

**RESEARCH PAPER****Bridging the Gulf: Socioeconomic Disparities and the Fight for Political Inclusion in Pakistan****¹Zaryab Fatima*, ²Nida Riaz and ³Arslan Asghar**

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses how political participation is affected by socioeconomic differences: differences related to regions, demography, and history in the Pakistani context. The study aims to highlight major exclusion drivers through qualitative approaches: interviews and focus groups with stakeholders namely politicians, community representatives, and excluded people. Some of these barriers include political resources such as voting which is restricted, Discrimination and Power which has been placed on the side of those with higher income. The results shed the light on the need to properly address the issue of resource equality, the necessity of improving the level of people's political awareness, and demanding activity for the implementation of the diversity policies. Therefore, the research supports the published structural deficiencies of political system in Pakistan and calls for the policy interventions.

Keywords: Minority Groups, Power, Social Inequalities, Spatial Injustice, Vote, Voting Rights**Introduction**

Pakistan, a country with diverse people and complicated politics, faces big problems in making sure everyone can take part in politics when there are big differences in money and jobs. This paper looks at how these money and job differences affect who can be part of politics in Pakistan. Even though Pakistan has many different kinds of people, there are big gaps in how much money and jobs they have. These gaps show up in things like who can go to school, get good healthcare, and find work. Also, things like women not having the same chances as men, or cities being better off than rural areas, and different groups speaking different languages all make these gaps even bigger (Williams, 2023). When everyone can take part in politics, it makes democracy stronger. But in Pakistan, rich and powerful people often control everything, leaving out others who don't have as much money or power (Ross, 2011). Long ago, when Pakistan was ruled by other countries or powerful landowners, unfair rules were made that still affect things today. These old rules keep rich people rich and poor people poor, and some groups more important than others (Dasti & Khan, 2013). But, there are people in Pakistan who are trying to change this. Young people, women, and others are speaking up and demanding that everyone gets a fair chance in politics. They want leaders to listen to everyone, not just the rich and powerful (Slaughter, 2015). The push for everyone to have a say in Pakistani politics has been a long and complicated battle rooted in the country's history, social life, and culture (Burki, 2018). Ever since Pakistan began in 1947, it's been hard to make sure everyone gets a fair shot at being heard in politics. The same few powerful groups usually control things, leaving out smaller groups like women, religious or ethnic minorities, and others who aren't as powerful (Bhavani, 2015). People have tried to change this by speaking up, organizing, and demanding that everyone should have a say in how the country is run (Whitman, 2018).

One big part of making politics more inclusive in Pakistan is making sure everyone, no matter who they are, gets a chance to be involved. But even though there are laws and actions meant to help minorities and others be part of politics, they still face a lot of unfairness and are often kept out of important decisions (Barocas & Selbst, 2016). Things like conflicts with nearby India, tensions in the region, and the global fight against terrorism also affect how politics work in Pakistan, making it even harder for everyone to be included (Chellaney, 2001). Pakistan's political scene has a history of the military getting involved, sometimes taking over the government and stopping civilians from having a say (Shah, 2014). This makes it tough for fair politics to happen and makes it hard for new voices to be heard. Despite these challenges, people keep fighting for a fairer political system, whether through grassroots efforts, speaking out, or joining political movements. While there have been some successes, like more minorities being part of politics, there's still a lot of work to do to make sure everyone in Pakistan has a fair chance to be part of the political process (Devji, 2013).

The struggle for political inclusion in Pakistan is closely tied to the fight against poverty and unfairness (Redaelli, 2019). Groups like women, religious minorities, and people from rural areas often get left behind when it comes to politics and decision-making. They're the ones who feel the effects of poverty and inequality the most, and they're the ones who have the hardest time getting their voices heard in politics (Gest, 2016). This unfairness makes it tough for them to change things for the better and keeps the rich and powerful in control. The differences in wealth also affect how people take part in politics in Pakistan. If you don't have much money or education, it's a lot harder to get involved in politics and make a difference (Monbiot, 2023). This makes it even harder for poor people and minorities to have a say in what happens in their country, keeping them on the sidelines and letting the rich and powerful stay in charge. Even though there have been some efforts to change this, like giving more rights to minorities or making laws to help poor people, progress has been slow and there's still a lot of work to do (Royce, 2022).

Literature Review

Important insights into the intricate relationship between economic inequality and democratic governance in Pakistan can be gained from the literature on socioeconomic disparities and the struggle for political participation in that nation. Research has repeatedly demonstrated the stark differences in access to essential amenities, healthcare, education, and income that exist between various demographic groups, with marginalized people suffering the most from socioeconomic hardship (Haimi, 2023). Studies have indicated that these differences have significant ramifications for Pakistani political representation and engagement. Marginalized groups frequently encounter major obstacles to participating in politics, such as restricted access to political networks, economic resources, education, and ethnic and religious minorities, women, and rural communities (Ahmad et al., 2019). Their underrepresentation in political institutions and decision-making processes results from this, which feeds the cycle of marginalization and exclusion (Reedy et al., 2020). These studies also reveal that these differences in wealth have a big impact on who gets to take part in politics in Pakistan.

Groups like women, religious minorities, ethnic minorities, and people from rural areas often find it hard to get involved in politics because they don't have the same access to education, money, and connections as others. This means they're often left out of important decisions that affect their lives, making it even harder for them to improve their situations (Hammond et al., 2015). The research also shows how powerful groups and families control a lot of the political institutions and resources in Pakistan. This makes it tough for people from less powerful backgrounds to have a say in what happens in the country (Wimmer, 2013). However, studies also highlight the important role that grassroots movements, community organizations, and ordinary people can play in challenging these power structures and fighting for a more fair and inclusive political system. Furthermore,

researchers have looked at how conflicts with neighboring countries, global politics, and aid from other countries affect Pakistan's politics and economy. These external factors often make existing inequalities worse and make it harder for the government to address the needs of its people (Hursh & Henderson, 2016). By understanding these dynamics, this research aims to contribute to efforts to make Pakistani politics fairer and give everyone a chance to be heard.

Socioeconomic differences in Pakistan are widely explored in the literature, providing insight into the complex nature of inequality in the nation (Sridhar, 2015). Several studies have emphasized the notable disparities across various population segments in terms of income, education, healthcare, and access to essential services (Yokomatsu et al., 2020)(Cheema & Naseer, 2020; Iqbal et al., 2019). Cheema and Naseer's (2020) research, for example, shows that there are significant income disparities between rural and urban areas, with rural inhabitants facing greater rates of poverty and economic vulnerability. Studies show differences in educational attainment and access to high-quality education amongst socioeconomic groups, supporting the idea that education is a crucial factor in determining socioeconomic status (Metcalf et al., 2022) draw attention to the difficulties underprivileged populations, especially those living in rural areas, experience. Research has shown that there are differences in health outcomes and unequal access to healthcare services depending on socioeconomic level. These findings raise concerns about healthcare disparities (Poli & Arun, 2019). In order to alleviate health inequities and enhance marginalized groups' access to healthcare, stress the necessity of focused interventions. Additionally, research looks at how socioeconomic disparity interacts with other types of inequality such location, gender, and ethnicity (Lubeck-Schricker et al., 2023). In their investigation of the gendered aspects of socioeconomic inequality, (Lubeck-Schricker et al., 2023). Draw attention to the particular difficulties that women encounter in gaining access to economic, healthcare, and educational possibilities.

Additionally, studies look at how marginalized groups—like women, ethnic communities, and religious minorities—advocate for increased political inclusion (Pasha-Zaidi et al., 2021). Examines how ethnic politics have shaped Pakistan's political environment, whereas) examines the obstacles faced by women in the political sphere, such as discriminatory behaviors and cultural impediments. Numerous studies draw attention to the structural elements and historical background that have molded Pakistan's political scene, such as the marginalization of minority voices and the domination of strong elite groups (Mohmand, 2019). The historical effects of military interventions and authoritarian leadership in Pakistan, which have frequently threatened democratic governance and curtailed political freedoms, are covered by (Mohmand, 2019). Additionally, studies look at how marginalized groups—like women, ethnic communities, and religious minorities—advocate for increased political inclusion (Imran & Munir, 2018). (Imran & Munir, 2018)examines how ethnic politics have shaped Pakistan's political environment, whereasexamines the obstacles faced by women in the political sphere, such as discriminatory behaviors and cultural impediments.

Material and Methods

The study adopted a qualitative research approach to understand the participants' understated and diverse account and understanding of social class inequality and political marginality in Pakistan. Focus-group discussions and key-informant interviews that engaged policy makers, community leaders, and the marginalized in the target communities were used to gain deep, rich and thick descriptions of the factors that limit political participation and the effects of socio-economic inequities. Interviews were conducted with the focus group involving the members of the different community to get the diversified and more general idea about the problem to get the generalized problems. Policy papers, government documents and earlier research papers were consulted to identify contemporary frameworks and activities for the alleviation of socioeconomic inequalities

and political enfranchisement. The sample participants were chosen through purposive sampling in order to obtain a sample that can reflect the different level of economic status, location, and gender along with ethnic background of the population. Out of purposeful samples, 30 key informant interviews were conducted and 5 focus group interviews with 8-10 participants were also arranged to achieve data saturation. Interviewees and focus group participants were asked identical questions that were audio-taped, transcribed, and subjected to thematic analysis. The specific ethical issues incorporated in the study include written informed consent of participants, anonymity and ethics approval from an appropriate ethics committee.

Results and Discussion

Table 1
Demographic characteristics

Sr#	Demographic Characteristics	Frequency
1	Age	
	18-25 years	12
	26-35 years	4
	36-45 years	6
	46-55 years	3
	56 years and above	4
	Total	30
2	Gender	
	Male	18
	Female	10
	Total	30
3	Educational Background:	
	No formal education	6
	Primary education	4
	Secondary education	2
	Higher secondary education	3
	Bachelor's degree	7
	Master's degree	7
	Doctoral degree	1
	Total	30
4	Income Level:	
	Low Income (Below Poverty Line)	9
	Lower-Middle Income	12
	Upper-Middle Income	6
	High Income	3
	Total	30
5	Geographic Distribution:	
	Urban	15
	Rural	15
	Total	30
6	Ethnic and Linguistic Background:	
	Punjabi	12
	Sindhi	6
	Pashtun	4
	Baloch	3

	Other	5
	Total	30
7	Employment Status:	
	Employed	15
	Self-Employed	6
	Unemployed	5
	Student	3
	Retired	1
	Total	30
8	Political Participation:	
	Active Voter	18
	Occasional Voter	6
	Non-Voter	6
	Total	30
9	Level of Trust in Government Institutions:	
	High	8
	Moderate	10
	Low	12
	Total	30

Extent of Socioeconomic Disparities in Pakistan

The research revealed that there is still deep socioeconomic inequality in Pakistan's regional, demographic and historical and structural environment.

Regional Inequality

Issues of regional disparity were evident; they include inequity in income distribution, education, and health care within the regions of Pakistan (Blair et al., 2013). When asked about their monthly income, significantly more respondents from rural and underdeveloped zones stated lesser income comparisons to those from bigger and more developed cities specifically Karachi Lahore and Islamabad (Fair et al., 2018). One of the rural village campaigners from the Sindh said;

"In our village the families mostly depend on agriculture but the incomes received are very low and uncertain earnings we also do not have many job opportunities like the urban areas".

This statement explained the confinement of economic activities in the rural areas as they are mostly occupied by agriculture and their earnings are influenced by the weather conditions and the market prices (Healy et al., 2017). Nevertheless, as it has been mentioned, educational disparities were also evident; respondents from remote areas mentioned that there are no schools and unavailability of quality infrastructure in terms of education (Manan, 2024). For example, a female respondent from Balochistan said:

"Many girls in our village drop out after primary school because there is no secondary school nearby, the schools we have are poorly equipped and understaffed."

This issue explains why girls' education is insufficient and pushed out of school trap, which has endured the cycle of poverty and hindered socio-economic mobility (Rana et al., 2020). On the sample from urban area, respondents' replies showed that they have better access to schools, universities but they pointed out that the quality of the education received is not standard. Healthcare also varied significantly, with respondents from distant regions

claiming to have limited access to healthcare facilities; inadequate number of hospitals, doctors, and relevant drugs as some of the existing challenges in health care (Roberts & Mir Zulfiqar, 2019). One of the health workers from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa noted that people in his village have to cover long distances to get to the nearest doctor, meaning that delays can cost lives in critical situations. Since many facilities such as doctors remain out of reach in rural areas, it also results in long term socio-economic disadvantages where, firstly, illness-related poverty deepens, and, secondly, productivity decreases (Saud, 2020).

Demographic Disparities

The problems were further exacerbated by differences in gender, age, and ethnic minorities as well as economic problems (Uphoff et al., 2013). In particular, women experienced serious limitations in opportunities to get an education and engage in economic activity. A female respondent hailing from a rural area in the Punjab province said,

“Being a woman, it is challenging to study and work to earn one’s own living, as culture and security issues keep us confined to our homes.”

The above quote pointed towards rights’ legalizer gender discrimination that denied women of political and economic rights limiting the participation of women in politics and the economy (Wahid et al., 2017). Specifically, the ethnic minorities also stated that the discrimination of them was systematic, and they were denied equal resources (Fair et al., 2018). Even an ethnic minority respondent from Sindh said,

“We ethnic groups have been neglected forever – we are deprived of our educational and medical rights and the government never cares”.

Even the differences in generation gap were reflected in terms of the various demographical backgrounds of the respondents (Adeney, 2012). The youth complained of unemployment, the absence of job-seekers’ training, which influenced their livelihood (Adnan, 2023). An unemployed youth from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa said,

“There is no job opportunity here all the youth have to migrate other cities to find their fate We also want job in our home town.”

On the other hand, the elder respondent talked about the bad pension system and health concerns for them adding more trouble to their lives (Javed & Farhan, 2020).

Historical and Structural Factors

The continued presence of these SES discrepancies was not only due to historical and structural points of view. Some of the respondents mentioned that previous and current governments have benchmarked and underdeveloped the deprived areas in the past and present (Hashmi et al., 2018). policy analyst said,

“Development projects and resources have been skewed especially in favor of geographical areas that are urban thus leaving vast rural areas underdeveloped”

This entrenched the structure that so dominated regional development paths up to the time of writing. Furthermore, respondents explicitly pointed to governance problems and lack of political rights for the peripheral areas and other minorities (Mahmood et al., 2014). Areas that appeared to have weak political power were believed to get little development resources, and were not considered strategic in the country’s development agenda (Memon et al., 2011). An interviewed person from a minority ethnic community in Sindh region said that:

“Our people have some small role and control in the government and that’s why our needs and issues are not much considered while framing policies.”

The historical and structural factors were also evident in the data through participants’ own narratives of struggle and survival (Yadav, 2020). For instance, a teacher from a remote village in Punjab recounted the challenges faced by her students:

“They have nothing to eat, and their parents cannot afford books or uniforms; but they love learning and chasing after the better life.”

Such rhetorics stressed the subject’s concern with experiencing human lives. These sources were supported by document analysis to show the following gaps, regarding the failure to implement measures to deal with such incidents (Bashir et al., 2022). As for the previous development initiatives, they were also introduced, but their performance varied; moreover, reaching out for the poorest areas was not always effective. In addition, other review of preceding literature likewise underscored these disparities’ pervasiveness and called for better and longer intervention strategies (Abbas et al., 2019).

Therefore, it can be concluded that in Pakistan, the issue of social inequalities was widespread and touched various aspects of human life, including regional differences, gender, age, ethnicity and religion, beginning from historical and structural factors (Brasher, 2020). These differences were especially being realised most amply in rural and less developed regions where incomes, literacy, and health care facilities could be considerably perceived to be much lower than the corresponding facilities available in urban regions. The economic barriers were perceived being higher for women, ethnic minorities, and the youthful people due to various constraints (Bueno de Mesquita et al., 2015). Historical exclusion of some regions and governance question compounded these differences in that they put in place structures that did not allow for equal development. To overcome such disparities, there is necessity to follow the principle of equity, and enhance the allocation of resources, governance, as well as supporting the development of the backward areas (Devji, 2013). This has given a clear indication that there is dire need for formulation of policies for balanced development starting from Baluchistan to Punjab and all the northern regions in between for overall development of Pakistan (Ryan & Woods, 2019).

Barriers to Political Inclusion Faced by Marginalized Groups

The paper compared the political integration of marginalized people in Pakistan across different quantitative domains and highlighted several benchmarks that summarize the results which showed that the institutions were quite imposing towards marginalized people; there were social and cultural hurdles that prevented them from engaging more in politics; they faced formidable economic challenges (Tamim, 2014).

Institutional Barriers

Other factors also reared their ugly heads in the fight for minority political representation through the formation of womens’ institutions. Many respondents noted that the barriers within the political system of a country limited their engagement in political processes (Tudor, 2013). A community leader from a rural area in Sindh said

“In our political set up, there is no provision for giving chance to persons from small cities or villages, the major political parties are fully controlled by the influential persons who are least concerned with the rights of the deprived sector.”

Similar feelings were expressed by the several respondents who noted, the political structures of the country were tilted in favor of the organized, influential group and there was least chance for representation (Ullah, 2013). A policymaker stated,

“Huge disconnect exists between the policymaking process and struggling populations’ experiences day-to-day, the latter of which is often not even consulted when those policies are developed. This failure of inclusion and Input representation over time continued to exacerbate the plight of vulnerable groups.”

Social and Cultural Obstacles

Another major challenge that hindered the integration of the oppressed groups into the political space was the cultural barrier. Cultural practices and customary laws that are found in most cultures inhibit women, ethnic minorities as well as other minorities in their political participation (Hussain et al., 2021). The following is an example of the cultural barriers that meanwhile limited women’s access to politics: A female respondent from a conservative region in Balochistan stated,

“Engaging in political activities is very hard for women, it is quite anticipated that women have to stay home and do not interfere with the outside world, anybody who goes against this gets a very bad reception.”

Likewise, ethnic candidates also reported that they undergo discrimination and exclusion on grounds of ethnic origin (Ryan & Woods, 2019). An ethnic minority leader from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa expressed similar sentiments when he said,

“Our community has often been neglected. We are often regarded as part of the periphery of mainstream politics and even our cultural practices are not appreciated but patronized.”

Women owns only 20% quota in the national assembly whereas other minority groups also not hold much seats. Such social restrictions therefore inhibited political participation while at the same time cultivating resentment and exclusion among minorities (Tamim, 2014).

Economic Barriers

Another reason why the political exclusion of marginalized groups in nations continued was because they endured several economic inequalities. Some of the most common issues brought out by respondents was in regard to economic difficulties as a way of constraining political activities and campaigns (Ahmed, et. al., 2015); Bueno de Mesquita et al., 2015). A respondent in Punjab, self-identified from a low income household highlighted this when saying,

“Politics necessitates capital; for campaigning, for transport, for time... If you cannot buy food for your family tomorrow how are you going to invest in politics?”

This remark highlighted how personal finance effect political involvement to persons of economic means. Moreover, the expenses incurred for contesting in an election were still beyond the reach of the vulnerable persons (Razzaq et al., 2014). A community activist from Karachi said,

“It costs money to run a campaign- money for print media, for transporting people, for banners and hoardings and everything else. The people from the lower strata of society do not have that money to spend and more often than not they are not even given the opportunity to gather the money by voting.”

This way, money became the barrier that did not allow citizens from less privileged communities to compete in political process. These exclusions in the political realm had great impacts on Pakistan’s socio-political structure (Ashford, 2015). The various facets of

analysis brought out from the qualitative data indicated that institutional, social and economic barriers kept marginalized communities out of active politics. First of all, the lack of representation in political institutions resulted in the fact that pertaining to the needs and concerns of these groups was often ignored or insufficiently addressed within the framework of politics (Badshah et al., 2018). This exclusion perpetuated the vicious cycle of discrimination, where the discriminated groups felt like they were no longer part of the political process in their own country and they could not have any chance of changing this (Hashmi, 2020). A young woman by the name from a rural village of Sindh was clearly frustrated and she said,

"Every time, we cast our vote during the election, and yet we feel as if things never change here." No one listens, and we continue to live the same way."

Such narratives brought out the feeling of powerlessness and rejection that the oppressed groups have to endure. Thus, the research revealed that marginalized people in Pakistan experienced numerous tensions regarding their political enfranchisement: institutional, social, and economic (Hassan & Keyani, 2015). These barriers not only froze the women politically but also socially and economically as well, thus causing their continued marginalization.

Impact of Socioeconomic Disparities on Political Participation

This paper highlighted how in Pakistan, political participation was clearly differentiated on the basis of people's economic status, with people from lower economic background having less access to political resources and asserting lesser levels of influence in the political processes (Jamil, 2021).

Participation Levels

Concerning the determinant of political participation, SES was revealed to play a remarkable role in the whole process. The study also established that the political engagement level was comparatively lower among respondents from the low income bracket than it was amongst the more affluent people (Fareed, et. al.; Khan et al., 2021). Male focus group discussion headed in a low income area of Karachi founded that owing to their struggle for making a livelihood, people can not get involved in politics or attend party meetings and run campaigns. On the other hand, respondents with an advanced/social economic class background were more likely to indulge in political activities due to time and financial factors (Khan & Naqvi, 2020). An established business man from Lahore said,

"I can easily spare my time and go to political events and meet the policy makers, and I can contribute financially the political parties as well."

This difference in participation was also reflected in the voting turnout. Some of the low-income category of the respondents stated that they rarely went to vote because they deemed their votes as inconsequential (Lall, 2014). According to the Gallup survey 2024, the voter turnout in General elections 2024 was 47% which is less than the General elections 2017 & 2013 (Brasher, 2020). In essence, the respondents' comments suggested the desire to vote but a futile exercise, countless numbers of people from the community have decided to abstain from voting due to the belief that no changes will happen to their existence (Zubair et al., 2022).

Access to Political Resources:

It was also true that other researchers concerning economic imperatives that deeply influenced access to and possession of political capital and networks. Political actors and respondents from the economically vulnerable sections of the society often did not access

proper networking channels to participate in political activities efficiently (Hashmi, 2020). A man from a low income background living in Sindh voiced,

“As a young person to have a chance to operate and change congress then there must be money and reliable contacts otherwise it’s a daunting task”.

This exclusion was seen more in the rural settings with few urban democracy structures available (Khan & Naqvi, 2020). An elderly respondent from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa developing the similar insight that there is no political office or platform to meet the leaders said,

“We are isolated and have no linkage with politics.”

To this effect, respondents from the affluent section of the population generally seemed to have better political connections and opportunities (Adnan, 2023). A politician from an affluent background in Islamabad described how his family connections and financial resources facilitated his entry into politics:

“My family has a significant political background and we have the means to finance vigorous campaign activity – this has assisted me in participating actively in politics and gaining power.”

This bearing out the hypothesis that political resources further entrenched power relations and restricted opportunities for minority groups’ lobbying (Batool, 2022).

Representation in Politics

Another key area of concern that was evident in the study was the implications of socioeconomic status on the political representation. Participants with a poor economic status stated that they felt portrayed as minorities in the political structures and policies (Hashmi et al., 2018). A community organizer of a low income area in Baluchistan expressed his frustration by saying,

“Our political leaders do not understand us. They are generally from upper classes and thus our concerns are left unheard and unanswered regarding the key policies affecting us.”

It was crystal clear that the political parties and elected workers were generally from the upper affluent influential sections of the society (Yadav, 2020). An ethnic minority respondent from Sindh expressed frustration over the limited representation of marginalized groups. The participants also noted the lack of the representation of minorities into decision-makers:

“We seldom find ourselves on the other side of the table, and this implies that our problems are not given attention, and we have no say in making political decisions, generally.”

Thus, it was concluded that Pakistan is going through the heightened level of the socioeconomic stratification where political attributes were highly influenced by class and political resources, and political representation also (Arslan et al., 2023). The lower standard of living and poverty, limited access to political contacts and opportunities, and the existence of discrimination of the electorate, which was considered during this period as one of the less protected groups, all combined and precluded these populations from any kind of political participation (Bashir et al., 2022). These obstacles prevented them from political voting and ensured that they remained relegated in the social and economic strata. The findings of this study suggest the dilemma in developing an elaborate set of policies that will make Pakistan’s polity pluralistic and inclusive where people from across the

socioeconomic strata will be politically empowered and be able to determine their political destiny (Javed & Farhan, 2020).

Conclusion

Lastly, the study brings into the limelight the experience of how the fairly-top affecting the political activities in Pakistan under the lens of the determinant role of socioeconomic status. The objective findings of this paper depict that regional inequality, demographic disadvantage, historical structure all indicates that the marginalized group is systematically excluded from political engagement. These barriers maintain socio-economic exclusion and extend the existing positions of power that deny the stakeholders' voice, particularly the disadvantaged groups. To address these challenges, more focused and coordinated efforts are needed: for inclusion of the excluded groups in governance structures; to break the barriers of prejudice and discrimination; as well as trying to introduce economic help that effectuate voters' rights among the oppressed groups of people. Thus, through the use of interventions that target the inequalities along the different lines of discrimination while encouraging political representation, one can easily enhance the equality of people of Pakistan in the political realms so that they are able to have a voice concerning the destiny of Pakistan.

Recommendations

- Focus on impoverished and remote regions to offer good education to all students, and contribute to adult learning and technical training.
- Improve physical and social communication to increase economic activity in rural areas and improve market access.
- SME: ensure that adequate capital, resources, expertise and training are offered to female owned and/ or to minorities who are SMEs.
- Ensure policy reforms to increase benefits on human rights for all categories in targeted welfare enhancement and health care services.
- This research may also be constrained by the accessibility and credibility of socioeconomic and political data in Pakistan which influences the depth and precision of analysis.
- Because of the cultural, economic, and political variability in Pakistan, the result and suggestion may not be same for all areas of the Pakistan and for all communities, this is the reason that the generalization of the study is constrained.

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