistan situation as historically insurgents groups in Pakistan are targeting the gas pipe line sin Balochistan. It was feeling threat that these nationalist groups ma attack this gas pipe line. US alleged that this proposed gas pipe line is against the sanctions of US on Iran nuclear Program. America pressurized Pakistan that we are supporting Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline project and it will fulfill Pakistan energy requirements.

US warned Pakistan for consequences of this project and offered assistance to Pakistan for the energy requirements. This projects only irritated India and US while Russia and China are supporting this project. Russia looks this project in positive way and it has interest to become part of it as it will deliver its gas to Persian Gulf countries. China is supporting this project due to having big stakes in Gwadar port. So due to this project if initiates US and will produce hinders in Balochistan to flop it.

#### Chinese Developments in Gwadar

In past Gwadar was a trade route between the Middle East and India<sup>2</sup>. Now to access the Middle East countries, China has launched many projects in Balochistan, in which main important one is the Gwadar Port. Near to the Gwadar Sea Port Chinese company (CHEC) is now busy in making an International standard Airport. They have done an agreement with Pakistan, CPEC from Kashghar to Gwadar and Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif called it the game changer of the area. This Project will benefit the billions of peoples across the world. Gawadar will provide the route toward CARs, African and Gulf countries for Chinese products. China will use this port for oil trade to complete its energy requirements. Currently 80% trade of China passes from Strait of Malacca, which is unsafe, expensive and long route. Gwadar is safe and shortest distance, even in land route from Shanghai toward South China Sea ports.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ziad Haider, "Baluchis, Beijing, and Pakistan's Gwadar Port", *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*; (Winter 2005):95.

China started works for the developments of Gwadar in 2002, with \$ 198 Million out of total \$248 Million in phase one.<sup>3</sup> Chinese company Great United Petroleum Holdings Company Limited (GUPC)" is working for the construction of "petrochemical city" at Gwadar, worth of US\$12.5 billion. China is largest investor in the Gawadar largest investor in Gwadar port is controlled by controlled "Tianjin Zhongbei Harbour Engineering Supervision Corporation of China (TZHESC)". The development of the port has many phases with estimated cost of \$1.6 Billion. "Great United Petroleum Holdings Company Limited (GUPC)" is involved in investment in another project "Petrochemical City" at Gwadar, worth of US\$12.5 billion. This company will have the ability to refine 21 Million Tons crude oil annually. This refinery will be connected through pipe line in CPEC.<sup>4</sup> The Baloch nationalist have concerns regarding the huge Chinese investment in Gwadar. They claim that Baloch assets and wealth are being exploited by capital Islamabad and china. China will get 50% benefits, 48% federal government and only 2% will be given to the Balochistan, which is also not given duet to the political corruptions.<sup>5</sup>

The labors and technical peoples are being brought from Punjab which will turned Baloch in minorities. Baloch nationalist argues that the government is not giving any jobs and a technical position to the local people and their arguments is correct to some extent. If the central government was honest, they have to give technical education for to local peoples. They are not serious, if they were, they can trained and educate a new generation within these 15 years, since the Gwadar has been started. They have attacked many, Chinese workers and engineers.

#### Russian Access to Indian Ocean and Gwadar Port

The Gwadar port city will be the economic hub of silk route, as this route is from CARS to Gwadar Port is the Part of New Silk rout of Great Game. Balochistan is the region which is connecting, CARS countries to south in Indian Ocean. In Past Russia has tried to access to Balochistan either by hard power on attacking Afghanistan or by supporting the nationalist separatist groups in Balochistan. As it could not succeeded in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Syed Fazl-e-Haider, "Gwadar: An Emerging Centre of the New Great Game", ISPI, (October, 2009):1-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ibid 45

its aim in past, now it is trying to have access to Indian Ocean with soft power by improving its ties with Pakistan. From Gwadar port Russia can easily develops its trade from Indian Ocean to Cars and then Russia.

#### Indian Concerns about Gwadar Port

The India has great concerns over Gwadar port and Indian Ocean due to China huge investment in Balochistan Gwadar developments. It is strategically important for military and trade route in Indian Ocean at Arabian Sea. This hunches India for insecurity imbalances in Indian Ocean as both are nuclear power friends. Indian think tanks argue that Chinese presence will enhance the misbalance in Indian Ocean for long term. The Gwadar port has the international potential of attraction of the investment of trade of oil and gas, for international companies. Indian thinks that china will increase it naval power in the Indian Ocean for military control over the region. Historically Pakistan and Indian remain enemies of each other and china and Pakistan are fiends if each other. India also remained as enemy for china, So India feel threats of Enemy of my Enemy is my friend. More ever this port will use as connection for CAR, natural resource. China will no more dependent on Eastern ocean route, with Indian Ocean, for trade. China will get its oil and gas for energy, through Gwadar from, Africa, Middle Eastern Gulf countries and Iran. India wants to be the hegemonic power in Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean.

Due to strong military and economic ties between Pakistan and China, Gwadar got great importance in World politics as well as in India. India fears of military use of Gwadar by China, and Chinese argues that if they wants to have military intentions, they could do it easily at Karachi port, which is near to India.. In Pakistani society, it is found that India is involved in Pakistan through Balochistan. It is said that Indian aim is to monitor the China influence in the region for itself and America. They are using Afghanistan land for this purpose under the US occupation. India is doing insurgent activities in Balochistan, to counter the Gwadar port. They are giving money and

<sup>6</sup> Farooq Yousaf, "Gwadar Port: Chinese Acquisition, Indian Concerns and Its Future Prospects," *Spotlight South Asia*, paper, (Oct, 2013):67-90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Hong Zhao, "China and India: The Quest for Energy Resources in the 21st Century" (New York: Routledge, 2012).89-97

weapons to these insurgents groups, to increase the militancy and instability in Balochistan. When in 1990 Pakistan government announced that they will develop the Gwadar port, India started developing the Chahbahar sea port of Iran to counter Pakistan's Gwadar port. They want to fail Gwadar, via connecting Afghanistan and CARS through Zaranj Dalaram Road to Chahbahar sea port. Due to political issue, Pakistan could not developed the Gwadar port at that time, but the Indian concerns increase in 2002 when Pakistan has done agreement with China to start the developing of Port.

When Gwadar port will develop, it will increase the population of the city. UAE and Iranian want to sabotage this port because it will fail Dubai and Chah Bahar Sea ports. They are countering China here as it will effect on Indian ports. More than Two million will come to Gwadar for jobs<sup>8</sup>. So, India on behalf of US is against of this port development and Iran has it won reservations. So they are trying to sabotage this port development and produce anti Pakistani sentiments in Balochistan. In this way insurgency is increasing in Balochistan. US think tanks claim that China will use this Gwadar port, for Military purposes, as part of its 'String of Pearls'. However China denies that they will not use it for military purpose. They wish a symphonic Indian ocean. Their aim is to access for Middle Eastern and African resources.<sup>9</sup> So, US will try to compete China in Balochistan through different means, like wise supporting India.

#### Gwadar Port vs Chahbahr Port

Iran has the interest to failure of Gwadar port, because if Gwadar port succeeds it will devalue the Chahbahar port for Afghanistan and CARs countries. If the Chahbahar sea ports succeeds than India will transit its goods to CARS, Europe, Gulf countries and Russia through Chabahar-Milak road. India is already developing the Zaranj Dalaram road and connecting pulls on it. India and Afghanistan have already done the agreement

<sup>8</sup> "Associated Press Of Pakistan ( Pakistan's Premier NEWS Agency ) - Gwadar Port to Generate 2 Million Jobs," (Accessed on March 24, 2016,) http://www.app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=62702.

Martin W. Lewis, "Balochistan and a New "Great Game" in Central Asia?", May 20, 2011, http://geocurrents.info/geopolitics/balochistan-and-a-new-great-game-in-central-asia#ixzz1sKFHC8iA.http://geocurrents.info/geopolitics/balochistan-and-a-new-great-game-in-central-asia#ixzz1sKF3yJDl

and tariffs reductions at Chahbar port. India is trying to have the gas pipe line from Chahbahar port via Arabian Sea. Paras fields of Gas are very important in geo politics of Gawadr port and Iran. US are against IPI gas pipe line and support the TAPI gas pipe line. The India has withdrawn from IPI gas pipe line due to dependency on Pakistan.

#### **Geo-Strategic Significance of Gwadar Port for China**

Gwadar Port has a strategic significance. The strategic importance of Baluchistan for China lies in its Geo-Strategic location and huge reserves of natural resources.

Geographically, Karachi is 460 Km in the West, Iran is 75 Km in the eastern side and Strait of Harmuz is 400 km. It increased strategic depth of Pakistan from eastern side and further away India. The increased strategic depth of 460 km is added which decrease vulnerability of Pakistan from India. Gwadar port helped China to monitor sea line activities from Persian Gulf to Strait of Hormuz. Strategically, the presence of Chinese Naval force enables it to maintain check on US 5<sup>th</sup> Naval Fleet which has domination on Persian Gulf. Furthermore, this port enables China to check the emerging aspirations of Indian Blue Water Navy. By improving existing Caspian Sea link, this port can be compared with UAE and other ports. This port can become better trade route to Caspian Sea region. If US blocks Malacca Strait for Chinese shipment then this port can be used as substitute way for Chinese trade from Indian Ocean to West Asia.

The development of Gwadar port enhanced Pakistan's strategic importance for China. In future, the port would attract foreign investors for trade which will generate revenue. Strategic position of the port has also attracted India, USA and Russia. Geographically significance of the port is a blessing for the economic growth of Pakistan. Although the area in which this port is located is facing different security problems but when there would be proper investment on infrastructure development then there are many chances of peace and prosperity.

#### China's Interests in Gwadar Port

#### **Energy Corridor**

Energy cooperation is vital in Pak-China trade and economic relations. Gwadar port has the capacity to give both economic and military gains to China. Since, after the establishment of first diplomatic interaction, both started cooperating in different sectors. In 2006, their cooperation was further reinforced when the president of Pakistan, General Perviz Musharraf, visited China. Moreover, he offered China to make Pakistan an energy-trade corridor by the development of Gwadar port and up-gradation of KKH. These are the shortest routes and may help China to make its Western part an economic hub.China's response upon this offer was also a classic example which fortified their long-stand friendship and proved the vitality of China's economic presence in South and Southwest Asian region. <sup>10</sup>

Gwadar port is nearest to the Strait of Hormuz and 40% of world oil supply passes through this strait. According to Pan Zhiping, Director of the Central Asian Studies Institute of the Xinjiang Academy of Social Sciences, "China's new energy channel' through which oil from Africa and the Middle East would be transported to China by road, rail or pipeline". China is dependent to acquire its 60 percent energy from Persian Gulf. The construction of oil pipeline from Gwadar to China will reduce the distance of several km. In the view of Chen Xuguang (Party Secretary of Kashgar) Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and China rail track and Kashgar Gwadar linking line are expected to operate in next few years and then China will not be dependent more on Straits of Malacca and other routes of South-China, East China Yellow Sea.

Gwadar port reduced distance of several km for China to transport African oil from Persian Gulf and Western China. China has planned to build gas pipeline of 25000 km from Gwadar to Xinjiang through Pakistan which would reduce the distance. On the other hand, Eastern port of Shanghai and Beijing are 4500 km faraway from Xinjiang. Through Indian Ocean, Gwadar Port and Persian Gulf are 10,000 km faraway from Shanghai Port. It is obvious that transportation of energy and trade from East-African states to Persian Gulf through Gwadar will lessen the distance of 15000 km and 2500 km will just remain. Moreover, this route would not only reduce consumption cost but also a safe and secure route in compare with maritime route. Presently, China's oil tankers are reaching Gulf in twenty days and after the completion of this high-speed road and railway track these tankers would reach within 48 hours. The construction of Gwadar port enables China to

<sup>10</sup> Syed Fazl-e-Haider, "Gwadar: An Emerging Centre of the New Great Game", *ISPI Policy Brief*, (October 2009).110-118

deliver oil and gas through pipelines. Moreover, Chinese oil and gas exploration firms may get reasonable revenue in the form of taxes and also through different incentives by the government of Pakistan.

China's interests in Gwadar Port are commercial and its geostrategic location enables it to compete it with other regional ports. It is located at the choke point of Strait of Hormuz and has capacity to handle larger ships and oil tankers. The location of the port enables it to handle trade among enormous states like Central Asia, Iran, Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, Pakistan, East Africa and China. In future perspective, Gwadar will serve as international trade port for China and Pakistan will become regional trading hub. This port is a landmark in Pak-China business relations and it is a two way passage for markets of east and west, north and south.

Gwadar holds significant importance as far as China's strategic calculations are concerned. It is true that the port is providing many economic opportunities to China, as yet there is no getting away from the fact that there exist other actors- mainly India and internal bad security situation of Baluchistan which may lead to a specific role of China in this matter.

#### Prospects of Trade and Economic Development

Gwadar has both trade and economic incentives not only for Pakistan and China, but also for other regional states. Pakistan and China are biggest trading partners and their bilateral trade was recorded more than \$ 12 billion in 2013. Pakistan imports from China were recorded \$9.2 billion while exports were calculated \$ 3.14 billion. Pakistan's exports to China include leather goods, mineral reserves and base metals. While on the other hand Pakistan's imports from China include transport equipments, chemical, mineral ores, textile related products, machinery and mechanical appliances. After 2011, a big increase of 48 percent was calculated in bilateral trade.

Trade Forecast of Gwadar

Category	Year		
	2005	2010	2015

Dry Cargo (million tons)	3.96	4.74	5.77
Liquid Cargo (million tons)	16.62	17.54	18.77
Container 1000 TEUs	200	241	295
Transshipment 1000 TEUs	200	250	300

**Source:** Board of Investment, Government of Pakistan

Through five years' Development Program for Economic and Trade Cooperation, China will invest on 36 projects worth \$14 billion in Pakistan. Then there would be joint Economic Commission who will see the implementation of the projects. By up-grading 335 km of KKH from Gilgit to Khunjrab pass the bilateral trade as well as trade with Central Asian states will not only increase but new routes of commerce through Silk Route will also be opened.

As the port would start working with full velocity, it might give benefits to Central Asian States and Afghanistan also. Along with this, Gwadar port is located at the cross road of Middle East and Central Asian region which may also facilitates commercial commodities of intra-regional states. In this regard, Gwadar port can present its share as shortest supply route and having the capacity of handling big ships and cargos. Through Gwadar port, there are possibilities to develop economic cooperation, sea and fishing, exploration of oil and gas and exploration of valuable minerals.

#### Development of Road Railway Networks for Energy Transportation

For the transportation of energy, China is focusing on the construction and upgradations of railway and road tracks. In the work plan of phase-I, a railway track was proposed which would connect Gwadar with Dalbandin, Bandar Abbas, Karachi and Rawalpindi through railway track. The construction of two highways starting from Gwadar through Makran Coast connects at Liari with Indus highway. In 2001, China declared its support regarding the construction of Gwadar-Dalbandin railway track and Makran highway. In 2003, Asian Development Bank showed its willingness regarding the provision of \$150 million for the construction of road from Gwadar to Chaman via

Pak-Afghan border. The construction of this road would facilitate the supply route among Gwadar, Afghanistan and Central Asia.

Along with Gwadar port, China invested massively in the railway system of Pakistan. In 2001, China provided \$250 million to Pakistan and Pakistan purchased 175 rail coaches and 69 locomotives. In July 2002, Pakistan received 14 passenger coaches from China. In 2003, both countries concluded another agreement according to which China was to give 1300 railway engines to Pakistan. In these 420 were to be manufactured in China and remaining 880 were to be produced in Lahore. In the prevailing year, Pakistan got China's intention regarding the improvement of old railway system. In this regard both signed different MOUs and according to Pakistan's finance minister Shaukat Aziz, China would give \$500 million to Pakistan for building of new railway tracks, new wagons and locomotives.

In 2008, first railway track was completed which is the nearest route to KKH. The KKH and coastal highway both are pivotal trading routes which are generating economic benefits. Currently, KKH is linking Western part of China to Pakistan. In infrastructural development China is currently working on different highway projects. A road-line which connect Gwadar with Karachi has been completed and an overhaul of KKH in northwest of Pakistan in under progress. This Karachi to Gwadar road rout alone reduced the time from 48 to 7 hrs. Moreover, the development of country-side highway is also under consideration through motorway project.

Modernization of railway system along with the development of Gwadar port would enable China to move raw material and make easy the transportation of energy towards China. This up-gradation of railway system would enhance China's capacity and it can easily move people and goods between Western region to Arabian Sea via Pakistan and also from Gwadar to Central Asia. The development of Gwadar port is a unique opportunity for Central Asian states also. Through Gwadar these port can gain access to warm waters and enhance their trade. Furthermore, by using Gwadar port these landlocked states can export energy and products to the rest of the world. This port will

give economic boost not only to these states and Pakistan and China will also get economic benefits indirectly. <sup>11</sup>

#### US and Indian Concerns

As long as United State is concerned, it is not calculating China a bigger threat as compared with Russia but in contemporary scenario, China is the only state which may pose threat to US interests in Asian region. Indian Ocean has been and will remain a grave concern for US foreign policy makers. In contemporary regional security structure US interests over Gwadar port cannot be ruled out. The Washington has feared that by this growing influence China can monitor US maritime related activities over Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea. US is looking at China's control over Gwadar with suspicion and feared that China could turn Gwadar into a naval base and would undermine US interests. If China increases its influence in Indian Ocean region, US would consider its interests at stake. The rise of China shifted US policy focus to look from West to East and it adopted new strategy of "Pivot Asia" and rebalancing. In the view of this policy US political and economic focus has been shifted to Asia-Pacific region. Moreover 60 % of US military focus is on this region in which India is key ally of the US.

For India, Gwadar port is a bone of contention. Soon after the start of development India showed its reservations on the project. The basic concern of India's opposition on the port is its control by the Chinese authorities. India is feeling insecurity that this port will give Pakistan an upper position over India in term of access to world natural resources. Moreover, China's financial assistance for this project created insecurity for India because through this port; China can enhance its influence to Arabian Sea. Like China, Indian economy is heavily dependent on the sea. In terms of trade India is 90 % dependent on sea trade. Domestically, Indian oil and gas production is reducing and in order to import oil India is 90 % dependent of Sea. The major source of Indian oil import is from Africa of Middle East region which can be monitored by Chinese naval presence over the port.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Farooq Yousaf, "Gwadar Port: Chinese Acquisition, Indian Concerns and Its Future Prospects," *Spotlight South Asia*, paper, (Oct, 2013)58-95

Presence of China on Gwadar is a serious concern for India. India feels insecurity by the presence of Chinese navy that through this port China can watch India's trading ships and may also pose challenge at any critical movement. Indian policy makers also consider acquisition of Gwadar Port by China as encirclement to India through the Ocean. So in order to respond to the encirclement, India is focusing on alternative ways to secure its energy supply through Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean. For that purpose, India is developing close cordial relations with Iran and spent huge amount on the development on Chahbahar Port. The development of Gwadar port by China and Chahbahar by India will become the cause of open rivalry between Indian and China. Along with this these developments will be the cause of geostrategic and geo-economic struggle.

According to John Gaever China and India relations are based on realist view of balancing power. Regarding Asian power struggle Robert Gervis rightly pointed out it as "Security Dilemma". This thing is directly related to China as growing power and showing its presence in South Asian region. While on the other hand India is reactionary power and is responding to China's encirclement by counter-encirclement through its East look policy. In the light of China's growing energy concerns many scholars characterized China as revisionist power, those have wish to change current international status quo.

## CONCLUSION

Gwadar Port project is of immense importance for Pakistan. The geo-political and geo-economic significance of this project for both Pakistan and China is clear. If this port would operate in its full capacity and would not only generate valuable revenue, but it will also open new corridors of trade. The area in which this port in located is facing turbulence but if China would gain success to fully operate this project, it would be a great achievement. In addition to Gwadar port China also invested in different projects of Pakistan. The basic reason behind these investments is that China wants to use Gwadar as regional hub port and other investments, i.e. developments of roads and railway tracks would serve as land links towards other regions.

The province Baluchistan has been given with less importance since independence. There are different local as well as international elements that are disturbing the situation. On internal level, there are Baloch separatist fighters who are disturbing law and order situation. Pakistan's law and enforcement agencies are performing best to counter the activities of these elements. Along with internal elements, the involvement of external elements cannot be ruled out. These external forces are helping internal elements and they are disturbing the environment. On external front basically US and India are more worried regarding the acquisition and presence of China in Gwadar. Chinese presence is undermining both US and Indian interests and to control China they are disrupting internal security situation of Balochistan.

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## UNKNOWN SUFIS WITH KNOWN SHRINES: SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF MIRACLES

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Sufism is an esoteric aspect of Islam and the person who practices Sufism is known as Sufi. It is believed about Sufis that they have the capacity to do miracles. People have strong beliefs on miracles of Sufis and considered these Sufis as miraculous personalities. They give more importance to miracles of Sufis rather than knowing about the life history, teachings and contribution of Sufis in society. People venerate a person as Sufi who could do miracles or famous for his miraculous deeds. In other words Karamat or miracles are considered by people as a proof and as a certificate to any person for being a Sufi and recognize them through miracles. People do not care the historical authenticity of those Karamat rather they could believe on Karamat based on oral accounts passed by generation to generation. In fact their strong belief on miracles led them to visit shrines. The aim of this paper is to study the contextual history of miracles and people's belief on Sufis miraculous powers and to analyze the role of this belief as a major source behind the shrine visitation with special reference to the shrines of two major Sufi saints located in Gujrat

to show that people having no authentic information about Sufis' lives and works, venerate Sufis due to their miracles and visit their shrines to get Barakah.

**Key Words**: Sufi saints, Shrines, miracles, Gujrat, spiritual healing. Practices, Religious contributions, Social services, Mughal Royal family,

## **INTRODUCTION**

Sufism is an influential movement in Islam. With reference to Burckhardt it is narrated that Sufism is the internal or esoteric aspect of Islam which is indifferent to the exoteric or external aspect of Islam. <sup>12</sup>Basically Sufism is the name of seeking the living knowledge of 'One Divine Reality.' <sup>13</sup>European travelers first originated the term 'Sufism' during Middle Ages <sup>14</sup>but practically it began with the advent of Islam during the period of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) <sup>15</sup> and institutionalized during the ninth and eleventh century. <sup>16</sup>Sufism is a belief system in which a Muslim seeks spiritual knowledge through direct personal experience with Allah Almighty and the person who practices the belief system is known as

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Titus Burckhardt, *An Introduction to Sufism*, Trans, D. M. Matheson (Lahore: Shaikh Muhammad

Ashraf 1996, Rpt First Published 1959), p. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>Shagufta Begum &AneeqaBatoolAwan "A Brief Account Of Sufism And Its Socio-Moral Relevance" *The* 

*Dialogue, A Quarterly Research Journal*, Volume X Number 1( Jan, March, 2015), p. 24, Qurtuba University of

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>Annemarie Schimmel, *Mystical Dimensions of Islam*, Chapel Hill, (North Carolina: The University of North

Carolina Press Chapel Hill, 1975).p. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Fadiman, J., &Frager, R. (Eds.). Essential Sufism Edison, (New Jersey: Castle Books. 1997).p. 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Buehler, A.F. Sufi Heirs of the Prophet: The Indian Naqshbandiyya and the Rise of the Mediating Sufi Shaykh.

<sup>(</sup>Columbia, SC: South Carolina Press. 1998). p.1.

Sufi. <sup>17</sup> Various etymologies of the word Sufi *i.e Safa, Safwa, Suffa, Sophos* and *Ensof*, etc. are described by different Sufis and scholars but most of the scholars agreed upon Arabic word 'Suf' in meaning of 'wool' as its obvious root. <sup>18</sup> Sufis wore woolen garments to avoid worldly comforts and to show simplicity. <sup>19</sup>According to Chittick, the aim of Sufis is the 'Personal Engagement with Divine'. <sup>20</sup>The term Sufi was not recognized in the period of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W). The word ascetic was used for early Sufis<sup>21</sup>.

Sufism was started as an individual ascetic movement and became the legitimate part of Islam till the twelfth century. Sufis used to live in their lodges and *Khanqahs* with strict discipline and trained their disciples in their *Khanqahs*. These gathering led to the development of Sufi orders. Sufi orders spread in Muslim world and became popular during fifteenth century. The popularity of these Sufi orders influenced the lives and ritual behavior of the Muslims. The Sufi leaders especially the head of the Sufi orders developed their repute as Sufi saints about whom it was believed that they blessed with supernatural powers and *Barakah* by Allah

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Muhammad *Emin* Er, *Laws of the Heart: A Practical Introduction to the Sufi Path.* (np: Shifa Publishers, 2008).

ISBN: 978-0-9815196-1-6.

<sup>18</sup> M. Hassanali, "Sufi Influence on Pakistani Politics and Culture" *Pakistaniaat: A Journal of Pakistan Studies*,

<sup>2(1), 2010, &</sup>lt;u>University of North Texas</u>, United States of America, p. 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Shagufta&Aneeqa, "A Brief Account Of Sufism "The Dialogue, p.24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Chittick, W. "Sufi Thought and Practice", *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World*, Vol. 3, 207–216.

Ed. by John L Esposito, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), p. 207.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>Musa Ahmad Karkarku, *Historical Perspectives on the Development of Tasawwufin West Africa with Particular* 

Reference to Northern Nigeria, E-Proceeding of the 2nd International Conference on Arabic Studies and Islamic

Civilization, , (Malaysia: Kuala Lumpur, 9-10 March 2015) p. 328.

Almighty. And it was believed that a Sufi could do miracles through these powers.<sup>22</sup>

## Saints Veneration and Miracles: Contextual History

According to Ira M. Lapidus the veneration of Sufi saints began with Quran and *Hadis* which described the Prophets, Angels, scholars and pious men as mediator between Allah and common Muslims. The first form of veneration of human intermediaries was started from the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) who is considered as intermediary by Muslims. The burial place of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W) in Madina became an important reverend place by the end of the eighth century. Later, in tenth and eleventh century, his place of ascension to heaven in Jerusalem<sup>23</sup> and the tombs of the family of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W) in Mashahad, Karbala and Qum became important pilgrimage centre in early tenth century.<sup>24</sup> It supported the construction of shrines on the graves of Sufi saints. By the end of the eleventh century, the celebration of *Mawlid* (the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>Voll, John O. and Kazuo Ohtsuka."Sufism."In *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Islamic World. Oxford Islamic* 

*Studies Online*, http://www.oxfordislamicstudies.com/article/opr/t236/e0759 (accessed Aug 2nd, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> The Night Journey (*Isra*) and the *Ascension (Miraj)* was a great blessing bestowed upon *Muhammad*, the

*Prophet* of God. The Israa and Miraj refer to, two parts of an miraculous journey that Prophet

Muhammad (S.A.W) took in one night from Makka to Jerusalem and then an ascension to the heavens. It is

believed to have been followed by the *Mi'raj*, his ascension to heaven. According to some of the Hadith scholars

this journey is believed to have taken place just over a year before Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) migrated to

from Makkah to Madina, on the 27th of Rajab. The site of his ascension to heaven in Jerusalem became an

important reverend place in tenth and eleventh century.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Ira M. Lapidus, *Islamic Societies to the Nineteenth Century: A Global History*, (New York: Cambridge

University Press, 2012) Pp. 251-254.

annual celebration of the Holy Prophet Muhammad's (S.A.W) birthday) of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W) in Mesopotamia and Syria had become popular custom which set an example to celebrate the birthday of Sufis in medieval period and it became a custom to conduct praying, poetry, processions, *Zikr* and recitation of Quran at the shrine of Sufi saints. To illustrate the miracles of these saints many guides and manuals were written in which rituals and prayers were prescribed through which a pilgrim can obtain blessing. These mystical writings supported the popular belief<sup>25</sup>on miracles of Sufi saints.

A miracle is defined as "an extra ordinary and welcome event that is most explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore attributed to a divine agency". Hume defines it as "violation of laws of nature". Religiously, a miracle is defined as an extra ordinary 'natural event which happens by God's will to reach the important religious aim of saving the soul'. 28

Etymologically the term 'miracle' in Arabic *Mo'jza* closely fall to Greek *charisma(ta)* to describe the miraculous powers which Allah grants to his certain elect individuals. The classical theologians have drawn a sharp distinction between the notion of *Karāma* and *Mo'jeza*. In Islamic terminology by *Mo'jeza* means a miraculous extraordinary deed or act which was intended to reveal the truthfulness of a prophet's

25 Ibid.

<sup>26</sup>*Oxford Dictionary Of English* (3 ed), Edited By Angus Stevenson, (Oxford University Press, 2010).

<sup>27</sup> David Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, Section X, Hume On Miracles, (Minneapolis,

Minnesota. United States of America: FiliquarianPublishing,LLC, 2007), p.103. 28Concise Theological Encyclopedic Dictionary, (St Petersburg: Petersburg Theological Academy, 1992).

mission.<sup>29</sup>Such an extra ordinary action, performed by pious men who are neither prophets nor messenger of Allah, is called *Karāma*. <sup>30</sup>Qushayri also differentiated the prophetic miracles from saintly miracles. <sup>31</sup>Moulana Muhammad Amjad Ali Azmi explained five degrees of extra ordinary deeds; Irhas, Mo'jza, Karamat, Muanat, and Istadraj. Manifestation of extraordinary deed by a Prophet before his Prophethood is called Irhas and manifestation of such a deed after the declaration of Prophethood is called Mo'jza. Such extraordinary deed performed by pious men (Walli) is called Karamaand if performed by Momin is called Muanat and if such deed is performed by non-Muslim is called *Istadrai*. <sup>32</sup> Allah bestowed his pious holy men with miraculous powers. Numerous evidences from Quran and Ahadis are quoted regarding the existence of miracles of Sufis i.e Quran chapter 3 Verse no. 37 and Chapter 19 Verse no. 25 establishes the miracle of Hazrat Maryam (A.S.) who was not a Prophet rather she was saint.33Sura Kahf Verse no.25 pointed out the miracles of Asahab-e-Kahf<sup>34</sup> and Verse no. 61-63<sup>35</sup> described the miracle of dead fish becoming

<sup>29</sup>Ibni Khaldūn, *Muqaddima Ibni Khaldūn*, 2nd ed., Trans, Franz Rosenthal, (New York: Princeton University

Press, 1967) I, pp. 188-91.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid., III, pp. 167-8; Encyclopedia of Islamic Concepts, definition of "Al-Karamah", an article prepared by

Dr.Prof, `Abdus-Salam Muhammad `Abduh , The Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs, Arab Republic of Egypt, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup>Abu-al-Qasim Al-Qushayri, *Al-Risala Al-Qushayriyya Fi Пilm Al-Таsаwwuf*, Translated By Professor Alexander

D. Knysh *Epistle* On *Sufism* (Reading Berkshire, England: Garnet Publishing Limited, 2007), p. 358.

Muhammad Amjad Ali Azmi, *Bahar-e-Shariat*, Vol. 1, (Lahore: Zia-ul-Quran Publications, 2008), p. 26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> MarmadukePickthall, *Meanings of Holy Quran*, (03:37, Al Imran, *verse no*, 37), p.16; *Chapter 19: Verse no*. 25

p. 94.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup>Ibid., *Chapter 18: Verse no. 25* p. 91.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup>Ibid., *Chapter 18: Verse nos. 61-63* p.91.

alive at the hands of Hazrat Khizr (A.S) etc. Some *Ahadis* also proved the *Karamat* of *Aulia*. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) said, that "beware of the gaze of a *Momin*, for he sees with the *Noor* of Allah"<sup>36</sup>

Sufis and scholars also tried to prove its existence. Qushayri wrote that *Karamat* is an act about which there is no doubt... and it is a gift and reward for him (the *Walli*). According to him, miracles are the sign of his (*the Walli*) being truthful in his spiritual state.<sup>37</sup>To explain the miraculous powers of Sufis, Al-Tirmazi developed a theory of sainthood in tenth century. According to Baqlani, Sufi masters were the pious men (*Walli*) who could do miracles and they were the mediator on behalf of common Muslims. These theories and teachings supported the popular beliefs on Sufi celebrations, the faith on the efficacy of prayers that are conducted on Sufi shrines and wish for ecstatic experience.<sup>38</sup>

Miracles of saints can be divided in to two groups; miracles demonstrated during the life of saint and miracles revealed after the death of a saint. According to Porion, the miracles that reveal on the grave of a saint are more powerful than that of living saint. <sup>39</sup>Siradzr explains that miracles were the general ideal of hagiographic literature. <sup>40</sup>A number of studies

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup>Tirmidhi (*Gharib*) from Abu Sa`id al-Khudri, and Tabarani from Abu Imama with a fair (*Hasan*) chain according

to al-Haythami in the chapter on firasa of Majma` al-zawa'id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Qushayri, *Al-Risala Al-Qushayriyya* Trans. By Knysh *Epistle* On *Sufism*, Pp. 357, 359. 38Lapidus, *Islamic Societies to the Nineteenth Century: A Global History*, Pp. 321-324. 39 Danile Porion, *Le Merveilleux Dans La Literature Française Au Moyen Age*, (Paris: PUF, coll. 1995), p. 11. As

cited in Nino Chakunashvili , "A General Review Of Miracles In Hagiographic And Chivalry Literature"

 $<sup>\</sup>label{lem:Georgian} \textit{Electronic Journal of Literature} \ , \ Vol\ 4, \ Issue\ 1, \ The\ Rustaveli\ Institute\ of\ Georgian\ Literature.$ 

Georgia, (2010), p. 1.

<sup>40</sup> R. Siradze, *The Issues of Old Georgian Theoretical-Literary Thinking*, (Tbilisi: University Press, 1975), p.169;

<sup>(</sup>Hagiography is a genre of biography in which the authors idealize or idolize its subject and treat theindividual

regarding the history of Sufism have shown that miraculous stories of the  $Auli\bar{a}$  narrated in hagiographic literature are valuable source to understand the social and cultural history. It provides that perspective which is missed by historiography. Hagiography is one of the few genres which bring into account the views, wishes and concerns of common mass. It expresses the thinking and view point of common people.

Hagiographic literature is replete with certain kind of *Karamat*. There are various types of Karamat associated to Sufi saints such as Karāmāt that are manifested for clear social intention, i.e doing miracles for conversion to Islam or the providence of food, water, and other necessities of life in times of need; punishing detractors; healing the sick and raising the dead etc. There are Karāmāt revealing the extraordinary mastery to control the natural world, such as conversing or taming with wild animaland beasts or controlling the natural elements. Then there are those *Karāmāt* regarding the ability to go beyond the limits of normal human capacity, such as ability to pass over great distances, fly, walk on water, to be immune or safe in fire and poison. Finally, there are those *Karāmāt* regarding the powers of having extrasensitive perception or understanding, like mind telepathy, prediction, reading. and spiritual insight Firāsa 'cardiognosia.'43

as pious holy man.)

<sup>41</sup> J. Gross, "Authority and Miraculous Behavior: Reflections on *Karāmāt* Stories of Khwāja 'Ubaydullāh Aḥrār," in

L. Lewisohn, ed., *The Heritage of Sufism*, Vol 2, (Oxford: Oneworld Publications, 1999), pp. 159-71.

<sup>42</sup>Jürgen Paul, "**Hagiographic Literature**" *Encyclopædia Iranica*, Vol. XI, Fasc. 5, December 15, 2002, pp. 536-539.

available online at <a href="http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/hagiographic-literature">http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/hagiographic-literature</a> (accessed 4th August, 2016).

<sup>43</sup> Schimmel, Mystical Dimensions of Islam, pp. 205-13.

According to Eaton the hagiographic literature dealing with the biographies of Sufis is filled with 'laudatory embellishment' and 'fanciful image'. 44 It helps us to understand that how people viewed Sufis and which aspects of their life and achievement fascinate them a lot. 45 The fanciful images of Sufis and miracle stories associated to Sufis in biographies and oral accounts show that people impress and influence by the miracles of Sufis and recognize them through their miracles. Biographical anecdotes regarding the Sufis reveal the attraction of the thought that a saint possesses the power to do miracles and it can be accessed through the *Barakah* associated with his earthly tomb. 46

So whatever was the doctrinal, scholastic or legal base of Sufism, its real power that appeals and attracts the common Muslims is the faith on the miraculous power of Sufis. <sup>47</sup>This strong belief on the miraculous powers of Sufiscompels them to visit shrines and to get spiritual and material benefits. To support this theory, two cases are discussed as reference source which shows that people impressed by the miraculous accounts of Sufis and regard Sufis due to their miracles, visit shrines and make vows.

#### **Shah Hussain Multani**

Shah HussainMultani is considered as one of the important Sufi saints in Gujrat. Information regarding his date of birth, life history, education, date

44 Richard Maxwell *Eaton, Sufis Of Bijapur 1300-1700: Social Roles Of Sufis In Medieval India,* (Princeton Nj:

Princeton University Press, 1978), P. Xviii.

<sup>45</sup>TanvirAnjum, Chishti Sufis In The Sultanat Of Delhi 1190-1400, From Restrained Indifference To Calculated

Defiance, (Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2011) P. 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Erik S. Ohlander, "Karāma" *Encyclopædia Iranica*, XV, Fasc. 5, April 24, 2012, pp. 547-549 available online

at http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/karama (accessed 5th August 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Lapidus, *Islamic Societies to the Nineteenth Century: A Global History*, Pp. 321-324

of death, etc. is not available by any written record. Data regarding his life history is mostly based on oral accounts and these oral accounts too are mostly based on miraculous stories.

According to the oral accounts, he came from Baghdad to Multan then he came in Gujrat and spread Islam in this area. According to Baig, Shah Hussain came from Multan and belonged to the progeny of Khawaja Baha-ul-Haq Multani. 48 He belonged to the Syed family. With reference to Allama Anayatullah Butt, Shah Daula often used to visit Shah Hussain to pay regard.<sup>49</sup> To prove him as contemporary of Shah Daula two versions are related. According to one version it is narrated that once Shah Daula was coming to pay salam to Shah Hussain. He rode on a horse. On knowing of his arrival Shah Hussain sat on a wall and the wall started to move and he welcomed Shah Daula. 50 Another version of his meeting with Shah Daula also elaborates a miracle story. Once, a woman came to Shah Hussain and requested him to pray that Allah blessed her with a baby boy. He prayed. Later that women went to Shah Daula requested the same. Shah Daula said that she will be blessed with baby girl. But when she was blessed with baby boy she took her child to Shah Daula and said that she is blessed with baby boy as was told by Shah Hussain. Shah Daula replied that her child is not a boy but a girl. Women got astonished to see that her boy became a girl. Then she again went to Shah Hussain who, after listening the whole story, smiled and said that her child was a bov. 51

He is known with the name of Shah Hussain Multani. Two reasons are described for his being famous as Multani. According to one, he came

<sup>48</sup> Azam Baig, *Tarikh-i- Gujrat*, (Lahore: Victoria Press, 1870), P. 582.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> M. Zaman Khokhar, *Gujrat Tarikh Kay Ainay Mein*, (Gujrat: Yāsir Academy Muslimabad, 1996) p. 191.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Ibid.

from Multan that is why know as Multani<sup>52</sup> the other reason indicates that his frequent visits to Multan became the reason for his being popular as Multani.<sup>53</sup> It is not clear that to which Sufi order he belonged. According to oral version he at a time belonged to Qadri, Chishti, and Naqashbandi orders as well.<sup>54</sup> According to Qiladari he belonged to Suharwardi command.<sup>55</sup> No authentic information is available regarding his married life too. Different opinions are narrated in oral accounts some says he had married and some say he had not.<sup>56</sup> From the information gathered through oral history and the miracles attributed to him, his character can be estimated that he was a pious, hospitable, kind and humble.

## **Contributions**

Like other Sufi saints Shah Hussain also spread Islam in the area. As every Sufi saint influenced the non-Muslim and converted them to Islam through their own examples Shah Hussain was no exception of this. Many Hindus were among his devotees. A miracle story is narrated that a Hindu devotee wanted to go for ritual bath *Ashnan* in Ganges River. All his family went but he left behind. When the time of *Ashnan* came near, the Hindu went to Shah Hussain to get permission from him but he could not reach there in time. So Shah Hussain lowered him in a well through the rope and he reached Ganges. His relatives astonished to see him there. He told them

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Dr. Shahzada Mumtaz Mehdi, Interviewed By Author, Gujrat, Pakistan, August 09, 2015; Khokhar, *Gujrat Tarikh* 

Kay Ainay Mein, p. 191; Ahmad Hussain Qiladari, Zila Gujrat Tarikh, Saqafat Adab, (Lahore:Pakistan Punjabi

Adabi Board, 1995), P.701

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Ishaaq Ashufta, *Gujrat Ki Baat, Tarikh Zila Gujrat*, (Lalamusa, 4/55 Nizampura, 1991) P. 29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Mehdi, Interviewed By Author, Gujrat, August 09, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup>Qiladari, *Zila Gujrat Tarikh*, *Saqafat Adab*, P.701.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup>Mehdi, Interviewed By Author, Gujrat, August 09, 2015.

the whole story. After *Ashnan* he dived in Ganges again and reached Gujrat and came out of the well through rope. On knowing this, all Hindu tribe were converted to Islam<sup>57</sup>. This version is narrated in oral account of Mehdi<sup>58</sup> with little alterations. This kind of miracle is also narrated about Shah Hussain Lahori and Madho Laal too. According to some versions it was Madho Laal, a Hindu devotee, who wanted to go for *Ashnan* and Shah Hussain Lahori took him there in this way<sup>59</sup> as described above by Mehdi. He is credited with the construction of a small mosque during Mughal's period and a *Darsgah* in Gujrat. '*Mohallah* Shah Hussain', 'Shah Hussain Girls School' and a square *Chowk*, '*Chowk* Shah Hussain' are attributed to his name. <sup>60</sup>

## Miracles

Apart from above mentioned miracles, one miracle is also narrated to show his mastery to control the natural world. Once a saint coming from Delhi stayed at Gujrat and came to Shah Hussain. He had a lion and a snake with him. Shah Hussain put his lion in the room with his cow and snake with his rod *Asaa*. On getting up in the morning, the saint saw that lion and snake were not there in the room. He inquired Shah Hussain about it. Shah Hussain told him that his lion had been eaten by his cow and his snake had been eaten by his rod. On the order of Shah Hussain, his

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup>Khokhar, Gujrat Tarikh Kay Ainay Mein, p. 191.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup>Mehdi, Interviewed By Author, Gujrat, August 09, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Syed Muhammad Latif, *Lahore: Its History, Architectural Remains And Antiquities: With An Account Of Its* 

Modern Institutions, Inhabitants, Their Trade, Customs, (Lahore: Printed At The New Imperial Press, 1892), P

<sup>145.</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Khokhar, Gujrat Tarikh Kay Ainay Mein, p. 191.; Ashufta, Gujrat Ki Baat, P, 29; Baig, Tarikhe Gujrat, P. 91;

Qiladari, Zila Gujrat Tarikh, Saqafat Adab, P.701.

cow and rod disgorged the lion and the snake. Then saint told Shah Hussain that he was going to perform Hajj. Shah Hussain carried him on his shoulder to *Kaaba* where he performed Hajj and then took him back by carrying him on his shoulders.<sup>61</sup> It is also narrated that he himself used to ride lions.<sup>62</sup>

## Descendants, Shrine and Urs

His descendents are not from his family. Only attendants *Khadim* look after the shrine. His first descendant was one of his devotees, named Nikkay Shah. After the death of Nikkay Shah, Ghani Shah looked after the shrine. The *Khadims* who are appointed to look after the shrine are the descendants of Nikkay Shah and this responsibility is hereditary in this family. The shrine is under Auqaf Department and descendant only looks after the shrine. There is no system of *Piri-Muridi* on that shrine. Neither Shah Hussain nor any of his descendants made disciples. People who come here are only devotees. <sup>63</sup>

According to Mehdi, shrine was built over the grave in 2003-2005. All the funds were provided by Auqaf Department. The boundary of the yard and some work of renovation was done by contractor Khalid Qureshi. <sup>64</sup> The shrine was taken over by Auqaf Department in 1999 in Pervaiz Musharraf's regime. On the first Thursday of *Harr* (local month), every year, an *Urs* is celebrated. *Mahafile Zikar-o-Naat and Qawwali* is conducted and *Langar* is distributed. Many devotees send caldrons (*Deg*)

<sup>61</sup>Mehdi, Interviewed By Author, Gujrat, Pakistan, August 09, 2015.

<sup>64</sup>Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Census Organization (Pakistan), '1998 District Census Report Of [Name Of District] Vol 101, (Islamabad:

Population Census Organisation, Statistics Division, Govt. Of Pakistan, 1999) P. 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup>Mehdi, Interviewed By Author, Gujrat, August 09, 2015.

of Langar to distribute. Some people arrange lighting on the shrine  $^{65}$  Thousands of people gathered at shrine from far off places and attend  $Urs.^{66}$ 

## **Shah Jahangir**

The other important shrine is of Shah Jahangir. His life history too is not available by any written record. Two versions are narrated regarding this shrine. According to first version, Mughal King Jahangir on his return journey from Kashmir died near Gujrat in 1627 A.D and to save his corpse from decomposition his entrails were taken out on the suggestion of *Shahi Tabeeb* and deposited there outside the city. A tomb was built, and some land was attached to it as endowment *Waqf*. <sup>67</sup>According to Salman Rashid Mughal emperor Jahangir died on his journey back from Srinagar to Lahore at Rest House *Carvansarai* of Chingas Hateli. <sup>68</sup>During their one

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<sup>65</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Census Organization (Pakistan), '1998 District Census Report, P. 16

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup>Sisabel Huacuja Alonso, "Jernali Sarak (The Grand Trunk Road) Excrept From Radio Show By Raza Ali

Abdi", Sagar, A South Asian Research Journal Vol. Xxi (Austan: The University Of Texas At Austan, 2013),p.

<sup>64;</sup> Talqeen Shah, "Shah Jahangir", *Shaheen*, Six-monthly, Zamindara College For Boys (Gujrat: Khurshid

Humayun Chaudhry, 1968) , p 52; Khokhar, *Gujrat Tarikh Kay Ainay Mein*, p. 204; M.Rafique Mugal "Gujrat by

the Chenab, An Account of Antiquities and Monuments" *Pakistan Quarterly*. Vol.12 (1), (Karachi: Pakistan

Publications, 1964), p17; Qiladari, *Zila Gujrat*, P.181; Abdul Rehman, & J. L. Jr. Wescoat. *Pivot of the Punjab*,

the Historical Geography of Medieval Gujrat (Lahore: Dost Associates Publishers, Al Karīm Market, Urdu Bazar,

<sup>1993),</sup> p. 139.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> 'Chingus' is a Persian word which means 'intestine'. Chingus Sarai is one of the most important Mughal

Monuments on old Mughal road constructed by an Iranian engineer Ali Mardan Khan on the orders of Emperor

Jahangir in between 1605to 1621 AD. This Sarai was the fifth halting station for the royal carvans on Mughal road

night stay at Gujrat, his entrails were taken out and buried here. A tomb was built over the grave and with passage of time people forgot what was buried under it and started to worship considering it a burial place of saint named Shah Jahangir. <sup>69</sup>Above described versions cannot be proved by historical facts because most authentic historical sources, like *Char Baghi Punjab*, *Tuzke Jahangiri and Rehnumae Kashmir*, confirms the death of Mughal king Jahangir in *Chak Zahti* (presently known as Chingas) near Rajouri, Kashmir. <sup>70</sup>In this *Sarai* there is a grave too about which the local people believed that it is the grave of Mughal King Jahangir.

According to K.D Maini and Ranjit Thakur with reference to Marajkar Singh, a local historian and School teacher in Rajouri and G.S Gaur, (Deputy Superintendent Archaeologist of The Archaeological Survey of India, ASI) also narrated the same. <sup>71</sup>So having no proof of *Carvansarai* in Gujrat and the presence of *Carvansarai* at Chingas and grave mark in the *Sarai* are clear evidences to prove that Mughal king died at Chingas Rajouri.

Secondly, the construction of tomb over the grave in Mughal period is also not supported by record.<sup>72</sup>. Thirdly, the record regarding the land

which was 170 miles long from Gujrat (Now in Pakistan) to Srinagar and divided into 14 halting stations. The

whole village is known as Chingus and famous for this Mughal monument. The original name of the village was

Khanpur which was established by Jaral Rajas of Rajouri. However, after the burial of entrails of emperor Jahangir

in the Sarai the name of the Sarai and village was changed to Chingus Sarai.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> Salman Rashid, "Dumped in to Oblivion" *The News International* Weekly, Lahore, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 P. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Ganesh Das Wadera, *Char Bagh-i-Punjab*, (Amratsar: Sikh History Research Dept. Khalsa College, 1965), P.181;

Ishaq Ashufta, Gujrat Ki Baat, P. 89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Ranjit Thakur, "Mughal Emperor Jehangir Lies Buried At Two Places", *The Tribune*, April 12, 2012

http://www.tribuneindia.com/2012/20120412/nation.htm#6 (accessed June 24, 2015). <sup>72</sup>Ashufta, *Gujrat Ki Baat*, P. 89.

endowment before 1856 A.D. is also not found. Under the registered land settlement of *Moza Bolay* 1867-68, this land was granted to Hussain Shah S/O Miskeen Shah of Syed caste for life timeat the order of Finance Member on 18<sup>th</sup> March 1856.<sup>73</sup>So in the light of these facts it can be stated that the burial of entrails of Mughal king Jahangir, the construction of the tomb in Mughal period and detail of trust is not supported by any historical record.

Second version regarding a saint burial and being contemporary of Shah Daula, <sup>74</sup> is also not proved by any historical written record. Any writer of Shah Daula's period like Mushtaq Raam, Chiragh Qadri has not mentioned the presence of any contemporary saint named Shah Jahangir in Gujrat. How it is possible that two major saints, living in one city did not meet with each other? And the writers and historians of that period, who have mentioned about Shah Daula, may have neglected the other saint altogether? <sup>75</sup>It is not known to us that who was he? What was his real name and belonged to which Sufi order? His name is recorded as Shah Hussain, <sup>76</sup>Shah Jahangir <sup>77</sup>and Syed Allah Daad <sup>78</sup>but theses names are also

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup>Ashufta, *Gujrat Ki Baat*, P. 89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup>Wadera, *Char Bagh-i-Punjab*, P.181; Rehman, & Wescoat. *Pivot of the Punjab*, p. 137; A. M. Ahuja, N. D.

Ahuja & Tegh Bahadur, Guru, *Persecution of Muslims by Aurangzeb*, (Chandigarh: Kirti Publishing House, 1975)

p. 35; Pakistan. Office of The Census Commission, *Population Census Of Pakistan*, 1961: Dacca. 2. Chittagong.

<sup>3.</sup>Sylhet. 4.Rajshahi. 5.Khulna. 6.Rangpur. 7.Mymensingh. 8.Comilla. 9.Bakerganj. 10.Noakhali. 11.Bogra.

<sup>12.</sup>Dinajpur. 13.Jessore. 14.Pabna. 15.Kushtia. 16.Faridpur. 17.Chittagong Hill Tracts, Part 2, Vol. 21,

Population Census Of Pakistan, 1961: District Census Report, 1961, P. Xiv; Alonso, "Jernali Sarak" p. 64;

Khokhar, Gujrat Tarikh Kay Ainay Mein, p. 205; Sikh Cultural Centre, The Sikh Review, Volume 24, Issues 265-

<sup>276, (</sup>Calcutta: Sikh Cultural Centre, 1976), p. 44.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup>Ashufta, *Gujrat Ki Baat*, P. 90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup>Census Commission, *Population Census Of Pakistan, 1961:* P. xiv.

not proven by history. His affiliation to any *Silsilah* is also not confirmed. According to some historical works he was *Wajudi* saint and a *Mast Darvaish*. <sup>79</sup>In Population Census Report of 1961, it is indicated that he was the disciple of Hazrat Daud Bandgi Kirmani Shergarhi <sup>80</sup>and belonged to Qadri order.

### **Contributions**

According to oral accounts Shah Jahangir preached Islam in this area and converted many non-Muslims to Islam. It is narrated that a *Sain*, named Ghulam Rasool, was the attendant *Khadim* of *Khanqah*. Earlier He was Brahman by caste but was converted to Islam due to the influence of Shah Jahangir. After partition, his family migrated to India but he refused to go with them. His family members came again and asked him to go with them but he refused and renderedhis services for the shrine as *Khadim* all through his life. He was buried in the footsteps of Shah Jahangir. Shameem Ahamd told that Shah Jahangir still today shows erratic the right path. By giving example of his own life he described that he was an erratic and astray and by the grace of Shah Jahangir he came to the right path. <sup>81</sup>This version indicates that this was not the miracle of a living saint rather it can be associated to those miracles that appear on the graves of Sufis after their death as indicated by Porion.

<sup>77</sup>Ashufta, *Gujrat Ki Baat* P. 90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> A. M. Ahuja, *et.al*, *Persecution of Muslims by Aurangzeb*, p. 35; Sikh Cultural Centre, *The Sikh Review*, Volume

<sup>24,</sup> Issues 265-276, (Calcutta: Sikh Cultural Centre., 1976) p44; Waderā, *Chār Bāgh-i-Punjab*, P.178.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup>Census Commission, *Population Census of Pakistan, 1961:* p. xiv.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> Shameem Ahmad, Interviewed By The Author, Gujrat, May 24, 2015.

Many marvels are attributed to him. Raza Ali Abadi with reference to Fazal Hussain relates that during the Anglo Sikh war in 1849 at Chelianwala, Sikhs were defeated by British army sikh fled away and came in Gujrat. British army followed them, some Sikhs hid themselves in the tomb of Shah Jahangir at Gujrat but the British soldiers saw them and started to fire but all those officers who were firing were died. They could not understand that from which directions the bullets were being fired because the Sikhs had no weapons. Then on the inquiry of the English army,it was told to them that a Syed, Sufi saint is buried here and if someone fire in his direction, the bullet returns and hits the shooter. British army buried their dead soldiers at that place. The graves of seven fallen English soldiers still can be found here. 83

Another *Karamat* which is attributed to Shah Jahangir is that, at the shrine, patients of enlarged Spleen<sup>84</sup> are cured by the *Sain*, who is attached to the shrine as *Khadim*. This *Faiz* is granted to by the grace of Shah Jahangir every *Sain* who is attached to the shrine as *Khadim*. Human as well as animals get healed by the prayer of this saint. People come to the shrine for blowing *Dua* on the pegs (*Killay*) of their animals for their several

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> According to Elliot the writer of *The Chronicles Of Gujrat*, p. 37, this battle was won by Sikhs, but in Gujrat

Anglo Sikh war, the Sikhs were defeated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup>Alonso, "Jernali Sarak" p. 65; Khokhar, *Gujrat Tarikh Kay Ainay Mein* p. 204.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> The spleen is normally a small organ located on the upper left side of the abdomen under the rib cage. It functions

as part of the body's defense system that fights infection by removing bacteria (germs) from the blood. Basically,

it serves as a filter in the bloodstream. When it is damaged or grow bigger by sickled red blood cells (RBC's), it

is not able to remove bacteria from the blood. This means that bacteria can grow in the blood and cause blood

poisoning (infection of the blood).

types of diseases and pegs are presented to shrine as an offering. <sup>85</sup>These versions also cannot be considered as the miracles of a living saint His date of death is recorded in 1100 A.H (1689A.D) and in 1111 A.H <sup>86</sup> (1700 A.D). The construction of the tomb on modern structure was completed in 1957. <sup>87</sup>According to devotees, his *Faiz* is still continued. People visit to this shrines to get rid of their physical diseases, to get comfort from their worldly problems and worries. This shrine is also popular for its Fair *Mela* which is held annually at the shrine. People from far off places visited the Fair. The shrine has been taken over by the Auqaf Department since 1972 and now the fair is not held at large scale.

# CONCLUSION

Sufism is an internal aspect of Islam. The early ascetic movement in Islam became its legitimate part in twelfth century. The development and popularity of Sufi orders in fifteenth century influenced the lives and religious behavior of Muslims. The popularity of Sufi leaders as saints propagated the spiritual powers of Sufis which developed people's belief on spiritual powers and miracles of Sufis. Mystical writings further increased and enhanced the belief on *Karamat* of Sufis. They have strong belief that only those persons can do miracles who are friends of Allah because Allah blessed his pious people with ability to do miracles and his capacity to do miracle is considered as a sign of his truthfulness in spiritual state. They recognize a person as (*Walli*) through his capacity to do miracles and venerate him as Sufi saint. Sufis display miracles during his life or after his death as indicated by Porion. The two cases presented

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup>Shameem Ahmad, Interviewed By The Author, Gujrat, May 24, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup>Qiladari, *Zila Gujrat*, P.760.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup>Khokhar, Gujrat Tarikh Kay Ainay Mein p. 205; Ashufta, Gujrat Ki Baat P. 89.

in the study are the clear example of these two types of miracles. The miracles attributed to Shah Hussain were all revealed during his life time but all the miracles that are narrated about Shah Jahangir are associated to his shrine. None of the miracles is during his life time. These saints are unknown to people regarding their life history, teachings Sufi Silsilah etc. but all that is knownand remembered about these Sufis are just Karamat associated to these saints. It indicates that people do not take interest to know about the lives of Sufis rather they are concerned to know the capacity of their doing miracles and give importance to miracles associated to saints and impressed by them. In other words these Sufis are known to people due to their miracles and it is the powerful role of miracles which has kept them still alive in the hearts of the people. Despite of having no authentic information about the life history, teachings and recognition of these Sufis, people visit their shrines to get rid of their worldly problems and hoping for material and spiritual benefits. Their strong belief on miracles and spiritual powers of these Sufis is a pull force which attracts and compels them to visit shrines hoping to get material and spiritual benefits. Due to the significant role of miracles the shrines of these Sufis are alive and became popular centre of visitation today.

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# SOCIAL AND CULTURAL BARRIER TO FEMALE EDUCATION IN BALUCHISTAN; AN ASSESSMENT STUDY WITH FOCUS ON DISTRICT PISHIN

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### **ABSTRACT**

Aristotle said "The educated differs from the uneducated as much as the living differs from the dead." If we want to understand and live life we need to seek education. Education in its general sense is a form of learning in which the knowledge, skills, and habits of a group of people are transferred from one generation to the next through teaching, training or research. Female education is very important in changing character, mind and personality. Female education and gender equality are two of the major aspects without succeed we can't achieve intended progress. In Pakistan education as a right is denied to many children, the state of literacy, particularly of females is dismal in its most deprived province, Baluchistan with as much as 70% girls dropped out of school. Female literacy in Baluchistan is one of the lowest in the world. Most girls are not allowed to acquire education. Baluchistan literacy rate is 37%, which is much below that of the other three provinces of Pakistan, as well as its national average of 53%. The women in Baluchistan have no access to

education, due to cultural barriers and lack of resources as well. Cultural barriers to female education in Baluchistan are a major issue. Women in Baluchistan have no expectation and dreams as there are very rare opportunities and many cultural barriers for them.

**Key Words**: Cultural barriers, Social barriers, Female Education, Women education, Girls education

## INTRODUCTION

This paper intends to reveal the social and cultural barriers to female education in Baluchistan. Aristotle said "The educated differs from the uneducated as much as the living differs from the dead." If we want to understand and live life we need to seek education. It is also rightly said that education is the cheapest defense of a nation but Pakistan seems to be extremely weak even in that. The government authorities and the whole society need to realize that education is a strong power of nation that can not only solve incapacity issues but also eradicate social evils from society and is the major cause of revolution through evolution. (Reggie, 2015)

Education in its general sense is a form of <u>learning</u> in which the <u>knowledge</u>, <u>skills</u>, and <u>habits</u> of a group of people are transferred from one generation to the next through teaching, training or research. Education frequently takes place under the guidance of others, but may also be <u>autodidactic</u> (Dewey, 2008)

Female education is very important in shaping personality, character and mind of an individual. Unfortunately, female education in this part of the world does not receive proper time and resources. Pakistan and its least developed province Baluchistan is no exception. There are certain issues

associated to access, lack of required educational facilities, supportive environment and restrictions imposed by cultural values.

Illiteracy is one of the major problems still prevailing in Pakistan. Pakistan has allocated only 2.3 percent of the budget for education which is 0.3 per cent less than in 1999. Nine percent of government spending is on education, placing Pakistan 113th amongst 120 countries on the education development index (NNI, 2013)

There are numerous issues in the educational field that are yet to be dealt with; such as misuse of educational institutions and the ever-increasing corruption. This has resulted in extremely poor infrastructure, such as ghost schools, insufficient furniture and infrastructure, political pressure, inadequate or no career and moral counseling of children. Millennium Development Goals will not be achieved by 2015 and especially not the important targets on gender and equality that the international community set itself. Crucially, we will fail the millions of girls whose lives are so severely impacted by war and its aftermath (Gaag, 2008). Women's access to services are far behind that of men's whether in education and health. The reasons are lack of infrastructure accessible to women, cultural values that restrict women from going out to seek help, restrictions on mobility etc., and also at the same time dearth of women teachers, women and other women field officers. (Rai, 2007)

Female education and gender equality are two of the major aspects without which any country or nation cannot prosper, succeed or achieve progress, in any walk of life. The educational policies of both India and Sri Lanka introduced gender equality and worked towards female education. As a result of which they are progressively developing and flourishing. Women must be provided with equal opportunities whether occupational or educational. They must be provided opportunities and

equally empowered as men. According to the World Bank Report 2011, a high output is obtained by educating girls in the developing world. It is the best investment of any nation. Therefore, it is very crucial that women be provided education. (Worldbank, 2011). Education is a right denied to many children across Pakistan, but the situation of literacy, particularly of females is gloomy in Baluchistan with as much as 70% girls dropped out of school. The statistics show a dark picture, with less than two percent rural women educated and only 26 percent overall female literacy in the province (SHAH, 2014).

In Pakistan Women and girls are facing problems related to poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition and discrimination. It is well understood that women in the country can't become fully active members of the society without providing gender supportive environments. To realize women's potential in society, initiatives are being taken to reduce gender disparities in all spheres of life. Education is a major force for eliminating gender inequalities in the society, but addressing inequalities in the education system is great challenge (AHMAD, 2008).

Baluchistan is considered to be least developed and masses are considered backward and less civilized. The prevailing situation reveals that lack of access to basic services is a general issue for the whole inhabitants of the province. Yet the fact remains solid that among the entire population, female gender is the most deprived segment of the society. Female literacy in Baluchistan is one of the lowest in the world. Most girls are not allowed to acquire education. Baluchistan literacy rate is 37%, which is much below that of the other three provinces of Pakistan, as well as its national average of 53%. In Baluchistan the literacy rate for women was estimated to be 20%, with only10% women in the rural areas acquiring education.

(PAKISTAN: Balochistan's girls miss out on education) The current situation now at the end of 2015 is not very much changed.

#### RATIONAL OF THE STUDY

Women face a wide range of problems in Pakistan, from poverty, illiteracy, diseases, malnutrition, and insecurity to gender discrimination, female infanticide and lack of participation in law or decision-making. GMR (Global Monitoring Report) shows that girls to boys' ratio at primary level are 8:10 respectively. And it is even less at the secondary level. The deteriorating law and order situation of the country further causes adverse effects on the women education programs and pushes the government further away from achieving the EFA goals (Go, 2010). Child-labor, socio-cultural norms, poverty, restrictions, put on women bounding them to stay indoors, shortage of infrastructure at schools, lack of proper female teachers, low budget and fun allocation and shortage of schools are some of the main problems hindering the pathway to educational progress of the country.

Women in Baluchistan have been suffering from various issues in equipping them with quality education. The problems increase and reach up to the high extent in the rural areas of Baluchistan. The literacy rate directly depends on two important factors:

a) Easy access to facilities b) Social motivation

Both these factors are concomitant to each other. Facilities generate motivation, and motivation creates the atmosphere to develop facilities (Abbasi, 1990). The population of Baluchistan is poor both in facilities and motivation in terms of women education.

In Baluchistan Men are shown as a symbol of power, strength and bravery. They are portrayed as the skillful and dominating member of society, while women are depicted as weak, timid, home-confined, submissive, and less intelligent ones. In this way, and many more, they are discouraged, humiliated and pressurized to leave education and that it is not meant for them. Women are constantly deprived of their rights to be educated due to various reasons e.g. the government is reluctant to oppose the religious extremists and the male-dominated system has suppressed women's rights.

In rural Baluchistan around 90% of girls are deprived of schooling, said rights activist, educationist and veteran politician. (Butt, 2011). The women in Baluchistan have no access to education, due to cultural barriers and lack of resources as well. Cultural barriers to female education in Baluchistan are a major issue. Sometimes they are forced to stay home rather than encouraged to compete with men out in the world. Women in Baluchistan have no expectation and dreams as there are very rare opportunities and many cultural barriers for them.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

To highlight the social and cultural barrier to women education in Baluchistan.

To propose suggestions for the promotion of female education in Baluchistan.

#### 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The main purpose of this study is to highlight the social and cultural barriers to Women in Education in Baluchistan.

# **Type of Research**

Qualitative research approach has been adopted for the study. No such research has ever been conducted before to overcome the issue in the area. The research, no doubt, highlighted the nature and intensity of the problems for the first time.

#### Universe

District Pishin is the geographical universe of the present study. However from among the entire district, three Union Councils from three Tehsils were selected for the primary data.

Tools for Data collection

Key informant Interviews and focus group discussions were used as tools for primary data collection.

The secondary data for the study was focused on desk review from grey literature and peer reviewed literature.

Sample size

Below tabulated details of sample size for primary data

Tools	Key Stakeholders of District Education Department		Community Representatives		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Key informant interview	05	05	06	06	11	11
Focus group discussion	1	1	3	3	4	4

After the data collection, the data was analyzed using the qualitative tools so that the appropriate result could be drawn about social and cultural barrier to women education in Baluchistan.

### **LimitationS of the Study**

Any financial support was not available for the study, as the researcher was to travel all over the district in order to get the data, so there was greater need of the financial resources so that more geographical areas of the province could be focused.

Conducting FGDs and key informant interviews with female was as other constraint as social and cultural values of the areas are against meeting female for taking information/opinions.

#### **SUGGESTIONS**

Based on findings of the study combined with review of relevant literature and intellectual discourses with stakeholders the following suggestions can be made.

This situation needs to be changed while adopting the following suggestions.

Government and actors of civil society organizations must first of all address the issue of mass poverty through pragmatic efforts such as micro credit schemes. Initiatives must be taken to improve the already available means of livelihoods such as agriculture and livestock production. Improved and sustained means of livelihood would definitely help in increasing ration of education, particularly of female.

Efforts need to be made to bring about changes into mindset of men about importance of female education for themselves and their upcoming generation. Cultural trait such as the tradition of polygamy, vulgarity, early and forced marriages must be stopped altogether by the young educated class and well-off segment of population.

Community elders should be made aware to come forward and facilitate efforts of female education. Jirga may be called to achieve participation and consent of all tribal leaders in promoting female education efforts.

Educated women should take a lead initiative to become a role model at community level by taking parts in efforts of female education. This would definitely help promote female education, as it is said and believed that "seeing is believing". We male counterpart will see the contribution of educated women in their communal affairs, they will become convinced to strive for improved rate of female education.

In today's globalized world, media and information technology has a major role to play. Writers and intelligentsia must write on need and significance of female education. On electronic media intellectual debate and discourses need to be arranged to change mindset and prevailing situation of low female education.

Actors of civil society organization must come forward and join hands to advocate the case, lobby around the issue to influence view / opinion makers, law makers and policy / decision makers. Such actions could develop and implement programs and projects that can improve female education in the province.

At village level, for achieving active community participation committees such as Parent Teacher School Management Committees PTSMCs need to be formed. Such committees should be given adequate exposure visits and excursion tours to access the situation of improved female education and adopt those mechanisms in their respective villages and areas.

Equally important is to bring the issue into political arena. In this regard political parties need to be analyzed about their due role on female education for making it part of their constitutions and election manifesto.

Political parties can take the issue to levels of policy and decision making to make the environment women and female education supporting.

Parents, particularly educated mothers should play their due role by negotiating and dealing with male counterparts over the issue of female education. The role that an educated mother can play in her girl child education; no one else can play that.

Non-Governmental Organizations should focus more intense social mobilization and launch different awareness campaigns regarding women rights and against gender based violence in the province.

Issues and problems should be addressed with having inside depth about its type, nature, intensity and impact over masses. Research and scientific investigations must be made a prior task for implementation of any program and project.

In order to really work towards female education, and improve its standards, the government of Pakistan must increase funds to be allocated regarding this sector, oppose extremist groups, provide safety to students and provide with financial aid to those students who are in need.

They must also increase awareness among people of women rights and their need to get educated. In this way they can be a part of social, political and economic change in the country, and work towards the nation's success, prosperity and their own too.

### **DISCUSSION**

Despite of many initiative and efforts female education in Pakistan is remained real challenge in Pakistan. Most of the Initiatives launched for the promotion of education have never achieved its desired results, disparities in education especially among women, are very visible. The government of Pakistan is unable to translate their words into action because of various political, economic, social and cultural barriers.

Broadly speaking, in order to bring about a promising change into current deplorable situation of female education, it is imperative to assess the entire situation in its totality. Mass poverty has a strong link with rigid mindset of male counterpart. Religious leaders and clergymen are influential in areas where poverty exists in its ugliest face. And since majority of population belong to poor segment of society, female education does not receive proper attention of communities and their local leadership. This gives birth to an environment which is biased towards female gender. The disparity is evident not only in the field of female education, but in all spheres of life cycle of a woman. Women have no say in decision making, in resisting the biased decisions of men and all matters of her life. Therefore she is forced to live and obey her male counterpart and his biased treatment.

In Baluchistan great difference in literacy between the urban and rural areas exists. The divides on the basis of gender and area show that a large number of the population has no opportunities for obtaining education hence the process of development is very slow...

The situation of female education in rural areas of the country is very dark and depressing due to many reasons. I.e. poverty, absence of educational institutions, lacking facilities, social and cultural issues. In the rural setups of Baluchistan religious, social and cultural grounds for female education are very rigid. Where female education is strictly prohibited. The misinterpretation of Islam, mindset of male dominant society and lack of attention of government to female education are major causes revealed during the study.

During the collection of primary data many cases came in front of the researcher when girls were interested to go to school but due to social and cultural restriction they could not go to schools.

Baluchistan is lagging behind to provide primary education to its female population. Low enrolment, high dropout indicates that very large number of children is out of school in the province. In Baluchistan the future of many school-going children is at risk due to gender disparity, bad governance and of schooling facilities and absence rigid culture. Baluchistan is a typical tribal society where girls are limited inside the boundary wall and have very rare mobility and access to schools. Education department in the province has been without any specific education policy for years. Due to many reasons absence of rural areas of the province, the issue of female education and gender disparity can be addressed.

Equally important is to discuss non supportive role of Pesh Imam and semi-literate clergymen. Clergymen never support female education while preaching poor communities during their preaching of Islam at any occasions let be Friday prayer or any other religious gatherings. Rather they condemn it while justifying cultural values such as Purdah (veil) and women mobility. As per the literature the situation of female education is very critical in Baluchistan, in Baluchistan the female literacy rate is around 3 percent in some of its districts. To control over society local landlords are opposing the education in the areas. But government is taking a single step to prevent them to do such. Government is not taking steps for the promotion of girls' education in rural areas of Baluchistan.

## CONCLUSION

Towards the end of this study, the researcher has come to the conclusion that biased treatment of male counterparts and mass poverty are the two major impediments that hinder the pace of efforts with regard to improved rate of female education. Besides these two major hindrances, there are certain other issues that further contribute towards less proportion of female education. For instance, since majority of the populace of Baluchistan represent poor segment therefore getting education has never been their top priority. Women are considered as only consumers of the available resources, therefore investing on female education is considered a luxurious task, which a poor family cannot simply afford.

Cultural values that have more masculine features have never been supportive to female education by creating a supportive environment, sharing into already shrunk educational facilities and resources.

Lack of supportive environment for female education is prevalent. None of the Government school has any set of community support to monitor school, attendance of teachers and students. That is why the ratio of drop out is never questioned by the parents or community in general. Apart from complete absence of community support there are other social and cultural reasons too. Early marriages, for instance is one reason. Parents prefer to marry their girl at an early age, which in most of cases are economic burden of girls over their poor parents.

In the culture of Baluchistan lot of expectation is made from a boy child, but very limited and strict types of expectation is prevailing from girl child, which in itself stops a girl child to continue her education, adopts any profession and continues comparatively an independent life in the area. Efforts with regard to improve female education if based of well-

coordinated efforts of public, private and civic sector along with the active participation of communities will definitely improve the situation. However, it is more important to address associated issues of lack of interests and awareness and mass poverty among masses with regard to importance of female education.

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# FACTORS OF FAILURE IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS BOARD EXAMINATION AFFECTING THE CAREER OF STUDENTS IN BALOCHISTAN

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#### **ABSTRACT**

As it is understood failure rates are at the peak in Balochistan as well as a same problem is faced by all over the world. Study kicked the factors through literature review and found various causes during schools visiting such as no time saving management, ineffective examinations, lack of focusing, depends on cheating, conceptualization from the Basics and many others. To know the pass/fail results percentage of Balochistan Board of intermediate and secondary education. Urban Quetta has been selected as a whole population. Quetta is a consist both of Chilton and zarghon town in sampling 4 schools are focused from each town two girls two boys. Totally from 8 schools last ten years old data of SSC examinations result with percentage are collected. From those results of study analysis, ways became open to catch the back bone of the study.

**KEY WORDS:** Factors. Failure. Board. Examinations. Affecting. Career. Students. Balochistan

# **INTRODUCTION**

Sorely education has been fully marred in today's world for Balochistan, s part, education has shaped itself with another outlook contrary to its very nature. As a result, most of the students get failed in the board examination. And what happens then, the failed students come on the verge of various mishaps causing much agonies therefore, the issue of committing suicide, the breakup of families, the farewell to further education and the addition in the list of wandering boys thus, the outdated and functional education system of Balochistan has let alone all the students with the slurs of failure.

The major stumbling block in the progression of Pakistan is the substandard condition of education. According to the survey conducted by ALIF AILAAN 40% of children are out of school in Pakistan which is mainly due to poor quality of education. In government sector district wise comparison could made for schools from Quetta district 31% students appears in board examination only 10 districts had above 1000 candidates from Shearing district only 85 females participate 40% or above. From Quetta 32% less than 20% share of girls from all candidates 9% female students were appear from Killa Saifullah. Over all Dera Bugti was at 3rd rank. Some private and government schools are ranked at the top from Quetta city which was six government and three private schools scored A from Quetta. Nushki was also in the same category.

# Overall Performance and Participation

Overall number of candidates is increases from last ten years who appears in secondary school certificate examination. It admitted is from Net Enrolment rate that female candidate's participation is one third of the total. And from the scoring of examination recognized majority of

students result is not satisfactory but overall it shows better percentage. Wide difference openly comes when government takes action against the cheating in 2015 pass percentage fall down which analyzed from sample schools ten years result percentages

Number of students who appeared in SSC examination 2006-2015

Year	Total	Girls	boys
2006	23	5	16
2007	22	5	21
2008	27	7	21
2009	27	7	20
2010	30	8	23
2011	33	8	25
2012	34	9	25
2013	36	10	26
2014	38	11	27
2015	41	12	29

SSC examinations science group has increased from 2006 as 75% and average is about 5% growth found. Which is considered really very slow improvement per annual in Balochistan Province? And it is noted from female candidates 11000 girls appeared against 27000 boy candidates. Shared of female increased in 29% in 2014 and 30% in 2015 it is clear the increasing rate is developing but very slowly as 1% to 3% as per.

### **Discussion**

For probing the factors, impacts, reasons and causes focused schools from Quetta urban city first school was government girls high school irrigation colony selected from Chiltan town Sariab road Quetta to know the failure rate data of pass percentage collected. In 2006 SSC examination result total percentage was 98% and in 2014 overall result pass percentage was 51% which is not good after discussing matter with teachers the cause of this percentage was strongly needed the action of government against the cheating which indirectly loses the pass percentage.

When for exploring the study the matter discussed with students during the class and filled questioner for the purpose of acquiring reasons students said mathematics is difficult subject for us and we don't have good teachers for mathematic subject they just solve the question over the white/black board but there we don't understand how to solve the question and also they added and request from education department appoint trained teacher for our mathematic class because in last year result majority of students were failed mathematics and physics because of lack of trained teachers.

For the purpose of study visited to government Sandeman boy's high school selected from Zarghoon town Quetta. During the discussion we come to know that one cause as late publication of board subjects first all subjects are very lengthy and the second thing is late publication of subjects now it is going the fifth month of the year but we don't have complete subjects for study so how can government expect good result from students.

For the same purpose visited to government girls high school mission road Quetta here conducted meeting with teachers for asking the factors of failure rate of students that why students fail board examination one senior teacher of the school said that government must heir SST teachers for secondary level we don't have teachers even for grade 9th and 10th to complete the course of class at the end of the year just notes provides to them or leave them on mercy of nature so this fault is not counts for students.

Similarly the case was on government girl's high school satellite town Quetta. Conducted discussion with students for asking the factors they replied number of answers that we are innocent and our culture is also matters in our failure because we have many work at home and also bound with religious and cultural virtue these norms and values abound limitations moreover discussed teachers are good that we are may not paying attention to lectures as a result gets fail.

### Historical pass percentage.

It is stated that increasing percentage of pass students moves very slowly 38.7% in 2002 to 95.6% in 2014. It reduces to 85.16 % in 2015 which don't seen normal and the system of school have to improve the quality and examination structure and papers also have to make easy for students by this change it is expected the percentage will be above from 80% after low 40 %.

### Causes behind failure

There are many causes behind this failure which are mentioned below;

ILL-base of the students

The very first and the foremost reason of this immense loss is the base problem of the students. Basically, the students are not cemented is the initial stage. They are left with misunderstood subjects. Actually, what are essentials at the very early- stage, they are unknown to this copying with

the initial-educational activities, and the western institutes hire those tutors belonging to Ph.D. levels. Because they are the only sources to make up the psychological leakages of the students. Resultantly, at the high level, the students understand the basic things of schooling. Therefore, what happens, the best happens in the next stage of schooling life. So, the collapsing factor is the board examinations is the lacking of basic things needed for the child.

### **Cheating culture**

On second, there stands cheating culture halting the progress of the students. The concept of cheating has spoilt the growth of the students. Majority of students depends upon cheating to surpass the battle of examination. But if the same dependency is devastated by the examiners with strict examining, then the students without any doubt, fail in the board examination. Similarly, those unprepared students for the exams when reline on cheating, they mar their fortune without understanding the very nature of the question. And they do write without grasping the very theme of the asked question by examiner. Hence, the cheating culture results in failure.

### **Politicization of the Institutes**

Moreover, the penetration of the politics in the Institutions has left the options of successful education in hopelessness. Politics and education, both are contradictory ideas but when education is moved by the incompetent politicians, then miseries' set in with no doubt because the incompetent politicians select incompetent teachers. And when the incompetent teacher enters in the educational institutions, there results

failed education with failed students. Summing up, the entrance of the politics in the field of education is another bottleneck for the students.

## Lack of conceptual study

Additionally, lack of conceptual study has disarrayed the mechanism of education. Education means to understand wholly but there is no understanding of education in this province. All is taught but none is understood. The culture of cramming has put all the efforts of the students in fiasco. As a consequence, students fail in the exams. Because they ill in self- assessment, self-analyzing and self-evaluation. Therefore, they do not comprehend actually what to do with the questions and get inhabited with cramming. Thus, no conceptual study does fail the students in the board examination.

## **Paper-checking illness**

Over and above, the paper checking methodology has been marked up with ill-competency. Most of the times, those students hardly understood the subjects conceptually are failed or scored less by the checkers. As seems, the checkers as well are crammed-seniors who has attempted paper with less-cramming but own words. Indubitably, the number of students is failed in the board examination due to ill-refined paper checking make-up.

# **Late- publishing of board subjects**

Furthermore, the late-publishing of board subjects is another resulting factor for the students' failure. For example, the recent years, it has been more than three months still board has not published the books. Therefore,

the students as well as teachers cannot organize the syllabus for the examination. And, most of the times, it becomes crucial to go for skipping of even the important lectures. Consequently, there befalls another mishap that engenders failure of the students in the examination.

#### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

From all above BBISE examinations cannot consider to become the solution of all around education system. It is recommended to secondary schools for the midterm examinations must be conduct by school principals which may exercise all the lessons and must be the practice of attempting all the questions and students will be prepared for their board examinations first in the system needs to register the small percentage of school going age appears in these examinations. Dropout students from grade nine must be in notice even those who survive for succeed.

From the findings it is submitted the largest share was from government schools than private in appearing in the board examinations and girls participation in examination was very low but at final result of board examinations private schools scored better as compared to government schools. So these two systems spoil the career of students. As we know students pre-career starts from matriculation when they became fail in their field it may hurt the students from their way of life. Actual career path will indicate the learning level in examinations.

When we analyzed district wise data it guides us in focusing the policy of education system. Quetta is capital of Balochistan as large share in numbers to participate the examination then other district unfortunately its result is not good as compared to other districts which need to explore the reasons of this lowest growth rate.

### Recommendations

It is recommended for the improvement of study notice the dropout from early stage not in examinations because students take admission from starting of the year but they did not continue their studies because of any reason so in examinations they became absent.

Teachers must understand the difficulties of students during learning process and try to solve the problems of students at that time.

Teachers must tell important and necessary reasons during the examination to be strong, don't get stress and carefully solve the paper etc. Which subjects are difficult for students teachers must know about them why it is difficult for them either concept is not clear or they are not concentrating on the lesson or must be language problem will be there or may subject teacher will not be available stack holder or policy makers must take action against them.

Those who make question papers for BISE must be note too lengthy or not out of course questions and not so tough.

Both English and Urdu language sources have been apply in secondary schools and also for achieving the targets government focus on training of teachers related to subject.

For the improvement of educational quality or to able the students to succeed government must strengthen the vocational and technical educational institutions.

Government strictly takes the action against cheating during the examinations by which students losses their abilities in secondary schools must focus to build the capacity of teachers as well as students to perform better.

# **CONCLUSION**

To conclude, the examination procedure of Balochistan is ill-fated with the several collapses. There are number of issues arising in the examinations which halt the growth of the students. The Balochistan board of intermediate and secondary education examinations appears close to end of the students' career at school. As these problems are systemic points out before. An over whelming the number of students have dropped out. At middle and secondary levels the teaching process does not change. In fact the memory based examination of BBISE ensures that the teaching process does not induce conceptual learning or creative thinking. The problem of cheating has become an additional factor to consider and data in the report has been explained in context of the problem. As a consequence, numerous problems results in the latter days. As career counseling mass itself. When the students fail. Because their competitive brain misunderstands and runs widely. In addition to this, there are several cases of suicide as well as litter dis-appointment which even compels the students for the banding farewell to the educational institutions.

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# AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION SOURCES AND THEIR RELATIVE EFFECTIVENESS ON RECOMMENDED TECHNOLOGY FOR RICE CROP IN BALOCHISTAN: PERCEPTION OF RICE FARMERS.

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#### ABSTARCT

The present article explores the sources of information and their effectiveness regarding rice technology adoption based on a descriptive survey of 100 rice growers in rice belt of Balochistan province i.e. Nasirabad district. A simple random sampling technique was adopted to achieve a representative sample. Hundred (100) rice growers were selected through the simple random sampling technique. The results revealed that most (46%) of the farmers were illiterate, most (49%) of the farmers belonged to the age category of 21 to 35 years while less than half (45%) of the rice farmers had 11 to 20 years farming experience. Information regarding level of diffusing of recommended technologies of rice crops were depicted that (100-100%) of the rice growers were agreed that the sowing method and weed control measures were complete diffused among them which were ranked at 1st. The finding also revealed that neighboring farmers were the most important source of information regarding diffusion-adoption of recommended technologies. In addition, agricultural extension workers did not paid any attention towards uses of mass media, therefore, the study recommend that agricultural extension department and other responsible institutes of technology transfer should take strong initiatives for visualize the recommended technologies through demonstrations and mass media.

Keywords: Nasiabad, Balochistan, Sources of information.

### **OVERVIEW:**

The rice is the major cash and important food crop of the country after wheat crop and production comprises 40% of basmati (fine) and 60% of coarse types. The Pakistani basmati rice was one of the top rice commodities all over the world, but the exports of this commodity witnessed sharp decline of 14.87% during the last fiscal year 2011-12 as compared to the previous year. Rice has the potential to become a high value asset for Pakistan's economy; however it needed value addition in its production to harness optimal utilization. On the other hand, there has been manifold increase in the exports of the basmati rice from the country, according to the data of Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan. Giving break up, the sources added that during 2007-08 Pakistan earned US \$ 1.836 billion, in 2008-09, \$ 1.983 billion, in 2009-10, \$2.160 billion, in 2010-11 \$.2.160 billion and in 2011-12 the country exported rice worth \$ 2.061 billion. The rice crop is low in productivity and production is affected by water shortage and there are enormous post harvest losses. They stressed the need for more investments in general research and development in rice for further increasing its production (GoP, 2013).

Research and experience of advanced countries have shown that key to increase per hectare yield lies in the adoption of modern scientific technologies by the farmers for which they do have contacts with a variety of information sources. Therefore, a need exists to identify the information sources for the farmers and to assess their level of awareness and adoption of rice production technologies. The purpose of this study is to investigate

the information sources and their effectiveness on adoption of recommended technology and level of technology adoption for rice crop in district Nasirabad, Balochistan. Keeping in this view following specific objectives were formulated:

- 1. To find out the biographic characteristics of the rice growers.
- 2. To determine the sources of information and their effectiveness on adoption of recommended technologies of rice crop.

#### **MATERIALS AND METHODS:**

The population of the study comprised of one hundred (100) of rice growers through simple random sampling method of district Nasirabad, the researcher purposively selected district Nasirabad due to convenience and considered as rice belt of the province. A simple random sample of 100 farmers was obtained (Acharjee et al., 2002; Ogunjuvigbe, 2005). Sample size was determined by using table of Fitzgibbon and Morris (1987); McCall (1980). A well-structured questionnaire was constructed and administrated in order to denote the perceptions of the respondents on 4 and 5-point Likert scale regarding the diffusion and adoption, perception of farmers about the effective information sources. The questionnaire consists of two sections (biographic information and sources of information) was prepared to collect required information from the respondents. The researcher personally visited and interviewed from those 100 rice farmers. Majority of the respondents were interviewed at their fields. Researcher was interviewed farmers at the morning time when they were working at the field. Initially the data were arranged and organized in coding system. Standard statistical tools such as frequencies, mean, standard division and rank were calculated by using SPSS program. By using the coding sheet, after the coding of collected data, all the data were

tabulated, summarized and analyzed through Statistical Package for Social Science computer software.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:**

The demographic characteristics of the growers in the present study such as age, educational qualification, farming experience, type of tenure, size of land holding and area under cultivation play an important role in determining the grower's response towards adoption of recommended technologies.

**Table-1:** Biographic characteristics of the rice grower (n=100)

Biographic	Categories	Frequency	%age
characteristics			
Educational	Illiterate	46	46.0
level	imterate	40	40.0
	Primary	27	27.0
	Middle	9	0.09
	Matriculation	8	0.08
	Intermediate	6	0.06
	Graduate	4	0.04
Age	Up to 20	2	02.0
	21 to 35	49	49.0
	36 to 50	42	42.0
	51 and above	7	07.0
Farming	Un to 10	34	34.0
experience	Up to 10	34	34.0
	11 to 20	45	45.0

	21 to 30	14	14.0
	31 and above	07	07.0
Area under rice	Up to 5	40	33.0
(Areas)	6 to 20	40	36.0
	21 and above	20	11.0

Most (46%) of the farmers were illiterate, this was followed by (27%) of rice farmers had received up to primary. In addition, collected information regarding the age of rice farmers resented in **Table-1** which indicates that most (49%) of the farmers belonged to the age category of 21 to 35 years, whereas (42%) of the rice farmers belonged to 36 to 50 years of age. While most (45%) of the rice farmers had 11 to 20 years experience. This was followed by (34%) of the rice growers had up to 10 years of experience. Most (40-40%) of the farmers had an area under rice cultivations up to 5 and 6 to 20 acres respectively.

The farmers were asked to rank the level of diffusion of recommended technologies on a 4 point Likert-type scale (1= not diffused, 2= partially diffused, 3= moderately diffused and 4= completely diffused). Information regarding to level of diffusion of recommended technologies are presented in **Table-2**.

Table-2: Level of diffusion of recommended technologies as perceived by farmers (N=100)

	ND		PD		MD		CD		Total	Mean	SD	RO
Categories	F	%age	F	%age	F	%age	F	%age	10iii	Meun	SD	NO.
Sowing	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	100	4.00	0.0	1 <sup>st</sup>
method	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	100	4.00	0	1
Weed control measures	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	100	100.0	100	4.00	0.0	1 <sup>st</sup>

Insect control measures	0	1.0	0 9	9.0	0	0.0	9	90.0	100	3.79	0.6 4	2 <sup>nd</sup>
New varieties	0	8.0	2 9	29.0	0	0.0	6	63.0	100	3.18	1.1	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Irrigation replication	1 9	19.0	1 8	18.0	0 5	5.0	5 8	58.0	100	3.02	1.2	4 <sup>th</sup>
Land preparation	3 2	32.0	5	25.0	0 2	2.0	4	41.0	100	2.52	1.3	5 <sup>th</sup>
Fertilizer application	5 8	58.0	4 0	4.0	0 0	0.0	0 2	2.0	100	1.46	0.6 1	6 <sup>th</sup>

Scale:1=not diffused (ND), 2= partially diffused (PD), 3= moderately diffused (MD), 4= completely diffused (CD).

#### SD: Standard deviation RO: Rank Order

Information regarding level of diffusing of recommended technologies of rice crops were depicted the relevant outcomes, whereas (100-100%) of the rice growers were agreed that the sowing method and weed control measures were complete diffused among which were ranked at 1<sup>st</sup>. While, majority (63-58%) of farmers perceived that insect control measures and new varieties for rice were completely diffused, were ranked at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively. while (1.46%) of the farmers perceived that the fertilizer application were not diffused among them and bottom of the ranking.

The farmers were asked to judge the effectiveness of information sources regarding diffusion of recommended technologies on a five point Likert-type scale (1= not effective, 2= somewhat effective, 3= effective, 4= very effective and 5= extremely effective). In this regard, information regarding the effectiveness of sources of information about recommended technologies as perceived by the farmers is presented in **Table-3**.

Table-3: Effectiveness of information sources as perceived by farmers (N=100)

	NE		SE		E		VF	E	EF	2	Total	Mean	SD	RO
Categories	F	%age	F	%age	F	%age	F	%age	F	%age	Total	Mean	SD	KO
Neighboring Farmer	01	1.0	0	1.0	1 9	19.0	3 7	37.0	4 2	42.0	100	4.18	0.8	1 <sup>st</sup>
Radio	05	5.0	1 3	13.0	2 8	28.0	3	37.	1 7	17.0	100	3.48	1.0 7	2 <sup>nd</sup>
T.V	15	15. 0	5	50.0	3	31.0	4	4.0	0	0.0	100	2.24	0.7 5	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Fellow farmers	78	78. 0	0	0.0	0 3	3.0	1 2	12.0	0 7	7.0	100	1.70	1.3	4 <sup>th</sup>
Extension worker	77	77. 0	0	1.0	0	6.0	0	8.0	0 8	8.0	100	1.69	1.3	5 <sup>th</sup>
News papers	86	86. 0	0	3.0	1 0	10.0	0	1.0	0	0.0	100	1.26	0.6 7	6 <sup>th</sup>
Contact Farmers	96	96. 0	0 2	2.0	0 2	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	100	1.06	0.3	7 <sup>th</sup>
Research worker	100	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	100	1.00	0.0	8 <sup>th</sup>
Magazines	100	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	100	1.00	0.0	8 <sup>th</sup>

Scale:1=not at all effective (NE), 2= somewhat effective (SE), 3= effective (E), 4= very effective (E), 5= extremely effective.

SD: Standard deviation RO: Rank Order

Majority (42%) of the farmers were perceived that neighboring farmers considered as effective source of information regarding diffusion of

recommended technologies and were ranked 1<sup>st</sup> with a mean score of (Mean = 4.18, S.D = 0.84). Whereas, radio was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> with a mean score of (Mean = 3.48, S.D = 1.07) and television was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> with a mean score of (Mean = 2.24, S.D = 0.75) based on the perceptions received of the rice growers on the Likert 5 point scale. However, in this regard, least perceived score about sources of information were newspapers ranked 6<sup>th</sup> with a mean score of (Mean = 1.26, S.D = 0.67) contact farmers were ranked 7<sup>th</sup> with a mean score of (Mean = 1.06, S.D = 0.31) research worker and magazines were ranked 8<sup>th</sup> with a mean scores of (Mean = 1.00, S.D = 0.00) respectively. Somewhat results were found those of Lakho (2004) who found that neighbor farmers were the most important source of information for technology transfer to the rice growers. This trend may be due to the facts that the same tradition, language and cropping pattern and the like.

#### **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:**

Agriculture sector being the life line of the Pakistan's economy continues to be the single largest sector and a dominant driving force for growth and development of the national economy. It accounts for 24 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs 48.4 percent of the total work force. Information regarding level of diffusing of recommended technologies of rice crops were depicted the relevant outcomes, whereas very vast majority of the rice growers were agreed that the sowing method and weed control measures were complete diffused among which were ranked at 1<sup>st</sup>. Majority of the farmers always received information regarding recommended technologies from neighboring farmers and regard as an extremely effective source of information regarding diffusion

of recommended technologies of rice. Based on finding of the study following recommendations were suggested. Study results showed that extension authorities point blankly neglect the effectiveness of mass media as perceived by the farmers for diffusion of agriculture technologies. Therefore, it is recommended that a careful selection of mass media should be made while diffusing recommended technologies of rice crop. The study found that the performance of agriculture extension services was insignificant in the whole diffusion-adoption process of recommended technologies of rice crop Therefore, it is recommended that extension worker must visit farmer's field for their proper guidance.

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## NUCLEAR RACE IN SOUTH ASIA AND ITS REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS.

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#### **ABSTRACT**

In south Asia India and Pakistan are two nuclear states. Both the countries are not only involve in the nuclear arms race in the region by pouring a lion share of their economies in the unending race but have also complicated the security situation in the region. Both the countries are old foes due to the bloody partition which still haunt the policies and minds of the policy makers since 1947 but also have the as old bleeding issue of Kashmir to this date. Beside this terrorism and other major and minor disputes are also responsible to track both the countries on arms race. In this paper I will try to analyses Indian regional and global military agenda its naval increasing presence in Indian Ocean Pakistan response and its implication over south Asia and Pakistan itself. Mostly secondary sources have been concerned in the writing of this paper.

Key Words: Defense, Deterrence, India, Pakistan, Nuclear race, Strategic

#### INTRODUCTION

Defense analysts suggest two Deterrence theories with two different scenarios. Firstly the opponents try to achieve the stable strategic equilibrium. This equilibrium achieves peace and stability, decreases the security dilemma and cools the use of nuclear weapons and most importantly increases the peace chances. Rationality in state strategic policies increases and decreases the asymmetric possibilities and eventually possibilities of going to war diminishes. The Second theory is opposite to the first one in which the instability increases, the nuclear threshold declines, increase in asymmetry which leads to the failure of the deterrence and finally to the war (Brodie 1946, Morgan 2003). These non-rational, less researched and wrongly assumed elements are present in today's south Asian scenario.

In south Asia two states possess nuclear weapons as well as involve in nuclear race which are Pakistan and India. Viewing Indian nuclear policy one can observe that it is accumulatively based on Nehruvian and Ghandian philosophies of Greater India (Abbasi 2015). Thus Indian nuclear weapons possession originates from a distinct history which is its historic rivalry with Pakistan and India and to maximize its military power in the region (Perkovich 1999) as well as to increase and play its role at international arena in security matters. Contrary to that Pakistan's nuclear possession has nothing to do with the Indian regional and international ambitions but it's purely to deter India and counter the balance and create a balance of terror against Indian threat of attack regarding its security.

This is due to the nuclear deterrence that both the countries haven't gone to war since then. Whereas deterrence seems fragile and peace and stability doesn't seem working when one sees sub conventional war with hidden hands via proxies and this due to two factors. Firstly due to the peculiar strategic orchestrations in the South Asian region, secondly the

rapidly expending Indian Defense budget. The reckless power projection of the Indian government (without considering and recognizing regional peace priorities) is subverting the South Asian strategic environment undermining the regional centric deterrence. The current defense budget of India is 51 billion\$ (2.5% of its GDP) (Kaushul 2016) on the other hand analysts also see a high up increase in the defense budget of India in the year 2020 (Mono 2016) about 70 billion\$ will be spent by the Indian government over its military budget in 2020 leaving Pakistan far behind.

#### The Nuclear Race in South Asia

Currently India is swiftly upgrading and sophisticating it's all sort of weapons like non-conventional, conventional and network centric programs in order to dominate and indianize the Indian Ocean via nuclearizing it. In point of fact, one can see that India is rapidly transforming its navy in blue water strong and aggressive Navy via air craft carriers and introducing advanced Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMD) leading the region towards destabilization.

Pakistan on the other hand has enough deterrence credibility to counter Indian aggression by now. So Pakistan doesn't need to worry regarding Indian threat and BMD system as they are too complicated and are not advanced enough to outweigh Pakistan before India finds something more reliable and much advance which may not be possible for Pakistan to counter and this is quite possible in the long run. In spite of regional and international pressure, technological and financial hurdles, Pakistan has continuously been advancing its nuclear capabilities and forces in order to maintain the deterrence in the region and avoid war. Pakistan has also extended and advanced its cruise and Ballistic Missile system to a medium

range from a short range missile system like NASR 60 km range to Shaheen III which is 2,750 km hit range. That is due to nuclear deterrence of Pakistan which made it possible for it to reduce its defense cost from 5.3% to 3.2% of its GDP in the till 2010 (Monoo 2016). Nuclear arms are not only affordable for Pakistan but also a reliable source to counter Indian threat. The defense budget of Pakistan for the year 2016-17 was 860 billion Rs which is only 2.6% of the GDP. Pakistan allocation for defense budget as mentioned above is only 2.6% of its GDP is equal in share with the Indian defense budget but as we know India has an eight times larger economy than Pakistan. So Pakistan is not able to match India financially in nuclear expenditures as Pakistan is passing from a severe financial and economic crises however without stressing too much strain over its economy Pakistan must fortify its surveillance, accuracy of its missile system as well as by embarking on new naval ventures.

As The New York Times reported in 2015 that,

"an unknown number of the tactical weapons were built, but not deployed" by Pakistan" (hoodbhoy 2016).

The most alarming and tempting question in the minds of south Asian defense analysts is that what can be the most probable course of action for both the countries in the future and what top issues should be addressed? The bleeding and simmering issue of Kashmir between both countries is the most complex problem which can become main cause of aggression as border skirmishes persist and experience from time to time that may cross the condone and nerves of both states and may potentially lead to an ever destruction via full-fledged nuclear war. The second most important issue for both the countries after Kashmir issue is terrorism, extremism and militancy which redefined the threat lens at regional and international level especially after 9/11. But at the same time the basic characteristic of

the independence movement of Kashmir has been militant and Pakistan has always supported it so this makes the regional situation in this regard more complicated and tangled when both the countries go to diplomacy and try to solve it on table. The 2001 Indian parliament attack, 2008 Mumbai attacks (Jaspal 2014) or 2016 Ori attack all are by one way or another linked to the Kashmir issue. If both the countries want to address the issue it needs stalwart and resolute diplomatic endeavors as well as to hatch a joint security mechanism for the region as these acts of terrorism not only brought uncertainty regarding nuclear war in south Asia infect it deeply concerned the international community as well as today south Asian security is deeply linked with the international security

As both the countries are playing a "zero sum game" to undermine the interest of the other and promote its own interest under realist paradigms at regional and international coliseum or theater this will further put the region in grave danger and conventional and nuclear arms build out will only escalate the prospect to lead the regional situation to a no turn and undesirable clashing peaks. If truth be told the rapid, reckless and exorbitantly priced weapons are not securing the region infect it is highly destabilizing the region in the long run in all terms socially, politically and most predominantly economically.

It is the most demandable need to institutionalize peace in the region by going through all possible but pacific means to address conflicting issues. Though hard for Pakistan, it has to make difficult choices to maintain a comprehensive and a modest program without going to endless nuclear race with India. Pakistan must put all its efforts to tackle its economic difficulties importantly based on knowledge, social security, political stability, and technological and scientific progress through a resilient and peaceful democratic environment and culture and that is possible to

embark on research and knowledge promotion institutions with U.S and European countries as well as benefit from emerging china. In this regard youth must be the prime goal for both the nations to be promoted as it is the linchpin of any society to turn them in to a vigorous workforce. As far as the nuclear sphere is concern education centers are necessary to be established on nuclear use and escalation to create public awareness and comprehension on the nuclear issues (Jaspal 2015).

#### **CONCLUSION:**

In order to promote peace and stability in the region both the countries have to engage in dialogue, trade and cooperation. Arm reduction regimes should be promoted and maximum restraint should be exercised. Peaceful diplomatic means should be involved for the settlement of Kashmir issue. Both the countries must keep in their policies that nuclear engagement in any case isn't going to bring victory to any party rather will bring complete annihilation for the entire region and its thousands of years old civilization. Both Indian and Pakistan must realize that the push back the nuclear war for a long time until revisit their all military propositions rationally, constraints on defense budgets and go through arms control and reduction policies and mechanisms for the greater good of the people of the whole region. Today we live in a global world so needs global and universal approach to resolve traditional issues throwing back the old traditional policies towards each other. International and regional institutions are required to strengthen in order to achieve the greater regional peace leading to the global peace and prosperity like SAARC. Today state in isolation can never achieve the dream of peace and prosperity rather it will only lad them towards difficulties and further

isolation so the best proposition for both India and Pakistan to bring peace, prosperity and development in this region only lies in cooperation.

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### CHARACTERISATION OF WOMEN IN CHARLES DICKENS' NOVEL "GREAT EXPECTATIONS": A MARXIST FEMINIST PERCEPTIVE

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The aim of on-going paper is to explore the miserable living conditions of women in the patriarchal Victorian social formation in England as depicted in Charles Dickens' most famous novel "Great Expectations" from a Marxist Feminist perceptive. The gender issues, concerning subjugation of women, social oppression, negligence, deprivation and humiliation can clearly be viewed in Charles Dickens' novels and even in the enforcement of social Reforms in the mid nineteenth-century Victorian England. Unfortunately, the lot of women was not improved in the era of Industrial Revolution. Charles Dickens was one the greatest masters of the art of typification and characterisation. He produced many immortal universal male and female types and characters that we meet in our everyday life everywhere and every era in the world. He produced the typical female characters in his fiction, relating the plights and predicaments of the oppressed female characters to class-differences because women played a vital role in his personal life and his fiction.

Drawing upon his personal feelings, observations and experiences of the miseries and hardships of these oppressed female figures, he realistically challenged the patriarchal values and traditions of the bourgeois patriarchal Victorian social formation, raising the status of them in his novels.

**Keywords:** Patriarchy, Male dominancy, Class-differences, Industrial Revolution, Gender discrimination.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Charles Dickens, a great realist novelist, social reformer, moralist and celebrated author of the Victorian era, born in England on February 7, 1812. He was son of John Dickens, a minor clerk in the Navel Pay Office and Elizabeth Barrow. He highlighted not only the proletariat class so well but also the oppressed proletariat women characters of the patriarchal bourgeois Victorian England. He presented the realist portrayal of these oppressed figures, how they were living their lives in the male-dominated and male-centred nineteenth-century England, following the inhuman patriarchal norms, values and traditions. In these circumstances, the male oppression and violence were a daily routine. For analysing the characters women of "Great Expectations" such as Mrs Joe Gargery, Miss Havisham, Estella and Biddy from a Marxist Feminist hermeneutics, it is necessary to grasp these female characters properly in the socio-economic context of the bourgeois Victorian era that played their role in Dickens' personal life as well as in every lifestyle.

Charles Dickens was a very sensitive and introverted kind of child since his childhood. His miserable childhood experiences imprinted far reaching and profound effects on his thoughts, art of fiction and personality. His

miseries started when his father John Dickens was imprisoned (due to his hospitality and generosity caused him financially wreck) in Marshalsea Debtor's Prison. Therefore, Dickens was compelled to quit school for earning his livelihood for his family. He joined Warren Blacking Factory as a common labouring boy and started pasting labels on bottles of shoe polish there. Basically, Dickens observed and experienced the socioeconomic inequalities and socio-political injustices in the bourgeois Victorian England. He struggled against them practically and theoretically. While working in the factory, Dickens was first established an acquaintance with a family friend Elizabeth Roylance in Camden Town and started living with her. She was an old lady whom he had portrayed as Mrs Pipchin in his novel "Dombey and Son". He wanted to improve the worst conditions of poor proletariat class, like long working hours and poor wages that were the usual routine of the time. This wretched situation made him psychologically disturbed on the one hand and her mother's cruel greedy behaviour on the other. He bore the burden of his whole family when his father was in prison. As his father was released, his mother forced him to continue his factory job in order to support the family financially, neglecting his innocent feelings of childhood and requirements for schooling. This authoritative attitude of his mother shocked and injured his innocence. His father sent him to school again and after completing his school, he became a clerk in a firm. He started journalism, writing articles, stories and sketches in different newspapers and journals.

Charles Dickens fell madly in love at first glance with the daughter of a banker, Maria Beadnell, in 1830. Her rich family did not consent and give approval for their marriage on account of class-differences. She came

from upper class background so that their relationship did not materialise. Actually, Dickens was a serious suitor but he was financially weak and his father's reputation was also notorious due to his imprisonment. Consequently, their relationship tragically ended with a dire calamity after four years but he could not forget her for many years. Maria Beadnell, the adorable beloved of Dickens whom he idealised with the person of Dora, the cute heroine in "David Copperfield". As he expressed his deep passionate feelings about her that, "She had the most delightful little voice, the gayest little laugh, the pleasantest and most little ways that ever led a lost youth into hopeless slavery. She was diminutive altogether" (Dickens, C., 2000). Later on, after a few years she was physically so altered that her charming beauty was faded away. As he expresses his impressions about her in "Little Dorrit" that she was now "spoiled and artless" (Dickens, C., 2000). He turned to journalism, writing sketches, tales and stories in different newspapers.

Charles Dickens published "Sketches by Boz" under the pseudonym Boz in periodicals such as Monthly magazines and he was known by the name of Boz even his contemporary philosopher and founder of scientific socialism Karl Marx mentioned him in his letters as Boz. During this period, Dickens met Catherine Hogarth who was a daughter of an editor because his success and popularity succeeded to get her attention. Dickens was also attracted by her charming beauty and soon married happily with her in 1836. She gave him grace with a brood of ten children before their final separation in 1858. Subsequently, he started writing fiction and his first novel "Oliver Twist" published in 1838. Moreover, his other novels "The Life and adventurers of Nicholas Nickleby", "Old Curiosity Shop", "Bamaby Rudge", "Martin Chuzzlewit" and other novels were published

one after another. When his sister-in-law Mary, seventeen years old blonde came to live with her sister, Dickens was deeply attached with her and was seriously disturbed on her sudden death in 1837. He idealised Mary as Rose Maylie in "Oliver Twist". Later, he turned to theatre and performed as an actor in Wilkie Collins' "The Frozen Deep" (1857) staged for the entertainment of Queen Victoria who was great admirer of Dickens' art of fiction. During this period, Allen Ternan, a young actress joined his theatrical company and Dickens passionately fell in love with her. After twenty two years of his marriage he maintained a relationship with Ellen Ternan and divorced his wife in 1858. Even he divorced Catherine Hogarth because he maintained a passionate but carefully hidden love affair with Ellen Ternan. He felt temperamentally unsuited to her and he was emotionally insecure and he found extraordinarily difficult to live with her. Many of his friends like Thackeray were in furious on this act of Dickens but their terms turned friendly just before Dickens' death. He sought emotional salvation in the beauty and youthfulness of Ellen Ternan but finally, he disappointed, disenchanted and disillusioned with her. Dickens suffered a severe cerebral stroke, died on June 9, 1870 and buried at the Westminster Abbey.

#### **Literature Review**

Many books, research articles and biographies on Charles Dickens, his art of fiction and characterisation have been mentioned the women who were very important in his life and works. Moreover, a bulk of literature is available on his art of characterisation but a sprinkling of items has been written on his characterisation of women in his fiction. This research paper tends to focus on characterisation of women in Dickens' fiction in general and in "Great Expectations" in particular. Therefore, the researcher

selected the four typical female characters such as Mrs Joe Gargery, Miss Havisham, Estella and Biddy as characterised in Dickens' novel "Great Expectations" for comparative study of them.

Sir John Forster wrote first biography of Charles Dickens under the title of "The Life of Dickens", 3 volumes in which he mentioned the women who played a great role in Charles Dickens' life. He was Dickens' old chum and he suppressed many real events of Dickens' personal life. For instance, he conceded that Dickens' relationship to Catherine Hogarth, served as an "illustration of grave defects" (Forster, J., 1928, Vol. II, p.147) in his character. He wished to hide the whole topic of separation of Charles Dickens with his wife Catherine Hogarth. On the contrary, Edgar Johnson, the famous American, researcher, critic and fiction writer wrote the second biography of Charles Dickens entitled "Charles Dickens: His Tragedy and Triumph" (1952 revised and abridged in 1977) in two volumes. He highlighted and brought to light the events of Charles Dickens' personal life which Sir John Forster deliberately has hidden, conceded and concealed in his biography. Likewise, Peter Ackroyd wrote "Dickens: A Biography" (London: 1990) that is an essential updated biographical work on Charles Dickens. These biographies provided great material on the relationship between Charles Dickens and women which may help us to perceive his female fictional characters, portrayed in his novels.

In addition, Michael Slater in "Dickens and Women" (London: 1983), for the first time called attention to the issue on the relationship between Charles Dickens and the women, those appeared in his life and those depicted in his novels. Judith Johnston wrote an article entitled "Women and Violence in Dickens' Great Expectations"(1992) in which he analysed

the characters of Charles Dickens' novel "Great Expectations" in a great length in the socio-historical context of the living and working ethos of women in Victorian England. D. Hawes wrote a book entitled "Who's Who in Dickens" (London: 1998) in which he generally related the real women in Charles Dickens life and their fictional forms in his works. B. Ayres wrote a book entitled "Dissenting Women in Dickens' Novels: The Subversion of Domestic Ideology" (1998) in which he discussed the female characters of Dickens and the subversion of domestic bourgeois ideology of the Victorian era. In their book "Dickens' Women" (2012), Margolyes and Fraser quote Charles Dickens' daughter remarks about Dickens' brutal and indifferent attitude towards her mother that, "My father was a very wicked man. My father was not a gentleman-he was too mixed to be a gentleman...My father did not understand women...he was not a good man but he was not a fast man but he was wonderful" (Margolyes and Fraser, 2012, p.29). Taofiki Koumakpaï and Kossi Joiny Towa-Sello wrote their research article entitled "Exploring Women's Identity in Selected Charles Dickens's Works: A Re-visitation from a Contemporary African Perspective" (2016). They related the female characters of Charles Dickens to the African women on the bedrock of the feminist and neo-historicist theories. Shweta Saxena wrote her article entitled "Shifting Women from Periphery to the Centre: A Feminist Study of Charles Dickens' Great Expectations" in which she briefly discussed Dickens' art of characterisation of women in "Great Expectations" from a Feminist point of view. The study is very interesting in spite of all its limitations. She did not specify her theoretical frame work which kind of Feminism she had applied in her work. This brief survey of literature previously written on characterisation and typification of female types in Charles Dickens' novels from different theoretical and

analytical angles but no researcher still focused on the selected four female types of "Great Expectations" from Marxist Feminist perspective. Marxist Feminist theory of literature not only studies gender issues but it also relates them to class-conflicts in the given social formation. This research paper tends to analyse the realist portrayals of female characters in Charles Dickens' selected novel "Great Expectations" and concentrates on the gender problems, relating them to class-differences in the context of the patriarchal bourgeois Victorian social formation in which Dickens wrote his debate-raging masterpiece "Great Expectations" and the scope of this article is strictly limited to it.

#### **Debate and Discussion**

Charles Dickens realistically presented the portrayal of women in his fiction. He started his career as a working lad in blacking factory at the age of twelve years. His mother was not kind to him. As his father wished Charles Dickens to go to school but she was not in favour of his schooling. She wanted him to carry on labour in the factory. Her bitter and merciless attitude towards Charles Dickens was a great cause of his disappointment, sad temperament and gloomy nature. For this reason, he had bitter feelings for her even until his death. He portrayed her in his fictional world in the person of comic and foolish wife of Nicholas Nickleby in his novel "The Life and adventurers of Nicholas Nickleby" who was not sincere even with her own children. She is such type of indifferent woman as "one who cannot see the true evil her children encounter" (Hawes, D., 1998, p.164).

Charles Dickens like the most eminent French writers Flaubert, Balzac and other depicted female hypocrites, fallen women as well as ideal women. Some critics are of the opinion that Dickens was a gender biased

writer who portrayed the women characters as vulgar and for this reason the women readers do not take interest in Dickens novels but this charge is false against him. As he treated well his masculine characters equally in natural way, he did so with his feminine character as well. Actually, Dickens portrayed the real living conditions of women in his novels. In the Victorian era the conditions of women were not so good. The stereotypes of women in the Victorian age were totally based upon gendered biased thoughts and beliefs. The women are confined to the four walls of home and their world was confined to the kitchen. Their only role was to breed and care for children and serve to their husbands. They performed these duties in their houses. On the contrary, men enjoyed all the economic resources, possessing the whole control of fate of women. The Victorian age was basically patriarchal in nature in which women had not rite to vote. There were not educational institutes for women. Only primary education was available to them. The concept of higher education of colleges and universities was still non-existent in that age. Dickens was fully aware of these worst living and working conditions of women and he realistically delineated in his novels. However, he portrayed the female figures who have played the humanitarian and philanthropic as well as anti-humanist and misanthropic roles. He also depicted the personalities of some women of the nineteenth -century in his novels "Hard Times", "Oliver Twist" and "Great Expectations".

Charles Dickens was a feminist novelist fully aware of the miserable conditions of women like Frances Trollope, Charlotte Elizabeth Tonna, George Eliot, Charlotte Bronte and Mrs. Elizabeth Gaskell. He as a social and critical realist novelist emphasised on women's proper identity in terms of education. This is evidence, testifying the change that woman's

identity has gone through during Queen Victoria reign. Besides, Charles Dickens' mother has paid her husband's debt when he was arrested. The majority of women were living in the worst conditions almost similar to little better than that of slavery undergone in the slave-owning and feudal ages. They had no other choice than serving men because in most cases men hold all the economic means as well as the women's existence. The traditional concept of women was that women should be tender, simple and responsible for domestic chores under the will and autonomous authority of men. She has only one source of livelihood that is marriage. Queen Victorian represents the bourgeois Victorian ideology, while she considers marriage as a "great happiness" (Abrahams, M. H., 1993, p.1540). Even Christianity also treated women as inferior to man, a second-class citizen and above all the door of sins. Dickens writes like most Victorian novelists that a woman must be "the angel of the house, devoting her life to housekeeping and child rearing" (http://www.dickensand-london.com/Women.htm).

The women are depicted more peripherally in "Great Expectations" that is throwbacks to Dickens' panoramic gallery of female characters. Mrs Joe is depicted as a fallen woman in "Great Expectations" through her personality; Dickens reflected the plights and sufferings of socially marginalised women in the bourgeois Victorian social formation. As Michael Slater states that, "His beliefs and attitudes were typical of the age in which he lived" (Slater, M.,1983,p.301). In fact, Mrs Joe attempted to set herself free from the four walls of patriarchal enslavement. She represents fallen women of the Victorian era. Her physical appearance is not unlike her inner self. She "......almost always wore a coarse apron... that was stuck full of pins and needles" (Dickens, C., 1988, p. 16). She

was totally different from ideal Victorian woman in her motherhood and wifehood. She protested against the traditional bondage of women to wear apron full of pins and needles. In this manner, she is typical embodiment of fallen woman like Little Em'ly Alice Marwood in "Dombey and Son", Martha and Endell in "David Copperfield" and Nancy in "Oliver Twist". Actually, Mrs Joe belongs to the proletariat class and on this basis she may be compared with the person of Sybil, working class heroine of Benjamin Disraeli's "Sybil". In this way, she denied all the traditional roles of women assigned by men. She adopted masculine role and became violent and aggressive woman. Mrs Joe is as much a victim of circumstances who resembles to a wicked stepmother and indifferent wife. In fact, she physically challenges her husband Mr Joe that shows miserable conditions of women who seek their emancipation and liberation from the Victorian patriarchal bondage, yoke and slavery. In fact, she underestimates the roles of domesticity, housewifery and motherhood. Likewise, Dickens also depicts Mrs. Stephen Blackpool in "Hard Times" as another character who assumes a masculine role and she lacks sign of femininity.

Mrs Joe Gargery is suffocated by the environment of the stereotype and rigid values and traditions of the time. She turns surrogate wife of Mir Joe and mother to Pip. She is the perverted kind of an archetypal despicable feminine and detestable subversive woman. Her apron fastened with pins and needles is matched with her moral conduct, harsh behaviour and fallen character, lacking of maternal love and motherly affection for Pip as Charles Dickens had been deprived of motherly love and maternal affection since his early childhood. The wretched conditions of the patriarchy shackled Mrs Joe as the impoverished, miserable wife and wretched mother. She protests against her miserable ethos in which she

lives. She wants to set free herself from miseries of impoverished and worst life. In so doing, she adopts hostility and antagonism in her burdensome and exhausted domestic chores assigned by men. Duality of her personality proves her fallen woman, a pathetic but comic figure as well. Her social status is identical to that of the other women of the era. She tries to liberate herself from oppression, tyranny and emasculation, escaping from the tiresome burden and bondage of housewifery, patriarchy and domesticity to get authority and power in her life. Charles Dickens as an anti-patriarchal feminist novelist has empathy and compassion with Mrs Joe and her plights and hardships.

The figure of Miss Havisham is drawn as a stiff-necked arrogant woman. She comes from a decadent aristocrat and newly-emerged factory owning bourgeois lady who lived in magnificently built Satis House on Gothic style, runs a brewery factory. In this respect, she came from a decadent aristocratic family background, which emerged as an industrial bourgeoisie. Dickens introduced her "As an immensely rich and grim lady who lived in a large and dismal house barricaded against robbers, and who led a life of seclusion" (Dickens, C., 1988, p.89). She is more than a piteous victim of the patriarchy of the bourgeois Victorian social formation. She is a perverted and distorted form of the angel in the four walls of Satis House. After having been jilted on her wedding day, she transforms into a demon, haunting not only the place she dwells but also the people surrounded her. Her deliberate confinement in Satis House, disregard of time, insistence on leaving everything to rot, including herself, and her loathing for men, reinforce her anti-masculine and misanthropic character. She concludes the tragic fate of the spinster by getting a witch-like, yet pitiful death. She is always dressed up in her bride

finery and a long white veil because Mr Compeyson, her beloved fiancé betrayed and left her on the day of wedding. Charles Dickens describes her appearance that, "She was dressed in rich materials---satins, and lace and silks---all of white. Her shoes were white" (Dickens, C., 1988a, p. 73). Compeyson infatuated her with false love, hollow promises and received highly precious gifts from her. He vowed to marry her but he did not fulfil his promise. Miss Havisham, with broken heart, started living a secluded life. She told Pip stating, "What real love is. It is blind devotion, unquestioning self-humiliation, utter submission trust and belief against yourself and against the whole world, giving up your whole heart and soul to the smiter-I did!" (Dickens, C., 1988a, Pp.425-26). Pip also became her victim. In this way, she wanted to redeem her wrong dons and sins to great extend but unfortunately, it was too late.

Scornful Estella is drawn as a young and cute girl whom Miss Havisham reared to break men's hearts for revenging on men. She followed out Miss Havisham's instructions of plotting to betray and hurt innumerable paramours and admirers. She was cold-blooded, manipulated and heartless girl. Estella was "hard and haughty and capricious to the last degree..." (Dickens, C., 1988, p. 86). She was as beautiful as "coldly glittering distant star" (Pickrel, P., 1960, P.166). She was also known as heart broker wanton girl who humiliated Pip to point out his common labouring and coarse position, remarking that, "he is a common labouring-boy?" (Dickens, C., 1988, p. 76). Estella is so hard—hearted but heartless girl who did not feel any feeling of affection and love even for Pip, her true lover. When Pip expressed his feelings of love to her, she coldly replied that, "It seems...that there are sentiments, fancies-I don't know how to call them-which I am not able to comprehend" (Dickens, C., 1988,

p.643). She married a heartless, stupid brute type of man Bentley Drummle whom Jaggers branded as the spider. On this point, her life culminated at the level of dire fatal calamity. Her husband was a typical patriarchal feudal type of person who embodied from top to toe avarice, pride, meanness and brutality. He treated her with great brutality and cruelty. The mismatched matrimonial bond ended with their final separation and Estella died in an accident.

Contrary to the fictional characters of fallen women, Charles Dickens also portrayed fictional figures of ideal women in his fictional world of novels. He depicted the character Ester Summerson as an ideal woman, delineating her figure with her maternal love, mild nature, and tenderness in spite of possessing her disgraced social and class background. Similarly, the figure of Biddy is depicted as an ideal woman in Charles Dickens' novel under discussion, who is different from Mrs Joe, Miss Havisham and Estella for her gentlewomanliness, mild behaviour and humaneness. She possesses virtuous moral conduct and countrybackground. Like Pip, She was an orphan. She was simple, unkempt and sincere girl. Dickens describes her early girlhood that, "...her hair always wanted brushing, her hands always wanted washing, and her shoes always wanted mending and pulling up at heel" (Dickens, C., 1988, p.76). Later, in her grown up age in London, she remarkably changed herself. "Her shoes came up at the heel, her hair grew bright and neat, her hands were always clean" (Dickens, C., 1988, p.222). Pip also noticed that she was developed as a good person. When his sister was ill and bed-ridden, Biddy took care of her as well as the whole household. She put everything properly and orderly in right place and soon turned an indispensable member of the family. There is a stark contrast among the characters of Biddy and Estella. Biddy is off as simple comparably to Miss Havisham's so-called refinement. Biddy is a good friend and real teacher of Pip in school of Wopsle's great aunt. She taught him real lesson of life, criticising mediocre type of teacher of Pip (Dickens, C., 1988a, p. 149). Comparing her with Estella, Pip also realises later that, Biddy is far better than Estella, "... When I was clear that Biddy was immeasurably better than Estella..." (Dickens, C., 1988, p. 152). He also describes about her that, "She was not beautiful-----she was common, and could not be Estella------but she was pleasant and wholesome and sweet-tempered" (Dickens, C., 1988, p. 155). Biddy's all round-development of personality from a rugged, rough, rustic and messy schoolgirl to a self-sacrificing, sensible, affectionate and noble woman.

Dickens related gender discrimination to the class-differences, while characterising his female figures such as Mrs Joe, Miss Havisham, Estella and Biddy. In this respect, he seems to agree with Monique Wittig, the most eminent Marxist Feminist theorist, who says that, "It remains ...for us to define our oppression in materialist terms, to say that women are a class, which is to say that the category "woman", as well as "man", is a political and economic category, not an external one ... Our first task ....is thoroughly to dissociate "women" (the class within which we fight) and "woman", the myth. For "woman" does not exist for us; it is only an imaginary formation, while "women" is the product of a social relationship" (Wittig, M., 1979).

#### **CONCLUSION**

The on-going research paper concludes that Charles Dickens was one of the greatest masters of typification of men in general and that of women in particular, summing up the whole argument in the light of Marxist Feminist lens that the Victorian social formation was male-dominated patriarchal and class-ridden one in which Dickens wrote "Great Expectations". The selected four female figures strove against the conditions in which they lived. Mrs Joe as a fallen woman protested against gender discriminations and class-inequalities to wear apron full of needles and pins. She wanted to set herself free from patriarchal slavery and class-imprisonment. Similarly, Miss Havisham showed her hatred against male hegemony to dress up bridal clothing. She wanted to revenge on men. Estella expressed her loath for men to break their hearts, insulting, humiliating and hurting them. These three female types are true representatives of moral rottenness of the bourgeois Victorian age. In this manner, Dickens criticised the patriarchal conventions and class-relations of his age to depict such perverted type of women. Unlike these piteous female characters, he portrayed his ideal type of woman in the true, simple and virtuous person of Biddy; he wanted to see in his ideal egalitarian social formation.

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