

## **Rising Trends of Poverty & Violence in Pakistan**

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem\*

### **Abstract:**

*In this brief article we plan to discuss in some detail some of the global and local causes of rising poverty and the incredible violence in Pakistan. Attempt will also be made to suggest certain remedial measures to overcome these unwholesome trends. Let us first assess some of the crucial elements that added fuel to the fire and led to the most horrible deaths and destructions in Pakistan.*

Global economy took a nose dive especially after 9/11 and subsequent wars waged by the United States and its allies in Afghanistan and Iraq. Since Pakistan was made to serve as a frontline State in the U.S war in Afghanistan, naturally she was condemned to bear the brunt of this war. So much so that according to Tommy Franks, former chief of Army Staff of the United States, Pakistan suffered a net loss of \$10 billion during the first round of Afghan war. It may be underscored that this massive financial loss that shook the foundations of our economy was never reclaimed by the Govt. of Pakistan nor was it recompensed or replenished by the United States or its allies. Immediate effect of this catastrophic war—initially in our neighborhood and now in our own cities and streets—was an ever increasing poverty and an incredible rise in violence in Pakistan. Basic goods such as, atta, rice, oil, sugar, fruits and vegetables, meat and beef, etc. became virtually unavailable or unmanageable by the poor solely because of their sky-rocketing prices. This was not the whole story. Our situation was further aggravated by a series of other crises such as, water crisis leading to a sharp decline in our agriculture sector; crisis of oil and energy leading to a marked

---

\* Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem, Dean Faculty of Social Science, Qurtuba University of Science and IT, D.I. Khan, Pakistan.

decline in our industrial sector; judicial crisis and the crisis of law and order leading to the flight of money and manpower from the country; crisis of far-sighted leadership and concomitant absence of wisdom and vision in our national politics that could give hope to the people dismayed and depressed by the fast deteriorating national unity and cohesion; and crisis of quality education especially of vocational training that may produce skilled workers for various walks of life and boost our economy. In brief the absence of job opportunities and disguised unemployment have caused the per capita income to be at the lowest ebb. These and similar other elements have imperceptibly driven the country towards grinding poverty, hunger and deprivation. In fact, we are rapidly sliding towards bitter resentment, semi-civil war and violence. Prolonged spells of repressive and oppressive military rules have created a strange psycho-moral and financial stress amongst the people so much so that the poor parents are obliged to embrace death alongwith their own young ones, something that was never heard before. Consequently more than 40% of population is crawling below the poverty-line. A recent survey conducted by an international agency indicates that around 75% people in Pakistan are struggling to survive with a nominal and paltry budget of Rs. 4000/- per month. If these unfortunate trends are not arrested and reversed in the near future, we are afraid, the nation might be constrained to meet still more dire consequences. It may be underlined that our main contention is that a hungry man is an angry man. And if he somehow presumes, rightly or wrongly, that his hunger is caused by an unjust and inequitable financial system of the country, he is likely to direct his anger and vengeance towards that hostile and inimical social order. He thinks that if he is doomed to die of hunger, what is the harm in taking a few others to the other side of the grave. His mental state is so dangerous that

he could be easily exploited for a suicidal mission. In our opinion poverty and violence go hand in hand. So if we are anxious to eradicate violence, we ought to eradicate poverty, exploitation & injustice.

**9/11 and its Disastrous Financial Implications:**

It is a strange irony that the real culprits of 9/11 tragedy are still shrouded in mystery. But the ripples of its disastrous geo-political and financial implications are felt all over the world for the last so many years. Probably the future analysts, critics and reformers would identify 9/11 as the mother of all the crises that 21<sup>st</sup> century may witness. Soon after this tragic incident the Bush Administration, without any inquiry or incontrovertible evidence, declared that Osama bin Laden was the real culprit of these terrorist attacks. Bush further declared that the United States is in state of war. In fact, the U.S is determined to lead a global war against terrorism. The world has to decide whether they are with us or with the terrorists. We will go and attack all those countries who are found guilty of harboring the terrorists. We will take them one by one and make them understand the meaning of American justice. Contrary to all international legal and moral norms, Bush demanded that the Taliban regime in Afghanistan should hand – over Osama bin Laden to the U.S so that he may take him to justice of his own choice. Taliban leadership responded that the U.S may initiate criminal proceedings against Osama bin Laden in a neutral country with all the evidence at their command. Taliban regime on its part would extend all cooperation and present Osama bin Laden to this neutral country for a fair trial. Unfortunately Bush was not willing to entertain any rational and sane arguments. Instead, he was hell-bent to settle this case by resorting to war and violence, or to borrow his own expression, by creating a sense of “Shock and Awe”. Following an insane coercive policy – whereby the U.S could

demonstrate its military might – Bush gave an ultimatum that Taliban regime should either hand-over Osama bin Laden to Bush regime within a specified time or be ready for the U.S invasion. When the Taliban regime failed to oblige the Americans, Bush ordered his air-force to start carpet bombing in Afghanistan and get hold of Osama “dead or alive”. In the intervening period Colin Powell (former Secretary of State) and his colleagues asked Musharraf (former President and military ruler of Pakistan) to spin on his head, abandon the Taliban regime to their fate and allow the U.S a free access to its air, water, and ground facilities and be with the U.S rather than with Osama or the Taliban regime. In other words, Musharraf was asked to take a U–turn on Pakistan’s Afghan policy which he gladly did in order to prolong his own stay in office. More than 58000 sorties were made from our soil in about two months’ time and Pakistan became, in Tommy Franks words, a lynchpin in Afghan War.

Soon after Afghan War Bush declared a pre-emptive war against Iraq on totally false and fabricated charges. He told his own nation and the rest of the world that Saddam Hussain was sitting on huge stock piles of nuclear arsenal. He further emphasized that Saddam was in close contact with Osama bin Laden and is all anxious to transfer these nuclear weapons to Osama who, in turn, was restless to use them, against the United States and kill our children in our own cities and streets. He announced that he couldn’t be a fool to wait for that eventuality. Instead, he had decided to go after Saddam, dethrone him and make him ineffective and inoperative. He was able to recruit Tony Blair to his cause. Bush and Blair attacked Iraq in March 2003 and showed no regard for Security Council or the UN charter. Bush and Blair made the UN totally irrelevant and redundant. International law was flouted and the

respect for the sovereignty of nations was buried for ever. The U.S return to Hobbesian “State of Nature” emboldened quite a few other tyrant states waiting in the wings. For instance, Israel immediately followed the U.S example and did everything possible to crush the Palestinian freedom movement. Russians did the same in Chechnya and crushed the Muslim aspirants for freedom. China didn’t lag behind either. She got a free hand to crush the Muslims in Kashgar. India advanced its forces to crush the Kashmiri freedom fighters. Likewise Serbs found themselves free to go after Kosovo, Albania and even Bosnia. By denouncing the UN Charter and disregarding the Security Council, the U.S has lost its moral supremacy and its claims to uphold the cause of human dignity, human liberty, and democracy.

Let us come back to Iraq again. When bush and Blair failed to unearth nuclear arsenal in Iraq, they turned around and coined a new slogan. Their real purpose, they told the world, was to introduce democracy in Iraq and set it as a model state for the entire Muslim world especially the Middle East. But nobody could believe them. The world was changed and probably changed forever. The whole world was turned into a battle field. Every state was waiting for its turn. Bush was threatening the entire Muslim world. Even the non-Muslim world was coerced to endorse the U.S policies and facilitate the realization of his dreams for global Imperialism. Bush’s rhetoric caused panic around the world. Capitalists became shy of investing their resources in a war-zone. Job opportunities began to dwindle. Low – paid workers were laid off in thousands all over the world. Tourism, traveling and transport industry suffered the maximum losses. Students especially of Muslim origin were denied admissions in the U.S and other western countries under the pretext of security concerns. It is interesting to note that Bush declared

victory in both Iraq and Afghanistan but still the war goes on even after years. Critics of Bush policies contend that the U.S has spent over \$700 billion in these two wars. Some of the more perceptive observers hold that U.S has spent \$ 3 Trillion in these wars. Not only that the U.S has inflicted \$one Trillion loss to the rest of the global economy. Besides, the U.S is guilty of killing nearly Two million people in Iraq-Afghan wars. Nearly 3 million Iraqis were forced to flee from their homeland in order to take refuge in neighboring countries. Almost 2 million have suffered from internal migration. More than 6000 Americans have died while the ratio of seriously wounded is 1:10 (i.e. one dead and ten injured). Economic loss to the U.S itself is quite staggering. Some of the U.S banks of international standing are gone bankrupt. Apprehensions are that if the U.S were somehow kept engaged in these reckless wars for another 3 to 5 years, she would suffer the same fate that was meted out to the Soviets (because of their reckless war in Afghanistan). Madeline Albright made a very apt observation that the U.S rushed to war in Afghanistan and Iraq in order to show the world its military might. It is a strange irony though that we ended up in demonstrating our out-right helplessness and pitiable weakness. More well-meaning critics of the U.S policy are advising their government to abandon their ambitions of global imperialism. In their opinion the U.S has neither the requisite manpower nor the requisite financial resources to realize their elusive goals. Instead, they council that the U.S should resign to global leadership which it could possibly maintain.

Regardless of what happens to the U.S or its NATO forces in Iraq or Afghanistan, the situation in Pakistan is extremely grim and grave. The state is facing a regular disturbance in Baluchistan, North and South Waziristan, Dir, Bajaur, Swat, Miran Shah, Khyber Agency and

other tribal areas usually known as FATA. The writ of the Govt. is found nowhere. While we are suffering from internal disorder, the U.S Govt. is coercing our newly installed Govt. to “do more”. Frequently it sends its drones inside Pakistan. Frequently its missiles hit different parts of our border areas. Of late, they could venture to indulge in ground assault as well. Suicide attacks are also sponsored by Indo-U.S-Afghan alliance in order to force Pakistan to submit to U.S demands. Different cities of Pakistan, such as, Mardan, Wah Cantt, Islamabad, Lahore, Quetta have been the target of their suicidal attacks. Of late, in some of the official circles of Pakistan, a new theory is circulated. It seems to be a belated effort to justify the presence of our armed forces in Tribal Area. These official circles are advocating that in Tribal area we are not facing a temporary breakdown of law and order. Instead, we are facing an all-out insurgency. This seems to be a bad beginning. One can see quite telling similarities between this insurgency and the one that we have had already faced in East – Pakistan. For instance, in East Pakistan we were confronted with Mukhti Bahini, the guerilla force. This force was helped and sponsored by Indo-Soviet alliance as both were tied down by joint defense pact for 20 years. And the Bengali population was deemed to be in a state of insurgency. China and the U.S were silent spectators if not lukewarm supporters of this insurgency. Here we are dealing with a similar guerilla force called the Taliban. They are sponsored by Indo-US-Afghan Govts. It may be recalled that Indo-US have signed a nuclear pact wherein, among other things the U.S has expressed its resolve to turn India into a global power. China and Iran may or may not be all that silent spectators. And the entire Tribal belt is supposed to be in a state of insurgency.

Now the question is: How are we going to handle this insurgency; By force or by negotiation? If exercise of force is our option, we don't have the requisite force. We have already seen a bitter end to the exercise of force in East Pakistan. We ended up in a humiliating defeat and turned East Pakistan into Bangladesh. We should remember that violence begets violence and soon it spins out of control. Further, we should realize that if military might could solve any issue, the Americans would have sorted out their problems in Iraq and Afghanistan. Or for that matter the Soviets might have solved their problems during their invasion of Afghanistan. The lesson that we can draw is that the use of force is no answer. On the contrary, it can aggravate and multiply our problems. In fact, we will be well-advised to recall Pentagon Plans for the Muslim world sketched in its new map under: "Blood Borders". They plan to dismantle Pakistan and have vicious designs to rob us of our nuclear defense capabilities. Their twin objectives are to paralyze our economy; and to paralyse our defense forces by creating a cleavage between them and the people at large. We should realize the enemy plans and chalk-out our defense strategies accordingly. In this regard we will submit our recommendations a little later.

**Water Crisis:**

Since the U.S has turned the entire world to a battle-field, no wonder that the global economy is in a state of recession. Our situation is further grave and grim because of some additional local and home – grown crises. Pakistan, as we know, is essentially an agricultural country. In spite of that we are suffering from acute shortage of food and other basic necessities. Main reason for this short-fall is the scarcity of water required for our arable lands. We lost to India two-three rivers under the so-called Indus-Basin Treaty. The remaining rivers are being choked by

India by constructing over 50 dams over these rivers. Since adequate water is not available for irrigation purposes, our agricultural out-puts are no longer sufficient to meet our national needs. We are constrained to spend our most valuable foreign reserves to meet this deficiency. This explosive situation may get further aggravated in future to the extent that Kashmir issue may be pushed to the back-burner and water crisis may become a flash-point for Indo-Pakistan wars. Now Kashmir is taken as a Jugular vein. Soon it may be replaced by water, the real source of life and death for Pakistan.

Crisis of water has not only affected our agriculture sector (and the huge population dependent upon it) it has also squeezed our industrial sector as industry is ultimately parasitic upon the raw material produced by the agriculture sector. Since most of our industries are no longer operative – even the agriculture sector is gone down – we have terribly limited job opportunities. Poor strata of the society is feeling the crunch. Those who can run out of the country are running out and are anxious to seek their fortunes in foreign lands. Educated youth is the most notable section of our society, that is anxious to avail all these opportunities. This brain-drain has its own serious psycho-moral implications. Old parents suffer from loneliness while their young ones struggle hard for survival in foreign lands. Maybe they send some money to their old and ailing parents but they are left unattended by their young ones – quite a psychological drain for both sides. Besides, the global wave against the Muslims (who are dubbed as militants and terrorists) are also making things difficult for our youth. This is the situation of our educated elite. While the unskilled workers have no future either within or outside the country. So often they die in containers while searching for a livelihood abroad. In brief, the common man finds it increasingly

difficult to keep both ends meet. He is indeed fuming with resentment and anger. He can be easily exploited for suicidal missions.

**Spill – Over Effects of Afghan War:**

War in Afghanistan is now spilling – over to Pakistan. First we ran into serious difficulties because of Baloch insurgency. Late Akbar Bugti became a symbol of Provincial autonomy. Bugti, a die-hard Pakistani was simply asking for political and financial autonomy. Instead of entering into a negotiated settlement, Musharraf regime opted for the exercise of force. The old man of eighty was mercilessly killed, even his remains were not handed over to his family. Unfortunately, his death gave a new life to his mission, that is, provincial autonomy or all-out independence. After his cold-blooded murder we have witnessed a notable resurgence of Baluchistan Liberation Movement and our security agencies are facing a regular threat to their lives. Soon we ran into a similar situation in North and South Waziristan. We are facing a similar crisis in Dir, Bajaur, Swat, Miranshah, Khyber Agency in fact, the entire FATA area. Initially our forces entered into these Tribal areas to help the United States and its NATO allies to fight against the Taliban and Al-Qaeda remnants in Afghanistan. Now Tribals are known to have no patience for the outside forces. They are always treated as the occupying forces and unwanted intruders. They asked the Pakistan forces to stay away from the Tribal areas and stop fighting for the United States and its NATO allies. When Pakistani forces didn't oblige and instead prolonged their stay, they naturally called for resistance. Now we are told that we are facing a full-fledged insurgency. We have already faced one insurgency in East-Pakistan and the consequences were extremely sad and unpleasant. We just hope and pray that we don't have a re-run of the same in Tribal area.

Parenthetically it may be stated that the U.S forces including their NATO allies are around 35000. Actual break-down is around 13000 U.S forces whereas the remaining 22000 forces are drawn from NATO countries. While the Pakistani contribution to this U.S led war in Afghanistan is around 90,000 regular army plus 70,000 militia forces. One can see the contrast and also the rational of the critics of our national policies.

**Enemy is hitting our Soft Belly:**

Unfortunately this war is no longer confined either to Afghanistan or to our Tribal area. Now the enemy is hitting our soft belly as well. These Taliban were able to hit our army training centre in Mardan. Like wise they were able to hit at FIA Centre at Lahore and kill more than forty ordinance factory workers at Wah Cantt. Of late, they were able to hit Marriot Hotel right under the shadow of the PM House and the Presidency. Their message seems to be quite loud and clear. They want Pakistan and its army to get out of this U.S sponsored war. If we stay on as a front-line state to U.S imperialist designs, we are likely to slide more intensely to internal war and violence. Poor and the destitute would continue to be used as human bombs. They would be exploited by the enemy in its suicidal missions. It is high time that we revise our policy otherwise we are likely to run into grave difficulties.

**Crisis of Judiciary and the Evaporation of Law and Order:**

To make matters worse, former President Musharraf declared emergency and demolished the entire judiciary in order to save his own Presidency. His agencies were guilty of publicly disgracing the Chief Justice who have had the nerves to refuse to tender his resignation to an army dictator. This led to nation-wide protests. The Chief Justice became a

symbol of courage and conviction, the rule of Law and the independence of judiciary. He visited main cities of the country to mobilize the legal fraternity to fight for the rule of law and the independence of judiciary. Lawyer's Movement, fully supported by the civil society, backed the Chief Justice and his suspended colleagues. While he was on a visit to Karachi, MQM supporters of President Musharraf killed over 50 people who wanted to go to the airport to welcome the visiting Chief Justice. This show of brutal force was condemned by the entire country. But Musharraf and his cohorts made it sure that no FIR is allowed to be launched against the culprits. No amount of public resentment or protests could deter Musharraf from seeking a fresh election for another term of 5 years and that too from an Assembly that was already lying on a death. Since he couldn't seek this fresh mandate while wearing a uniform he was apprehensive that the Supreme Court would disqualify him from the Presidential election he therefore felt no compunctions to declare an emergency and demolish the entire judiciary. The poor and the destitute who were praying for a change felt robbed off from their rights all over again. They turned to increased violence in order to safeguard their future generations. Their sustained protests forced the dictator to hold elections. On Feb 18, 2008 they rejected Musharraf and his hand-picked political party, the Muslim League (Q). PPP and the Muslim League (N) turned out as two winning parties. People build high hopes that this coalition would do wonders and the poor would be snatched away from the jaws of death and destruction. They were expecting that this coalition would reinstall the suspended judiciary and re-establish the rule of law in the country. Unfortunately, their dreams have been shattered all-over again and they have been pushed back to their old wilderness. They don't see any change in their fortunes. They are still in the grip of grinding

poverty and are inclined towards violence as an instrument of political change.

**Recommendations:**

- The Muslim world in general and Pakistan in particular should remember the Pentagon Plans sketched out in its new map under the title of; “Blood Borders”. Pentagon planners have boldly circulated their thesis that the Muslim countries are based on artificial borders and boundaries and the Pentagon is obliged to redraw their map by carving out new countries from the heart of the Muslim lands. Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan in particular are their main target. In our case, they want to carve-out a greater Baluchistan and a greater Pakhtunistan by tearing away NWFP and Baluchistan from Pakistan. And now they are itching towards their plans. Their frequent incursions into Pakistan in total disregard to international norms should be taken as a clear indication of their vicious plans. Our defense strategies should be revisited and planned in the light of their well – defined imperialist goals & objectives.
- Pakistan should also remember that the west doesn’t want any of the Muslim country to have a nuclear defense potential. We may recall that they smashed Iraq to dust mainly because, in their opinion, Saddam was nursing nuclear ambitions and as such could pose serious threat to Israel and the rest of the western world. They are threatening Iran of similar consequences if she fails to abandon her nuclear ambitions. While Pakistan is

already a declared nuclear state: How can they forgive us for this crime? Their aim is to rob us of our defense potential and reduce us to the level of Iraq or Afghanistan. Our defense strategies and our participation in global war against terrorism should be revised accordingly.

- The Muslim world should also understand the psyche of the west particularly of the U.S. They talk of democracy, sovereignty of the states, and the basic human rights, for international consumption while in their heart of hearts, they pursue imperialist ambitions. They are in a state of crusades against the so-called militant Islam. As an evidence thereof they have deployed NATO forces in Iraq and Afghanistan bordering on Pakistan. Obviously their objective is that any sense of loss should be shared by the entire western world whereas the dividends of these wars and victories should be an exclusive monopoly of the United States. The point to be observed is that the U.S has mobilized the entire western world under the spirit of crusades. Even the Pope, Benedict, is recruited to lead the religio-cultural crusade against the Muslim world. As a result thereof the west frequently indulges in attacking the fundamentals of Islam or the sanctity of the Prophet of Islam (PBUH). Their purpose of course is to isolate and weaken the Muslim world who, in their opinion, are the only hindrance in their way to global imperialism.

- Under these circumstances common-sense recommends that the first thing that we should do is to put our own house in order. To realize this objective, our Govt. should ask its armed forces to stop firing at our own people in FATA and other trouble-spots in our country. We should have a negotiated settlement of disputes and work out a sense of national unity and cohesion.
- Obviously this objective cannot be realized without the establishment of socio-economic and just moral order. Unity, so to say, can be preserved by justice. If justice is gone unity cannot stay behind far too long either.

Now justice can't be established in the absence of an independent and upright judiciary. Remote – controlled judiciary can't serve our national interests. The sooner we reinstate Iftkhar Mohammad Chaudhry and his other suspended colleagues the better for our survival with grace and dignity.

- We must address the problem of water – crisis. We should mobilize international pressure for seeking an amicable settlement of this dispute. This can help revive our agriculture and eventually our industry and create job opportunities for the poorer strata of our community. We should also seek job opportunities for them in foreign Lands especially the Middle Eastern countries.
- Above-all, we should capitalize on the changed global scenario. We should realize that Russia is reasserting itself in international politics. By invading Georgia, she has given a message that the uni-polar world order,

under the hegemony of the United States, is not acceptable to her. She would grudgingly protect her own area of influence with full force if need be. China is also aware that the U.S presence in Afghanistan (or Pakistan) is a permanent threat to her own security. Both Russia and China are playing a leading role in Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). This Organization seems to be a resurrection of WARSA Pact-only more viable and forceful than the earlier Pact. Pakistan in particular and the rest of the Muslim world in general should play their role in building this new Organization. Probably it would raise a new cushion for us by reviving the cold-war scenario. This is the best possible option for us. It can help us to save our skin.

- While we must do everything to improve our defense – potential, our main focus should be to improve our internal harmony by improving our economy and independence of judiciary. We should also avoid internal adventurism for a house divided against itself invites invasion and intervention from others. In conclusion, we may emphasize that violence can't be eradicated without eradicating poverty, corruption, exploitation & injustice.

## Bibliography

- Ali, Salman Syed and Sayyid Tahir (1999). *Dynamics of Growth, Poverty and Inequality in Pakistan*, Pakistan Development Review, Vol. 38, No. 4, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad, Pakistan.
- Ashley J. Tellis, Pakistan's Record on Terrorism: Conflicted Goals, Compromised Performance, *The Washington Quarterly*, Spring 2008. Available at: [http://www.twq.com/08spring/docs/08spring\\_tellis.pdf](http://www.twq.com/08spring/docs/08spring_tellis.pdf).
- Bob Woodward, *Bush at War*, Simon & Schuster, 2002.
- Bob Woodward, *Plan of Attack*, Simon & Schuster, 2004.
- Bob Woodward, *State of Denial*, Simon & Schuster, 2006.
- George Friedman, The Medvedev Doctrine and American Strategy, *Geopolitical Weekly*, September 2, 2008. Available at: [http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/medvedev\\_doctrine\\_and\\_american\\_strategy](http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/medvedev_doctrine_and_american_strategy)
- Mahbub-ul-Haq, *A Profile of Poverty in Pakistan*, Centre for Human Development (MHCHD)/United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Islamabad, 1999.
- Pakistan Social And Living Standards Measurement Survey (PSLM) 2006-07, Federal Bureau of Statistics, Government of Pakistan. Available at: [http://www.statpak.gov.pk/depts/fbs/statistics/pslm2006\\_07/pslm2006\\_07.html](http://www.statpak.gov.pk/depts/fbs/statistics/pslm2006_07/pslm2006_07.html)
- Ralph Peters, Blood borders: How a better Middle East would look, *Armed Forces Journal*, June 2006. Available at: <http://www.armedforcesjournal.com/2006/06/1833899>
- Pervez Musharraf, *In the Line of Fire: A Memoir*, Free Press, 2006
- Rashida Haq, Transition of Poverty in Pakistan: Evidence from the Longitudinal Data, *The Pakistan Development Review*, 2004, vol. 43, issue 4, pages 895-909
- The Downing Street Memo, *The Sunday Times*, May 1, 2005 Available at: <http://downingstreetmemo.com/memotext.html>
- Tommy R. Franks, *American Soldier*, Harper Paperbacks, 2005.
- World Economic Outlook, International Monetary Fund (IMF), April 2008. Available at: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2008/01/index.htm>
- Zareen F. Naqvi, . . *Poverty in Pakistan: Review of Recent Literature*. South Asia Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Unit (SASPR), The World Bank, Islamabad, 2000.