

Gender Inequality In Mianwali: Punjab

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Abstract

This research paper provides a widespread appraisal of the gender inequality and how did gender inequality symbolizes in Mianwali, Punjab? Gender refers to socially constructed roles of men and women. The difference between both the gender stem from assignment of different societal roles and culture. Sadly, Pakistan is such example in which women are treated as second class citizens. Women in Pakistan are butchered in the name of honour and are victimized. Their participation in outdoor activities is restricted. This research paper aims at insight about factors effecting woman's life in Punjab in general and in Mianwali specifically and find out causes, factors and reasons behind gender inequality in Mianwali. Further, this research paper will make an effort to unmask old dated rituals and traditions in Mianwali. The main question of the paper is how did education play role in issue of gender inequality in Mianwali? The survey was carried out with the intent to obtain thorough going information; therefore, a well-knit methodology was applied. The questionnaires were taken along with interviews. Also, through qualitative and descriptive analysis, it has been inferred that the most striking component which was found hovering over all the pragmatic issue was infinite male dominance and Mianwali is underdeveloped district which comes at 10 out of 36 districts in Punjab in terms of literacy.

Keywords: Gender Inequality, Mianwali, Honor, Rituals and traditions, Participation.

تلخیص

یہ تحقیقی مقالہ میانوالی پنجاب میں صنفی تفریق اور اس کے علامتی اظہار کے حوالے سے ایک وسیع جائزہ پیش کرتا ہے۔ صنف یا جنس دراصل کسی بھی معاشرے میں عورت اور مرد کے معاشرتی کردار کا تعین کرتی ہے۔ دونوں جنسوں کے درمیان پائی جانے والی تفریق کی جڑیں معاشرے اور کلچر میں انہیں تفویض کردہ کردار سے نکلتی ہیں۔ بدقسمتی سے پاکستانی معاشرے میں عورت کو ایک دوسرے درجے کا شہری سمجھا جاتا ہے پاکستان میں عورت کو غیرت کے نام پر قتل کر کے عبرت کا نشان بنایا جاتا ہے۔ ان کی بیرونی سرگرمیوں میں شرکت پر پابندیاں عائد ہیں۔ اس تحقیقی مقالے میں ان اندرونی عوامل کی نشان دہی کی گئی ہے جو پنجاب خصوصاً میانوالی میں عورتوں کی زندگی پر اثر انداز ہو رہے ہیں، خاص کر وہ اسباب، عوامل اور

نتائج جو میانوالی میں صنفی تفریق کے فروغ کا باعث بن رہے ہیں۔ مزید یہ کہ اس مقالے میں میانوالی کی اُن قدیم روایات اور رسموں کو بھی بے نقاب کرنے کی کوشش کی گئی ہے جو صنفی تفریق کا باعث ہیں۔ اس مقالے کا ایک بنیادی سوال یہ ہے کہ عورتوں کی تعلیم کس طرح صنفی تفریق کے خاتمے میں اپنا کردار ادا کر سکتی ہے۔ مہیا معلومات کی روشنی میں سروے انتہائی منضبط طریقہ کار سے کیا گیا ہے تاکہ مطلوبہ نتائج تک رسائی اختیار کی جا سکے۔ سوال نامے کے ساتھ لوگوں کے انٹرویو بھی کیے گئے ہیں۔ کیفیت اور وضاحتی تجزیوں کے بعد یہ حیران کن قیاس کیا جا سکتا ہے کہ تمام ترحیقی مسائل اُس لامحدود مردانہ اختیار کا زائیدہ ہیں جو میانوالی میں کم شرح خواندگی کا نتیجہ ہے۔ میانوالی ایک پسماندہ ضلع ہے اور شرح خواندگی کے اعتبار سے یہ پنجاب کے ۳۶ اضلاع میں سے دسویں نمبر پر آتا ہے۔

کلیدی الفاظ: صنفی تفریق، میانوالی، پسماندگی، غیرت، رسوم و رواج، ثقافت، شرکت

Introduction

Women's right in the world is significant gage to comprehend universal well-being. The society cannot be functional appropriately without women, as role of women cannot be ignored who works as mother, sister and wives. Aristotle the father of political science had worded that the state is a " union of families and villages". Family plays a key part in society, and makes the foundation of the nation. She systematizes the foundation of family life, looks after home, teaches her children and strive to rise them up to standard living. The role of women in entirety subsidizes to the edifying of an idyllic family, ideal society and an ideal state. In order to build the prosperous and healthy society both men and women demand for equal rights.

Gender refers to socially constructed roles of men and women. The difference between both the gender stem from assignment of different societal roles and culture. The different roles and responsibilities are the decisive factors of gender equality or inequality. The very concept of gender equality refers to equal opportunities for both the gender and setting aside bias on the basis of mere being human. When we talk about gender equality in Mianwali, it is unfortunate to say that Mianwali is adherently sticking to old-dated cultural rituals. Societal prejudice, economic domination by men and customarily straps and boundaries make beleaguered environment for women's in Mianwali. This thesis offers a defined shade of women's situation in Mianwali by connecting to social, political, and economic aspects of discrimination. There are certain areas in Mianwali which contributes a major chunk of discrimination against women in which Swans, Chidro and Paikhail stands prominent.

Review of Literature

Parcheta *et al.* (2013) in his work examined that women have battled to become equal with men in all phases of life and worked over the last 90 years. Women in work places are facing discrimination in pay and promotions equal to the advances they have made in education and career. He discussed that how inequality is happening and which steps should women take to get equal opportunities as men and become successful (Nicole, Belal, Khanfar, 2013).

Imran Sharif Chaudhry (2009) in his study used Logic regression analysis on primary data sets to investigate the impact of gender inequality in education on rural poverty. His study showed that gender inequality in education has adverse impact on rural poverty. He found that household size and female to male ratio (members) have solid link with the prospect of poverty; this has been indicated by the inverse relation between variables of gender inequality in education and rural poverty (Chaudhry & Rahman, 2009).

Zafar Shayan (2015) in his work stated that gender equality in Afghanistan is evident. women and girls are facing several difficulties in education. Instead of improvement in education sector, the situation of female education is still dreadful in the last decade. MadihaSalik, Zhu Zhiyong (2014) in her study examined the position of gender and discrimination in gender inequalities in higher education in rural areas of Pakistan. She conducted study to find out the reason and impact of gender inequality and gender development in Higher education. Their studies showed that female students are becoming least in rural areas up to graduate level. He suggested that parents, scholars and specially government should plan to increase the number of female in higher education and in public sector universities (Salik & Zhiyong, 2014).

Tabassum *et al.*, in his study showed the effect of discrimination against women and also explored the status of women in the country. She said that women education is very essential for the development of nation, they play an important role in every field mainly in agriculture, livestock, handicrafts making, medicine, and education and actively participate toward family and country's economy. For the wellbeing of coming generations they need proper training. For his study, She collected data from two hundred respondents of rural areas of Faisalabad. She used multi-sample technique and analyzed the data through SPSS (Package for Social Sciences). She scheduled certified interviews to find conclusion and suggestions for improvement. And his results indicated that in rural areas women education is insufficient and people do not like the independence and modernization (Tabassum, Ashfaq, Kousar, Saghir & Amjad, 2010).

Iriam E. David (2015) discussed in her book "*Feminism*" the changes in HE (higher education) and the lives of women over last five decades. Now, women

participation can be seen in education as well as employment to unmatched level. She, in her study observed that how the opportunities can be opened for every class of women. She examined that there have been gender equality and changes in Higher education for undergraduate's students and that does not mean the gender equality has been attained (David, 2015).

Ambedkar *et al.* (2011) supports gender equality and equality in education, the states should make their struggles toward education, official structure and society's culture. States must change the education system and should lessen the monetary problems that are creating separate standards for males and females. He also discussed how to improve the lives of women and their families in underdeveloped countries through ICT and e-commerce offer substantial possibilities. The objective of Gender equality is to increase women's participation that will ultimately result in economic development and growth (Ambedkar, Pradesh, Srikakulam, Atchyuta, Srinivas, Santosh & Ranganath, 2011).

Schulz, Paul T (2001) mainly focuses on underdeveloped countries. Research suggested that education of mother has more effects on child's education, health, mentality and growth than the education of father; hence education is important for the girls (Schulz, 2001).

According to United Nation Sustainable Goals, one of the goals is to have the gender inequality and empowerment of women. UNO report in 2014, 143 countries has assured equality between men and women in their constitution. About 2/3rd of countries in underdeveloped areas have assured gender similarity in primary education. IN Southern Asia, only 74 girls were enrolled in primary school for every 100 boys in 1990. By 2012, the enrolment ratios were the same for girls as for boys (UN, 2021).

Gender Equality and Inequality (Theoretical Approach)

It is opportune to start with the words of former UN Secretary General Kofi Anan who once said, "Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance". The words of Kofi Anan poignantly convey a message to shed off the worse discrimination between human being on mere being male or female. Globally, women are treated as inferior humanoid and are devoid of fundamental rights. It has been 70 year of Pakistan emergence that nation is mired in gender inequality. Women in Pakistan are deprived of their right and they are not provided with equal opportunities. There instances in which women are downgraded which includes prominent example of Ms. Fatima Jinnah who being entitled as '*Mother of the Nation*' was ruefully defeated in General election and her untimely demise was also not less than a myth. Another

enthraling personality Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto was brutally shot dead in a political procession at Liaquat Bagh, Rawalpindi who had twice been elected as Prime Minister of Pakistan. Besides, United Nation Organization which is key unit in protecting the rights, failed to elect a single female Secretary General since its formalization in 1945. Pakistan is an Islamic country wherein unfortunately role of woman is diminished by self-proclaimed Mullahs. Misquoting by such Mullah ingratiated with archetypal mind are key element which further mires up woman character. As per report of Human Right Commission 1000 woman are strangulated in every year in Pakistan on the name of honour and report only is based on reported incidents.

Gender Inequality in Mianwali

Mianwali is situated in north-west of Punjab province and is border district between KPK and Punjab. It's estimated population as per censuses of 2017 in 15,46,094. Mianwali district is consists of 03 Tehsils (Piplan, Esa Khel, Mianwali) and Mianwali city is its headquarters. Basically, Mianwali is district in which old-dated customs are fluttering and gender disparity and bias is still hovering over the fortune of women. Numerous hurdles are created for the girl who seeks to get higher education. This is all due to sticking with cultural rituals and old-dated norms. There are a number of cases reported in the district where a girl is strangulated on mere suspicion.

Contrary to harsh reality detailed above, a meager resident of the district thinks that with advent of 21st century, Mianwali is changing and women are getting higher education. Besides, old-dated rituals are dying with the passage of time. Women are going outdoor for jobs and competing in different fields. Though, this is positive aspect; nonetheless, speedy advancement and shedding off archetypal would help in projecting epic-picture of the women. It is correct to say that Mianwali is facing gender bias and women are subjugated; however, things are healing with the passage of time. The educational windows in shape of opening of NAMAL University and campus of Sargodha University will help in shaping future of women. For that matter, views of the inhabitants of Mianwali regarding gender inequality have been taken. The respondents shown their view to a questionnaire. The views of the respondents were graded which is detailed in succeeding tables.

Table: 3.1
Which job/work should be given to women in Mianwali.

Categories	Numbers	Percentage
Teaching	25	50%
Any field	10	20%
Doctor	5	10%
Housewives	5	10%
Domestic business	3	6%
Banking	2	4%

The Table 3.1 clearly indicates that 50% respondents preferred teaching for women in Mianwali and other profession remained far lower than the teaching profession. The general perception of the people is that teaching is a sole profession in which woman suits best as in such profession woman enjoy comparatively good atmosphere, however, it has been widely observed that woman put preference to teaching among other jobs. The other 20 % respondents who nodded in response to the survey, had of the view that woman can do any type of job as the current employment market has squeezed and it is tough to find job of their choice. While 10% respondents were of the view that woman should opt medical field as such profession offers a lot. The respondent's percentage remained quite low as medical field is considered to be challenging and expensive. In addition to that, a meager number of people (4%) were in favour of banking jobs for woman. They supported their assertion with statements that banking job are based at native stations and woman beside doing house work can attend their job. To conclude statement, 10% nodded in negativity regarding opting of any profession by woman.

The inference can be drawn from above tabulated survey that teaching is a sole profession which not only woman tries to catch but their families also looks to engage them in the said profession. During the interacting with the different persons with different frame of minds, besides; above listed professions, they also raised their voice in favour of following job to be opt by woman:

- Management jobs
- Small home business
- Agriculture /farming.

Another perspective which was observed during the exercise that respondent disliked of joining police profession by woman as they found it disgraceful keeping in view the police culture and nature of duties.

Table: 3.2
Why early marriages occur in the Mianwali?

Categories	numbers	Percentage
Lack of knowledge/ignorance	20	40%
Poverty	10	20%
Culture values	5	10%
Unemployment	5	10%
Islamic values	5	10%
Social evils	5	10%

Table 3.2 shows that a survey regarding the early marriages in Mianwali was carried with object to have insight behind the reason of girl's early marriage. The survey climbed up in which 40% of the respondents were of their view of ignorance/lack of knowledge. As the literacy rate of Mianwali in underdeveloped area remained at lowest ebb; therefore, succumbing to ignorance parents wed off their daughter in early life. Generally, 16 year of age is considered to be proper age in which girl should be wed off. The ignorance painted another gloomy picture in which it was assessed that birth of female is considered to be burden which later to be paid in form of usury. Contrary to rural area, city life portrays other picture of the side wherein girl's birth is equally treated with happiness as of boy's birth.

Another prospect which came after ignorance was poverty. A total 20% of the respondents riposted that poverty plays a key role in early wedding of the girls. As Mianwali come to be least developed city which lower sources of income; therefore, besides farming there is no such profession to earn livelihood. People lack financial sources for better upbringing of their daughter and meditates over to wed them of at early stage to shake off burden from their shoulders. Therefore, poverty came as one of key point behind early weddings of girls in Mianwali.

Though, ignorance and poverty were observed major issues behind early weddings; however, another aspect of Culture values were also responsible. A total 10% of respondent nodded in positivity about cultural values being the reason of early weddings. As per rituals, relations are joined with the same family lineage and even on the birth of girl, her future is decided. Besides, linking of relation with same family member is considered to be a honoured feat and wedding off girl in other clan is considered relatively a bad sign. Unemployment came with 10% nods behind the early marriages of girls in Mianwali. Generally, boys are considered to be bread winner of the family and girls have to share hands in domestic chores of the family. As cultural values are well honoured in Mianwali; therefore, woman are not thought to be getting jobs and going outdoor. Such thinking blends with poverty and parents meditate over to wed off their girls at early stage. Islamic values are also honoured and people are taught by routine clerics to prioritize their weddings marriages as the delay therein shares in wrongdoing (Khalil, 2016). Besides, in rural areas, people are found to be

fanatically following each and every thing said by their 'Faith-Healer/Peer'. A total 10% respondent said yes regarding question of Islamic values being playing role in the early marriages. Social evil come at last and as Islamic values laid emphasis over getting away from evil and marriage at the right time is given as the remedy to get rid of social evil. A total 10% of respondents were found on the same page over getting rid from social evil by going for early marriages (Qarni, 2017).

Though above explained reasons are found to be common reason behind early marriages; however, there are certain other aspect which also contribute in early marriages of the girls cited below.

- Cousin marriages
- Tribal living
- Strong cast system
- Superiority given to boys
- Lack of education
- Women considered as housewives

Table: 3.3
Why women not given higher education?

Categories	Numbers	Percentage
Household works(housewives)	20	40%
Early marriages	10	20%
Tradition of society	5	10%
Financial issues	5	10%
Narrow mindset	5	10%
Women getting higher education	5	10%

Table 3.3 The lower literacy rate in Pakistan shows a depressing graph in which only 56% people are educated and more lambently the standard set to be in the list of literate paints another sorry picture as one who have passed the 5th grade or one who can read/write is marked literate. If the comparison may be drawn with other South-Asian countries, Sri-Lanka stands tall in the list as it had beside going into the quagmire of war against liberation front 'Tamil', it not only defeated terrorism but rose it literacy rate to almost 100% which is distinctive achievements. In Mianwali, the figure is quite dismal as 38.69% people are literate. Government apathy also reflects into the matter, not a single university was set up in Mianwali District. Imran Khan took the gauntlet as established NAMAL University in the suburbs of Mianwali which offer quality education. Later on in 2012, a sub campus of University of Sargodha was established in Mianwali. The details of survey regarding lower rate of woman getting higher education is penned down in succeeding paragraph. The survey shows that 40% of the respondent view woman being considered 'housewives' behind miserable graph of woman getting higher

education. 20% of the respondents weighed their opinion of another plight of the society in which girls are wed off at early stage of the life. Factors which contribute in the girl's early marriage including tribal rules, lower education and financial constraints. A total 10% of the respondents were of the view that traditional heritage and dogmas are reason behind woman terminating their education at early level. Financial constrains weigh the same as of old ritual of society. Mianwali district lacks with employment opportunities; therefore, it is challenging to find good job. Narrow mindset is another plight which hinders in woman higher education. Mianwali district is based on the cultural values and woman are considered to run domestic chores. 10 % of the respondents had the same views. 10% of the respondents raised their voice that presently media and such other platforms has rationally trumpeted benefit of education; hence, proving in better enrolment of girls in universities. The respondents were of the view the woman are now going outdoor, seeking higher degrees and competing well in the educational field (The Express Tribune, 2017).

Minawali girls top in law school of London. This is also achievement of Maham Malik, a young girl from Namal Valley near NAMAL lake. (Young Pakistani woman tops Britain's Durham Law School exam, 2017)

Many factors also suggested that women not getting higher education

- Lack of education
- Not smart investment to teaches girls
- Narrow mindset
- Tribal living
- Male dominating society
- Family issues
- Universities in far areas
- Not allowed to teach in coeducation.
- Women considered as housewives Self-respect of family member

Table: 3.4
How would you define gender inequality?

Categories	Numbers	percentage
Not treated equally	20	40%
Male dominating society	10	20%
Discrimination between sexes	10	20%
No gender inequality	5	10%
Women not given position	5	10%

Table 3.4 shows a surge about woman being not treated equally as 40% of respondents concluded their statements tagging patriarchal society. Mianwali is a district in which role of woman is simplified and definition of honour is over

exaggerated. The stats could be different in city area as education institutions have played a key role in polarization of dogmatic thinking.

20% of the respondents were of the view that patriarchy is reason behind gender inequality. Mostly, all the decisions are taken without the consent of woman even their marriages are planned without taking their consent which reflect a gloomy picture of 21st century where number of social organization are voicing in favour of woman rights. 20% respondents viewed that sexism is reason of inequality. Due to ancestral values and ritual, woman lives is in jeopardy.

10% of respondents voiced that education has played a role in overcoming gender inequality and now there is no gender inequality. They supported their assertions with claims that now woman are equally performing various jobs along with men. 10% of the respondents viewed that woman are not given due position in society and they are ignored of their basic rights.

Other Contributing Factors

Though above listed factors are contributing to gender equality, following elements also gave weightage to gender inequality:

- Equal rights not given
- Preference given to boys
- Degradation of females by society
- Females are discouraged
- Discrimination in different fields of life.

Table: 3.5
How has economy influenced women position in Mianwali?

Categories	Numbers	percentage
No role	20	40%
Economy affect by working women	15	30%
Male dominate society	5	10%
Household shopping	5	10%
Inflation	5	10%

Table 3.5 substantial chunk (40%) of respondents viewed that economy has nothing to do with the woman position in society. Respondents showed disinterest of economy effecting woman life as according to them, men are responsible to drive the vehicle of house and woman have to see their children. 30% of respondents viewed that economy has direct link with the working of woman and effect their lives. 10% of the respondents were of the view that economy has all to do with men as in Mianwali. In Mianwali, woman is discouraged to do outdoor job. 10% of the respondents viewed that economy affects woman. Often male go

outer cities for livelihood and they send monthly expenses in their house which is controlled by woman. 10% of the respondents viewed that inflation is also contributing factors having worst effects on economy. Inflation has adverse effect on the family daily routines and their capability to buy routine squeezes.

Table: 3.6
How do media influence gender inequality in Mianwali?

Categories	Numbers	Percentage
No role	25	50%
Negative role	10	20%
Positive aspects	5	10%
Create awareness	5	10%
Dramas that create harassment	5	10%

Table 3.6 shows that relatively a large chunk of respondents were of the view that media neither direct nor indirect role to influence gender inequality in Mianwali. 20% respondents viewed that in the present era, media influence the mind and media does sways the mind of the people to highlight gender inequality. Further, 10% of the respondents stated that media is disseminating positive aspects and has key role in making minds of the people. 10% of the respondents were of the view that present age of the media which has been playing all important role in creating awareness into the mind of the people. Only 10% of the respondents riposted that the theme line of newly aired dramas hovers around the domestic differences and matrimonial grudges which only adds in negative experience.

Other voices are of the respondents are penned down below regarding media role:

- Media exerting to eliminate the gender inequality
- Brought change in thinking
- Due to media, women are struggling for their rights
- Little role in Mianwali, not too much advanced than the others one
- Positive aspects, women are getting education
- Should arrange some programs that create awareness
- Right to cast vote though media
- Highlight the social problems

Table: 3.7
How do political structures maintain the gender equality and inequality?

Categories	Numbers	Percentage
No role	20	40%
Reserved seats for women	15	30%
Projects/programs to political mobilize	10	20%
Equal rights	5	10%

Table 3.7 shows that A big chunk of respondents i.e 40% view that political structure have no role and no such serious efforts have been made in this regard which could address the wide difference between men and woman in Mianwali. 30% of the respondents had contrary views. They responded that a specified quota have been allotted to woman in national and provincial parliaments. Woman are playing active role in national politics now. However, they shown dissent when confronted with the question that no woman have been elected from Mianwali. 20% of the respondents viewed that the recent layer of public gathering in Islamabad and across the country has contributed in shedding off gender inequality as a number of woman turned up on such platforms to have their say. 10% of the respondents viewed that emergence of equal right organizations and torrential flow of information on media has contributed a lot in projecting gender inequality in Mianwali.

Following polarized views were also recorded during the course of survey:

- Political structure work for both men and women
- Less seats given, but at present equality occurs
- They have power they can make projects
- Political law can improve gender inequality
- Political structures discrimination occurs in Mianwali
- Reserved seats for women in national assembly that creates superiority in men

Table: 3.8
How gender inequality symbolize in Mianwali?

Categories	Numbers	percentage
Male dominating society	25	50%
Priority to sons over daughter	10	20%
Trends changes women treated equally	10	20%
Suppressing women abilities and rights	5	10%

A 50% of the respondents were of view that male domination is primary reason behind gender inequality in Mianwali. Parents take extraordinary care while enrolling their male children while girls are preferred prefer to be enrolled in local school. It is generally believed in Mianwali as well as other in underdeveloped district that boys brings prosperity while girls are considered burden. 20% of the respondents viewed that birth of a male baby is welcomed by the family while girls birth is not appreciated. Relatively a low chunk of respondents (10%) viewed that the world has stepped in 21st century and equal right of women are trumpeted by various organizations. During the course of survey, 10% of the respondents

viewed that many factors are contributing in suppressing abilities and right of woman in which male domination, dogmatic rules come forth.

Other Factors

- Less professional opportunities for woman
- Strictness over women causes inferiority
- Women prefer teaching and medical jobs
- Discouragement of women empowerment

Table: 3.9
What determine women role and position in Mianwali?

Categories	Numbers	Percentage
As a family mother, sister daughter and wife	20	40%
Education	15	30%
Influential Clan	5	15%
Women character	5	15%

A large chunk of the respondents (40%) viewed that the basic role of woman is considered as mothers, sister, daughter, and wife. 30% of the respondents viewed that education is deciding factors of woman position in Mianwali. Generally, literacy rate of woman is low, however, an educated woman is honoured and preferred. Further, 15% of the respondents had the view that a woman hailing from influential clan is honoured and respected by all while portrait of woman is low in poor clan. 15% of the respondents had the view that character is all-important of determining woman role & position in Mianwali. Character is a key element before settling matrimonial purposes and extending relations with family.

Other Factors:

- Male dominating society, men are superior.
- Taking care of children and make them good citizen.
- Education and awareness
- Love and passion for betterment of family

Table: 3.10
How does education play role in gender inequality?

Categories	Numbers	percentage
Awareness	20	40%
Positive role	10	20%
Rights and equality	10	20%
Effect on thinking	10	20%

In table 3.10 40% of the respondents viewed that education is a key tool in eroding wide gap of gender bias in Mianwali. Mianwali is relatively a less developed district of the Punjab where educational facilities are lacking; however, establishing of NUMAL college and Sargodha University has somewhat redressed the educational grievances of the district. 20% of the respondent viewed that education plays positive role in highlighting the gender bias. 20% of the respondents stated that education besides playing positive role in highlight gender inequality (World Economic Forum, 2015).

Table: 3.11
Why cast and culture values implement to women?

Categories	Numbers	Percentage
Lack of education	20	40%
Cast system	10	20%
Tribal living	10	20%
Gender inequality	5	10%
Women disrespected	5	10

“Man shall protect and take full care of woman with the bounties which God has bestowed more abundantly on him than the latter”. This is how Almighty Allah commands as per the Quranic verse 34 of Sura AL-Nisa. Rightly so, 40% respondents viewed the same and ascribed lack woman as a key factor behind woman prejudice to old dated cast & culture system. 20% of the respondents viewed that old dated cast system is well esteemed in Mianwali and woman succumbs to same. 20% of the respondents viewed that tribal living and sticking to old dated norms in another contributing factor behind woman. 20% of the respondents viewed that tribal living is another such dilemma in which woman is subjugated to old dated cultural values. As tribal living is devoid of any advancements and inflexed with darkness of illiteracy to women.

10% of the respondents viewed that Gender Inequality is another plight which hounds woman’s rights. The respondents were of the view that though voices are high in favour of gender inequality by various social organizations but the same in unfounded in tribal areas. 10% of the respondents viewed that Mianwali is less developed and less educated district of Punjab; therefore, in many houses woman are widely disrespected. Respondents viewed that it is need of the hour that social organizations may work in underdeveloped areas of Mianwali by highlighting woman’s rights.

Conclusions

The research at the one hand unmasked some startling points while at the other hand provided information regarding societal norms. The key theme of the research was to discern about gender inequality in Mianwali and its evolving factors. The most striking component which was found hovering over all the pragmatic issue was infinite male dominance. The media role was found to be diminishing in the district, however, it was needed in the society. Extending the research, predicaments behind gender inequality, glitches that come in front of woman's higher education and options of profession for woman were a spotlight of the survey. Lamentably, it all came on negative side and few respondents voiced in changes expected. Women are barred to take admission in universities and outdoor professions. However, opening of new windows in likes of NAMAL University and Campus of Sargodha University are of added benefits. Like man, the woman was also born free but has been put in chain by rigid customs in Mianwali. The need of the hour is to set her free from economic, religious and social bondage. To conclude research, Mianwali is underdeveloped district which comes at 10 out of 36 districts in Punjab in terms of literacy. The public representatives and district management requires to look into the affairs of education, woman's rights and other involving factors. On the basis of the research findings, following recommendations have been made:

Recommendations

- Its need of the hour that district administration may work on the prosperity of education and equal rights of women.
- The victims of vani, honour killing and such other wicked crimes be provided justice and laws may be amended for projecting strict punishments.
- The awareness be disseminated about gender bias and disparity. A social campaign projecting the true image of women and unbiased cleric should step in to promote the cause.
- Creating of equal opportunities for women and allocating seating in government as well semi-governments departments be encouraged.
- A media campaign be started regarding the embryonic women role and providing equal opportunities.
- Role of social NGOs is of paramount importance however the same was seen devoid in Mianwali, therefore, NGOs alike working in other mega cities, should work in Mianwali as well.

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