

Excluding Women's from Political Institution through Educational Deprivation

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Abstract:The major objective of the present study was to examine educational impediments to women political status in District Dir (L)-Pakistan. A sample size of 186 of different political organization was randomly selected from total population 714. A conceptual frame work comprises of dependent variable women political status and independent variable's educational deprivation. Moreover, dependent variable was indexed and cross tabulated with independent variable. Chi-square test statistics was applied to ascertain the relationship between dependent and independent variable respectively. In Bi-variate analysis, a highly significant ($P=0.000$) association was found between dependent variable women political status and independent variable indicators; Higher is the rate of education more would be women in politics; education proved to be true instrument in making right decision to poll; education empower women to work shoulder to shoulder with men; higher rate of democracy sustenance is embodied in education for all; and education enlightens political awareness among masses. The study concluded that, Education has been rewarded to be a male dominated and male leading institution. Dynamics of female involvement shoulder to shoulder with men are if taken in account from the developed countries, may lead to changing this scenario, which will ensure to dethrone the partisan character of male dominance.

Keywords: Educational Impediments, Women Political Status, Pukhtun society.

I. INTRODUCTION

Women's empowerment is a phenomenon related with several sticky points such as "voice, resources & rights. It comprises power, perceptions, resources and relationships based on access to sources, resources, and achievements. Empowerment of women is usually tasked up with economic supremacy and access to resources both inside and outside domestic pertaining to and independence of expression^{[1][2][3][4][5][6]}. Constitutionally there is no difference between man and women and both are enjoying political rights as envisaged in Act 34 of Pakistani constitution which states that all those steps should be practically implemented for which women empowerment to be ensured for that all steps should be under consideration. Similarly, article 25 of the constitution of Pakistan also addressed that every citizen of this country must availed every liberty irrespective of cost and creed, sex, religion etc as well as equal before the law with no such of type of discrimination. As well as, as the father of the

nation Quid-e-Azam was stressing on the importance of women participation in development of nation. He attribute the view that nation cannot developed until the women are not participated in every walk of life as like men^{[7][8][9][10]}. Similarly, when women are neglected from politics it will be negative consequences on national development^[11]. Furthermore, As Nelson Mandela expressed his thought on the equality of all sector of society as "freedom cannot be achieved unless the women have been emancipated from all forms of oppression^[12].

Ironically, the women empowerments in pukhtoon areas of Pakistan are facing numerous hurdles in the way of political empowerment in terms of socio-cultural setup pertaining in pukhtun inhabitant familial life since decades, economics dependency of women over mal members, misinterpretation of religious doctrine and particularly educational deprivation may further leads women subordinate position in all walk of social life. Beside this, women involvement in politics generally while in Pakistani society particularly are excluded since the dawn of independence. Due to some barbaric factors which still prevailed in this post modern era in terms of lack of awareness, the prevalent illiteracy among them, social and family commitments, fear of losing prestige in society and patriarchic values^[13]; low level of awareness & education among women, lack of financial services, rigid customs and traditions prevalence, religion and negative attitudes of the people in the form of stereotypes beliefs^[14]; Women sexual behavior is considered as danger to the family honor, for example the belief of purdah system, traditional traits, and the concept of honor are concerned with women sexuality^{[15][16]}; as well as the prevalence of traditional notions (i-e) women are weak, require support from male members and unstable for the demands of political work are deprived women from which they try to participate in political activities. Thus, the desire to participate in politics women encountered the above anomalies^[17].

The relationship between literacy and political process is considered as inabilities of that to have information pertaining to environment and other public institution along with government affairs. Literate men and women could make bodies more responsive with regards to their needs and requirements. It has been concluded that explaining the literacy and political power relationship is really highly

complex in nature. It is almost a sunshine effect that, illiterates voters are outlined in most of the USA election^[18]. A sunless societal position of women specifically in pukhtun social system, this study highlighting the pukhtun women pertaining to political status with tumbling factor “educational impediments” as well as to analyze the role of education towards women politics.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was carried out in District Dir Lower Khyber Pukhtunkwah-Pakistan. The universe of the study contained on seven tehsils. Proportional allocation of three tehsils were randomly selected namely “Timergara, Samarbagh and Adenzii”. The data was conducted from the political office bearer’s persisting designation’s [i-e] president¹, Senior Naieb president², Naieb Sadar³, General Secretary⁴, Joint Secretary⁵, Finnance Secretary⁶ and Information Secretary⁷. From 6 major political party [i.e] Mutahida Majlis Amal¹, Awami National Party², Pakistan Tehsreek-Insaf³, Pakistan People’s Party⁴, Qaumi Watan party⁵ & Pakistan Muslim League⁶. The total population of these respondents of three Teshils was 714 with 186 sample size was selected as per Sekeran universal table of sample size.

A conceptual frame work was devised as shown in table (1) and questions were asked accordingly from respondents devised through three Likert Scale. The dependent variable (women political Institution) was cross tabulated and indexed with independent variable (educational deprivation) to measure the association. Furthermore Chi-Square test statistics was used for bi-variate analysis which are follows.

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^c \frac{(O_{ij} - e_{ij})^2}{e_{ij}}$$

Σ = Total of “ith” row

J=1

Σj=1 Total of “jth” column

| Independent variable | Dependent variable |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Educational Deprivation | Women political status |

*Table 1 Conceptual framework

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION’S

Perceptions of the respondents regarding Educational Impediments over women political status

Education as a social institution playing an anchor role in impacting political stability. Many countries around the world have been passing through political instability and its infinite problems and the main reason behind this logic is lack of education. These problems includes corruption, unemployment, terrorism, unequal distribution of power and wealth, increasing inflation and so many others and high

nepotism. The major root cause of all these problems is lack of education. Similarly, educations can have many positive effects on politics of the country provided leadership incumbent is educated. An educated leader may lead the nation in right direction by simmering into democracy while believing in equality before law. Similarly, for women further higher is the rate of education more would be women participation in politics^[19].

Table No-2 indicated about the perception of respondents regarding educational impediments over women political status. The data showed that majority 90.9% respondents were agreed that higher is the rate of education more would be women participation in politics. It could be deduced that education role and ramification as well versed in delivering both short & long terms benefits. These findings were in lives to Verba et al., stated that, formal education encourage political participation particularly women representation in politics is caused by the virtue of getting higher education. In addition, education and political liberation have avdent relationship is a predicator of women and men political awareness^[20].

Moreover, 100 % respondents agreed that attainment of education proved to be a true instrument in making a right decision to poll. Thus education enables a gender to decide on merit while making comparison of personalities (leaders) and their relative manifesto. This statement is highly supported by the findings of Mahmood who disclosed that “Illiterate are often misled in voting. However, in most cases of Pakistani society the illiterate are restricted from their right to vote at the last moment of the maturity of the political process^[21]. In addition, 80.6% respondents dismantled that women education & division of labor are indispensable for a stable and sustainable growth of a community. While, 7.0% interviewers denied the former statement and 12.4% respondents had no idea about it. It could be deduced from the results that women emancipation from all sort of oppression is the key to stable growth and developed. This growth development may be used as a source of enshrinement towards freedom. Glaeser, et al., ; Gine & Mansuri; & Ferrara, have articulated in such terms that education and democracy are indispensable for one another and highly correlated in outcomes^{[22][23][24]}. The data further revealed that, 87.6% respondents were reported that education empowers women to work shoulder to shoulder with men. While 12.4% respondents disagreed with former statement. However, majority of the respondents 73.3 respondents articulated that leadership qualities, civic skills and organizational skills could be more competitive if women is allowed to participate in politics. While 19.4% respondents disagreed and 7.0% respondents had no idea about said statement. Education not only displays for right and wrong, but also guide the member of a society to be led and being led with some well defined virtues and characteristics lending with a holistic process of empowerment. Verba et al., and Galston were analyzed that education has direct and indirect effects on political

empowerment. In direct effect, they found that through education man and women get knowledge and skills for debates & get knowledge about current political scenario. In contrast, indirect effects are in term of leadership qualities, develop civic skills and negotiation, bureaucratic and organizational skills required for political events^{[20][25]}.

Moreover, 65.6% respondents stated that poor literacy hardly damage the vital message of party manifestation. Whereas 26.9% respondents negated the above statement. It is probably due to the women inability gave education to express and share the ideas on the relative manifesto of the political parties. Nasreen disclosed that lack of education was a major problem among women representatives in Pakistani society. Unsettled to lack of education they could not understand their rights to choose their representative who cultivates to their unawareness about their roles and responsibilities as councilor. Their illiteracy was a major reason of all kinds of discriminations made against them^[26]. Furthermore, out of the total (100.0%) respondents 76.9% respondents agreed that higher rate of democracy sustenance is embodied in education for all. While 15.6% respondents were not in favor of said statement and 7.5% had no idea about it. As mentioned by Povenzo that, education and democracy are inextricably linked and played a pivotal role in shaping conceptions of public education. The complex of interplay of education and democracy along with cultural, social and economic traits are shaping contemporary public education, specific goals and their programmatic implication are intervened in three partially overlapping forms of American democracy: Institutional Republicanism, Popular Democracy and Deep democracy. Each of these roles are amalgamated into American cultural values (e.g. liberty,

equality and justice; free expression and tolerance for competing ideas; the rule of law). All three democratic forms support specific institutional arrangements (e.g. power sharing among legislatives, executives, and judicial branches; free and frequent elections; majority rules with minority rights). All three promotes universal education as necessary for effective citizenship as well^[27].

Not with standing, a majority of the respondents 87.1% articulated that lack of information is a major constraint to female participation in politics. Whereas 12.9% respondents opposed the statement by the respondents in the research area. Furthermore, 84.4% respondents were agreed that majority of rural women , being illiterate are highly to be victim of manipulative politics. Education entails the power to choose on value judgment. Furthermore, unawareness regarding the choice to choose is the under table outcome of illiteracy and ignorance which is highly appalling in case of women folk. While 12.4% respondents disagreed and 3.2% had no idea regarding the said statement. This statement is supported by the findings of Mahmood enclosed that in Pakistani society the seventy percent rural voters are not unable to get themselves aware regarding the political affairs as they can read newspaper nor have access to media. This attitude of ignorance is the major contributing factor to the political instability and a poor reading result into the political process^[21]. Moreover, 83.9% respondents proclaimed that education enlightens political awareness accepting women as equal to men. While 10.2% respondents criticized the above question and 5.9% respondents had no idea about it. These findings are in support to the preceding results, where Mahmood has also concluded in their lines that illiteracy leads to unawareness^[21].

Table-2 Frequency and percentage distribution regarding Educational Impediments over women political Status

| S# | Statements | Yes | No | Uncertain | Total |
|----|---|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 | Higher is the rate of education more would be women participation in politics. | 169 (90.9) | 17 (9.1) | 00 (0.0) | 186 (100.0) |
| 2 | Attainment of education proved to be a true instrument in making a right decision to poll. | 186 (100.0) | 00 (0.0) | 00 (0.0) | 186 (100.0) |
| 3 | Women education & division of labour are indispensable for a stable and sustainable growth of a community. | 150 (80.6) | 13 (7.0) | 23 (12.4) | 186 (100.0) |
| 4 | Education empower women to work shoulder to shoulder with men. | 163 (87.6) | 23 (12.4) | 00 (0.0) | 186 (100.0) |
| 5 | Leadership qualities, civic skills and organizational skills could more competitive if women is allowed to participate in politics. | 137 (73.3) | 36 (19.4) | 13 (7.0) | 186 (100.0) |
| 6 | Poor literacy hardly damages the vital message of party manifestation. | 122 (65.6) | 50 (26.9) | 14 (7.5) | 186 (100.0) |
| 7 | Higher rate of democracy sustenance is embodied in education for all. | 143 (76.9) | 29 (15.6) | 14 (7.5) | 186 (100.0) |
| 8 | Lack of information is a constraint to female participation in politics. | 162 (87.1) | 24 (12.9) | 00 (0.0) | 186 (100.0) |
| 9 | Majority of rural women , being illiterate are highly to be victim of manipulative politics. | 157 (84.4) | 23 (12.4) | 6 (3.2) | 186 (100.0) |
| 10 | Education enlightens political awareness accepting women as equal to men. | 156 (83.9) | 19 (10.2) | 11 (5.9) | 186 (100.0) |

Note : Number in table represent frequencies and number in parenthesis represent percentage proportion of the respondent.

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Association between Educational Impediments & Women Political Status

Table No. (3) highlighted the association between educational impediments and women political status. It was found that there was a highly significant association ($P=0.000$) between higher is the rate of education more would be women participation in politics and women political status. Women as a social and biological entity is if given the opportunities to learn along with the male can surely come at to the social expectation. This statement is supported by the findings of Verba et al., dismantled that, formal education encourages political participation. Similarly, education and political liberation have stout relationship is a predicating women and men political awareness. In addition the relationship between literacy and political process is recovering the inabilities and bringing awareness regarding social environment and role of public with institutional mass participation in government affairs. However its importance in decision making regarding leadership selection is unavoidable^{[17][20]}. Education positively support the political stability and address all the social evils supposed to creeping up due to in education like corruption, unemployment, terrorism by bringing a balance in power distribution phenomena. This power distribution is a key to stability as it entails the assurance of both genders in leadership participation and their subsequent role^[23].

Likewise, a strong and highly significant ($P=0.000$) association was found between attainment of education proved to be a true instrument in making right decision to poll with women political status. Education as virtue, shaping human personality encompassing him with the wisdom to display in the time of right and wrong. However, keeping women educated is often taken as ignominy are face of the prevalent social system. This statement is highly supported by the findings of Mahmood who disclosed that, Illiterate are often misled in voting. However, in most cases of Pakistani society the illiterate are restricted from their right to vote at the last moment of the maturity of the political process^[21].

The study further dismantled a highly significant ($P=0.000$) association was found between women education & division of labor are indispensable for a stable and sustainable growth of a community with women political status. Women emancipation in all sphere of life guarantee a stable social system with congenial relationship at all levels an amongst all segments of society. Making women educated lays the anticipation of a sound and stable generation to shoulder the future responsibility with zeal and commitment. These findings were support to the work of Khan which coated the quotes of Nelson Mandela stressed that “freedom cannot be achieved unless the women have been emancipated from all forms of oppression It could be deduced from the results that women even apation for all sort of oppression is the key to stable growth and developed. This growth development may be used as a source of enshrinement towards freedom^{[12][22][23][24]}.

Furthermore, a highly significant association ($P=0.000$) was found between education empower women to work shoulder to shoulder with men and women political status. Today in the post modern area women seclusion and subordination pertaining to all sectors of life has been decreasing day by day and women are empowered whether socially, economically and politically all around the globe all extent as they are consider to be equally responsible to participate in growth and development process of society. Quotes of Ms. Fatima Jinnah is an emblem of aspiration and guidance for most of the women belonging to the developing world. In the history of Pakistan the women political participation has gone through many stages of uncertainty, however, consistent struggle and firm faith in achieving the lost status boasted the struggle to success. Pakistani politics is witness to the roles of a women being prime minster, speaker of national assembly and even leader of the opposition^[28].

The table further revealed that association between women political status and leadership qualities, civic skills and organizational skills could be more competitive if women are allowed to participate in politics was found highly significant ($P=0.000$). Women empowerment lays in it the basic ingredient hike getting themselves recognized for audience in debate, competing remain medical sciences and also delivering in army and other leading institutions. . Memon K, has righteously explained that, education has direct and indirect effect on political empowerment. In direct effect, they found that through education man and women get knowledge and skills for debates & get knowledge about current political scenario. In contrast, indirect effects are in term of leadership qualities, develop civic skills and negotiation , bureaucratic and organizational skills required for political events^[23]. Furthermore, a highly significant ($P=0.000$) association was detected between poor literacy hardly damage the vital message of party manifestation and women political status. Boding to be empowered on the road to deliver a women needs to embodies in herself case of dynamism anticipation and high degree of determination. This could only be achieved through acquiring education. This statement is supported by the work of Nasreen which she was of the opinion that, lack of education was a major problem among women representatives in Pakistani society. Unsettled to lack of education they could not understand their rights as representative which cultivate to their unawareness about their roles and responsibilities as councilor. Their illiteracy was a major reason of all kinds of discriminations made against them^[26]. Moreover, a strong association ($P=0.000$) was unearthed between women political status and higher rate of democracy sustenance is embodied in education for all. As mention by Povenzo that, education and democracy are inextricably linked and playing a pivotal role in shaping conceptions of public education. Institutional Republicanism, Popular Democracy and Deep democracy are the three major programmatic implication based on heterogeneous as well as linked with public education in American society. Each embodied general American cultural values (e.g. liberty,

equality and justice; free expression and tolerance for competing ideas; the rule of law). All three democratic forms support specific institutional arrangements (e.g. power sharing among legislatures, executives, and judicial branches; free and frequent elections; majority rules with minority rights). All three promotes universal education as necessary for effective citizenship^[27].

The table further showed a significant association (P=0.000) between women political status and lack of information is a constraint to female participation in politics. Like other developing countries, Pakistani society is also displaying a given and dismal picture of women’s awareness with regards to political process. This awareness is directly attributed to a women low social profile, prevalence of male hegemony and low access to media. In Pakistani society

seventy percent rural voters are not unable to neither get themselves aware regarding the political affairs as they can read newspaper nor have access to media. This attitude of ignorance is the major contributing factor to the political instability and a poor reading result into the political process^[21]. Likewise, a strong significant association (P=0.000) was found between education enlightens political awareness accepting women as equal to men and women political status. Women awareness is an resultant outcomes of level of education. Higher degree of education ensure highly degree of attachment to democracy. Shahwar & Asim & Ferrara, concluded that education is strongly and positively associated with women political participation^{[24][29]}. Likewise, Glaeser et al. was found positive correlation between levels of education and the extent of democratization^[22].

Table -3 Association between Educational Impediments & women political status

| Educational Impediments | | | Women Political Status | | | | Statistics |
|-------------------------|---|--|------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| S# | Statements | Attitudes | Yes | No | Uncertain | Total | |
| 1 | Higher is the rate of education more would be women participation in politics. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 62(33.3) | 169(90.0) | $\chi^2= 25.341$ P=(0.000) |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 17(9.1) | 17(9.1) | |
| 2 | Attainment of education proved to be true instrument in making right decision to poll. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 62(33.3) | 169(90.0) | $\chi^2= 25.341$ P=(0.000) |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 17(9.1) | 17(9.1) | |
| 3 | Women education & division of labor are indispensable for a stable and sustainable growth of a community. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 43(23.1) | 150(80.6) | $\chi^2= 60.462$ P=0.000 |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 13(7.0) | 13(7.0) | |
| | | Uncertain | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 23(12.4) | 23(12.4) | |
| 4 | Education empower women to work shoulder to shoulder with men. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 56(30.1) | 163(87.6) | $\chi^2=35.548$ P=0.000 |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 23(12.4) | 23(12.4) | |
| 5 | Leadership qualities, civic skills and organizational skills could more competitive if women is allowed to participate in politics. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 30(16.1) | 137(73.7) | $\chi^2=90.104$ P=0.000 |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 36(19.4) | 36(19.4) | |
| | | Uncertain | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 13(7.0) | 13(7.0) | |
| 6 | Poor literacy hardly damage the vital message of party manifestation. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 15(8.1) | 122(65.6) | $\chi^2=132.157$ P=0.000 |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 50(26.9) | 50(26.9) | |
| | | Uncertain | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 14(7.5) | 14(7.5) | |
| 7 | Higher rate of democracy sustenance is embodied in education for all. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 36(19.4) | 143(76.9) | $\chi^2= 75.753$ P=(0.000) |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 29(15.6) | 29(15.6) | |
| | | Uncertain | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 14(7.5) | 14(7.5) | |
| 8 | Lack of information is a constraint to female participation in politics. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 55(29.6) | 162(87.1) | $\chi^2=37.322$ P=(0.000) |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 24(12.9) | 24(12.9) | |
| 9 | Majority of rural women , being illiterate are highly to be victim of manipulative politics. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 50(26.9) | 157(84.4) | $\chi^2=46.534$ P=(0.000) |
| | | No | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 23(12.4) | 23(12.4) | |
| | | Uncertain | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 6(3.2) | 6(3.2) | |
| 10 | Education enlightens political awareness accepting women as equal to men. | Yes | 77(41.4) | 30(16.1) | 49(26.3) | 156(83.9) | $\chi^2=48.447$ P=(0.000) |
| | | Note : Number in table represent frequencies and number in parenthesis represent percentage proportion of the respondent. | | | | | |

Source: Field survey, 2018

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION'S

The current study watches over educational impediment to women political participation in pukhtun society generally and in District Dir Lower specifically. Furthermore, widespread illiteracy was ascertained as another tumbling factor realted with women involvement in politics. Although male had some level of education, however, a formidle illiteracy in prevalence, had further eroded the political involvement of women in the study area. Leadership was only designed to be a male domain, as enshrined in the social order, which the organizational hierarchy has also been following littler and spirit. Female were formed to be subjected to extreme manipulation and exploitation as having lowest ebb of the awareness about politics. Education has been rewarded to be a male dominated and male leading institution. Dynamics of female involvement shoulder to shoulder with men are if taken in account from the developed countries, may lead to changing this scenario, which will ensure to dethrone the partisan character of male dominance were extended some recommendations in light of the study findings.

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