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THE INFLUENCE OF INSECURITY ON ECONOMIC DEPRIVATION OF THE MINORITIES IN KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, PAKISTAN

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
<p>Keywords: Insecurity, Economic Deprivation, Christian Community, Minorities, Pakistan</p> <hr/> <p>Article History: Date of Submission: 09-09-2020 Date of Acceptance: 17-12-2020 Date of Publication: 31-12-2020</p>	<p>The Christian minorities in Pakistan have constitutional recognition and rights but mostly facing economic deprivation due to insecurity. This study focused on Influence of insecurity on economic deprivation of minorities in KP, Pakistan. The cross-sectional design was adopted to explore the association between economic deprivation (dependent variable) and lack of security (independent variable). Study utilized a quantitative survey to collect data through a questionnaire. The simple random sampling technique was used to access sample in population comprised of Christian community. Two instruments included index of minority deprivation and minority discrimination questionnaire were used to measure economic deprivation and insecurity. Findings revealed that religious insecurity, professional insecurity and financial showed as indicators of insecurity had highly significant ($p=.000$) and positive ($r=.257$) association with economic deprivation of minorities. It is concluded that government should minimize religious extremism, enhance the quota system in jobs and education that may decrease the economic deprivation of minorities.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  2020 Gomal University Journal of Research </p>
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INTRODUCTION

Deprivation refers to confrontational circumstances. It is a state of denial of those things that are considered necessary for living. Hence, the economically adverse conditions and denial of economic necessities in life is referred to economic deprivation. The economic marginalization in minorities prevails because of poverty and terrorism ([Human Right Commission of Pakistan, 2015](#)). In this context, poverty among minority groups found higher as compared to majority. It is found that men and women from minorities are paid fewer wages than those of the majority even though having similar qualifications and experience ([Majid, 2014](#)). Also, young people

from minorities may experience discrimination and racism in educational and other institutes around the globe that cause discernment among the minorities (Barnard & Turner, 2011). The emergence of the economic deprivation does not revolve around the low level of income only, but it also includes marginalization at the social level that as a result can lead to increase in expenses: such areas include isolated parents with siblings, disable individuals and members of families with health problems (Fischer, 2013). Additionally, in deprivation of minorities from the exercise of equal participation in the election to vote is also phenomenal in the community struggles.

The reports from studies have identified that communities having poor situation are vulnerable to domestic attacks, this possibly because of the economic status of minorities and deprivation also highlighted as responsible for health insecurities which may increase vulnerability to different diseases (Nishino, Gilmour & Shibuya, 2015). The Christians in Pakistan do experience disadvantaged situations in terms of employment discrimination because of a low level of occupations. These low levels are associated with illiteracy and poverty in members of the Christian community. Additionally, attitude towards Christians as unclean in a society may also be responsible for struggles of the Christian community (Raina, 2014). Furthermore, inequality in educational opportunities for Christians could be a prominent factor in their disadvantaged situation. Similarly, poor Christians with land ownership are targeted by influential landlords and businessmen to capture their land these may include the ownership of Christians hospitals, orphanages etc. This phenomenon of land grabbing covers a larger percentage of the incident against Christians as most of incidents are targeted at land issues. In many cases, the personal properties of Christians were taken occasionally by the local Muslim people in Pakistan (IRBC, 2012).

Christians as a minority have faced multifaceted problems in terms of insecurity to them. For instance, attacks on members of the Christian communities in Pakistan have been reported in different regions such as attacks on churches, family gatherings or festivals and houses as well. Recent attacks include an attack on the church where 9 people were killed. Similarly, another attack on a church in Lahore killed 70 individuals while the attack in Peshawar killed 80 members of the Christian community. Besides, Christians were attacked while celebrating their Easter festival while 40 houses were destroyed by people in Punjab with 8 people burnt a-live (BCC.UK, 2016). Theory of security explores different dimensions regarding attacks; it covers awareness regarding motivations of attack and association of an individual to those motives. Lack of security can be identified through physical or emotional harm, properties and buildings can be damaged or demolished while an organization may also be attached to destroy the entire structure or destabilize all its components. The roots of such attacks may be linked to financial benefits for attackers, promotion of a cause with other purposes as well. As a result, individuals or communities or organizations feel vulnerability as attacks can be made anytime. Such vulnerabilities can affect business, education, health of the members of the community (Kurtus, 2012).

Theory in Focus

As there are many theories mentioned above on economic deprivation, but the researcher is focusing on social disorganization theory in the context of this study. This theory identifies economic deprivation because of poverty, ethnic heterogeneity, and residential mobility because of the weakness of institutional social control. Lack of institutional social control allows some

elements within society to act with deviance against vulnerable individuals or groups (Messner & South, 1986). This deviance may appear in the form of insecurity. Insecurity can be measured through its different types such as religious, professional, and financial. Religious insecurity may bring physical damages, professional insecurity could create barriers to get high-status jobs while financial insecurity could act as a hurdle to avail high income. All these aspects indicating a prevalence of insecurity. Hence this study focused on social disorganization theory to explore economic deprivation of the Christian community in relation to lack of security to them (Bellair, 2017).

Rationale of study

Pakistan is a Muslim country, but other religious minorities are also living in the country, and rights of all minorities are mentioned in the constitution of Pakistan. But in practice, some of the minorities are facing different problems. There are studies on the minorities or Christian communities, but those studies cannot be generalized because of the cultural and geographical setup of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) especially district Malakand. The Christian community in the Malakand is rarely studied by researchers in terms of their economic deprivation. Therefore, this study is designed to address economic deprivation concerning insecurity of Christians in Malakand. The study aimed to contribute to the literature in the context of Christian community and economic deprivation. It may also help policymakers to consider findings of the study in the enhancement of the minorities particularly the Christians in the Malakand as well as the entire country.

Research Hypothesis

Insecurity and economic deprivation may have an association because insecurity brings hurdles to live a normal life, hence it may disturb the economic conditions and therefore may bring economic deprivation. In this regard, the below mentioned hypotheses hypothesized about main theme:

- H1: There is a positive and significant association between insecurity and economic deprivation
- H2: If insecurity is higher than; higher will be economic deprivation in the Christian community

Objectives of Study

Objectives of this study included exploration of perception of Christian community regarding their economic deprivation. In this regard, the demographic profile of the respondents would be highlighted to assess their living conditions. Moreover, the study would measure association between the dependent variable (economic deprivation) and independent variable (Insecurity). Also, the influence of insecurity on economic deprivation would be underlined to show the extent of influence of one variable over the other that has been measured through cause-&-effect relationship.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The British government research conducted on economic deprivation in minorities. The study results explored that economic deprivation is significantly related with poverty and terrorism (dcsf.gov.uk/research). The British report regarding minorities found poverty higher in them as compared to the majority in same locality. Similarly, study regarding the Christian community in Pakistan highlighted the vulnerability of the respective community while living with majority. The Study found economic deprivation in the Christians community strongly related to their

vulnerability. These vulnerabilities included loss of property, ownership, and financial damages (BPCA, 2013). Also, a study on economic deprivation with living conditions found related to one another because poor living condition can lead to economic deprivation or vice versa (Rossen, 2014). Furthermore, researchers also reported the connections between health insecurities and economic deprivation as health services require economic resources to deal with diseases while, healthy individuals can be found economically sound because of work performance (Nishino, Gilmour & Shibuya, 2015). Studies on insecurity found that different kinds of insecurities that may include religious, professional, financial, familial life, political aspects (Barnard & Turner, 2011).

There are various theories on economic deprivation. For instance, conflict theory explores that capitalism is responsible for economic deprivation because contradictions in its structure result in the economic exploitation of the workers (Hansen, 2016). This exploitation pushed them into poverty where the economic deprivation cannot be avoided. Similarly, strain theory considers deprivation as strain based on inequality imposed by cultural setting with pattern of expectation regarding success and failure (Fischer, 2013). Hence such situations may increase deviance because of frustration and stress in deprived individuals. Also, relative deprivation theory reflects that deprivation can be based on the economic comparisons in terms of income, status, political power, financial position. In case individual finds himself lower in income or political power than others then relative deprivation occurs (Nishino et al., 2015). Besides, theory of the social disorganization indicates economic deprivation because of poverty, ethnic heterogeneity and the residential mobility brought by lack of institutional social control. Social disorganization can bring violence that could be possible indicator of lack of security (children.gov.on.ca, 2016). Insecurity defined as “a state of not knowing, a lack of control and the inability to take defensive action against forces that portend to harm or danger to individual or group or that make them vulnerable”.

Additionally, insecurity is also defined as “the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection”. It refers to a lack of or inadequate freedom from the danger. This definition identifies physical insecurity because of its visibility. There some common indicators mentioned by scholars for the insecurity that include uncertainty, state of doubt, inadequately guarded, instability, lack of safety and being unsafe (Adagba, Ugwu & Eme, 2012). Insecurity can be multidimensional because it may include bombing, kidnapping, attacks on individuals, properties, or businesses, also propagation of the fear etc. Insecurity demolishes wellbeing or economic prosperity of the people by negatively effecting geographical setup and locality where minimum access to services linked to poor standards of life and territorial movement of the people along with deaths. It can also badly affect businesses because businesses need a secure environment hence mostly business are closed in insecure situations, similarly, properties and other physical structures may be demolished. Insecurity can bring about violence accompanied by fear and threats may derail socio, economic and political aspects. Insecurity may have basis in political agenda, religious motives or possibly other goals of disruption of society (Abiodun, 2012).

These insecurities are found somehow related to religious aspects but importantly they found it associated with economic deprivation. Besides, the study also found that religious beliefs do not correlate with economic deprivation (Gundelach, 2014). Scott-Marshall reported discrimination which leads to economic deprivation that is employment discrimination that is growing problem that Pakistan Christians are facing on the regular basis. Christians are time and again deprived

of from jobs opportunities because of their religion. A study measures the strong relationship amid insecurity and inequalities in minorities. Study found that minorities face discrimination in their job, rights and other basic needs that push them into marginalized positions (Fullerton & Anderson, 2013). Economic deprivation and religious insecurity are closely related because people with struggling economic conditions may easily join extremist groups to get rid of their struggling conditions (Hansen, 2016; Reporter, 2011). Professional insecurity and economic deprivation linked to each other because the prevalence of professional insecurity may not help someone to move out of sustainable poverty. Sustainable poverty leads to economic deprivation which is based on professional insecurity along with other contributing factors (Goulden, 2010). Insecurity reported with strong relation with economic deprivation since economic hardships based on financial walls, weak conditions push people into poor economic conditions (Fischer, 2012).

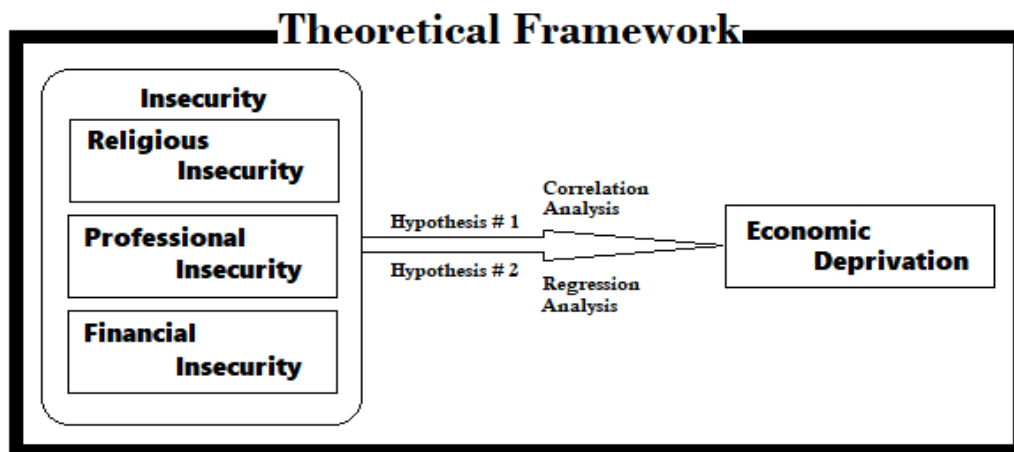
Gap in Literature

Cultural and geographical differences may lead to over-generalization of research. Therefore, cross-cultural applicability of research depends on compatibility of studies already conducted, literature highlighted that study on Christian minorities in a specific social and cultural setup in the context of insecurity and economic deprivation for applicability in a region like a district Malakand is not available. Thus, this study is designed to investigate the economic deprivation of Christian community to explore association between insecurity and economic deprivation. This study is based on theoretical and empirical evidence to explore the relationship between variables.

Theoretical Framework

Insecurity measured through indicators such as religious, professional, and financial insecurity. All these insecurities are connected to the economic deprivation because they generate physical damage or harm, discrimination in jobs and less income. Thus, theoretical framework given below is designed to explore the association between insecurity and economic deprivation as per the clues from previous research to measure influence of independent variable on dependent variable.

Figure 1 Theoretical Framework



RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Settings

This study adopted a cross-sectional design because investigations were carried out at a certain point in time. The study utilized a quantitative approach where the survey method was applied with the help of a questionnaire to collect and analyze the data. The study was conducted in the district Malakand focusing upon the Christian community because this community was rarely studied; furthermore, the respective location is the vast area hence the accessibility to the entire district was not possible in the context of this research; therefore, three villages were randomly selected.

Sample Size

Population details of the three villages were collected from the population office in the district where 400 individuals were identified. The inclusion of all these individuals in data collection was not possible because it would have created a large pool of data which increase problems in analysis and organization of the data at this level of research. Therefore, Sekaran procedure of sample size calculation was applied where 196 samples were derived from the table specified by (Sekaran, 2003). To access samples simple random sampling techniques were utilized to access sample, this technique is one of the types of probability sampling where every single unit in the population has an equal chance of selection. A formula that was used for allocating samples is below:

$n_i = (N_i/N) \times n$, where, n_i = Total sample, n = Total sample, N_i = population in each location & N = population.

Table 1

Sample Size Allocation

Villages	Population Size	Sample Size
Village 1	155	77
Village 2	103	50
Village 3	142	69
Total	400	196

Measurement and Instrumentation of Variables

This paper included economic deprivation (dependent variable) and lack of security (predicting variable). Instrumentation included Index of multiple deprivations (IMD) which was utilized for measuring economic deprivation. IMD is widely used in the UK for measuring deprivation. Similarly, insecurity was crystallized with help of minority discrimination questionnaire, as the entire questionnaire is very long, therefore, relevant items for this study were selected from the respective instrument where items were categorized as financial insecurity, religious insecurity and professional insecurity which were used as indicators of lack of security. Reliability of both the instruments were reported as 0.80 and 0.74 respectively. Both the instruments are used in international studies, therefore, items from each instrument are valid for the small-scale studies (Service.UK.gov, 2015).

Table 2

Reliability of Instruments

Measure	Items	Cronbach's Alpha
Index of Multiple Deprivation	12	0.80
Minority discrimination questionnaire	10	0.74

The above-mentioned information regarding reliability of instruments ensures that instruments are reliable. Cronbach's alpha specifies soundness of instruments, thus can be utilized for the study.

Methods of Data Collection and Analysis

The questionnaire was used to collect data from participants. Collected data were analyzed with help of SPSS software through statistical implications: a correlation and regression analysis. The correlation was applied to highlight the association between research variables while regression was used to measure the influence of the independent variable on the dependent variable of the study.

RESULTS OF STUDY

The data revealed that most of the respondents were young and unmarried living in urban areas with unemployed status. Joint family system was prevailing among most of the respondents with majority had income more than 20,000 rupees per month. All respondents were male-only.

Table 3

Demographic Data

Category	Percentage
Age group 15-25 years	59.2
Unmarried	64.8
Living in Urban area	77
Unemployed	53.6
Joint Family system	76.5
Income more than 20,000 Rs. /month	29.9

Results were explored with the help of the correlation and regression. Correlation is utilized for finding an association between insecurity and economic deprivation while regression was applied to identify the influence of insecurity on economic deprivation. In the current study, the correlation was applied to explore the relationship between study variables i.e., insecurity and economic deprivation.

Table 4

Correlation Analysis

	Economic Deprivation	Insecurity
Economic Deprivation	1	.257**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000

N		196	196
Insecurity	Pearson Correlation	.257**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
N		196	196

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The table above revealed a highly significant and a positive association between insecurity and economic deprivation ($r=.257^{**}$, $p<0.01$). In this light of this result, hypothesis (H1) is hereby accepted because positive and significant association is reported amid insecurity (independent) and economic deprivation (dependent variable). To examine the extent and the influence of the insecurity on the economic deprivation, the regression analysis was applied where indicators of insecurity were used as separate entities to measure the influence of each item of the insecurity separately.

Table 5
Regression Analysis (Summary Table)

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R ²	SEE
.79418	.312	.323	.568a	1

Table 6
Regression (ANOVA)

Model	Sum Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	57.737	3	19.246	30.513	.000 ^b
Residual	121.100	192	.631		
Total	178.837	195			

Table 7
Regression (Coefficients)

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig
	B	SE	Beta		
(Constant)	.494	.275		1.798	.074
Religious Insecurity	.402	.137	.200	2.926	.004
Professional Insecurity	.731	.128	.346	5.697	.000
Financial Insecurity	.962	.131	.502	7.352	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), Financial Insecurity, Religious insecurity, Professional Insecurity
b. Dependent Variable: Economic deprivation

The second hypothesis of the study focused on influence of insecurity on economic deprivation. So, regression analysis was applied to test hypothesis. Regression helps to predict the influence of the independent variable or variables on dependent variable. In this regard, results explored that 32.3% variations in economic deprivation are brought by insecurity. ANOVA showed that the overall model is highly significant ($p=.000$). Coefficient of the regression highlighted that indicators of insecurity have significant relation with economic deprivation. In this regard, the

religious insecurity as a predictor was reported with positive and significant influence ($B=.402$, $p=.004$), similarly, other predictors professional and financial insecurities were also reported with the positive and highly significant influence on the economic deprivation ($B=.731$, $.962$ & $p=.000$, $.000$) respectively. Each indicator of insecurity having separate influence less than the combined influence of all indicators, hence it means that with an increase in insecurity economic deprivation will also increase. Results of regression offered significant information in deciding in cause-&-effect relationship. Therefore, it can be concluded that the hypothesis (H2) is also accepted which clearly indicated that “if the insecurity is higher then, higher will be economic deprivation.

DISCUSSION

The study aimed to explore the association between the insecurity and economic deprivation. Therefore, in light of the results of the study, it is found that there is a positive and significant association between the insecurity and economic deprivation in the Christian community. The results of this study are parallel to a study conducted by (Rossen, 2014) where they reported a significant association between insecurity and poverty as poverty in long term would lead them to deprivation. Raina (2014) also reported a strong relationship between individuals from poor backgrounds to make economically less progress. Findings of this research also highlighted that gages of insecurity; religious, financial and professional insecurities have significant influence on economic deprivation. In this regard, similar results were reported by (Barnard & Turner, 2011) where they highlighted a significant association between economic marginalization and terrorism (insecurity) (Fullerton & Anderson, 2013). The current study found that insecurity increased economic deprivation. It can be further identified through indicators of insecurity as the combined effect of all indicators was different than the individual effect of each indicator. It means that a decrease in economic deprivation would be possible by controlling indicators of insecurity.

Therefore, it can be revealed that insecurity plays an important role in the economic deprivation of the Christian community. As they are minority therefore religious insecurity prevails for them because the majority follows different religion than minorities. Similarly, professional insecurity explored that discrimination in professions or creating barriers for minorities that keep them consistently in struggling condition. The results of this research study also highlighted that the gages of insecurity; religious, financial and professional insecurities have significant influence on economic deprivation by using the statistical techniques. Furthermore, financial insecurities mean the low income or blocking minorities to access high-income opportunities such as the establishment of business etc. that result in the economic deprivation. It is important to notice that results explored that insecurity does influence economic deprivation but not 100% which means that there could be additional factors which may include the political, educational and geographical factors but all of them could not be covered in the sphere of this study. Therefore, future research in this context will help to explore other possible factors in respective research area to further investigate the issues under consideration to find out the better solutions of the complications.

CONCLUSION

It was concluded that insecurity strongly influences economic deprivation in the minorities, the especially Christian community. Religious insecurity is linked to attacks or extremism against minorities. Also, professional insecurity is related to discrimination and injustice in terms of the

jobs and work pushing the Christian minority into under-employment or unemployment. Also, financial insecurity is keeping Christian minority at a low-income level, this condition developed in them poverty that would lead to poor living conditions, ill-health and less accessibility to basic needs. The insecurity is the significant issue that encouraged religious extremism that brought harms to humans and infrastructure while insecurity was also found accountable for low-status jobs in Christians that keep them deprived of many necessities while financial backwardness of the Christian community due to low-income was responsible for their poverty. All these factors resulted in the economic deprivation of the Christian in the district Malakand. The results of the study are helpful to offer the better solution to the problems in a tailor-made format to cater the situation. Consequently, it is recommended that the government should minimize the religious extremism and promote quota system in the educational institutions and the jobs sectors which may decrease the economic deprivation in the Christian community in different areas of district Malakand.

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