

The trend of social sciences is comparatively decreasing due to lack of government support and poor education policies, censorship imposed over social scientists and more comparative incentives from natural sciences.

Social and Natural Sciences in Pakistan

Why Social Sciences are lesser significant than natural sciences in Pakistan?

Zaeem Yousaf (L19-1196)

Muhammed Zia Ur Rehman (L191205)

Gulraiz (L19-1217)

Pakistan Study Assignment By Sir Ijaz (BCS – 2E)

Social sciences are equally important as natural sciences which helped man to stay distinguished among other animals. Generally, Social Science focus on the relationships among individuals in society. It is the mixture of many subjects like History, Geography, Political Science, Economics, Sociology, Social Psychology and many more. For instance, art and drawing helped man to preserve the sculptures and historic cultures. History preserved the events whereby human learned without the cost of further experiments. Sociology, Psychology, anthropology and philosophy gave a new vision to human to better deal with socially oriented Problems. But unfortunately, in Pakistan the trend of social sciences is decreasing tremendously due to lack of government support and poor education policies, censorship and more comparative incentives from natural sciences.

Social sciences are entangled by the lack of government support and poor policy regarding the higher education and job allocation. Pakistan's government does not have sufficient budget to dedicate for the education and especially social sciences are almost ignored. The budget of Pakistan for education in 2019 was reduced by 20.5%¹ which lead the social governmental institutions to discouragement and universities now tend to stay independent and generate their own revenue by shifting toward natural sciences. University of Engineering and Technology managed its own budget by compromising its merit and admitted thousands more students. Similarly, Higher Education Commission (HEC) does not have friendly policies for social sciences and there is hardly any requirement of writing thesis as a qualification criterion.

² “In Pakistan, the process of evaluation of social sciences remained underdeveloped. The practitioners have not conducted the systematic research in their respective disciplines. Partially, it is due to lack of professional association. In first three decades of Pakistan, the evaluation of social sciences did not even start until 1980s when University Grants Commission laid down the establishment of Centre of Social sciences and Humanities.” Inyatullah, leading member of Council of social sciences, Pakistan.

¹ website <https://fp.brecorder.com/2019/06/20190612485340/>

² Thesis published on the issues with social sciences by council of social sciences
<http://www.cosspak.org/books/Social-Sciences-in-Pakistan-A-Profile-Final18.3.2.pdf>

Social scientists do not have an adequate level of freedom of speech and mostly their writing is subject to censorship. Social scientists, being under the influence of non-friendly policies, suffer the loss of natural thoughts and creativity. The life of social scientists is miserable in Pakistan as they have to compromise over their natural thoughts and the way they express. "Censorship restrictions, as she observes, have been most controversial when they involve explicit efforts to ban books in schools. And while most such efforts have indeed focused on books that are claimed to be unsuitable on moral grounds, censors have extended their activities to science as well. (Recall the effort by scientific creationists to control textbooks on evolutionary biology)." ³

Natural sciences are becoming more significant in Pakistan as they are used in practical life. Natural sciences have very clear rules and have expected outcomes while social sciences are biased and controversial. Even, social scientists hardly agree with the other one. There are no specific rules and laws which govern the specific scenario. Different strategies yield in different situation. This ambiguity in social sciences has narrowed down the scope in practical life. Following we will see how social science and natural science are important and how many importance given to them by Pakistan government.

(Zaeem Yousaf: I19-1196)

1. What we gained from social sciences vs natural sciences

Social science is widely regarded as providing important and beneficial advantages to local, regional and all communities. Social Science is the study of the activities of the physical and social environment. Basically, it is the study of human relations or the scientific study of human society. It deals with the humans' relationships, behavior, development and resources they use and many kinds of organizations they need to carry in their daily life like the workplace, school, family, government, etc. Social Science aware the students about our surroundings and the incidents happened in the past. With the help of social science, we learn how to live. People learn how to live their life in effective way. Besides this, it gives a standard to life. We get the concept of democracy and ways of rulings. Social science offers multiple perspective on society, help us to

³ Censorship Poses Threat To Everyone, Scientists Included: <https://www.the-scientist.com/books-etc/censorship-poses-threat-to-everyone-scientists-included-62631>

holding our politicians and media into account. It allows us to take part in progress of our country. We learned how to work in critical conditions. Individual citizen may feel empowered by this. Because of Social science we understand the fundamental rights in our constitution, freedom fighters who fought for the nation. It also provides knowledge of the social environment and nature. It also develops the human qualities, desirable attitudes in us, and it also expands the critical thinking and imagination of students. Students learn many different things from social science like cultural and social beliefs, religions, caste, nationalities, languages, festivals, clothing, food etc. So, in result social sciences has great impact on human life.

Natural science turned us to new world. It helps us in every field of our life. First of all, it helps us in field of medicine. Discovery of structure of DNA has proved a fundamental breakthrough in the history of biology. This might ultimately lead us to a wide practical application including genetically engineered crops, and test for genetic diseases. Natural science helps us to cope up with new diseases. We create vaccines for every disease we encounter in our daily life. Besides this with the help of biology we can explain the changes of human Bodies. We will be able to know the reasons about the sudden changes happen in our bodies. Besides human life, it helps us to cope the problems of environmental issues. We understand the issue happening in our environment and find solution for it. We are able to answer how and where life begins. Where from human comes? All these questions are solved by the concept of biological science.

Our whole world has become global village and everything is now in our hands. With the help of computer science, we find all the things at our doorstep. Today everything involved technology. Computer technology has turned us to new world.

Now scientists are looking to another planet to live. Man has reached on Moon. We studying the structure and nature of Earth and other planets around us. Not only that we are also able to search and study things about other solar system. And all this is possible because of deep study in subject of sciences. In future, we will be able to get more discoveries on this topic.

Now whole world is at door steps. We can move from one place to another place in only few hours. Time taken by the transports now reduce to huge extent. Every

day, there is a new invention in the field of mechanical and electronics, which made our life easy. Invention of airplanes and fast-moving transport vehicle has made our life fast. And all this made possible by sciences.

Also, nuclear weapons have increased our security system. Every day, new invention has made in this field which help us to cope up the security problems and also protect from enemy countries. Security cameras help us to record all the working happen which has proved a great invention of science.

In conclusion, I would say that social sciences and natural science both help us a lot. They have great importance in our lives. But natural sciences because of its importance has proved to be more valuable than social science.

2. Trend in future:

The future promises many exciting opportunities for the student of Natural sciences. Every day, new research in the field of natural sciences has occur. Natural science is a field which is very vast and never going to end. “Born too late to explore the Earth, but born too early to explore the galaxy.” So, in result we might say that researches in field of natural sciences has never going to end. If we explore it from one end there a new way created to which we have to research. But in field of social science there is more trend is less depth less job opportunities available for students. So, students are more focused on the field of natural science rather than social science. Government also provide more facilities to students in field of natural sciences. So, in result we might say that future belongs to natural science.

3. Universities and the programs offered in Natural sciences and Social sciences:

There are total 196⁴ of universities in Pakistan which offer different degrees in the field of social and natural science both at graduate and undergraduate levels. First of all, I will discuss no of programs and universities offering social sciences. In Pakistan, there are 62 programs in bachelor and 64 different programs are on MS level offered under topic of Social sciences both under private and Government sectors universities. Out of total 174 universities only few are specially created for

the purpose of social sciences. Some universities offer social sciences along with natural sciences but their center of domain is natural sciences.

There are approximately 138⁵ courses (graduate and undergraduate level) offered by different universities both under private and government sector. Many universities are specially created for the purpose of engineering and technology. In private sector about 80% universities are specially created for the purposes of natural sciences.

So, in result a student with field of natural science will be in more advantages in facilities he got in Pakistan.

(Zia Rehman: I19-1205)

4. Government budget for social sciences vs. natural sciences.

Government budget for social sciences is very less than natural sciences because natural phenomenon occur on the earth needed to research and find their possible solution if required. For example, climate change in this world is very important issue and it has to be study deeply to overcome the issue. It has been estimated that 0.12% of all funding for climate related research is spent on the social science of climate change. It has been argued that this is a serious issue on the earth. In the current situation it is try to know how human can change the climate to make it better for human life. The natural science of climate change is already well established and there will be decades and centuries to handle adaptation.

5. Job career in Social sciences vs. natural sciences.

Social sciences and natural sciences have their own importance. As we know everything is going to be technical. Earth becomes modern so, natural sciences going to be well developed than social sciences. There are 11421 universities offer natural sciences in the world, On the other hand 720 universities offer social sciences across the world so here is a huge difference between social science and natural sciences. Natural sciences have large number fields as compared to social sciences. So automatically there is more job opportunity of natural sciences as compare to social sciences.

⁵ <https://www.eduvision.edu.pk/>

6. Why politicians discourage the social sciences?

Politicians discourage social sciences because social sciences provide awareness and people ask for their right. Students' participation in political activities develops their political awareness and their skills to live in society. In developed countries like Canada and USA, students consider it their duty to take active part in democratic system of the country. In Pakistan, students have little opportunity to take part in political process and this is why they lack the political awareness that influences their attitudes and approaches towards democratic process. Students are the leaders of tomorrow and a strong potential force that must have political awareness and have knowledge when to oppose and when to support the political system of a country. They may create further awareness among the people and common illiterate members of the community. The used masses may not be used by the political kings after having complete awareness about the real democracy and political systems. Therefore, the role of the young students becomes more significant in the overall political development of the country. Political Awareness is believed to be significant and helpful for true democracy because with the help of political awareness politicians and leadership of the country can be made accountable. But politicians of Pakistan don't want that common people come to politics because they just want their family member only becomes politician not a common man. That is why politicians discourage social sciences.

(Gulraize: 191-1217).

In conclusion, trend of social sciences comparatively decreasing due to lack of facilities provided by the government to students, poor educational policies and on the other hand, more facilities provided to students of natural sciences. Consequently, young generation heading toward natural sciences with more opportunities and leaving behind the field of social sciences.

To promote social sciences, government needs to reserve more budget for education and HEC should regulate the academic publication on social issues and promote the research. More incentives provided to social scientists and life security can increase the productivity in social sciences in Pakistan.