POVERTY REDUCTION EXPERIENCE OF CHINA (1947-1978): LESSONS FOR PAKISTAN

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Abstract

Poverty eradication is a critical issue that must be tackled as part of the world's economic and social progress. China and Pakistan have distinct ways of combating poverty. Since the start of reforms and opening up in 1978, China has taken a number of initiatives to alleviate poverty. The Communist Party China (CPC) Central Committee's decision on several major issues concerning rural reforms and development, adopted at the Third Plenary Session of the CPC's seventeenth Central Committee, proposed increasing support for the development of poor areas in old revolutionary base areas, ethnic minority areas, and border areas. The CPC's 18th National Congress set the lofty objective of completing the construction of a moderately affluent society in all aspects by 2020. The report emphasized the parties tenaciously fought for aims to lift people out of poverty. This paper attempts to explore and understand the causes of Pakistan's poverty reduction strategies and the elements that impact it, utilizing the experience of China's poverty reduction to identify the difficulties that have arisen as a result of Pakistan's poverty reduction process. This research shows that the poverty policies of China are more mature, which led the country towards progress and today it is one of the leading economies in the world. Similarly, Pakistan after its independence is struggle to tackle the issue of poverty and still could not get rid of it and this is all because of the policies of Pakistan which could proof to be successful.

Keywords: Poverty, comparative studies, poverty eradication experience

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INTRODUCTION

Poverty is a global societal problem caused by a mix of human traits, uneven development, geographic and ecological situations, and social, political, and economic inequities. Poverty has been a global concern since approximately 1500 AD, notably through the processes of globalisation, capitalism, colonialism, industrialisation and a because of number of other known and unknown reasons (Ajakaiye & Adeyeye, 2001). For all these until now, the world is struggling to get rid of poverty in 21st century. Some countries have overcome the problems of poverty, which are considered as developed countries and the rest of them are named as developing countries but some of the counties has set some models to overcome poverty. The example of China is very prominent in 21st century.

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, China has achieved great success in poverty reduction over the last four decades, with the number of people living in poverty falling from 250 million in 1978 at the start of reform and opening-up to 55.75 million in 2015. Between 1990 and 2012, the absolute number of people living in extreme poverty declined by 30 million each year on average. China has provided valuable experience in poverty reduction to other countries by establishing a long-term mechanism of assistance and assistance to stabilize income channels and strengthen policy support; implementing poverty alleviation through industry, health, relocation of poor areas, export of labour services through microcredit, social services, and fertility reduction; and implementing poverty alleviation through industry, health, relocation of poor areas, export of labour services through micro-credit, social services, and fertility reduction.

On the other hand, Pakistan now has a high poverty rate, with around 29.5 percent of the population living below the poverty line (Akbar, Naveed, & Syed, 2022). Poverty causes in Pakistan may be generally categorised into numerous categories: of good public policy ignores the importance of non-economic variables. Weak economic

foundation: unstable, imbalanced regional growth of infrastructure services; lack of competitiveness; rising external dependence; lack of a social governing mode formed on the basis of Islamic principles. Land reform and its failure, political instability, and imbalanced social growth are all factors impacting poverty reduction in Pakistan (Kun, 2016).

BACKGROUND TO POVERTY IN PAKISTAN

Poverty in Pakistan typically follows the following pattern: it peaked in the 1960s and declined in the 1970s and early 1980s. The outcomes of poverty studies in the late 1980s and 1990s varied due to variances in study techniques. Figure 1 depicts Pakistan's poverty patterns between 1986-1987 and 2005-2006, using official poverty levels.

Fig-1: Pakistan's poverty patterns between 1986-1987 and 2005-2006

Source: Planning Commission and Economic Survey 2005-2006

When the incidence of poverty in Pakistan is compared across three successive periods: 29.1 in 1986-1987, 29.2 in 1987-1988, and 26.1 in 1990-1991, it is clear that 29.2 in 1987-1988, 1986-1987, and 1990 are used as the reference. Poverty prevalence fell in 1991, climbed from 1992 to 2001, and then fell again from 2004 to 2006. The incidence of urban poverty has remained around 20-30% (30.3 percent in 1987-1988, 14.9 percent in 2004-2005, and 13.1 percent in 2005-2006),

however the incidence of rural poverty has increased significantly due to frequent droughts, crop pests and diseases, and slow agricultural growth (The lowest rural poverty rate was 24.6 percent in 1992-1993 and the highest was 39.3 percent in 2000-2001).

At 2000-2001 pricing (i.e. a minimum intake of 2350 calories per day), per capita monthly consumption is Rs 673.54 at 1998-1999 prices; at 2000, the poverty rate was 34.5 percent in 2000-2001, 23.9 percent in 2004-2005, and 22.3 percent in 2005-2006. Due to weak economic development, the inflation rate in 2007-2008 was forecast based on this poverty threshold. Unemployment can lead up to 40% of people to fall into poverty (Padda & Hameed, 2018).

Pakistan's own lack of resources has largely hindered the country's development The core region of the Indus valley in Pakistan annual rainfall less than 300 ml, as for the Thar desert in the east and west Baluchistan a little more than the annual rainfall of 100 millilitres, serious lack of precipitation greatly limits the development of Pakistan's potential, and makes the traditional agriculture water consumption is limited, in addition, the industrial development demand for fresh water resources goes far beyond agriculture, and as a person With the rapid growth of the population, Pakistan is no longer able to meet the normal demand for fresh water in a country mostly adjacent to the desert, so the lack of water has become a persistent problem that limits Pakistan's development. There is no denying that the positive aspects of development mode, such as abnormal production opportunity loss and policy of different social citizens injustice appear more prominent in Pakistan, and the problems faced with different leaders on the implementation of the developing mode of aimless about there is no denying that the negative aspects, such as abnormal production opportunity loss and policy of different social citizens injustice appear more prominent in Pakistan's economic performance must be evaluated in its specific historical background (Salahuddin & Zaman, 2012).

The First Parliamentary Phase (1947-1958)

Pakistan is currently experiencing the largest population shift in human history. Three features distinguished Pakistan's initial economic policy: First, it concentrated on developing substantial alternative industries. Although domestic manufacturing was replacing consumer goods, Pakistan's absence of a capital goods production industry meant that all machinery required to promote capital-intensive industrialization had to be imported. Second, there are major issues of stagnated agriculture and stifled economic growth as a result of state disregard of agricultural resource allocation. Finally, the government disregards the importance of social service sectors such as education and health care for the poor (Bhatti, et al, 1999).

India preserved an industrial basis, but large-scale manufacturing sectors in Pakistan were essentially non-existent. The Industrial Policy Paper (1947) emphasized the importance of importsubstitution industrialization to compensate for the lack of industrial units. Figure 1 illustrates that the pace of growth in the early phases of import substitution industrialization was unsustainable due to the low starting point. The first stage of industrial capital accumulation had peaked by the mid-1950s. The local production market to replace previously imported consumer products has dried up. Economic stagnation occurs when the major commodity production department manufacturing sector output does not increase without growing the home market. In pursuit of the process of rapid industrialization, the agricultural development. government ignored responsibility for agricultural development to less-developed provincial governments has remained at a low level. Agricultural prices for urban consumers to provide cheap raw materials and cheap food have remained at a low level (Noman, 1990).

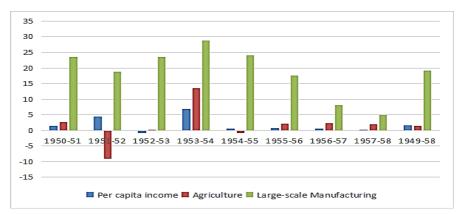


Fig-2: Performance of economic growth: 1949-1958

Every year, agriculture transfers 15% of its total production to the urban economy. Transferring resources supplied tangible weapons for the rise of East Pakistani regionalism, while transferring foreign exchange revenues from East Wing jute exports to West Pakistani industrialists became a symbol of regional exploitation (Khan, 2007).

Table 1: Per capita income of Pakistan, 1949-1958

Year	Per capita GNP (PKR)	Rural income per capita (PKR)
1949	311	207
1950	312	205
1951	313	204
1952	314	202
1953	315	202
1954	316	201
1955	316	199
1956	316	198
1957	317	195
1958	317	195

Source: Griffin, K. (1972) Financing Development Plans in Pakistan.

East Pakistan Year West Pakistan 1954 794.5 966.2 1955 702.3 911.5 1956 909.4 726.5 1957 743.3 933.6 737.5 1958 936.7

Table 2: Real wages of industrial workers (Rs. per worker per year)

Source: Khan, A. R. (1967). What has been happening to real wages in Pakistan? Pakistan Development Review.

This economic policy primarily benefitted two kinds of individuals. One was the migratory merchant, who obtained a path for commercial money to enter the industrial sector. Industry protection provided high pricing for locally made consumer products. Simultaneously, by cutting the price of imported capital goods and the price ceiling of urban products, the costs of industrial companies were reduced, hence increasing industrial capital profits. Another category of beneficiaries were landowners, who, despite the fact that their capital may not have grown, obstructed the proposed land transfer. A lot of farmers saw their revenues decline when agricultural terms of trade fell (Amjad & Kemal 1997).

Military Government and Poverty alleviation

As the result of military coup in 1958, Ayub Khan showed commitment to reforms, economic development, to establish a responsive political system, a transparent governance. As military authoritarianism failed to fulfil its aims and deepened ideological and economic differences, civil society analysts and academicians had grown more critical of it (Mushtaq & Alqama, 2009).

Traditionally, the evolution of Pakistan and the geographical separation of the east and west wings compelled government to focus on state security instead of national construction. All of these factors have weakened the Pakistan's fragile political culture. The general

and bureaucrats became a mediator, politician became their subordinates even the subordinate's assistant. Pakistan's civilian and military leaders tilt toward the West and favor a closer alliance with North Atlantic powers, a security relationship that has prevented open debate on the country's democracy and foreign policy and contributed to chronic political and economic imbalances. Development sectors, including education and health, remain meagre compared with massive defense spending, including the unaudited nuclear sector (Akhtar, el at, 2017)

The Ayub era was known for its clear objectives and strong execution of economic reforms with these professional economic management skills. However, mistakes in the choice of objectives undermined the efficiency and clarity of reforms and resulted in the country's economic development failures far outweighed his achievements after 60 years of existence Because the government succeeded in achieving these goals of economic reform, it finally ignored the failures and deficiencies in the process of economic reform As mentioned above, The establishment of Pakistan was not the result of natural history but was built on an artificial basis (Fahad & Rehmat, 2013). The overemphasis on Islam as a common hub and the definition of Pakistan as a theocratic state would surely clash with secular views and put Pakistan in a dangerous historical context (Husain, 2005). Ayub era is the period of great development, per capita income increased significantly Ayub in ten years, economic development can be divided into phases The first stage, corresponding to the second plan period (1960-65, marked by largescale manufacturing department As shown in figure 2 shows 10 years of large manufacturing for five years before the annual growth rate of about 17%, there are a lot of foreign capital inflows during this period The second phase coincided with the outbreak of the war in 1965 and the beginning of the third five-year Plan.

Economic development model of the second component is absorbed Through the input of capital, can obtain higher levels of investment of resources Pakistan's development goal is based on its ability to attract foreign loans, although small private foreign investment, but in at least 1965 years ago, Pakistan can rely on the stability of the foreign capital flows by public institutions Total's foreign spending, for example, accounts for 35% and 50% of its first and second five-year plans respectively (Easterly, 2001).

Pakistan's neglect of equity in its development strategy has resulted in a continuous rise in per capita national income, and the living standards of most citizens have actually declined. The economic policies of the Ayoub era benefited three groups of people: the first was the extremely wealthy urban group, whose concentration of industrial and financial capital became a symbol of the government's promotion of economic elitism; the second was the large ranchers of West Pakistan, particularly Punjabi farmers with more than 25 acres of land, who were the main beneficiaries of the Green Revolution; and the third was the large ranchers of Pakistan, particularly Punjabi farmers with more than 25 acres of land. Finally, the vast majority of the population saw themselves as irrelevant in the government's pursuit of economic growth because the idea of equitable distribution was a luxury that only developed countries could afford, so the Ayoub government argued that the poor should heed official signals that national prosperity depended on redirecting resources. The People's Party of Bhutto criticized the Ayub government's development policy, stating: "In the course of economic development, income distribution has grown highly skewed, and inequality among various income groups has not only increased, but also gotten more evident." The development plan must be drastically altered. The majority of the benefits of progress have gone to Pakistan's elite, which includes landowners, businesspeople, industrialists, and military and government officials. The people' position of poverty and exploitation has not altered. The life of regular people has gotten worse (Ahmed & Parmar, 2011).

Beginning in 1970, the PPP began to establish successful measures to alleviate social tensions and promote social and economic growth. The fourth Five-year Plan (1970-1975) was formulated against the backdrop of this deepening crisis The main objectives of the new plan are to increase the GNP growth rate by 6.5 percent, increase per capita income and reduce all regional disparities by 75 percent Million people provide employment opportunities, a 8.5% increase in exports, the distribution of assets on the basis of equality and income, improve education standards and cost, to ensure that residents of sanitation standards and protect them from death threat of the virus, avoid infection diseases like malaria and chicken pox, with a low interest rate to the poor housing, and plans for the low-income groups to build about 500000 sets Housing units, urbanization and environmental improvements are also part of the five-year plan which is much larger than the previous one as it is fixed at Rs 75 crore. Pakistan's economy was in good shape and heading in the right direction during the Ali Bhutto administration (1971-1977). Pakistan's economy is diverse, with three major contributors: agriculture, industry, and services. Agriculture is a significant contributor to Pakistan's economy, accounting for 21% of GDP (Hussain, 1994).

Economic policy is linked to the political system because economic policy is a program of interconnectedness and interaction of a complex consumer structure. Historically, a poor economic system has resulted in individual subjugation, and the country is not free. Pakistan still has some economic challenges and need a new system to reduce poverty, unemployment, and political instability. Economic policy is the foundation of a country's progress in all areas, and theoretical research is a factor that is unaffected by social changes. According to Shahid, economic policy is linked to elite political power; all political policies revolve on economic policies, and the job of the political elite is to retain their power. As a result, there are two approaches: active and passive. Both techniques were utilised during the Zulfikar Ali Bhutto era, when the core economic strategy was founded on socialist philosophy, and the renamed Islamic Socialist

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) directly adopted general Ayub Khan's development strategies from the start (Miankhail, 2009).

Pakistan's economic and social successes over the last 60 years have been a contradictory combination, with yearly economic growth averaging 5% since 1947. Few countries have achieved such a feat. However, the country has been shaken politically by the interaction of fundamentalist sectarianism, ethnic tensions, and regional economic contrasts. Many East Asian nations that trailed Pakistan in the 1960s are now well ahead of Pakistan in major economic and social indexes. With the implementation of economic measures, political changes occurred as a result of ideological shifts. Bhutto never meant to make the Pakistani government undemocratic by applying the socialist development model, but instead simply applied some socialist ideological economic and social models. Economic insecurity aided the new government's rejection of the time's economic policies, and Ms. Bhutto vowed to build a new economic programme to promote Pakistan's growth and prosperity under the banner of Islamic socialism, respecting the ideals of justice and equality. Bhutto's economic policy is very clear, because Pakistan's capitalist system causes the poor to become poorer and poorer, while the rich become richer. Bhutto's economic policy priority is to create a modern economic system, industrial banks, educational institutions, and other organizations of an insurance company, in order to ensure success and development in Pakistan (Li, 2022).

CHINA'S SUCCESS AGAINST POVERTY

China may further consolidate, enhance, and promote institutional systems and experience in the stage of poverty alleviation, such as supporting development systems, supporting industrial projects and their carriers, and the primary measures and experience to stimulate endogenous power. Precise targeting and implementation of policies by social forces that are broadly involved in the social support pattern are utilized. Furthermore, there are weak linkages in the fields of

industrial poverty alleviation and public welfare following relocation aid and supporting individuals in need at this stage of poverty reduction. And, in order to modify the excessively large share of transfer income in the present income structure, the objective of optimizing the income structure is to boost income from labour and assets in order to assure the stability of the poverty-stricken population's family income. Recognizing that educational support is a crucial strategy of preventing the intergenerational transmission of poverty, we should consolidate and promote it over a longer period of time (Guoying, 2009).

LESSONS FOR PAKISTAN

The following characteristics usually show the viability of Pakistan adopting China's poverty alleviation experience. First, using the late 1970s as a baseline, poverty levels in China and Pakistan were nearly identical at the time. However, China has improved the living standards of its rural population over the last three decades, not just because of economic reforms, but also because Pakistan has more favourable socio-political and demographic conditions than China. Second, persistent economic expansion leads to poverty reduction; China's agricultural reform has resulted in the development of industry and services during the last 30 years. Learning from China's reform experience in Pakistan is essential. Finally, China's welfare policy is always improving, which contributes to poverty reduction. Pakistan was able to utilise the experience of China's poverty alleviation as a reference since it was so detailed:

Similar Causes for Poverty

According to the growth of the two nations and two countries from the standpoint of historical development, has experienced the invasion of western countries, step by step by political upheaval, step by step towards unification, and are now in developing countries. Because of foreign invasion and an unstable internal political environment, the two peoples make poverty particularly visible. China and Pakistan both have huge populations in terms of population proportions. Excessive population consumes limited resources, and the uneven distribution of resources surpasses the range of affordability in certain locations, resulting in poverty as a result of the inability to fully mobilise the female work force. The scenario appears to be similar in both nations, with unequal distribution of education and work prospects resulting in insufficient mobilisation of the labour force and consequently labour shortages (Alam, 2010).

Similarity in Characteristics of Poverty

Impoverished in China and Pakistan is distinguished by the width, depth, and unequal distribution of poverty regions. The impoverished in Pakistan and China are dispersed throughout the country, with the majority living in contiguous poverty regions. Both nations' poverty, deep by the early poverty aims of the masses' most basic material requirements, to the 19th held big, China to attain shared wealth as the end goal in terms of poor region distribution, China's poverty occurs mostly in border areas, whereas Pakistan's poverty occurs primarily in dry desert regions. In terms of urban and rural poverty, rural poverty is more prevalent in Pakistan and China than urban poverty. Agriculture, farmers, and rural regions have been the focal points of the two countries' growth. Agriculture is vital to the economic success of both countries, and it is inextricably tied to industry and services (Awan & Mukhtar, 2019).

Identical Development Patterns

China's anti-poverty approach focuses on rural system reform, which includes the implementation of a home contract responsibility system, the design of rural economic policies, and the fulfilment of rational rural labour force allocation. From the standpoint of special plans, it coordinates regional development imbalances, supports rural revitalization strategy execution, and promotes poverty alleviation via education. We will strengthen the social security

system, relocate people, and establish a long-term mechanism of assistance and assistance to stabilize income channels, strengthen policy support, strengthen housing security, strengthen drinking water security, strengthen anti-poverty insurance, and consolidate poverty alleviation efforts. To reduce poverty, we will construct an early warning system, reinforce responsibilities, and execute the industrial development model. This mode readjusts the demarcating standard and scope of poverty, as well as the way and structure of poverty alleviation and development funds in China, by implementing labour export mode, improving social services and other poverty alleviation modes, and promoting the significance of the anti-poverty mode promoted by the special plan. Encourage the advancement of the mass poverty reduction project. The main goal is to design preferential policies that promote farmer growth. Meet farmers' needs while also laying the groundwork for rural infrastructure development. Make products with accuracy for poverty alleviation work. For the village sent precise economic development and poverty alleviation effect religious politics in Pakistan However, the two countries' development patterns are fundamentally comparable in terms of the development process and anti-poverty strategies. China has investigated an economic reform model appropriate for China's national circumstances in the course of continuous growth.

On the one hand, most of China's economic resources are under state control; on the other hand, in the 1970s, the Chinese government economic reform, adopt the principle of average distribution of resources, makes rural fair distribution of resources, improves the life of the poor; and the poor are endowed with the power of development. Pakistan's power structure and political department differ from those of China. The central government, whether civil or military bureaucracy, religious power groups, landowners, a powerful caste structure, and rural elites control the majority of development resources. As a result, in Pakistan, the uneven distribution of resources is quite visible and detrimental to the growth

of the poor. In terms of reform aims, China is focusing on rural regions with a high concentration of impoverished people, but it appears unfeasible for Pakistan to reform in rural areas where most of the land is owned by a few families. On the other hand, in September 1982, China's fundamental state policy was established, and the state implemented extensive measures to regulate the population and enhance the people's quality. In Pakistan, the fertility rate fell in the 1990s, but the population ratio continued to rise, and ongoing population expansion was not favourable to the smooth execution of poverty reduction initiatives (Jamal, et al. 2003).

CONCLUSION

Poverty is a global social problem, established under the Islamic system at various stages of Pakistan, by political, economic, and natural causes such as the existence of various levels of poverty, and Pakistan can use the experience of China's poverty alleviation as a reference, on the one hand, China made great achievements on the crucial for poverty alleviation work. Furthermore, China has poverty features and a development strategy with Pakistan. China will investigate the home contract responsibility system that best meets China's economic reform circumstances based on its unique national conditions. Pakistan, of course, is not duplicating China's poverty alleviation experience, since the Chinese government's economic reform to embrace the concept of average distribution, and Pakistan's development resources are mostly concentrated in the bureaucracy. Furthermore, China's poverty alleviation with pertinence, poverty alleviation, and aims are mostly centred in more rural regions, with the poor in rural Pakistan relying on agricultural growth and the majority of land in a few hands. Furthermore, the Pakistani government institutions and political authority are unsupported by the Chinese government. China's population was rigorously restricted in the 1990s, but Pakistan's population percentage continued to rise. All of these were the limitations of Pakistan's learning from China's experience with poverty reduction.

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