



## Gender-Based Disparities in Balochistan: Analytical Approach

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**Abstract-** This study was conducted regarding the gender-based disparities in Balochistan. Qualitative research was applied so as to determine the gender-based disparities in Balochistan. A descriptive design was selected. 200 respondents were selected in Pishin and Loralai by using random sampling technique. Cronbach's Alpha was recorded.078 to .881. SPSS (IBM) was used for data analysis. T-test was used so that to determine the comparison between group's perceptions. Hence, the probability level was set at  $p < 0.05$  alpha level. Results showed that the most 41% of the respondents in this regard were uneducated, the vast majority (89%) of the respondents preferred to live in the joint family system. More than half (56%) of the respondents fell into the age category of 20 to 40. In the areas of household responsibilities, child nurturing or caring, handiwork skill and livestock raising aspects were imperative roles of gender. However, gender based violations, sexual abuses, offensive attitudes against females, gender gaps, gender disparities, gender differences and many other factors remained the preliminary gender disparities. Based on results following recommendations were developed. To encourage the female directional participation in the development process so that improve female empowerment dynamics regarding economic activities. Special vocation education programs and skill development packages should be arranged for females at society level in order to enhance the female income.

**Keywords:** Quetta, gender-based disparities, Pakistan, Balochistan

### I. INTRODUCTION OVERVIEW

Gender word are separated into two terms like male and female according to sex, as reported by the American Heritage Dictionary. On the other hand, gender means the feminine and masculine based on biological variances (UNDAW,1999).

Gender characteristics, traits and qualities are consigned characters as well as associations between and among them. Gender terms however, in this context may count a diversity and variability of apprehensions rather than restricted additional accessory between and among convinced male or female traits and qualities (Hanoi, 2004).

However, in traditional, educational, hypothetical and societal studies refer the term of gender to collective edifice or arrangement rather than biological one as reported by (Reddy, 2005).

Gender is the unique and distinguish characteristics itself and the role of distinct part based on biological differences whenever the investigators determine the gender-related attitude (Markus et al., 1991; Spence et al., 2000; Cross et al., 1997; Deaux et al., 1998; and Athenstaedt, 2003).

Furthermore, the imperative gender roles are energetic, sparkling, dynamic, active and ever mutable. Female roles in many countries of the world have enhanced due to the child nurturing, home management, food preparation, decision-making and taking part in the development process at household level. Moreover, in this regard, the gender role is diverging according to each community norms like cultural pattern, political environments geographic mobility or topographical, religious aspects and the like. Therefore, gender roles are extremely impacted by prospects-based on social strata, age composition of individual, customs, tradition as well as religion (FAO, 2004).

Female responsibilities and tasks are imperatives at domestic and mainly household level. Female maximum rate of work did not recognize (UNIFEM, 2005). The effort done through females were considered as underrated, underestimated, undervalued, unappreciated, unrecognized, undervalued and underreported. However, various research was specifying that females take an active part in rural development (Jiggins et al., 1998; and Fabiyi et al., 2007).

Based on honor, pride and privileges, the male are preferred more importance as compared with females in Pakistan. In this regard the women are responsible just only for household affairs (Lewis, 1994).

Therefore, in our society. Masculine are regarded as significant features and play deciding roles in the communal as financial, social as well as life security dimension.

It is believed that furthestmost social conflicts as resolved by the male. In this context, the role of females is underestimated.

Females did not enjoy the privileges and especially rights and did not acquire adequate resources based on cultural, traditional, equality and sociological prospects. Females are also having a limited resource mostly in many developing countries (Khushk and Hisbani, 2004).

Female roles as a labor worker are actually from top to toe in many countries for example Somalia and Syria more than 60% of females indulge as an honorary or unpaid (FAO,1995). The female contribution and input sharing at domestic's level has enlarged from ranging twenty-six to thirty percent for the period of the 2005-06 and livestock management. In this regard, even though female's capabilities are limited especially in rural areas as a result the gender disparity still remains as a major limiting factor that basically affects the female capabilities at a considerable rate (FAO, 2000; UNIFEM, 2000; PARC, 2004; and Amjad, 2006).

## II. GENDER DISPARITIES AND THEIR DIRECTION IN PAKISTAN

Ways and manners of differential treatment between men and women at household level is called or namely gender-based discrimination. In this context, a female has limited access to her resources, assets and to avert her full possible or available possessions as well as human rights. Females in rural areas are susceptible to fail her resources control especially in manpower or labor forces as a result female and difference widen (Erturk, 1996).

As compared to advanced countries the female condition is more depraved in Pakistan. Gender inequality is common phenomena and diversity of gender remains bleak as well as different forms. However, in this regard the gender aspects are the homogeneous phenomenon whenever measuring gender inequality. Various studies are showing that the gender inequality depicts the drab picture in Pakistan mostly in the rural areas of the country (UNDP, 1999).

At the country level the female literacy rate was recorded as 12 % in the rustic zone during the period of 1990s (ADB, 2000). The gender differences can determine the GDI and GEM, that is standard criteria and namely recognized as the related development index and gender empowerment measurement respectively (UNDP, 2003).

The country status about GDI and GEM status remains lower and depicts a miserable picture in Pakistan. However, the related development index and gender empowerment measurement were bottom of ranks that are 120th and 92nd position respectively. However, the female was faced with the preferential cure either at the household level or the domestic level (Jamali, 2009).

The female was also faced with gender biased violation and consistency offensive as a result the female has very inadequate chances and prospects for her special rights. Female, furthermore encountered unequally therefore her life was not enjoyed, as well as her prestige was less valued (Kabeer and Subrahmanian, 1996). At country level the female having the limited educational access, influence and control on her assets. Hence present discrimination were the major limiting actors and differential dynamics (Birdsall et al., 1991; Seager, 1997).

As compared to urban areas the gender roles are so much different in rural areas. In Pakistani context, the men are conserved as the supreme authority and have more control over assets, major decision makers at society level, resources and property land. Technically speaking the females are mostly relying and depending either socially or traditionally or economically over on man. The female entities mostly are involved in everyday domestic work, home management and so forth (World Bank, 2002; and Momotina, 2008).

The social circle and social networking or social networking are very restricted for females in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh, in these countries females depend on husbands, sons and menfolk to do so. On the other hand, being an agrarian country the female did not promote or benefited for her parental properly as well as socially equally.

## III. GENDER ANALYSIS DYNAMICS

Gender assessment and their impact is regarded as a fundamental significant instrument so as to recognize both male and female participation in domestic activities, decision-making process as well as activities over off and on farm features.

Gender assessment and their impact need to articulate a solid strategy and need-based policy ultimately. However, in this regard the direction and objective of the policy may responsible to care for and defend the female socio-economic condition especially about female healthcare aspect, nutrition management scheme

for female, regarding the opportunities and employment for the deserved female, promote her social status, respectable manner for the aged women, acceleration of the educational features and encouraged her managerial role at community level. Therefore, her role did not underestimate and exploited her role as interventions (Yisehak, 2008).

Gender analysis is the imperative aspect and part and parcel ingredient, in this connection, gender analysis is also may be responsible for the gender reconnoitering, evaluating the logic for presence of gender gaps and inequalities. However, also to assess these differences and gaps for policy implication. Based on achieved results, to find out the ways and means for female control over resources (Hanoi, 2004).

In South Asia the female action or degrees of action did not imitate the authentic female contribution and her participation in the development process. At country level the vast majority of the female performed the housework, household unit's management and domestic linked activities. Huge gender differences and inequalities were reported about female crude activity rates (LFSP, 1999-2000).

In fact, the female played the role of child nurturing and maintaining the food provision globally. But in Pakistan the female faced sexual exploitation, taboo, domestic violation and many more that caused the unease pattern for females at community level. In the period of the digitization and era of globalization, it is a dire need to confirm the marginalized female rights and sensitive the gender issues as some proficient manners as well as adorned her participation and contribution in development process (UNIFEM, 2000; Ali, 2004; Abbasi, 2005; and Kasnakoglu, 2006).

At country level the female is considered as the prime engine and also female involved in the agrarian activities. Cotton is a cash crop of Pakistan. At country level nationwide export incomes ultimately depend on the crop of cotton. In this regard the female is the major labor in cotton industries (Bari, 2000).

The role of the female is intricate as a labor work. Female performs and does the more physical effort, lenience, strain and pressure in her work, mostly in broad or outside. The child care, household task, generating domestic activities and domestic services are the major invisible responsibilities of females (Abbasi, 2005; and WOW, 2007).

#### IV. FEMALE PROVISION IN PAKISTANI

A country level the female socio-economic condition is measured and mostly depends upon the topographical zone, financial status, educational level as well as her household structure. In this context, males are considered dominant figures, on the other hand they are subordinates. In Pakistan the female is allocated the reproductive roles as a mothers, sister and wives boundaries at household level. And male is assigned the reproductive roles as revenue generated and boundaries at outside household level in our customs, cultural and traditional. In this regard the female actions are forbidden outside these boundary walls. Therefore, the household is demarcated as a major space for female activities, actions and responsibilities. Females in this context were not allowed to move freely in society localities and male were free (Manzoor, 2006; and Jamil, 2009).

Within terms of female liberty and authorization having limited access and lack of opportunity at community level. Consequently, low livelihood options and limited access for educational dynamics as a result the gaps widen regarding gender disparities at community level (Pudup,1990).

In Pakistan the female has no equal privileges, civic rights, ownership over resources and facing indiscrimination at society level therefore females have less proficient effort (Harding, 2000; and IFAD, 2004).

Women did not participate in the prolific and dynamic sector. Being an equal citizen her productive and reproductive work were denied at country level, therefore it is indispensable that the substantial steps are taken in order to eradicate disparities and put away the delinquencies against females.

#### V. RESEARCH RATIONALE

Male and female are both vehicles and as a likewise essential fragment at community level. Both have a playing productive and important role. In Pakistan, the vast majority of the female population were illiterate and just only confined and occupied home management and domestic activities at considerable rate. The male is controlled by all authorities and major actors for managerial acts at civic level. Therefore, it is imperative to determine the female role (Paul et al., 1991; and Younis, 2000).

Indicated by the various studies that the female role was unidentified, not considered as well as unpaid employees. Even though females did not have access for better education, apt healthcare facilities and lack of basic necessities/ facilities (UNDP, 1995; FAO, 1996; Kasnakoglu et al, 1997; and Garcia, 2004).

At country level the female contributes to a cottage industry promotion, normal domestic activities, livestock management and development of the agriculture sectors. In this regard the female performed the

dual jobs as compared to their counterpart do, the female effort is going to frequently be unmeasured and estimated (FAO 2004; and Garcia, 2004).

The productive and reproductive effort of females is unmeasured and very low ebb as a result the gender disparities are wide and a huge gap exists in this regard. On the other hand, females always assist the men and play a vital role for every walk of life. Female insignificance was less opportunities and chances to capture the resources. Hence, a huge demographic proportion of the female population is remaining deprived and neglected. It was therefore deemed to be necessary to assess the gender-based disparities in Balochistan as well as design the need-based recommendations for future implication.

## VI. OBJECTIVES

- To explore demographic features of females.
- To examine the participation level of females in the development process.
- To identify the gender-based disparities and bottlenecks in study areas.
- To put forward recommendations and measures to eliminate the gender-based disparities.

## VII. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Reddi (2003) carried out the research regarding the female role, female efforts and productive role of female at household level, the role of female in this regard was typically significant. Women's work starts early from bed till late night at household and fields. Acharya and Bennet (1981) conduct the investigation about the female role in Nepal. The gender-based disparities remain as the prime limited factors in this regard at household level. The female plays an effective role in agriculture development. In Kyrgyzstan, Kumskova (2006) on the other hand reported that the household tasks, everyday jobs and housekeeping responsibilities were the major female efforts for the food provision. Knabe and Nkoyok (2006) reported that the female plays an imperative role regarding the labor force. And her role was not denied in this context. The doing the household tasks and other various duties but the gender-based disparities still remains and female just restricts in household level. Furthermore, Cleaver and Schreiber (1994) determined that female duties are domestic supervision, child nurturing as well as various vibrant actions. On the other hand, Boserup (1970) reported the women tasks and gender-based disparities. In this regard more than 70% of the total farming activities were done by the women at farm level. Kumar (1985) carried out research about gender-based disparities and female role and female importance involvement in development sectors in the Eastern Province (Zambia). However, in this regard female plays a very dominant role in productive sectors (Myers, 1995; and Stromquist, 1992). The female empowerment may increase by special benefits, effective economic dynamics and reliable social networking (Puchner, 1995; and Subbarao and Raney, 1993). Female educational achievement may reduce the gender-based disparities and allow females for more learning atmosphere (UNESCO, 1991).

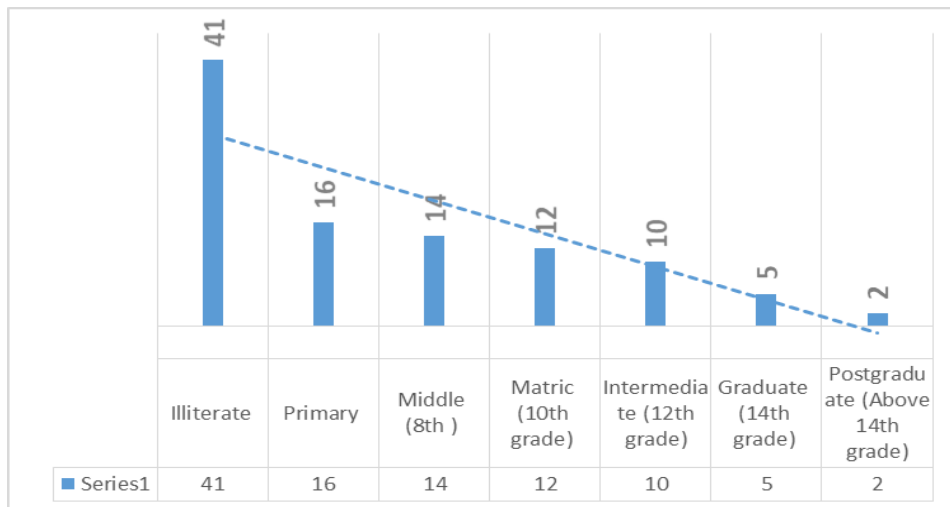
## VIII.

## METHODOLOGY

Qualitative research was carried out to determine the gender-based disparities in Balochistan based on social facts. Therefore, a descriptive design was selected. 200 respondents were selected in Pishin and Loralai districts also were the target population of the present study. Random sampling technique was applied. In this prospect, a detailed questionnaire was developed by using the 5-point Likert scaling. However, the target population was determined by using the table of (Fitzgibbon & Lynn, 1987). Cronbach's Alpha program was applied so that to measure the internal consistency of inquiry from that range was .078 to .881. In addition, face-to-face communication and conversations were carried out. SPSS (IBM) was used for data analysis. T-test was used so that to determine the comparison between group's perceptions. Hence, the probability level was set at  $p < 0.05$  alpha level.

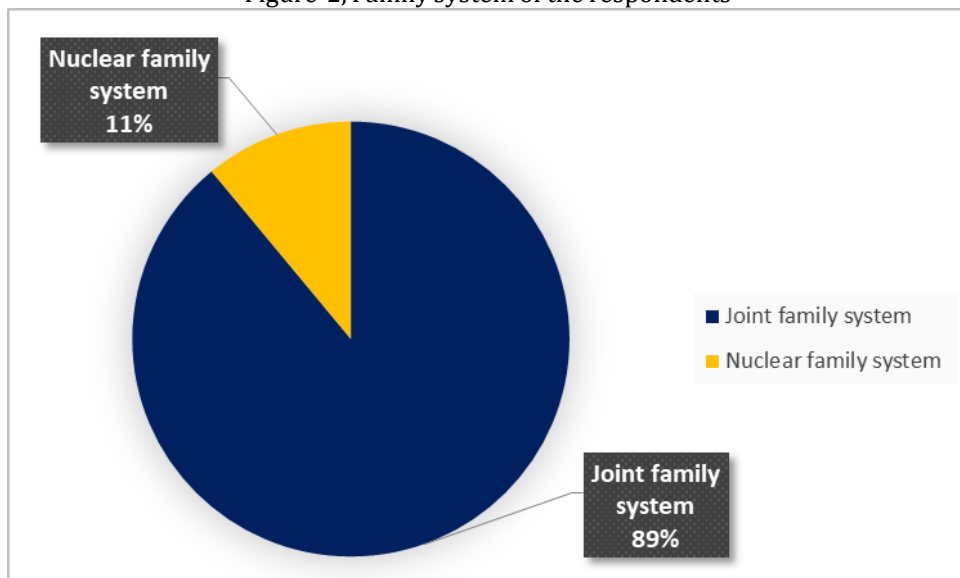
## IX. RESULTS OF STUDY

Figure-1, Educational level of the respondents



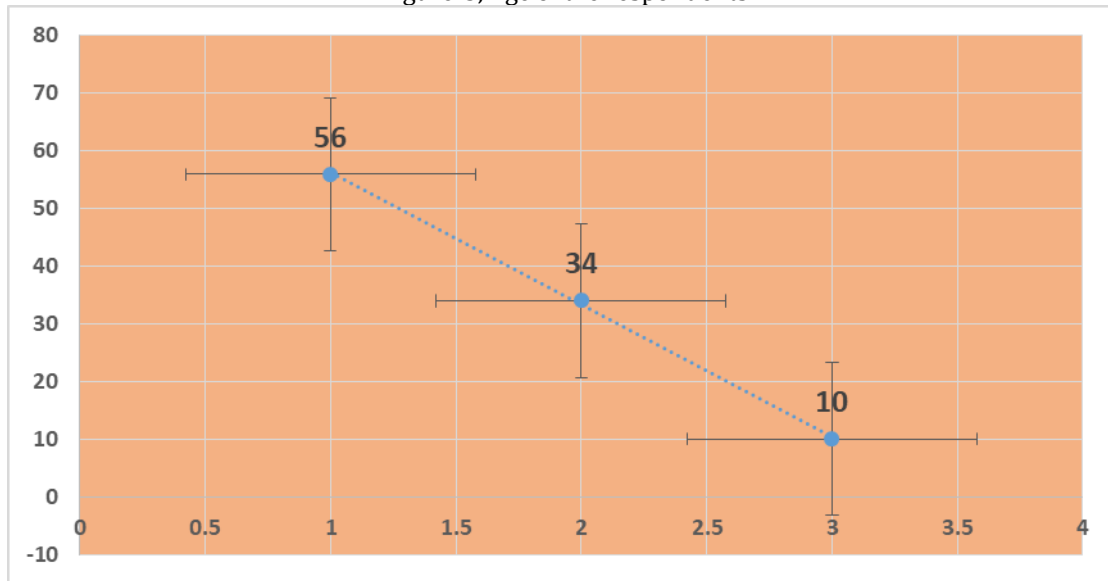
Most 41% of the respondents in this regard were uneducated or illiterate as shown in figure-1. Most 16-14% of the respondents held the primary level and middle level of education respectively. While 10% of the respondents have matriculation certificates.

Figure-2, Family system of the respondents



The data revealed that the vast majority (89%) of the respondents were preferred to live in the joint family system. While only 11% of the respondents favored the nuclear family system (figure-2).

Figure-3, Age of the respondents



More than half (56%) of the respondents fall into the age category of (20 to 40) as shown in figure-3. While most 34% of the respondents fall into the age category of (41 to 60) and only 10% of the respondents fall into the age category 61 and above.

Table-1, Comparative analysis about female role

Gender role	Loralai		Pishin		Std. Err: Diff:	Sig. (2-tailed)
	MS	SD	MS	S.D		
Household responsibilities	3.9300	.63968	3.9500	.77035	.10013	.000**
Social matters involvement	2.3900	.90893	2.6700	1.17254	.14836	.061ns
Child nurturing or caring	4.3500	.67232	3.8400	.77486	.10259	.000**
Handiwork skill	3.9600	.75103	2.8500	1.06719	.13050	.000**
Political matters involvement	2.8600	1.21456	3.0100	1.15902	.16788	.373ns
Community development	2.3000	.91563	1.9500	.94682	.13171	.009ns
Livestock raising	2.0400	1.00423	2.7000	1.43196	.17490	.000**
Home adornment management	3.2200	1.51478	3.9800	.81625	.17207	.842ns

The female role is measured by using the t-test as shown in table-1. The data was gathered at field level at 0.05 level. Significant differences were found out 4 out of four statements regarding the role of females. In the areas of household responsibilities, child nurturing or caring, handiwork skill and livestock raising aspects were imperative roles of gender. However, On the other hand the social matters involvement, political matters involvement, community development and home adornment management less imperative aspects.

Table-2, Comparative analysis about gender-based disparities

Gender-based disparities	Loralai		Pishin		Std. Err: Diff:	Sig. (2-tailed)
	MS	SD	MS	S.D		
Gender discriminations	3.9100	.51434	3.7100	.94596	.10768	.065ns
Gender inequalities	3.9500	1.04809	3.7900	.95658	.14190	.261 ns
Gender-based violations	3.7900	.94596	4.0100	.93738	.13317	.100*
Anti-female practices	4.0300	.57656	3.9600	1.01424	.11667	.549ns

Sexual abuses	4.2400	.86597	3.6700	.76614	.11562	.000**
Offensive attitude against female	3.9900	.52214	3.3700	1.16909	.12804	.000**
Gender gaps	4.2200	.61266	3.8700	.73382	.09559	.000**
Gender disparities	4.0500	.82112	3.2900	1.25766	.15020	.000**
Gender differences	3.8400	.54532	3.2100	1.17461	.12950	.000**
Any others	4.0800	.56282	3.7400	1.01125	.11573	.004*

When we made the comparative analysis about gender-based disparities, the gender based violations, sexual abuses, offensive attitude against females, gender gaps, gender disparities, gender differences and any other factors remained the preliminary gender disparities as shown in table-2. On the other hand, gender discriminations, gender inequalities and anti-female practices remain non-significant based on 0.05 level.

#### X. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Male has a higher rank as compared to female in Pakistan. Various sectors provided subsistence employment for females so as to increase the income of female families. On the other hand, in developed countries females have an equal rights and equal proportion in assets as compared to male. Hence, females have an equal rights, productive and reproductive role, as a significant part of the community. In Pakistan uneducated females generally involved domestic responsibilities. Based on results following suggestions as the major recommendations developed. Through the educational prestige females increase their socio-economic condition, attain social justice, human rights as well as gender equality. It is therefore recommended the government should enhance female social, economic condition and contribution by using the public and private joint venture programs so as to develop the personal benefits aspects and improved family healthcare system of females. To encourage the female directional participation in the development process so that improve female empowerment dynamics regarding economic activities. Special vocation education programs and skill development packages should be arranged for females at society level in order to enhance the female income.

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