



DEVELOPMENT NEWS

POVERTY & HUNGER

SPRING 2019. VOLUME V

BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER | DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| • Notes from Newsletter Team | 1 |
| • Faculty Profiles | 3 |
| • Research Groups | 5 |
| • Semester at a Glance | 6 |
| • Guest Lectures | 7 |
| • Visits & Workshops | 8 |
| • Student Achievements | 9 |
| • Faculty Updates | 11 |
| • Articles | 12 |
| • Environment Degradation | 13 |
| • Unholy Troika | 14 |
| • Comparative Analysis | 15 |
| • Poverty, Hunger & Inequality | 16 |
| • Strategy to End Poverty | 17 |
| • Fighting Poverty & Hunger | 18 |
| • Reviews | 19 |
| • On Our Radar | 21 |
| • Our Alumni Community | 22 |

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the Spring 2019 issue of the Development News, a bi-annual newsletter produced by the Department of Development Studies at NUST. This issue focuses on poverty and hunger, while also highlighting the imminent need to address their persistence in the developing world. In addition to this issue's thematic focus, we have also featured our department's achievements in recent months.

If one is tasked with the identification of the contemporary world's one big ill, poverty would be the instinctive response, and rightly so. The first Sustainable Development Goal adds to the urgent need to "end poverty in all its forms". To understand why, consider the extent to which being poor precludes one from participation in society. In the absence of sufficient social protection, a poor individual is not guaranteed access to nutritious food and clean water, a decent education, sources for mobility, opportunity for growth, and protection from disaster-induced risks. According to 2013 estimates, nearly 30 per cent of Pakistan's population is below the poverty line, and about 44 per cent is considered multidimensionally poor. What do these alarming figures entail, and to what extent are we equipped to achieve SDG One by 2030?

In "The Unholy Troika: Poverty, Hunger, and Stunted Growth", Osama Ijaz highlights one cycle initiated by poverty: a child born into a poor family, in the absence of sufficient nutrition, will suffer from stunted growth. In adulthood, this individual will likely provide negligible productivity to society. Osama calls for a deeper understanding of poverty's link with hunger and stunted growth. In "Strategy to End Poverty with Integrated Approach," Qurat ul Ain contemplates the complexity of poverty alleviation schemes in the developing world, and provides a comprehensive strategy to tackle some of these complexities. In "Poverty, Hunger, and Inequality," Nayyar Abbas considers the horizontal and vertical inequalities between countries, and the implications of such inequalities on poverty reduction approaches. In "Comparative analysis of Poverty Reduction Strategies in Pakistan and China," Mariam Ijaz calls for the scaled-up promotion of rural indigenous enterprises so as to address extreme poverty in Pakistan.

In the pages that follow, we have tried to give you a glimpse into life at the Department of Development Studies at NUST. I sincerely hope that you will enjoy exploring this newsletter. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge my newsletter team for its unwavering support throughout the editorial process: Dr. Umer Khayyam (Chief Editor), Mariam Ijaz (co-editor), and Mehak Shahzad (graphic designer).

Maheen Zahra
Editor
maheen@s3h.nust.edu.pk





CO-EDITOR'S NOTE

Extreme poverty and hunger, viciously interlinked, are a threat that billions of people around the world are faced with. One of the most major obstacles towards the path of development, peace, stability and prosperity are Poverty and hunger. The development and poverty in any country are basically 2 sides of a coin, one of them postulating and stimulating the other. So in order to run on the path of development, the countries have to first understand and tackle the gamut of poverty and hunger. Linking myself with Development Newsletter this semester actually broadened the horizons of my perspectives. While compiling this issue one of the interesting things that i came across was the fact that representation of poverty and hunger in films could actually make a difference in the economy by inducing tourism in developing countries. Film industry could be used as a significant instrument for controlling poverty and hunger.

In spite of deteriorating condition of Pakistan's economy these days, i am still hopeful that things will work, we shall rise once again with our own force and competence.

Co - Editor

Mariam Ijaz (MS DS 2K18)

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GRAPHIC DESIGNER'S NOTE

Poverty and hunger are two expressions that are deeply entangled. While designing this issue, the images of starving young children flash in mind. The victims of this travesty suffer not only from eating disorders and poor livelihood but also from socio-political problems such as injustice, violence, racial discrimination, inadequate access to basic resources, lack of national consciousness, insecurity, and illiteracy.

This issue of biannual newsletter addresses the issue of poverty and hunger in the globe with the ambition to raise consciousness and compile measures to end the obstacles in achieving SDGs. Together people can end poverty and hunger with education and cooperation for sustainable development goals.

Graphic Designer

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FACULTY PROFILE

DR.UMER KHAYYAM

(CHIEF EDITOR, DEVELOPMENT NEWS,
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT - HEC APPROVED PHD SUPERVISOR)

Dr. Umer Khayyam is an HEC Approved PhD Supervisor and has vast experience in the field of Development Studies which includes Theory, Policy and Practice along with a major focus on Climate Change. Dr. Umer Khayyam did his PhD from University of Münster, Germany. Before PhD, he did MS in Management of Non-Profit Organizations from Osnabrück, Germany and M.Sc. in Development Studies from COMSATS University, Abbottabad Campus. He has working experience of over 4 years with PERRA, Mercy Corps International & UNCCD. Dr. Umer Khayyam is currently working as the Head for Department of Development Studies, NUST. Entire faculty and student body is honored to have him as the Head of Department.



Mrs. FARIHA TAHIR

Mrs. Fariha Tahir is a development practitioner is in the field of social development, since 1996. She is an academican, consultant, and honorary C.E.O of an NGO named Rehmat Ali Community Development Organization, since 2010. She is currently working as a lecturer at the Department of Development Studies, NUST. She holds a vast experience of working as a project consultant on different community based projects funded by local, national and international donor organizations. Her research endeavours and work experience also includes; rural multidimensional poverty alleviation through skill enhancement and gender empowerment. Mrs. Fariha's research interests include non-traditional security issues. She is working on a research executing a critical evaluation of fundamental rights that are guaranteed by the 1973 constitution. In parallel to her academic pursuits, she is pursuing her LLB.



Mrs.SHEEBA FAROOQ

Mrs. Sheeba Farooq is a development practitioner with over ten years of work experience in the development sector and academia. She has a vast experience of working as a Research Officer at a Think tank named as Centre for Policy Studies where she drafted policy briefs on social development with a focus on the centre's thematic areas such as food security, water governance and sustainable development to create better awareness. Her work at Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund included the initiation of Livelihood Enhancement project for creating income generation opportunities for the poor and marginalized communities of Punjab. She also conducted need assessment exercises with the beneficiaries ensuring social inclusion and organized Skill Development trainings. She is currently working as a Lecturer at Department of Development Studies, NUST Islamabad.



FACULTY PROFILES

Dr. ASHFAQ AHMAD SHAH

A researcher with multidimensional researcher with over 5 years of experience in Emergency Response Management expertise in Monitoring & Evaluation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, and conflict contexts in the continuum from emergency to development in Pakistan. Capable of integrating in a multidisciplinary, challenging and highly volatile environment. Mr. Shah is working as an Assistant Professor at S3H, NUST Islamabad. His areas of expertise are Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction, Vulnerability and Resilience, Capacity Building, Climate Change, School Emergency Preparedness, Assessments, Planning & Implementation, Reporting and Operational Management. He also remained involved in Emergencies and Early Recovery, Shelter, Education, Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency Food Security & Livelihood programs with multiple donor organizations.



Ms. MAHEEN ZAHRA

Ms. Maheen Zahra specialized in Comparative Education Policy, Poverty and Inequality as well as Social Policy Analysis. She completed her MSc in Comparative Social Policy at St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, in 2017. Prior to that, she graduated with a BA in Social Research and Public Policy, and a concentration in English Literature from New York University. As part of her undergraduate program, Maheen has studied in Florence, London, New York, Istanbul, and other locations. Ms. Maheen's research interests include development policy, education, poverty, and inequality. In her spare time, she enjoys reading (and collecting) books on culture, history, and welfare. She is currently working as a Lecturer at Department of Development Studies, NUST Islamabad.



RESEARCH GROUPS

SOCIAL WORK AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (SWCD) RESEARCH GROUP

Social Work and Community Development (SWCD) research group covers a wide range of topics, reviewing significant developments and providing a forum for cutting-edge debates about theory and practice. This unique research group aimed at students, and researchers with an interest in Disaster preparedness (Local institutions and Schools), Vulnerability and Resilience, Mitigation, Social Adaptation, Civil Society and NGOs, Public Health in Emergencies, Effectiveness and Impacts analysis of the International Development Assistance, Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM), Culture and Public Management, Rural Left Behind Population and Rural Education, Emergency Food Security and Livelihoods (EFSL), Development Interventions, and Agrarian Change. Furthermore social transformation in Social Policy Pertaining to Poverty, Inequality, and Social Inclusion/Exclusion. The SWCD also focus on Participatory Development, Power and Social control, Women Empowerment, Social Mobilization, Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation, Inclusive Growth and Social Investment, Integration of Social and Economic Policies, Poverty and Inequality, Equal Distribution of Wealth. SWCD has an interdisciplinary team with multidimensional professional experience.

The members of SWCD group are;

Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Shah (Ph.D COHD-CAU, China)
Ms. Maheen Zahra (MSc University of Oxford, UK)
Mrs. Sheeba Farooq (MSc University of Reading, U.K)

Development and Climate Change (DCC)

Development and Climate Change (research group) is set-up to address contemporary challenges in the development sector, importantly from climate change prospective. As, development and environment interact in powerful ways, a series of research projects are underway by individual researchers at the department to investigate national and transnational development challenges to development e.g., disasters, forced migration and diasporas; socio-economic and politico-cultural dynamics, elite capture (process & resources), mitigating strategies and poverty aspects. Furthermore, investigating intensively the main causes of environmental degradation, and climate change threats to humans, economy and environment itself, similarly the adoptive techniques to the environmental problems (resilience and conservation). DCC Research Group has an interdisciplinary team.

Members of the group are:

Dr. Zafar Mahmood (PhD Columbia, USA)
Dr. Umer Khayyam (PhD Muenster, Germany)

Development, Peace, and Conflict (DPC)

Security is a basic human need. The state provides a peaceful society, and an environment free from internal and external threats. In this endeavor, NUST takes it as a challenge to produce such quality graduates with the aim and concern to propose and facilitate state institutions, as academicians, researchers, analysts and development practitioners. As well, maximum strengthening of the social contract between the local masses and the state. Moreover, through their intellectual input, NUST graduates ensure economic, environmental and political security. Our graduates are fully mindful and attentive to the complexities of social, economic, and political development in the Pakistani context, and the development challenges of the new global security paradigm where internal and external dimensions of security are important, simultaneously. DCC Research Group has an interdisciplinary team.

Members of the group are:

Mrs. Fariha Tahir (MS Middlesex University)
Dr. Umer Khayyam (PhD Muenster, Germany)

PUBLICATION

SEMESTER AT A GLANCE

AWARDS

SPRING 2019

Development Studies

ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNITION

EVENTS & LECTURES

NUST

TOURS & MEETUPS

GUEST LECTURES

DR. SHAH HEER ELAHI

PH.D. - MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

The idea of development is human-centric and focuses on the acceptance of all humans as equal. It springs from the field of anthropology and sociology which are based on creating an understanding of the society and the people. Therefore, in order to give a brief overview, a guest lecture was conducted on 'State Security and Challenges to Development' by Dr. Shah Heer Ellahi Khan from Bahria University, Islamabad.

Dr. Shah Heer Elahi divided the lecture into three parts in order to explain how health has a Cause and Effect relationship with underdevelopment. In addition to that, the lecture focused on how language makes up a society and when stripped of its own language, a society begins to deteriorate and loses its identity and how the idea of modern medicine has given people the health industry which does not understand the local and indigenous expressions of pain and therefore fails to make an accurate diagnosis of the ailment. The lecture also discussed the role that spirituality, positive thinking and the role of faith in a person's life and its impacts on their health.

Dr. Shah Heer Ellahi has a Ph.D. in medical anthropology with over fifty publications and various researches done solely to understand the nexus between health, language, and spirituality which was basically the focal point of the lecture.



MS. LISA CHERRY

INTERNATIONAL TRAINER

Ms. Lisa Cherry, a leading international trainer, and consultant visited NUST School of Social Sciences and Humanities on April 17th, 2019, where she gave a guest lecture on building resilient communities to students of MS Development Studies and psychology. Ms. Cherry specializes in assisting educational professionals and those in social care, to understand trauma, recovery and resilience for vulnerable children, young people, and their families. She is also a celebrated author and international speaker for organizations, local authorities, and charities. During her lecture, Ms. Cherry highlighted the importance of empathetic attitudes and behaviors in trying to help people in our communities heal from traumatic experiences and building resilient communities. She further elaborated how self-awareness and self-care are key to ensuring strong and healthy social bonds within communities. Through her excellent verbal and interpersonal skills, enthusiasm and self-confidence, Ms. Cherry was able to instill sensitivity and higher-order thinking among the students encouraging them to act as drivers of change within their respective communities.



DR. MUSARRAT JABEEN



VISITS & WORKSHOPS

UNOCHA VISIT

Students from DS Batch 2018 visited 'United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)' Islamabad on April 02, 2019 under the supervision of Dr. Umer Khayyam. Mr. Hussain Ullah (Head of Preparedness Unit) had familiarised the participants about how OCHA supports the member states in preparedness and coordinate the international humanitarian response with a specific focus on humanitarian actions, disaster relief, financing & resource mobilization (flash and consolidated appeal and response) and resource management in emergency situations, both nationally and globally.



DAAD SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP



DAAD SCHOLARSHIP workshop on educating students of the scholarship opportunities at masters and Ph.D. level in Germany under DAAD scholarship.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

UAE SUSTAINABILITY WEEK



Tehzeeb Bano from MS Development Studies (2k17) at the School of Social Sciences & Humanities, NUST was selected to visit UAE to attend the biggest Sustainability Week in UAE from 14 – 17 January 2019. She got an opportunity to participate in the International Water Submit and IWMA seminar on 21st January in Dubai World trade center. The UAE Green week is one of the largest sustainable developments gathering and a significant platform for international dialogue and cooperation in the Middle East region, which explores the major social, economic and environmental issues. And tackle the world's pressing issues in energy, water and environment.

In the International submit Ms. Tehzeeb got a chance to discuss the critical water issues of Pakistan and the adaptation strategies adopted by the country so far. Along with the experts, policy makers, thought leaders, decision makers, experts, scientists and academics she participated in the discussion session representing Pakistan and suggesting sustainable solutions for the global water issues.

At the end of the events she has also attended the world's largest trade and networking event, "Dubai INTERSEC 2019" in Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre, organized by Messe Frankfurt Middle East under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.



DIANA ROLL OF HONOR AWARD 2019



Mehak Shahzad from MS Development Studies (2k17) at the School of Social Sciences & Humanities, NUST has received Diana ROLL OF HONOR Award 2019 for her services for humanity and development. Mehak's aim is to empower women and children by equipping them with the knowledge and education needed to raise them out of poverty. Mehak leads the organisation she founded, 'Meherban Foundation' (literally translated meaning 'Kind and Compassionate') with passion and empathy and envisions a society of educational and financial parity. Her many undertakings include collaborating with local orphanages, fundraised to have 17 computers for a local school for orphaned children, organising conferences for female empowerment, fundraising to support the free elementary and primary education of 130 children students from underprivileged backgrounds and arranging clothes drives which have helped hundreds of people. She also delivers coaching sessions to inspire other young people.



Ms Mehak Shahzad
Founder
Meherban Foundation
has been selected
for
**Roll of Honor
Award 2019**




STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON GIRLS EDUCATION BY PAGE



Pakistan Alliance for Girls' Education is an umbrella organization working towards creating an enabling environment that ensures gender equity in education, employment, rights, and leadership. PAGE serves as a platform for donors, policymakers and practitioners to come together and address the myriad challenges faced by the education sector and especially that by girls. Students from S3H have joined this noble cause and are serving as the Student Ambassadors for PAGE, in order to promote gender equity in education and generate funds.

The first ever National Seminar on Girls Education, in association with Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training, was organized by PAGE on 3rd April, 2019. It was held at the Planning Commission and Ministry of Planning, Development, and Reform in Islamabad. The chief guest for the seminar was the Federal Minister for Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Mr. Shafqat Mehmood. Speakers representing all the provinces of Pakistan brought to the limelight the problems faced by girls in the education sector in their respective provinces. This seminar was a forum to discuss the problems and suggest solutions for the betterment of the education sector of Pakistan.

Fatima Khalid, student of MS DS 2k18 at NUST who is also a student ambassador at PAGE, hosted the seminar along with her co-host, Noor Sheryrar, who is also a student of MS 2k18 and a student ambassador at PAGE. From welcoming the guests until the certificate distribution at the end was all the responsibility of these girls from NUST. They were accompanied by Sobia Shah and Khizar Sardar, MS DS 2k18. Sobia, a student ambassador was responsible for handling the guest lists, while Khizar, a former intern at PAGE, handled the audience. The event was handled well, and the work of our students was appreciated and praised by the Executive Director of PAGE, Fajer Rabia Pasha.



FACULTY UPDATES

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS:

Dr. Umer Khayyam:

o Amir, S. M., Yonggong, L., Shah, A. A., Khayyam, U., Mahmood, Z. (2019). Empirical Study on Influencing Factors of Bio Gas Technology Adoption in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *Energy & Environment*.

o Bano, R., Khayyam U. (2019). Effects of Increasing Soil Fluoride on the Growth of Vegetation in the Vicinity of Brick Kilns: A Case Study of Rawalpindi, Pakistan. *Polish Journal of Environmental Studies*,

o Waseem, S., Khayyam U. (2019). Loss of Vegetative Cover and Increased Land Surface Temperature: A Case Study of Islamabad, Pakistan, *Journal of Cleaner Production*.doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2019.06.228>.

CURRENT RESEARCH WORK:

Dr. Umer Khayyam:

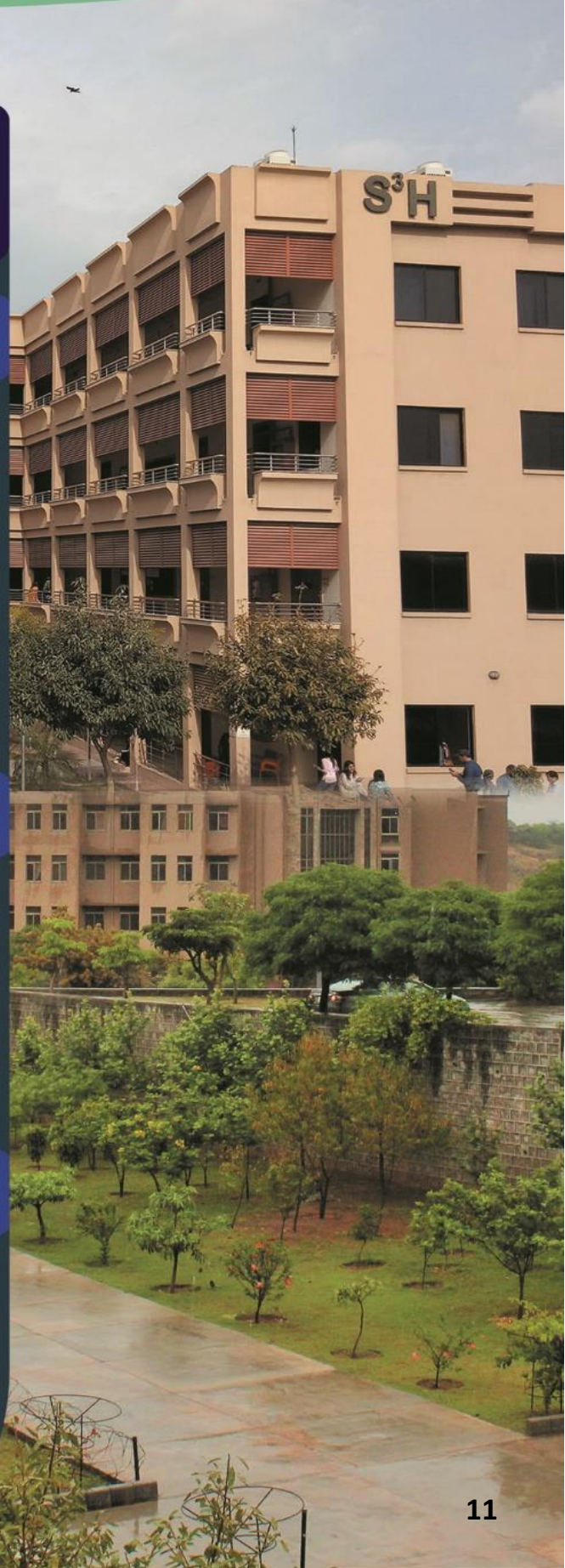
HEC Thematic Research Project 'Adaptation to Climate Change: Building Resistant Livelihood for the Vulnerable Communities of Hazara and Malakand Division of KPK, Pakistan.'

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Umer Khayyam:

R&D and knowledge-sharing – Pakistan can learn from European model. *The Express Tribune*.

(<https://tribune.com.pk/story/1926872/2-rd-knowledge-sharing-pakistan-can-learn-european-model/>)



ZERO HUNGER

SUSTAINABILITY

POVERTY & HUNGER

ARTICLES

FOOD AND HEALTH

LIVELIHOOD

Development Studies

ENVIRONMENT DEGRADATION-INDUCED POVERTY & INEQUALITY | DR. UMER KHAYYAM (HEAD OF DEPARTMENT)

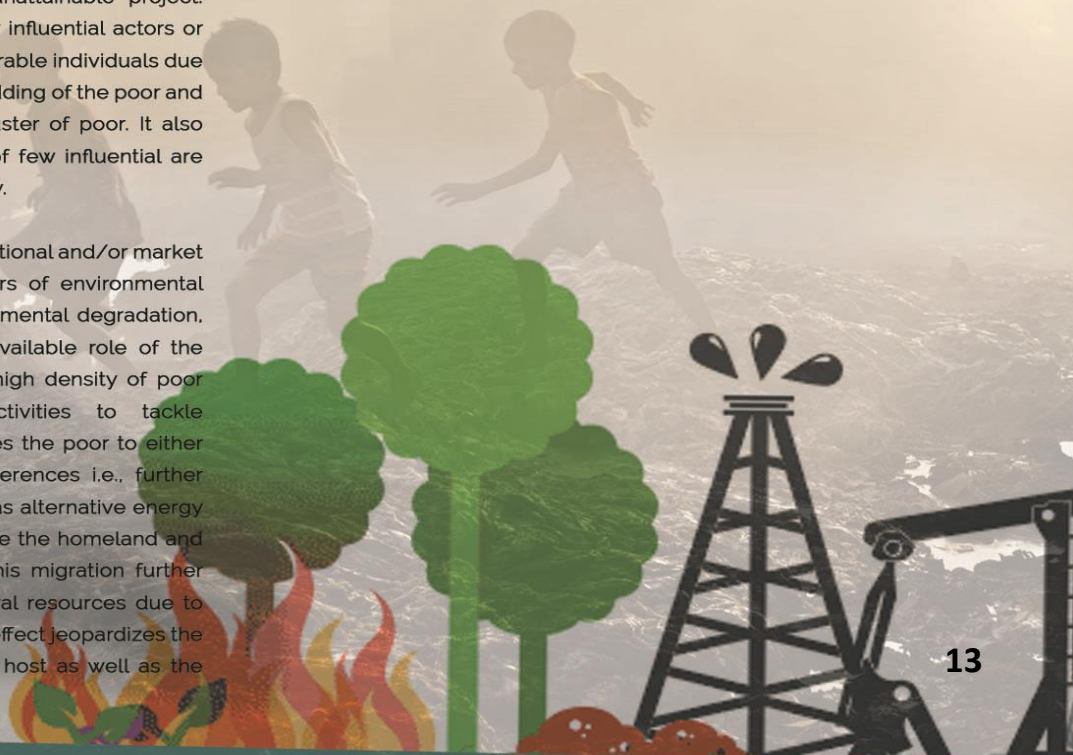
South Asia remains among the regions most susceptible to severe impacts of environmental degradation, or climate change. This is because, this region lays at the brink of disasters to humanity as being the host of the most densely populated region, constituting a major chunk of people living below the (standard) poverty line. The vulnerability of this poor population in south-asian region is directly linked to climate induced floods, increase in temperature, prolonged droughts, low precipitation, land degradation and tormenting sea level rise. These menaces remain obvious phenomena occurring from time to time, compared to other non-climate-induced natural disasters. The occurrence of these adversities results in injuries, deaths and diseases; the environmental-poverty degradation nexus is largely to blame. Here, poverty is defined in terms of environmental degradation comprised to a large degree of subjectivity, at-least on the part of the actors involved in the degradation process, coupled with the players who own the natural resources. Also, the poverty break-even point here remains a point in time when every extra unit of degradation to environmental factor or natural resource directly ends up in another person beneath the poverty line. So, the natural resource base is hypothesised as 'under threat' and the reasons are: I), exploitation at the end of wealthy/powerful group and/or II), institutional and market factor.

The politico-economic factors built upon greed and deprivation add to decreased natural resource base by exploiting the said resource at a relatively fast rate. The inertia at this part, as per the vested interest of few individuals, undermines the state's prospects as natural disasters hit the country. As the wrongdoers are the contributors, therefore any corrective measure at this point remains an unattainable project. Consequently, as an uncontrollable problem, few influential actors or groups benefit at the expense of many other vulnerable individuals due to unsustainable practices. This in turn results in adding of the poor and marginalized segments of the society to the cluster of poor. It also constitutes to zero sum-game, where the gain of few influential are exactly the loss of another in the same community.

The second concern is on, to a large extent, institutional and/or market failure as either the initiators or the encouragers of environmental degradation, initiating the illicit course of environmental degradation, leading to poverty. This crucial and (often) unavailable role of the market and institutional failure, coupled with a high density of poor populations undermines the sustainable activities to tackle environmental degradation problem. It thus leaves the poor to either go-for a), exploration of further short-time preferences i.e., further degradation of the natural resources e.g., forest, as alternative energy sources are either distant or inaccessible; b), leave the homeland and permanently migrate to other adjacent areas. This migration further pollutes the environment and depletes the natural resources due to positive net migration. Hence, negative feedback effect jeopardizes the natural resources contributing to poverty of the host as well as the migrants.

All in all, the environmental degradation and natural resource depletion result in poverty amongst already poor and vulnerable community. The exploitation at the end of institutional and/or market failure to control degradation to environmental factor or natural resource directly ends up in another person beneath the poverty line. So, the natural resource base is hypothesised as 'under threat' and the reasons are: I), exploitation at the end of wealthy/powerful group and/or II), institutional and market factor.

The politico-economic factors built upon greed and deprivation add to decreased natural resource base by exploiting the said resource at a relatively fast rate. The inertia at this part, as per the vested interest of few individuals, undermines the state's prospects as natural disasters hit the country. As the wrongdoers are the contributors, therefore any corrective measure at this point remains an unattainable project. Consequently, as an uncontrollable problem, few influential actors or groups benefit at the expense of many other vulnerable individuals due to unsustainable practices. This in turn results in adding of the poor and marginalized segments of the society to the cluster of poor. It also constitutes to zero sum-game, where the gain the wealthy and powerful creates further inequality between those who have access to natural resource base than those who are deprived. It also has the potential to further extend this inequality of natural resources to social and economic inequality at local as well regional level.



THE UNHOLY TROIKA: POVERTY, HUNGER AND STUNTED GROWTH | OSAMA IJAZ KIANI, MS-DS 2K18

"Hunger is not an issue of charity. It is an issue of Justice."

Jacques Diouf

We, human beings, reside on this planet Earth, living our lives in our own manners. We work our blood and sweat to earn much-needed capital in order to buy resources and means in order to live a life worth sustaining. With this capital, we buy ourselves food, clothing and sometimes luxury goods for the sake of enjoyment. We also take the facility of undergoing routine medical examinations in order to determine whether we are facing any ailment, lethal or non-lethal, and possibly afford a cure for that ailment. These things make us feel content and happy in life as it should be. But we tend to forget that not all is bright and sunny around the rest of the world. There are a large number of populations who can't even afford to have such luxuries that we are having. This population is suffering from an ailment for which several cures, programs, and policies have been designed but most of the times have met with limited success. That ailment is known as poverty. It is a state in which an individual is living life even below minimum standards due to the reasons of not having enough money, job opportunities or even going as far, due to some cultural and social taboos that don't allow an individual to work and continue living a life full of depression and despair. This single ailment tends to create a vicious cycle which soon creates other major problems. In the case of poverty which hinders an individual in buying food necessary for life sustenance, another problem surfaces which is called hunger. This hunger in return creates an even bigger and deadly ailment known by the name of Stunted Growth. This unholy troika of poverty, hunger, and stunted growth is a far deadly threat to the world compared to wars, nuclear weapons or even radicalization.

World Food Program (WFP) in its statistical reports points out that around 795 million people globally don't have access to enough food to lead a healthy life. In the developing world, this condition has led to 12.9 % of the population being under-nourished. Among all continents of the world, Asia ranks number one in terms of having most hungry people, with two-thirds of its population suffering from this dilemma. All of this is primarily due to poverty, as people are poor, live life below average per-capita income, and have zero access to food. This state of hunger leads to the formation of the disease known as Stunted Growth. WHO defines stunted growth as the process of impaired growth and development experienced by children due to having poor nutrition and repeated cases of infection. This impacts height for age factor in children as this factor is more than 2 times below standards of WHO Child Growth. Globally, 1 in 4 children suffers from stunted growth with figures for developing world being 1 in 3 children. In Pakistan, around 44% of children suffer from stunted growth. UNICEF data shows that in 2018, 21.9% of children under the age of 5 showed cases of stunted growth.

The inter-relationship between the 3 factors, poverty, hunger, and stunted growth is pretty much obvious and consistent in terms of affecting a large chunk of the population

globally. Living in an abject state of poverty makes an individual deprived of money which is needed to buy things in order to sustain life. When a person can't afford anything, they can't afford to even have the basic need to satisfy them, i.e. food. Non-availability and zero access to food will make an individual experience the condition known as hunger. Experiencing hunger will have an adverse impact on individuals' health, particularly in physiological development. Children are the worst sufferers of this condition. Having stunted growth in a child is tantamount to subjecting that child to a cycle of endless torture where there will only be perpetual deprivation of food and necessary medical care to cure that condition. Children suffering from this disease will emerge as individuals who are impaired, disabled and of no productive use to the society.

The teaming up of this unholy troika needs to be understood and comprehended in a better and productive way by policymakers around the world who are working aimlessly to design more and more poverty reduction programs. There is a simple one-step solution. Start working on this inter-relationship between poverty, hunger, and stunted growth, take inputs from all sectors, design a policy which addresses this inter-relation and implements it. This solution, if implemented with letter and spirit, will rid the world of this ailment and secure a good, safe future for the children of the world.



Image Source: <http://www.davegranolund.com/cartoons/2009/11/24/world-hunger-and-un/>

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES IN PAKISTAN AND CHINA | MARIAM IJAZ, MS-DS 2K18

The poverty rates of both Pakistan and China were the same during the 1970s, at around less than 33 per cent. However, China came out to be victorious in the fight against poverty while Pakistan has not been successful in achieving its goal of poverty alleviation. Almost one-third of Pakistan's rural population has remained poverty-stricken since 1970, which leads us to a very basic question: what were the strategies that Pakistan adopted to fight poverty and why were these policies unsuccessful in alleviating poverty? China owes its success in poverty alleviation to agricultural rural reforms, public spending and the mushrooming of non-farm economy. In addition, China has a very strong, deep-rooted basis of political determination for maintaining macroeconomic stability and organizational power to achieve significant poverty alleviation. Pakistan owes its failure in poverty alleviation to the policy gaps and substandard implementation of those policies. Weak institutions also played a critical role in this failure. The increase in public expenditure should always be backed with strong institutions. Institutional efficiency is a must, otherwise public spending, alone, is not capable of doing any good on its own.

A major cause of Chinese success is a strong stance on implementing the policy of empowerment by allocating the entire agricultural land to the farmers individually, without any discrimination, within a short span of five years. Landholding plays a significant role in empowering the rural population by improving their quality of lives. However, in Pakistan, since the landowners are individuals themselves and not the Pakistani government, the radical step of redistribution landholdings among the landless households cannot be taken on the government's part, owing to which land reforms have not yet been successful in Pakistan. The public policies developed in China aimed at benefitting the peasant community through land reforms whereas in Pakistan all Pakistan inherently does not have any practical policy to mushroom its non-farm sector which is responsible for employing more than half of the entire rural population. The enterprises in rural areas of Pakistan are still immature and very traditional in nature. These enterprises lack good quality products due to the absence of innovation. On the other hand, in China, the TVEs are competing with the urban industry. So Pakistan needs to take measures to promote the indigenous rural enterprises.

Institutional efficiency is a major pillar for the effective and maximum utilization of the resources. In order to hamper the mismanagement of public resources, Pakistan has to work towards the strengthening of the institutions. A strong negative connection exists between the poverty incidence and the maintenance of rule of law. The poor law and order situation in Pakistan has, in the past, played a hampering role in growth and poverty alleviation efforts. Pakistan has to work towards the capacity building of institutions just like China, which made its institutions strong enough via the implementation of supportive policies.

The biggest challenge that Pakistan is faced with is poor investment in the two most significant sectors of any economy, education and health. Pakistan hardly spends 2 per cent of its GDP on education and only about 0.6 per cent on health sector. Owing to this, the labor force has not been able to enhance the skill sets that they have. Poverty alleviation can never be achieved unless and until the social sector in any economy does not flourish. On the other hand, China has heavily invested in building human capital by making it compulsory to attend a minimum nine years of schooling. It played a critical role in both agricultural and industrial growth. Education plays a very important role in distinguishing between poor and non-poor. Education has a proportional relation with chances of employment. Since the poor lot have low level of education and hence low skill sets so they end up doing low paid jobs. Similarly, poor health is also parasitic for achieving economic well-being. Ill health in most cases becomes the pushing factor for households into the deeper poverty, which ultimately forms a vicious cycle. Pakistan is paying a high price for not investing in social development.

The highest incidence of poverty exists in areas which are considered as feudalistic societies, for instance, areas of Southern Punjab, Interior Sindh and Baluchistan, and some Tribal areas in KPK. These feudal lords do not only control the social and economic lives of the rural people but have a greater influence in the decision making at local as well as provincial level. In Pakistan, the land holdings depend upon power, the more powerful you are the more the landholdings you will have. The feudalistic system in rural areas tends to give rise to inequality which leads to poverty. The small farmers are exploited at the hands of landlords paying more for inputs and receiving less for outputs. Forced labor is another common practice in feudalistic societies, where poor farmers have to work on lower wages for their landlords.



"POVERTY, HUNGER, AND INEQUALITY" |

NAYYAR ABBAS 2K17

Mahatma Gandhi once said, 'Poverty is the worst form of violence.' Poverty, when consolidated with hunger, makes matters worse and adds insult to injury. Poverty is a lack of food, shelter, and clothing. It is a manifestation of hunger, malnutrition, limited access to education and basic necessities as well as health, and infrastructure. It also includes social discrimination and exclusion in terms of decision making. Organizations like the United Nations, United Nations Development Programs and World Bank, claim to uplift half of the world population out of poverty but these very organization today also acknowledge the persistence of acute poverty and simultaneously hunger in more than 11 per cent of the world population. These people are living in extreme poverty, malnutrition and are struggling to acquire basic necessities like education, health, and access to safe drinking water and sanitation. Why many countries are failing to liberate poverty and hunger? And why is it prevailing in some countries while easily tractable in other countries?

Poverty has been overshadowed in recent times. People in primitive times used to produce subsistence food, domesticate animals and adequate shelter but the aberrant enigma related to poverty and hunger particularly, and development and economic growth generally, is the result of a gloating world order. It is the manifestation of inequality and dependency which in turn exacerbates the social and cultural development of many countries. This is evident in the way that a handful countries' malpractices lead to a surge in poverty, underdevelopment and plummeting growths in the rest of the countries. This fractious system has put billions of people in precarious conditions. Today more than 783 million people around the world are living below the international line of poverty i.e. US\$ 1.90 a day. Moreover most of these people are living in countries that have either remained unreceptive or repellent to adjust their development and growth according to new world order. Most of developing countries mainly endure impoverishment in multifaceted areas of socio-economic and political development. Hence they face tremendous poverty, hunger, and under-development.

Developed countries are enjoying unprecedented benefits in catering progress, development, enhancement of the standard of living and economic growth in their domains. Most of these developed countries in their initial stage of development and growth warped a system that was an amalgamation of strong democracies, quality education, R&D and economic systems and capitalism, which is paradoxically germane to their development and simultaneously invasive to most of the other countries. The conundrum is that the rich get richer and the poor get poorer; this is evident through horizontal and vertical inequalities between countries. As Annalee Newitz rightly said, 'Capitalism is, fundamentally an economic system that promotes inequality.' In developing countries, around 22,000 children die each day due to poverty and about 805 million people do not have enough food to eat. Moreover, there are some 1.1 billion people in developing countries that have no access to water and 2.6 billion are lacking basic sanitation.

Contrary to the laudable benefits of liberal order and capitalism, we have a significantly polarized world where peripheries are unwillingly mimicking core countries that further outbreak the vicious circles of poverty and hunger. Developed countries on the basis of empirical data proclaimed eradication of poverty around the world, notwithstanding that almost all developing countries are facing an acute relentless struggle in basic necessities of life, which is portrayed as cutdown under so-called capitalism and liberal order. Contrary to this belief, it reflects continuous improvements in the well-being of developed countries; who are enjoying all perks of life while on the other hand more than half-quarter of the population of the world is either facing challenges of development and growth or restlessly moving farther down into the vicious circles of poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

It is time to cure all the ills so as to break the vicious circles of poverty and to uplift the poor in developing countries. The western countries have neither aimed to make developing countries self-sufficient nor do they lead countries to break the cycle of dependency that is ineluctable for many developing countries around the world. It is therefore imperative for developing countries struggling with poverty, hunger, and malnutrition to swallow hard pills. First, they need to learn from countries like China and East Asian countries, how they stand with tooth and nail and achieve sustained development and growth. They have also lifted most of their population out of poverty within a short span of time. Secondly, countries that are facing problems of hunger and poverty, they need not rely on others dictation but to enhance their own capacities and strengthen to redress these difficulties with a will, commitment and perseverance. As rightly says by Dr. Samuel Johnson that, 'great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance.' In today's transforming world where vast opportunities are at doorsteps, the only thing matter most is the willingness and commitment of governments to address the needs and demands of the vast majority. Otherwise, the menace of poverty and hunger under capitalism is extirpating human esteem and demolishing the very fabric of humanity in developing countries.



STRATEGY TO END POVERTY THROUGH INTEGRATED APPROACH. | QURAT UL AIN ALI 2K16

EXTREME poverty anywhere is a threat to human security everywhere." — Kofi Annan, Seventh Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Poverty is undoubtedly the root cause of many ills leading to challenges. Food and hunger are inextricably linked to Poverty. The term poverty is used when the people in a country are living in a condition in which they do not have enough income to meet basic needs like food, clothing, and shelter. According to the World Bank report, 10% of the world's population lives on less than US\$1.90 a day among which approximately 896 million people are in developing countries.

Where is hunger the worst? The highest head counts associated with hunger are in Asia: 515.1 million than, Sub-Saharan Africa: 236.5 million and the lowest in Latin America i.e. 32.3 million. The 2018 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report released in September 2018 explore the unsettling and ongoing rise in global hunger. For the third year in a row, rates of undernourishment have increased worldwide; with an additional six million people falling into conditions of hunger over the course of a year, bringing the estimated total to 821 million people affected out of which 256 million people alone are Africans suffering from severe undernourishment.

Pakistan is a lower middle-income country and the sixth most populous in the world. Despite various development strategies adopted by almost all the governments in Pakistan and achievements of high growth rate, a number of times, the problem of poverty, hunger and inequality has remained consistent. These development strategies instead of reducing poverty were instrumental in increasing poverty. Pakistan at the age of 71 today remains infected with poverty and hunger much more than ever before. Around 39 percent of people in Pakistan are surviving in multidimensional poverty as said by Multidimensional Poverty Index, which is perhaps better only than India in South Asia. There are still 7.7 million extremely poor people in Pakistan living on \$1.90 a day. This is a big drag on the economy of

Poverty is considered deprivation of certain basic amenities to individuals or group of individuals which includes food, clean drinking water, employment, schools, dispensaries/hospitals, toiletries, and shelter. Provision of these amenities to combat poverty and hunger through pumping in the money as charity or grant by the government only to the poor is not the solution. The poverty alleviation can succeed through a participative process of development at the grass root level in which the poor individuals/groups and the local community feel self-productive and self-reliant with the passage of time. The poverty alleviation process must focus on basic needs, participation by the local community, self-improvement, income generation activities, and human development. The menace of poverty in Pakistan is reflected in increased infant/child mortality rate, child labor, illiteracy, and poor living standards. Efforts by the government through subsidies in food, agriculture and Income support programs have yielded no positive results.

According to a 2016 report by the Food and Agriculture Organization, Pakistan's performance in reducing the prevalence of undernourishment is the second-worst in the region – only Afghanistan is lower. While undernourishment has slightly declined over the last two decades, it remains 'moderately high'. The World Food Programme (WFP) also reports that 60 percent of the population faces food insecurity. The public at large has started to lose confidence in the political and social system of the country which is becoming the source of division in the society. There are scores of reasons which include misplaced priorities of the government, lack of resources, faulty strategies to combat poverty, lack of participation by the local communities, absence/lack of organized bodies to implement strategies at the government and local levels.

The complex task of poverty alleviation cannot be left to the government alone. Peoples organizations and village/town/mohalla level organizations along with NGO's, charity organizations/Trusts and local community must come forward as support tools to the government to undertake this noble task. For initiating a meaningful implementation strategy, the following steps are recommended

- Establishment of a separate ministry or a division under the Ministry of Finance for poverty alleviation as autonomous body/with sufficient funds. Levy of poverty alleviation tax till achievement of objectives can also be considered.
- There must be centers established for the training of staff at higher and local levels incorporating experts from various fields including the international agencies.
- The industrialists, landlords and local elites must be motivated and urged to bring industrialization to poor areas, donate generously towards poverty alleviation fund and help the poor in whatever way they can.
- Employment of youngsters after necessary skills training be made mandatory with various employers. Issuance of merit cards to deserving poor can also be considered.
- Establishment of water treatment plants, toilets, dispensaries, and schools be ensured by the government with the help of national/international NGOs/agencies, local government agencies, and private investors/ philanthropists. Appropriate incentives for donors/agencies may be considered to attract investors.
- Social protection programs such as Provision of poultry/eggs and 'Katta Wacha' programs for the poor may be integrated with poverty alleviation Ministry/Division and continued.
- Investment can be done in different manners i.e. by the installation of the efficient irrigation system (drip, sprinkler), plowing of hybrid seeds that give more yield of rice and grain, etc. It will offer more food and generate revenue as well.

Pakistan needs consistent efforts, commitment, and motivation among those responsible for the uplift of the poor including the governments, local bodies, NGOs, local community, elites/philanthropists and the will to become self-reliant at the level of the poor. Pakistan will succeed in eradicating this menace with the participation and contribution of the society sooner than expected.

FIGHTING POVERTY AND HUNGER THROUGH INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR OF PAKISTAN | RIDA BANO 2K17

Food possesses enormous significance in the lives of human beings as it offers energy and power to the human body to think, grow and develop. It is the task as well as job of every state to manage food for its people. "Zero Hunger" is considered as one of the chief goals of the "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" which intends to wipe out food shortage from the world. Pakistan will have to counter the hunger challenge to meet Sustainable Development Goals which is impossible without intensification of the agriculture sector, the backbone of economy of Pakistan. This will in turn help to reduce poverty prevalent in the country (FAO, 2016).

Reportedly, rather than doing investment in non-agricultural sectors, investment in agriculture is more helpful in reducing poverty. In this present situation, such investments have to sustain safeguarding of natural resources and more importantly sustainable agricultural production, including investing in climate-smart technologies. For the accomplishment of "SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)", each of the country and state will have to assess its own way out of poverty; however, different countries experience suggests that both social as well as economic intrusion is equally important in reducing poverty. To promote rural development and community involvement, state shall have to take some specific policy and programmatic actions that reach the poor directly. A combination of social and economic policies should be included that address today's challenges and empower rural people to earn a living and shape their livelihoods.

Global Hunger Index 2016 cites that out of 118 developing countries, Pakistan is present at 107 with the score of 33.4, followed by Niger at 33.7, Timor-Leste 34.3, Afghanistan 34.8, Sierra Leone 35.0, the Republic of Yemen 35.0, Madagascar 35.4, Haiti 36.9, Zambia 39.0, Chad 44.3 and the Central African Republic 46.1 respectively. Our neighboring country India scored 28.5 and Bangladesh scored 27.1; as it can be seen that both the countries performed better than Pakistan. According to World Bank, majority of people who live on less than \$2 a day depends on agriculture for their livelihood. So empowerment of small holder farmers means to make sure that everybody has access to nourishing food which could raise millions of people out of poverty. Different studies conducted all around the world also concluded that provision of finance can strengthen the agriculture sector and its production which reduces poverty and hunger.

Government of Pakistan is providing credit facilities to farmers through several programs like "National Rural Support Program" and "Punjab Rural Support Program" among others. Several commercial and public banks are also providing credit to needy farmers; however, Zarai Taraqiati Bank Limited (ZTBL) is the major bank which is providing the borrowing facilities to fulfill the financial requirements of farmers. But at the same time, ZTBL charging high-interest rates that need revising as interest rate reduces the profit of the poor farmers. The government may consider providing interest-free loans to support farmers. The loan procedure should also be made easier so that farmers may avail this facility without any hassle. Conditions of collateral may also be relaxed for small farmers.

Therefore, it can encourage small farmers to apply for loans, and thus, they will be able to obtain credit through which their production and income both may increase. The government procurement system may also be improved so that farmers may sell their products to the government at a reasonable price. Reasonable prices will encourage the farmers to work hard and grow more in the next season.

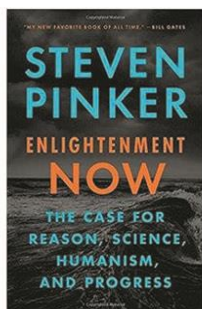
Other than financing, shifting resources away from ineffective subsidies towards supporting farmers to produce higher value products such as vegetables, fruits, pulses, oilseeds, milk, and meat is also an important requirement (MNFSR, 2017). The demand is growing many times faster for higher value products than lower value crops such as wheat. There is a need to upgrade the system through the use of new and alternative technologies, for instance, "nuclear agriculture"; which is referred to the appliance of nuclear methods in the field of agriculture. It is no doubt an example of "peaceful uses of nuclear technology" which government of Pakistan has promoted through building centres in different regions of Pakistan. As nuclear agriculture is among priorities of Pakistan's neighbors India and China. We can say that Pakistan is still not very far behind from its neighbors in agriculture and has managed to develop close to 100 new varieties of various crops including cotton, rice, lentil, chickpea, brassica, wheat, sugarcane, etc.

As previously mentioned, food is directly linked to the agriculture sector, and financial constraints are one of the major hurdles for farmers in agriculture production. In general, farmers are poor and do not have enough finance to purchase quality inputs (Iftikhar & Mahmood, 2017). Hence, there is a need for government intervention for supporting small farmers so that they can acquire new technology for more production. When production levels remain low, this not only increases the ratio of the hungry population but also increases poverty in the country.



ENLIGHTENMENT NOW

BY STEVEN PINKER



The availability bias, which arguably dominates the modern individual's thinking process, would have one believe that the world and its future are, in Game of Thrones-speak, "dark and full of terrors". All things remaining constant, anyone who is made to follow a local news channel for one hour will, after learning about violence, disease, poverty, instability, and squalor, come to the pessimistic conclusion that the world is collectively walking towards its own doom. In these circumstances, what can we do to avoid the pessimism? Steven Pinker, in *Enlightenment Now: The case for reason, science, humanism and progress*, asks "how can we soundly appraise the state of the world?" (p. 42)

The answer, according to Pinker, lies in a quantitative mindset. By presenting visualizations of data on various indicators across time (such as childhood stunting, social spending, and deforestation), the Pinker encourages us to "remember [our] history", for "the fact that something is bad today doesn't mean it was better in the past" (p. 452). The reader is also called upon to remember, among other things, one's math: "an anecdote is not a trend." Using data on poverty, the book shows how the proportion and number of the extremely poor have shrunk over the years. A follow-up question is, however, left unanswered: does this trend indicate that the extremely poor became rich enough to sit above the poverty line, or does this trend indicate their elimination in a Darwinian survival-of-the-fittest sense? With attitudes to climate change, Pinker shares an interesting finding. According to a New York Times article that surveyed forty countries, "in all but one [Pakistan]...a majority of respondents were in favor of limiting greenhouse gas emissions" (p. 151). This leaves the reader to wonder what policies or campaigns might be responsible for Pakistan's position as an outlier. Interestingly, Pinker does not offer an in-depth discussion on issues related to migration. As a result, when he quotes Sen's proposition that the goal of development is "to enable people to make choices" (p. 248), the unequal distribution of such choices available to migrants and refugees is not addressed.

Moving on to the recent wave of populism that has swept through many countries, Pinker asks how we may counter the associated threats to Enlightenment values (reason, science, and humanism) posed by authoritative populism. Here, an intriguing finding is presented: that cultural rather than economic insecurity is the main driver of the aforementioned threat. In this case, "avoiding needlessly polarizing rhetoric, symbolism, and identity politics" (p.342) can help counter the threat to Enlightenment values. In the concluding chapters, Pinker points out that a major challenge for our times is to "foster an intellectual and political culture that is driven by reason rather than tribalism and mutual reaction" (p.375). In doing so, the author of *Enlightenment Now* echoes the propositions made by Albert Hirschman in *The Rhetoric of Reaction* (published in 1991). This leads us to wonder, is the pervasive problem of mutual reaction a permanent condition for mankind?

Book Review by
Maheen Zahra

"Would you stop if you saw this little girl on the street?"

An informative video on child poverty by UNICEF released in 2016

Poverty is one of the worst and most shocking phenomena plaguing mankind during the 21st century. Childhood poverty specifically, is one of the most brutal forms of poverty persisting today. Not only can childhood poverty distress a child's life with ill health, but it also causes malnutrition and severe impairments in the physical and mental development of children. In an attempt to increase awareness on this pressing issue, UNICEF released a video showing how people react to children, simply based on the types of clothes they are wearing. Through this video, UNICEF's heart-wrenching message is that before the world becomes more divided and unequal, it must invest in poor children. It is a call to action stirred by a sense of earnestness and the belief that a better world is possible. While reading a report may stir a few emotions, visual representations often tend to tug at the heart by evoking stronger reactions. The emotions felt while watching this video are the emotions that the creators of this video would like the world to feel, knowing that there are millions of children around the world living in extremely poor and vulnerable conditions. It is not enough to just feel, but as a global society, it is crucial that these reactions are put into actions and carried out throughout the world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQcN5DtMT-o>

Tehreem Tassaduq
MSDS 2k18



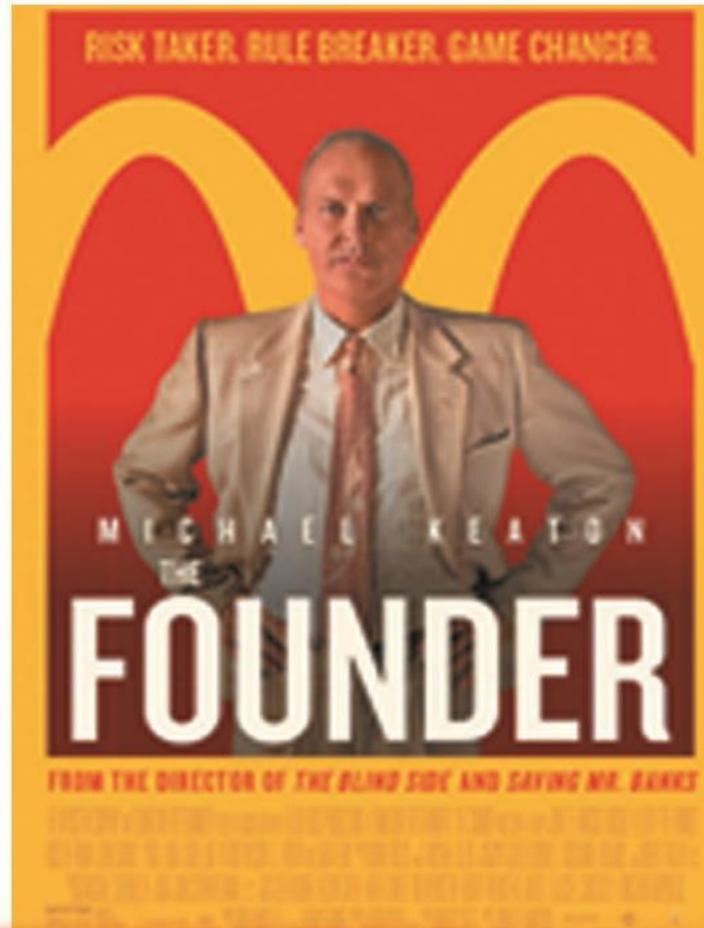
A screenshot from the video by UNICEF the Social experiment in the video reveals how people react to an abandoned child depending on how she looks.

THE FOUNDER

Director- John Lee Hancock

Being a student of development studies, I have often come across concepts like globalization and multinational corporations (MNCs). Studying these concepts has been my most favorite thing to do. But I always wondered how such MNCs came into existence and transformed themselves into global giants reaping economic profits and providing quality services to the people. My query got answered when I watched the film *The Founder*. This 2017 film details the journey of how struggling salesman Raymond Kroc (portrayed by Michael Keaton) had a chance encounter with Maurice and Richard McDonald aka The McDonald Brothers and conjured up a partnership with them in order to transform their ordinary yet efficient working fast-food restaurant into a national level chain. This chain later came to be known as McDonalds. While watching the film, it was quite intriguing and interesting to find out how fast-food phenomena were introduced by the McDonald Brothers, how Raymond Kroc through his partnership with the duo quickly yet strategically franchised the burger restaurant into a national and later global chain. The viewers will be amazed to see how Raymond cunningly made his way to the top and claimed the McDonalds name for himself. On a personal note, this film has taught me one thing: a person should be persistent in his attitude to achieve something in life as being educated and talented will not be enough to conquer the top summit. If anyone is interested in finding out the origin of McDonald's franchise, this is the film to watch and be entertained and learned something worthwhile

Osama Ijaz Kiani,
MS-DS 2k18



On Our Radar

1. OURWORLDINDATA.ORG



It would not be a stretch to claim that we are living in the golden age of data. Hal Varian has pointed out that "Between the dawn of civilization and 2003, we only created five exabytes of information; now we're creating that amount every two days" (quoted in Mian and Sufi, 2015). We can all agree that data overload on such a scale can be overwhelming. OurWorldInData helps us navigate through this unprecedented scale of data. Created by Max Roser and his team at the University of Oxford, OurWorldInData.org provides beautiful visualizations of data and related research, all conveniently categorized into themes and sub-themes. The page on Hunger and Undernourishment, for instance, leads us to trends in undernourishment at the global, regional, and national levels, and that too across time. With this resource, the ability to understand the state of our world has been made accessible to nearly everyone.

2. MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY REPORT 2019

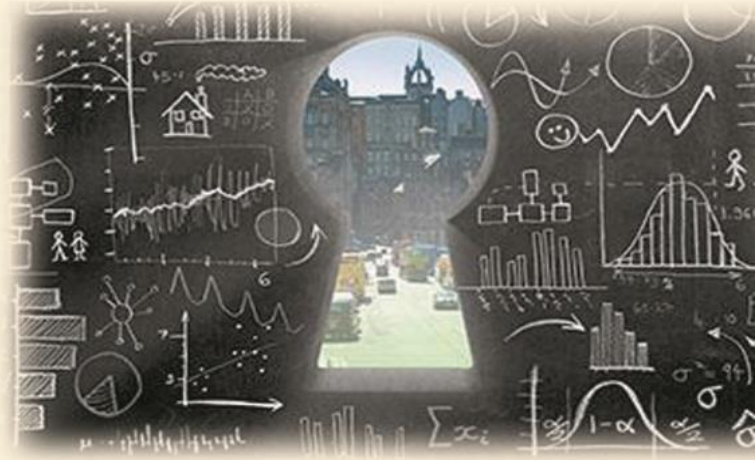


The global multidimensional poverty index figures and findings for 2019 are set to be launched at the United Nations' High Level Political Forum this month. These findings will provide insight into progress made towards achieving SDG-1, as well as highlight areas where further efforts are required by the relevant bodies. We look forward to studying the reports slated for launch, and incorporate the data into our department's research and teaching goals.

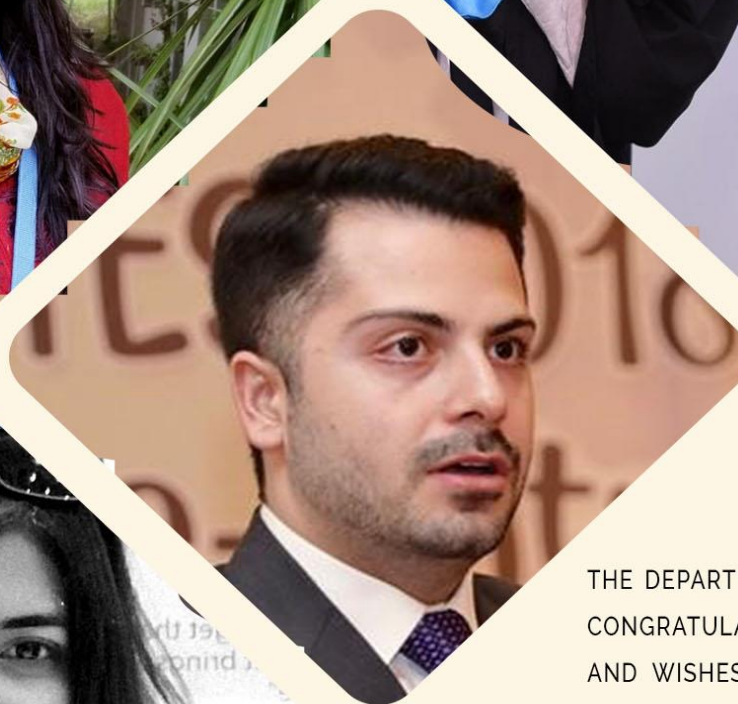
3. BLOGS TO TRACK RECENT RESEARCH



At times, keeping track of the latest research in one's field interest can become an arduous task. So much information, data, and findings are disseminated by academics at home and abroad, that the fear of missing out on details of a breakthrough research is always present. In the field of development, the World Bank's Development Impact blog does an excellent job of relaying the latest pieces of research in bite-sized chunks. For a more general idea of what academics are up to in various fields (including education, politics, and the environment, The Conversation is an excellent resource



Spotlight on Our Alumni Community



THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES CONGRATULATES OUR RECENT GRADUATES, AND WISHES THEM ALL THE BEST IN THEIR FUTURE ENDEAVORS. YOUR HARD WORK AND COMMITMENT HAVE NOT ONLY MADE US PROUD, BUT ALSO SET THE MODEL FOR FUTURE STUDENTS OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES TO FOLLOW.

WELCOME TO THE DS ALUMNI COMMUNITY!

ALUMNI PROFILE

BATCH: MSDS 2K16



RAMSHA MUNIR

SPECIALIZATION: CLIMATE CHANGE

Thesis Title: "CPEC and the Impacts of Coal-based Energy Projects on Tropospheric Ozone in Pakistan"

Current place of work: Ramsha is currently working in the Local Quality Enhancement Cell at the School of Social Sciences and Humanities at NUST.



MAHRUKH DURRANI

SPECIALIZATION: CLIMATE CHANGE

Thesis Title: "Measuring the adverse impacts of flooding on the vulnerable communities in Malakand Division, KP"

Current place of work: Working as a Program Officer Environment and Social Safeguards, Pakistan Red Crescent Society, Islamabad



QURAT UL AIN

SPECIALIZATION: CLIMATE CHANGE

Thesis Title: "UNFCCC Obligations, Greenhouse Gases Vis a Vis Coal-Fired Power Plants (CPEC), and Implications for Pakistan"

Current place of work: Junior Consultant – Sustainable Land Management Program (Phase II) [UNDP – Climate Change Ministry and GEF].

ALUMNI PROFILE

BATCH: MSDS 2K16

SARAH WASEEM

SPECIALIZATION: CLIMATE CHANGE

Thesis Title: "Assessing the impact of deforestation and forest degradation on climate change in Islamabad. A spatio-temporal analysis using remote sensing and GIS"

Current place of work: Sarah has recently worked with the United Nations World Food Program, in their Climate Risk Management Unit.

HAFIZ HASSAN SAEED

SPECIALIZATION: SOCIAL WORK

Thesis Title: "Integration of ICTs at Primary Level Education in Private and Public Schools of Peshawar"

Current place of work: Working as a Program Officer at Society for International Education. Also working as Visiting Faculty of Public Policy at National Defence University and Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad.

AYESHA SHAHID

SPECIALIZATION: SOCIAL WORK

Thesis Title: "Developing an Online Disclosure Index for Hospitals Working in Pakistan"

Current place of work: Ayesha has just completed an internship and is seeking opportunities in the development sector.

ALUMNI TESTIMONIALS

BATCH: MSDS 2K16

RAMSHA MUNIR

SPECIALIZATION: CLIMATE CHANGE

"The journey in development studies department was unlike any other. I have been in NUST since 2010, but what I found here was a family which supported, motivated and had full faith in your capabilities. It was a wonderful academic and professional experience and I would recommend students to join our family in S3H".

HAFIZ HASSAN SAEED

SPECIALIZATION: SOCIAL WORK

"The journey of pursuing Master of Science in Development Studies has been extremely rewarding for me. I was fortunate to land with great teachers and mentors, who guided me to their best abilities. The program has helped me in gaining knowledge about the academic and practical sides of the development sector in order to be prepared to embark upon exciting ventures ahead. My best wishes to the students who will be joining the program ahead".



"Established in 2016, the Department of Development Studies at S3H strives to equip students with the theoretical, technical, and analytical tools in order to achieve developmental goals in the twenty-first century."



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