

## **Socioeconomic Status of Women in Mastung & Muslim Bagh Districts of Balochistan with special reference to education**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The Socio-economic status of women play an important role in identifying the factors affecting their involvement in economic activities. The information on the important indicators was collected in order to ascertain the relationship between their socioeconomic characteristics and type of economic activities women are involved in. Regarding the age group, 80% of the respondent were falling under the age limit of 21-60. Among them 67% were married. 59% of the total was living in a joint family system where the average size of the households was 10 persons per household.*

*The education level of the women was reported to be very poor where a big majority (82%) of respondents was found to be totally illiterate. This indicates that most of the women lack the level of education required for getting government jobs. The educational level of their husbands was also not adequate, more than half of the husbands were found totally illiterate, indicating that most of them are not having the required level of education for availing jobs in public sector. In both the sample areas, husbands were mostly involved in daily wage labourers; self-employed; private employees and government employees with majority employed in the first category.*

*The income from their occupations was very low in both the sample areas and cannot fulfil even the basic needs of the family. Faced with the*

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*situation, women in rural areas are forced to participate in economic activities in order to share the financial burden with their husbands, besides performing household responsibilities.*

**Key Words:** Women, Socio-economic Status, Education, Balochistan