
Maslow Theory of Human Development and Emergence of Street Children Phenomenon in Pakistan

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The fundamental objective of the present paper is to shed light on the relevance of Maslow theory of human development and the emerging phenomenon of street children in Pakistan. The research also aims to suggest some recommendations on the basis of its findings.

The results of the research show a highly significant resemblance among Maslow,s theory of human development and emergence of street children phenomenon in Pakistan. The research indicates a dire need of initiating such programs in Pakistan with the cooperation of public- private organizations which directly gratify the psychological needs of the children.

Introduction

A beautiful land of the universe which is a linkage verge of south and central Asia is known as Islamic Republic of Pakistan. It is bordered by two Islamic countries Iran and Afghanistan in the West, China in the north, India in the East and the Arabian Sea in the South. The land has geographical diversity of varying climatic conditions and wide ranging temperature. The northern area of Pakistan hosts three of highest mountain ranges of the world, the

Himalayas, the Hindukush and the Karakorum. The Indus River is another prominent physical feature of Pakistan. It passes through the entire length of Pakistan and supports the country's complex irrigation system, being the largest in the world.

Pakistan came into being on 14th August 1947 by the untiring efforts of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah on the basis of Islamic ideology¹. It was, known divided into two parts in 1971 after a bloody war and the biggest ethnic group opted to be separated and formed its own nation state, Bangladesh². Pakistan is a federation of four provinces, Punjab, Baluchistan, Khyber Pakhtumkhwa and Sindh. In addition, there are regions such as FATA, Giligit Biltistan, Azad Kashmir, FANA and Islamabad capital city. Pakistan is the amalgamation of varied linguistic and cultural identities, the most prominent one being Punjabi, Sindhi, Pukhtun, Balochi and Saraikee

Pakistan has the varied socio-economic problems linked with food security, shelter, clothing, educational facilities, clean and safe water supply, sanitation, public health facilities community amenities, entertainment, recreational activities and employment opportunities. Due to the diversity of culture and lack of economic activities, these problems are aggrandizing as five gigantic challenges (want, disease, ignorance, squalor and idleness).

Pakistan is an important member of UNO and it has played a vital role for world's peace under the umbrella of United Nations. but internally it has miserably sailed remained fail in improving the human rights standards especially concerned with the child rights.

Every human being has its own peculiar rights. Children rights are considered human rights and denying child rights is the violation of human rights. These rights are fully defined in the Constitution of Pakistan, The Universal Declaration of Human

Rights (UDHR) and United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Children (UNCRC).

The United Nations Convention on the Right of the Children (UNCRC) provides ample rights to the children. The UNCRC covers a whole spectrum of rights for children including civil, economic, social and cultural. Pakistan is also a signatory of UNCRC.

Children are the real assets and the future architects of society. They are very precious, delicate and need proper care. They form the unique segment of the society because they are not independent rather are dependent on others.

Childhood is the most significant, pompous as well as delightful phase of human life but not for those who are caught up by the cruel clutches of poverty, not permitting them to develop their minds while their hearts are balanced with many inner most wishes and unmet discuss. But those who strive for really endeavor to mean it, particularly true for street children preferring to shun their home to find out the horizon of their wishes and dreams.

Street Children are the unwanted outcomes of unbalanced economic growth, war, poverty, loss of traditional values, domestic violence, physical and mental abuse. Every street child has a particular reason for entering the street life, while some children are deceived by the promise of excitement and liberty; the majority is pushed onto the street by the desperation and realization that they have nowhere else to go. If the problem of street children is explored at the inner level, it would not be incorrect to say that poverty and parental negligence lie in the background of the street children and their fundamental problem relates to their fulfilling basic needs for survival. The enigma of street children demands an understanding as who they are, what

they need, what they do and how they can be identified and can be rehabilitated by our sincere practical efforts.

It is estimated that there are 10 to 100 million street children in the world today ³. These children live a transitory life style and are vulnerable to inadequate nutrition, physical injuries, substance use and health problems including sexual and reproductive health problems.

Though over the last many years, the issues of street children are coming into limelight but much more is needed undertake especially with regard to Pakistan where CRC is not more than a sacred document which nobody can touch.

Being the signatory of UNCRC, the state is responsible for the survival, development; protection and participation of children whether they on the street are not. But in Pakistan, it no serious effort is being done to collect the statistics related to Street Children to determine the nature and scope this phenomenon.

Waghid rightly says that the Street children phenomenon is an alarming and escalating worldwide representing one of the most pressing issues in the field of child welfare. "No other global child welfare problem is as significant as the loss of human potential experienced by millions of children who are being reared outside of the institution of family and education in the often perilous street environment ⁴".

Chetty also confirms that life in the street is difficult and that children are essentially alone. He refers to the possibility that children at a large scale may fail to obtain some food, shelter, clothes, medical services and other relevant basic needs for child care and well-being ⁵.

They fall prey to the merciless and callous but unavoidable circumstances. In order to seek pleasure and comfort, they say

adieu to their homes. In doing so, they remain absolutely oblivious to the ruthless and merciless conditions which they ultimately focus.

General Overview of the Situation of Children in Pakistan

Pakistan has a youth full population. About half of the population is under the age of 20 years. According to the survey conducted by the Federal Bureau of Statistics, 3.6 million children were engaged in labor in Pakistan. Primary education in Pakistan is characterized by low enrolment and high dropout rates. The number of schools in Pakistan, especially in rural areas is quite insufficient for the growing number of children of school going age. In the rural areas, more than one third of all children do not even complete primary education and drop out. Despite government's recent efforts to increase the accessibility to primary education by making it free and compulsory, a huge proportion of children drop out of school as education is found to be of low quality and too expensive for parents to afford. Mostly the school drop outs from the poor households end up on the streets where they are exposed to all types of abuse and exploitation⁶.

In Pakistan, there is no mandated system for reporting child exploitation, abuse and neglect. There is a paucity of reliable statistics and published data on the prevalence of child exploitation and abuse in the country. Like other major public health and social problems, it is not easy to document the actual incidence or prevalence of child abuse. It is always difficult to obtain information on sensitive and highly stigmatized issues, and even more difficult when the victims are children who cannot narrate their woes. In such a socio- cultural setting, most cases of child abuse remain under cover and go unreported.

In spite of the national and international legislation regarding child rights, surprisingly no one in Pakistan ever noticed the

rapidly increasing number of children at the public places like bus stands, railway stations and parks etc. However, once the news about serial killing of street children was published in the newspapers, only then the malady of street children captured the attention of the society.

Perhaps the issue of street children would not have come to the surface if Javed Iqbal (The Serial Killer) did not admit the offence of killing 100 children who had left their homes. These 100 children reached to their miserable end in the thickly populated area of Lahore city.

In Pakistan, no doubt, there was a huge awakening after the incident but right now the majority has forgotten that such a pitiless incident has ever taken place. But the street children are a bitter reality of the day and can easily be noticed at their well-known clusters.

In Pakistan, "some limited surveys and interviews conducted by various NGOs show that an alarming 80 to 90 percent of the street children are victim of sodomy, sexual and physical abuse not just by elders but older children within their own gangs. A majority of them are drug addicts. The most popular and affordable of the drug is glue which these children inhale by putting it on a piece of cloth. One can see young boys sniffing this glue openly on the street and pavements that according to one user, "tingles nose and makes one slightly drowsy". The use of other drugs including hashish and even heroine are also rampant among these street children⁷."

It is sad that no serious effort is being done to collect the statistics related to street children in Pakistan. That's why no exact statistics about street children are available in Pakistan. It is just estimated that 1.2 million street children are spending their life in the streets of Pakistan⁸.

It is true that the number of children is increasing day by day but it seems we are waiting for another Javid Iqbal to awaken us from our slumber.

Though over the last many years, the issue of children is coming into the limelight more is there to do especially with regard to Pakistan, where CRC is not more than a, "sacred documents" which nobody can touch. Being the signatory of CRC, the state is accountable for the survival, development, protection and the participation of the children whether they are on the street or not. But all of this, if Pakistan is determined and committed to improve the situation of child rights within its jurisdiction.

Cited Literature

Definition of the Street Children

Much has been written about the definition and explanation of street children by the concerned. The serious definition efforts to find a street children, were initiated in 1990. Different schools of thought have provided their preferred definitions. These definitions have been built upon and framed as per their own inclinations and the nature of the existing problems. Let us have a glimpse of these definitions.

The United Nations (1985) has its own definition of Street Children. According to UN, "Street Child is any girl or boy for whom the street in the widest sense of the word (including unoccupied dwellings, wasteland etc.) has become his or her habitual abode and/or source of livelihood and who is inadequately protected, supervised or directed by responsible adults⁹".

Lewis defines a street child as someone younger than eighteen, who has decided to leave home to care for himself / herself on the street unassisted by an adult¹⁰.

Chetty states that street children are those who have abandoned or have been abandoned by their families, schools and immediate communities before they are eighteen years of age and drifted into nomadic street life ¹¹.

He also refers to the difficulties in defining street children because the term is applicable to a large number of children; all of home spend the significant part of their day in the street without necessarily sharing any other common characteristics ¹².

Schurink defines street children as any boy or girl between the age of 0 to 18 years to live on the street permanently or temporarily. These children spend most of their time unsupervised by an adult and therefore develop a tendency to depend upon each other ¹³.

Barnett defines street children as children who spend a considerable amount of their time in streets of urban centers to fend for themselves and their families and are inadequately protected, supervised and cared for by a responsible adult person ¹⁴.

In the light of the above mentioned definitions, three common elements about the street children can be drawn which are listed below

- These children live or spend a significant amount of their time on the street.
- The street has become their source of livelihood.
- Overall, they are inadequately protected, supervised or directed by responsible adults.

Although the term, "Street Children" is widely debated but at the center of each definition are the children who are out of place.

Categories of Street Children

UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) 1986 has defined the three most important categories of Street Children that have been widely used by the researchers all over the world.

Following are the defined categories of Street Children by UNICEF ¹⁵,

The first category in UNICEF (1986) definition is poor working children of street families, living at home but earning money on the street for their families. They are referred to as, "Children at risk".

Second category of the definition is identified as, "Children on the Street". These children spend a lot of their time on the street but have some family support and live at home on regular basis.

The last category is that of, "Children of the Street". They live and work on the street. They have no or very little family contact or support.

Patel (1990) in her study of street children in Bombay had somewhat different categorization of children in the street ¹⁶.

Hecht finds out that although street children are sometimes presented as a unified category, there are in fact different types of street children with different backgrounds, who are characterized by different activities ¹⁷. She identified the some categories of street children and these are discussed below,

Children with Families Working on the Streets

The majority of street children belong to this category. They are children with family connections, who are working on the streets. Examples of the work on the streets include shining shoes, flower selling, water selling, selling of newspapers and cigarettes etc. They return home at the end of the working day on regular

basis and mostly give their earnings to their parents, thus helping them support an often-fatherless family with many young siblings. Many of these children do attend school¹⁸. It is obvious that the children in this category do not have family disorganization problems such as abuse or violence, but may experience living in poverty and growing up in a single-parent household. Many working children's households often largely or entirely depend on them to survive. This responsibility may also have negative associations for children, contributing to anxiety and vulnerability to harsh working conditions¹⁹.

Schurink also highlight a category of children who work on the streets and define them as children on the street. These are primarily children who still have family connections of a more or less regular nature. Their focus in life is still home, many attend school, most return home at the end of each working day and most have a sense of belonging to the community in which their home is situated. Those who attend the school only go to the streets on weekends to make money to buy some food at school since they do not get any lunch boxes at home. Part-time working children are school-going children who go to the streets in the afternoon, after school, over the weekends and during the holidays. The main purpose of going to the streets is to make some pocket money or to help their families financially. They stay with their families and usually sleep at home. Fulltime working children are children who have left school and work fulltime on the streets. Some start as part-timers and finally become full timers. They decide to leave school altogether, and then some start sleeping on the streets and have irregular contact with their families²⁰.

According to Plummer et al, many working children, particularly boys, are pleased and proud to work, because it enables them to support themselves and their families. The positive draw of street life seemed to contribute to the self-esteem of some of the boys, as well as their pleasure in their free time.

The boys report being drawn to the relative freedom and independence of the streets and value this very highly once on the streets²¹

Children with Weak Family Ties Who Live In the Streets

According to Hecht, this is a more complex group of children who, although might still have some family connection, have escaped or life in the family has become intolerable for them due to different kinds of abuse or for reasons such as rejection by a new stepfather²². These children see the street as their home and they seek shelter and a sense of belonging among other street children. Children of the streets are a smaller but more complex group. Children in this group see the streets as their home and it is there that they seek shelter, food and sense of family among their companions. Family ties exist but are more remote and their former home is visited infrequently²³.

They have their homes and/or families but they regard the streets as their homes, away from their homes. They regard the streets as being safer, friendlier and more conducive than their actual homes. They seek shelter and a sense of belonging among other street children rather than among their own parents, relatives, guardians or family members.

This situation clearly indicates that all is not well in the family circumstances of the child. Ideally, every child should enjoy the comfort, affection, care and protected environment of their families.

Abandoned Children

These children are alone and many are deeply psychologically affected because of the emotional trauma they endured before they were abandoned. They are the most vulnerable and serious cases. Many of them have lost all hope and

turn to violence, drugs or prostitution as consolation and as a way of survival.

In their need for belonging these children may submit to any organized violence that gives them a feeling of belonging and identity. Abandoned and neglected children are children born out of wedlock that have become unmanageable, children who are raised by their grandparents and who fend for themselves on the streets.

They often join a group of runaway children and are completely at the mercy of the group to which they belong. At times, they will move to another group if life becomes too difficult for them.

The difference between this group and the group of children with weak family ties, who live in the streets, is that their parents or families have abandoned them. The reasons for the group of street children who purposefully leave their families are not exactly clear and necessitate further research.

Runaway Children

These are children who have decided to leave home and school, and go to make a living on the streets. Their reasons for leaving home may vary from situation to situation. They eat and sleep on the streets. Their parents do not know where they are and what types of life they are leading in the streets while the children try to take on a new identity. Depending on their age, they will normally join a group for protection and survival²⁴.

Young Delinquents

This group of street children often regards the street as the best place to be. This is where they are able to get up to mischief and involve other children in shoplifting, stealing, house breaking, pick pocketing and many other delinquent acts. They do not always

live in the streets but tend to have contact with their homes.

Maslow's Theory and Street Children

Abraham Maslow was a Russian-Jewish clinical psychologist who was born in New York City in 1908. He presented his theory based on personal judgment which was generally known as the need hierarchy theory²⁵.

He says that if people grew in an environment in which their needs are not fulfilled, they will be unlikely to function as healthy individuals or well-adjusted individuals. Specifically Maslow theorized that people have five types of needs and that these are activated in a hierarchical manner. This means that these needs are aroused in a specific order from lowest to highest, such that the lowest-order need must be fulfilled before the next order need is triggered and the process continues²⁶.

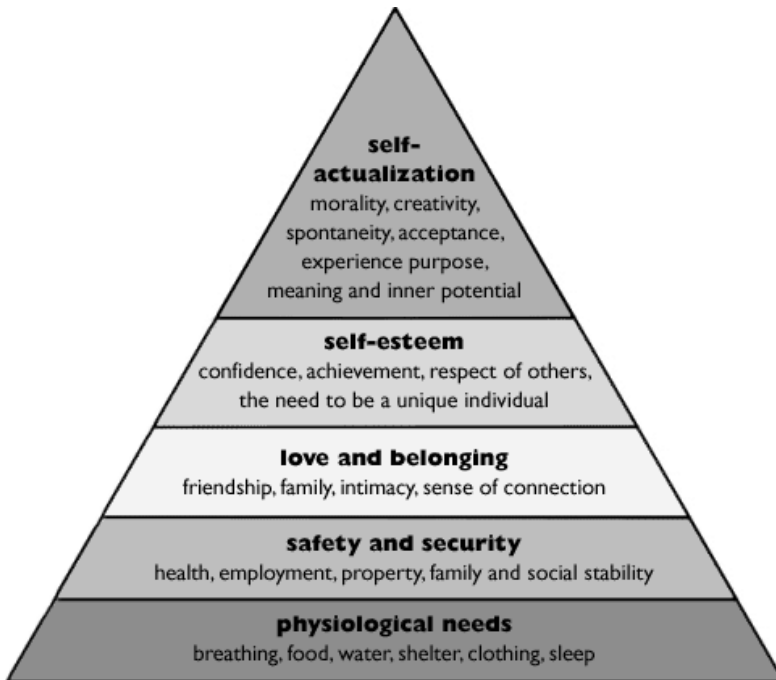
According to Maslow's theory of human development as mentioned in Meyer

(1997:437-443), the street children will never develop to their full potential and abilities or self-actualization if they continue to live in the streets since the streets are not a good place to their development²⁷.

It is believed by the Maslow that human development can be explained in terms of need gratification. He presents the human as a 'yearning being' who is not fully satisfied because if no sooner is one need gratified, than ultimately another surfaces. Need gratification is not only a means of relieving frustration or tension; it also provides the basis for growth and the realization of individual full potential through self-actualization.

Maslow's says that human kind is an holistic one. He also says that person is completely an integrated whole and cannot be studied in piecemeal. All aspects of the personality are closely inter-linked

and people have specific basic needs hierarchically arranged which are biological, love, safety and esteem needs etc. For achieving self-actualization, which is at the top of the hierarchy all the lower needs must be fulfilled.



Maslow mentions the fact that needs are arranged in an hierarchy which means that the person's development progresses through successive stages of need fulfillment towards the goal of self-actualization. The lower the need in the hierarchy the more urgent it is, which simply means that lower needs must first be gratified before needs at a higher level manifest themselves.

When a certain set of needs is gratified regularly, the upcoming set of needs becomes dominant. Instead of being dominated by hunger, for example, a person now becomes obsessed with the need for safety. This does not mean that the person will

never face hunger again, but when he/she is reasonably sure that the physiological needs can be satisfied on a regular basis then the safety needs become a vital motivator of his development.

The same principle applies to all of other needs in the hierarchy. A person becomes conscious of his/her love and affiliation needs only when the safety needs are satisfied regularly, and the self-esteem needs come to the surface only when the love needs are gratified regularly. This simply means that the self-actualization stage is captured only when the other four levels of needs are all being satisfied simultaneously.

Maslow explained his hierarchy of needs as following with the basic needs ranked from lowest to highest

Physiological Needs

These needs directly link with survival such as thirst, hunger, the need for oxygen; sensory stimulation, sleep activity, and sexual gratification are the examples of the psychological needs. Physiological needs are usually homeostatic and their satisfaction restores equilibrium within the body. According to Maslow, physiological needs are the most necessary needs and if they are not gratified on a regular basis, they dominate all other needs. For example, someone who is always hungry because of no food will not be interested in gratifying higher-ranking needs.

Safety Needs

If the physiological needs of a person are reasonably satisfied on a regular basis then these needs lose their urgency for him. Now the safety needs come to the surface and may become dominant to such an extent that all functioning is directed towards achieving security, protection, stability, structure, law and other, limits and freedom from fear. According to Maslow's theory held by educationalists that children feel safe in an atmosphere where there is some type of structure, with set limits and boundaries and where fixed patterns apply. In a crisis, people who are functioning on the stage of safety

needs will identify more easily with a leader figure because they are seeking some type of protection.

Needs for Affiliation and Love

Once the physiological and safety needs are satisfied, a person becomes aware of his or her need to belong somewhere and to be with someone, to receive and give love. Maslow suggests that rebel youth groups are formed because of the need to belong to a group and to participate in the struggle against a common enemy. He emphasizes that a person not only needs to belong to others, but that identification with a home and neighborhood also contributes to the gratification needs.

The Need for Self-Esteem

The need to evaluate oneself positively is referred to the need of self-esteem. As soon as the need for love of a person has been gratified to the point where it diminishes as a motivating force, the need for esteem comes on fore. When the needs for self-esteem have been gratified, people feel strong, competent, confident and useful and needed in the world. By contrast, the unfulfilled needs for self-esteem may urge to a feeling of inferiority, weakness and helplessness.

The Need for Self-Actualization

A person whose basic needs are gratified on a regularly basis, can start functioning at the level of self-actualization and growth motivation comes to the surface. Self-actualization is the process of becoming all one is capable of being, making full use of all one's capabilities, talents and potentials. According to Maslow, a person becomes untiring when he or she is not doing what he or he is capable of doing.



Discussion and Results

There are many ways to see the needs of the street children. Maslow has the opinion that in order to achieve self-actualization of an individual he/she has to fulfill four basic needs i.e. Physiological needs, safety needs, and love and esteem needs²⁸. But it is not possible for street children to gratify these physiological needs. Maslow says that if the physiological need is not fulfilled, the other needs, such as love and esteem, may be nonexistent.

It is quite obvious the street children live on the streets where it is quite difficult to get a good food on daily basis, so it is not possible for these children to satisfy their physiological needs. The situation indicates that it is very difficult to satisfy their physiological needs on regular basis and as an outcome, their process of human development becomes confined. According to Maslow's theory, physiological needs are the essential basic needs and if they are not satisfied regularly, they dominate all other needs. For example, anyone who is always hungry due to the lack of food will not be interested in satisfying higher ranking needs such as safety needs, needs for love and affiliation, self-esteem and self-actualization

We have an opinion that the incidents like down of iron curtains, war in different parts of the world and socio-economic crises one after the other on the various part of the world has decreased the world's stability and peace. Due to the Afghan conflict, Pakistan housed more than four million refugees which almost shook the foundations of Pakistan's economy. Consequently, the quality of life in Pakistan is decreasing rapidly with persistent increase in the prices of essential items especially those of fuel and diesel. This situation has an adverse impact on the industrial sectors as well as agricultural sectors. Meanwhile, Pakistan is also facing the problems of extremism and terrorist activities and is a frontline state in war against terrorism due to which a large number of population is internally displaced with a great loss of precious human lives. This war against terrorism has damaged the basic infrastructure of Pakistan for serious derisory. In a period of just one decade, the ratio of the people living below the poverty line has increased tremendously. Pakistan is facing the challenges child development, survival, protection and participation closely linked with the incidence of poverty, high population growth, traditional family system, illiteracy, unemployment, poor socio economic development and gender discrimination. As one of the deleterious effects of these increasingly harmful developments, the phenomenon of children on the streets appeared on the Pakistan scene in a big way.

According to Spark, "population boom, urbanization and poverty are cited as the most common causes for high number of street children in Pakistan. Non-implementation of laws relating to children is also to blame, widespread child labor and poor quality of education further aggravates the situation of poverty which in turn puts children on the streets to supplement the family's income, while the abusive home environment and corporal punishment in school adds to this number. In some cases, simply bad company, the desire of unrestricted freedom and the pull of hustle and bustle of cities, prompt them to leave homes in

rural areas and low income localities of our cities especially belonging to Southern Punjab and parts of NWFP ((KPK)²⁹ .

While in Pakistan, street children are also deprived of their basic needs and rights. They have limited access to social services. Being separated from their families, they are deprived of parental care, guidance and love which are significant factors in the healthy development of a child. They are at the mercy of criminals, drugs addicts and smugglers. Unhealthy living environment, lack of proper food, shelter and basic health services make them vulnerable to different types of diseases including sexually transmitted diseases (STDS) and HIV/AIDS, exploitation and abuse. They are heavily into substance abuse, glue being the cheapest and the most accessible of all the substances. They are socially rejected and looked down upon by the society due to which they develop negative attitude towards the society which has a lifelong effect and sometime force them to indulge in anti-social activities³⁰. (Spark2007).

In the light of above mentioned facts, if we see the children satisfying level of psychological needs in Pakistan, it will automatically reflect that it is quite impossible. .

In Pakistan, violence and abuse in the family home have also been noted as an important contributing factor in which children turning to street life. Neglect and abandonment are also found to be most common, in addition to the failure to provide proper food, clothing or any medical care. Emotional mistreatment is also the most common occurrence and it includes verbal abuse such as swearing, name calling, derogatory comments and a constant barrage of shouting, blaming and forced child labor.

Joint family system is also an important factor that contributes to children taking to street life where structural characteristics within the family system mostly influence a child's decision to leave home. Usually, there are two or more than two households

living in one home, with children often alternating between more than one household. As a result, there are many caretakers in the home with each one responding towards the responsibilities of the child in his or her own way. Mostly, this results in confusion and a general atmosphere of excessive control rather than of growth, guidance and discipline³¹. The family system operates as a primary system for emotional growth, support and guidance necessary for healthy development³² and these elements are not fulfilled by their families, and the children then depend on their own resourcefulness in order to meet their needs, which in turn exposes them to the life on the street³³.

Moreover, while in some cases a low income can be correlated with the increase in the number of street children but it is not necessarily universal and some communities that are characterized as poor do not necessarily have street children. This position reinforces the fact that family cohesion can overcome poverty in keeping most families working together for the benefit of the family³⁴.

On the other side, the attitude and behavior of the general community towards children who roam about in the streets has been found to have a large impact on whether they are more likely to remain on the streets or not.

In Pakistan if we see from the educational point of view, it is important to mention that the government of Pakistan has been implementing programmes to expand the education system based on the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) established by the United Nations. Even with most of new policies to reverse the situation of non-access to education in Pakistan where the government is aiming at providing more schools in rural and urban areas, these have not been totally satisfactory.

But the educational system of the Pakistan is still facing a shortage of schools, classrooms, textbooks and learning materials

associated with the fact that most children have to travel long distances from home to school and from school to home. There are many cases in which a child must have a long walk on daily basis to get access to schooling, especially in rural areas. There is also a lack of allocated funds for teachers with proper qualifications, as well as for new teaching and learning programmes. Basic infrastructure such as electricity, water and toilets are also found to be missing in most of Pakistan's schools. There has been a shift in the political and socioeconomic status of Pakistan and much inequality can be linked to poverty and the current social hierarchy.

The government policy, economic infrastructure, community resources and social infrastructure have much importance in dealing with the needs of families and children. Pakistan is striving to improve its policies on infrastructure and is currently aiming to provide more resources for community development but there are budgetary constraints and progress is slow. This has a negative effect on the lives of street children because they are then constrained by the slow progress at the community level that has a direct influence on the stability of family life.

Time is related to events and transitions that influence the political, economic and social change over time and which has mostly altered cultural practices and belief systems. Pakistan is not an isolated from the other social, political and economic systems around the world and its relationship with the world has had a large influence on its internal social, political, economic and even cultural practices.

Pakistan is a multicultural country, with five prominent cultures known as Punjabi, Sindhi, Balochi and Kashmiri with diverse roots. Cultural diversity is also a big challenge because it means discussing the 'differences' and similarities in factors such as culture, race, religion, traditions and ethnicity.

A cross cultural perspective is therefore particularly relevant to Pakistan which is an extremely diverse society in itself, providing a richness of multifarious beliefs and behavior of individuals in a variety of spaces. The influence of behavior and beliefs on the lives of children and how they construct themselves is particularly important in the most influential areas of day to day living, such as work, the educational environment, religious and spiritual beliefs and health practices.

If we see the political and economic changes from a Pakistan's perspective, which are influenced by the World Bank and IMF policies with a structural impact on social conditions, which have been directly influenced by the way the families and government interacted in the provision of child welfare and protection, forcing the government to reduce its responsibilities and thus, families have to find their own ways to provide care for the children..

Finally, it is concluded that street children are not only dehumanizing but are dehumanized already." They have no home but the streets; they lack basic needs such as food, clothes, shelter, clean water and health care etc. they live and work alone on the streets. They are stuck in the physiological needs and their human development is negatively affected.

Conclusion

On the basis of the results of discussion, it is concluded that there is a highly significant resemblance among Maslow's theory of the phenomenon of human development and emergence of street children in Pakistan. The economic, social, and psychological structure and functions of our family are changing with the growth and expansion of communications, urbanization and industrialization. In Pakistan, most of the families face the difficult problems of poverty, ill-health and ignorance. The nature and extent of problems and needs of a family depend on these factors. . If the members do not get good food, shelter and clothing within the family, one cannot expect the integration of

family life. Meanwhile, the Pakistan is also facing the problems of extremism and terrorist activates and is a frontline state in the war against terrorist due to which a large number of people is internally displaced with a great loss of precious human lives. This war against terrorist also damages the basic infrastructure of Pakistan for service delivery. In just a decade, the ratio of the number of people living under the poverty line has been significantly increased. These increasingly is so much deteriorated resulted in the appearance of children on the streets of Pakistan. This situation also concludes that it is very difficult to satisfy physiological needs of children on regular basis and as an outcome, their process of human development is seriously in paired Maslow correctly concludes that the physiological needs are the basic needs and if they are not satisfied regularly, they dominate all other needs.

Recommendations

The following recommendations have been drawn on the basis of the findings of the present study.

1. None fulfillment of physiological as well as psychological needs is a major cause which pushes the children to the street. It is highly recommended therefore that a nationwide micro credit program should be initiated with the cooperation of public and private sectors especially in the remote zural areas to eliminate the vicious cycle of poverty.
2. A full fledge child rights department on federal as well as provincial level should be established for the promotion and protection of child rights in Pakistan.
3. Government should initiate a massive campaign with the cooperation of NGOs as well as electronic and print media to create awareness among society regarding the child rights.

4. Government and NGOs should also devise training program on parentage skills which are necessary to improve the standard of parentage in Pakistan.
5. It is recommended that the Government and NGOs should conduct the comprehensive psycho-social studies in order to have a professional evaluation of the situation of street children.

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