

## **The Socio Economic barriers and dropout from schools at primary level in Baluchistan:**

By

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### **Abstract:**

*This research attempts to understand and revealed socio economic barriers and challenges responsible for dropping-out students from schools at primary level. The early education in Balochistan are facing many challenges and issues i.e. poor economic conditions of the parents/population, unawareness, gender discrimination, rigid culture barriers, education system gaps, missing facilities, lack of educational institutions, child labor and many other issues. Baluchistan is the poorest zone with 52 percent of families living underneath desperation line. 33% people, consolidates quantity of occupants in people with disjointed class qualities controlled by unmistakable attitudes. More than 66% of children are dropout at primary level from schools; more than 50% children are 5 to 11 are never enrolled in schools. Qualitative approach for the study was adopted, District Loralai was universe for the study, Key Informants Interviews and focused group discussion were conducted for the collection of primary data. Total 24 key informant interviews and 08 focused group discussions were conducted.*

*In Balochistan dropouts from schools is not due to a single reason, there are different reasons of dropping out students from schools especially at primary level. The major reasons raveled by this study is weak financial and economic position of families and inability to afford educational expenditures, lack of basic facilities in schools like computer lab, science laboratory, library, electricity, clear drinking water and furniture, rigid cultural norms, child labor, gender discrimination, the level of awareness and education of parents.*

**Keywords:** Dropout, Primary education, Socio economic conditions, education system, education in Balochistan.

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**Introduction:**

The education in Pakistan impacted as a result of high masses improvement, small budgetary segments, dejection and social confinements. Pakistan has the most astonishing dropout rate in whole Asia, on account of nonappearance of motivation, home environment, money related or social confinements. The outcomes are grave as an extended drop out lifts absence of training, uncouth work, and low wages despite different other social and significant issues. Obliviousness is one of the fundamental social issues in Pakistan. Organization of Pakistan is a settlement to Universal Primary Education. Still, there is inadequate with regards to access to the direction, and there exists sexual introduction based and uneven urban characters in selection and congruity of review school in Pakistan.

Baluchistan is the poorest zone with 52 percent of families living underneath desperation line. 33% people, consolidates quantity of occupants in people with disjointed class qualities controlled by unmistakable attitudes. The approach towards the direction of adolescents as their essential due right & chiefly sex detachment has also included towards little capability rate of young women particularly to natural reaches where social limits and social taboos affect the situation towards fundamentally progress shaky conditions. Both such social and money related issues have leg behind the locale with just capability 46 for every penny, where revealed as no under 66% of children are dropout, or out of school aging 5 and 16, including 1.8 million out of 2.7 million youths are with no preparing. (Herrera-Sobek, 1990)

Balochistan is probably the most deprived part of the world, where every segment of the society has been deprived from their rights and basic needs. As Human Survival in Balochistan very challenging, the culture of Balochistan is very rigid and is constraint in attaining the basic rights. Secondly Balochistan is kept deprived and ignored by the state Pakistan. Hence there are many social cultural issues existing in Balochistan which keeping its population from its basic rights of education, health and to live happily.

Primary education in Balochistan has many issues and challenges i.e. poor economic conditions of the parents/population, unawareness, gender discrimination, rigid culture barriers, education system gaps, missing facilities, lack of educational institutions, child labor and many other issues. To combat the worst literacy frail efforts have been made, disjointed and not supported to ground realities. At the provincial level, major coordination and linkage gaps are exists among the stakeholders. The ground situations have never been assessment for the prioritization and developing a comprehensive strategy. The allocated resources are

very less compared to the required. High growth of population is seriously affecting the education in Pakistan. Due to lack of motivation, socioeconomic barriers and many other reasons the dropout rate in Pakistan is among the highest in the Asia. (Akhtar, 2005)

Though Pakistan has is the part of international treaty of (MDGs) Millennium Development Goals that includes, Universal Primary Education (UPE) as goal, but still Pakistan is lagging behind the set target of achieving UPE goal. Pakistan has never focus the major causes, which leading its population to illiteracy, dropout of children from schools, less enrollment of children in schools and supporting gender discrimination. (Council, 2007)

The Loralai city is the district Head quarter of Loralai District, which was known as Bori earlier. Loralai is 4700 above the level of sea. The population of Loralai City is very diverse, which includes Pathans, Punjabi, Saraikee, Hazara, and other tribes. There are different cultures and ideologies among the inhabitants of district Loralai. Whereas, in rural areas of district Loralai only Pattans/Pashtuns are living. All Pashtuns areas of district Loralai have the same culture and mostly having the same ideologies. The socio economic conditions of the populations is weak, people living in the rural areas, are spending the life below the poverty line which is badly effecting the education of the district. The human development Index of the district is very unsatisfactory; the socio economic indicator shows that the population of the district is spending their lives below the poverty level. The inhabitants of the district have very less activities and opportunities for improving their lives. (Loralai 2017)

The condition of Education in Loralai region is not altogether different from the circumstance in a different locale in Baluchistan. This region experiences various issues in the scenery of destitution, social requirements and to a great degree low populace thickness.

Along with all other budgetary and gaps of the system cultural is a very potential barrier in dropping out the children from schools at primary level, especially female students are the most immediate and direct targets of cultural barriers. In Loralai city the cultural diversity exists but other than Loralai city, rural areas of district is ruled by the rigid pashtune culture specially talking about female education. In Pashtun culture female is not allowed to outside home/boundary walls as woman is considered the honor of her male kin, even of the whole community. Pardah for female is very important in pashtune culture. Getting to 10 to 12 years of age then pardah becomes mandatory for

female. Hence they are not allowed to go outside the home and they drop from school at this stage.

**Significance/Justification of Study:**

District Loralai is a diverse district among the districts of Pakistan, the trend of urbanization is increasing. The inhabitants of district Loralai have different cultures, beliefs, ideologies, political and different religious philosophies for spending their lives comfortably. Whereas on other side they have few opportunities for generating economy. The sources of economy are bet varied but these sources are providing very less economic outcomes which are effecting their life standards directly, like not focusing on the education of children, not accepting positive social changes, not discouraging the gender based discriminations and remains with same rigid cultural practices.

Many researches' have been conducted around the topic of this research study, presenting statistical figures about the socio economic conditions, education and dropout and other related areas. But very little effort has been made or even no efforts have been made to on the subject matter. Such holistic approach and in-depth research in the geographical areas has never been conducted.

The findings of this study will help in understanding the problem of children dropout at primary level from schools. The findings of the study cover both economic and social issues that are contributing to problem. Through qualitative approach of the study the in-depth insight to the problem is ensured. The findings and suggestions of this study will help to cope with issues and will help in developing mitigating strategies to counter or overcome the main causes and factors effecting early education in Pakistan, especially the retaining the students in schools at primary level, to ensure (UPE) Universal Primary Education to each male and female child.

**Objectives of Study:**

- To determine as how far the economic crisis within family and macro level affecting the  
Dropout rates out of school children in primary education.
- To study the generic ethos and social stigmas pertaining to influence the primary  
Education specifically to dropouts in primary education in Baluchistan.
- To suggest possible solutions on the basis of study to retain dropout in primary Education

**Research Questions:**

- Do economic improvements of the community can reduce the dropout rate?
- Does community involvement can increase the enrollment& retain the dropout?
- Are social constraints of discrimination contributing to high drop out for Girls?

**Research Methodology:*****Research design:***

Qualitative research approach has been adopted for the study. Key Informant Interviews and Focused Groups Discussions were used as tools for the collection of primary data.

***Geographic Scope of the Study:***

The universe of the study was Loralai District. In Loralai both rural and urban setups were focused under the study.

***Techniques and Tools of Data Collection:***

For the secondary information and data already existing literature, researcher mostly focused on peer review literature i.e. Books, Research Article, Journal Articles, Reports and other relevant sources for the secondary information for having in-depth understanding of the problems. Tools for the collection of primary data were developed on the basis of Objectives, research questions and existing literature on the topic. For the collection of Primary data, Key informants Interviews and focused group discussion were used.

For the in-depth primary data, Key informant Interviews were conducted with Senior Management of district Education department at district and Tehsil levels. Further (KIIs) were also conducted with notable intellectuals in the field of education and other actors working on education in the district. Total twenty four (24) key informant interviews in the district both at district and Tehsil levels were conducted. Total 8 Focus Group discussions with Parents and children were conducted in the district. 2 Focus Group Discussion with boys and 2 with girls enrolled in schools. 2 Focus Group Discussions dropped out children 2 one with boys and one with girls and 2 FGDs with Parents one (01) male parents/fathers/ guardians and female parents/Mothers/guardians were conducted.

Desk review was used for secondary data on the topic. For the secondary data most reliable and authentic sources mostly peer reviewed sources were used. The secondary helped the researcher for conducting the proportional understanding and analysis of the other researches on the topic.

Once both primary and secondary data were collected using the qualitative tools following the research ethics and techniques. The data were systematically analyzed and findings were derived. Comparative analyses were conducted very carefully and systematically and the results and suggestions and conclusions were drawn.

### **Results and Discussion:**

The development, growing and survival in society of man Education is the essential need and requirement. The progress of a nation is linked with a development of individuals. Education is the very fundamental right of every male and female child. While attaining education many different barriers are to be faced by the individual/student especially in third world and developing countries. Though Pakistan in the list of developing countries but its province Baluchistan have the same situation in the field of development and education as the third world countries are having. The focus of the study was the very deprived and scattered district of Loralai. The primary data for the study was collected from district Loralai. The main stakeholders from whom the data was collected were personnel of education department, School teacher, parents of the students and dropped out students were also focused for the collection of the primary data. Focusing on the first objective the data in response to the questions revealed that financial crisis of the parent and families are the most potential and cause for dropping out the children from school at early stage especially at primary level. The parent interest was also a reason for dropping the students from schools. The parents intention and interested is dependent upon the socio economic condition of the families. When parent and teachers were asked about parent motivation and intention about their children education, the answers were that parents have always interest to give good education to their children but due some very obvious hurdles and limitations they could not do anything to send their children to school.

The range being the capital pulls in people from various parts of Baluchistan in staggering numbers. The likelihood of familial lopsidedness must be high in the area by high poverty event. Under studies have a place with unprivileged families having no capable senior natives in the families or having a place with families where the rate of fierceness is high, frequently remain not ready to surpass desires in studies. The area does not seem to encounter the evil impacts of staffing awkwardness as the schools are having around 1:21 teacher understudy extends at basic and focuses level and which comes down to 1:4 STR at discretionary level. However, the low nature of

indicating learning process makes instructional and programmed awkwardness and impacts the understudy's execution.

This study highlighted that Regardless of the arrangement of free course books and annulment of school charge by Government of Baluchistan, destitution keeps on hampering the endeavors of giving instruction to all youngsters. The region has its share of destitution, and frequently guardians need to haul kids out of school because of the expanded open door expenses and issues of low desires. If the family economy of the student is weak, it directly effecting students' performance in school and most in rural areas parent themselves drop their children from school and involve child in child labor. This study also found that in many cases parents are not willing to send their children to school or drop the child from school as they use the child to contribute in family earnings at this stage.

To understand the attitude of parent regarding child schooling and education the study found that most the parent in District Loralai are illiterate hence they have no awareness about the importance of education. Hence they don't give importance to their children education at any level. States of mind towards instruction is an essentialvariable, and parent association and their impression of instructive results is a key for upgrading access to education.

Low quality of the showing learning process exhibited in the outcomes above owes to various components that are cross-cuttingoverall locale. Low quality of showing stays on the inside. Non-institutionalized instructor training is at the foundation of the poor learning forms in the classroom. The circumstance gets exacerbated by a farfetched dialect arrangement, low quality of reading material and an examination framework that tests memory and not diagnostic basic capacity.

Teachers' openness in the area needs to thought as the insufficiencies of educators particularly subjects adds to poor learning comes about. The area needs to evaluate inadequacies according to the prerequisites and make demands projections. It will include coordination with the region for augmentation in approved presents and on filling the present hole in instructor openness.

Student safety is the primary issue which is important to address. This research highlight the core issues that Student face and how school management can help the student to be safe. Bullying in School is one of the biggest problems which are causing the safety issues regarding the students in schools. Bullying occurs in almost every school in the country. Because when other students bully the student, he or she lack confidence and not able to keep up in the school. That's the primary

reason why students quit school although some schools have passed an anti-bullying law still the number is increasing each day.

Inappropriate behavior in schools is the unacceptable and unwelcome conduct of a sexual sort that meddles with the privilege to get an equivalent instructive open door. . It is although prohibited by the Federal Government and there is a proper law against it, but still thousands of students become a victim of this horrible act every year. Mostly students who are the victim of the sexual harassment keep quiet because they are afraid if they will become the headline of the news and people will judge them. This is ultimately giving the criminals opportunity to destroy the safety of the students in the schools.

The school system of the country is known to be the backbone of the country because the young generation has to control the state later in time. That is why it is important that the policy which is made for the education sector should be without any personal interest and also should not be biased. The school management has to change their policies. The results are not satisfactory which is the proof that school climate is not safe for the students. There are some recommendations for the school management. They need to change the staff of the school especially guards and office boy. They need to arrange the training session for the students to make sure everyone in the school know how to submit the complaint to the office without any hesitation. Teachers have this responsibility to give students confidence in working with the teachers and sharing the experience they have in schools. The public schooling is mostly affected by the social and economic change in the culture.



**Conclusion:**

On the basis of comparative analysis of different countries on reasons of students dropouts it was clear that students' dropouts in schools is not due to a single reason, there are different reasons of this problem but these reasons are similar in nature that cause students' dropouts in different countries. Early marriages, security problems and inability of bearing education expenses are major causes of Students' dropouts; the major reason conducted by all the studies is weak financial and economic position of families and inability to afford educational expenditures, lack of basic facilities in schools like computer lab, science laboratory, library, electricity, clear drinking water and furniture. Low financial position reported as major cause of students' dropout. Parents force their children to drop their school. Another major preason for student's dropout from schools especially in Baluchistan is the cultural constraints. Most of the population of Baluchistan is residing in rural setup and in rural setup of Balochistan the culture of Pashtun and Balochs are very rigid which stop students from going to school especially female children as in Balochistan. Women are understood as honor of the whole family and tribe. This study revealed that both economic factors and social structure of our society and the situation Balochistan province are the main reasons for dropping out children from schools.

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