THE PROBLEM OF WALKOUT AND ITS IMPACT ON ACADEMICS. A CASE STUDY OF GOMAL UNIVERSITY. D.I.KHAN, NWFP. PAKISTAN.

Abdus Sattar Khan. Department of Public Administration, Gomal University, D.I.Khan.

ABSTRACT

The research focuses on the major causes of walkouts and its impact on academics in Gomal university. The system of teaching, mode of examination, student attendance and discipline are carefully examined and appropriate suggestions are given to develop an education culture.

INTRODUCTION

In Pakistan, not only the literacy rate is very low, about 40%, but the quality of education is also not satisfactory. The goal of education must be to prepare the students for the future challenges. Examinations are most significant tools to assess the competence, ability and performance of the students. However in our case it has become a mere formality for award of degrees without any clear indication of the actual academic achievement of the students. According to Dr. Ishtiaq Hussain Quereshi, mere passing the examination has become the sole objective of education in Pakistan. There has been a continuous pressure to make it as easy as possible. Any efforts to raise the standards of education are resisted. After every examination the newspapers are full of complaints by angry students criticizing the stiffness of question papers. Examiners even object to "unexpected" questions. If they don't like a question paper, they stage walkout and disrupt the entire examination by moving from center to center and compelling other students to join them. Similarly if too many candidates fail, the examining body is the target of harsh criticism.2 Mr. Amrik Singh etc further support the view that "Public examinations are considered tools for achieving the social objectives of education, an educated person is supposed to have a positive attitude towards the goods of culture, that is towards the 'ultimate objective values'. There is no justification for education or any component of it to exist if it fosters socially undesirable behaviors. Mass copying in examination, bullying the supervisors, smuggling in of answer books, resorting to all types of malpractice's, approaching the examiners with bribes and threat to their life, attacking the center superintendents and 'ghearing' the vice chancellors and the

^{1.} Economic Survey Of Pakistan, 1997-1998. p. 119.

^{2.} Dr. Ishtiaq Hussain Quereshi Education in Pakistan (An Inquiry into objectives and Achievement) Published By MA, RAFF Ltd, Karachi PP. 55-56.