

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE SOCIO: ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND
EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS OF CHILD LABOUR IN DISTRICT KOHAT,
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA (PAKISTAN):**

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Abstract

Background: This study looks at the social, economic factors that contribute to child labour in the district Kohat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Pakistan). It particularly highlights the impact on children's education and welfare. The study examines how parental involvement, family income, and the number of children affect these factors, along with the negative effects of poverty and cultural influences.

Objective: The goal is to evaluate how parental involvement, family income and household size, along with poverty and cultural factors that contribute to child labor and influence children's education and welfare in District Kohat.

Participants & Setting: The study involved 264 child labourers from various work sectors in Kohat District, representing major local tribes (Bangash, Khattak and Aurakzai). Majority of the participants were between the ages of (6-10) years.

Methods: A quantitative, cross-sectional survey was conducted with the child labourers. Descriptive statistics outlined demographics, education and working conditions, while inferential analyses were intended to explore relationships between household and cultural factors with child labour and educational results.

Results: Most participants fell within the (6–10) age range and had limited access to formal education. Many reported experiencing poor and unsafe working environments. Children primarily engaged in work to support household income and exhibited a low understanding of their rights. Respondents frequently identified with tribal affiliations (Bangash, Khattak and Aurakzai). Specific estimates regarding key predictors such as; family income, parental involvement and the number of children. For example, lower family income associated with increased odds of child labor, larger household size linked to reduced school attendance and parental engagement positively co-related with the schooling.

Conclusion: Child labour in Kohat is a reflection of economic struggles and ingrained cultural practices, leading to premature work engagement, limited education and a lack of awareness regarding child rights.

The findings highlight the urgent need for comprehensive interventions aimed at improving educational access, enhancing work-place safety, bolstering social protection for low-income families and fostering awareness of rights to assist policy-makers and stake-holders in diminishing child labour and enhancing the future prospects of children in the region.

Key Words: child labour socio-economic status Poverty cultural and educational cultural and educational status

INTRODUCTION:

Child labour is a global issue that has received varying levels of attention over the past two centuries (International Labour Organization, 2013). It is not limited to one area, but it is particularly concerning in developing countries like Pakistan (Mazhar, 2008). Child labour involves more than just a child working; it is a serious violation of human rights (Marianne, 2007). Poverty is a common cause of child labour, but social and cultural barriers also contribute to this problem (Nafees, et al., 2012).

The UNCRC defines a child as a human being under the age of 18. Maturity may be reached earlier under the laws that apply to a child (Akpan, 2003). According to Pakistan's 1973 Constitution, a child is a person (male or female) under the age of 14 (Khan & Jamal, 2008). Child labour refers to a child aged 5 to 14 working with or without their parents in any type of job, whether paid or unpaid (Bhukuth, 2008).

Hence, two dominant schools of thought emerge;

Education as a Basic Human Right:

Supporters of the 1st school of thought argue that, education is a fundamental right for all children aged (5–14) and child labour inherently violates this right. Elimination of child labour is

non-negotiable and requires immediate intervention through compulsory education laws and child protection policies (Cunniah, 2013 & UNICEF, 2020).

Child Labor as a Harsh Reality and Long-Term Goal for Elimination:

While, followers of the 2nd school of thought claim that, child labour is an inevitable byproduct of structural inequalities (poverty, unemployment, illiteracy). Eradication must be a long-term goal, achieved through gradual economic development and social welfare reforms (Cunniah, 2013 and ILO, 2021).

According to the latest global estimates; approximately 160 million children aged (5–17) are engaged in child labour worldwide, with 79 million performing hazardous work. The regional distribution is as follows:

- Asia and the Pacific with 48.7 million (37 %).
- Sub-Saharan Africa with 86.6 million (23 % of all children in the region, i.e. highest prevalence relative to population).
- Latin America and the Caribbean with 8.2 million (5 %)
- Middle East and North Africa with 2.4 million (3 %)
- Europe and Central Asia with 4.3 million (4 %)
- While, Asia has the largest absolute number of child labourers and Sub-Saharan Africa remains the region with the highest proportion of working children (ILO & UNICEF, 2023; World Bank, 2024).

This research focuses on the social, economic, cultural and educational effects of child labour on children's learning. Now-a-days, many young people are distancing themselves from school and placing less value on education. Several reasons may contribute to this trend. It could stem from social factors such as parental involvement and teacher support. Economic issues, like parents income, also play a role. Additionally, cultural factors, including traditions or the norms surrounding early marriage and domestic work, are considered essential for a family's survival. These factors can directly influence children's commitment to their exams.

The larger the family, the stronger the erosion of parental resources, and more limited are the educational options of each child. Therefore, parents are confronted with compromise between quantity and educational opportunities of children while seeking decisions regarding the size of the family (Teixeira, 2023).

The majority of research conducted in developed countries confirms a negative correlation between the number of relatives and educational outcomes. Additionally, it has been noted that children with stable financial situations perform better academically, while those with unstable finances perform poorly and inappropriately (Steelman, et al., 2002). The parental involvement, size of the family, the family's overall well-being and the use of mechanical devices in the children's academic activities are the financial factors that reduces the amount of time and money that parents can devote to each child (Suleiman, et al., 2012).

Empirical research shows that parental involvement is vital in children's education. It consistently leads to positive effects on academic performance. Parents who actively engage by helping with homework, attending school meetings and creating a supportive home for learning see better grades, higher test scores, and greater educational success (Hashmi, et al., 2020).

For example, a longitudinal analysis of Jeynes (2012) revealed children whose parents monitored them frequently at school scored considerably higher on standardized tests than similarly less supported peers. These results support Epstein's (2018) overlapping spheres theory that claims combining family and school efforts achieve the greatest student achievement.

Parental involvement is therefore not only good but crucial to achieve children's optimal education. (Hashmi, et al., 2014). As per the National Child Labour Survey (NCLS) 1996, out of 40 million children, 3.3 million are currently employed and working in Pakistan, where Punjab's percentage is 58.65 percent, Sindh 09 percent, Balochistan 0.42 percent and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 31.93 percent '01 million kids' (Chaudhary, et al., 2002).

But, according to the National Child Labour Survey (NCLS) 2022, Punjab has the highest number of child labourers in the country with 2.1 million in 22.4 million children, followed by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with 0.5 million in 7.2 million, then Sindh with 0.6 million in 9.8 million and Balochistan with 0.2 million in 3.1 million, which suggests that the incidence of child labour in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is also very high, requiring the governing elites' utmost and unique attention to curb the increasing magnitude of child labour in the province by legislation (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2023).

Poverty is widely recognized as the most significant factor contributing to child labour. A substantial body of research confirms that poor living conditions account for approximately (75 %) of the cross-country differences in child labour prevalence (Samonova, 2014). In contexts of extreme poverty, children are often compelled to work not by choice, but by necessity to support their families' survival. Whether the work is beneficial or exploitative, it becomes an unavoidable obligation under such circumstances (International Labour Organization, 2021). This creates a vicious cycle of poverty which forces children into labour and perpetuates inter-generational poverty by depriving them of education and skill development (UNICEF, 2022).

While some argue that, child labour provides short-term economic relief, evidence confirms its long-term harms, including reduced life-time earnings and re-enforced social in-equality (Edmonds, 2015)."

Except this, the worsening situation of law and order in the country and especially Pakhtun belt further worsen the issue and the miseries of common man have increased manifold (Pakistan Economic Survey, 2019). In Pakistan's rural areas, children are engaged in practically observable activities such as domestic work, herding, agriculture, automobile workshops and as daily wagers (Welay, 2014).

Poverty, parental socio: economic status, cultural and religious factors and a lack of laws and enforcement are seen as barriers to child labour in developing countries like Pakistan (Radfar, et al., 2018). Poverty is a persistent issue in Pakistan, where political instability, economic uncertainty and rapid population growth are common (Khan, 2011).

In third-world countries like Pakistan, child labour is not just a financial problem. It is also a socio: economic and cultural issue. This can be addressed by making improvements to the society's economic situation. This includes providing education and leisure activities for children. At the same time, strong laws and their enforcement are necessary for progress (Gulzar, et al., 2009).

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AREA & STUDY TOPIC:

District Kohat is located in the southern portion of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan covering an area of 2,973 square miles (Government of Pakistan, 2023). According to the 2017 Population Census Report of Pakistan, the population of District Kohat is about 99,38,74 residents. It lies above sea level at 1768 feet. Major languages spoken in the district are Pushto (75 %), Hindko (20 %), Urdu (0.8 %) and Punjabi (04 %) of its population respectively (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2017). Kohat's weather is warm and semi-arid with hot summers and mild winters (Pakistan Meteorological Department, 2022).

Different interpretations exist regarding origin of the Kohat district's name. Some sources claim that the district gets its name from an ancient Buddhist king "Raja Kohat", who ruled this area in the 4th century BC. Other sources assert that the name "Kohat" is derived from two words: "Koh" means (mountain) and "Hat" means (market), i.e. Kohat means mountain market or market near mountains (PILDAT, 2024).

While, according to another source, during the time of Buddhism in India, two kings "Adh" and "Kohat", came to this region and dwelled on the northern border of this district.

"King Kohat" called the city Kohat after his name, while "Raja Adh" gave his name to the ruins of an ancient fort present at a hill side north of Mumandzai, which is a little more than 4 miles away from a village to the west of Kohat. This is how Kohat has come to be called (Shahid, 2023).

The Mughal Emperor "Babar" invaded it in 1505 A.D, according to his autobiography "Babarnama" (Verma, 2016). It is split widely into two Tehsils, i.e. Kohat and Lachi (Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 2023). Majority of the population in Kohat are Pakhtuns, dominated by the Bangash tribe, who have been living here since 15th century. Other tribes residing here are the Khattak's, Afridi's, Shinwari's and Orakzai's etc. People of the region are generally loving, peaceful and educated (Hayat, 2019).

The absolute location of District Kohat is that, it lies between 32° - 10' to 33° - 22' North latitude and 70° - 40' to 72° - 00' East longitude (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2023). Similarly, Kohat's comparative location is that, it touches the provincial capital Peshawar and Nowshera from the north east side, Tribal district Orakzai and Hangu from the west and north west side, Karak from the south side & Mianwali from the south eastern side, whereas River Indus (Attock) from the east side (Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 2019 & Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2017).

The importance of a location of the district Kohat can be imagined from the fact that; it lies 63 km (39 miles) away from Peshawar, 50 km (31 miles) from River Indus (Attock), 101 km (63 miles) from Hangu and 134 km (83 miles) from Bannu by road (National Highway Authority, 2020 & Survey of Pakistan, 2018).

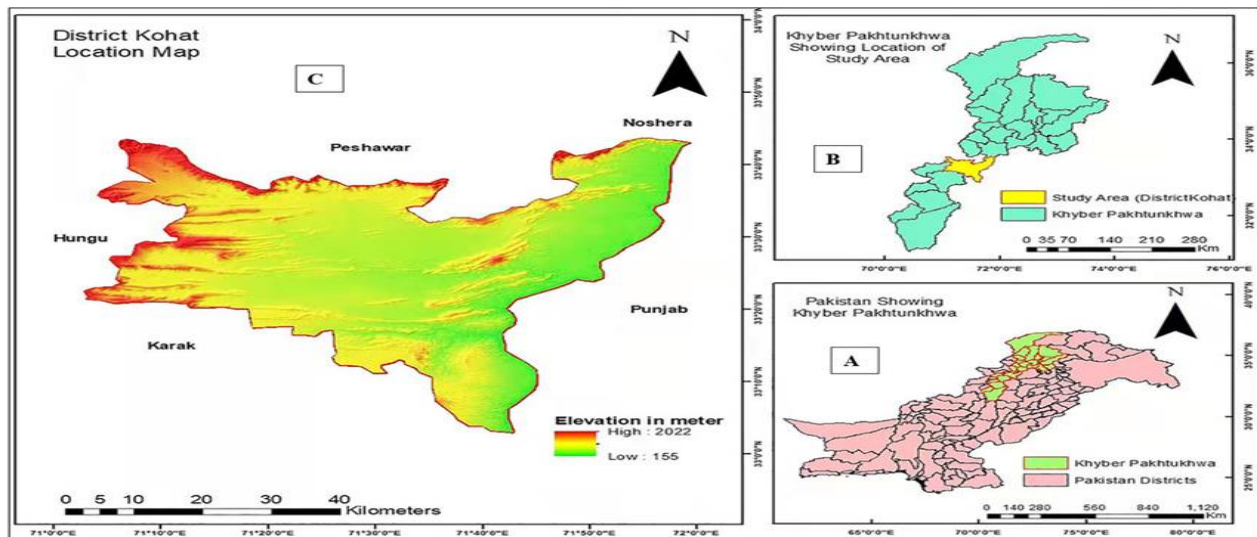


Figure iii.i (Tasleem, et al., 2023) Location Map of the District Kohat:

Recent reports indicate that child labour is prevalent in district Kohat, particularly in brick kilns, auto repair shops, domestic work and street vending (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Labour Department, 2023). A survey conducted by the Society for the Protection of Rights of the Children, found that around (18 %) of children aged (5-14) in Kohat are involved in labouring activities, with boys predominantly working in workshops and girls in domestic servitude (SPARC, 2023).

Poverty and lack of access to education are the leading causes of child labour in Kohat. Many families rely on their children's income to meet their basic needs, especially in rural and sub-urban areas (UNICEF, 2023). Additionally, the influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from conflict-affected regions has worsened the situation, as displaced children often enter the labour market to support their families (Pakistan Institute of Labour Education & Research, 2022).

Children working in Kohat's brick kilns and auto workshops face physical abuse, long hours and exposure to toxic chemicals (Human Rights Watch, 2023). Many suffer from respiratory diseases, burns and musculoskeletal (body) injuries due to unsafe working environments (International Labour Organization, 2023). Domestic child workers, who are frequently hidden from the view of the general public, are particularly susceptible to sexual and physical abuse (SPARC, 2023).

Child labor in district Kohat is an ongoing problem caused by economic struggles, limited access to education and poor enforcement of labour laws, all lead to the exploitation of children in different sectors. Although some efforts are underway, the issue is multi-faceted, driven by a complex interplay of socio: economic and cultural factors. Hence, stronger policy enforcement and collaboration among different groups are necessary to stop child labour and secure a better future for the children here in Kohat.

Kohat as a part of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan comprises of such people who have a rich culture and archeological background, but face a great deal of social and economic issues. This study focuses mainly on the socio: economic, cultural and educational factors that have a

significant impact on people's and their children's lives. Thus, Child labour in Kohat isn't just about economic needs only; but it also has deep cultural roots and rationale too. The purpose of this study descriptive data presentation is to concentrate on all of the possible factors that may encourage the continued use of child labour and the effects that this practice has on children.

Hence, it is important to discuss child labour in Kohat from multiple angles, like; economic situation that forces parents to send their children to work, cultural and social attitudes that may support child labour and the specific industries and types of jobs that children take on regardless of the type or form of child labour, children suffer both physically and mentally in the environments where they work, either directly or indirectly.

The ongoing issue of child labour in Kohat is also linked to the lack of adequate educational facilities and an ineffective schooling system. Many children in Kohat must work to support themselves, while trying to study. This situation worsens due to rising political instability and insecurity in the area. These challenges hinder efforts to create effective policies and programs to tackle child labour in the region.

After all, in this paper important social, economic, cultural and educational factors linked to child labour in Kohat are discussed like; poverty, parents employment status, education level, health and safety at work. But, the focus is mainly on the factors such as traditional views of femininity and masculinity, social norms, religion and family beliefs that encourage children employment. It has also identify potential areas for intervention to eliminate child labour from the region with systematic approach that addresses both the symptoms and the underlying causes.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. To what extent does child labour exist in the study region?
2. What are the socio: economic and cultural aspects of child labour in the district?
3. What are the impacts of child labour in the study area?
4. How to eradicate child labour from the region under study?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

This study uses a mixed method research design that combines both qualitative and quantitative approaches to look into the complex issue of child labour in the district Kohat. Given the nature of this topic, a varied approach is necessary, using different data sources and analysis methods. The research framework is mainly analytical, comparative, and descriptive. This setup allows for exploring personal experiences while also measuring observable trends.

The qualitative part aims to explain social realities, beliefs and cultural influences affecting child labour in the region. This will be done through a survey of child labourers, field observations, and content analysis of relevant texts and policies. The quantitative aspect focuses on gathering numerical data about school dropout rates, income levels, child labour prevalence and household demographics etc. This data will be statistically analyzed to find patterns and connections.

DATA COLLECTION METHODS & DATA ANALYSIS:

The present study focuses on both primary and secondary data sources. Primary data is collected through field surveys and direct observations in the communities of Kohat district. Secondary

data comes from government reports, academic journals, policy documents, official statistics, and previous research studies. The researcher also visits libraries and institutional archives to gather relevant and credible materials. Finally, all the information will be organized thematically for effective analysis across various factors such as age, gender, socio: economic status and geographical location.

STEP # 1.

First of all, questionnaires containing around 77 open ended and close ended questions have been distributed among 264 child labourers in various localities of the district Kohat according to Krejcie & Morgan sampling method.

S.No	Category	No: of Child Labourers
		Kohat
1	Automobile Workshops	66
2	Wood Industry (As Carpenter)	20
3	Petrol Pumps	06
4	Welding Industry	07
5	Conductor	08
6	Hotels / Restaurants	44
7	House Construction Industry	02
8	Daily wager	13
9	Beggars	00
10	Sweepers	04
11	Collecting / Selling Scrap	08
12	Denting / Painting Industry	03
13	Tailoring	11
14	Barber	04
15	Shoes Mender & Polishing	06
16	Painter	03
17	Cart Puller	02
18	Farmer	02
19	Snuff Seller	01
20	Driver	00
21	Property Dealer	00
22	Shop Keeper	12
23	Vegetable / Fruits Vendor	07
24	Electrician	07
25	Cars Showroom	01
26	Bakery	03
27	Biryani Seller	01

28	Medical Store	01
29	Maid	04
30	Dairy Farm	01
31	Poultry Shop	03
32	Cold Drinks Distribution	01
33	Butcher Shop	02
34	Puncture Shop	02
35	Chana Chart Seller	01
36	Farm House Worker	02
37	Fresh Juice Seller	02
38	Brick Seller	01
39	Utensils Seller	01
40	Vehicles Washing / Cleansing	02
	Total	264

STEP # 2.

Then, data has been collected in a systematic way and directed to the appropriate location using various quantifying methods (SPSS) in a study.

STEP # 3.

Finally, the collected data has been analyzed and compared, leading to conclusions, findings, and recommendations.

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS OF THE CHILD LABOUR & THEIR FAMILIES IN DISTRICT KOHAT:

This data is accumulated from the survey questionnaires filled by child labours in the study region. Findings of the data are highly informative that are based on demographic composition, educational background, working environment and cultural background of the child labours and their families in the district Kohat.

Table # 1. Gender analysis of the child labour in district Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Male	260	98.5	98.5	98.5
	Female	04	1.5	1.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 1. Shows; a significant imbalance, with a pre-dominance of male children involved in labouring activities. The data further reveals that; out of 264 child labours surveyed, 260 are male, accounting for (98.5 %) of the total sample. This high percentage indicates that; boys are over-whelming more likely to be engaged in child labouring as compared to girls here in kohat. The valid percentage also stands at (98.5 %) re-affirming that; almost all the surveyed child labours are male. The cumulative percentage reaches (98.5 %) at this point, highlighting the gender disparity of child labours within the district. In contrast, only 04 female child labours are

identified, making up a mere (1.5 %) of the sample. This scenario shows that, there may be cultural, social or even economic reasons for the increased number of male child labours in district Kohat.

Table # 2. Age analysis of the child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	06-10	33	12.5	12.5	12.5
	11-15	231	87.5	87.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 2. demonstrates that; majority of the child labours here are older children, i.e. (87.5 %) of them are (11-15) years of age with 231 out of 264 children falling within this range. Whereas, only (12.5 %) of the child labours or 33 children are in the younger age group of (06-10) years, which means that, child labour is mostly related to the older children who would probably be considered physically and mentally stronger to engage in strenuous activities.

Table # 3. Caste analysis of the child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Bangash	74	28	28	28
	Afridi	22	8.3	8.3	36.4
	Hindkawal	21	08	08	44.3
	Afghan Refugee	23	8.7	8.7	53
	Mamuzai	05	1.9	1.9	54.9
	Aurakzai	26	9.8	9.8	64.8
	Durani	02	0.8	0.8	65.5
	Khattak	40	15.2	15.2	80.7
	Kharoti	02	0.8	0.8	81.4
	Paracha	04	1.5	1.5	83
	Mengal	01	0.4	0.4	83.3
	Banuci	03	1.1	1.1	84.5
	Christian	04	1.5	1.5	86
	Mohmand	19	7.2	7.2	93.2
	Banori	03	1.1	1.1	94.3
	Alisherzai	01	0.4	0.4	94.7
	Chitrali	01	0.4	0.4	95.1
	Sheikh	01	0.4	0.4	95.5
	Shinwari	05	1.9	1.9	97.3
	Niazi	02	0.8	0.8	98.1
	Baloch	02	0.8	0.8	98.9
	Qureshi	02	0.8	0.8	99.6
	Gujjar	01	0.4	0.4	100

	Total	264	100	100	
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Table # 3. Displays; a diverse range of ethnic backgrounds. The most represented caste is Bangash, comprising (28 %) of the child labours. Other significant castes include; Khattak (15.2 %), Aurakzai (9.8 %) and Afghan Refugees (8.7 %). While, smaller percentages are observed for castes such as Afridis (8.3 %), Hindkawal (08 %) and Mohmand (7.2 %). The above statistics reveal that; child labour transcends ethnic boundaries in Kohat. Hence, it is an indicator of the numerous and diverse socio: economic problems that affect different ethnic groups in this region.

Table # 4. Religious composition of the child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Islam	259	98.1	98.1	98.1
	Christianity	04	1.5	1.5	99.6
	Hinduism	01	0.4	0.4	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 4. expresses; the over-whelming majority (98.1 %) as Muslims, (1.5 %) are Christians and an even smaller percentage (0.4 %) are the Hindus. Hence, Islam is the religious affiliation of a majority of children working in the surveyed area.

Table # 5. Family type of the child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Nuclear	199	75.4	75.4	75.4
	Extended	65	24.6	24.6	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 5. illustrates that; a significant majority (75.4 %) live in nuclear families. In contrast, (24.6 %) belongs to extended families. This implies that; majority of the child labours have small families here in Kohat.

However, there is still a large number of them who live in large families, possibly in big extended families. This distribution shows the different familial factors that contribute in child labouring activities up to some extent in the study area.

Table # 6. Marital status of the child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Married	45	17	17	17
	Unmarried	219	83	83	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 6. reveals that; majority (83 %) of them are unmarried. However, (17 %) of the child labours are married, which is significant with respect to their young age. This distribution shows that; although majority of the child labours are unmarried, but there is a significant number of them who are already married as a result of socio: cultural trends in an area.

Table # 7. Households size of the child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	00-05	58	22	22	22
	06-10	145	54.9	54.9	76.9
	11-15	42	15.9	15.9	92.8
	15 & above	19	7.2	7.2	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 7. indicates that; majority (54.9 %) come from households with (06-10) members. Smaller households of (00-05) members make up (22 %) of the sample. Households with (11-15) members constitute (15.9 %), while the largest households with 15 or more members represent (7.2 %). This distribution further makes it clear that; most of the child labours are from the moderately large families and a fairly large proportion also comes from very large families since the families can hardly afford the needs of such large families.

Table # 8. Monthly income of the child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Below 5000	49	18.6	18.6	18.6
	5001-10000	156	59.1	59.1	77.7
	10001-20000	51	19.3	19.3	97
	20001-30000	03	1.1	1.1	98.1
	Above 30000	03	1.1	1.1	99.2
	No Idea	02	0.8	0.8	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 8. explains that; majority (59.1 %) earn between (5,001-10,000) PKR. A significant portion (18.6 %) earn (below 5,000) PKR, while (19.3 %) have income between (10,001-20,000) PKR. While, only a small number (1.1 %) earn between (20,001-30,000) PKR or (above 30,000) PKR. Additionally, (0.8 %) of the child labours reported that they have (no idea) about their income. This distribution portrays an idea that; most of the child labours earn moderate wages, a factor that reveals the economic struggle they go through.

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE CHILD LABOUR IN DISTRICT KOHAT:

This section shall portray an educational background of the child labours in district Kohat with the special focus on school enrollment, education level and type of school attended by the children. Therefore, an analysis of the schooling patterns of these children can go a long way into enlightening us on the lost opportunities these children meet as a result of child labouring.

Table # 9. Have child labour ever attended the school in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	180	68.2	68.2	68.2
	No	84	31.8	31.8	100

	Total	264	100	100	
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Table # 9. reveals that; a majority (68.2 %) have attended school at some point. This indicates that; most child labours had some form of formal education.

However, (31.8 %) of the child labours have never attended school, highlighting a significant portion of children who are completely deprived of educational opportunities. This should indicate that; while some children are in a position to go to school, others are being made to work instead of going to school due to socio: economic conditions of their families.

Table # 10. Educational qualification of the child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Primary	90	34.1	34.1	34.1
	Middle	91	34.5	34.5	68.6
	None	83	31.4	31.4	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 10. exposes that; (34.5 %) have reached the middle school level (Grade 5-8) and (34.1 %) have completed primary education (Grade 1-4). However, a substantial portion (31.4 %) despite having attended the school, does not possess any formal educational qualification. This shows that; most children either quit early or do not go through a complete cycle of primary schooling, which depicts the problem of repetition and dropout of child labours here in district Kohat.

Table # 11. Type of the school attended by child labour in district Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Government	173	65.5	65.5	65.5
	Private	08	03	03	68.6
	NA	83	31.4	31.4	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 11. displays that; majority (65.5 %) of the child labours attends government schools and a small percentage (03 %) is enrolled in private schools. Additionally, (31.4 %) of the child labours do not attend school at all, as indicated by the NA (not applicable) category. This distribution shows that; majority of the child labours who attend school, receive government education and their perception of attending private schools is scarce. Whereas, (47 %) of the children are not even enrolled in schools which indicates that; when it comes to education the youths engaged in child labouring, face more of the obstacles.

PARENTAL STATUS OF THE CHILD LABOUR IN DISTRICT KOHAT:

This section gives further elaboration of the nature of parents/guardian of child labours in district Kohat in terms of educational, working and income status of parents and socio: economic background of parents should be considered in order to have an insight into the elements that compel children for work.

Table # 12. Child labour father alive / dead status in District Kohat:

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Alive	231	87.5	87.5	87.5
	Dead	33	12.5	12.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

According to the table # 12. majority (87.5 %) of the fathers are alive, which shows that most of the child labours live with their fathers. In contrast, (12.5 %) of the child labours have lost their fathers. This loss can greatly affect the family's financial situation and may lead to the need for child labour, because the presence of fathers helps to keep families stable economically. But, when a father dies, children often have to care for themselves as well as to provide help for their families.

Table # 13. Educational status of the child labour father in District Kohat:

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Primary	57	21.6	21.6	21.6
	Middle	54	20.5	20.5	42.0
	Matric	34	12.9	12.9	54.9
	Inter	03	1.1	1.1	56.1
	Bachelor	02	0.8	0.8	56.8
	Master	01	0.4	0.4	57.2
	None	113	42.8	42.8	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 13. illustrates that; (42.8 %) have no formal education, indicating that a significant portion of the fathers are illiterate. Among those who have received some form of education / have completed primary level are (21.6 %) and those who have reached the middle school level are only (20.5 %).

Similarly, a smaller percentage (12.9 %) has attained matriculation, (1.1 %) reached intermediate level, (0.8 %) bachelor degrees and only (0.4 %) achieved higher education. This distribution implies that; families headed by fathers with little education may be poor hence engaging children in the labour market to support their family.

Table # 14. Employment status of the child labour father in District Kohat:

		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	173	65.5	65.5	65.5
	No	91	34.5	34.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 14. points out that; (65.5 %) of the fathers are employed and (34.5 %) are unemployed indicating that, though majority of the fathers are either actively engaged in some form of

employment, a substantial number of them are unemployed; which probably aggravates the families misery as well as compounds their problems. Hence, they rely on their children up to some extent for their survival.

Table # 15. Monthly income of the child labour father in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	5001-10000	41	15.5	15.5	15.5
	10001-20000	75	28.4	28.4	43.9
	20001-30000	38	14.4	14.4	58.3
	Above 30000	25	9.5	9.5	67.8
	None / NA	85	32.2	32.2	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 15. demonstrates that; (32.2 %) have (no income) or it is not applicable, indicating a significant portion of families without a reliable source of paternal income. Among those who do have income are (28.4 %) and earn between (10,001-20,000) PKR, making it the most common income range. This is followed by (15.5 %) who earn between (5,001-10,000) PKR and (14.4 %) with income between (20,001-30,000) PKR. Whereas, only (9.5 %) of fathers make (more than 30,000) PKR, which suggests that most families with kids are struggling financially and depend on their kids to help and support the family.

Table # 16. Child labour mother alive / dead status in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Alive	255	96.6	96.6	96.6
	Dead	09	3.4	3.4	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 16. suggests that; over-whelming majority (96.6 %) of the mothers are alive, indicating that most of the child labours have their mothers as part of their households. While, only (3.4 %) of the child labours have lost their mothers. Even a comparably high percentage of the mothers being alive, which indicates that maternal care is rather common among the families of child labours in district Kohat. Though, it is not a common occurrence as that observed in Gatsby's relationship with his father, that death of the mother equally affects the formation and functioning of the family and its economy.

Table # 17. Educational status of the child labour mother in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Primary	30	11.4	11.4	11.4
	Middle	20	7.6	7.6	18.9
	Matriculation	07	2.7	2.7	21.6

	Bachelor	04	1.5	1.5	23.1
	Master	01	0.4	0.4	23.5
	None	202	76.5	76.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 17. reveals that; a vast majority (76.5 %) have no formal education. Among those who have received some education are (11.4 %) which have completed primary level and (7.6 %) have reached the middle level. Very few (2.7 %) mothers have attained matriculation, (1.5 %) bachelor degrees and only (0.4 %) have master degrees. This low level of education among mothers discloses its socio: economic implications and also associates with the situation that cause child labour, as the uneducated mother is unlikely to earn high wages and therefore will exert pressure on the family to find some ways to supplement the income.

Table # 18. Employment status of the child labour mother in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Employed	14	5.3	5.3	5.3
	Unemployed	250	94.7	94.7	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 18. indicates that; only (5.3 %) of the mothers are employed, while a vast majority (94.7 %) are not employed. Thus, a low employment rate for mothers indicate that; most families depend on fathers income or other sources which may not be adequate, hence leading to child labouring or to help / support the family.

Table # 19. Monthly Income of the child labour mother in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	5001-10000	05	1.9	1.9	1.9
	10001-20000	07	2.7	2.7	4.5
	20001-30000	01	0.4	0.4	4.9
	Above 30000	01	0.4	0.4	5.3
	None / NA	250	94.7	94.7	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 19. shows that; majority (94.7 %) of the mothers have reported no income or not applicable, indicating that they do not contribute financially to the households. A small percentage (1.9 %) of the mothers earns between (5,001-10,000) PKR and (2.7 %) of the mothers earns (10,001-20,000) PKR. While, only (0.4 %) of the mothers have income in the range of (20,001-30,000) PKR and (above 30,000) PKR, respectively. This distribution proves that, due to poor economic status in the region mothers exerting meager financial efforts. Hence, child labour is the main backup source of income.

WORKING CONDITIONS / EXPERIENCES OF THE CHILD LABOUR IN DISTRICT KOHAT:

This section focuses on the working conditions and the situation of child labour in district Kohat in terms of nature of jobs done, working environment and difficulties faced etc. Awareness of these facets is indispensable for grasping the severity of child labour consequences on kids and their growth.

Table # 20. Child labour working age in the District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Under 05 Years	02	0.8	0.8	0.8
	06-10 Years	136	51.5	51.5	52.3
	11-15 Years	121	45.8	45.8	98.1
	No Idea	05	1.9	1.9	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 20. expresses that; majority (51.5 %) of the child labours started working between the ages (06-10) indicating that many children begin working at a very young age. Another significant portion (45.8 %) began working between the ages (11-15). While, only a small percentage (0.8 %) started working under the age of (05 years). Additionally, (1.9 %) of the respondents are unsure about it, that when they started working. This distribution also depicts that, child labouring usually starts at a young age thus hindering their childhood and education.

Table # 21. Industry you are working as a child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Daily Wager	15	5.7	5.7	5.7
	Automobile Workshop	66	25.0	25.0	30.7
	Petrol Pump	06	2.3	2.3	33
	Welding Industry	07	2.7	2.7	35.6
	Hotels/ Restaurant	44	16.7	16.7	52.3
	Construction Industry	02	0.8	0.8	53
	Butcher Shop	02	0.8	0.8	53.8
	Sweeper	04	1.5	1.5	55.3
	Denting / Painting Industry	03	1.1	1.1	56.4
	Collecting / Selling Scrap, Bottles, Wrappers	08	03	03	59.5
	Tailoring	11	4.2	4.2	63.6
	Shoes Mender & Polishing	04	1.5	1.5	65.2
	Painter	03	1.1	1.1	66.3
	Conductor	08	03	03	69.3
	Carpenter	20	7.6	7.6	76.9

	Cart Puller	02	0.8	0.8	77.7
	Farmer	02	0.8	0.8	78.4
	Snuff Seller	01	0.4	0.4	78.8
	Shop Keeper	12	4.5	4.5	83.3
	Vegetable / Fruits Vendor	07	2.7	2.7	86
	Electrician	07	2.7	2.7	88.6
	Barber	04	1.5	1.5	90.2
	Show Room Worker	01	0.4	0.4	90.5
	Bakery	03	1.1	1.1	91.7
	Biryani Seller	01	0.4	0.4	92
	Medical Store	01	0.4	0.4	92.4
	Maid	04	1.5	1.5	93.9
	Dairy Farm	01	0.4	0.4	94.3
	Poultry Shop	03	1.1	1.1	95.5
	Cold Drinks Distributer	01	0.4	0.4	95.8
	Puncture Shop	02	0.8	0.8	96.6
	Chart Seller	01	0.4	0.4	97
	Farm House Worker	02	0.8	0.8	97.7
	Fresh Juice Seller	02	0.8	0.8	98.5
	Brick Seller	01	0.4	0.4	98.9
	Utensils Seller	01	0.4	0.4	99.2
	Vehicles Cleansing / Washing	02	0.8	0.8	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 21. states that; the largest (25 %) group of child labours works in automobile workshops, followed by (16.7 %) employed in hotels / restaurants. Other common industries include; daily wagers (5.7 %), tailoring (4.2 %) and working as carpenters (7.6 %). Similarly, children are involved in a variety of other jobs like; working in petrol pumps, welding industries and as shop-keepers etc. This distribution shows the various sectors in which children are working, using their energy intensely and some-times in dangerous conditions.

Table # 22. Working conditions / environment at industry you are working as a child labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Harsh	52	19.7	19.7	19.7
	Bad	63	23.9	23.9	43.6
	Fair	64	24.2	24.2	67.8
	Good	85	32.2	32.2	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 22. indicates that; the perceptions of working conditions among child labours vary significantly, i.e. about (32.2 %) of the children consider their working conditions to be good, while (24.2 %) rated them as fair. However, a substantial portion (23.9 %) describes their working conditions as bad and (19.7 %) find them to be harsh. This distribution reveals that; although some child labours work under near favourable conditions, a good number undergoes poor and un-favourable working conditions. Therefore, need of the time is to enhance the standards and safeguard child workers.

Table # 23. Child labour exposed to verbal abuse by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	117	44.3	44.3	44.3
	No	147	55.7	55.7	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 23. demonstrates that; a significant portion (44.3 %) of the child labours have been exposed to verbal abuse by the employers, supervisors or fellow workers. While, the majority (55.7 %) have not faced any verbal abuse. This information implies that; the child workers are molested in the work places where by close to half of them receive verbal abuse at their place of work. Thus, it is need of the time to address and eradicate such vices to help and create a better working environment for the kids.

Table # 24. Child labour exposed to physical abuse (beating) by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	69	26.1	26.1	26.1
	No	195	73.9	73.9	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 24. indicates that; a significant portion (26.1 %) of the child labours have been exposed to physical abuse such as beating by the employers, supervisors or fellow workers. The majority (73.9 %) have not experienced any such physical abuse. From this data, one gets to understand that; though most of the child labours pointed out that they seldom receive beatings, a significant number of them still suffer with this harsh treatment, which calls for the improvement of protective measures for these children and proper enforcement of the labour rights.

Table # 25. Child labour exposed to sexual abuse by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	42	15.9	15.9	15.9
	No	222	84.1	84.1	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 25. articulates that; a significant portion (15.9 %) of the child labours have been exposed to sexual abuse by the employers, supervisors or fellow workers. Whereas, the majority (84.1 %) have not experienced any such abuse. As it can be inferred from this data, most child labours are not sexually abused, yet a large proportion is exposed to such severe violations to warrant hardcore interventions and policies that protect such kids.

Table # 26. Child labour exposed to emotional abuse (neglect / forgotten) by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	90	34.1	34.1	34.1
	No	174	65.9	65.9	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 26. displays that; a significant portion (34.1 %) of the child labours have been exposed to emotional abuse, such as neglect or being forgotten by the employers, supervisors or fellow workers. However, the majority (65.9 %) have not faced any such emotional abuse. Hence, it can be inferred that; more than a third of the child labours are emotionally neglected cementing the need for addressing their psychological needs by providing adequate psychological support and protection during working hours.

Table # 27. Child labour suspected by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	69	26.1	26.1	26.1
	No	195	73.9	73.9	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 27. illustrates that; a significant portion (26.1 %) of child labours have been suspected by the employers, supervisors or fellow workers. However, the majority (73.9 %) have not faced any suspicion. From this data, it can therefore be suggested that; a good number of child labours develop mistrust in their work places, which might cause a hostile and stressful working environment.

Table # 28. Child labour mistreated by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	93	35.2	35.2	35.2
	No	171	64.8	64.8	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 28. shows that; a significant portion (35.2 %) of the child labour has experienced mistreatment by the employers, supervisors or fellow workers. While, the majority (64.8 %) have not faced any such mistreatment. Despite of the fact that; many child labours are not abused, a significant number of them are exposed to such negative treatment, which makes it necessary for

the work places to provide more protection and assistance to the children.

Table # 29. Child labour insulted by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	120	45.5	45.5	45.5
	No	144	54.5	54.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 29. indicates that; a substantial portion (45.5 %) of the child labours has experienced insults by the employers, supervisors or fellow workers. While, the majority (54.5 %) have not faced any such insults. Therefore, it has to be noted that almost half of the child labours are verbally abused at their work places. As a result, steps should be taken to try and post better conditions for children at work places besides protecting them from the following abuses.

Table # 30. Child labour neglected by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers denied of food in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	62	23.5	23.5	23.5
	No	202	76.5	76.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 30. explains that; a significant portion (23.5 %) of the child labours have been neglected by the employers, supervisors or fellow workers from being denied of food. Though, the majority (76.5 %) have not faced this form of neglect. Looking at this data, one can see that (23 %) of the child workers are actually victims of severe neglect in terms of not receiving food, which clearly indicates the necessity of employing more barriers and providing better working conditions for children.

Table # 31. Child labour neglected by the employers / supervisors / fellow workers denied of first aid (medical facilities) in case of injury / illness in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	70	26.5	26.5	26.5
	No	194	73.5	73.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 31. indicates that; a significant portion (26.5 %) of the child labours have been neglected from being denied of first aid or medical facilities in case of injury or illness. While, the majority (73.5 %) have not faced this form of neglect. Hence, the following data shows that, as many as (26 %) of the child labours have severe levels of neglect where their health and safety is concerned. Therefore, they need proper health care and protection at work places.

Table # 32. Child labour duration of work per day in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	04 Hours a Day	25	9.5	9.5	9.5
	06 Hours a Day	54	20.5	20.5	29.9
	12 Hours a Day	113	42.8	42.8	72.7
	16 Hours a Day	70	26.5	26.5	99.2
	20 Hours a Day	2	.8	.8	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 32. shows that; the majority (42.8 %) of child labours work for about 12 hours a day, indicating long working hours that are likely to impact their health and well-being. Another (26.5 %) work for 16 hours a day, while (20.5 %) work for 06 hours daily. Similarly, a smaller percentage (9.5 %) work for 04 hours a day and a minimal (0.8 %) work for about 20 hours a day. These results speak of long and physically draining hours that many child labours are forced to work, thus pointing to the necessity of enacting reasonable working hour regulations.

Table # 33. Who is responsible for a work you are doing in your opinion in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Parents	124	47	47	47
	Government	43	16.3	16.3	63.3
	Society	21	08	08	71.2
	No Idea	76	28.8	28.8	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 33. States; the perceived responsibility for a work done by the child labour, i.e. majority (47 %) of them believe that; their parents are responsible, followed by those having no idea (28.8 %). Whereas, a smaller portion (08 %) attributes responsibility to society.

Although, (16.3 %) having the idea that government is responsible. This brings out different stake-holders view points on an issue as sensitive as child labour and its accountability.

FAMILY DYNAMICS OF THE CHILD LABOUR IN DISTRICT KOHAT:

This section discusses the family dynamics of child labour in district Kohat, including size of the family, marital status, disability/illness and other aspects of the issue. It gave valuable information that influence children to engage in acts of child labouring.

Table # 34. Child labour parents family status in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Living Together	219	83	83	83
	Separated	45	17	17	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 34. explains that; majority (83.0 %) of the child labours come from the households where their parents live together. In contrast, (17 %) of the children come from the households where their parents are not living together. This means that; many children have both parental cares, whereas a significant number of them face extra difficulties arising from the parents separation that may further compound the economic stress that compel children into labouring.

Table # 35. Child labour parents have any kind of permanent illness/disability in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	75	28.4	28.4	28.4
	No	189	71.6	71.6	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 35. indicates that; a significant portion (28.4 %) of the child labours has parents with a permanent illness or disability. While, the majority (71.6 %) do not have parents with such conditions. According to this data, around one-third of the child labours have additional financial and childcare duties as a result of their parent's illnesses, which may account for the necessity of child labour in a home.

Table # 36. Child labour siblings below 15 years in the District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	242	91.7	91.7	91.7
	No	22	8.3	8.3	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 36. shows that; the vast majority (91.7 %) of the child labours have brothers or sisters below 15 years of age, indicating that many of them come from larger families with multiple dependents. While, only (8.3 %) of the child labours do not have younger siblings. This high percentage may also imply that in an effort to support their younger siblings, children are forced to engage in child labouring. Hence, in this way they are contributing to the problem in the district.

Table # 37. Individuals financially supported by child labour in the District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Just Yourself	48	18.2	18.2	18.2
	Just Parents	22	8.3	8.3	26.5
	Whole Family	194	73.5	73.5	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 37. demonstrates that; the majority (73.5 %) of the child labours support their whole family financially, indicating that their earnings are crucial for their household's survival. Another (18.2 %) support just themselves. While, (8.3 %) support only their parents. This distribution shows; how such young kids are burdened with immense economic roles as they are expected to assist in providing food for the entire family.

AWARENESS & SATISFACTION LEVEL OF THE CHILD LABOUR IN DISTRICT KOHAT:

This section aims to determine and describe the extent of child workers awareness and satisfaction in the district Kohat about their legal rights, satisfaction with the family life as a child labour as well as main cause of child labouring in the study region etc. Knowledge of these aspects enables one to evaluate the effectiveness of current support structures and the necessity for additional assistance.

Table # 38. Satisfaction level of the child labour right now as a labour in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Satisfied	153	58	58	58
	Dis-satisfied	111	42	42	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 38. reveals that; a majority (58 %) of the child labours are satisfied with their family life despite of being labours, however (42 %) are not satisfied. This means that; greater proportion of child labours are satisfied with their family setting, although a good number of them remain dissatisfied as indicated by their scores that are below mid-point of the scale. Thus, child labour have mixed attitudes and perceptions to family life.

Table # 39. Awareness level of the child labour about child rights in District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Aware	52	19.7	19.7	19.7
	Unaware	212	80.3	80.3	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 39. determines that; majority (80.3 %) of the child labours are not aware of the child rights, while only (19.7 %) have some awareness. Even though majority of the nations have ratified convention on rights of the child, children themselves are not well-informed about their rights and what needs to be done to them or for them to be done. These findings highlight the complex measures that organizations have to support child rights and raise voices for child rights at every forum.

Table # 40. Do you want to eradicate the menace of child labour from the District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Yes	178	67.4	67.4	67.4
	No	86	32.6	32.6	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 40. indicates that; a substantial majority (67.4 %) of the child labours in district Kohat are in favour to get rid of the child labours from an area. In contrast, (32.6 %) are against its elimination.

This ignorance emphasizes the need for increased awareness and educational initiatives, which will help child workers to grasp their legal rights and benefits.

Table # 41. Main cause of child labouring in the District Kohat:					
		Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Valid	Poverty	210	79.5	79.5	79.5
	Demand of Cheap Labour	9	3.4	3.4	83
	Outdated Culture	4	1.5	1.5	84.5
	Lack of Laws	13	4.9	4.9	89.4
	Lack of Education Facilities	9	3.4	3.4	92.8
	Parents Negligence	18	6.8	6.8	99.6
	Other	1	.4	.4	100
	Total	264	100	100	

Table # 41. indicates that; poverty is the main reason of child labouring in district Kohat, highlighting the serious financial hardships that many families face. This percentage is even higher than in district Kurram, which indicates that economic struggles are more common and severe in Kohat. Secondary causes include; parental negligence (6.8 %), lack of laws (4.9 %), demand for cheap labour (3.4 %), limited educational facilities (3.4 %) and outdated cultural practices (1.5 %) are also relevant but minor factors. They suggest that; social and structural issues play a supportive role rather than being the main causes. Whereas, only (0.4 %) of the respondents mentioned "other" reasons as the case may be.

CONCLUSION:

This Study brings out the various socio: economic and cultural factors of child labour in the district Kohat. Some of the developed dimensions include; demography, family structure, working environment, awareness of rights and satisfaction of the child labourers etc. It is also established that boys dominate the child labour market who are between (11-15) years of age. Many are from big families and majority of the families have b/w (6-10) members. A vast number of fathers and mothers are illiterate, which perhaps is the main reason for the frequent utilization of child labour money.

A majority of the child labourers have parents with them, while others left them with relatives or guardians; i.e. about (64 %) of them asserted that their parents have permanent illness or disabilities, which also increases the pressure on children to work. Further, a likelihood of many having a sibling that is under the age of 15 adds to the expenses that a family bears. Out of the different categories of child workers, (60 %) contribute all of their income to their families.

The child workers are found in different sectors, but they are mostly working in automobile workshops and hotels / restaurants. There is a variation of working conditions depending on the employee's perception of the working conditions as either good or bad or they experience harsh working conditions. It is unfortunate to note that majority of the children suffer from physical, sexual, verbal and emotional abuse as well. Scheduled working hours are long and majority of

them work for 12 hours a day, while some work 16 hours a day.

Public awareness on child rights is reported to be very low and most of the respondents are oblivious of their rights. The level of perceived working conditions satisfaction is moderately polarized, i.e. there are a few who claimed to be satisfied or very satisfied, majority of the respondents are dis-satisfied or very dis-satisfied. Availability of such services remains restricted or rather is scarce as a majority of them do not have an access to some of these services. Furthermore, limited people have information on education, while half are satisfied and half are dis-satisfied with the family life as child labourers.

As far as, child labour eradication is concerned most of them (67.4%) want to eradicate the menace of child labour from the district. While, (32.6 %) of the child labourers are against the child labour abolition according to their opinion, which is an alarming sign and needs to be addressed on priority grounds to cope up with the situation.

In terms of socio: economic reasons, this research provides an overview of the trends and frequency of child labour in district Kohat, as well as cultural aspects that contribute to the decision to keep children at home based workers. The result indicates that child workers experience working hazards and violations such as working environment, adversity, abuse and in-appropriate knowledge about their rights. Thus, these results call for promotional strategies that will help and raise socio: economic status, prevent child employment and ensure better access to education and assisting services.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To reduce child labour in the district Kohat, the following measures are necessary;

- Strict enforcement of child labour laws, with increased work place inspections and raise the penalties for offenders in the district.
- Align madaris with the mainstream education system to decrease drop-out rates in the region.
- Enhance social protection programs, i.e., increase BISP's conditional cash transfers in the study area.
- Initiate public awareness drives to shift cultural acceptance of child labour in the district.
- Increase of free and compulsory education, along with incentives for poor families should be initiated.
- Rehabilitation programs for rescued child labourers, which include vocational training.
- Community awareness programs to change societal attitudes toward child labour in the district.

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