BALOCHISTAN: PEOPLE AND CULTURE

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ABSTRACT:

After 9/11 the rapid geopolitical changes took place in the world scenario. Being an alliance of super power Afghanistan and Pakistan particularly the province of Balochistan has been affected deficiently. The people are very much enthusiastic to know about the people and culture of Balochistan. Balochistan's history dates back with Mehrgarh civilization, which is 10,000 years old. So far, socially and culturally it is very rich. Various ethnic groups, languages, dress, food, living style etc. have developed a colorful culture in the area.

Balochistan is the largest province of Pakistan spreads over 347, 190 sq Km, and the population is around seventy five

million, which is about 5% of the country. It has thus the unique characteristics having the largest area and least density Province of Pakistan. It is bordered with three provinces of the country, Iran and Afghanistan, on the North West. Balochistan has an interesting topography of widespread high mountainous ranges, vast plain land and the largest coastal belt of the country. The climate is

temperate along the coast. The in land deserts and arid zones are hot, while the mountains region is cold.

In this research paper the traditional norms values and culture those are under practice with in their tribal laws are discussed, to give a clear picture about Balochistan, its people and culture.

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DUCTION:

Balochistan, due to its geopolitical importance has always been an ive place form local and foreigner tourist. It is the largest province kistan, "with an area of 3, 47,200 square kilometer." (1) It is larger he provinces of Sindh and Punjab combined. It is sparsely populated 358). The density is only 19 persons per square kilometer. (2) For a time oscillated between obscurity and prominence, but its geogic importance never slackened. Its importance seems lies in the fact t is close to the Middle East, central Asia, South Asia and the middle n. Lately soviet intervention in Afghanistan has lent Balochistan importance, even through over past two millennium years. It has r hindered or facilitated, Passage of large armies, Iranian, Greek, Mongol & British among them and there by influenced world

After 9/11 event and change of regime in Afghanistan and nuclear ng in Rasko valley district Chagi. Balochistan became very famous at al scenario. Keeping in view its geo-political importance, the Federal Provincial Government has initiated mega projects like Gawader port, ani Dam, Kachi Canal, University of Information technology and

men University.

Every one is keen interested to know about the area, people and ural characteristic of Balochistan.

CATION:

Balochistan is bounded on the "west by 520 miles (867 km) long rder with Iran and on the north by 720 miles (1200 km) border with ghanistan, in the east provinces of Sindh and Punjab and a part of North est Frontier province (NWFP) in the North West. In the South it has 470 les (783 km) coastline along the warm water of the Arabian Sea. Its' tended seaboard running along the Seistan region of Iran ends up the outh of the Persian Gulf. Balochistan lies in the commanding position 4-vis the straits of Hormuz are about 590 km from Gwadar port, one of the choke points of Indian Ocean and the World. (Ex. President of U.S.A. onald Reagan indicated sixteen choke points in the world.) The other mportant border is.

NAME:

"It's a tri-junction border in the northwest links Seistant Helmund (Afghanistan) with Chagai (Pakistan). Over looking he Zahedan-Chabahar highway, in the north east the inland construction the Khojak and Bolan pass (opposite Kandhar) are same of the bottlenecks in the region from the geo-strategic point of view." past they were important for the Czarist Russia and England In will be for any possible contentions between Soviet Union and indigenous power of the region. "Balochistan's political bounds conform to its physical frontiers they vary widely and physical encompasses a large chunk of Iran, Afghanistan and parts Punjab and N.W.F.P of Pakistan." (4) The Encyclopedia describes the geo-political boundaries of Balochistan." This in whole Country over which Baloch race is spread without political boundaries."(5) The ethnic configuration of Baloch in the shows that the Baloch inhabit part of Helmund (Afghanistan) (Iran), Sindh, Punjab, N.W.F.P and area of Pakistan Balochisa Greek historian Herodotus had divided Balochistan into three ma of which by and large, conform to the description given by Enew of Islam.

- 1. Aracosia, Comprising Kandhar and Quetta region.
- 2. Drangiana, including Helmund, Seistan and Chagai.
- 3. Gedrosia, Comprising (Pakistan and Iranian) Makran coat. According to Sir Denys Bray, the large chunks of Easter Southern Afghanistan and Pakistani Balochistan are so ident geography and ecology that they form one natural region. Togeth appear more central Asia than Indian."(6) The topography of Balo offers veriety of area. It has lofty snow covered mountains, dry high desiccated deserts, small alluvial plain inlets, and long arid coastal.

may be divided into four distinct parts, that is, the Upper Highland Highland the plail ns and the deserts.

The name "Balochistan" is derived from the words Balochistan and literally means place or node of Baloch people who in most of the contemporary provincial area by the end of the 15th Balochistan as the name of area, but it was not the official designation the region until the 19th century." (7) Chairman, Dept. of Social University of Balochistan

RULERS OF BALOCHISTAN:

History Archaeological remains have confirmed that Prehistoric Balochistan passed through the stone and bronze ages. "The material of the Quetta, Togho, Kulli and Nal sites represent fairly widespread level of cultural achievement and indicate that Balochistan served as an intermediary link between the culture of South Asia and the Middle East. Little is known of the region's early history, but it may have been subject to the Assyrians and the Medes. It was subjugated and annexed as part of the 14th satrapy of the Persian Empire under darius 1 (522-486 BC) but with the defeat of Darius by Alexander the Greek in 330 B.C the area became under the Greek Supremacy". (8) After the death of Alexander The territories of Balochistan became a part or were under the political influence of the empires of Seleucus -1 Nicator and Candraguta Maurya (305 B.C) the indo- Greek and the Prthians (3rd -2nd Century BC) the Scythians (100 BC-AD 200) and the Sasandis (3rd-7th Century AD) The Hepitalite Turks Controlled central and northern Balochistan. From A.D. 470 to 520, leaving the southern Coastal area to the Sasanids. As, Sessaid's power weakened during the 7th Century. The Brahmin rulers of Sinth extended their influence in to western Balochistan."(9) Balochistan emerges into recorded history with the advance of the Arab armies in the 7 Century. "With the final conquest by Muhammad Bin-Qasim in 711, almost of Balochistan became part of the Sind province of the Umayyad and Abbasid empires. From the 11th Century, the region fell under the control of various Power and formed part of the Mughal Empire from about 1595to about 1638."(10) "The first Bloch people to arrive in Balochistan were mainly of the Brahvi group. They setup the principality of Kalat in the central portion of the region in the 14th Century. In the 15th Century Kalat was overrun by the lost great migrating body of the Rind-Lashar Bloch."(11) "The Rind and Lashar moved on ward, the former founded the principality of Sibi with its Capital at Fatepur and the latter the principality of Kachhi with its Capital of Gandava. As a result of the Myear Rind-Lashar war (1490-1520) most of the Rind and Lashar migrated further to the Punjab Sindh and Gujrat."(12) The Brahvi regained control of their principality."The Khanate of Kalat, which became the further nucleus of Baloch Power, was founded in 1666, Nasir Khan (1750-93) welded together the region's, different ethnic Stocks, organized the military and socio-political institutions of the Baloch, aligned himself with

The B

Nader Shah of Iran And Ahmed Shah Durrani of Afghanist avisio succeeded in Grating a political Unit in depended of neighboring angua Iran, and Afghanistan."(13) "The British influence in Basanjab, Commenced with the mission of the British administrator sit anea." Sandeman to Kalat on 1877."The Territories acquired were consinto British Balochistan province and tribal Areas by 189 IIGRA Balochistan province became part of Pakistan in 1947 and Kinacceded to Pakistan one year later. Balochistan was reestablish spandi Separate province in its present from on 1st July 1970.

ROUTES TO BALOCHISTAN:

It is probable that Iranian speakers were late in consistent Balochistan and the Southern and Eastern parts of Balochistan arces to predominantly non-Iranian until well after the Islamic conquests. "The Baloch probably entered Makran (i.e. western Balochistan high to Kirman about the time of the Saldjuk invasion of Kirman."(15) alignated time of Hazrat Umar the Zutt or Diats were in Makran, Which were conquered by the Arabs. At the time of Muawiya, (C.A. 44/664 All longol towns of Makran were occupied and war was waged with the media the words, while raids extended as far as Sind."(16) "In 711 A.D Haja-Yousaf, the Governer of Iraq sent an expedition under his Southern Muhammad -Bin-Qasim Came through Makran, humbled the Kinconquered Sindh"(17).

THE POPULATION:

The Baloch and Pathan people constitute the two major and Anus distinct ethnic groups. The mixed ethnic struck, mainly of Sin egends origin, forms the third group. There are minor ethnic communicational Meds along the coastal belt, lurs in the predominantly of Balochi are owerful Jats in the Sibi, Karachi, and Lasbala districts. The Pathan, divided 13 subgroups, is believed to be of Turko-Iranian origin. Pathan to Claims the northern Balochistan immediately west of the Sulaiman to be their ancient home. And the Pathans are still concentrated of the contemporary Zhob, Loralai, Quetta & Pishin districts."(18)

Balochistan is a multi linguistic region, a Majority Balochi inhabitants are bilingual and there is a Sizable trilingual populs Baloch, Brahvi and Sindhi are the Principal Languages of the

an Division. While Pashtoon, Balochi, Sindh and Seraiki are the main Sind Languages of the Quetta Division. The settlers speak Punjabi from the hist Puriab, mainly in the urban areas. While Urdu is used as a lingua Robe franca."(19)

itute MIGRATION IN BALOCHISTAN:

."(1 The history is witness that, people wanted resources to feed their sta expanding population and in search of resources they migrate." The first l as Baloch migration from the Caspian sea region, most probably around 1200 B.C. most has been motivated by this general historical phenomenon."(20) The Baloch movement from Kirman and Seistan to Makran and then Eastern Balochistan was not only result of the lack of sufficient productive forces to meet their demands, or insufficient grazing field for their flocks, because the area they migrated to was no better in natural than the area in which they had been settled for centuries."(21) There are many reasons for migration. The main reason was their political conflict with rulers and ters own internal enmity. "Another factor most probably was the Mongolian invasion of Central Asia and the subsequent political anarchy in the whole region."(22)

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The available evidences regarding migration of the Aryans in the area is established that by the beginning of the Christian era. The Baloch were one of the Major people inhabiting Iranian Balochistan, Seistan and Kiman. Their migration further east in to Makran must also be the result of Anushervan's (531-578 A.D) attack on them."(23) According to some legends, "it was at a later stage and was the result of a quarrel between the Kiman ruler and the Baloch Chief who was the successor to the most powerful leader Ismael Romi."(24)

CENSUS SITUATION:

ditti Balochistan is the largest province of Pakistan. "The area is 43.6% of the total while the population is only 4.5% total population of the country."(25) We may sum up the demographic characteristics of Balochistan as follows.

- The geographical area of the province is very large, while prace is very small and scattered.
- 2. The population is increasing at the rate of 2.4%.
- Social change and economic development is very slow.
- People live in tribal system and having joint family spending ratio on the whole is greater.
- It's a male dominating society the female role on family a very minor.
- Usually the families are unplanned, as population planneither been accepted as a norm, it has succeeded in a stereotype of thinking.
- Apart from general economic progress the majority of populiving at subsistence
- 8. level and income of common person are very low.
- 90% of rural population is engage with agriculture and live
- Migration of people from rural to urban area has been a scale in recent years mainly due to drought owning to a considerations." (25)

The population increase during the different census can be obsent the following table:

POPULATION OF BALOCHISTAN

	_		-	-	11010000		
DESCRIPTION	1951	1961	1972	1981	1998	2001	20
Population`000`	1167	1353	2428	4305	6511	7101	88
Increase (%)		15.96	79.44	77.23	51.24	9.06	24.
Annual Growth Rate		1.50	5.14	8.60	2.40	3.02	2.4

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National Institute of population Studies Islamabad.

Author projection.

ALOCHISTAN DIVISION AND DISTRICT POPULATION 1981-1998 CENSUS AND PROJECTION FOR THE YEAR- 2010

res	1981	1998 Population	Growth Rate	2010 Projected Population
204	Population 4332376	6511358	2.42	8675386
elochistan	880618	1718708	4.01	2754883
uena Division	381566	759245	4.13	1233935
uetta	202256	366163	3,55	556513
shin	176341	390738	4.79	685052
illa Abdullah	120455	202562	3.10	292187
hagai	749545	997165	1.69	1219287
hob Div.	235038	300028	1.45	356604
oralai	91174	132411	2.22	172327
lusa Khel	The second secon	99502	2.85	139406
lerkhan	61684 148362	188729	1.42	223522
allah Saifullah		276495	1.54	332149
Chob	213285	489708	2.81	682908
Sibi Div.	305768	179654	3.56	271849
Sibi	98482	32864	0.12	33340
Zieret	32196	97786	1.88	122276
Kohlu	71269	180404	3.30	266348
Dera Bugti	103821	1055840	2.45	1411697
Nasirabad Div.	699669	421082	2.75	583107
Jafarabad	265342	242689	3.78	678803
Nasirabad	129114	103970	2.52	140155
Jhal Magsi	68092	288099	1.15	330470
Bolan	237123	1433720	-	1792728
Kalat Div.	1044174	1433720	1100	

Kalat	209149	122.5	10000	
Mastung	The second secon	235758	0.71	256
Khuzdar	132044	163548	1.27	190
	276449	409164	2.33	-
Awaran	110353	114427		539
Kharan	128040		0.21	117
Lasbela	188139	197418	2.58	2680
Mekran Div.		313405	3.05	4494
Kech	652602	816217	1.32	
The state of the s	379467	409879		9553
Gwadar	112385		0.45	4325
Panjgur	160750	178989	2.77	2484
-	100730	227349	2.06	2903

(26 and 27)

TRIBES OF BALOCHISTAN:

Generally tribes are constituted from a number of kindred grown many sub-divisions or clans, who claimed to have blood relation another through some ancestors. Such groups generally occupy under headman (Sardar) who enjoys his authority but uses his powers through censent. The detail of Kanious tribes and Sub-tribes can observe following table. (26 and 27)

Name of sub-tribe	Residing in District	Remarks
 Gitchki Gujar Hallada Hot 	Pangjgur and kej Malan Jau	Settled in Makran a century.
4. Hot 5. Kalmatti 6. Kaudia 7. Mehmasani 8. Nurwari 9. Mirshirvani 10. Rodahi 11. Saka 12. Sangur	Central Makran Kalamat and Pasni Kolwah and Dasht Mshk Mushki, Jau, and Kolwah Panjgur and Kowah Kolwah Greshar, in Mushki Malan and Bett	Is the most numerous Claim affinity with tribe Kharan is the heads this tribe.
Bizanju	Hille north - C.I.	Are supposed to be a of Ancient Sacae. Have 2 important bree

s rani nis hal oli	West of the Minghal tribe Hills east of Zehri Hills near Khoadar Zehri Hills north of Las Hills near Khozdar Zehri	Amalari and Tambarari Are nomadic in habit. Have two great divisions, Shahizai, Pahlawanzai. Numerous and generally respected.
galzai ghi ghau ghau mudshahi sani shani dani malari ekh Husaini	Mastung At Ghazg Dasht- I-Bidaulat and Merv Mangochar Mastung Mastung Mastung and Shal Nushki Ashi Khan and Puden Hills west of Khanak	Presumed to have come originally from Kurdistan; have numerous Sub divisions. Said to have been formerly slaves Of the Rinds, but enfranchised by The famous Mir Chakar.
irwani	Mastung	A branch of Sirperra
mari igar Minghal allui luchik Ngh Mandarari	Gurghina Dasht Guran Nushki Lup Kirta Khajuri Rodbar Johan	Sav their forefathers came from Shirwan, near the Caspian Sea. Literal meaning of Sirperra, "Cutters off of heads." Ancestors supposed to have been The Sarapare mentioned by Pliny.
	a strongering	These tribes are found in the

		northeastern hills of Sarawan, known as let the Kirta district.
1. Bughtis	Hills east of Lehri, at Sing Saioh and Teriki	Are of the Rind tribe a
2. Dumbkis		Propensities.
3. Homarari	Lehri	Rind tribe
4. Jakranis	Tambu	" vgoM
5. Jallui	Lehri	**
6. Jamali	Sanni	"Logostivi
7. Lashari	Rojan	**
8. Maghzis	Gajan	" maranti
9. Marris	At Jhal	Had but four families.
(Doda Marris) 10. Utanzai	Eastern hills	Are Rinds, and are a lawlessness.
	Suran.	SHIP THEY

(A.W.Hughes28)

In the northern areas of Balochistan, the following tribes and subtribes residing in this belt known as Pashtoon area.

Tribe	Sub tribes	Places	
Abdual (Durani)	Popalzai Alikozai Barkzai	Scattered (Northwest of Pakistan)	
Achakzai	Hamidzai Ghabzai Mulazai Usmanzai Kakozai	Gulistan, Chaman Bostan, Bolduk	

erani	Holly Khel Husan Khel Ader Khel	Zhob
aber Manual S	Lbrahim Khel Ismail Khel Shod Khel	Zhob
Kaker	Mando Khel Senzer Khel Khabzai Dumer Jogazai Mosa Khel Safi Merazai Abdullahzai Bazai Materzai Panizai	Zhob
Ghalzai	Hotak Toke Nasar Karote Sulaman Khel Ali Khel Tarakai	Quetta Kuchlak Loralai Killa Abdullah
	Sherani Shellehzai Akozai Alikzai Amanzai Thorzai	Quetta Panchipai Noshki Dalbandin
Kasi	Arbab Khel Malik Khel	Quetta (Samagulli, Qotwall)
Tareen	Tor Tareen Speen Tareen Bor Tareen	Zairat Dulei

(Shreen Khan, Nasir 29)

The significance and idea of race, call, creed and caste, primary and ethnic groups, ethnocentrism etc; are imparted to a person through .

culture. Culture is the totality of life of people culture is the environment that is the creation of man, we can say, "Culture shared and transmitted knowledge both existential and symbolized in act and artifact." (30, Defined by 'G.P. Murdock) culture is a totality of standardized and patterned ways of live doings of man, inherited from the past including both material commaterial-object In short it includes dress, jewelry, food, custom, acceremonies and way of life of a group or community. Keeping in above definition the following aspects of culture can be discussed.

HOUSING:

The Baloch family lives in a large and open house. The flocks usually within the same premises. Houses are built on a framework with long slender poles, bent and curved towards extra For temporary they build tents and glass is installed inside it.

DRESSESS:

The Baloch were a (Jamag) long shirt down to heels, lose:

a turban (pag) and shoes made of leather or (sawas) made of heeps. The shirt has side pockets. The waist-coat which is embroidered in different colour is used by noble persons were wear loose shirt or gowns and trousers primitive women use only shirt which covers her from neck to the feet and usually wears. The shirt has a large front pocket. The shirt arms are also embroshe uses a (chadir) to cover her self. Young and widows usual black and white dress with out embroidery they do not use jewelled widow uses embroidery dress it is an indication that She intended about a century back, the Baloch wore Persian frockcoat and the Female had also similarity with Persians dress." (31)

JEWELLERY:

The history of to use the jewellery is very old. "In ancienting customs of burying the dead with garments and ornaments was to the most archaic use of jewellery. Purely decorative jewellery had a since the beginning the Christian era. The use of jewellery had a since the beginning the Christian era.

with the Aryan's trace from the archeological findings."(32) The usually wear earrings, rings, in nose necklace, bracelets, rings in and feet fingers the also wear bangles and ornaments of various are fixed on the hair.

The food of the people consists of bread made of inferior grain the milk. Sheep and goat milk and curd are eaten as a relish or equiment with bread and rice. In Makran and Lasbala, camel's milk minable in large quantities and used with bread, rice dates and salt in Mastung area division winter meal is composed of dried the mean approach. Among all classes of the people asafetida (hing) are repugnant to European taste, is largely employed in flavorings in the Pashtoon area (landhi) the roast mutton is also used during the milet.

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In Balochistan generally, Balochi and Pashto are used very smally. While, Brahvi Hazarvi and sindhi is also spoken. In the receil capital Quetta Urdu is very common. Urdu is declared as an acid language of the province. The Makrani Baloch is the dialect roter by the people living in the eastern and southern parts of Balochista th limits on the sea coast are the malan mountains on the east, and a line real about fifty miles west of Chahbar on the west. The Makrani Baloch addect of Persian mixed up with a great many words of Indian (23) In the central Balochistan, "The Balochi dialect is spoken several of the Jhalawan (khuzdar, kharn) tribes, such as Minghals and Bazanjus and it is used also by a portion of the Rind tribes." (34) The standalect, as spoken in Kalat, kharan, Mastung and Khuzdar contains the amount of both Balochi and Persian, but a very little Pashto mixed with it. The Balochi cannot be called a written language. However the trial phabets are used in writing.

MARRIAGE CUSTOMS:

In the Northern areas every man marries when he attend the age of solery. "But the necessity of paying bride price (walwar) compels many was till middle age." Among the well-to-do families a man does not

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usually marry before the age of 25, the bride is generally five as younger. Some time the age of groom is double than the age of amount and procedure of bride's price (walwar) payment is very factor for all matrimonial arrangements. Now days with reducation and awareness, the walwar is taken as a marriage as tribes a token money is paid. While in some tribes its' rate very two to five hundred thousands.

CEREMONIES:

On the occasion the birth child is marked with much singing. Food and sweets prepared and distributed. Among some ceremony is performed on the birth of a girl. Marriage ceremperformed including music, dancing and distribution of food Marriage to a closely kens, family. Expenses of food prepared to home side is bears by the bridegroom. To meet the expenses and bride price (lab in Baloch areas) is given by the bridegroom. The every one who is invited in the marriage they have to give and their status, sheep, cows, goat or camels are also presented salami. Bride also collects bijjar called glwari at the time of baras.

HOSPITALITY:

The Baloch are traditionally hospitable. The guest is a respect. Even the enemy once entered in the home would be the an honorable person. The well-to-do person has a separate house for the guests.

ECONOMY:

Balochistan is rich in minerals. There are several known of metallic and nonmetallic minerals. Its minerals potentials have been fully investigated nor has the technical and economic featheir exploration been adequately assessed. "The discovery of nefields at Sui in 1953 and of Pirkoh in1982 and Likewise the discopper belt at Saindak in 1962 by satellite images hint at the post finding even richer reserves of minerals Balochistan." (35) The set gas supply at production well and at main distribution head we great important. Many incidences have been happening in the gas

orderal occurrence of some other minerals close to Iran and orders and along coastline raises additional security problem.

totak deposits are one of the largest in the World and could relatory foreign powers or their surrogates to intervene for selfish Blochistan has coastal ferry service along the Makran coast. and Jarly call on Jiwani, Gwadar, Pasni, Ormara, Rasmalan, and A long felt need at these bays and ports relates to adequate facilities. " Two main reasons for inadequately developed and along the Makran coastal area (1) tempo of trading activity in ress slow (2) shoals and sandbanks at the mouths of the bays are and difficult to negotiate." (36) Development of modern seaport in and other parts of these areas would cost billion of rupees. "For are for worse wide continental shelf and shallow water would act as large warships. But small vessels and country boats could be and for beach landing, fishing, treading, marine research and "(37) Keeping in view the present situation of the borders, modern communication net work is needed in to build viable defiance and also for exploring its natural particularly minerals. "In certain cases Geological investigations restricted to satisfying academic curiosity."(38)

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Balochistan the political system is entirely based on tribalism smal structure is the primary organization remained throughout save some insignificant variations necessitated due to political economic development. "Tribalism is further strengthening and clan organization. The political, economic and social the early Baloch was the tribe. The association of the various have taken firm roots at later stage of history when it becomes for one tribe to face the challenges from hostile forces." (39) and is the largest province of Pakistan. It has a costal ferry service Makran coast. The province is rich in Minerals potential but it been fully investigated nor has the technical and economic of their exploitation been adequately assessed. Modern see port and communication network is needed in the area to believable becomes development.

Nowadays, India has very close diplomatic relation ROSERENCE: present Afghan regime. India is assisting in many communication Physical structural developmental projects. This is an alaman for the security of the area and Pakistan. For the prosperity and to over come the problem of national integration, bigger religious persecution promotion of education and design communication means are unavoidable.

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