
**CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATION IN HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION IN KHYBER
PAKHTUNKHWA****Kiran Zehra**

(MPhil Scholar, Qurtuba University of Science and Technology, Dera Ismail Khan)

zehrakiran55@gmail.com**Nisar Ahmed**Mna601@gmail.com**Abstract**

The region is facing many serious issues, such as gender-biased violence, limited access to education, and a lack of freedom of speech. This paper aims to identify the main challenges that have become barriers to the successful performance of NGOs. It also covers the opportunities that are available in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for Non-governmental organizations. Through case studies, qualitative interviews with NGO practitioners, and secondary analysis, it seeks to understand these challenges. Summing up the findings, the research showcases that even though there are significant challenges, including security risks, limited funding, and governmental restrictions for NGOs, there are still several opportunities in enhancing human rights protection through community engagement, international partnerships, and technology leveraging. In addition, this report mentions the NGOs that are actively working to safeguard human rights in Pakistan, such as the Aurat Foundation, the Paiman Alumni Trust, the Bacha Khan Educational Foundation, and the Takhliq Foundation, which particularly emphasize the previous decade. This study highlights the efforts of NGOs in KPK, contributing to the broader conversation on human rights advocacy in conflict-prone regions. This study intends to give actionable insights and recommendations for NGOs, governments, and stakeholders devoted to improving human rights in KPK, thereby contributing to a more just and equitable society.

Keywords: NGOs, Human Rights, KPK, Challenges, Advocacy, Government Collaboration.**Introduction**

The term "human rights" refers to the fundamental freedoms and rights to which every person is naturally entitled, without exception. These rights include, but are not limited to, freedom of speech, the right to life and liberty, the right to education, and equality before the law (Magnolo, 2011). The idea of human rights is globally applicable and enshrined in several international laws and treaties. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948, is considered a foundational document as it lays out fundamental human rights to be universally protected. It is this declaration that established the foundation for numerous later international human rights laws and treaties (Thomes, 2017). In KPK, women and children are especially susceptible to violations of human rights. Gender violence is one of the major problems prevailing within this province including honor killing, rape problem and domestic violence against women. All the rights of children are protected in all the regions of Pakistan, even KPK. It is working hard through legislative changes, public awareness campaigns, and direct support services to safeguard and advance children's rights in areas such as education, child labor, and juvenile justice (S.Patail 2009). Human rights are violated when basic freedoms and safeguards to which every person is naturally entitled are violated by acts of state or non-state actors (Petrus, 2018). Human rights violations cover a wide range of wrongdoings, from violations of civil and political rights to denials of socioeconomic and cultural rights. Discrimination is one of the most prevalent types of violations and can happen in a number of settings, including the workplace, the classroom, the healthcare system, and housing. Racial, ethnic, religious, gender, and disability discrimination builds structural barriers that keep

people from fully engaging in society and taking advantage of possibilities. (Campbell, 2006). The freedoms of assembly and expression are severely curtailed in many nations. To intimidate journalists, activists, and opposition figures, governments use censorship, monitoring, and other methods. For instance, engaging in nonviolent protests or criticizing the government may result in detention, torture, or even death in certain authoritarian regimes. These essential liberties are suppressed, which weakens democracy and keeps people from holding their leaders responsible (Wenar, 2007).

NGOs' Role in Protecting Human Rights in KPK;

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), NGOs operate in hazardous and challenging environments while carrying out a range of tasks in KPK with the goal of advancing and defending human rights (Ghani, 2020). NGOs in KPK place a lot of emphasis on protecting women from gender-based violence and on their rights. They manage refuges and assistance facilities for female victims of gender-based violence, honor killings, and domestic abuse (Khan et al., 2023).

1.1.4: Most Important NGOs Work In KPK

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), Pakistan, numerous NGOs are actively working to address human rights abuses, such as Aurat Foundation and Paiman Alumni Trust. All these NGOs are focusing on training the displaced through many programs in health, education, social development, women's empowerment, and child rights protection.

NGOs Work during the Last Decade Among the non-governmental organizations, many common ones had made a complete difference in the region of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) in Pakistan during the last ten years from 2011 to 2020. Aurat Foundation is an organization that is active in policy research, lobbying, and community deployment across the region. It supports women's empowerment and gender equality (Khalil, 2022). The Bacha Khan Trust was established in order to further education, nonviolence, and social cohesiveness among the Pashtun populations in KPK. It was motivated by the legacy of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan. The Trust promoted the rights of underprivileged populations (Abid, 2021).

Literature Review

Historical Background of NGOs in KPK

The historical background of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) is very deep, starting from the early developing days of Pakistan in the region. The role of NGOs in KPK in promoting human rights has evolved over the Years, greatly influenced by local social and political dynamics, regional conflicts, and the country's public shifting mentality (Salman, 2014). Both local and international NGOs were actively involved in providing humanitarian aid and services to the refugee population at the hour of need. But due to the political instability in the country at that time, they did not operate in the way that would have planned, but soon with the restoration of democracy in Pakistan. In the post-9/11 era, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa became a key region in Pakistan's efforts to counter extremism and terrorism. NGOs played a role in peace-building initiatives, promoting tolerance, and countering violent extremism in the region. Like NGOs in other parts of Pakistan, those in KPK have faced challenges related to regulatory frameworks, registration, and compliance with government policies (Ehsan, 2017).

Role of NGOs in KPK

Presence of NGOs is very important in addressing the different challenges and problems faced by the people of KPK, particularly in the context of its diverse culture, historical dynamics, different cultures, religious extremism and geopolitical location (Asma, 2017). They facilitate inter-community dialogues by engaging different influential people and

promote tolerance by spreading awareness, aiming to foster sustainable peace and social cohesion (Mahindra, 2019).

The Contribution of NGOs to Women's Rights

In Pakistan, where women make up about half of the population, they play a vital role in every society. Women contribute significantly to the economy as well; around 70% of rural women work in livestock and agriculture, and almost 75% of urban women work in the informal sector (Hala, 2018). Even though the government must implement laws and regulations about women's rights, they frequently require assistance from other institutions, such as non-governmental organizations, to put these laws into practical use. (Hibbs, 2022).

Contribution of NGOs in Response to child labor

In KPK, two Major Non-Governmental Organizations that promote awareness in the community about the risks associated with child labor and the value of education are "Save the Children" and "the Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC)" (Pasha, 2022).

Role of NGOs in Spreading Awareness among the People of KPK

Non-Governmental Organizations are fundamental in bringing human rights issues to the attention of the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. NGOs work to inform the public about their basic rights as guaranteed by international agreements and domestic legislation all over the world (Fifing & Khan, 2022). These groups provide information to the people of local communities, enabling them to recognize and effectively respond to violations of human rights that are happening to them (Banks & Hulme, 2012).

Challenges for the NGOs Protecting Human Rights

Numerous obstacles prevent NGOs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) from operating effectively and having the desired impact. One major obstacle is the unstable security environment that exists in the area, which puts employee safety at danger and makes project implementation more difficult (Shah, 2013). Despite these challenges, NGOs remain devoted to their cause through dynamic strategies and determination to overcome the boundaries in their operations and the security risks they encounter. These units are trying to achieve their vital objectives and assist the poor communities of KPK by reaching out to local sponsors, keeping themselves transparent, and adopting very high security protocols (UNDP, 2019).

Cultural and Traditional Barriers

Cultural and Traditional Barriers are also greatly affecting the efficiency of NGOs' work in KPK, Pakistan. Their operations are hampered by a number of traditional and cultural impediments. The strict social standards that are ingrained in the tribal and rural communities of the region present a major concern for NGOs (Shah et al., 2023).

Public Perception and Trust

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, NGOs would always need to contend with the issue of finding and dealing with perception and trust. Political influences, historical contexts, Cultural dynamics, errors about the work of NGOs, and other factors can make it difficult for NGOs to launch and maintain a positive perception. In particular, local community trust becomes difficult to realize, and NGOs need to prove visibly with accountability and actual guarantees towards development at the masses level (Naveed, 200).

Advocacy and Awareness-Raising

NGOs are very important in lobbying and for the spread of awareness for a range of problems, including socioeconomic concerns in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), Pakistan. These non-governmental organizations put in a lot of effort to inform stakeholders and the people of local communities about important subjects like environmental sustainability, basic

human rights, healthcare, education, and many more (Ahmed & Shah, 2009). Non-governmental organizations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa undertake diverse advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives aimed at tackling a broad range of critical issues that hugely impact local communities and their lifestyles (Dad, 2015).

Community Empowerment and Participation:

At this point, NGO's activism as well as community empowerment is compulsory in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) to advance human rights. There are many activities by NGOs in the region to face the masses with serious human rights issues through education and mobilization (Wahid, 2017). These organizations offer basic facilities and advocacy in various locations, from rural, underserved regions to urban centers. NGOs raise awareness among the people about human rights and also keep them involved with the issue by holding training sessions, seminars, and open forums, which empower the people to be bold in their rise for their rights and duties (Bashir, 2017).

Research and Policy Analysis

There are different kinds of NGOs working on human rights issues within KPK, which would provide comfort to research. The socio-political situation of the region, attached to the ongoing problems relating to the development of its economy, raises the need to study and present data about the disputes associated with human rights matters - for example, how access to education and healthcare is distributed unequally, gender violence and the rights of ignored groups such as children, ethnic minorities and women (Schimmel, 2003). Other issues are the rights of demoted groups, such as internally displaced persons (IDPs) and tribal minorities. NGOs work a lot on their behalf and provide support services, accommodation, and legal consulting to people in these populations. "The studies may focus on the level of social cohesion of these communities, the legal problems they face, and other ways of living". It can also measure the capacity of NGOs in order to help them get rights and services and the effectiveness of promoting efforts at law changes (Wafa, 2022).

Analysis and Literature of the NGOs Working During the Last Decade:

Since their rise at the turn of the last 10 years, NGOs have been influential in working toward human rights in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), Pakistan, in light of substantial sociopolitical challenges. The organization has implemented a wide schema related to women's empowerment, healthcare delivery, education, and IDPs' rights issues starting from natural disasters and regional conflict. This research on this subject suggests that NGOs have been active in performing such functions as providing public information, making law reform and offering legal services (Amir, 2016). Many reports and studies have well planned the participation of NGOs in KPK and how these NGOs differently promote human rights issues. Some organizations have adopted a grassroots approach to respond to the situations at the grassroots level by engaging closely with the communities. This approach has not only empowered the marginalized but has also motivated active participation in addition to making community members feel a sense of ownership (Kazmi, 2015). NGOs, taking the initiative to discuss gender inequality by removing outdated labels, started enlightenment programs to open up the eyes of women and girls. In addition, the NGOs took control of child rights advocacy by discouraging child employment and allowing children from all backgrounds, especially those from remote places and conflict regions, an opportunity to adore education (Babar, 2020).

Thematic Analysis

Ten in-depth interviews and five significant focus group discussions were analyzed, and themes emerged that covered community perceptions, operational obstacles, sustainability, and prospects for collaboration in the area of human rights advocacy and awareness. Collectively, these topics aid in providing a general grasp of the challenges faced by NGOs and potential solutions.

Research Methodology

This study involves in-depth interviews, focus groups, and keen observations as ways to gather data. This study was a qualitative research approach to explore the challenges and opportunities faced by NGOs in human rights protection in KPK. The research was conducted using semi-structured interviews with NGO representatives and stakeholders. Purposive sampling was used to select participants, aiming for a sample size of 10, 15 interviews. The data was analyzed using thematic analysis. Both primary and secondary data are used in this research. These interviews were conducted in person, over the phone, or through online platforms. Moreover, Focus group discussions with community members, activists, and representatives of different NGOs were also analyzed. These discussions were helpful in gathering range of perspectives and experiences related to human rights issues and the role of NGOs. Participant observation were also observed & the activities of NGOs and other local community organizations in promoting human rights are documented.

Findings and Analysis

List of Findings

The following are the major findings from the primary and secondary data combined.

1. Security issues make it difficult for NGOs to enter distant parts of KPK. (Interviews with NGO workers).
2. The lack of trust between NGOs and local people impedes effective collaboration. (Focus groups involving community people).
3. Limited resources and funding limit NGOs' ability to carry out comprehensive human rights programs. (Surveys with NGO representatives).
4. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play an important role in developing awareness of human rights among local populations. (Observations on NGO-led workshops)
5. Personal safety risks for NGO employees and volunteers, especially in sensitive locations. (Interviews with NGO workers)
6. Difficulties in coordinating with government agencies and other stakeholders. (Interviews with non-governmental organization representatives)
7. KPK has a high rate of human rights violations, particularly against women and minorities. (Human Rights Commission of Pakistan reports).

Analysis

This part presents the analysis of qualitative data collected through focus group discussions (FGDs), semi-structured interviews and participant observations throwing lights on the challenges and opportunities faced by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in protecting human rights in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). The thematic analysis highlighted recurring patterns from interviews and discussions, identifying key insights into NGO operations in the region Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). NGOSs working in KPK faces significant problems in accessing remote and conflict affected areas presents a substantial operational difficulty for

NGOs, which is exacerbated by problems like finance constraints and security threats. According to Muddasir Nazir (Peshawar), "Our human rights, educational and other developing programs are often cut short due to the financial difficulties NGOs face due to a lack of sustainable funding" (interview, Muddasir Nazir). Ihsan Ullah (Bannu) has emphasized on how bureaucratic hurdles delays affect them, saying that "Red tape makes it extremely difficult to implement key projects and slows down our planned operations". To promote awareness regarding human rights in KPK, especially in underprivileged and rural areas NGOs are working tirelessly. Nadia Khan (Bannu) revealed in an interview that "many people, especially women and marginalized groups, are unaware of their basic human rights and have never complained against any of the injustice occurring to them." Focus group talks on the need for more work especially comprehensive awareness campaigns run by NGOs helped to reinforce this topic. "Local traditions often clash with the efforts of NGOs to raise awareness, making it difficult to bring in changes" revealed Faiz Mashal (Lakki Marwat) in an interview.

Conclusion

Newest reports show that in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), many NGOs working in this area have faced numerous complex issues and problems. In KPK NGOs face a very serious issue to implement their activities successfully because of several problems related to this cause, which is similar to the geopolitical instability of the region with an ongoing conflict and security problems. Such organizations often face common security threats to their workers and jobs, making it even hard for them to contact defenseless groups and directly face violations of human rights. Those traditional societal values existing in KPK might further challenge promoting and communication initiatives by preventing their reach to the goals toward gender equality and social rights. Non-governmental organizations can use the occasion of working with public organizations, local influence, religious actors, or community leaders to considerably better the fit and quality of their programs given the environment of the local settings. For long-term impact, the NGOs have to shove forward more strongly for the protections of human rights in KPK so they can contribute more broadly in improvement and realization of basic human rights for all individuals in the region through planned alliances, utilization and achievement of local knowledge and cultures, and mutual funding.

Recommendations

Recommendations for NGO Workers

Here are some propositions for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) NGOs working on human rights protection:

- Regular training sessions and workshops on human rights legislation, promoting strategies, and crisis intervention diplomacy are provided to NGO employees. Create specialized initiatives that highlight issues such as the rights of women, children, and minorities.
- That the utilization of resources is in the most effective manner for the sake of transparency in financial matters, hence gaining donors' and the community's assurance. Enact comprehensive monitoring and evaluation appliances to ascertain results of human rights campaigns and determine areas that need enhancement.
- Establish systems for recipients to provide feedback on a regular basis so that the programs are effectively satisfying their requirements.
- To detect any risks to NGO employees and put in place the necessary safety precautions, conduct routine risk assessments.

- Implement these approvals, and KPK NGO practitioners can take opportunities in advancing human rights and security challenges.

Recommendation for the Government Officials and Policy Makers

Here are some ideas for how politicians and government mediators can help NGOs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) sphere human rights:

- Create and put into effect comprehensive policies that specify exactly what each
- Stakeholder, including NGOs, is expected to do to preserve human rights.
- It is imperative to periodically evaluate and revise human rights policies to guarantee
- their continued relevance and efficacy in confronting contemporary issues.
- Make sure that legal frameworks sufficiently uphold NGOs' efforts and safeguard human rights.
- Simplify the procedures for registering and operating NGOs in order to lower administrative barriers and promote the formation and operation of NGOs.
- Create official channels of frequent communication and cooperation between the NGOs and governmental organizations for a common strategy in cover of human rights.
- Run public awareness fights and human rights education should be enshrined into the national course to inform them of their rights.
- Policies and Initiatives towards the weak and marginalized people that include minorities and women and children.
- Fund human rights research to guide policy creation and programs: Design a appliance to collect and analyze data in an orderly fashion in order to track the human rights situation and effective interventions. Operation of these recommendations will allow legislators and other government officials to create a climate that facilitates NGOs to be influential advocates for human rights in KPK.

Recommendation for the Researchers

The following recommendation is intended for scholars looking at the opportunities and difficulties played by NGOs in protecting human rights in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK).

- Conduct observation to collect primary data from compressed communities, nongovernmental organizations, and other important parties.
- Scan the socio-political and cultural location of KPK to gain a deeper comprehension of the distinctive obstacles and prospects that non-governmental organizations encounter.
- Specific, relevant indicators calculating the impact of NGO activities on human rights defense.

References

- Ahmad, S. (2020). Challenges faced by NGOs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: A primary data analysis. *Journal of Regional Studies*.
- Ahmad, S., Shah, M., Bilal, M., Jan, A. U., Ali, A., Ullah, A., & Rehman, F. U. (2012). Effects of NGOs interventions on mother child health in district Swat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *Sarhad Journal of Agriculture*, 28(4).
- Ahmed, I., Idrees, M., & Shah, N. (2009). An investigation into the awareness regarding the source of information among the farming community through public sector and NGOs in NWFP, Pakistan. *Sarhad J. Agric*, 25(3), 487-493.
- Akhunzada, Z. U., Ullah, F., & Khan, M. A. (2016). Child rights issues in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: a Qualitative Study. *Journal of Human Rights New Horizons*, 10(2), 55.
- Ali, I. (2019). NGOs and human rights in Pakistan: A critical analysis. *International Journal of Human Rights and Constitutional Studies*, 7(3), 43-50.



- Ali, M., & Hussain, F. (2020). Role of NGOs in monitoring human rights violations: Insights from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. *Journal of Human Rights and Governance*, 6(1), 85-100.
- Ali, M., & Hussain, F. (2020). Role of NGOs in monitoring human rights violations: Insights from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. *Journal of Human Rights and Governance*, 6(1), 85-100.
- Ali, S. S. (2018). Non-governmental organizations and the promotion of human rights in Pakistan. *Journal of Human Rights*, 17(5), 545-563.
- Amir-ud-Din, R., & Malik, S. (2016). Protecting the vulnerable: The case of IDPs in Pakistan. *European Online Journal of Natural and Social Sciences*, 5(1), 82-99.
- Amnesty International. (2020). Pakistan 2020. Retrieved from <https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/pakistan/report-pakistan/>
- Amnesty International. (2021). Pakistan 2021. Retrieved from <https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/pakistan/report-pakistan/>
- Amnesty International. (2019). Pakistan 2019. Retrieved from <https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/pakistan/report-pakistan/>
- Arslan, M., Nawaz, S., & Mustafa, G. (2022). THE MINORITIES RIGHTS PROTECTION: A CASE STUDY OF SIKH MINORITY OF PUNJAB, PAKISTAN. *Journal of Social Research Development*, 3(2), 212-228.
- Asadullah, M. N. (2017). The role of NGOs in promoting human rights in Pakistan: An analytical study. *Journal of Human Rights and Social Justice*, 1(1), 1-12.
- Ashraf, M. Q., Gillani, I., & Wahab, P. Factors Affecting Community Participation in Development Activities in Rural Areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *International Journal For Innovative Research In Multidisciplinary Field*. 1(7), 1-59
- Ayesha Khan. (2018). Non-Governmental Organizations in Pakistan: A Case Study of Human Rights Watch. *Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies*, 41(4), 50- 69.
- Azhar, M. A. (2019). The role of NGOs in promoting human rights and democracy in Pakistan. *Journal of Political Science and International Relations*, 1(1), 1-8.
- Beitz, C. R. (2009). The idea of human rights. OUP Oxford. Bhattacharya, S. (2016). Civil Society in Pakistan: functioning and challenges. *South- Asian Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies*, 3(3), 24-45. Rashid, M. (2023).
- Campbell, T. (2007). Poverty as a violation of Human Rights: Inhumanity or Injustice. *Freedom from poverty as a human right—Who owes what to the very poor*, 55.
- Dutta, U., Ali, S. R., & Ahmad, N. (2019). Relevance and values of Gandhi's and Bacha Khan's moral education in negotiating/addressing situated disparities of South Asia. *Education Sciences*, 9(2), 108.
- Earl, J., Maher, T. V., & Pan, J. (2022). The digital repression of social movements, protest, and activism: A synthetic review. *Science Advances*, 8(10), eabl8198.
- Ehsan, U. (2019). Role of NGOs in promoting human rights in Pakistan: A review of literature. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, 9(10), 1167-1180.
- Ejaz, M., Khan, A., & Iqbal, T. (2022). Civil society, gender and de-radicalization programs: A case of PAIMAN Alumni Trust. *Pakistan Social Sciences Review*, 6(2), 492-502.
- Fahmi, A. A., & Wijaya, D. P. (2018, October). Does Indonesia's Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) in Spying People Violate International Human Rights Laws to Protect the Right to Privacy? In 1st International Conference on Social Sciences (ICSS 2018) (pp. 1233-1237). Atlantis Press.
- Farhatullah Babar. (2019). NGOs in Pakistan: Challenges and Opportunities. *Journal of Applied Environmental and Biological Sciences*, 9(1), 1-5.
- Farooq A. Waseer WA (2017). Role of NGO's in Implementation of Women's Right in Paksitan. *Inter. J. Eng. Lit. Cult.* 5(4): 100-103
- Ghani, F., & Ghani, B. (2020). Role of NGOs in the Social Development of Pakistan: A Case Study of USAID. *Pakistan Vision*, 21(2), 181.
- Gondal, A. Q., Ahmad, M., & Ali, W. (2024). Women's Rights Under Siege: A Spotlight on Recent Human Rights Violations and Political Imprisonment in

Pakistan. International Research Journal of Management and Social Sciences, 5(1), 497-504..

- Haider, M. A. (2017). The role of non-governmental organizations in promoting human rights in Pakistan. International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Research, 6(1), 1-7.
- Hamdani, Y. L., Gauhar, N. A., Ghosh, A., Husain, W., Kayani, U. J., Khan, M., ... & Sattar, M. (2022). Pakistan and Human Rights. Rowman & Littlefield.
- Haque, M. M. (2017). Role of NGOs in the promotion of human rights in Pakistan: An appraisal. Journal of Human Rights and Social Justice, 1(2), 1-12.
- Hashmi, S. M., & Haq, S. (2019). Role of NGOs in promoting human rights in Pakistan: An analysis of civil society. Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities Review, 7(2), 82- 94.
- Z Hibbs, L. (2022, January). "I could do that!"—The role of a women's nongovernmental organization in increasing women's psychological empowerment and civic participation in Wales. In Women's Studies International Forum (Vol. 90, p. 102557). Pergamon.
- Ho, K. (2007). Structural violence as a human rights violation (p. 3). Essex: University of Essex.
- Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP). (2020). Annual report on the state of human rights in Pakistan 2019. <http://hrcp-web.org/hrcpweb/wpcontent/uploads/2020/04/HRCP-Annual-Report-2019.pdf>
- Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP). (2021). Annual Report on Human Rights in Pakistan. <https://hrcp-web.org/hrcpweb/annual-reports/>
- Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP). (2021). Challenges of linguistic diversity in KPK. HRCP Annual Report. <https://hrcp-web.org/hrcpweb/annualreports/>
- Human Rights Watch. (2022). Human Rights Defenders Under Threat in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Retrieved from Human Rights Watch. www.hrw.org/worldreport/2022/country-chapters/pakistan
- Idrees, M., & Bilal, M. (2023). Behind Bars: A Critical Investigation of Prison's Conditions and Protection of the Prisoner's Human Rights in Pakistan. Review of Education, Administration & Law, 6(2), 567-578.
- Iftikhar Ahmad. (2011). Role of NGOs in the Development of Education in Pakistan. Bulletin of Education and Research, 33(2), 41-51.
- Imran, M., Akhtar, S., Chen, Y., & Ahmad, S. (2021). Environmental education and women: Voices from Pakistan. Sage Open, 11(2), 21582440211009469.
- International Crisis Group. (2021). The Double-Edged Sword: NGO Operations and Security in KPK. Retrieved from International Crisis Group
- IPCS. (2023). Security Challenges Facing NGOs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: A Report. www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Pakistan_Acute_Malnutrii_on_Mar2023_Jan2024_report.
- Jamil, K., Khan, S. A., & Ali, R. (2020). Engaging communities: NGOs' role in human rights protection in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Journal of Human Rights and Social Work, 5(2), 55-67.
- Jamil, U. (2018). Non-governmental organizations and human rights in Pakistan: A critical analysis. Journal of Political Studies, 25(2), 109-125.
- Javed, A. (2020). Youth development in Pakistan: A provincial analysis. Journal of Development Policy Research & Practice (JoDPRP), 57-79.
- Johnson, D. (2019). Cultural resistance to women's rights in KPK. Journal of International Development, 31(4), 621-635.
- Khalid, A., & Rahman, M. (2019). Strengthening community resilience through NGO-led capacity building in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. International Journal of Community Development and Management Studies, 4(1), 76-89.
- Khalid, N. (2020). The role of non-governmental organizations in the promotion of human rights in Pakistan. Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, 28(1), 67-79.
- Khan, A. (2018). Role of NGOs in promoting human rights in Pakistan: A case study of Aurat Foundation. International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews, 5(3), 542-548.
- Khan, A. (2023). Security Challenges for Human Rights NGOs in KPK. Journal of Human Rights Studies, 14(2), 134-150.



- Khan, A. N., & Ali, A. (2015). NGOs and disaster risk reduction in Pakistan. *Disaster Risk Reduction Approaches in Pakistan*, 281-294.
- Khan, A., & Malik, S. (2018). human rights advocacy: Insights from NGOs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. *Journal of Social Justice and Development*, 3(1), 40-52.
- Khan, F. S. Y., Ismail, M., & Shahiryar, M. (2023). Human Rights Situation in Pakistan: A Case Study of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Promotion, Protection and Enforcement of Human Rights Act, 2014. *The Dialogue*, 18(4), 01-13.
- Khan, H. U., Zhen, Y., & Naeem, M. (2021). FACTORS AFFECTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, PAKISTAN. *Grassroots* (17260396), 55(1).
- Khan, M. A., Kanwal, N., & Wang, L. (2018). Violent attacks on education in the tribal areas of Pakistan and the role of NGOs in providing educational services. *Conflict, Security & Development*, 18(2), 113-136.
- Khan, M. T. (2008). Social Role of Labor Unions. *Science Vision (COMSATS)* Vol, 14, 79-93..
- Khan, M., Chaudhry, M. N., Ahmad, S. R., & Saif, S. (2020). The role of and challenges facing non-governmental organizations in the environmental impact assessment process in Punjab, Pakistan. *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*, 38(1), 57-70.
- Khan, M., Ullah, A., Ullah, S., & Zaib, B. (2023). Awami National Party: Implementing Bacha Khan's Philosophy of Education during Its Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government Regime from 2008-2013. *Pakistan JL Analysis & Wisdom*, 2, 178.
- Khan, R. (2021). Role of NGOs in promoting human rights in Pakistan: A study of selected NGOs in Peshawar. *The Dialogue*, 16(1), 138-153.
- Khan, U. N., Muhib, K., & Jamali, A. K. (2024). The Protection of Human Rights in Pakistan: A Critical Examination of the Role of the Courts. *Al-Qirtas*, 3(2), 265-271.
- Khan, W., Fufeng, G., & Khan, M. S. (2022). THE ROLE OF NGOS IN THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT SECTOR: A CASE STUDY IN THE MERGED DISTRICTS OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, PAKISTAN. *THE SPARK" A HEC Recognized Journal"*, 7(1), 84-94.
- Korai, A. G., Ghaffar, A., & Samad, A(2010). Human Rights in Pakistan and the Reasons for Prosecution Failure. *Journal of Law & Social Studies (JLSS)*, 5(3), 450-467.
- Lewis, D., Kebede, G., Brown, A., & Mackie, P. (2019). Urban crises and the informal economy: surviving, managing, thriving in post-conflict cities. *UN Habitat*.
- Mahindra ,L.p,(2019).Role of NGO's in protecting human right.An international peer-Reviewed open access journal of interdisciplinary studies .2(3) ,2581-5628.
- Mazhar, S. (2018). Role of NGOs in the promotion and protection of human rights in Pakistan. *Journal of Political Studies*, 25(1), 33-47.
- Mehmood, R. (2013). THE ROLE OF INGO's IN DECREASING VULNERABILITY OF DISASTER AFFECTED POPULATON IN DISTRICT KOHAT (Doctoral dissertation, KOHAT UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY).
- Nadeem, A., & Kakakhel, S. J. (2016). An exploratory evidence of practice, motivations, and barriers to corporate social responsibility (CSR) in small and medium enterprises (SMEs) of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Pakhtunkhwa (KPK). *Abasyn J. Soc. Sci*, 9, 479-494.
- Naqvi, A. A. (2017, May). Human Rights of Religious Minorities in Pakistan. In *Proceedings of International Academic Conferences* (No. 5107106). International Institute of Social and Economic Sciences.
- Niaz, U. (2017). The role of NGOs in the promotion of human rights in Pakistan. *Journal of Political Studies*, 24(1), 155-170.
- Nisa, F., Kamran, M., & Mahsood, A. K. (2021). Evaluating government policy of monitoring NGOs in Pakistan. *Structure, Südasien-Seminar der HumboldtUniversität zu Berlin*. 12(1), 50-78.
- Owais, S., Sanauddin, N., Nawaz, G., & Chitrali, J. A. (2015). Negotiating Transparency and Accountability of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *Putaj Humanities & Social Sciences*, 22(2).
- Oxfam. (2021). Human rights in Pakistan. Retrieved from

- <https://www.oxfam.org/en/countries/pakistan/human-rights-pakistan>
- Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP). (2019). Navigating the Regulatory Environment for NGOs in Pakistan. <https://pcp.org.pk/wp>
 - Peters, A. (2018). Corruption as a violation of international human rights. *European Journal of International Law*, 29(4), 1251-1287.
 - Sharma, V. (2002). Human rights violation: A global phenomenon. APH Publishing.
 - Prabowo, H. Y. (2021). Retooling our anti-corruption arsenals: exploring the potential use of CAQDAS in corruption investigation. *Journal of Money Laundering Control*,
 - Rahman, A. (2019). Cultural dynamics and human rights advocacy in KPK. *International Journal of NGO Studies*.
 - Rahman, M. (2016). Human rights and civil society in Pakistan: Challenges and prospects. *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding*, 8(1), 87-103.
 - Rehman, H., & Ismail, M. (2012). Study on the role of non-governmental organizations in imparting primary education in Pakistan. *International Journal of Contemporary Research in Business*, 4(1), 751-769.
 - SaadiaToor. (2007). The State of NGOs in Pakistan. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 42(8), 649-654.
 - Saeed, R. A., & Batool, S. (2021). Pakistan's 'Aurat March and its feministic perspective. *AL-QAWĀRĪR*, 3(01), 13-38.
 - Salman Hussain. (2014). NGOs and Development in Pakistan: A Critical Review of the Literature. *Journal of Political Studies*, 21(1), 157-172.
 - Shah, A. A., Gong, Z., Pal, I., Sun, R., Ullah, W., & Wani, G. F. (2020). Disaster risk management insight on school emergency preparedness—a case study of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 51, 101805.
 - Shah, A. A., Ullah, A., Mudimu, G. T., Khan, N. A., Khan, A., & Xu, C. (2023). Reconnoitering NGOs strategies to strengthen disaster risk communication (DRC) in Pakistan: a conventional content analysis approach. *Heliyon*, 9(7).
 - Shah, A. A., Ye, J., Pan, L., Ullah, R., Shah, S. I. A., Fahad, S., & Naz, S. (2018). Schools' flood emergency preparedness in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Pakistan. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Science*, 9, 181-194.
 - Shah, J., Şahin, B., & Khan, M. S. (2022). Are Muslims Intolerant of Non-Muslim Minorities? The Case of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *Review of Human Rights*, 8(1), 88-110.
 - Shazia Rafi. (2012). NGOs in Pakistan: A Critical Analysis. *Journal of Third World Studies*, 29(2), 111-128.
 - Skrentny, J. D. (2009). The minority rights revolution. Harvard University Press.
 - Smith, J., & Ahmed, R. (2018). Culturally sensitive approaches in NGO work. *Development Studies Review*, 27(3), 445-459.
 - Sohail, M., Ahmad, S. M., & Inamullah, H. M. (2014). The Educational Services \and Philosophy of Bacha Khan. *J. Appl. Environ. Biol. Sci*, 4(7S), 157-165.
 - Tahir Andrabi, Jishnu Das, & AsimIjazKhwaja. (2005). A Dime a Day: The Possibilities and Limits of Private Schooling in Pakistan. *Comparative Education Review*, 49(3), 329- 351.
 - Tahir, M., & Kamal, A. (2020). The role of NGOs in promoting human rights in Pakistan: An analytical study. *International Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 4(2), 19- 30.
 - Tariq, H. (2019). Role of NGOs in human rights education and advocacy in Pakistan. *Human Rights Education Review*, 2(1), 47-65.
 - Thaheem, M. S., & Jawad, S. (2022). Prosecuting Human Rights Violations: Prospects, Challenges and Solutions. *Pakistan Perspectives*, 27(1), 25.
 - Thomas, P. (2017). Severe poverty as a human rights violation. In *Challenges in International Human Rights Law* (pp. 721-764). Routledge.
 - Uddin, A. (2024). Opportunities and Challenges in Implementing a Rights-Based Approach to Community Development Projects in Pakistan: A Social Responsibility and Human Rights Perspective. *Bridging Human Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility: Pathways to a Sustainable*



Global Society, 255-282.

- UNHCR. (2022). Annual Report on Human Rights Defenders in Conflict Zones.
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. <https://www.unicef.org/pakistan>.
- UNICEF. (2021). Pakistan. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org/pakistan>.
- United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (2021). Report on the situation of human rights in Kashmir. Retrieved from <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/PK/DevelopmentsInKashmirJune2016T> oApr2018.pdf
- United Nations Pakistan. (2021). NGOs and human rights in Pakistan. Retrieved from <https://pakistan.un.org/en/41001-ngos-and-human-rights-pakistan>
- US Department of State. (2021). Pakistan 2022
- Wahid, A., Ahmad, M. S., Talib, N. B. A., Shah, I. A., Tahir, M., Jan, F. A., &
- Saleem, M. Q. (2017). Barriers to empowerment: Assessment of community-led local development organizations in Pakistan. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 74, 1361-1370
- Warraich, S. K., Khan, M., & Ahmed, U. (2024). Human Rights Violations: A Case Study of Palestine (2000-2024). *Pakistan Languages and Humanities Review*, 8(2), 45-51.
- Weiss, A. M. (2014). Progressive Women's NGOs' Interpretations of Women's Rights. In *Interpreting Islam, Modernity, and Women's Rights in Pakistan* (pp. 75-99). New York: Palgrave Macmillan US.
- Zia, A. (2018). The role of NGOs in promoting human rights in Pakistan: A critical analysis. *The Routledge History of Human Rights* (pp. 392-412). Routledge.
- Zulfiqar, S., & Ali, S. (2019). NGOs and the promotion of human rights in Pakistan: An overview. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Research*, 8(2), 11- 21.