

ABSTRACT BOOK

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PATRON-IN-CHIEF

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## MESSAGE OF THE PATRON IN-CHIEF

On behalf of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference of Social Sciences Research (1<sup>st</sup>ICSSR) entire team, I warmly welcome each of you as we embark on this exciting journey of knowledge exchange, collaboration, and innovation. Your presence at 1st International Conference of Social Sciences Research (1<sup>st</sup> ICSSR) is a testament to your commitment to advancing the frontiers of Special Sciences Research and Humanity. We are honored to host a distinguished gathering of thought leaders, experts, and visionaries who play pivotal roles in shaping the future landscape. Over the next few days, we anticipate an enriching experience filled with insightful discussions, interactive sessions, and networking opportunities that will foster meaningful connections. Our carefully curated agenda aims to address the latest trends, challenges, and breakthroughs. It also provides a platform for all attendees to gain valuable insights and contribute to the collective growth of our community. We encourage you to actively participate in the sessions, engage in thought-provoking conversations, and take advantage of the networking opportunities available. Your unique perspectives and experiences are integral to the 1st International Conference of Social Sciences Research (1st ICSSR)'s success. We look forward to the collaborative efforts that will undoubtedly emerge from our time together. Should you have any questions or require assistance during the conference, our dedicated team is readily available to ensure your experience is seamless and enjoyable. Thank you for joining us on this exciting journey. Together, let us explore new horizons, inspire innovation, and forge lasting connections. Wishing you an enlightening and rewarding 1st International Conference of social Sciences Research (1<sup>st</sup> ICSSR)

***Dr. Ahmad Ali***

## MESSAGE OF THE CHIEF ORGANIZER

I am delighted to present the Abstract Book of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Social Sciences Research, held on 06-08 March 2024. As the Chief Organizer of this conference, I am honored to have had the opportunity to bring together scholars, researchers, and practitioners from around the world to share their knowledge, experiences, and insights on various aspects of social sciences. The conference provided a platform for intellectual discussions, debates, and networking, fostering collaborations and exchanges of ideas. The abstracts presented in this book represent the diverse range of topics and themes that were explored during the conference. They showcase the latest research, trends, and innovations in the field of social sciences, highlighting the complexities, challenges, and opportunities that shape our global community. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all the authors, presenters, and participants who contributed to the success of this conference. I also appreciate the support and guidance provided by our keynote speakers, session chairs, and reviewers. I hope that this Abstract Book will serve as a valuable resource for scholars, researchers, and practitioners, inspiring further research, collaboration, and innovation in the field of social sciences.

***Dr. Sameer Ul Khaliq Jan***

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## **KEYNOTE SPEECHES OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS**

### **BUREAUCRACY PATRIMONIALISM AND INTERVENTION POLITICAL INTEREST OF LOCAL OLIGARCHS (UNDERSTANDING BUREAUCRATIC PRACTICES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH KALIMANTAN PROVINCE INDONESIA)**

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This paper explains the practice of bureaucracy in local government in South Kalimantan Province. The existence of bureaucracy in the government system is like a locomotive or a machine to drive services for the public. The existence of bureaucracy is presented not as an instrument of extension of political and economic interests for a group of people in the local government circle. However, the practice of bureaucracy in the local government of the South Kalimantan Province has been captured by local oligarchs, business elites, and political parties as an impact of the democratization process or local head election. The elites of the political parties as proponents in local elections businessmen as supporters of finance in the local head election process, and other interest groups, have been hijacked by the local head government. The oligarchs appear and position themselves as a shadow government. The oligarchs will be controlling policies strategically in the bureaucratic structure of the local government, especially related to filling or placing someone in strategic positions in the machine bureaucracy. The filling or placement of someone in the local government bureaucracy in strategic positions are people designed with a pattern of patronage or patron-client by oligarchs and local government. As a result of the patron-client pattern, the bureaucratic system in the local government is characterized by a model of feudalism, patrimonialism, and crony relationships. Not only that, the oligarchs dictate local government about natural resources management policies and infrastructure projects with transactional patterns with the political and business crony networks. Bureaucracy no longer represents the merit system and rational bureaucracy to realize good governance, instead, the existence of bureaucracy is in the vortex of the interests of oligarchs. Bureaucracy serves loyalists and political parties rather than serving the public interest. This research was conducted at the government office of South Kalimantan Province with a descriptive qualitative research model. Data collection was carried out through in-depth interviews with government officials, government institutions, and members of the local Council of the People's representative (DPRD) of South Kalimantan Province. Interviews were also conducted with local political elites, political party elites, business or business groups, mass media, NGOs, community leaders, and academicians from Lambung Mangkurat University and Islamic University of Kalimantan, Banjarmasin.

### **EPISTEMIC VICES AND POLITICAL EVILS: UNVEILING THE CONTEMPORARY CRISIS**

Dr. Yurdagül Kilinc, Philosophy Department, Selçuk University Konya Turkey



In this presentation, I would like to argue that the political problems we are currently facing are rooted in epistemic vices that we fail to recognize. By the epistemic vices I mean that these kinds of vices block the acquisition, dissemination and application of true knowledge. I preferred to classify them under the three main headings. The first one is *Cognitive epistemic vices* which include apathy, dogmatism, arrogance, intellectual laziness, irrationality, heuristics, confirmation bias, overconfidence, epistemic indifference and epistemic myopia. Second, *moral epistemic vices* like bias, motivated judgment, testimonial injustice, epistemic greed, intellectual dishonesty, and epistemic insensitivity. And the last class of epistemic vices is the political ones like propaganda, political apathy, demagoguery, epistemic injustice, conspiracy theories, group polarization and ideological insularity. Political evils are the deliberate, malicious, and unjustified death, destruction, and suffering inflicted on innocent people. I believe that political evils, which we can see as polarization, manipulation, lies and deception, are the result of the epistemic crisis in contemporary political thought. So, the urgency of addressing the contemporary crisis in political thought is highlighted by the combination of epistemic vices on the one hand and political evils on the other hand. Only praising intellectual virtues is not enough to combat the pervasive influence of cognitive distortion within political spheres. To mitigate its adverse effects, I think that it is imperative to have a nuanced understanding of manipulation and to recognize the factors that facilitate epistemic crises. Therefore political philosophy can help fix the structural deficiencies that cause epistemic malaise by examining political authority and exposing the public's lack of knowledge and ignorance. Society can work towards intellectual integrity and democratic resilience by engaging in interdisciplinary dialogue and introspection, even in the face of political adversity.

### **VALUE CENTERED SOCIOLOGY**

Prof. Dr.Sami Sener, Istanbul Medipol University Turkey

Each social science achieves a particular "form" as part of its own history and social geography. It is inevitable that disciplines that are a "photograph" of the society such as social sciences, arise from their own geographical, historical, and social values. Significant theories of social changes are based upon the industrialization and modernization process of Europe and the United States. Nevertheless, some political and economic events took place in Western World, had resulted in commodification of social sciences and had led to a reduction of impact of social values; and economical and technological superiority of the West had legitimized this type of perception. Concept of social value is primarily included in the methodical structure of western social sciences. For this reason and due to its role as a social motivator, it has been related to many social issues. Therefore, it must be handled as an explanation of a highly compatible way with the nature and characteristic of social events. In this case, the concept of values must be clarified in the first place. Instead of explaining social values with western concepts, it is more rational to explain them with "beliefs and acceptances" of the relevant society. So, why societies adopt their own values and what roles and functions given to them will emerge. Every society defines its values within the frame of priorities and objectives set by people, lifestyle and individuals. In particular, the understanding of the Islamic civilization of Turkish society to which it



belongs, with this aspect of the different groups of concepts, puts measures to the way of life. For example, in the West instead of "class" the word "community", instead of "secularism" the concept of "tradition" shows which of these different worlds faced with the basic ideas and problems. Language and concepts carry very clear signs about how humans and society envisage the world. Concepts such as Slavery, Excommunication, Class, Pragmatism, and Colonialism show people and communities that world which has developed around the basic problems and focus on areas of interest. On the other hand, concepts such as Foundation (Vaqf), Social Complex (Külliye), Craftsman Association (Ahilik-Ahi Community), and Public soup-kitchen (Aşevi) point out the basic philosophy of a wisdom-driven world that has aimed at social issues. The language of social sciences are concepts. Every language has its unique concepts. These concepts are to be the result of the ideas and beliefs of the society speaking this language. If every scholar shapes these concepts depending upon his own perception, then conceptual confusion occurs. Conceptual confusion upsets the balance of social structure. According to Berger, any social world is built by the value judgment of residents. Value judgment of a society can be called as a description of reality. The need for a social science concerning values was firstly mentioned systematically by Prof. Faruqi in the science world. After that, many Muslim social scientists conducted research and expressed their ideas in this field. Social sciences invented many theories in the historical period. Most of them aimed at bringing solutions to the social problems of humanity. However, this was limited with only scientific research which couldn't be taken into action. According to Bennet, every social structure has its own problems and any methodology cannot be applied to other groups other than the one that it was developed for. That at some point, religious, moral and cultural values and social events of the world in what we call a "decisive role" has to be considered. Since the actors of social events are human beings and society, basic factors such as morality, idea, justice, mercy, respect and love play a more important role as indicators. In fact, Auguste Comte who gave the name to Sociology presented a positive science in the look like of religion, herewith, he meant to replace missing beliefs with a positivist belief. However, this system that was combined with the principles of materials and social physics could not fulfill the function of religion but it established a social basis. First of all, we need to underline there is a significant relationship between science and methodology. The methodology of the social sciences should be formed depending on the value of understanding of social sciences. After speaking about methodology of social sciences, then when it comes to some social influences and guidance, we need to know that social theories are developed by examining a certain society or civilization. It is because each theory is developed within the frame of circumstances and historical period of a civilization or society. Because, results are obtained by examining the same or similar circumstances with help of a social theory. This method cannot be applied to another society or civilization. Social sciences have been established to shape and give direction to society and social relations. It is possible to give direction to the human and society and present a loveable and acceptable philosophy to them. Because they cannot produce such a value. But they determine conformity and suitability of knowledge and philosophy originated from values such as religion, ethics, to the society, and also they conduct analyzes and measure compliance with the social system.

## **ECONOMIC LITERACY**

Prof. Dr. Serkan Dilek, Department of Economics, Kastamonu University Kastamonu,  
Turkey

Many scholars acknowledge that economic literacy is an important factor that helps individuals in making rational economic decisions. In the relevant literature, economic literacy is defined as “the ability to identify economic problems, alternatives, costs, and benefits; analyze the incentives at work in economic situations; examine the consequences of changes in economic conditions and public policies; collect and organize economic evidence; and weigh costs against benefits” (Yıldırım and Öztürk, 2017: 3). In this context, economic literacy is about knowing and applying the main economic theories in making rational economic decisions. Money and individual finance dimension of economics is an issue that is always on the people’s agenda to maximize their benefits. Notwithstanding, the rational and right decisions of individuals rely on consciousness and awareness of economics and its reflections. The economy affects everything in daily life, where people are looking for answers to many questions about economics. Economic preferences and decisions affect us as consumers, producers, investors, savers, and voters. For that matter, every member of society should have a certain level of knowledge, skill, and understanding of the economy. In the literature, there are many definitions of economic literacy (Şantaş and Demirgil, 2015:47-48). According to the North Central Regional Educational Laboratory (NCREL), economic literacy is the ability to revise the alternatives for interpreting economic problems and finding solutions to these problems, to define cost and profits, to investigate the effects of changes in economic conditions and in public policies, to gather and organize economy-related data, and to balance the profits and costs (NCREL, 2006; Gerek and Kurt, 2008). Rivlin (1999) defines economic literacy as the “rudimentary working knowledge of the concepts and language of economic activity and economic policy...”. Another definition of economic literacy is evaluability to developments on the economy and its effects (Şantaş and Demirgil, 2015). Economic literacy can also be defined as the ability to use related knowledge and skills to manage financial sources effectively (Unal et al., 2015: 34). In summary, in the literature, we can witness many definitions of economic literacy. Economic literacy is generally concerned with scarcity, trade-offs, markets, and prices. Economic literacy is important because it simplifies understanding the world and economic system, helps to make the right decisions, and directs individuals to be more rational. Gerek and Kurt (2008) evaluate economic literacy as a part of economic proficiency which is necessary for individuals to carry on their lives healthily and productively. With the help of economic literacy, individuals improve their abilities to act as rational economic agents in society (Yayar and Karaca, 2017: 50). One of the main functions of economic literacy is to give people the habit of cooperating with others by providing development in economic knowledge and skill. The role of economics on individual life and the necessity of economic education is accepted by citizens. Economic education aims to develop thinking skills necessary to be an effective individual as well as

to gain economic knowledge and provide social wealth. Well informed economic agents make economic decisions that enhance resource allocation and raise economic efficiency (Dutkowski et al., 2008: 2; Burke and Manz, 2011; Lusardi and Mitchell, 2010). If an individual is economically literate they should understand and discuss market forces, the creation of prices, and the results of economic policies, and omit irreversible mistakes (Burke and Manz, 2011). Though economic literacy helps individuals in making right economic decisions, it should not be seen as an ability which solves every economic problem. To increase the wealth of individuals or to struggle against poverty, in addition to the increase in economic literacy, governments should regulate markets effectively, provide sufficient economic sources, and apply social and economic policies (Engelbrecht, 2008). Empirical studies confirm that individuals see economic literacy as a valuable situation (Yıldırım and Öztürk, 2017: 7). Rapidly changing economic and sociological conditions increase the importance of economic literacy, because today, making economic decisions are more complex and risky than in the past. Complexity, risks, and uncertainty have an impact on every field of life including consumption, saving, and investment preferences (Şantaş and Demirgil, 2015; Çömlekçi, 2017). The financial system and products have become extremely complex (Japelli, 2010) in the globalized world and it seems that it will be even more complicated and risky in the future. Poor economic literacy causes inefficient portfolio management, wrong choice of financial intermediaries, irreversible mistakes, and low levels of savings. For instance, Lusardi and Tufano (2009) determined that individuals who have low literacy are more likely to carry high-cost debt and live in financial difficulty. For that reason, the lack of economic literacy will further income inequality (Prete, 2013). A better understanding of economic issues helps individuals increase their welfare and make the right choices. Akhan (2013) emphasized the importance of economic literacy training for individuals. Additionally, academic literature supports the importance of economic education in schools (Gratton-Lavoie and Gill, 2009; Parkison and Sorgman, 1998; Gleason and Scyoc, 1995). Another benefit of economic literacy is the contribution to the efficient working of markets. Thanks to economic literacy, individuals prefer efficient investment opportunities, markets, etc., and set up more accurate inflations (Burke and Manz, 2011). Lusardi and Mitchell (2010) observed that individuals who have more advanced literacy are more likely to be ready for retirement. Kahya and İmamoğlu (2015) emphasized a strong relationship between economic literacy and intentions of entrepreneurship. Bayar et al. (2017: 16) explored that literacy has the potential to contribute savings. In short, increasing economic literacy should be a main public policy objective to improve welfare through better decision-making. Empirical studies commonly found that economic literacy is at a low degree in many countries (Lusardi and Mitchell, 2010) and because of that reason, governments cannot find support from society for their economic policies (Şantaş and Demirgil, 2015: 48; Hansen et al., 2002). Furthermore, the lower degree of economic literacy causes wrong and irreversible economic decisions of individuals, and finally, negative financial results. For example, Lusardi and Mitchel (2010) reveal that because of the lack of financial knowledge, individuals have poor retirement planning and benefit less from financial opportunities. Accordingly, individuals whose economic literacy level is low generally experience economic difficulties in older ages. Economic education needs to be widespread

to reduce income inequality, to reach macro- and microeconomic targets such as efficient allocation (Dilek et al., 2016).

Since 1985, high school students have been taking economics classes, including basics of microeconomic and macroeconomic analyses in the United States of America (USA) (GrattonLavoie and Gill, 2009). Besides, the Test of Economic Literacy (TEL), which is a standardized test, is used to measure economics understanding of USA High School students and monitor the effectiveness of this teaching (Walstad et al., 2013; Whitehead and Halil, 1991; Nelson and Sheffrin, 1991) while the Council for Economic Education (CEE) is working to enhance the economic literacy of American citizens (Grimes et al., 2010: 5). In primary and secondary schools of the USA, economics is placed under social sciences courses. Economic education is generally considered as a part of citizenship education (Yıldırım and Öztürk, 2017). Japelli (2010) explores that human capital is highly correlated with economic literacy and individuals who live in countries with more generous social security systems are less economically literate. Generally, academic researchers report a low degree of economic literacy in the world (Lusardi and Mitchell, 2010; Hansen et al., 2002; Şantaş and Demirgil, 2015). Some empirical research reveals that economic literacy is necessary for society and the wealth of nations (Yıldırım and Öztürk, 2017: 3). Still, economic literacy is at a low level in Turkey (Yıldırım and Öztürk, 2017: 3) and other countries such as the USA (Lusardi and Mitchel, 2010). Despite this importance, usually, individuals evaluate economics as a strange and unintelligible area that concerns money and finance. Some individuals can make their decisions without having sufficient economic and financial knowledge (Lusardi and Mitchell, 2010). Yıldırım and Öztürk (2017) surveyed experts who had a PhD degree. According to their results, participants believed that economic education is insufficient in Turkey. Yet, economics is related to the daily decisions of individuals to meet their needs and maximize their benefits. There are two ways of increasing economic literacy. First one is economic education which includes a widespread population. The second one is focusing on daily life events (Şantaş and Demirgil, 2015: 49). Though, the effectiveness of economics courses is another question. In some surveys, it is revealed that the difference in the scores of individuals who take economic courses and those who did not take is very little (Hansen et al, 2002: 463).

Research shows that there exist many factors affecting economic literacy. Gerek and Kurt (2011) applied factor analysis and revealed four sub-dimensions which are economic knowledge, economic rationality, social economic reflections, and individual economy planning. Merwe (2012) states that human capital, economic education, training, experience and age, income and investment, and gender and race are factors that affect economic literacy. Economic literacy is an important issue because it is thought to help people make more effective decisions. Therefore, economic targets can be reached easily. This research aimed to investigate whether economic education, interest in the economy, and belief in the benefit of economic literacy impact economic literacy or not. The second aim was to search if economic literacy affects the economic wealth of people or not. Research is realized with the help of a survey conducted on 481 persons. Results showed that economic education and interests in the economy help increase economic literacy. Yet, dependent variables (economic education and interest in the economy) explain the small ratio of changes in economic literacy. In further studies, other factors that might be

effective in economic literacy can be studied. Another interesting result is that the relationship between economic literacy and economic wealth is not statistically significant. In other words, knowing the economy is not enough to be successful in economic life. Individuals who are not aware of economics can earn more money by studying or managing their investments effectively. Many rich people who are not familiar with economics in society are an example of this. This result should be investigated more in further studies because generally it is accepted that people who know the economy well should be more successful in economic life and manage their investments effectively. In the future, it is hoped that the relationship between economic literacy and wealth could be revealed successfully. Besides, believing the importance of economic literacy is not enough to be economically literate. Individuals can believe that economic literacy is important for being successful in economic life, but if they do not read, try, or study, eventually, they will not be economically literate.

A moderate positive relationship was determined between students' success in the microeconomics test and their entrepreneurial intentions. In other words, as students' microeconomics knowledge increases, their entrepreneurial intentions also increase. A weak positive relationship was detected between macroeconomics test success and entrepreneurial intentions. In other words, as students' macroeconomics knowledge increases, their entrepreneurial intention increases, albeit weakly. Additionally, positive and significant relationships were detected between microeconomics and macroeconomics test results and personal attitude, subjective form and perceived behavioral control. Economic literacy will not only be useful in increasing people's entrepreneurial tendencies but also in making effective and rational decisions and evaluating their assets effectively.

### **PHENOMENOLOGY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

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The source, accuracy, and validity of knowledge have been a topic of discussion especially in social sciences. In contrast to the natural sciences, which obtain knowledge from a positivist approach, the social sciences were relatively late to develop their methods -thus, there had been attempts to adapt the method of natural sciences to social sciences. The part that the German-speaking world played in the development of methods is very important due to its significant contributions to social sciences. Phenomenology began with a philosophical discussion in search of a method and later developed its methods. Thus, it remains an interesting topic due to the conditions that enabled the development and the shift it led to in social sciences. There are certainly other names that need to be mentioned in phenomenology, but my focus is limited to Husserl as he attempted to “transform” philosophy into a rigid science, and to Schütz due to his contribution to phenomenology as a method applicable to social sciences. This study discusses the origins and development of phenomenology, which is used as a research method, especially in the field of social science, its application in social science, its effects on disciplines, and its limitations. In this context, especially from the perspective of Husserl and Schütz, the methods they put forward and their later reflections in social science are discussed in a general context.



## PRESENTED ABSTRACTS

### **ICSSR-111: AWAMI NATIONAL PARTY: IMPLEMENTING BACHA KHAN'S PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION DURING ITS KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA GOVERNMENT REGIME FROM 2008-2013**

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This paper attempts to investigate the role of the Awami National Party (ANP) in contributing to various sectors, particularly education, after gaining prominence in the 2008 general elections. It sheds light on the adoption of the educational philosophy by ANP delivered by Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, famously known as Bacha Khan, for stability, peace, awareness, and maintenance of Pashtun society suffering under the colonial era. The ANP government's initiatives, including a substantial increase in the development budget, reconstruction of schools, and the establishment of colleges and universities are detailed. The paper highlights the ANP-led government's commitment to revising textbooks and integrating local context into the curriculum. The literature review focuses on Bacha Khan's educational philosophy, emphasizing the transformative power of education in civilizing Pashtuns. The methodology employs qualitative analysis, capturing the perspectives of key figures associated with ANP, and elucidating their views on education. The data analysis and discussion section explore Bacha Khan's educational philosophy, the strategies employed for modern and professional education, and its impacts on Pashtun society. The study concludes by emphasizing ANP's effective implementation of Bacha Khan's educational philosophy and its role in fostering social and religious harmony, and academic development in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

### **ICSSR-112: THE IMPACT OF QUALITY OF LIFE AND RESILIENCE ON DEATH ANXIETY: A COMPARATIVE STUDY AMONG MARRIED AND UNMARRIED AMBULANCE WORKERS**

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The current research aimed to study the impact of quality of life, resilience, and death anxiety among unmarried and married ambulance personnel. The study was conducted through a cross-sectional correlational research design. The quality of life, resilience, and death anxiety variables were assessed through reliable and valid World Health Organization-Quality of Life (WHO-QOL) BREF, 14-item Resilience Scale- Urdu (RS-14) and Death Anxiety Questionnaire-Urdu (DAQ-U) respectively. The sample was collected through a purposive sampling technique and consisted of 276 participants with an age range of 18-40. The findings of the study indicated that quality of life, resilience, and death anxiety have strong relationships with each other among the ambulance personnel. Quality of life and resilience positively correlate with each other while negatively correlates with death anxiety. Quality of life has no significant impact while resilience has a significant negative impact on death anxiety. Married scored comparatively higher on (physical, psychological, and environmental domains) of quality of life and resilience while unmarried scored comparatively higher on (social relationship) quality of life and death anxiety. There is a significant difference between the (environment) quality of life, resilience, and death anxiety among married and unmarried ambulance personnel. So, the findings of the study concluded that resilience and marital status are vital in reducing death anxiety among ambulance personnel. Further studies can investigate this relationship in other health-related and security professionals.

**ICSSR-113: IMPACTS OF LOCAL PRACTICES ON GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT: EXPLORING THE COMMUNITY RESPONSE TOWARDS HOUSEHOLD WASTE DISPOSAL IN RIVER**

**PANJKORA (A STUDY IN KHALL, LOWER DIR)**

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Anthropometric practices have resulted in Environmental degradation across the globe. Experts argue that micro-level ill practices contribute to global consequences in terms of the environment. The current study explores the perception of local community members towards household waste disposal in the river Panjkora and is guided by a qualitative research approach. Participants were selected through quota sampling. The data is collected through semi-structured interview schedules from different categories of participants who use household waste disposal in River Panjkora. These include mullahs, members of the madrasa administration, local businessmen, hotel owners, and the Tehsil Municipal Administration. Participants' lack of knowledge about the negative environmental consequences of household waste disposal in river Panjkora, absence of alternative measures for household disposals, lack of required resources to dispose of household wastes, and fatalistic attitude towards life and related events emerged as prominent themes.

**ICSSR-114: UNMASKING CYBERSLACKING BEHAVIORS AMONG SOFTWARE EMPLOYEES: ROLE OF PERCEIVED TECHNOSTRESS**

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Technology is essential in today's corporate environment since it provides several advantages for effective decision-making and real-time connectivity (Smith, 2020). Technology improvements expand communication and operational efficiency, but they also have certain negative influences with the rise in cyberslacking being one noteworthy effect (Mishra & Tajeja, 2022). This study examined the negative effectiveness of the mediating role of perceived technostress on the cyber-slacking behaviors of software employees. A purposive sample (N = 250) of employees including both men and women with the age range 25-40 years rendering their services in government and private software houses was acquired. Measure of Subscale of Neuroticism of the Big Five Inventory (John & Srivastava, 1999), Perceived Techno stress Scale (Ragu-Nathan et al., 2008), and Cyber slacking Behaviors Scale (Andreassen et al., 2014); were used to assess the study variables. Findings showed that negative affectivity and perceived techno stress positively predicted cyber-slacking behaviors. Group differences indicated that female employees working in software houses with extended work experience exhibited tendencies of negative affectivity and perceived techno stress, however, males showed more tendencies to engage in cyber-slacking behaviors. The findings have practical implications for organizations as they empower organizations to formulate targeted policies that minimize cyber slacking risks, enhance employee well-being, and optimize overall productivity. Organizations can foster a healthier work environment, aligning with sustainable practices and supporting employee satisfaction and organizational success.

#### **ICSSR-116: REBUILDING SOCIAL FABRIC: CIVILIAN RESPONSES TO ARM CONFLICT IN DISTRICT BAJAUR, PAKISTAN (A CASE STUDY OF DISTRICT BAJAUR)**

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Armed conflicts have a huge negative impact on society. The existing literature focuses on damage to physical infrastructure and other areas such as governance and economy, but damage to social relations in a relatively overlooked area. The current study aims to "examine the impact of the armed conflict of 2008-2009 in District Bajuar, Pakistan", on social relations among civilians. It further aims to investigate how civilians cope with the damage to social relations. Because of the need to research the topic in detail where the context carries significance, the study is qualitative. In-depth interviews are carried out. A purposive sampling technique was used for data collection the data collected is analyzed thematically, through thematic analysis. The study finds that the conflict affected social relations at various levels, such as between individuals, the family, and the community. In response, the people employed *Pakhtunwali*, neighborhood, hospitality, blood relations, attachment to the land, and economic development as strategies to cope with the impact of conflict and rebuild social relationships. This research highlights an area comparatively ignored in research and academic debate on post-war reconstruction. Also, it proposes certain policy measures for the government, international donors, NGOs, and lessons for the community at large for future action.

**ICSSR-118: THE ROLE OF EMOTIONAL MATURITY, CONFLICT HANDLING, AND COMMUNICATION PATTERNS IN MARITAL QUALITY OF WOMEN WITH CHILD MARRIAGES**

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The study emphasizes the importance of understanding and addressing mental health factors, such as emotional maturity, in the context of child marriages among women in Pakistan. Exploring the implications of emotional maturity on marital quality, the research underscores the crucial role of conflict handling as a key moderator, highlighting its impact on shaping the overall outcomes of marital relationships. The study seeks to empirically examine relationships, explore moderating influences, and elucidate mediating roles within this distinctive demographic in Pakistan. A sample of 260 women, aged 16 to 35, with child marriages, was selected using a snowball sampling. Inclusion criteria encompassed women married before 18, aged  $\leq 35$ , married for at least 2 years, and possessing a minimum primary education. The research employed the Urdu versions of the Dyadic Adjustment Scale (DAS), Romantic Partner Conflict Scale (RPCS), and Communication Patterns Questionnaire: Short Form (CPQ). DAS gauged relationship satisfaction, RPCS (translated by the researcher) assessed conflict dimensions, and CPQ evaluated communication patterns. Results underscore a noteworthy positive correlation between emotional maturity and marital quality. Conflict handling emerged as a key moderator in this relationship and emphasized a pivotal role in shaping marital relations. Although age at the time of marriage did not exhibit a significant moderating effect, nuanced patterns surfaced. Mediation analysis shed light on conflict handling and communication patterns as significant mediators, underscoring their pivotal role in translating emotional maturity into marital quality. These findings contribute to nuanced understandings of marital dynamics within this demographic, challenging stereotypes, and guiding tailored support strategies. This research provides crucial insights for counseling by identifying the impact of emotional maturity, conflict handling, and communication patterns on marital quality among women with child marriages. Counselors can utilize this knowledge to tailor interventions, emphasizing conflict resolution skills and positive communication strategies, thereby fostering lasting improvements in women's mental health within this demographic.

**ICSSR-120: INVESTIGATING THE RESURGENCE OF TERRORISM TO THE COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY OF PAKISTAN**

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Terrorism is a pervasive threat, affecting not only individuals and nations but humanity as a whole. As the region continues to grapple with the menace of terrorism, it is crucial to bring forth the taken-for-granted perspective of the residents toward the resurgence. Owing to this fact, the present study investigated the resurgence of terrorism from the citizens' perspective in district Swat. It examined how locals perceive the resurgence of terrorist violence in the backdrop of state counter-terrorism policy. Drawing

inspiration from positivism, the study followed a quantitative research design. The threshold for respondents was set to 384 as per the Sekaran model. The tool for data collection underwent rigorous processes: pretesting, reliability analysis, and exploratory factor analysis. The results were shown to be significant. After revealing that citizens perceive the resurgence of terrorism as an alarming threat while expressing a pessimistic attitude towards traditional counter-terrorism measures, this study underscores the need for a paradigm shift in addressing the root causes of terrorism. Drawing on the principles of human security theory, it becomes evident that solely a militaristic approach falls short of addressing the multifaceted nature of terrorism. The theory also suggests that ensuring the security of individuals through socio-political inclusion, economic stability, and community resilience can form a more effective foundation for counter-terrorism strategies. Therefore, it is recommended that beyond traditional measures, the state needs to adopt an anthropocentric approach and devise social and political strategies for effectively combating terrorism from the grassroots level.

### **ICSSR-123: FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) AND DEBT TRAP DIPLOMACY: A CASE STUDY OF CHINA PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR (CPEC)**

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Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is a key driver of global economic growth, consisting of investment from one country into a company or institution in another country. China has recently become the leading investor in FDI, with its Belt and Road initiative aimed at promoting international trade and infrastructure development in host economies. In Pakistan, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has provided significant investment in energy and infrastructure, contributing to economic growth. However, critics have raised concerns about the potential for debt trap diplomacy as China's influence in Pakistan has increased, with approximately 30 % of Pakistan's external debt now owed to China. Similar issues have been observed in other countries, highlighting the multifaceted nature of the problem. Weak governance, institutional deficiencies, corruption, policy implementation, and transparency have been identified as contributing factors to countries' vulnerability to debt traps amid Chinese FDI. Pakistan's experience with CPEC has also highlighted concerns regarding governance, project selection, transparency, and uneven distribution of benefits. Further debates will be necessary to assess the long-term impact of CPEC on Pakistan's economy and debt burden.

### **ICSSR-125: CHALLENGES IN WASTE MANAGEMENT OF MARBLE INDUSTRY OF DISTRICT BUNER, KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA**

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The present study was conducted on “Challenges in Waste Management of Marble Industry of District Buner, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa”. The main focus of the study was to find out the challenges in the “Marble Industry Waste Management”. The universe of the study

encompasses District Buner including its three tehsils i.e. Tehsil Daggar, Tehsil Gagra, and Tehsil Mandanr. A total of 128 Marble factories were taken as a sample from 191 Marble factories according to the strategy formulated by Sekaran (2003). Data was collected on three-level likert scale and was analyzed by using descriptive statistics (frequency and percentage) and inferential statistics (Chi square test). The association results of poor wastewater treatment (independent variable) and waste management of Marble industry (dependent variable) shows that significant association ( $P=0.047$ ) exist between Marble waste management and usage of plenty of water by Marble factories in processing. Significant association ( $P=0.042$ ) with the high water consumption in production increases the chance of subsequent wastewater flow. Highly significant association ( $P=0.000$ ) with availability of drainage system (rivers) for wastewater flow. Wastewater pollutes the rivers ( $P=0.024$ ). Availability of filtration tank for Marble factory ( $P=0.005$ ). Whether the filtration tank is functional ( $P=0.018$ ). The filtration tank is regularly cleaned from marble slurry ( $P=0.047$ ). This filtration tank and process is enough for Wastewater treatment ( $P=0.026$ ). Wastewater flow leads to environment problems ( $P=0.001$ ). The study recommends that a proper drainage system for Marble wastewater should be constructed to save the rivers from wastewater flow. Installation of wastewater filtration tank should be insured for every Marble industry. Besides, the tanks should be regularly cleaned and there should be a frequent check on it. An industrial zone should be constructed for Marble factories which will help in obtaining an effective and efficient waste management system. The present study was conducted on "Challenges in Waste Management of Marble Industry of District Buner, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa". The main focus of the study was to find the challenges in the "Marble Industry Waste Management". The universe of the study encompasses District Buner including its three tehsils i.e. Tehsil Daggar, Tehsil Gagra, and Tehsil Mandanr. A total of 128 Marble factories were taken as a sample from 191 Marble factories according to the strategy formulated by Sekaran (2003). The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics (frequency and percentage) and inferential statistics (Chi-square test). The association results of poor wastewater treatment (independent variable) and waste management of the Marble industry (dependent variable) show that a significant association ( $P=0.047$ ) exists between Marble waste management and the usage of plenty of water by Marble factories in processing. Significant association ( $P=0.042$ ) with the high water consumption in production increases the chance of subsequent wastewater flow. A highly significant association ( $P=0.000$ ) with the "availability of drainage systems" (rivers) for wastewater flow. Wastewater pollutes the rivers ( $P=0.024$ ). Availability of filtration tank for Marble factory ( $P=0.005$ ). Whether the filtration tank is functional ( $P=0.018$ ) and whether the filtration tank is regularly cleaned from marble slurry ( $P=0.047$ ). This filtration tank and process is enough for Wastewater treatment ( $P=0.026$ ). Wastewater flow leads to environmental problems ( $P=0.001$ ). The study recommends a proper drainage system for river safety from wastewater flow. Installation of wastewater filtration tanks should be ensured for every Marble industry. Besides, the tanks should be regularly cleaned and there should be frequent checks and industrial zones should be constructed for Marble factories which will help in obtaining an effective and efficient waste management system.

**ICSSR-127: DO SOCIOCULTURAL FACTORS DYSFUNCTIONAL A MARRIAGE PATTERN?  
A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF CHARSADDA INHABITANTS**

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Delayed marriage trends can have both beneficial and ineffectual societal, psychological, religious, and economic effects at the macro and micro levels. This cross-sectional study was carried out to investigate the sociocultural determinants of delayed marriage in the district of Charsadda Pakistan. A well-structured questionnaire was used for data collection from 379 unmarried females through the proportional allocation method. Further, chi-square statistics were used to ascertain the association between dependent (delayed marriage) and independent variables (sociocultural factors). The study revealed that class stratification, rigidity in Pushtun customs, the prevalence of patriarchal norms, and societal pressure to marry young with the collaboration of getting higher education favor marriage postponement in the study area. Finally, micro and macro-level recommendations were made for policy implications in light of the study's findings.

**ICSSR-123A: THEMATIC ANALYSIS OF WOMEN POETRY IN KHUDAI KHIDMATGAR  
LITERARY SCHOOL OF THOUGHT**

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Khudai Khidmatgar movement was a socio-political movement that aimed to redevelop the Pashtun society, in the early 20th century. They give importance to the production of literature not just for the propagation of their narrative but also to flourish their indigenous wisdom and aesthetics. Khudai Khidmatgar provided a great space for Pashtun women in all their activities. Thus in literature, particularly in poetry, we also found a considerable part of the Khudai Khidmatgar women, who focused on women's issues and other dark aspects of their society. In this paper, we intend to highlight and thematically analyze women's poetry of the movement.

**ICSSR-129: SOCIO-CULTURAL CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF STIMULANTS ON YOUTH AND  
THEIR FAMILIES**

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Drug addiction is an alarming issue, which is growing rampantly. This research study focuses on "Socio-Cultural Causes and Effects of Stimulants (Methamphetamine) on Youth and Their Families in District Swat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan." The main objective of the study is to find out the social causes of stimulant use and to investigate the Effects of Stimulants on Youth and their Families. The study is carried out qualitatively and the data has been collected from ice addicts through purposive sampling with detailed interviews and case studies. The findings show that harsh family environment, peer groups,



joblessness, marital issues, and negative communal responses were the main causes of ice addiction. Its main effects include lack of trust, health effects, stress, social phobia, and marital and family members.

**ICSSR-130: THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN FOSTERING POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT  
AMONG THE FEMALE SCHOOL TEACHERS IN NEWLY MERGED DISTRICTS OF KHYBER  
PAKHTUNKHWA**

**Mahnaz Iqbal Yousafzai,**

A fundamental institution that exists in one form or another in every society on this planet is the "educational institution". The present research focuses on how education supports women's political empowerment in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's newly merged districts. The study's main goal was to determine how education contributes to the political empowerment of female teachers in the targeted community. This study aims to ascertain how teachers in the research area support women's political empowerment. The research was quantitative, and 225 sample sizes (female teachers) were chosen from the three districts of Bajaur, Kurram, and Mohmand using the Sekran sample size determination table. The data were collected through structured questionnaires from (Primary, Middle, and High) school teachers, which were then analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software. The analyzed data were then presented in the form of tables and frequencies. The researched data demonstrates that in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's newly merged districts, education may promote women's political empowerment in the true sense. It is advised that training, seminars, and awareness-raising events on the value of education and how it gives women political power be required for both the general public and female teachers.

**ICSSR-131: WAR ON TERROR AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE ECONOMY OF  
PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN**

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The tragedy of 9/11 is one of the most historic incidents of the world. It brought enormous changes in policies, behavior, relations, and reactions among the countries and nations of the world. US foreign policies with Muslim countries before 9/11 and after 9/11 show a great change. US & NATO forces attacked Afghanistan with the removal of terrorist militants on the mission of the war on terror as the forces stayed for twenty years in Afghanistan. The twenty-year-long war affected the economies of both Pakistan & Afghanistan. This research study will provide insight into the causes, effects, historical events, and rehabilitation of affected regions. This study will enrich readers about the influences, causes, and steps taken by the concerned authorities for the restoration of affected areas. Numerous research, journals, and books are written on the incident of 9/11 especially on the war on terror. However, little information and discussions are available for the causes and economic impacts of Pakistan & Afghanistan regions. This study will provide all such information. Qualitative research methods will be used to analyze the

different economic conditions of both Pakistan and Afghanistan. Likewise, secondary sources like books, journals, and research articles will be utilized for better analysis.

**ICSSR-132: COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND PRIMARY EDUCATION: AN  
ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTS OF CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN ON PRIMARY  
ENROLLMENT IN DISTRICT MARDAN**

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The proposed research explores the bad impacts of the “Covid-19 pandemic” on primary education. Specifically, the proposed research study is interested in evaluating the effects of coronavirus lockdown on primary education. The pandemic has not only turned the global economy into topsy-turvy but has also exposed the limits of established democracies concerning the governance of such a pandemic. Given the overarching and enduring effects on almost every aspect of our lives, education does not remain an exception. The “Universal Primary Education Enrollment” is important for developing countries like Pakistan. It is currently the Fourth of the Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals as determined by the UN (United Nations) Commission for Human Development and specific targets to be achieved by 2030. This study provides a comprehensive overview of the implications of the COVID-19 epidemic at primary school registration in Pakistan. The target area of this research shall be the district Mardan in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It discusses how the pandemic has triggered other social issues like gender inequalities, lack of equal opportunities, Scarcity of resources, and financial assistance, which directly reflects on primary enrollment in such low-income areas. Data for the proposed research study is collected from both methods, primary source and secondary source. Whereas, in-depth semi-structured interviews primary data was collected and secondary data was retrieved from secondary sources such as government agencies/departments, newspapers, magazines, articles, and books. “National Commission for Human Development (NCHD)” under ordinance number xxix in July 2002, as a “federal self-directed group” with a mission to support human development under the cabinet division by helping government departments on the district level in primary education, adult literacy, and basic health care services, etc. Different studies showed the impacts of the coronavirus disease, decreased primary school enrollment, and increased dropout ratio.

**ICSSR-134: THE EFFECT OF CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS ON FIRM INNOVATION WITH THE MODERATING  
ROLE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

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Corporate innovations are considered one of the grave solutions to environmental problems of the contemporary world. Several studies have linked corporate innovations with environmental regulations and corporate social responsibility but presented contradictory results. Therefore, this study aims to re-investigate the relationship between corporate innovations, corporate social responsibility, and environmental regulations



under the theoretical frameworks of agency and management & organization theories and & the Porter hypothesis. Previous studies also lack an explanation of the elements of corporate governance that either facilitate or impede this relationship. This study will fill this gap by incorporating CEO power and shareholder ownership as moderating variables. The sample of this study will consist of firms listed on the Italian stock exchange between 2010 and 2022. For empirical analysis, this study will employ ordinary least squares, fixed-effect, generalized method of moments, and feasible generalized least square models.

### **ICSSR-136: EFFECTS OF POLYGAMOUS MARRIAGES ON FAMILIAL LIFE**

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The current study “Effects of polygamous marriages on familial life” was carried out in Bajaur under a conceptual framework in which violence was a dependent variable and the effect of polygamous marriages was an independent variable. Data was collected from 384 respondents from a population of 1, 56, 240 households through the Uma Sekaran table. A well-thought-out questionnaire was used for data collection. Data were entered into SPSS, a univariate test was carried out for the prevalence of the causes, and a chi-square was carried out for the association between dependent and independent variables. At the univariate level, the majority of the respondents strongly agree that polygamous marriages cause domestic violence. At the bivariate level the association between women's limited decision-making power, limited decision-making power due to biological factors, and hatred and jealousy among co-wives were found significant with effects of polygamous marriages. It was concluded that polygamy is extensively practiced in the area. Co-wives face hatred, jealousy, and insecurity in polygamous families. Similarly, fathers could not provide equal care to their wives. Marital education, ensuring basic rights, and court decisions implementation with true letter and spirit are recommendations in the light of the study.

### **ICSSR-137: RESURGENCE OF THE ISLAMIC STATE OF KHORASAN IN THE POST-US WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN**

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Afghanistan has been home to civil wars and foreign interventions for decades. The Islamic State's Khorasan chapter was announced in early 2015 while due to counterterrorism operations by the United States, Taliban, and Afghan forces, "IS-K", weakened, and till 2021 their fighters and militant activities were reduced to a great extent. When the Taliban took control of Kabul after the historic U.S. Taliban deal in Doha, the number of fighters and militant activities of the Islamic State of Khorasan increased very quickly. Using qualitative content analysis of the secondary data collected on the issue, the swift resurgence of the Islamic State of Khorasan in the post-U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan was analyzed. Out of many reasons involved in the rebirth of the Islamic State of Khorasan in the post-United States withdrawal from Afghanistan, the main reason points towards the possible involvement of the United States of America because every activity that the "IS-K" carries out in the region whether it is their anti-Shia agenda, their involvement in

dismantling Chinese developmental projects in Afghanistan or destabilizing the Central Asian region, the beneficiary is the United States. The resurgence of the Islamic State of Khorasan will have huge impacts on South and Central Asia as they aim to expand their Caliphate outside Afghanistan.

**ICSSR-139: AFGHAN REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN POST-ASHRAF GHANI ERA: AN ANALYSIS OF THE ISSUE IN RETURN PROCESS**

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This research aims to examine the issues in the return process of Afghan refugees in Pakistan following the Ashraf Ghani era. It analyzes the challenges faced by Afghan refugees and the opportunities available to them. It assesses the effectiveness of existing policies governing the rights of Afghan refugees in Pakistan. It assesses the government's efforts and the role of international organizations in the return process of Afghan refugees. It also investigates the major challenges and political variables that influence the return process of Afghan refugees to Afghanistan. Qualitative research methodology is applied to collect relevant data and information about the conditions of the Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Research indicates that Pakistan has hosted Afghan refugees for over 40 years in a relatively open-door policy, however, it has not developed a legal framework around the rights and status of Afghan refugees residing in Pakistan. Lack of coordination created issues for both refugees and the host government. Afghan refugees avoid going back to Afghanistan due to ongoing security issues inside Afghanistan such as militant activities and targeted attacks. The study also assesses factors influencing the willingness of Afghan refugees to return, such as fears of discrimination and human rights violations under the Taliban regime. It analyzes how the political and security conditions in Afghanistan, including ongoing conflict and lack of stability make refugees reluctant to go back. The study aims to offer insights into ongoing humanitarian issues and to bring uniform and durable policy for Afghan refugee issues. It seeks to develop a comprehensive understanding of both the challenges and opportunities in the current situation. The research contributes towards better protection of the rights and well-being of Afghan refugees in the post-Ghani era. This research aims to examine the issues in the return process of Afghan refugees in Pakistan following the Ashraf Ghani era. It analyzes the challenges faced by Afghan refugees and the opportunities available to them. It assesses the effectiveness of existing policies governing the rights of Afghan refugees in Pakistan. It assesses the government's efforts and the role of international organizations in the return process of Afghan refugees. It also investigates the major challenges and political variables that influence the return process of Afghan refugees to Afghanistan. Qualitative research methodology is applied to collect relevant data and information about the conditions of the Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Research indicates that Pakistan has hosted Afghan refugees for over 40 years in a relatively open-door policy, however, it has not developed a legal framework around the rights and status of Afghan refugees residing in Pakistan. Afghan refugees avoid going back to Afghanistan due to ongoing security issues inside Afghanistan such as militant activities and targeted attacks. The study also assesses factors influencing the willingness of Afghan refugees to return, such as fears of discrimination and human

rights violations under the Taliban regime. It analyzes how the political and security conditions in Afghanistan, including ongoing conflict and lack of stability make refugees reluctant to go back. The study aims to offer insights into ongoing humanitarian issues and inform policies for durable solutions for Afghan refugees. It seeks to develop a comprehensive understanding of both the challenges and opportunities in the current situation. The research contributes towards better protection of the rights and well-being of Afghan refugees in the post-Ghani era.

**ICSSR-141: POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS AFFECTING DISTRICT HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX ACROSS PAKISTAN**

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Pakistan has miserably failed to achieve a higher human development level as it stands 161 amongst 192 countries in the 2023 Human Development Index (HDI) rankings. This does not however mean that each District in Pakistan scores low on the HDI, across the country there are wide variations observed in District HDI. Therefore the proposed study is a quest to explain the wide difference in human development among Districts of Pakistan's four provinces. The proposed explanatory variables are political and economic factors that are assumed to impact the HDI, as well as its subcomponents Education Index (EI), Health Index (HI), and Living Standards Index (LSI). A cross-sectional study will be undertaken on sample data from 170 administrative Districts obtained from Pakistan Social and Living Measurement (PSLM) surveys to have objective, quantified, and generalizable results. Empirical evidence of factors contributing to or hampering the achievement of higher HDI levels is of utmost importance as it may also drive policy intervention to uplift the marginalized areas in Pakistan. For Pakistan to improve its standing on the Global HDI ranking; achieving a more equal level of human development across Pakistan is a prerequisite

**ICSSR-144: THE ROLE OF OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES IN LEGISLATION RELATED TO CHILD MARRIAGE IN PAKISTAN**

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This research paper analyzes the role of opposition in the legislation related to restraints on early childhood marriages in Pakistan. The prime focus is on the "Child Marriage Restraint Bill" and the proposals for amendments. The amendment bill 2018 was introduced by Sherry Rahman of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) in the Senate of Pakistan. The Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Bill of 2018 aimed to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1929, defining a child as a person under the age of 18 and criminalizing minor marriages in the country. However, Senators from Jamiat Ulema Islam (Fazl) and Jamaat-e-Islami, including Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, Maulana Attaur Rehman, Mushtaq Ahmad, and Maulana Faiz Muhammad opposed it and expressed their displeasure. This qualitative research is based on the parliamentary debates, cut motions of the opposition, and the active criticism of the opposition. This paper concludes that the opposition bench criticized the government policies although their suggestions were not

always welcomed and created chaos in the parliament and they were also blamed for wrong criticism and miss-propagating the bill.

**ICSSR-154: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF DOWRY CULTURE IN TEHSIL  
TIMERGARA DIR LOWER KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA**

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This research delves into the pervasive issue of dowry culture in Tehsil Timergara, Dir Lower, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where the bride's family is compelled to provide cash, jewelry, kitchen tools, and clothing to the groom's family during marriage ceremonies. This deeply entrenched practice has given rise to significant social and economic challenges, particularly affecting the impoverished sections of society. The inability to meet dowry demands often leads to unmarried women facing lifelong consequences. Despite legislative measures, such as Acts in 1996, 97, and 98, and the 2008 bill stipulating a dowry limit of Rs30,000 to Rs50,000, the issue of dowry persists. The primary objective of this study is to comprehend the community's perception of dowry practices in Tehsil Timergara and to scrutinize the socio-cultural factors underpinning the persistence of dowry culture. Furthermore, the study aims to formulate policy recommendations for eradicating dowry practices within the study area. This qualitative research employs in-depth interviews with a carefully selected group of 15 respondents through a snowball sampling procedure, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the subject. Thematic analysis will be applied to interpret the collected data, providing valuable insights into the intricate web of beliefs, traditions, and socio-economic factors influencing dowry practices in the region. This research aspires to contribute to academic discourse and to advocate for positive social change by shedding light on the adverse consequences of dowry culture and offering informed policy recommendations for its elimination in Tehsil Timergara.

**ICSSR-163: CLASSROOM INTERACTION IN ELT CLASSES AT PRIMARY LEVEL: A CASE  
STUDY OF TEACHERS' PERCEPTIONS AND PRACTICES**

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The present "case study" aims to explore classroom interaction patterns at the primary level in a public sector school in Karachi. During the study, it was observed that the big problem in classroom communication is that the teachers have quite a vague idea of the efficacy of their talk with the students in classroom situations. The basic reason for studying teacher-student interaction is its immense contribution to pedagogy in general and "ESL classes" in particular. Employing the qualitative paradigm, seven sessions of each of the six primary-level teachers of English have been observed and the data of all the 42 classes have been recorded on the standardized Flanders Interaction Analysis Matrix. Moreover, post-class discussions and in-depth interviews were used as a tool for data collection. It has been found that there is a dire need to make English Language teachers aware of the significance of classroom interaction and the role it plays in ELT classes.

**ICSSR-164: THE ROLE OF UNITED NATION IN KASHMIR DISPUTE**

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The Kashmir dispute is not being solved because the top powers are not taking affinity for it. India also would not want to solve this issue. The major powers may not be serious about this problem. India claims that Kashmir is an integral part of India while Pakistan also believes the same. The role of the united countries in resolving the Kashmir dispute is a crucial issue between Pakistan and India. This study examines the ineffectiveness of the "United Nations" in the resolution of the Kashmir Dispute. The study concludes that the UN has taken a resolution for the solution of the Kashmir issue. India referred the Kashmir dispute to the United Nations in January 1948, and the UN became a party to it, thus so it is a multiparty dispute India took the dispute to the UN, but surprisingly, in a later year (after the middle of 1950) it tried to relegate the UN role over the resolution of Kashmir dispute.

**ICSSR-165: IMPACT OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON THE EUROPEAN UNION BY  
INVESTIGATING THE LATEST WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND UKRAINE IN  
2022**

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The main objective of this study is to evaluate the impact of economic sanctions on the European Union by investigating the latest war between Russia and Ukraine in 2022. The main objective of this study is to determine the effectiveness of these sanctions by examining the crises in Russia and Ukraine in 2022. Still, the aim is to explore the consequences and success of the economic sanctions. The overall objective of this study is to evaluate two different constraints. The first impact of economic sanctions on the course of the Russian-Ukraine conflict and the second to evaluate the political and economic consequences, particularly on the European Union. This study analyzes the effectiveness of this important foreign policy. The main analysis of this study is divided into several sections. The first part examines the effectiveness of economic sanctions against Russia, the impact on the Russian economy, and the geopolitical context of the conflict, and then turns its attention to evaluating the impact of sanctions on the Ukrainian economy and military success. The second part focuses on the EU and examines the impact of sanctions on trade relations between the EU and Russia. It examines changing diplomatic dynamics, and conflict management in the European Union and examines its wider policy implications for the EU. The final section examines the political and economic interests of the European Union and determines the extent to which these interests are affected or undermined by the application of economic sanctions. The analysis is supported by a rigorous program that ensures that the system development is carried out within a specified time frame. The results of this study contribute to the debate on the effectiveness of economic sanctions, which will form the basis of future diplomatic strategies and policies of international relations. In conclusion, this study not only improves our understanding of the promise and limitations of economic sanctions but also provides insight into their role in shaping conflicts and alliances—work geopolitics.



**ICSSR-167: EXPLORING THE INFLUENCE OF LOCAL TRADITIONAL GAMES ON THE SOCIAL ABILITIES OF SCHOOL STUDENTS OF DISTRICT BAJAUR, KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, PAKISTAN**

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The present study aimed to explore the influence of Traditional Games (TGs) on the enhancement of social abilities among middle school students in district Bajawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The primary purpose included investigating the influence of TGs on the enlargement of social abilities such as Cooperation, Empathy, Tolerance, Self-confidence, Teamwork, and Leadership. Additionally, the study aimed to raise awareness about the significance and resurgence of TGs in the community. The research encompassed students from Government Middle Schools in the district Bajawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. Employing an experimental comparative research design, the study utilized pre and post data collection. A Likert-type scale questionnaire with five options was developed by the researcher and administered to a randomly selected sample of 60 participants (boys and girls) aged 11-14 in Government Middle Schools of district Bajawar. Data analysis was done by SPSS version 16 and various statistical tools, including average/mean, revealed a statistically significant positive impact of TGs on the social abilities development of school-going children (both boys and girls) children.

**ICSSR-172: COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS OF DISTRICT PESHAWAR**

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This research focuses on the comparison of the implementation of Early Childhood Education in Public and Private schools in District Peshawar. The objectives were to gain insight into the gap in Policy implementation, Present facilities, and Pre-Service Training by comparing Public and Private Primary Schools in District Peshawar. Quantitative and non-contrived method of research was used. The target population was all Heads and ECE Teachers of primary Schools in Public and Private Schools of District Peshawar. The study was delimited to the urban area of Town 3 Peshawar which includes Circle -1 Hayatabad and Circle -2 Cantonment of District Peshawar and female Teachers and Heads. A descriptive Study Survey and Stratified Random Sampling Technique were used. Analysis was conducted by Frequency, Mean, Standard Deviation and t-test calculation. The main finding of the study was that Awareness of the ECE Concept is very low in teachers and parents of both sectors. The ratio of availability of ECE Classrooms, Teaching material, Physical Facilities, Funds Allocation, Teachers Training and Staff on Demand is found more in private schools as compared to public schools. So, for the implementation of ECE in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, it is recommended sufficient Funds allocation, Teachers' Training Programs, awareness of ECE in all kinds of media, physical facilities and the material required for ECE classrooms should be constantly managed and organized by the schools' management. Public Schools need much attention in this regard. A collaboration Centre of

excellence should be managed at the district level to check and balance the implementation and quality assurance in both public and private primary schools.

### **ICSSR 181: AN ANALYSIS OF ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND SOCIO-CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS PRACTICES**

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Alcohol consumption is an ancient tradition deeply embedded in social, cultural, and religious practices worldwide. It is linked to various social problems, accidents, and chronic diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disorders, liver disease, and diabetes. In the Kalash Valley of Chitral, Pakistan, where the Kalash people reside in the valleys of Birir, Rumbur, and Bumburet, alcohol plays a central role in their unique cultural and religious life. This study explores the socio-cultural determinants and the consequences of alcohol use among the Kalashi peoples in Bumburet Valley. Despite the increasing number of alcohol users, the practice does not seem to harm the local population but is rather a culturally and socially sanctioned aspect of their daily lives. The research employs a qualitative approach, utilizing semi-structured interviews for data collection. A purposive sampling technique was used to select 20 participants, including both men and women aged 16 and above. Data were analyzed thematically following Braun and Clarke's method. The findings reveal that alcohol use is an integral part of Kalash culture and traditions, highlighting its role in their social and religious practices. It was found among others that the people of Kalashi drink alcohol in their cultural and religious festivals, events, and musical nights. It was observed that alcohol consumption makes people feel good/high and shameless. It was also found that Kalashi people were influenced into drinking alcohol because of the availability of alcohol, peer group influence, influence from their families. Finally, it was observed that the Kalash people drink alcohol because of curiosity, to cope with stress and tension. The study recommended developing community-led educational and vocational training activities or programs, awareness building through training and seminars that highlight the potential health risks associated with excessive alcohol consumption, while respecting its cultural importance. To develop economic alternatives such as gaining valuable skills in income-generating activities, such as digital literacy, and marketing, including promoting their locally produced 'Chitralli Chocolate', culturally significant crafts, agriculture, or tourism activities that provide economic benefits while reducing reliance on alcohol as a source of income.

### **ICSSR-180: EXPLORING SOCIO-CULTURAL FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DROPOUT OF GIRLS STUDENTS AT THE SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVEL IN TEHSIL KATLANG**

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A person, family, and country can all experience sustainable social and economic development with the help of education. Feminists believe that education is a tool for empowering women and lessening gender disparities in society. The current study's



primary goal was to find out how parental support, and sociocultural, institutional, and economic factors affected women's access to postsecondary education. The current study was carried out in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa District Mardan Tehsil Katlang. The study looked at the variables influencing drop out of girls at secondary school education. The population of the study consisted of all the female students, their parents, and female secondary school teachers. Qualitative research method is used to understand the perspective of parents, students and teachers regarding the factors responsible for discontinuation of female education in the selected locale. Both open-ended and closed-ended questions were included in the questionnaire that the researcher used to collect data. Focus group discussions were employed by the researcher as a qualitative research strategy in addition to interviews for data collecting. The study found a significant correlation between socio-cultural factors and dropout rates among girls in tehsil Katlang District Mardan Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In particular, girls from traditional or patriarchal families were more likely to drop out of school due to expectations around domestic and marital duties. Additionally, girls from lower socio-economic backgrounds faced greater barriers to education due to limited access to resources and support.

#### **ICSSR-182: NON-COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE DECISIONS: WHAT IT MEANS AND HOW IT OCCURS?**

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As the highest judicial instrument of the United Nations, the International Court of Justice provides an essential venue for the resolution of disputes between nations. However, the impact of ICJ rulings on encouraging adherence to international law is still being debated. In this study, the author offers a thorough evaluation of the court's ability to enforce its rulings. This research analyzes the strengths and limits of the International Court of Justice's enforcement procedures by looking at case studies and empirical data to determine what variables impact state compliance with ICJ judgments. The author assesses the efficacy of advisory opinions, provisional measures, and final judgments issued by the International Court of Justice by conducting a critical review of the court's jurisprudence. This paper also evaluates the efforts of other stakeholders, such as the United Nations Security Council and individual governments, to ensure that the world court rulings are implemented as intended. The research paper places its study amid larger discussions regarding the function of international law in encouraging conformity and cooperation among nations, in addition to its emphasis on the International Court of Justice. The examination of "Enforcing International Law" plays a vital role in perpetuating discussions regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the international legal framework. It offers a comprehensive and well-supported evaluation of the effectiveness of the ICJ's rulings. It is inadmissible to downgrade the function of national tribunals in the implementation of International Court of Justice statements. By consent, the state should provide the decision of the ICJ being carried out by the domestic courts and may provide individuals or groups with the right to seek such a ruling. The ruling of the ICJ is also provided for by the fact that the national legal systems of certain countries include the provisions of international law. '*Pacta sunt servanda*,' the principle under which duties of states are indisputable and that

they are obliged to fulfill them in good faith, points out the duty of national courts to implement ICJ decisions. Such a concept may serve as a basis to which individuals or organizations can resort to domestic courts for litigation purposes if the concerned state has failed to abide by the ICJ judgment and make efforts to implement it.