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## Poverty, Inequality and Social Mobility in Pakistan's Rural Areas

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### Abstract

Over the past few decades it has been observed that many developments are done on the basis of social, political, and economic programs. It is also justified that there are many barriers for Pakistan's rural development, which is caused by the income inequity and social mobility in Pakistan. It is also suggested that there is a big deal in between low agricultural product inequality in gender and the limited access and lack of resources in production and asset distribution. There is very much data that is collected for different reasons, and economic researchers have justified that there is a review of different sales that households are using for educational attendants in land ownership that is credited to availability and social networks for the opportunities for people that can live important lives with far improvement of quality of life over generations. It is also done that there are different social and political networks that are done for the provision of enough opportunities, and it is analyzed on the basis of different curves like Lorenz curve, and it is quantified that the communication and regression model has investigated the variables for income and mobilization of different opportunities that can create a level of different poverty positions. It is also suggested that there should be a proper establishment of financial institutions that can improve education in rural areas and urban areas.

**Keywords:** Rural Poverty, Inequality, Social Mobility, Pakistan, Rural Development, Landholding, Household Welfare, Intergenerational Mobility.



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## Introduction

The study has concentrated on this social mobility, poverty, and inequality for rural areas and Pakistan but different economic, social, and political conditions (World Bank, 2025). It has impacted demography; there may be many infants in the examination of different positions, but in light of the primary position, the rural poverty may be eradicated from the urban poverty level, but social mobility has created different levels of review of literature that may compile different outcomes on the basis of international, national, and local studies (Rasul, G, 2024).

There is a connection in power between integrity and social mobility that shapes the social economic development of the Google population, and it is roughly more than 60% that performed on the nearly social economic conditions for structural issues that can collect rural and urban economies for the enhancement of income inequality and income sources for poor governance, human capital, and poverty that can increase and improve mobility (Farooq, 2023). It is also suggested that there are EDD infrastructure education, health and nutrition, sanitation, and different financial and political hardships that may create vulnerable positions and make our failure and market and climate shocks for the lives of rural Pakistanis (Saleem, 2023). This is a recalcitrance that is creating many difficulties because it is performing at a lower level for market systems. The higher degree of reliance on agriculture is problematic because there is a disproportionate number of farmers and large farmers. There is an elite farmer strategy that created different gaps in financial services, institutional support, and technological development. It is also suggested that there is income equity that has created different levels of poverty for lead ownership and reliable indicators of households (Touseef, 2019). It is also done that different majority levels are dependent on the tendency of agreements. It is also suggested that there is a concentration of power structures, and it created different disabilities for social health, education, and mobilization problems (Nadeem, 2024).

It is also suggested that there is income equity that has created different levels of poverty for lead ownership and reliable indicators of households. It is also done that different majority levels depend on the tendency of agreements. It is also suggested that there is a concentration of power structures, and it created different disabilities for social health, education, and mobilization problems (Farzana & Khan, 2018). There are different differences in human capital and integrity, and it has created different challenges for all areas. When it comes to education, there is less enrollment of students, which is creating frustration for a number of students, and these issues should be addressed for a while, and the quality of education should be empowered in the regions. it is reality that there is different building of human capital that has moved from one technological progress to another technological progress (Iqbal, 2024). It is tough for different generations that can create the people from low income to high income countries that chances are hinted because there are different levels of property ownership workforce and gender inequities when we talk about the differential levels of women empowerment and there is excess of different banking and financial services which may create different levels of inequality in a poverty but it is done on the basis of transfers of millions of rupees from one person to another person but this initiative have improved for a security and established stability for the consumption and production( World Bank, 2019). It is different economic position that can tackle the poverty on the business of different

directional policymaking but it is level of improvement that can access for consistent different regional and provincial measurements It is a climatic condition that can create a huge deal for rural areas. Pakistan is country that is developing for the risk of climate and political conditions rural regions should get less and from urban regions but it is pushed down the basis of different households that can create investment and still positions but on other side there is a manufacturing posting that can creating the transportation and services for opened up the different reasons of mobilization but it is level of different families that cannot earn more because they had not ever opportunities because there is different educational systems (Ali & Ahmed, 2018). It is a complex phenomenon that can create poverty and integrity for social mobility it has tackled the issues for especially the reason of economic political and governing positions but it is done on the basis of identification the factors of land labor capital organization that can tackle the policies and policymaking may depend on the monetary fiscal and trade policies but it is appear to make phenomena that policymakers developers researchers should keep more concentration and different communities that can tackle the policies for the working of population to get rid from the crisis of integrity (Qureshi & Saeed, 2017).

### **Research Objectives:**

- 01) To analyze the nature of poverty in rural areas of Pakistan?
- 02) To work on the income and employment opportunities in Pakistan?
- 03) To find the core parameters of social mobilization to alleviate poverty?
- 04) To critically evaluate the importance of poverty to cope the social problems?

### **Research Questions**

1. How do income and asset inequalities influence social mobility?
2. What socioeconomic variables determine upward or downward mobility among rural households?
3. How do gender, education, and land ownership affect poverty dynamics and mobility outcomes?
4. What policies can effectively reduce inequality and increase opportunities for upward mobility?

## **Literature Review**

The study concentrated on social mobility, poverty, and inequality in Pakistan's rural areas. Numerous economic, social, institutional, and demographic elements that influence rural development have been thoroughly examined by academics. In order to shed light on the primary causes of rural poverty, patterns of inequality, and obstacles to social mobility, this review of the literature compiles findings from both international and Pakistani studies.

### **1. Factors that contribute to rural poverty**

The distribution of different income levels may create a different influence on developing countries and new different countries (Malik & Chaudhry, 2010). The poverty is most important phenomena that can create the skill for restriction of different resources it is done on the basis of rural areas for the welfare of economy of Pakistan but it is demonstrated that the household should work on different food security conditions land holdings and

employment opportunities which may increase the employment level and different level of standard but it is very important that when we talk about the production it is simply ask for that the farming practices should be improved and irrigation systems will be developed for the technology of different fertilizers but it is household that may work on farming and latest corporate farming positions and changes in market prices(Cheema & Gazdar, 2013). It is also determined that the simple factors may create money and spending on education that can increase the instrument productivity, the cultural, social, political, religious, and other variants, and the opportunities, but we have to improve the opportunities, and expenses should be done on these schools and colleges for all the problems of education (Qureshi & Saeed, 2017). Rural and urban indicators may create for the families to increase the ability of working and other factors. It is also done that the equity and different farms may be created for important recognition of historical and institutional positions, but it is powerful that the landowners should be revised for the relations of justice and local development. Different studies showed that the connection between social mobility and poverty is a powerful phenomenon, but it is addressed (Iqbal, 2024). The gender inequality should be incorporated into the messages about room and experience and mobility, but it is done that different microfinance organizations, as early as banks and other programs, facilitate the credit levels. They should invest it in a positive and proper way when it is talking about the families and difficult times. For investment in profit, we should get rid of the cycle of poverty (Kelly, 2010).

## **2. Inequality in Pakistani Rural areas**

Did our different values create the beginning of attention? It is also discussed that essential examinations for the transmission of economic standing and poverty elevation programs should be created, but a major problem of rural Pakistan is its link to poor mobility, but education and experience should increase the position of the true position, but it is challenging that rural children are more backward than children (Khan, 2010). Unfortunately, the children of low-income countries are not performing well, but it is a case in the social network that has created different elements that are affecting mobility. It is also suggested that when we talk about the migration, it is proved that there is a positive better situation, which may impact domestic and international levels. Money sent home from foreigners has a major impact on the rural household earnings, but when we talk about businesses that may create possible solutions, it is currently called that the specialization may work on the transitional levels (Rashid & Ahmed, 2010).

## **3. The Cycle of Poverty and Social Mobility**

It is education that is considered to be a very challenging field for these children that is perfect for confronting different challenges for the fulfillment of their needs and wants, but there is a level of income that is less for the funding of school facilities and a shortage of teachers. Unfortunately, the children from low-income countries are creating the lockdown in Paramount for agricultural employment that is dropping from the cycle of poverty (Ahmed, 2016). It is also decided that different networks that are working on the different lifeline positions that are offering the programs for employment and loans for the networking of determination of employment opportunities and the political participations in migration opportunities in Pakistan. It is a fact that the strong network is created for moving up the gap for social integration and confinement of people for promotion of career roles. It is a

significant part of the betterment of the situation for the domestic and international level. It is said that different educational opportunities are launched for the fulfillment of the dreams of the poor (Farzana & Khan, 2018).

#### 4. Programs for Rural Development and Policy Interventions

It is decided that the policy actions should be promoted for elevation of power to impact Pakistan. That is a respectable job for giving homes and a true reflection of the financial short-term and long-term consequences of the mobilization of social life (Naveed, 2024). It is not limited to the agriculture sector; it should be incorporated into the industrial and services sectors. The distribution and extension services on primary, secondary, and interior levels should be worked for the production of a range of results (Saleem, 2023). There is more focus, which should be integrated on the rural development that can be promoted for financial, educational, and other levels (Kosar, 2024).

### Research Methodology

#### Data Sources

- Labour Force Survey (LFS)
- Household Integrated Economic Survey (HIES)
- Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLM)
- Sample household survey of 350 rural households from Punjab and Sindh

#### Tools & Techniques

1. **Descriptive Statistics** (mean, median, poverty headcount)

2. **Poverty Estimation**

- Cost-of-Basic-Needs method

3. **Inequality Measures**

- Lorenz Curve
- Gini Coefficient

4. **Econometric Analysis**

- Multiple Linear Regression:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Edu} + \beta_2 \text{Land} + \beta_3 \text{Credit} + \beta_4 \text{Experience} + \epsilon$$

**Table 1:** *Descriptive Characteristics of Households*

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev
Household Income	29,500 PKR	7500
Landholding (acres)	1.2	0.9
Years of Schooling	5.1	3.7
Household Size	6.4	2.1

## Results and Interpretation

### 1. Poverty and Vulnerability

The poverty headcount in the sample was **37%**, consistent with national rural trends. Landless households were disproportionately represented among the poor.

### 2. Inequality Assessment

The estimated Gini coefficient for income was **0.41**, indicating moderate-to-high inequality. Land inequality was substantially higher.

### 3. Regression Results

**Table 2: Regression Output**

Variable	Coefficient	p-value
Education	1450	0.000
Landholding	2100	0.015
Credit Access	7800	0.001
Experience	430	0.048

### Interpretation

It is observed that there is comparative analysis of education land holding access to credit and experience it is seen that there is significance in all values when we have talked about the unless of these factors.

### 4. Social Mobility

When there is low social mobility the 18% children of farmers are getting economic mobility and social stability by getting the education as research told.

## Conclusion

Rural poverty in Pakistan is connected to overall in communication when we talk about the distribution of land and when there are poor educational facilities when financial position is weak. It is analyzed that there is limited access of poor class on education and institutions the employment opportunities and strong traditional getting for the benefit of different roots which can be connected to the policy making. It is also suggested that there are clear structural information and investment opportunities which can be facilitate for human capital development the elevation of human poverty and systems of critical conditions for the generation to generation. It is also added that to get rid of rural poverty there should be proper focus on education to minimize the gap of upper class and lower class the provision of educational facilities in Pakistan.

## **Policy Recommendations**

### **1. Land Reforms & Secure Tenure**

- Redistribute state-owned land to landless households.
- Strengthen tenant rights.

### **2. Rural Education Reform**

- Upgrade rural schools, hire trained teachers, incentivize girls' education.
- Expand vocational and technical training.

### **3. Agricultural Modernization**

- Promote climate-resilient farming, mechanization, and improved seeds.
- Provide subsidized crop insurance.

### **4. Financial Inclusion**

- Expand microfinance and mobile banking to remote villages.
- Provide zero-interest credit to poor farmers.

### **5. Employment Diversification**

- Promote rural industries, livestock farming, and agro-processing.
- Create rural entrepreneurship training programs.

### **6. Strengthen Social Protection**

- Link cash transfers to skills development and education incentives.

### **7. Gender-Inclusive Development**

- Ensure women's access to land, credit, and education.
- Establish women-led cooperatives and producer groups.

## **Conflict of Interest**

The authors showed no conflict of interest.

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