



Ajmal Khan

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ABOUT ME

Dynamic and results-driven professional with a proven track record in research and analysis. My commitment to excellence, combined with strong communication and analytical abilities, positions me as a valuable asset in contributing to impactful research initiatives.

WORK EXPERIENCE Research officer

Balochistan Think Tank Network [26/07/2021 – Current]

City: Quetta

Country: Pakistan

My major task as a research officer is to examine social, economic, and political issues of interest to policymakers and the general public. I also read and synthesize previous research, and collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data. Additionally, I write research reports and articles and also prepare presentations.

Research Officer

Institute of Peace Research and Development (IPRD) [02/03/2020 – 07/06/2021]

City: Quetta

Country: Pakistan

In my role as a research officer, I focused on scrutinizing social, economic, and political issues relevant to policymakers and the general public. Furthermore, I undertook the tasks of reviewing and synthesizing existing research, as well as gathering and analyzing both quantitative and qualitative data. Additionally, I authored research reports and articles and prepared presentations to effectively communicate findings.

Lecturer

University of Balochistan [02/06/2019 – 31/12/2019]

City: Quetta

Country: Pakistan

The main task was to teach various courses to students of International relations. Additionally, I have to prepare course outlines, assessments, and compilation of their results as well.

Intern

Balochistan Technical Educational Vocational Training Authority (B-TEVTA) [01/01/2018 – 30/06/2018]

City: Quetta

Country: Pakistan

The common responsibilities include learning and becoming proficient in software, completing tasks assigned by their supervisor, and attending meetings where they take minutes

Prime Minister Internship Program in the collegiate sector.

Academic Intern [10/02/2016 – 10/08/2017]

City: Quetta

Country: Pakistan

I used to teach students in the college sector.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING M-Phil

National Defence University [10/02/2014 – 05/08/2016]

City: Islamabad

Country: Pakistan

Website: www.ndu.edu.pk

Masters

Quaid-e- Azam University [02/09/2011 – 04/2013]

City: Quetta

Country: Pakistan

Website: www.qau.edu.pk

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): **Pashto**

Other language(s):

English

LISTENING C1 READING C2 WRITING C2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C1 SPOKEN INTERACTION C1

Panjabi; Punjabi

LISTENING C1 READING B2 WRITING A2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION A1 SPOKEN INTERACTION A1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

DIGITAL SKILLS

Basic knowledge of STATA and SPSS (through training in the social sciences) / Google drive/ gmail / Google (Google Drive, Google Docs, Google Slides, Google Sheets, Google Meets, Google Trends)) / Social Media including Facebook , WhatsApp and Twitter /

Zoom & Telegram / Microsoft(Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access) / / Microsoft Office (Outlook, Excel, Word, PowerPoint) / Video
Conferencing (Zoom, Teams, Skype, Webex) - Advanced / Google (Google Meet, Google Docs, Google Classroom, Google Maps)

PUBLICATIONS

Estimating the Nexus Among Demographic Dividend, Economic Growth, and Environmental Degradation for Pakistan

[2023]

Ajmal Khan, NUST journal of social sciences and humanities, 2023, Vol,08, No.03, pp. 63-87

Sustainable Developmental Goal Eight (SDG-8) focuses on economic growth and decent work, the primary key to accelerating any country's economic growth. Likewise, reaping the demographic dividend of any country to its optimum level may exacerbate the level of sustainable cities and communities (SDG-11) through the responsible group of production and consumption (SDG-12) hence raising the economic pace. However, neglecting the environment by focusing on economic growth may induce environmental issues, a significant climate change agent. To achieve the set targets of sustainable development, the reorientation of policies in Pakistan is required to address the climate-based problems by not halting the economic growth process. Accordingly, this study aims to analyze the role of Pakistan's demographic dividend by controlling the impacts of technological innovations, capital formation on Pakistan's economic growth, and environmental degradation-based climate issues from 1980-2018. Therefore, the study plans to use heterogenous econometric algorithms. After identifying the degree of integration between the variables, the study tested the cointegration and found that the variables were cointegrated in the long run. The empirical estimates from the dynamic ARDL estimator reveal that economic growth and innovations are still raising environmental degradation, while the role of demographic dividend has declined in its impact on the environment. Further, the role of demographic dividends and innovations is increasing the economic pace, while more degradation tends to raise concerns about the economic performance of the country. Based on the results obtained from the study, new and updated policies are provided to the policymakers of Pakistan for theory and practice.

Link: <https://njssh.nust.edu.pk/index.php/njssh/article/view/150>

“The Role of Poverty, Food Security, and Rapid Population Growth on Human Development in Pakistan”

[2022]

Ajmal Khan, NUST journal of social sciences and humanities, 2022, pp. 89-105

This study examines the relationships among poverty, food security, rapid population growth, and human development in Pakistan from 1990-2018 to achieve the targets of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1: No poverty and 2: Zero Hunger. The study applies time series-based econometric approaches, which can incorporate regime shifts in the estimation process. The Zivot and Andrews unit root test is supplied for first-order integration, Bound, and Gregory Hansen cointegration tests to support the cointegration relationship among the variables. Similarly, the results obtained from autoregressive distributed lags (ARDL) stated that food security and income growth simultaneously increase human development in Pakistan. In contrast, the role of rapid population growth is negatively affecting human development in the country. The results from fully modified ordinary least squares (FMOLS) and canonical cointegrating regression (CCR) are simultaneously supporting the results of ARDL. The estimates of Granger causality revealed that income is unilaterally, and population growth is bi-directionally, causing human development in Pakistan. Similarly, the causality from human development to food security is also unidirectional. Finally, the study informs policymakers to devise effective policy guidelines for achieving the targets of SDGs 1 and 2 for Pakistan.

Link: <https://doi.org/10.51732/njssh.v8i3.155>

Afghanistan's Evolving Situation: Repercussions on Pakistan and CPEC Security [2022]

Ajmal Khan, Central European Management Journal, Vol. 30 No. 04,

Afghanistan's evolving situation is fluid to predict global and regional dynamics in politics, economy, and regional security. The building scenarios are yet to be fixed inside Afghanistan, which would pass to regional countries and world powers like the USA, China, and Russia. Along similar lines, American withdrawal does not seem to be a complete evacuation of US interests from Afghanistan. The uncertain movements inside and around Afghanistan are key to yielding any cost and benefit of socio-political, geo-economic, and strategic scenarios for Afghanistan and regional powers in action; Pakistan yet is central to this point. In this context, the current paper highlights different scenarios after the physical withdrawal of the US troops from Afghanistan, its evolving scenarios, and its implications for the China-Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Pakistan. The paper distributes the possible scenarios in tentative four likely components. The first section explains the dimensions of political setups coming out from the possible vacuum created by the US withdrawal. The second major scenario is reflected and described in terms of economic problems after the takeover of the Afghanistan Taliban. The third dimension explains the security situation internally and its repercussions on CPEC and Pakistan. Finally, the paper provides serious and conscious policy guidelines to the policymakers in Pakistan. **Link:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.57030/23364890.cemj.30.4.55>

Higher Education in Balochistan: Status and Way Forward [2023]

Ajmal Khan, Journal of Social Sciences Review, Vol. 03, No.1, pp. 68-85

Education plays a dominant and vital role in an individual's personal and professional growth. The growth and progress of a society without education is only wishful thinking. Globally, the education system has been divided into three phases that include primary, secondary, and post-secondary, also called tertiary or higher education (HE). HE is considered the last and highest stage of formal education. HE is a significant game-changer that enhances gainful employment opportunities and improves the country's value system, civic sense, and socioeconomic uplift. The HE of Balochistan is still lagging and is not capable of bringing forth a way forward for the socio-economic development of the people of Balochistan. This study aims to address the problems and current status of HE in Balochistan and provide policy recommendations to sort out those issues. The methodology for conducting this study was based on a detailed survey of the universities. A questionnaire was circulated among the vice-chancellors of the universities and the former vice-chancellor of the University of Balochistan, as well as the former Chancellor and Governor of Balochistan, across the province. The study concluded that the universities are facing severe financial constraints in revenue generation; they may not fulfil the demands of the university.

Realizing Demographic Opportunity in Balochistan: Prospects of TVET in Promoting Social Cohesion

[2023]

Ajmal Khan, Journal of Namibian Studies, 35 S1, pp. 240-264

Technical and vocational training programs are considered pivotal in achieving development goals. However, Balochistan is becoming a predominantly youthful society with a high rate of unemployment that requires training the youth through TVET to tackle the unemployment that has reached alarming proportions. The disruptive impact of youth unemployment represents a significant threat to social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. The dominant explanation for this study has been observed in fragile states where TVET has played a prominent role in mitigating conflicts and promoting social cohesion. Accordingly, this study tried to understand the role of TVET in promoting social cohesion in Balochistan, realizing the potential for a demographic dividend. The study is qualitative in nature, and participants were purposefully selected for it. Data has been collected from key informant interviews (KIIs) and official documents. This study provides and guides local and national policymakers on various emerging issues related to youth unemployment and social disenfranchisement, as well as uses a better approach to addressing demographic opportunity, based on rigorous data analysis. Based on the results obtained from the study, new and Journal of Namibian Studies, 35 S1 (2023): 240-264 ISSN: 2197-5523 (online) 241 updated policies have been provided to policymakers for theory and practice.

Keywords: Demographic, TVET, Social cohesion, Prospects, Opportunity, Balochistan.

Link: <https://namibian-studies.com/index.php/JNS/article/view/3450/2387>

A Critical Analysis of Pakistan's Budget 2023-24: The Fiscal Challenges [2023]

Ajmal Khan, <https://bbejournal.com/index.php/BBE/article/view/526/391>, Vol12, No.03, pp. 1001-1014

The paper presents a comprehensive analysis of Pakistan's Budget 2023-24 and its fiscal landscape, sketching the challenges and opportunities within its revenue generation, economic growth, and debt management. The primary challenge facing Pakistan's economy is the gap between government revenue and expenditures. The country faces hurdles in tax collection, marked by a complex tax system, tax evasion, and discrepancies impacting the middle and lower-income classes. A mixed research method was used in conducting this study, analysis of fiscal data, extensive literature review, and consultations with economic experts. An in-depth analysis of Pakistan's revenue sources, inflationary trends, budget deficits, and global economic conditions was conducted. The results show a complex web of challenges in Pakistan's fiscal framework, the gap between revenue collection and government spending, high inflation rates, the imbalance between exports and imports, encircling tax evasion, and an intricate tax system. The paper offers a sequence of strategic reforms, emphasizing expense reduction, tax simplification policy, political and legislative reforms, and encouraging investment for economic stability. It also highlights the need for coordination among government organizations, strategies to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and endorsing Human Resource Development (HRD) for a skilled workforce. The analysis highlights the importance of reforms in the governance structure, taxation system, and spending to achieve stability and economic growth in the country. **Link:** <https://doi.org/10.61506/01.00041>

Population Growth and its Impact on Development in Balochistan (Book Chapter)

[2022]

Ajmal Khan, Introduction to Balochistan, 2022, Chapter 4. I wrote this chapter for a book and it is under review. **Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries in Balochistan**

[2022]

Ajmal Khan, Introduction to Balochistan, 2022, Chapter 5. I wrote this chapter for a book and it is under review.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Population and Democracy: Pakistan's Unsolved Dilemma of social cohesion

[Islamabad, 21/12/2022 – 22/12/2022]

My paper was selected for an oral presentation titled, "Realizing Demographic Opportunity in Balochistan: Prospects of TVET in Promoting Social Cohesion" at the 23rd Annual Population Research Conference on "Population and Democracy: Pakistan's Unsolved Dilemma of Social Cohesion" held in collaboration with Health Services Academy, Islamabad on December 21-22, 2022.

Link: https://cd.linkedin.com/posts/healthservicesacademy_population-association-of-pakistan-papactivity-7011708910281605120-BLRh

Population Challenges in a Changing World

[07/09/2021 – 09/12/2021]

My Paper was Selected for a poster presentation titled, "Estimating the Nexus among Demographic Dividend, Economic Growth, and Environmental Degradation for Pakistan" at the 22nd Annual Population Research Conference on "Population Challenges in a Changing World" held in collaboration with the National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Islamabad on December 7-9, 2021.

Link: https://s3h.nust.edu.pk/events/22_annual_population_research_conference_population_challenges_in_a_changing_world/

Historical and Geographical aspect of the Kashmir Issue- significance for peace in the region.” [BTTN, Quetta, 06/02/2023 – 06/02/2023]

- Participated as a Keynote Speaker in the Webinar on “Kashmir Solidarity Day” on the topic “Historical and Geographical aspect of the Kashmir Issue- significance for peace in the region.” On Feb 06, 2023 Link: <https://bttan.org.pk/webinars/>

2022 Carnegie International Nuclear Policy Conference

[US, 26/10/2022 – 28/10/2022]

Attended and reported live Webinar, “2022 Carnegie International Nuclear Policy Conference,” held from Oct 26, 2022-Oct 28, 2022.

Link: <https://carnegieendowment.org/2022/10/28/2022-carnegie-international-nuclear-policy-conferenceevent-7828>

Promoting Strategic Controls through International Cooperation

[Islamabad, 05/09/2022 – 06/09/2022]

- Attended, participated, and reported international conference titled, “Promoting Strategic Controls through International Cooperation” jointly organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Pakistan and the National University of Science and Technology Institute of Policy Studies (NIPS) on 5th-6th September 2022 Link: <https://mofa.gov.pk/press-releases/conference-on-promoting-strategic-trade-controls-throughinternational-cooperation-islamabad-5-6-september-2022>

Physics and Mechanics of Nuclear Technology and its Applications

[Quetta, 02/09/2022 – 06/09/2022]

- Attended, participated, and reported workshop titled, “Physics and Mechanics of Nuclear Technology and its Applications” organized by Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN) on 2nd-6th September 2022. The workshop comprises eight modules, aimed at providing the requisite technical background in areas related to applications of nuclear technology.

Link: <https://bttan.org.pk/capacity-building-workshop/>

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Certificate for presenting a paper at the 23rd Annual Research Conference 2022 by the Population Association of Pakistan.

Population Association of Pakistan [09/12/2021]

- Awarded a Certificate for presenting a paper at the 23rd Annual Research Conference 2022 by the Population Association of Pakistan.

Scholarship from HEC in Masters Balochistan and FATA scholarship program

Higher Education Commission of Pakistan [18/02/2012]

- Received Scholarship from HEC in Masters Balochistan and FATA scholarship program .

Star Performer of the Year 2021 Award Balochistan Think

Tank Network (BTTN) [31/12/2021] I was awarded with the star performer of the BTTN.

Certificate for presenting a paper at the 23rd Annual Research Conference 2022 Population Association of Pakistan (PAP) [22/12/2022]

Awarded a Certificate for presenting a paper at the **23rd** Annual Research Conference 2022 by the Population Association of Pakistan. description.

Star Performer of the Year 2022 Award Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN) [30/12/2022] I was awarded with the star performer of the BTTN.

Star Performer of the Year 2023 Award Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN) [22/12/2023] I was awarded with the star performer of the BTTN.

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Central Executive Member of National Youth Organization (NYO)

[Peshawar, 15/09/2015 – 09/09/2017]

I was Central Executive member of NYO, a youth wing of Awami National Party (ANP).

Vice Chairman Pashtun Student Council

[Islamabad, 20/11/2011 – 20/12/2012]

I was part of the student politics at Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad and remained Vice Chairman of the above mentioned organization.

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Hiking

Hiking gives you a chance to escape the everyday hustle, breathe in fresh air, and immerse yourself in breathtaking landscapes. The rhythm of each step harmonizes with the tranquility of the surroundings, offering a sense of accomplishment as you conquer trails and reach new heights. Hiking isn't just a hobby; it's a gateway to exploration, self-discovery, and a deeper connection with the great outdoors. I have summited many peaks in Balochistan and each summit offers its unique perspective, whether it's the stunning views from Loyi Naikan, the rugged beauty of Zarghoon, or the majestic heights of Chiltan and Mehrdar. The diversity of landscapes and the challenges these peaks present surely make for an unforgettable hiking experience.