

**CENTRE FOR HUMAN RESOURCE & CAREER DEVELOPMENT
UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR**



2025

**CHRCO CONFERENCE ON REIMAGINING SOCIAL SCIENCES IN
A CHANGING WORLD**

Chief Organizer
Muhammad Naeem Butt, PhD
Director, CHRCO



**BARAGALI SUMMER CAMPUS
UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR**



CHRCO Conference on Reimagining Social Sciences in a Changing World



Chief Guest

Meritorious Professor Dr. Johar Ali
Vice Chancellor
University of Peshawar

Centre for Human Resource and Career Development (CHRCO) at the University of Peshawar is proud to serve as the principal organizer of this conference, which seeks to establish a dynamic forum for scholars, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers. The event aims to foster dialogue on emerging challenges, contemporary research findings, and innovative developments within the social sciences. The conference program will include keynote addresses, panel discussions, scholarly paper presentations, and structured networking sessions, offering participants valuable opportunities to engage with leading experts and contribute to interdisciplinary academic progress. We welcome submissions of research papers, case studies, and conceptual contributions from a wide range of disciplines, particularly those that adopt interdisciplinary perspectives and seek to bridge the divide between academic research and policy development in the social sciences.

Sub-Themes

- ❖ Educational Technology & AI Integration
- ❖ Learning Strategies & Academic Achievement
- ❖ Higher Education & Doctoral Studies
- ❖ Educational Leadership & Innovation
- ❖ Literature & Linguistics Analysis
- ❖ Curriculum & Stream Comparison
- ❖ Postcolonial Studies & Public Policy
- ❖ Sociology of Education & Gender Empowerment
- ❖ Gender Studies & Inclusive Education
- ❖ Environmental Education & Teacher Practice
- ❖ Educational Psychology & Student Well-being
- ❖ Law, Literature & Social Resistance
- ❖ South Asian Studies / Islamic Education History
- ❖ Curriculum Development & Alignment



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Nasir Jamal Khattak
Meritorious Professor
University of Peshawar



Guest of Honour

Mr. Nasir Shah
Director General
Higher Education Commission



Chief Organizer

Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt
Director, CHRCO
University of Peshawar



Event Organizer

Dr. Amjad Reba
Assistant Prof (R). IER
University of Peshawar

June 23-25, 2025

**BARAGALI SUMMER CAMP
UNIVERSITY OF PESHAWAR**

Centre for Human Resource & Career Development

Introduction

Academic institutions involved in higher education round the globe provide backbone for industrial, economic and social development. Large numbers of qualified as well as trained personnel are needed to face the challenges of today's intensively competitive world. Therefore, highly skilled professionals capable of imparting their knowledge effectively to others are the need of time. This is the fundamental challenge facing universities across Pakistan.

The University of Peshawar has been serving the residents of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in particular and the people of Pakistan in general for more than six decades in numerous educational fields and spheres. Each constituent Department, College, Centre and Institute working under the aegis of this Mother University is in its own self a distinct disseminator of knowledge, enlightenment and quality education.

The University of Peshawar took a leading role in response to the challenges faced by our nation towards human resource development by establishing the Staff Training Institute. The Staff Training Institute (STI) was established in 1985 at the University of Peshawar to improve teaching quality by upgrading the teachers' skills pertaining to education, research and learners' psychology and deliver modern training to the staff to encourage indigenous research culture in the Province and related regions. The primary objective was to provide an academically rigorous forum for research and technical assistance to the newly inducted as well as senior teaching staff and to equip human resource professionally.

In due course of time, scope of the Staff Training Institute was broadened to include capacity building of all the internal as well as external stakeholders of the University of Peshawar which include the Teaching, Administrative Staff and the Students as well. To reflect this broadening of scope and inclusion of new training and development activities, the STI has been re-branded as The Centre for Human Resource and Career Development or simply the **CHRC**D. In future, the external stakeholders of the University of Peshawar are also expected to be brought on-board of the Centre for developing productive and mutually beneficial liaisons.

Mission

Centre for Human Resource and Career Development (CHRC)D is committed to delivering comprehensive training and development services to a diverse range of local and national stakeholders seeking to enhance their professional capabilities and realize their full potential.

CHRC)D's core mandate includes the design and delivery of faculty development programs for college and university educators, capacity building workshops for administrative and ministerial staff, and specialized training sessions for professionals from government, judiciary, law enforcing agencies, and other key sectors. In addition, the Centre offers career counseling, academic guidance, and motivational support services tailored to the needs of college and university students.

As part of its broader engagement strategy, CHRC)D organizes academic conferences, seminars, and policy dialogues to foster intellectual exchange, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, and contribute to national capacity-building and institutional development.

Vision

Centre for Human Resource and career Development (CHRCd) envisions evolving into a premier training and development hub, committed to the creation, enhancement, and continuous upskilling of the nation's human capital, particularly within the University of Peshawar. Its mission is to cultivate professionally competent, globally recognized, and market-ready individuals equipped to lead and excel in an increasingly competitive and dynamic environment.

Objective

- To develop skills and capacities required in contemporary market to compete effectively
- To build confidence and self-reliance amongst the members of community
- To instigate a spirit of bringing positive change and its desirable management
- To enlighten the learners with up to date information of their area
- To professionally develop and enhance the knowledge base of learners

CHRC D Conference on
“Reimagining Social Sciences in a Changing World”

Organized by the Centre for Human Resource and Career Development (CHRC D)
University of Peshawar

Proceedings of the Conference

The Centre for Human Resource and Career Development (CHRC D), University of Peshawar, successfully organized its first conference titled “Reimagining Social Sciences in a Changing World.” The three-day event brought together scholars, researchers, and academic leaders to deliberate on the evolving role of social sciences in the contemporary global context.

Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt, Director CHRC D, formally inaugurated the conference and highlighted the role and significance of the Centre in fostering research and academic development. He emphasized the importance of holding such a timely conference, especially as the social sciences face growing challenges and opportunities amid rapid global transformations. Dr. Butt warmly welcomed the Chief Guest, Meritorious Professor Dr. Johar Ali, Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar and the keynote speaker Meritorious Professor Dr. Nasir Jamal Khattak, and expressed gratitude to Gull's for their generous support and courtesy.

Dr. Amjad Reba elaborated on the objectives of the conference, underscoring the need to reframe the relevance of social science research to address current societal issues and policy frameworks.

Dr. Nasir Jamal Khattak, the keynote speaker of the inaugural session, delivered a thought-provoking and comprehensive talk focusing on the current landscape of social sciences and the crucial role of academic institutions in its advancement. He emphasized that the social sciences, though often underprioritized in policy and funding, remain essential for understanding and addressing complex societal challenges, such as inequality, governance, education, and cultural transformation. Dr. Khattak highlighted how the rapidly changing global scenario, driven by technological advancements, shifting political landscapes, and emerging socio-economic issues, demands a reimagining of how we approach research in the social sciences. He stressed that universities must not only serve as centers of knowledge production but also as proactive agents of change that critically engage with their communities, influence policy, and prepare students for responsible global citizenship.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Johar Ali, Vice Chancellor, University of Peshawar, appreciated the initiative taken by CHRC D and commended Dr. Butt for organizing the conference on such an important and timely subject. He also acknowledged the difficulties universities face today, particularly in resource constraints, while reaffirming the importance of nurturing and advancing the social sciences.

One of the key highlights of the conference was a dedicated discussion session on the importance of education degrees and licensure in teacher education, which was chaired by Professor Dr. Ilyas from Hazara University, Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt, Director CHRCd, and Dr. Amjad Reba. In his opening remarks, Dr. Ilyas emphasized that formal academic qualifications in education, along with professional licensure, are fundamental to ensuring the quality and effectiveness of teaching in both schools and higher education institutions. He stressed that teaching is a specialized profession that demands not only subject knowledge but also pedagogical skills, ethical responsibility, and a deep understanding of learners' needs. The session brought together education experts and policymakers who deliberated on the challenges facing teacher preparation programs in Pakistan and the urgent need for regulatory standards that ensure teacher competence and accountability. The discussion underscored the role of universities in producing well-trained educators who are equipped to meet the demands of a changing educational landscape.

Throughout the conference, a diverse array of research papers was presented by scholars from different universities, followed by engaging and insightful discussions. These sessions served as a dynamic forum for the exchange of knowledge and the fostering of collaborative ideas. The sessions were chaired by Dr. Asma Murad, Assistant Professor of Education, and Prof. Dr. Khalid Azeem, Dean of Social Sciences at City University.

On the second and third days of the conference, the Guest of Honor, Mr. Nasir Shah, Director General, Higher Education Commission (HEC), participated actively. He discussed the pivotal role of HEC in supporting the social sciences and reaffirmed its commitment to promoting academic excellence and innovation in the field.

The conference concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt, Director CHRCd, who extended appreciation to chief guest, keynote speaker, guest of honor, all participants, organizers, and supporters for making the event a success.

Conference Recommendations

1. HEC and government agencies should recognize the strategic importance of social sciences by allocating dedicated research funding, institutional grants, and development programs aimed at strengthening this vital academic domain.
2. Encourage social science departments and researchers to undertake interdisciplinary studies that address pressing national and global challenges such as inequality, governance, education reform, climate change, and cultural transformation.
3. A standardized, competency-based teacher licensure system should be developed and implemented to certify the professional readiness of educators. This system must assess not only content knowledge but also pedagogical skills, ethical practice, and professional dispositions.
4. Establish a national CPD framework that mandates ongoing training and professional learning for in-service teachers, linking career progression and promotion to active participation in structured development programs.

5. HEC should revise teacher education curricula to ensure alignment with modern pedagogical theories, technology integration, inclusive education practices, and context-specific challenges in the Pakistani education system.

- **Conference**

- **About: CHRCD Conference, June 23-25, 2025**

- **Centre for Human Resource and Career Development (CHRCD)**, a premier academic unit of the University of Peshawar, successfully organized its **inaugural conference on "Reimagining Social Sciences in a Changing World"** at the **Baragali Summer Campus** of the University from June 23-25, 2025.

- This landmark event served as a dynamic platform for scholars, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to engage in critical dialogue on emerging challenges, contemporary research, and innovative trends within the field of social sciences.
- The conference featured a distinguished keynote address delivered by **Meritorious Professor Dr. Nasir Jamal Khattak**, alongside inaugural speeches by **Meritorious Professor Dr. Johar Ali**, Vice Chancellor, University of Pakistan, and **Mr. Nasir Shah**, Director General, Higher Education Commission (HEC). The program also included insight panel discussion chaired by **Prof. Dr. Ilyas** and **Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt**, as well as scholarly research presentations and structured networking opportunities. These academic engagements fostered a vibrant exchange of ideas and encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration, making a significant contribution to the advancement of social science research and policy discourse.
- In addition to the academic proceedings, an excursion was organized in the scenic surroundings of Baragali, allowing participants to experience the natural beauty and cultural heritage of the region. This informal component of the conference offered valuable opportunities for social interaction, intellectual exchange, and the strengthening of professional networks in a relaxed and inspiring environment

Conference Committee

Patron in Chief: Meritorious. Prof. Dr. Johar Ali Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar
Patron: Prof. Dr Muhammad Taeib Dean Faculty of Social sciences, University of Peshawar
Chief Organizer: Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt, Director CHRCD, University of Peshawar
Focal Person: Dr. Amjad Reba

Conference Advisory Committee:

Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali, DrAmjad Reba, Syed Munir Ahmad

Technical Program Committee:

Dr. Parveen Khan, Dr. Asma Murad

Content Review Committee:

Dr. Waqar Un Nisa, Dr. Raheem Khan, Dr. Shahzadi Seema,
Dr. Rani Gul, Dr. Kifayat Khan, Dr. WalaytBibi

Editors:	Mr. Jala Ud Din
Event Organizing Committee:	Prof. Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Inamullah, Dr. Amjad Reba, Dr. Asma Murad
Coordination Committee:	Dr. Parveen Ishaq, Mr. Jalal Uddin
Management Committee:	Dr. Amjad Reba, Mr. Jalal Ud Din, Dr. Asma, Sana Ullah
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Reception Committee:	Mr. Jalal Ud Din, Muhammad Ali
Registration Committee:	Zubaida, Nafeesa, Musarat Hussain
Finance Committee:	Dr. Shakeel Ahmed, Mr. Musarat Hussain
Students Organizers:	Sanaullah, Muhammad Waseem, Musarat Jabeen, Roshan Chiragh

Introduction



Gull's Association is a family-led initiative established to honor the legacy of our beloved mother, Mrs. Gulle Mehtab, who played a pivotal role in shaping the education and values of her ten children—each now serving in respected positions across various institutions. Rooted in her lifelong commitment to education, Gull's primarily focuses on organizing educational events, especially in academic settings. Beyond event management, we are dedicated to spreading awareness about health, mother and child care, and career development. Our mission is to empower communities through knowledge, compassion, and purposeful engagement.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Day-1

MONDAY-23rd June, 2025

Timings: 9:00- 11:00 AM (Pakistan Standard Time)

Conference Inauguration Ceremony

Venue: Baragali Auditorium

Time	Sequence of Event
9:00 am	Conference Registration on Desk
9.30 am	Arrival of Guests and Stage Reception
9:35 am	National Anthem
9:40 am	Recitation of verses from the Holy Quran
9.40- 9:50 am	Introductory Speech and welcome remarks Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt
9:55- 10.00 am	Conference Objectives Dr. Amjad Reba Conference Focal Person
10:00-10.20 am	Keynote Speaker Meritorious Prof Dr. Nasir Jamal Khattak University of Peshawar
10:40-11.00 am	Chief Guest Inaugural Speech Prof. Dr. Johar Ali Vice Chancellor University of Peshawar
11.00-11.30	TEA BREAK
11.30-1.00 pm	Policy Dialogue on Professional Degree and Selection Criteria for Teachers at School Level: Guest Speaker Prof. Dr. Ilyas Khan, Chairman Department of Education, Hazara University Hazara Guest of Honor Meritorious Prof Dr. Nasir Jamal Khattak University of Peshawar
1.00-2.00 pm	Lunch/Prayer Break
2.00-4.00 pm	Policy Dialogue on Professional Degree and Selection Criteria for Teachers at School Level:

DAY-2

Tuesday 24th June, 2025

Abstract No.	Session-A 9:00 AM–1:00PM Venue: Baragali Hall 1 Session Chair: Dr. Khalid Azeem, Dean faculty of social sciences, City University Peshawar Moderator: Muhammad Waseem
13	The Integration of AI in Postgraduate Learning: Opportunities and Challenges Dr.Sadaf Zamir Ahmed, Dr. Sheikh Tariq Mehmood, Soudia Bano, & Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt
17	Effect of Study Skills on Academic Performance of Learners at Secondary School Level in District Peshawar Ashfaq Ullah
42	Expert ‘views regarding vertical and horizontal alignment of Pakistan studies curriculum from intermediate to masters level in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Dr. Tabassum Mehboob
10	Challenges Faced by Leadership to Adopt Learning Culture Practices for Faculty Development in HEIs Muhammad Waseem
29	Parental Upward and Downward Mobility and Its Influence on Girls' Secondary Education and Women Empowerment: An Intergenerational Analysis in Muzaffarabad, AJ&K Nafeesa Mir Zaman & Dr. Amjad Reba
23	Contributions of NGOs in the Promotion of Transgender Education in District Peshawar Zubaida Khan & Dr. Amjad Reba
	Lunch Break 1.00-2.00 pm

Abstract No	<p>2:00 pm – 04:am</p> <p>Venue: Hall II</p> <p>Session Chair: Dr. Asma Murad</p> <p>Moderator: Nafeesa Mirzaman & Zubaida</p>
12	<p>Bullying at University Level: Investigating Its Effect on Students' Academic Achievement and Self-Confidence</p> <p>Sanaullah, Dilawaiz Aamir, Tariq Islam, & Dr Muhammad Naeem Butt</p>
43	<p>Reimagining Resistance: The Hudood Ordinance Through The Lens of a Case of Exploding Mangoes.</p> <p>Hamza Bin Anees</p> <p>City University Peshawar</p>
24	<p>A Study to Identify the Essential Competencies Required for Doctoral Scholars in the Universities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</p> <p>Waresham Gul</p>
56	<p>Comparative analysis of Science and Humanities groups at Secondary level in Mardan Division.</p> <p>Nasrullah & Muhammad Waseem</p>
50	<p>سر سید احمد خان کا مابعد جدید مطالعہ</p> <p>پروفیسر ڈاکٹر محمد یوسف</p> <p>Govt College Nowshehra</p>
22	<p>Analysis of Questions asked by Teachers in Classroom at Secondary Level</p> <p>Musarrat Jabeen</p>
14	<p>Nexus between Deforestation, Respiratory Diseases and Economic Performance in South Asian Economies: An Application of Clustering Algorithms</p> <p>Rabia Aftab, Alam Khan, & Muhammad Shafiq</p> <p>Kohat University of Science & Technology</p>

15	<p>Estimating the Future Population Size of Pakistan Using Statistical Projection Models</p> <p>Mohammad Yaqoob, Muhammad Shafiq, & Syed Habib Shah</p> <p>Kohat University of Science & Technology</p>
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DAY-3

Wednesday–25th June, 2025

Timings: 10:00AM -1:00 PM (Pakistan Standard Time)

Conference Closing Ceremony

Venue: Baragali Hall I

Time	Sequence of Events
10:00AM	Conference Registration on Desk
10:10AM	Arrival of the Guests and Seated on the stage
10:15AM	National Anthem
10:20AM	Recitation of verses from the Holy Quran
11:20 AM	Vote of Thanks Conference Chair Dr. Muhammad Naeem Butt Director CHRCDD, University of Peshawar
11:25 AM	Conference Recommendations Dr. Amjad Reba Focal Person
11.30 AM	Guest of Honour Nasir Shah Director General Higher Education Commission Peshawar
11.50 AM	Distribution of Souvenirs

Abstracts 13

The Integration of AI in Postgraduate Learning: Opportunities and Challenges

Dr. Sadaf Zamir Ahmed, Dr. Sheikh Tariq Mehmood, SoudiaBano, Muhammad Naeem Butt

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at higher education level have introduced innovative tools for enhancing learning experiences of learners at postgraduate level. This study investigates the role of AI tools in enhancing learning at the postgraduate level, by focusing on their effectiveness, benefits, and challenges. AI tools such as ChatGPT, Grammarly and Turnitin, are increasingly used by postgraduate students for research, academic writing, and for their personalized learning. The AI tools facilitate self-regulated learning, by providing instant feedback, and enhance critical thinking skills in students. However, concerns regarding academic integrity, over-reliance, ethical considerations, and the need for technical training remain significant challenges in effective utilization of AI tools. This research employs a quantitative approach, gathering quantitative data from postgraduate students and faculty members in Air University, Islamabad. The study explores the extent to which AI tools usage impact academic performance, student engagement, and overall students learning experiences. Findings suggest that while AI tools improve efficiency and academic writing quality, their misuse can hinder creativity and independent problem-solving. Furthermore, institutional policies and training programs play a crucial role in optimizing the benefits of AI integration at postgraduate level. The study provides valuable insights for educators, policymakers, and students to develop effective strategies for the responsible and use of AI in higher education. By addressing the potential benefits and limitations of AI tools, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of their role in enhancing learning at the postgraduate level.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, AI tools, higher education, postgraduate learning,

Abstracts 17

Effect of Study Skills on Academic Performance of Learners at Secondary School Level in District Peshawar

Mr. Ashfaq Ullah

In this part of the world education is mostly revolved around the teacher and student is accountable for material learning. However, in west a number of approaches are made to contribute in the learning of the students more suitable and long lasting. Preview Question Read Reflect, Recite, Review is one of these learning strategies. An attempt was made by the scholar to realize the outcome of PQ4R on the academic performance of the secondary school learning in District Peshawar in the English subject.

The study's target group was 9th grade boys enrolled in government high schools in Peshawar's district. The sample was randomly chosen from 76 schools in District Peshawar, and a sample of

104 boy pupils was chosen at random. That was a two-variable study with a pre-test post-test control group design. The PQ4R study technique was the independent variable, and student academic accomplishment was the dependent variable.

The study's primary goal was to determine the impact of study skills on secondary school students' academic performance. The PQ4R methodology was used to teach the experimental group, whereas the traditional method was used to teach the control group.

According to the findings, PQ4R was an effective study approach that helped students enhance their academic performance found that both high scorers and poor achievers increased their scholastic achievement.

As a result, using the PQ4R instructional strategies is advised for instructors to use. It is recommended that authorities responsible for curriculum design formulate the curricula in accordance with this plan. Much more research in this area is critical.

Key Words: PQ4R, Preview Question Read Reflect, Recite, Review

Abstracts 42

Alignment of Pakistan Studies curriculum at intermediate level in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Dr. Tabassum Mehboob, Dr. Amjad Reba, Dr. Jalal Ud Din.

Pakistan Studies was declared as a compulsory subject at all levels of education in Pakistan for the promotion of national integration, unity, and patriotism among the nation. The main purpose of its introduction was to create a sense of responsible citizenship among the new generation. To achieve the desired outcomes the Ministry of Education revised the National Curriculum in Pakistan Studies from grade IX to XII, in the light of the following parameters:

- a) Vertical linkage of contents of both the curricula at Secondary and Higher levels.
- b) 33-35 % cognitive domains; 33-35 % effective domains and 33-35 % psychomotor domains, while framing the objectives, selection, and translation of the contents.
- c) Culminating and strengthening the Ideology of Pakistan in letter and spirit.
- d) The socio-cultural and economic development of Pakistan from the perspective of the contemporary and 21st Century needs.
- e) e) The feedback received from the provinces (GoP, 2006).

Key Words: Pakistan Studies, alignment, curriculum, intermediate.

Abstracts 10

Challenges Faced by Leadership to Adopt Learning Culture Practices for Faculty Development in HEIs

Muhammad Waseem

Leadership has pivotal role in cultivation learning cultures in educational institution not only for students but also for their faculty members. This piece of research work intended to explore the challenges encounter by educational leadership in creating learning culture for their faculty in higher education institutes. The study founded on the assumption that educational leaders encourage their faculty to develop learning culture not only for students but also for their faculty — an atmosphere that inspires work-place learning and where both gaining and sharing professional knowledge are prioritized and valued.

The effectiveness of educational leadership for developing learning culture in higher education was rarely discussed. Mainstream higher education researches on leadership largely neglect this aspect of leadership's role and called for narrowing this gap in the available academic knowledge. This was the specific motive for the study, which pragmatically explored, what tensions surround educational leaderships for developing learning culture for faculty development and which dilemmas they faced during journey of leadership.

This piece of work involved six Heads/Deans of Department of Education from different private universities for research. Semi structured interviews were conducted to collect data. The data provided information about professional experiences and challenges encounter by leadership for developing learning culture, set within the higher educational institutions and focused on the research questions. Thematic analysis was implemented to analyze the qualitative data. The study revealed that nurturing learning environment and supporting faculty development in higher education involved complex challenges, requiring strategic leadership approaches and recognition of faculty contributions.

Abstracts 29

Parental Upward and Downward Mobility and Its Influence on Girls' Secondary Education and Women Empowerment: An Intergenerational Analysis in Muzaffarabad, AJ&K

NafeesaMirzaman& Dr. Amjad Reba

This study investigates the impact of parental upward and downward mobility on girls' secondary education and subsequent women's empowerment in Muzaffarabad, Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJ&K), utilizing an intergenerational lens. Through a qualitative, exploratory research design, the study explores how socio-economic shifts within families influence educational aspirations, career trajectories, and empowerment outcomes for girls. A purposive sample of 30 female students and 10 parents from two Governments Higher Secondary Schools (GHSS), one urban and one rural was selected. Data was gathered through semi-structured interviews with students and their parents, focusing on parental mobility, girls' educational outcomes, aspirations, and empowerment. Thematic analysis was employed to examine the data, identifying key themes

related to mobility, geographical disparities in education, factors contributing to intergenerational mobility, and socio-economic status. The findings indicate that upward mobility significantly enhances girls' educational opportunities and empowerment, while downward mobility often limits access to quality education and socio-economic advancement. This research highlights the critical role of parental socio-economic status in shaping educational outcomes and the broader socio-cultural empowerment of women, emphasizing the need for targeted educational policies that address these disparities in Muzaffarabad, AJ&K.

Keywords: Upward mobility, downward mobility, girls aspiration, empowerment

Abstracts 23

Contributions of NGOs in the Promotion of Transgender Education in District Peshawar

Ms. Zubaida& Dr. Amjad Reba

The contributions of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to the education of the transgender population in District Peshawar are examined in this study. Transgender people in Pakistan still experience systemic discrimination and social exclusion, especially in educational institutions, not with standing recent legal developments. The study looks into how NGOs are tackling these obstacles and attempting to empower transgender people and include them in education. Data were gathered through semi-structured interviews with 10 transgender persons connected to these organizations and two NGO leaders using purposive sampling. According to the findings, transgender people in Peshawar face a number of difficulties, such as social stigma, a lack of institutional support, and restricted access to inclusive and secure learning spaces. Participants underlined the pressing need for public awareness initiatives, affirming educational spaces, and substantial policy reforms. In order to guarantee equitable chances for everyone, the report emphasizes the critical role that NGOs play in promoting transgender rights, offering educational assistance, and encouraging community level change.

Keywords: Transgender, discrimination, social exclusion, social stigma,

Abstracts 12

Bullying at University Level: Investigating Its Effect on Students' Academic Achievement and Self-Confidence

Sanaullah, DilawaizAamir and Tariq Islam

Bullying is an alarming issue that adversely influences students of all age; it has the tendency to affect many people at a time; such as the bully, the victim and those who witnessed bullying. Bullying has many forms which includes physical attacks, verbal abuse, threats, mocking, criticizing and so on. The aim of the study was to identify the effect of bullying on students' academic achievement and self-confidence at University of Peshawar. In this study, the researcher adopted quantitative method. The population of the study was Undergraduate students at University of Peshawar, 50 students from the University of Peshawar were included in the

sample through simple random sampling technique. A self-structured questionnaire was administered to collect data from the respondents. The study was quantitative in nature and SPSS was used to analyze the data that were collected from the respondents. Linear regression, percentage and mean were used to analyze the data. The results of the study revealed that there is no effect of bullying on students' academic achievement at university level while there is effect of bullying on students' self-confidence at university level. 76% of the respondents had the opinion that their GPA was not affected by bullying in the last semester. 64% of the respondents believed that they lost their self-confidence upon getting bullied. Therefore, the null hypothesis; there is no effect of bullying on students' academic achievement at university level, was accepted. The null hypothesis: there is no effect of bullying on students' self-confidence at university level, was rejected because there is effect of bullying on students' self-confidence at university level.

Abstracts 43

Reimagining Resistance: The Hudood Ordinance through the lens of, A Case of Exploding MANGOES

Mr. Hamza Bin Anees

Literature has long served as a powerful tool of resistance against oppressive legal structures, exposing the inherent contradictions and injustices within the legal system. This research article examines Mohammad Hanif's novel A Case Of Exploding Mangoes through the lens of Critical Legal Studies (CLS) to highlight how the novel serves as a critique against the Hudood Ordinance, 1979. By employing qualitative content analysis, the study highlights how Hanif's satirical narrative deconstructs the legitimacy of laws - such as Hudood Ordinance - that reinforce state power and silence dissent. The novel's portrayal of legal absurdity in Hudood Ordinance sheds light on the complicity of Hudood Ordinance in order to maintain the status quo. Through a close reading of A Case Of Exploding Mangoes, this research article postulate that literature can challenge hegemonic discourses by reimagining resistance and exposing oppressive legislation. The analysis allude to the notion how fictional narratives not only reflect socio-legal realities but also offer substitute spaces for critique and resistance. By foregrounding the nexus of law, power, and narrative, this research article highlights the role of literary discourse in contesting legal authoritarianism and a call for justice.

Keywords: Literature, Resistance, Legislation, Laws, Legal authoritarianism.

Abstracts 24

A Study to Identify the Essential Competencies Required for Doctoral Scholars in the Universities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Mr. WoreshamGul, Dr.Parveen Khan

This study aims to identify the essential competencies required for doctoral scholars in the universities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. As higher education evolves, the expectations from doctoral scholars have increased, encompassing not only subject mastery but also research

acumen, academic writing, critical thinking, digital literacy, and ethical awareness. Despite the increasing enrollment in doctoral programs, there exists a gap in understanding the core competencies necessary for successful doctoral completion and long-term academic contribution. Using a

Mixed method research design, the study surveyed doctoral scholars and faculty members from public sector universities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The findings revealed a consensus on the need for both academic and soft skills, including research methodology, academic writing, time management, digital competency, and collaboration. The results emphasize the need for structured doctoral training programs that address these competencies and ensure doctoral scholars are well-prepared for academic and research careers.

Keywords: (Doctoral Competencies, Research Skills, Academic Writing, Higher Education)

Abstracts 56

Comparative analysis of Science and Humanities groups at Secondary level in Mardan Division

Nasurullah & Muhammad Waseem

The study will be carried out under the Title of “Comparative Analysis of Science and Humanities groups’ grade 9th at Secondary Level in Mardan Division”. The main objectives of the study will be to assess the Science and Humanities group data with reference to 9th Annual -I 2024 by BISEM. To analyze Science and Humanities group gender wise data with reference to 9th Annual-I 2024 by BISEM.

All the 78753 students appeared in the 9th-I Annual 2024 were the populated data. Observation was used as a research tools. The Data was collected from BISEM and it was analyzed from the Data that 68.85% students appeared in Science group while 31.14% students appeared in the Humanities groups. When we further analyzed, Data showed that in Science groups females students appeared 87.94% and male students appeared 74.82% similarly in Humanities groups Data showed that female students appeared 61.68 % and male students appeared 40.74%.

It was concluded that mostly students show their interest in science groups instead of Humanities, genderwise DATA showed that females candidates are also opting Science instead of Humanities. It is recommended that proper investigation may be initiated by the Authorities to find out the facts in this regard. It is also recommended that some researches may be conducted in this matter.

Keywords: Secondary School, Science, Humanities, interest, opting

Abstracts 50

سر سید احمد خان کا مابعد جدید مطالعہ

Dr. Muhammad Yousaf

The year 1857 marks a watershed moment in the history of the Indian subcontinent, culminating in the collapse of Muslim rule and the consolidation of British colonial power. In the aftermath, Muslims faced severe repression due to their prominent role in the uprising and their religious association with jihad, which was perceived by the colonial authorities as a threat. This socio-political rupture forced Muslim intellectuals to reassess their position in a drastically altered colonial landscape. Among them, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan emerged as a visionary reformer who advocated for reconciliation with the British and the adoption of modern scientific education to ensure the survival and progress of the Muslim community. His initiatives, including the establishment of the Scientific Society, Aligarh Muslim University, and the journal *Tehzeeb-ul-Akhlaq*, were aimed at bridging the gap between tradition and modernity.

This article offers a postmodernist reading of Sir Syed's thought and reformist efforts, exploring his rejection of grand religious and cultural narratives in favor of pragmatic engagement with colonial modernity. Utilizing key postmodern concepts such as skepticism toward meta-narratives (Lyotard), deconstruction (Derrida), and the knowledge-power nexus (Foucault), the study reinterprets Sir Syed's writings and educational philosophy as a dynamic discourse negotiating between tradition, colonial power structures, and epistemological shifts. Sir Syed's emphasis on practical knowledge, life education, and intellectual autonomy reflects a nascent postmodern consciousness that resists absolutism and promotes multiplicity, contextualism, and critical self-awareness. By situating his work within postmodern and postcolonial frameworks, this paper repositions Sir Syed not merely as a modernist reformer, but as a complex thinker whose ideas prefigure several tenets of contemporary critical theory.

Keywords: Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Postmodernism, Colonial Discourse, Muslim Identity, Modern Education, Lyotard, Derrida, Foucault, Knowledge and Power, Deconstruction.

Abstracts 22

Analysis of Questions Asked By Teacher in Classroom at Secondary Level

Musarrat Jabeen

The purpose of this study was to find out the ability of teachers' asking appropriate questions in classroom. Questioning is the door of knowledge and it is the tool to check the understanding level of student. Asking appropriate questions which lead to critical thinking is a complicated process and unfortunately most of the teachers are untrained to ask high quality questions.

Teacher should ask lower order as well as high order questions to engage students in deeper and creative thinking. The objectives of the study were to determine the level of questioning taking into consideration the Taxonomy of Bloom and to analyze higher as well as lower order questions.

The target population of all the 21965 teachers of the public secondary schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Only 10 observations were done in University model school, University of Peshawar. At secondary level classes of 9th and 10th class of Chemistry were observed with the permission of the head of Institute.

To achieve the instrument of the study, the instrument was taken from “The instructional leaders guide to informal classroom observations” and modified by the experts, 2013 in each category of the cognitive domain of Bloom’s Taxonomy. Data collected on above mentioned observational sheet, tabulated and analyzed by using percentage method.

On the basis of analysis it was concluded that majority of the teachers ask lower order questions in classroom. They are unaware about objectives of Bloom’s Taxonomy. So special unit teacher education courses should be given to them for asking critical questions from students. The following recommendations were made for improvement that teacher should train in asking higher order questions in classroom. They should be given awareness to ask more and more questions during teaching in classroom. Special training should be organized at school level to train the teachers about questioning techniques.

Keywords: Instructional leaders, classroom observations, public secondary schools

Abstracts 14

Nexus between Deforestation, Respiratory Diseases and Economic Performance in South Asian Economies: An Application of Clustering Algorithms

Rabia Aftab, Alam Khan, & Muhammad Shafiq

This study explores the nexus between deforestation, respiratory diseases, and economic performance in five South Asian countries, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal during the period 1990 to 2023. The region has faced significant environmental degradation due to rapid urbanization, industrial growth, population pressure, and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources. These trends have led to widespread deforestation, which in turn has worsened

air quality and increased the incidence of respiratory diseases such as asthma, bronchitis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). These health challenges negatively impact labor productivity and place an economic burden on public health systems. The primary objective of this research is to analyze how deforestation contributes to respiratory health issues and how both factors together influence the overall economic performance of South Asian economies. To achieve this, the study employs a robust methodological framework that combines panel data econometric analysis with advanced clustering techniques, particularly the Sliding Window Model. Data for environmental, health, and economic indicators were collected from credible sources including the World Bank and the World Health Organization (WHO). The analysis reveals a strong and statistically significant association between deforestation and respiratory diseases, which in turn are linked to lower economic efficiency. The clustering results highlight temporal and regional differences among countries, showing how environmental and health patterns evolve over time. The study concludes that deforestation is not just an ecological issue but a multidimensional problem affecting public health and economic stability. It recommends that policymakers adopt integrated strategies that include sustainable forest management, investment in clean energy, stronger air quality regulations, and improved healthcare infrastructure to ensure long-term economic resilience and public well-being in South Asia.

Abstracts 14

Estimating the Future Population Size of Pakistan Using Statistical Projection Models

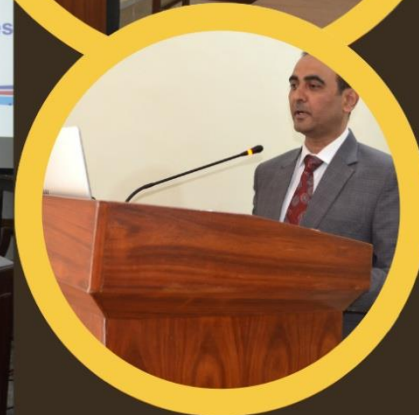
Mohammad Yaqoob, Muhammad Shafiq, & Syed Habib Shah

Population census plays a vital role in determining the total number of individuals in a particular area and is essential for effective economic and social planning. Accurate population data helps governments plan for basic needs such as food, energy, education, and healthcare. Pakistan is currently experiencing major challenges including energy shortages, unemployment, and inflation. To address these issues, proper forecasting of the future population is necessary for informed policy-making. This study applies several population projection models to estimate Pakistan's population by the year 2050. The Linear model predicts a population of 301.72 million, while the Polynomial, Geometric, and Logistic models estimate 392.60 million, 26.95 million, and 357.35 million respectively. Among these, the Logistic model demonstrates the

highest accuracy, with the lowest Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE) of 1.84%. These projections highlight the importance of choosing the right model for future planning, as overestimation or underestimation can lead to ineffective resource allocation.











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