# International Journal of Human and Society (IJHS)

P-ISSN: 2710-4966 E-ISSN: 2710-4958 Vol. 4. No. 02 (April-June) 2024 Page 643-648

# **Perception Of Development In Indigenous Community**



Arooj Malik	BS Student, Department of Anthropology, PMAS Arid Agriculture
	University Rawalpindi malik.arooj21k@gmail.com
Dr. Abid Ghafoor Chaudhry	Chairman, Department of Anthropology, PMAS-Arid Agriculture
	University, Rawalpindi <u>abidgc@uaar.edu.pk</u>

Abstract: This research dives into the attitudes and view point of the indigenous communities towards the development, focusing on various aspects which include culture, environment, resources, and livelihood. Indigenous peoples are often deeply connected to their traditions, land, and resources, shaping their insight about development. This study aims to explore how indigenous communities sought development, examining both positive and negative attributes towards it. Strategies for promoting environmentally friendly developmental practices within indigenous contexts are also explored. This article uses the explanatory method. It is used to examine the relationship between people, development, power and different factors that are contributing to the perception of development in the community. This paper will explain that how development effect the culture, tradition and customs of different communities by keeping in mind the information and detail provided earlier by the different researchers and the people point of view.

The purpose of explanatory method is to explain the relationship between different factors. It often implies quantitative method. This report is based on both primary and secondary data. Different articles have been studied related indigenous people and their perception about development and the relationship between different factors like development, poverty, inequality, power. This paper also discusses that what measures should be taken to cope with the alarming issues. Using different methods and tools such as questionnaire, Google form, case studies, and review of document for in-depth knowledge about the topic.

**Keywords:** development, environment, indigenous, power, community, lifestyle, resources.

## Introduction

Indigenous people are the one that are strongly connected to their culture, societies, language, traditions and customs. They led their simple lives and follow the teachings of their forefathers or ancestors. They do not change themselves after globalization as well as do not opt the modern technologies. They live with each other and help each other at the time of the need. These types of communities are strongly connected to each other and share their resources and asserts with each other. The aim of this topic

is to examine and explore the attitude of the indigenous people toward development both in the regard of network as well as financial structure. It will also talk about their relationship with land, property, resources, climate and environment as well as the challenges they have faced due to development and caused changes in their structure and livelihood. Indigenous people are always considered poor and are deprived of the basic facilities.

Some indigenous people don't want to change themselves with the passage of time and some don't have sufficient resources to upgrade themselves with the passage of time. Indigenous people also face discrimination on the basis of their language, culture and lifestyle. In many parts of the world indigenous people have different opinion towards development. Some people take development positively on the other hand some take it negatively. Some says that it is destroying the environment and cultures of many societies while on other handsome says that it is making the human societies more powerful due to the power of technology.

Indigenous communities are more connected to their land, culture, traditions and practices. Some indigenous communities see development as constructive while some consider it as destructive. These people have their own way of perceiving the things and they promote sustainability. Indigenous people are of the view that globalization is nothing but just a destruction of world. The technology is harmful to the humans, animals and the environment.

Indigenous people have their own way of perceiving things. They are simple people and lead their life simply. Their way of life, their culture, practices all are different from the other modern societies of the world. They pass their practices from generations to generations in order to preserve them. They perform the activities according to the methods that are pen down to them from their ancestors. The purpose of selecting this topic is to know how they perceive the rapid changes in the environment and their perception of development. Some indigenous communities consider development as a threat while other considers it as power.

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE:**

Review of literature is a fundamental component of exploration. It assists a scientist with keeping away from repetition of things and furthermore saves time. The fundamental reason for writing survey is to analyze the exploration hole, laid out by the past investigations. What's more, work to satisfy that hole during you own examination? For this reason, an orderly writing survey technique has been chosen and a sum of 12 articles of various time spans has been explored. The examination papers were completely

composed by both public and worldwide scientists investigating the worry.

#### • Edwina Pio et AI(2012)

In this article "seeking wisdom in indigenous eastern and western tradition" he stated that not all the indigenous communities are the same. Some focus on their culture and traditions while some focus on their land and property. Furthermore he stated that the eastern societies focus on social structure they talked about values where as western societies focus on economic structures they talked more about materialism.

Eviyuliana et AI (2021) In this article "natural resources environmental management for the development of local wisdom" he stated that natural resources are very important for the ecosystem. Rivers are the most important part of ecosystem it sustain life of human as well as animals. Rivers sustain life. Rivers must be protecting for the survival of all living creatures. This paper also inculcates that indigenous people usually settle near the river banks for their survival which cause a effect on their livelihood and natural resources. Indigenous people are dependent on natural resources for their survival they manage the resources in such a way that it doesn't cause harm to the environment and cause the development of their local indigenous community.

**Dr.AbidGafoor Chaudhry et AI (2014)** In this article "Theoretical and indigenous perspective of community and development"

A case study of Punjabi cultural context. He stated that the term local area has for some time been characterized by different researchers in their particular works. The point of his paper is to feature the indigenous perspective on local Punjabis on the term local area which delivers the reality that the social arrangement and society insight kept the nature well disposed misgivings with respect to the local area that included indigenous habitat, wild life and natural territory.

**Teagon brock et AI (2019)** In this article "Indigenous community in participation

resource development and decision making" he stated that indigenous countries overall are working with and campaigning private and public asset engineers to guarantee significant commitment to choices attached to asset improvement in their regions. The variety of approaches for commitment can be outlined along a continuum, with intentional practices toward one side and lawful obligations at the other. Considering this continuum, the jobs and obligations of different entertainers included have become obscured, which prompts poor practice.

#### THEROITICAL FRAMEWORK:

## **POST COLONIAL THEORY:**

This theory assists with figuring out the authentic and progressing effects of colonialism on indigenous networks' view of improvement. It critiques the burden of Western improvement models and values on native societies and features the significance of native points of view in molding advancement plans, postcolonial theory and indigenous people' understanding of development are centered around historical legacies, power dynamics, and cultural identities, they are closely related. Indigenous peoples have historically been marginalized by colonial exploitation and systemic inequality; postcolonial theory highlights how these legacies continue to be present in current development strategies. It opposes the Westerncentric development methods that are sometimes thrust onto indigenous communities, which have the potential to suppress indigenous cultural practices and knowledge. Postcolonial theory underscores the significance of alternative, place-based approaches to development that give priority to sustainability and cultural resilience by promoting the acknowledgement and incorporation of indigenous epistemologies. In the end, both areas advocate for the selfdetermination of indigenous people and the recognition of their traditional knowledge systems in order to empower them and promote development that is just and suitable for their particular setting.

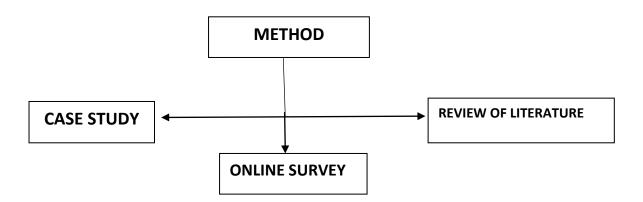
#### **CULTURAL RELATIVISM:**

According to Franz Boas, the father of modern

American anthropology, the concept of "cultural relativism" relates to the idea that diverse civilizations, or in our case, different religions, are equal. It states that no religion should be viewed as superior or inferior to another. According to the theory of cultural relativism, growth should be assessed in light of indigenous cultural norms and values. This strategy honors the distinct approaches taken by indigenous groups in defining and pursuing development. Since both emphasize understanding and respecting varied cultural values and practices, there is a direct relationship between cultural relativism and how development is perceived in indigenous communities. While evaluating development projects in indigenous communities, cultural relativism promotes appreciation of many cultural perspectives without imposing external judgments. These communities frequently take encompassing approach to development, taking into account social, cultural, economic, and environmental factors that are consistent with their customs and sustainable methods. Development initiatives can be adapted to the community's own objectives and lifestyles by utilizing cultural relativism. This promotes courteous, sustainable successful, and advancement that respects indigenous selfdetermination and cultural preservation.

## **METHODOLOGY:**

This research was conducted in slum area mehrabadi G-11. The interviews have been taken by the people living in mehrabadi (slum area). There situation is very poor. They are deprived of basic facilities and sources. Those people don't even have access to basic education. Parents involve their children in labour activities in order to generate money instead of providing them with the facility of education. The research will utilize a variety of methods and tools, such as questionnaires, case studies, and an extensive review of existing literature. These diverse approaches are designed to offer comprehensive comprehension of indigenous people and how they perceive development, taking into account different viewpoints and perspectives. Participants will be selected through random sampling to ensure a representative sample.



## Online survey:

An online survey will be conducted to know the point of view of people. It will be constructed through goggle form and questionnaire. Will be sended to people through email and WhatsApp messages. By online survey the researcher can know the point of view of people.

#### • Review of article:

Topic related articles have been studied to have clear information about the topic and having a good amount of information related to the topic. It is also done to know what previously have been done and what needs to be done?

#### Case study:

Different case studies are studied for having indepth information about the related topic. It also helps us in exploring the relationship between different factors.

#### **CASE STUDY:**

Through the process of conducting in-depth interviews, primary data have been systematically collected for the goal of conducting this research. However, the purpose of including the following case studies is to draw attention to the problem of the people' subjective experiences.

The name of the respondent was khadija Bibi. She was living in mehrabadi for about 20 years. She lived there with her parents and later on got married and continues to live there at the same place. She only studied till class 9<sup>th</sup>. She was unable to complete her studies due to the household issues. Her mother use to work as a

maid in peoples home. So, she had to look after her siblings. After 3 years of marriage her husband got into an accident and lost his 1 leg. So to provide bread and butter to the family she started working.

When I asked her the question about development she answered that development is having good amount of money, food and shelter. She said all of the problems have one solution and that is money. Money can solve all the problems and there will be decrease in the tensions. She said development is that all of her children are able to have a clean and pure life with access to resources. They should be able to get healthy facilities, education and above all they should have access to clean drinking water.

She was more convinced that her children should be employed somewhere so that they can generate money. Furthermore she said she has nothing to do with development of the country as the country government do not work for us, they work for their own walfare.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:**

The interviews have been taken by the people living in mehrabadi (slum area).there situation was not good at all. The question that was asked from the majority of the population was, according to their prospective what is development? Or how do they perceive development? All the people give the answers according to their own level of understanding. Some gave answers in a positive way and some in negative. The age of the respondents vary from 20 to 70 years old. The respondents include males, females, working man and lay person.

Majority of the population believed that development can only be achieved through the generation of money. Without money nobody can achieve anything in this world. According to them through money they can attain development, power, happiness etc. they further added that through money they can have sufficient amount of food, proper shelter and clothing which are basic necessities of life. 70% people perceive it as a positive thing and related that development cannot be done with having money. They say that development and money both are interlinked and in the absence of one the other cannot perform any function.

On the other hand some people describe development as a negative thing. They were of the view that development is destructive. It is destroying the people as well as polluting the environment. They further added that before the arrival of technology, power and development. All the people lived with each other there was no stratification, people share each and everything with each other; help each other in the time of need. When there was a marriage in the community all the people play their role and contributes in order to ease the burden from father of the bride. There was no greediness. But after development everything changed people left villages and went to the cities to earn money. They left their old parents behind. They further said that some people cut the trees to build houses but they are unable to understand that trees are more important for us as they purify the air we breathe. Furthermore they added that development is destroying the environment as well as the mind set of people. People are leaving their culture and adopting modern technologies and practices so in short, they were trying to say that development is a negative thing that will cause great destruction at the end.

## **CONCLUSION:**

It is essential to comprehend how indigenous populations view development in order to design inclusive, culturally sensitive, and sustainable development policies. Indigenous communities place a high priority on preserving their cultural legacy and appreciate development projects that honor and complement their customs and societal institutions. In contrast to traditional

development models, which frequently place an emphasis on economic growth, their holistic development perspective of integrates economic, social, and cultural well-being. Their wary views toward outside interventions are a result of historical experiences with colonization underscoring marginalization, significance of sincere cooperation and trust. To make sure that projects are pertinent, courteous, and successful, development strategies must incorporate indigenous actively acknowledging their distinct knowledge and viewpoints.

#### **REFERENCE:**

- Yuliana, E., Yusuf, M., Nirmalasary, T. N., Amri, N. H., Erlyn, P., Hariani, P. L., & Hidayat, B. A. (2021). Natural resources and environment Management for the development of local wisdom. Budapest International Research and Critics Institute (BIRCI-Journal): Humanities and Social Sciences.
- Pio, E., Waddock, S., Mangaliso, M., McIntosh, M., Spiller, C., Takeda, H., ... & Syed, J. (2013). Pipeline to the future: Seeking wisdom in indigenous, eastern, and western traditions. Handbook of faith and spirituality in the workplace: Emerging research and practice, 195-219.
- Sillitoe, P. (2010). Trust in development: some implications of knowing in indigenous knowledge. Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, 16(1), 12-30.
- $In digenous\_Peoples\_Human\_Development\_an \\ d\_the\_Capability\_Approach$
- Chaudhry, A. G., Ahmed, A., & Farooq, H. (2014). Theoretical and Indigenous Perception of 'Community'and 'Development': A Case Study of Punjabi Cultural Context. Pensee, 76(8).
- Brock, T., Reed, M. G., & Stewart, K. J. (2021).
  Indigenous community participation in resource development decision-making:
  Practitioner perceptions of legal and voluntary arrangements. Journal of Environmental Management, 283, 111922.

- Latip, N. A., Rasoolimanesh, S. M., Jaafar, M., Marzuki, A., & Umar, M. U. (2018). Indigenous residents' perceptions towards tourism development: a case of Sabah, Malaysia. Journal of Place Management and Development, 11(4), 391-410.
- Saarinen, J. (2011). Tourism, indigenous people, and the challenge of development: The representations of Ovahimbas in tourism promotion and community perceptions toward tourism. Tourism Analysis, 16(1), 31-42.
- Oltremari, J. V., & Jackson, R. G. (2006). Conflicts, perceptions, and expectations of indigenous communities associated with natural areas in Chile. Natural Areas Journal, 26(2), 215-220.
- Huda, M. N. (2013). Understanding indigenous people's perception on climate change and climatic hazards: a case study of Chakma indigenous communities in Rangamati Sadar Upazila of Rangamati District, Bangladesh. Natural Hazards, 65, 2147-2159.
- Lin, Y. H., Lee, T. H., & Wang, C. K. (2021). Influence analysis of sustainability perceptions on sense of community and support for sustainable community development in relocated communities. International journal of environmental research and public health, 18(22), 12223.
- Roder, G., Ruljigaljig, T., Lin, C. W., & Tarolli, P. (2016). Natural hazards knowledge and risk perception of Wujie indigenous community in Taiwan. Natural Hazards, 81, 641-662.
- Chang, K. G., Chien, H., Cheng, H., & Chen, H. I. (2018). The impacts of tourism development in rural indigenous destinations: An investigation of the local residents' perception using choice modeling. Sustainability, 10(12), 4766.
- Chang, K. G., Chien, H., Cheng, H., & Chen, H.
  I. (2018). The impacts of tourism development in rural indigenous destinations: An investigation of the local

- residents' perception using choice modeling. Sustainability, 10(12), 4766.
- Uddin, M. N., Hossain, M. M., Chen, Y., Siriwong, W., & Boonyanuphap, J. (2019). Stakeholders' perception on indigenous community-based management of village common forests in Chittagong hill tracts, Bangladesh. Forest policy and economics, 100, 102-112.
- Rodríguez-Robayo, K. J., Ávila-Foucat, V. S., & Maldonado, J. H. (2016). Indigenous communities' perception regarding payments for environmental services programme in Oaxaca Mexico. Ecosystem services, 17, 163-171.
- Ambrosio-Albala, P., & Delgado-Serrano, M. M. (2018). Understanding climate change perception in community-based management contexts: perspectives of two indigenous communities. Weather, Climate, and Society, 10(3), 471-485.
- Smith, R. L., Devine, S., & Preston, R. (2020).

  Recommended methodologies to determine Australian Indigenous community members' perceptions of their health needs: a literature review.

  Australian