

# **Issues of Afghan Refugees in Urban Slum in Islamabad**



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## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that this thesis entitled: “*Issues of Afghan Refugees in Urban Slum in Islamabad*” submitted by Alia Ashfaq is accepted in its present form by the Department of Development Studies, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Islamabad as satisfying the requirements for partial fulfillment of the degree in Master of Philosophy in Development Studies.

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## **Dedication**

**I dedicate this research to my children who have always  
been the source of my strength**

## **Acknowledgement**

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## **Abstract**

Pakistan is second largest country hosting Afghan refugees since 1979. An increasing number of refugees worldwide are women and children. This study aims to find the roles of refugees in economic contribution to enhance their income so they can have basic human rights in the slums of Islamabad. This is a qualitative research. Afghan refugee women and children residing in slums doing informal economy contribution were interviewed through semi-structured and unstructured interviews. The Government and NGOs official were also interviewed. The study found that in many cases when they are forced to leave their homes due to armed conflicts, mostly women and children are directly affected by force migration, war and natural disaster. For the better lives these women and children have their own economical contribution to their families. The women who work in the slums and contribute to the informal economy are traditionally not documented in the labor market. Even though the national economy has been on the up but the socio-economic status of the women of urban slum is not improving. The women, children and men are working to contribute its part for the economic stability of the family in the times of migration. Most of these are still lacking behind their human rights.

### **Key words:**

Migration, Economical Contribution, Informal Economy, Human Rights

# Chapter 1

## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 Background

In 1979 in Afghanistan former Soviet Union forces entered, Afghan president Daoud was killed and Noor Mohammad Taraki named as president but when Taraki was killed Hafiz Ullah took in presidency as he was executed, replaced by Babrak Kamal.

Several forces in and outside Afghanistan opposed this intervention and started struggle against Soviet occupation. As the results of this struggle was the mass migration of Afghans to neighboring countries. The large number of Afghans migrated to Pakistan. The estimated number of refugee's entry in Pakistan reached to 2 million by year 1979 to 1984. Almost All the Afghans were from the rural areas of Afghanistan and after migration started living in different refugee camps, mainly in KPK and Balochistan (UNHCR Report, 2005).

Living as a refugee is one of the worst option for a person's life. The condition remained the same as long as Soviet Union was present in Afghanistan and in result after some time the population of refugees increased to 2.4 million. Najibullah was replaced as the president of Afghanistan in 1986 and after 3 years in 1989 Soviet Union left Afghanistan. After the withdrawal of Soviet Union Almost 206,000 number of refugees had been returned to Afghanistan.

In the meantime, the mujahidin who were against the intervention increased their fight against Najibullah government that cause the fall of Najib's government in 1992 (Refugees Magazine, 1997). Mujahidin took over Afghanistan and formed Islamic Council. Mujahidin's government was the consequences of a pact between various Mujahidin leaders but it was not followed and that was resulted as again war but this time among Mujahidin leaders. The main two leaders



Rabbani and Gulbadin Hikmatyar were rivals emerged during this conflict. And the main reason for their fighting was for the control of Kabul. While in mean time, other Mujahidin leaders took controlled of the land and as a result a civil war condition prevailed in Afghanistan. And as the result the migrants from the warzones of Afghanistan increased rapidly. The migration of Afghan people had started again but this time most of them came from Kabul city.(Lincoln & Omaha,2005).

In a reaction of anarchy and war-lordism the Taliban militia was emerged. They were Pashtun, mostly student of madrasas and Islamic schools. After capturing Kandahar in 1994 they enforced Islamic law or Sharia and during this they continued their expansion to the other areas as well and next year they captured Herat. And in 1996 they captured Kabul, established their government and enforced Shariah that was strict for both in and outside Afghanistan. (Human Rights Watch, 2002).

The people of Afghanistan didn't accept the establishment of the government with strict rules and rulers and again, 133,546 number of refugees left Afghanistan and came to Pakistan and at the same time, Taliban enforced Islamic Law strictly in every field of life. The very obvious and prime victims were women and girls as they were not allowed to come out from their homes without emergency and also not allowed to attend academic institutes and were ordered to use veil (burqa) while coming out from their homes. Few countries including Pakistan accepted Taliban government other than that whole world was against them. During this time in Afghanistan the level of poverty was increased, shortage of food was also increased and infrastructure destroy badly.

It is a fact that Pakistan bore the burden of massive refugee influxes as geographically it borders Afghanistan. Afghanistan has experienced many political changes since the Soviet withdrawal in February 1989, yet repatriation of millions of refugees from Pakistan has not been accomplished. Attempts have been made to repatriate the refugees many a time, but these were not successful as new influxes led to continued presence of refugee population in Pakistan. The crisis, the brutalization and the violence of women is a terrible and constant trend. It is very known fact that when militants took charge they have abused and punished women to show their power. It is quite common that women have been raped, sold into slavery and forced into marriage.

The women and children refugees all over the world are extremely at risk with all forms of sexual and physical violence. In adding the actual condition, the women face from contesting armed groups during movement from the conflict zone. Women and children are directly at the risk of being abused by human trafficking. Even the conflict zone safety can be elusive. The psychophysical condition of women and children becomes vulnerable because staying in refugee camps either in host country or seeking protection elsewhere gets severe threats to their security, freedom, health and education.

It is very bitter truth that women and children are mainly the first to lose their rights to live a life as normal person. Additionally, crisis become worse and creates gender inequalities and basic human rights.

The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, 1993, with other certain rights, women have the right to “highest standard attainable” of physical health and right no to be subjected to “cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment”. Furthermore, the Declaration states that

authorities have responsible to give protection to women, including refugees and allow them to enjoy the given rights. It is proven that refugee women and children deal with certain risks and unwillingness of moving from one place to other can expose women and children to a various harsh factors that may create more violation of their rights.

In 2008, the bad security situation of northwest that was controlled by the Taliban, the conditions were harsher for women and children as comparing the actual displacement happened. During Taliban era specially the women was effectively banished from the public domain, even women had not allowed to leave their homes. They could not even out for shopping, much less for work. They were only allowed for medical treatment with their male family member. The access of education underwent disproportionately because as the most schools and colleges of girls were bombed by the Taliban in the Swat region (Abbasi, 2011). The fear of Taliban was that much that families did not allowed their girls to go outside for getting education. In Pakistan a brief study of the enforced displacement crises reveals that displaced women have had unsatisfactory access to assistance and security and that the real needs of women and girls, have generally not been considered. And that assistance gaps have been noted in a case of alone women and female-headed families. The condition has been mainly hard for refugee's families headed by women where male members had been killed, kidnapped by militants, separated accidentally, stay behind to take care of the family property and to look for employment.

The registration process of the displaced persons has itself been responsible for affecting considerable inconvenience, assistance gaps and rejection of shelter to women. (Salih, 2013).

At the policy and implementation level the promotion of and facilitation with regard to livelihood opportunities for displaced women remain unnoticed. There is a need for

extraordinary emphasis to address livelihood need of displaced women, specifically in cases of female-headed households or where male members of the family have been killed or missing.

The challenges that presented by displacement also provide chances to promote gender equality not only to the extent of subsistence support but also with regard to reiterating their rights through constructive entitlements, and engagement in the decision making process, facilitation with regard to livelihood opportunities and access to health and education.

To support the women protection, empowerment and rights of women and girls in situations of displacement the role of International human rights instruments, especially women specific instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women is highly demanded. (Liz,2003)

In Pakistan the humanitarian action in common need to be more dynamically grounded in the principle of gender equality and women need to be similarly accessed and engaged in the decision making process. It is very important to make sure facilitating environment in camps so that women feel able to increase protection and assistance concerns. (Brown, & Williams, 2003).

Various issues in different phases of displacement are extenuated for children because of their young age, who are more exposed to the hurdles and harshness linked with forced migration. According to UNICEF, about 50% of the refugees in Pakistan in July 2009 were children and many of them in critical need of health and educational facilities, nutritional care, access to clean water and sanitation, and protection.

Children have been the most in danger and vulnerable to the effects of the Taliban insurgency, before, during and after their forced displacement. Loss of family members in front of their eyes, and dreadful violence has left many struggling with a sense of insecurity, fear and terror.

According to the reports of different INGOs and relief workers forced migration and difficult journey in search of safety from their home country, affected children with impending fear of being captured or killed by Taliban. The shocking experience have left them with mental distress and pain. However, the methods to address the need of children, or those of the displaced population at large, remain a neglected area. ( Connor, 2015).

Many concerns have been raised about children's helplessness to sexual exploitation, human trafficking, among reports of missing children, separation from their families during the horrify journey of the civilian from various parts of Afghanistan. In the perspective of involuntary displacement, problems such as the lack of an effective child adoption regime and foster care are yet to get the attention they require. Making sure the implementation of articles 20 and 21 of the CRC would be specifically valuable in order to provide protection to displaced children. Article 20(1) of the CRC states that a child completely deprived of his or her family environment shall be entitled to special protection and support provided by the State. According to the Article 21 the minimum conditions in situations where option of adoption of separated or orphaned children is at issue. During the war in the conflict zone of Afghanistan hundreds of thousands of children had to stop education and during the journey from their home country were exposed to bloodshed and loss of family. Although NGOs provided education to children in many refugee camps for displaced people, there was no official oversight of the curriculum. Little effort was made to ensure that education was focused at the development of peace, tolerance and respect of human rights. Such focus of education assumed increased role in the frame work of displacement. (Connor, 2016)

## 1.2 Urbanization and slums in Pakistan

After the partition of the subcontinent since 1947 the urbanization in Pakistan has increased because of different reason the main reason of urbanization in Pakistan is regular rise in population high birth rate, migrant towards urban hubs for getting elementary needs and better livelihood, better education, to escape from war, insecurity and natural disasters. Although Pakistan is 70% agricultural country with majority of population lives along sides rivers. The last 30 years' urbanization has increased rapidly. According Mustafa, D., & Sawas, A. (2013). Pakistan is one of the fastest urbanizing countries in South Asia and the share of urban population has risen from 17% in 1951 to 37% in 2010 and to 39.7% in 2017 with annual rate of urban change at 2.77%.

The annual rate of the urbanization in Pakistan is three percent which is the fastest phase in South Asia. The assessment of the United Nations Population Division is that by 2025, about half of the population at Pakistan will settled in urban areas.

Rise of population in cities increases the low-demand for employment in urban areas. Presently, in Pakistan the big cities are fronting the challenge of house insufficiency for about 3 million units (while nearly 50% of Pakistani urbanites live in slums). One of the main indicators of urban decay is infrastructure shortage. There are certain essential weaknesses for urban decline in Pakistan, such as, unemployment rate, unstable economic growth, incapable entrepreneurship and weakening of civilian institutions. Although education ratio in urban areas is almost high, finding employment is difficult

On the other hand, the environment effects of urbanization by people in urban centers. Their consumption of food, energy, water and land have increased. In Pakistan one of the main

reasons is of having rural poverty which is the result of rise in industries, higher education and commercial development which increased the job opportunities in the town or urban and cities which increased the size of cities which has also helped the rural people to migrate to the urban areas for better future and living standards. Because of high competencies and migrants, it pushes the maximum number of refugees to slums dwellers.

The global report on human settlements of UN-Habitat's (2003) stated that slum occupants make up close to 924 million people and that is almost thirty-one point six % the total population of the world's urban setting and after Sab-Saharan Africa, the second largest no of slums are in South Asia.

In Pakistan due to urbanization of poverty many people are moving to the cities and urban settings for better future and life style and about nearly one billion people comprises the slum population in the country. In the 2010-2011 economic survey of Pakistan it was revealed that the urban population of Pakistan was about 37 percent and it rises at 3.97 rate annually. In Pakistan the slum population was about forty-seven percent of the total urban population of the country.

Though Islamabad, a well-planned city of over a million occupants, has fascinated a significantly large number of economic, environmental and social migrants especially during last 15 years, giving rise to slum urbanization.

The exclusion of women becomes obvious in the slum areas where the several socio environmental elements decrease their chances of empowerment. The rough and unsustainable urban densities and crowding are causing in an increased rate of environmental degradation and make bigger risks in the face of climate-induced disaster such as storms, heat waves and urban flooding. Those women who work in the slums and contribute to the informal economy are

traditionally not documented in the labor market. Even though the national economy has been on the up but the socio-economic status of the women of urban slum is not improving.

As the cost of living in urban areas is very high especially when this is combined with random and unexpected growth as well as unemployment, there is a surge of illegal settlement represented by slums and residents. Unplanned industrialization and urbanization made slums. The people who are poor, underprivileged and neglected from basic needs like food clean water and shelter form these slums. The other main factor of the growing slums in Pakistan is migration of rural people to urban areas to find better lifestyle.

### 1.3 Issue of refugees in Pakistan

Refugees are facing several socio-economic problems in Pakistan including the rapid growth of urban pressure due to migrant's inflow and the environmental problems due to their lifestyle Jacobsen, K. (1997). This issue is not only because of their life style but more certain because of pattern of settlement and the management capacity of hosting country.

Migrants and refugees are mostly in crisis because of forced migration led by Civilian and cross border war situations. The Afghan refugees in Pakistan are facing social and identity crises, followed by the crisis of employment, education and including the financial crises Centlivres, P., & Centlivres-Demont, M. (1988). This research investigates the problems and issue faced by afghan refugees in slums areas in Pakistan. The study has included significant amount of respondent's interviews and insights to conclude about the existing situation of refugees living in slums of Islamabad. This study



is quite important to guide policy makers in terms of decisions regarding the expansion of refuges, management of refugees and provision of most important facilities.

#### 1.4 Statement of the Problem

Pakistan host of 1.6 million POR (Proof of Registration) cardholders and according to the UNHCR (2015) Pakistan is second largest country to have such no of refugees under UNHCR mandate. In addition, according to Pakistani government estimates, one million undocumented Afghans are living in Pakistan (UNHCR Report, 2015). According to the government of Pakistan estimates Pakistan is hosting one million afghan refugees at various camps around the country. This population of the refugees includes most of the people who migrated from Afghanistan to Pakistan due to the out -burst of the conflicts in the late seventies and early eighties. Some of these refugees came here when they were young lived here, married here and have children who have never seen Afghanistan whereas others have come here for better future and living standard for them escaping from the devastating conflict in Afghanistan (Connor, 2015). The inflow of migrants acceded the capacity of urban settlements and it has push many of them into slums areas, where the life is cheap but challenging. This study aims to explain existing situation of Afghan refugees residing in the various urban slum areas in Islamabad. The focus area is to explain the status of women and children. Additionally, the study explains livelihood factors, which include the issue of child labor and women life situations as the women and children are the biggest sufferers in this displacement.

## 1.7 Research Question

- 1) What are the main issues & problems of Afghan refugees?
- 2) How women and children contribute to household economy?
- 3) What is the impact of contribution to the household economy of refugee women and children on their livelihood?

## 1.8 Research Objectives

The study will pursue the following objectives:

- 1) To find the issues faced by refugees, especially women and children in Pakistan.
- 2) To analyze the contribution of refugee women and children in household economy.
- 3) To analyze the impact of livelihood of refugee women and children in urban slum areas.

## 1.9 Significance of the study

Huge amount of families with maximum number of females and children migrated to Pakistan but not in the times of prosperity and happiness but in the time of war and depression. Human rights across international borders should as maintained such as inside the family borders. Beside the fact that, Women in terms of HDI indicators such as health facilities, education facilities, jobs etc are marginalized and are underprivileged who are about forty-nine percent of the total population of the South Asian countries There is a dreadful need of investigation on refugees facing same issue in different context. This research would help in discovering solution social-economic problems faced by refugees facing at the urban slums areas of Islamabad. This work also explains those key factors which help to minimize the hurdles and troubles facing by

refugees in urban slums areas. This is policy oriented research, which indicates how refugees can be supervised and overseen with specifying the basic hurdles, if reduced can make them much more better-off.

#### 1.10 Study Organization

This study is presented as follows: In section one background of the study, problem statement, objectives of the study, significance of the study and key terms have been discussed. Section two provides the literature review, summary of literature and research gap and conceptual framework. In section three, the researcher will discuss the locale and data how methodology will be used to achieve the objective of this study.

## CHAPTER 2. REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

### 2.0) Review of Literature

#### 2.1 Introduction

In this section, researcher cited existing literature on the specific issues of children and women, which has been documented so far which are given below.

According to the U.S. lawyer's committee for human Rights (2002) women around the globe due to their gender are persecuted differently because at one they are women and on the other they are marginalized group. In case of the refugees a refugee not only faces the problems of living his home, his land and his country and also he beg others to live his or her life at the mercy of others. It is even more difficult of being doing nothing and waiting the distribution of aid and sitting there. (Survival the Slaughter: The Ordeal of Rwandan Refugee in Zaire ) (2002). The study of Dale and Carolyn Makinson (2006) shows that women and children as compare to men are at disproportionate risk and this study was done in south Asian countries like , Pakistan, and Afghanistan. They also loose the protection which used to be provided by their parents. According to Victoria, A (1998) this increases women s social isolation in urban settings. This case was more evident from Afghanistan where women are traditionally weak and faces constraints which further limits their mobility and they were also facing basic needs facilities when they were not displaced even. According to Mamiko Saito and Pamela Hunte (2007) that the young Afghanis in Pakistan and Iran their needs as compared to their ancestors became different over the past years. According to Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) (2012) there is a need to understand the displaced persons globally different according to their contexts and culture. There are not sufficient studies done on the problems of the youth particularly on females who are displaced in different parts of the world. According to Women s Refugee Commission

(2013) in which (Rosalind Evans & Claudia , 2013) showed that there was fragmented and weak literature on women refugees and very little or few studies were found regarding women and there was lack of impact evaluation in this field. Additionally, according to UNHCHR (2013) there is shortage of literature within UNHCR and particularly in case of youth between the age of 15-24 years of age. The reason is that there is strict and traditional notion of the propriety of women which further limits their movement and their behavior. It is evident from studies that women are violently tortured which shows us their status in the family and in the society. According to World Bank (2005) that the women in an ethnic group or family or extended clan is the symbol of men s honor and dignity and her purity is considered to the whole clan or ethnic group. Among Pashtun this is more depicted in their Pakhtun wali which is the code of conduct for their culture. According to Moghadam & Valentine M (1992) women are bound t live within the houses and are not allowed to move freely outside in the village and they keep in padah so that they cannot be seen by outsiders. The women should be accompanied by a male while their movement in the village or elsewhere. According to Andrew B, Fotini C & Ruben, and E (2012) women or girl can hardly be seen in the streets of the villages or they can have any source of income for them. According to Inger Boesen (2004) women cannot have their say when they are married and they are considered the property of men and sometimes are given to other men as a source of compensation for disputes among tribes or families. Torunn W, (2014) study shows that School enrolment rates in refugee camps the girls or women are considered inferior to men and there are no provisions for health or education for them in the camps and the situation is among the worse in the world in these camps. It also confirms that this issue is not in the priorities of the government and they have shown least interest in these issues over the years. Women are also not protected from violence According to NRVA in (2016) which was a series

surveys there was food security problems and it worsen across all parts of Afghanistan. According to this report about thirty percent of the people were receiving less calories which are required for a normal human being to survive. Unavailability of food for the refugees was the main problem and among the urban people about thirty-four percent of them were food insecure and among this population women and girls were half of the total insecure population. As a mother and career, as breadwinner girls and women work for the survival of their children and families. But still the afghan refugees' women and children are vulnerable. Due to their gender they face discrimination and violence is commonly exercise by their male counter parts or any other member of the families.

## 2.2 Refugees and displacement:

The individual and collective human behavior is an essential part of migration. The main features are the consequences and features which become conflict within society occurs due to the flow of refugees from displacement. The major contribution of migration is poverty and inequality which spread among societies. In unsustainable urban life the major contribution of the migrants demonstrates the invisible factor of the economy across borders. One of the consequences of globalization are migration but in a broader context it becomes the greater opportunities with reduction of physical boundaries. As human security is one of the key determinants of where individual discourse inject self-interest with empirical reasoning. The challenges posed by the political and government societies, and it may result in the number of increase in profiling individuals.

### 2.3 Theory of Slum:

According to J.Stokes the redevelopment of the urban areas in a more careful way is very important. Through number of years the projects are designed to remove these slums from urban areas but according to the socio-economic analysis it is the branch of labor force theory. Some social measures of ability recognize these individuals as strangers those who are searching for new job opportunities who lives in poor housing facilities. The poor along the principle streets is an active phase of transition. These slums are kind of temporary homes but probably attractive for the migrants due to its lower cost. At the same time the rapid growth of a city automatically limiting the slums and it may disappear. In developing and underdeveloped countries these slums are permitted by the government to handle the movement of labour into the cities. While living in the slums presence of disease is high which consist costly for developed society. So slums are the part of earlier and the less developed days.

### 2.4 Law and Settlement with Refugee Theory:

Refugees are having little interest in the new areas as they left that place from where they identified for. According to Kunz refugees are the result of anti-colonial wars where they actively involved in the liberation activities, and anxious in returning home to resume their former lives. The sense of nationalism in the refugees are difficult where the heterogeneous collection of individuals become the part of ill-prepared progress towards achievement of independence. Complex interplay of socio-economic practices where the situation of instability occurs between the political and economic forces plays great role for people to move. International assistance is important in the recognition of refugees from neighboring states, according to the United Nations the type of assistance and the way to determine the major clarity in documents affects the status of the refugees for their legal determination in society.

## 2.5 Household Economy:

The majority of Afghan women refugees are not educated. Due to war, many women lost their bread earners their husbands their parents, their brothers and other male members of their families. In struggling to beat back Taliban Afghan, security forces are facing mounting casualties. By raising the death toll as a result of conflict between the Afghan forces and the Taliban worsen the situation of the women in the country which is male dominated and consider its women as burden on them. As a result, more widow women become vulnerable in the already marginalized group in the country. Household economics covers the economics analysis of all decisions made by households. It includes consumptions and saving labour supply, financial relations among partners and spouses, health, anti-poverty and labour supply in low-income families. According to Saba Gul Khattak (2003) The women in the refugee camps are subject to three-fold discrimination such as 1. being a migrant. 2 being a migrant refugee and 3. Refugees women and children are contributing in household economy directly and indirectly. The difficult economic situation of Afghan refugee's household and the fact that the cost of living in Pakistan is considerably higher than Afghanistan, because Afghanistan of being poorest country of the world. Due prolonging and continuing war and loss of their male counter parts and other family members directly contribute to the reasons of being absolute poverty and violation of basic needs of survival. Women's economic contribution in household economy means all those activities of the household women which generate income or cause saving. (Ambreen et al, 2013). According to Haddaswolds mostly women work in their houses performing daily house hold activities such as washing, cooking water fetching, collecting wood for fuel purposes which are considered to be essential for survival of them. Women don't get any remuneration for these activities and they perform them according to the custom of their cultures. These household economy means all



those activities of the members of the household which generates income or cause saving. The household unit, which consist of men, women and children, may show a considerable division of labour. The focus of the study has been laid on the women and children's contribution in household economy. Egler (1964) argued that a normal definition of household is "A household consists of the people who live in one compound and who from either a sample conjugal family or a joint family. Such a joint family is considered a single household, if the income is pooled and expenditures are made from a common purse. Although UNHCR and different INGO working on refugee's basic rights in terms of foreign aids, advocacy, providing shelter, education, health and providing protection, they are still in state of refuge and have a difficult life in host country. According to the report of Human Rights Afghanistan doesn't have any budget for the marginalized groups in the country and there is no social program budget in the country. There may be a reason for this that the national budget for social programs were also spent for the security and military purposes of the country ignoring the social issues of their people and particularly of the refugees in the country. Impact of Household Contribution on the livelihood of children is also affect mostly in negative way. This situation in the refugee camps forces the children to work for their survival and their families which further push them to work in dangerous and hazardous environment compromising their education child time. The absolute poverty of the families living in the Afghan refugee camps push the children to work in in dangerous and hazardous environment in order to survive for them and their families.

## 2.6 Child labor, Health and Education:

Due to the high no of children about 50 percent in the refugee camps in Pakistan the rights of these children living in these cams has direct effects from the policy interventions. Many

children perform household work instead of going to school because these children are compelled by their poverty to earn something for them and their families

According to the Women's Commission for Refugee report those women and children living in slums have to perform tough work such as carpet weaving, scrap picking , shoes cleaning and other types of women for their survival and earning for their families and while performing these activities these women and children undergo severe emotional and physical sufferings but they are left with no other option in order to survive.

According to the Afghan people the lack of lawful position for the refugees working in Afghan refugee camps make them prone to harassment from police and other pressure groups in the country. They claimed that the laws of child labor are not followed and the children lack the facilities of basic education and health facilities in the refugee camps in the country.

The War in Afghanistan has it's worse effect on the civilians in Pakistan and particular children living in conflict zones by denying them basic health and education facilities and making them prone to hazardous and dangerous environment which has denied them their basic and fundamental rights that children have in other parts of the world.

According Blunch & Verner ( 2001) among many factors affect which compel the parents to allow their children to perform work one of the factor is the presence of poverty which compel them to send their children to work.

According A. K. Basu & Chau (2004) the children working in the refugee camps receive very minute amount of payment and sometimes they are denied by their employers instead of performing hazardous and dangerous work.

According to the latest report of UNHCR 72% children are refugee from Afghanistan. As Pakistan and Iran are the countries who are receiving them and give them easy access to come in live by giving them name of refugee. In Pakistan, there is various schools from different INGO and NGO is working but not every child is part of these schools. Because these schools are located near their residences which are specified for afghan refugees and those refugees who moved from these sites for more betterment in their lives to urban areas have no option to join those schools. Afghan refugee children in the refugee camps work tirelessly for long hours but in return they receive very little or no pay at all. Different labour they do activities such as weaving carpets, labour in brick, as welders, as waiters, in mines, in agriculture, as vendors on street. This work load of these children force to leave school and perform hazardous and dangerous work in order to earn for them and their families. As the matter of health of child laborers is always at higher risk as it is a main factor which is due to the poverty normally children risk abuse, work long hours, and many times children live in isolation from their families and because of not have a good nutrition children getting weak and unhealthy.

## 2.7 Pakistan Policies on Child Labor.

Urbanization, illiteracy, joblessness and absolute poverty are among some of the major factors which enhances child labor which one of the issues of Pakistan. In light of these problems it is very difficult for the Pakistani government to control or stop the child labor. Almost 11 million children including refugee children aged four to fourteen, working in inhuman and nasty condition whoever attempts have been made in Pakistan to control child labor but an attempt to limit child but still child labor is at its peak in the country by avoiding the universal child labor laws. The following laws containing provisions for limiting child labor are available but their

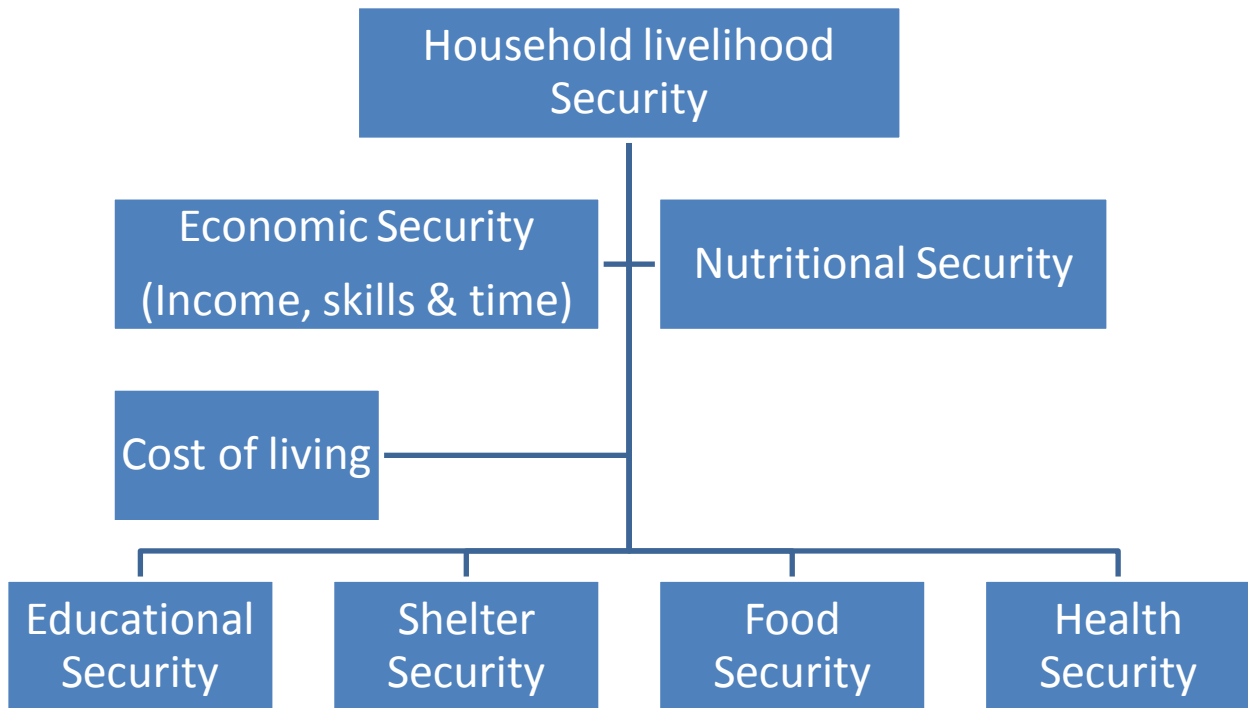
implementation is missing in the country and elsewhere in the world. The following are the mains laws

- The Factories Act 1934
- The West Pakistan Shops and Establishments Ordinance 1969
- The Employment of Children Act 1991
- The Bonded Labour System Abolition Act 1992
- The Punjab Compulsory Education Act 1994

## 2.8 Conceptual Framework:

The framework specifies the phenomena of refuge. As the women and children are the main sufferers of the process of migration from one country to another either by force or by willingness. The main goal of the research is to identify the main issues which are faced by refugee focused on women and children in slum areas of Islamabad. To identify their basic needs and identify main problems they are dealing with. The conflict facing areas have posed harsh conditions for the refugees in the camps and this provides the conceptual frame work to identify the difficulties these refuges are facing in these camps. In this respect, the harsh conditions of conflict and displacement have forced families and communities to make space for women's engagement in livelihoods and this is an opportunity that conceptual framework help to find the difficulties faced by women and children in slum area of Pakistan. Hirani, S. S., Karmaliani, R., McFarlane, J., Asad, N., Madhani, F., Shehzad, S., & Ali, N. A. (2010).

Figure 2.8.1 Conceptual Framework



## 3.0 Data and Methodology

### 3.1 Methodology.

Methodology is all the techniques and methods used in the research process. It is a systematic way to solve the research problems. According to Kothari (2004) methodology includes data collection, data analysis and research design. Research methodologies are systematic inquiry to find solutions and answers to research questions. Qualitative research method will be used for studying attitudes, behavior and experiences through interviews. The basis for adapting this method will be multiple. Description of field observations, collection and presentation of information and evidence on the basis of previous literature, careful summarization of data obtained through interviews, observations and other qualitative techniques and analyzing results to draw meaningful conclusion and developing new knowledge. The data will be collected through semi-structured interviews, unstructured interviews. This study will focus on the refugee's women and children issues and about their livelihood in urban areas of Islamabad.

### 3.2 Locale of Study

The locale of my research is an urban slum area sector H-12 behind NUST in Islamabad. Islamabad is the capital of Pakistan. Islamabad is located in the Pothohar Plateau in the northeastern part of the country, between Rawalpindi District and the Margalla Hills National Park to the north. The region has historically been a part of the crossroads of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with the Margalla Pass acting as a gateway between the two regions.

### 3.3 Units of data collection

The Units of data collection are as follows:

**UDC1:** The first UDC of the study was children, which included around 15 respondents. The age limit of children 5-14 years. The data was collected through convenient sampling technique, as the most convenient children were interviewed for the study.

**UDC2:** Refugee Women were the second unites of data collection for this study. The study has included 25 women of different age groups and the simple random sampling method was used to collect the data from women.

**UDC3:** FGDs were conducted with women setting around the hotels in urban slums areas.

**UDC4:** Government officials were interviewed from 2 organizations, including the SAFFRON, NADRA and technique of sample selection was purposive.

**UDC5:** NGOs were included as unit of data collection and the data was collected through purposive sampling method.



**Table 1: Number of Respondent**

S.no	UDC's	Number of Interviewees	Kind of Interviews
01	Children (5-14) years	12	2 FGD Semi Structure
02	Women	08	2 FGD Semi Structure
03	Men	02	Semi Structure
04	Government official	02	Semi Structure
05	NGOs	02	Semi Structure
Total Number of Respondent		26	

### 3.4 Data Collection Process:

The data collection process for this research involved a field study which took place over a time period of 4 weeks: from 11th July, 2016 to 8th August, 2016. Prior to the data collection field work, a pilot study had been conducted during which I had established an understanding with my key informant. The visits to the slum were made at different times of the day in order to better observe their day to day lives. The key informant was always accompanying me in these visits. The community itself was very helpful and passionate to provide their input for the research. Using the semi structured technique; 15 interviews were conducted for the purpose of this research.

These interviews were conducted with the help of an interview guide. An interview guide is a list of questions which can be used to help the researcher direct the conversation toward the topics and issues he or she wants to learn about. Interview guides vary from highly scripted to relatively loose, but they all share certain features: They help the researcher know what to ask about, in what sequence and how to pose the questions. The interview guide is attached in Appendix A. The interview guide was created on the semi- structured approach and included questions which addressed the research questions and the objectives of the research. The findings of the interviews along with the observations made in the field have been discussed in the later chapters. Apart from this, a detailed sitting with a SAFROON official, who herself is dealing with refugee's policies since 1985, was conducted during which she dictated the entire history and government policies of the refugees during the various governments over the past years.

### 3.5 Pilot Study

To hold a better idea of the validity of the research questions in the context of the chosen urban slums (Islamabad) I conducted a pilot study. The pilot study was conducted almost a year period. In this whole-time period, I made frequent visits to the slum with NARA officials who are the key informant during these visits. Since I am working in NADRA, and NARA is one of the main projects of NADRA, so I faced no hurdle during conducting my research on refugees so through observation and discussing with them about their issues it becomes easy to conduct my research. The interactions were easy and basic information regarding their breadwinner, number of household members, head of the family and available government utilities were easily collected and observed.

Pashto, Dari and Urdu were all the languages which have used during conducting research, the manner in which their homes are constructed is parallel and attached with other one. Entire slum used the government utilities that include electricity, and water and gas remain an issue for the entire population as it is not provided by government.

### 3.6 Sampling technique

Simple random sampling is used during the field work and the data was collected through semi structured interviews from refugee women. In my field-work during interviews from officials of NGOs and Government this research has used the purposive sampling, and the data was collected from children through convenience sampling. So, this research has used multiple sampling methods to collect the maximum level of information. FGDs are also used.

### 3.7 Semi-Structured Interviews

Semi-structured interviews are informal interaction and social conversation that are useful to investigate experiences and attitudes towards specific topic. Interviews are best suited for understanding people's perceptions and experiences. As Flick (1998, p.222) puts it: "Practices are only accessible through observation; interviews and narratives merely make the accounts of practices accessible." Semi-structured interviews schedule allows researchers to probe the interviewees for further details. In semi-structured interviews participants have the freedom to convey their thoughts as their own convince. The interview should be planned and conducted in a flexible manner.

### 3.8 Framework Analysis

This approach was introduced by policy researcher in 1980's (Srivastava A., and Thomson, S.B.2009). In this type of analysis, collected data is arranged and charted according to themes of research. In this research researcher has also used framework analysis to analyze the qualitative data. Framework analysis includes the following steps to construct the thematic framework.

### 3.8 Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data was collected from the above-mentioned respondents and the data is interpreted under the following themes. Firstly, the major theme of the study is extracted and constructed according to the objectives of the study. Secondly, the data is described in the description form and thirdly, the data is analyzed in the light of previous literature available on this specific subject area. The study has used contents and thematic areas to analyze the data, which includes education, health, social structure and political issues of the respondents under each theme

## CHAPTER 4:

### 4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Introduction

This chapter consist of results, which are extracted after the analysis of the collected data. This chapter starts with the themes constructed on basis of study objectives, the themes includes, problems of Education, Health problems, economic problems and social problems.

#### 4.1 Overview of Refugees life style.

In slum normally, the shortage of basic necessities is quite normal, however in Islamabad it is also designed and under CDA to care about these slum.

According to the respondents: *“Water is a basic necessity of life but we don’t have it, my children fetch water in plastic canes from CDA water pump and it quite far away from our home. When it rains, dirty water with sticky mud sneaked into our muddy houses and the whole slum turns into a slippery mud pool making it hard to walk.”*

According to the respondents there is (H12) no gas, so we have to depend on wood as a fuel. The poor sanitation which causes diseases like diarrhea, rashes and breathing problems among children and adults.

According to one respondent: *“As in Islamabad the CDA has to decide our limits and they always make trouble for us, as some of corrupted officials of CDA allow to make house as per our own will but then after a year or sometime other officials of CDA come with bulldozer and bulldoze our houses.”*

The extreme weather also affects their houses, like in rain it is very difficult to walk there. The water is in their houses and their ceiling was leaking during the rain. Due to bad sanitation and improper construction of water wastage different health issues has raised.

Respondent said: ***“I am glad atleast I have my own roof, whatever the condition is, but yes sometimes I feel prisoner here”***

#### 4.2 Education:

According to them education is not that much necessary for them because the accessibility of basic necessities is rare to have than how they can effort more money for education. Because it is not only about to have an education it is also about how they take out time for school because at the same time they have work.

According to their culture education is out of the question for girls. And madressah is additional option for boys with school. There are some NGOs that running schools in slums but the interest for education is very low. According to the respondent ***“There were some good schools which were running under international funding but remain closed since the banning of INGO’s.*** One of the other reasons is child labor that doesn’t allow them to get education. Respondent like zarghoona, zainab, haleema they all want their children to get education but due to lack of resources they are helpless to have this opportunity.

Many women and children could not contribute to household economy due to illiteracy and lack of skills.

In the research 5 out of 8 women are illiterate and without skills while other 3 are skilled and literate. There is huge difference in the way of earning of literate and skillful women with illiterate women.

The 5 illiterate women find their work by collecting scrap, bread and wood for fuel and by doing domestic house chores. While other three women are skilled they are supporting their husbands and family and also educating their children and realize the importance of education and skills,

#### 4.3 Child labor:

All the children interviewed for this study are the household's contributor. These children are all born in Pakistan mostly in different cities living with their parents within their own community in urban slums of the capital city of Pakistan. These refugee children are one of the most important breadwinners for their families. As they contribute their part as equal to their family head. Many of them support their families by doing several labor work. The way they earn money for their bread and butter is describe their cost of living.

Although Pakistan is the country where child labor is not an issue so for refugee's children there is not barriers to stop them from child labor. All children which I selected for my research are those who are breadwinners for their families, without difference between their gender, both male and female are doing different jobs. Just some differences between their choice of jobs like boys often having donkey and horse carts, collecting scrap from place of waste, while girls mostly collecting rotten fruits and vegetables from fruit markets, wood from green areas in Islamabad and many other labour work.

From dawn to dusk these children keep working and as the sun turns down they go back to their homes. As these children are quite satisfied with their way of earning. Among one of these children one is Nazir (chalni wala) who sells corn, told me that the thela which he has drove it's not belongs to him he take it for rent. In future Nazir wants his own thela and want to expand his own business. He was much more confident and work hard for achieving his goal. He speaks urdu fluently, he is an intelligent boy, He also shares that by supporting his family he feels very happy and he is much positive about his contribution to his family. As he is the oldest brother in his siblings so he feels that he has more responsibility towards his family.

He said: ***“I love my work, although it is hard to manage some time but still it is my life. In Afghanistan I used to go to school but due to conflict I had to move with my family and due to shifting from one place to another in Pakistan I couldn't continue my education , I have to support my parents by all means.”***

The other two sisters are bread/rotten fruit/ wood collector. Seema and Nazia I found them in Sunday bazar where they had been collecting rotten fruits and vegetables with their other age fellows, these rotten fruits and vegetables are for their animals (donkey, hours) and the fruits and vegetable which are little bit better for them to eat they save for them. At same time their mother and other sister were collecting wood for fuel on which they can cook. on other days they also collect bread from going door to door in Islamabad residential areas and by selling these bread they are able to generate their income so they can pay for other necessities of life. According to them education is not that much necessary for them because the accessibility of



basic necessities are rare to have than how they can effort more money for education. Because it is not only about to have an education it is also about how they take out time for school because at the same time they have work. I have found many children whom are working with their own family like father paternal uncle, elder brother, most of them working in dhaba's as waiter, dish cleaner and other jobs. Where they provide their services with lower wedge even without having money, because it seems to have cheapest way of saving money for their family business.

#### 4.4 Economic issues

All the women interviewed for this study became the household's contributor after shifting from refugee's camps to the urban center to find a better source of income. Almost all women interviewed was dependent financially and on the protection provided by the men in their families when they were in camps.

According to my first respondent 'Zargoona who is 42 and for the past 8 years she has been living in slums of ICT, in two rooms divided in a very small house made of clay. Before this she lived in sector I-12, a section of the capital city owned by the U.N. High Commissioner for refugees (UNHCR) that houses were between 3500 to 4000 Afghan refugees. After moving from there now they are in sector H-12.

Her source of income is collecting bread from houses and by selling that bread she has that much money atleast she makes a 1 time meals properly for her family she also collects the woods for a fuel on which she has to cook food. In her word she described her daily routine without any day off:

***“First in early morning after having breakfast me and my three daughters (10, 8 and 8 months old) used to go for wood collecting so before it is too late in the morning we completed our***

***target. As the youngest daughter is just 8 months so I carry her on my back, so as more we are as much we can collect wood.”***

A year back her husband got into an accident because of which he lost his legs and not recovered yet so he cannot work. That leaves things up to her and her five children, aged 1 to 18, her three daughters share the everyday jobs while her two sons find low-wage. Her oldest son –ali- earns between \$2 and \$3 a day selling scrap as he collects the whole day. Her other son fazal work as a daily wager but both are drug addict and spend all their money on drugs.

But after that much struggle she finds here peace because in Afghanistan due to war and bombing she was so much insecure and unsafe.

Other respondent name Haleema, she is 45 and have 5 children and for the past 4 years she has been living in different slums of Islamabad. She is working with her husband as a tailor, she and her husband take orders from afghan boutiques and stitch for them, her husband split his work with her and by himself they achieve their target, her husband told that his father was a tailor in Afghanistan and he used to help him in his childhood but due to war they had to move to Pakistan and while living in refugee camps with the help of UNHCR in a training camp he learnt how to stitch up and shortly he learnt a lot even though he was able to take work orders by different NGO’s and after getting married , her wife also showed interest to work as a tailor. Her husband praised her contribution in household chores and said:

***“It is my wife contribution that we are able to give education to our children, and make our lives better atleast with other people in slums we are doing well, and I am also want that our daughters complete their education and become a teacher so they can contribute formal.”***

Her two daughters also work with parents and in grade 10 in federal capital school and planning to do fashion designing in future and teacher respectively, the other three are also go to school and madrasah.

Hallema said: ***“I am satisfied with our present situation as compared to Afghanistan because there is no education and due to conflict we are not able to live an independent life. She said we are poor people and we have to work harder wherever we are. We have good economic opportunity in Pakistan rather than Afghanistan. She also said as a status of refugee we know our limitation but still Pakistan provide us what we deserve.”***

Jaan Bibi is the oldest responded as she is 75 years old she lives with her 4 sons and grandchildren and great grandchildren in H-12, she came to Pakistan in very first wave of migration, in 1980 she came with her husband and 2 sons (other 2 sons born in Pakistan). She lived in different refugee camps from Peshawar to Quetta but found better to live in Karachi slums because she told that in Karachi she had better opportunities and she had good condition because the cost of living in Karachi was so affordable for them, she started work in Karachi for supporting her husband and she worked in a paper market where she collected hard boards and scraps and in return she earned good money. She said: ***“I still remember that I earned more than my husband and I worked day and night, in the morning I used to work in a paper factory on cutter machine and after completing my job hours I used to collect scrap paper from the same factory and sell to other vendors.”***

Unfortunately, her husband was shot down in a street crime in Karachi and police also took her two sons as a suspected person, after hard resistance and help of NGO she was able to let her son free from police and they had decided to move from Karachi. Some of her relatives lived in

Islamabad slums they helped them to move from Karachi to Islamabad. Since 2006 till now they are living in Islamabad although her all sons are working but Jaan bibi is still working the whole day as bread collector and so she can support her sons so she is not supposed to be a burden on her family.

Further she said:

***“Pakistan is my own country and I am not interested to go back to Afghanistan because I have no one there to remember and my children also don’t want to go there. As they married with Pakistan Pashtuns girls and their children are dual nationals so they have considered them from Pakistan.”***

Other responded is Zaiab bibi, she is 43 have 4 children she is from Kabul , her husband has a rented stall at itwar bazar where he installed a machine of sugarcane juice, her eldest son is 14 whom worked with his father. She said about her and her children contribution in household:

***“It is very difficult for us to depend on my husband's income because after all the expenses of their work we have only money for food but what we do for other needs, and my husband also not allowed me to go out for earning money so I decided to work from home and I embroider clothes, and also made qahwa, which my son who is 13, sell in the market. And it helps us a lot for every fulfilling our financial condition.”***

The last respondent is Almas bibi she is 50 and has been living in a slum of ICT for the past 15 years, she is trained midwife, she was trained by a UNHCR training session in refugee camp at jalozai Peshawar, and she has considered the most respectful person in the community. She is working in a private clinic and support her family and in spite of this she also works for free for her community.

She told as I earn good from my job and I feel good if I work for my people on humanity basis so I take no money from needy person for my services she lost her husband in a bomb blast in Qarabagh district of Afghanistan in 1988 and since then she flees from Afghanistan with her 2 children and other family members. As she was skilled women so she found no difficulty to have work in Pakistan. She raised her children alone also support her parent's in-law and other family members. Her son is in medical college in Karachi and daughter is teaching in school. She said she wanted to go back to her home in Afghanistan and want to stay there but the livelihood and factors which supports to have a normal life is still missing so she is good with the present living situation.

Family size contribution to the household economy.

According to the survey the consumption increases as the number of the children increase. Families with 8 children in which he head of family is depending upon daily wages and if he allowed his wife to earn with the him and children as well so they can atleast cover their regular three times meals as compare with the small family with one or two children they ave less consumption so the burden of earning is less than the head of big family.

According to the male respondent “**more children more income**”.

In a survey when finding the compression between big families and small families, the consumptions were highly different with each other. As a family with 8 children although everyone is earning accept the youngest one but still they are not matching with their basic needs at all.

Because if the lack of a skilled labor force and an economically inactive female may force the younger generation to participate in risky occupation.

#### 4.5 social issues

To know about the social issues, I conducted focus group discussion (FGD). The target groups were Afghan women and children sitting outside the Afghan restaurants in Islamabad, they all are the resident of H12 slum area, and doing different labour work and in evening they used to come in front of different Afghan and Pakistani restaurant and Nan bai's where they have meal without any cost.

Whatever the weather is these people have easily seen around different restaurants. I have also found children under 10 selling different items like pens, coloring books on very cheap prices, but fair way to spent their time in the market area.

Many old women basically who cannot earn or physical unable to do any work can be easily seen in these groups so they can have their meal once a day without doing any effort but yes it is very difficult to wait outside these restaurant or hotels.

According to one respondent ***“it is our luck each day what we eat, either a meat with bread and rice or just a loaf of bread or sometime some other food item, as it is depend upon the owner of the restaurant or host community, but yes it supports us by all means.”***

According to their discussion they earn 2 to 3 \$ per day and with that it is very much difficult to survive. Because each family almost has minimum 8 children and each member of the family is earning (as they also thought that the more children the more earning)

They have concerns about the interaction with society because they have mix feeling for host community.

One responding named shazia bibi told *“I want to work as a maid, I can do every house hold work but never get the chance because as I am Afghan national and I cannot speak urdu and I have not Pakistani identity, so it is hard for me to get my desire job.”*

Some participants express their concerns about maintaining their identity as Afghan, especially for the generations that has born and raised in Pakistan. These mothers make a complaint that their children know nothing about Afghan history and about anything belonging from Afghanistan. They want their children to retain their Afghan identity. One of the major dilemma is about Afghan that a number of Pushtoons are not identify themselves as Afghans.

**Police harassment:** The Afghan women and their families have to bribe police regular, because of their identity issues. In past every second day they faced humiliating and disrespectful behavior from the police, but they are very much pleased with their community who allow them to set them in their area so that would be not unlawful for them. But sometime it become horrible when the city management and police not allowed them to sit in a groups outside these restaurants. Than these women and children have to ensure that they are not beggars but they are helpless in this matter and many times they get arrested by the police as well for a day and then get free after the involvement of their community head in their area.

#### 4.6 Role of Different NGOs.

As a spokesperson of a SAFRON said *“like other refugee’s camp, where the U.N. has set up school and medical facilities, the refugee commission and other partner NGOs have provided certain services such as school and skill center. Spokesperson also told that after the banning*

*of INGOs in past years, there is a big full stop for the services provided by them to the slums community.”*

She further added *“That Pakistani government do as much as they can do, we provide them every possible facilitation to fulfil their requirements but the very basic issue with their identity and their fear of repatriation”.*

However, Hashoo Foundation is operational partner of UNHCR, and has operated basic medical facility and school but they have been disrupted by lack of funding.

The spokesperson of another NGO (INSPIRE PAKISTAN) said *“We address issues related to poverty through education with special focus on women and children. To empower women through our different supporting projects and welfare services we always provide them protection, and ensuring their basic human rights.”*

#### RAHA (REFUGEES AFFECTED AND HOSTING AREAS):

The Government and people of Pakistan have been big-heartedly accommodating Afghan for over thirty-five years, while more than 3.9 million have willingly repatriated to Afghanistan since 2002, over 1.6 million registered Afghans remain in Pakistan, constituting the world’s second largest displaced population as well as the largest protracted situation under UNHCR’s mandate.

In recognition of the socio-economic, financial, environmental and political consequences of the prolonged stay of Afghans on the host country and communities, the 2005 Brussels Conference paved way for the conceptualization of Pakistan’s Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA)



Program, as a unique holistic platform for bridging humanitarian assistance with long-term development. Launched in 2009 as a 5-year Government-led program with financial support from several donor countries and the United Nations.

RAHA seeks to:

- (a) Increase tolerance towards Afghans in Pakistan.
- (b) Improve social cohesion to promote coexistence.
- (c) Provide both the host Pakistani communities and afghan with development and humanitarian assistance.
- (d) Empowering youth in assisting them to make their own decisions.

Approximately 3500 RAHA projects have been implemented up-to-date in all four provinces of Pakistan, promoting 9 million Pakistani citizens and 1.6 million Afghans through enhanced access and quality of public services delivery. Targeted projects in the sectors of health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene, infrastructure and social protection have been carefully calibrated based on comprehensive needs assessments so as to support the overall objectives of the program, including importantly improved livelihoods, rehabilitation of environment and enhanced social cohesion between the communities in refugee affected and hosting area.

## 4.6 Summary of the Finding.

The overall summary of the finding is:

1. Women and children are directly affected in migration due to armed conflicts and war. Many generations have to pay for the forced migration in terms of social economic losses.
2. The negative impacts of armed conflict and war also shakes the neighboring countries, because of dependency increases and the migration starts toward the closest countries, which are willing to help. This type of situation affects other countries as well.
3. Increasing the urbanization in slums areas as the people migrate in search of earning money.
4. In the case of refugees, Afghan refugees continues shifts from refugee's camps to other urban slums center of Pakistan, on the expectation of better employment and basic human rights.
5. Every person of the family after shifted to slums is doing work for enhancing their income, either women or children regardless of their gender and strengths. Livelihood is the basic driver of their work participation. Earning for Food, Health Education make these people work harder.
6. There are policies for Afghan refugees in Pakistan but it is not availing by all Afghans in Pakistan especially in the urban slums of Islamabad.
7. Limited accesses of basic human rights forced women and children to play their role as a breadwinner to their families.

8. Poverty and lack of basic human rights are the key factors that encourages them to do any work on cheapest cost.
9. The implementation of policies on child labor is impractical.
10. Education is one of the major right for every child, but due to poverty, food and health, they are not able to think about it, because according to them it is even useless to think about it.
11. Due to the lack of inadequate public infrastructure in slums, there is no clean drinking water, no gas, no affordable public transport, from sanitation drain to paved roads, these all are not available in H-12 sector slum.
12. Afghan refugees in the urban slums of Islamabad are quite satisfy with their livelihood and economical condition as compare to Afghanistan, because in Pakistan they feel secure and able to manage their lives.
13. Afghan women are worry about them and their children future. But with that when they compare their lives in Afghanistan where livelihood is available at the cost of their lives, they feel secure and bless.
14. After the banning of a major INGOs in Pakistan, which were working for basic human rights has tremendously effects the medical facilities and education in these urban slums of Islamabad.
15. There are different projects which are specially designed for refugees and as well as host community, but these projects are in certain refugee's camps and has not accesses to the urban slums refugees because of lack of awareness.

## CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION AND POLICY RECOMMENDATION

### 5.1 Conclusion:

The main research aimed to explore the economic contribution of Afghan refugee mainly women and children in the slums area of capital city, Islamabad. This research aimed to find the difficulties faced by Afghan refugee women and children in urban slums of Islamabad.

In Pakistan women and children who work in the slums and contribute to the informal economy are traditionally not documented in the labor market. Even though the national economy has been on the up but the socio-economic status of the women of urban slum is not improving.

In the case of Afghan Refugee, it's become more worst because after different waves of migration they are more underprivileged and insecure. Mostly women and children are the directly affected by force migration, war and natural disaster. The research further aimed at investigating the impact of women and children economic contribution for improving their lives in slums by focusing on the indicators of life survival that is food, health, education. And for this propose an urban slum was selected in sector H-12 near NUST, Islamabad, also work places where they do their jobs.

This research will play an important role on future study of economical contribution of Afghan refugee women and children in Pakistan. Although there are certain policies made by Government of Pakistan with the collaboration of UNHCR but still the informal economy of refugees living slums are not considering to be highlighted. This study covers a very important part of women and children and their way of survival in urban slums, in the absence of basic human rights and with many obstacles in their daily life.

In future in the area of research a comparative study could give better understanding of the process of urbanization in slums and the economical contribution of Pakistani women and children with Afghan refugee women and children.

## 5.2) Recommendations:

The obstacles that are faced by Afghan refugee women and children in urban slums, outside the refugee's camps are explored in this study, how they explore their ways in terms of getting better life. For this purpose, I did not just rely on interviews but also used non-participant observation to hold the validity of the research. Since as an employ of National Database Registration Authority (NADRA), it was easy to observe their livelihood issues and problems they are facing every single day. Many vital points were received during the process but only very basic point recommendations have been written in this paper. These suggestions are given below:

1. There should be arrangement of schools where child get skillful training, an incentive should be given to them.
2. Make an evening school where children can earn education after doing their jobs.
3. Make a curriculum according to both countries requirements. So these children can survive either in Pakistan or in Afghanistan.
4. There should be awareness campaign for them so at least they know how to get access their basic rights.
5. A technical and vocational training institute may be established in nearby slums for meeting the demands of Afghan refugee's women and children.
6. There should be certain projects operates besides refugee's camp, around the slum so Afghan refugees also get benefits.
7. There should be a certain policy to provide them loans on least markup, so it may help for host community.

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## **Appendix: 1**

### **Afghan Refugee Women**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation\_\_\_\_\_

Age\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Guide questions for semi structure interviews:**

1. Are you married?
2. What is your husband occupation?
3. How many children do you have?
4. How many people are bread winner in your family?
5. When did you migrate to the city?
6. Which city do you belong?
7. What is your basic source of income?
8. Why did you shift from Afghan Refugee Camps?
9. Do you want to go back to your country?
10. How you contribute in your house?

## **Appendix: 2**

### **Afghan Refugee Children**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation\_\_\_\_\_

Age\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Guide questions for semi structure interviews:**

1. What your father do?
2. Do your mother work too?
3. How many brother and sister you are?
4. What you do for earning money?
5. How much you earn on daily basis?
6. You work for someone or it is your family work?
7. At moment do you go to school/madrassa?
8. Have you ever been in school/madrassa?
9. In which class u left school/madrassa?
10. What are your favorite things to do?

### **Appendix: 3**

#### **Government and NGOs Officials**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation\_\_\_\_\_

Age\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Guide questions for semi structure interviews:**

1. How you facilitate Afghan Refugees in slums of Islamabad?
2. Are there any policies for Afghan refugees to stop child labor?
3. At the moment are there any projects which has operated by NGOs, UNHCR and Pakistani Government?

## Appendix 1a:

### Key Terms

#### slums

A slum is a highly populated urban residential area consisting mostly of closely packed, decrepit housing units in a situation of deteriorated or incomplete infrastructure, inhabited primarily by impoverished persons.<sup>11</sup> While slums differ in size and other characteristics, most lack reliable sanitation services, supply of clean water, reliable electricity, law enforcement and other basic services. Slum residences vary from shanty houses to professionally built dwellings which, because of poor-quality construction or provision of basic maintenance, have deteriorated

#### Urbanization

Urbanization refers to the population shift from rural areas to urban areas, the gradual increase in the proportion of people living in urban areas, and the ways in which each society adapts to this change. It is predominantly the process by which towns and cities are formed and become larger as more people begin living and working in central areas. Although the two concepts are sometimes used interchangeably, urbanization should be distinguished from urban growth: urbanization is "the proportion of the total national population living in areas classed as urban", while urban growth refers to "the absolute number of people living in areas classed as urban."