BEGGARY IN HYDERABAD DIVISION: A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

The issue of begging is a universal phenomenon, and it is not specific to any part of the country. Beggary is the most unconventional, social evil and curse in a society but, it is also an integrated socio-economic factor in a society. The present paper investigates beggary in Hyderabad division from sociological perspective. For that, the aim and objectives were developed. On the basis of the aim and objectives, some hypotheses were formulated for verification. The data was collected through survey questionnaire from the beggars of Hyderabad division. The total samples were 385. The data was analyzed through Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 21.0 for windows. The results of Pearson's correlation show that there is a positive and significant relationship among poverty, unemployment, special days, crime, educational background, and beggary. This study may be proved through a road map assessing for beggary in Pakistan, particularly in Sindh. This study may also be helpful in order to know and understand the causes, consequences as well as factors which urge the people to beg.

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Keyword: Beggary, Poverty, Unemployment, Crime, Specific Days, Educational
Background.

INTRODUCTION

The issue of begging is a universal phenomenon which is not specific to any part of the country, and it is an urban as well as rural problem of the different regions of country. Beggary is the most unconventional, social evil and curse in a society but, it is also an integrated socio-economic factor in a society. Therefore, beggary is highly felt a problem in the world. Albeit begging is mainly problem of the developing countries. The beggars are found everywhere like public places such as restaurants, super markets, recreational parks, religious places, educational institutions, stations, banks and busy areas of cities; they produce various type of behaviors like violent, deviant, depressed, emotional, criminal and so on (Adedibu & Jelili, 2011; Tambawal, 2010). The number of factors such as religion, cultural, poverty (real and imagined), civil war, disasters, physical disability, bad habits (gambling

dependences, drug and alcohol), rural and urban migration , family heritage and such the things urge people to begging in streets and other places (Amman, 2006; Ogunkan & Fawole, 2009; Namwata *et.al.,* 2011). In addition to this, the horrible conditions like variability, climate changes and soil in fertility bring results in low crop production that lead to food and income poverty. In the consequences of it, the lack of other sources for gaining a maintainable livelihood, and absolute poverty move people into begging, either permanently or temporarily (Namwata *et.al.,* 2011). During many decades, social scientists, economists, and other researchers analyzed the phenomenon of beggary. Beggary is also a social problem in Hyderabad division.

Keeping in views; the importance of such a miserable condition, the emphasis of present study is to examine the beggary in Hyderabad division. This study may be proved through a road map assessing for beggary in Pakistan, particularly in Sindh, and the study may also be helpful in order to know and understand the causes, consequences as well as factors which urge the people to beg.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Beggary is an extremely unusual, social problem and curse for a society, and it is too related with socio-economic factors of a society. Azam (2011) conducted a study in Pakistan and concluded that the religious factors such as madrassas and zakat assist to financially and socially legitimize beggary. Furthermore, criminal networks boom under adversative political conditions including government corruption and weakness. According to Namwata *et.al.,* (2012) that street beggars are classified into four groups likewise beggars of the streets, beggars on the streets, beggars in the streets, and beggars of street families, grounded on where they slept after begging hours and contact with their families. Moreover, the issue of street begging is a result of many factors, including unemployment, death of parents, family disintegration, poverty, and physical challenges. On the other hand, the street beggars have usually been categorized in terms of their capabilities and incapacities-based on how they make their living from the streets. There were also individuals who did not display any visibly noticeable defects (disabilities) (Adugna, 2006). More recently, Dakin *et.al.,* (2016) underlined that the function of offspring begging calls is highly dynamic, with environmental circumstances changing the relationship between begging calls and offspring state. In the same perspective, Goldstone *et.al.,* (2016:374) strongly recommended that the "food is transferred as a result of harassment, and pays off in terms of nutritional benefits for the

beggars). Khan *et.al.,* (2014) emphasized that the key reasons of begging that urge the people to accept such the terrible activity like the occurrence of poverty; the inheritance of caste; death of parents; diseases, illiteracy, handicapped and oldness. A part from this, poverty is a main aspect which results approximately half beggar population towards such a profession. Moreover, such the research determines that this sector of population is the most poor among the poorest who are still struggling for one of the old-style and basic need that is food, which may be estimated about the standing of the other outstanding wants (Shelter and Clothing). The new improver modern wants (education, health, and restoration) are the wonderful dreams to them. The begging produces numerous responses from people; some see it as a symbol of poverty and the absence of services including inexpensive housing for relegated groups. Others give opinion it, as a negative effect on businesses, As the result of alcohol and material abuse, and the result of family collapse; or as the movements of those incapable or unwilling to tolerate themselves by other activities (Carter, 2007). While, Anderson (1961) has categorized reasons of begging into seasonal work and unemployment; the misfits of industry; faults of personality; crisis in the life of the person; ethnic or national discrimination. Menka and Nisar (2013) argues that the major causes of female crime are unemployment, poorly paid employment, educate welfare payment, and the increasing number of female headed household with large number of Children.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY
          The aim of present study is to examine the factors that may affect beggary in Hyderabad division. On the basis of such an aim, and the following objectives were proposed.
- To investigate the role of poverty for beggary.
- To inspect the role of unemployment for beggary.
- To examine the role of specific days for beggary.
- To find out the role of crime for beggary.
- To analyze the role of educational background for beggary.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY
          H1. Poverty has a positive and significant relationship with beggary.
          H2. Unemployment has a positive and significant relationship with beggary.
          H3. Specific days has a positive and significant relationship with

beggary.
H4. Crime has a positive and significant relationship with beggary.
H5. Educational background has a positive and significant relationship with beggary.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The quantitative research methodology was applied for a present research. The purposive non-probability sampling is adopted. The data was collected through structured survey questionnaire, and the respondents were the beggars of Hyderabad division. The data was analyzed through Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 21.0 for windows.

Distribution of Sample Size: The distribution of samples has been made from the different areas of Hyderabad division whereas 32 samples were collected from such the different areas like religious venues and other places as station, bus stop and shopping malls. The total sampling size is 385 samples. Furthermore, the detail of the sampling distribution, types of sampling, and sample areas are given below in Table 1.

TABLE-1
DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLING AREAS AND SAMPLING SIZE

Sampling Area	Type of samples	Sampling Size
Religious venues for beggars	Religious beggars	32
	Able bodied beggars	32
	Physically handicapped beggars	32
	Mentally unsound beggars	32
	Child beggars	32
	Professional beggars	32
Other places for beggars (Street beggars, station, bus stop, shopping malls)	Religious beggars	32
	Able bodied beggars	32
	Physically handicapped beggars	32
	Mentally unsound beggars	32
	Child beggars	32
	Professional beggars	32

Total   385

135

DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

   Respondents' Demography: With respect to respondents' demography, a majority of respondents is male 70% (n=270) and female, 30% (n=115). Whereas the age of respondents was 19% (n=70) were 21-25 years and 8% (n=30), in between 36-40 years. Concerning to cultural background, a majority of respondents 62% (n=240) were from rural and 38% (n=145), urban areas. Finally, 76% (n=293) were Muslims while, 24% (n=92), Non-Muslims. Furthermore, the details of the demography of respondents being given below in Table 2:

TABLE-2
DEMOGRAPHY OF RESPONDENTS

	Group	Frequency	Percent
Gender	Male	270	70
	Female	115	30
	Total	385	100
Age of respondents	Less than 20	68	18
	21-25	70	19
	26-30	60	16
	31-35	55	15
	36-40	30	8
	41-45	65	17
	46 and above	37	7
	Total	385	100
Cultural background	Urban	145	38
	Rural	240	62
	Total	385	100
Religion	Muslims	293	76
	Non-Muslims	92	24
	Total	385	100

   Descriptive Statistics and Reliability Assessment: The descriptive statistics and reliability were assessed through Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 21.0 for windows. At the beginning level, the mean and standard deviation were assessed to observe the population. The score of the mean for all variables was noticed in between 3.310-3.962. Although the range of values of standard deviation was noted in between 1.008-1.313 (Table-3), besides Cronbach's alpha (α) reliability was used for checking the internal consistency among such the items. The overall consistency (reliability) was noticed as 0.85 while the reliability for individuals' variable was kept on as a satisfactory (Table-3).

TABLE-3
DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS AND RELIABILITY ASSESSMENT

No.	Variables	M	SD	α
1	Beggary	3.962	1.182	.872
2	Poverty	3.783	1.198	.898
3	Unemployment	3.925	1.313	.847
4	Specific days	3.210	1.008	.778
5	Crime	3.950	1.075	.863
6	Educational background	3.772	1.255	.886

Note: M=mean; SD= standard deviation; α =Cronbach's alpha reliability

Hypotheses Verification: The hypotheses were verified by the application of Pearson's correlation through Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 21.0 for windows. The scores of Pearson's correlation highlighted that $(r=.461^{**}, p<.01)$ (Table 4); Therefore, hypothesis H1 was supported.

Regarding to H2 the results of correlation and regression $(r = .371^{**}, p< .01)$ (Table 4); showed that there is a positive and significant correlation between unemployment and beggary. Thus, hypothesis H2 was accepted.

In the similar method, the Pearson's correlation weights suggested that $(r = .478^{**}; p< .01)$ (Table 4), there is a positive and significant relationship between specific days and beggary; therefore, hypothesis H3 was supported.

With regard to H4 the scores of Correlation $(r = .381^{**}; p< .01)$ (Table-4); pointed out that there is a positive and significant relationship between crime and beggary. So, hypothesis 4 (H4) was rejected.

Lastly, the results of H5 showed that $(r = .465^{**}; p< .01)$ there is a positive and significant relationship between educational background and beggary; Therefore, the final hypothesis (H5) was also accepted.

TABLE-4
PEARSON'S CORRELATION (N=385)

	Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Beggary	---					
2	Poverty	.461**	---				
3	Specific days	.371**	.532**	---			
4	Unemployment	.478**	.396**	.380**	---		
5	Crime	.381**	.340**	.120	.293*	---	
6	Educational background	.465**	.234*	.376**	.321**	.210*	---

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The purpose of a study is to inspect a sociological analysis of beggary in Hyderabad division. For that, a vigorous literature was reviewed. The independent variables such as poverty, unemployment, specific days, crime and educational background were applied for predicting the dependent variable (beggary). In addition to it, the demographic variables such as age, gender, religion and cultural background were also observed. The distribution of samples has been made from the different areas of Hyderabad division, and 32 samples were collected from such the areas like religious venues and other places as station, bus stop and shopping malls. The total sampling size is 385 samples.

With regard to respondents' demography, a majority of respondents is male, and the majority of the respondents' age was of 21-25 years. Concerning to cultural background, the majority of respondents were from rural. Finally the most of respondents were Muslims.

At the beginning level, the mean and standard deviation were assessed to observe the population. The scores of the mean and standard deviation were noticed in between the acceptable ranges. Besides, Cronbach's alpha (α) reliability was used for checking the internal consistency among such the items. The overall consistency (reliability) was noticed as 0.85 whereas the reliability for individuals' variable was kept on as a satisfactory. The hypotheses were verified by the application of Pearson's correlation through Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 21.0 for windows.

In a conclusion, the whole results show that there is a positive and significant relationship among poverty, unemployment, specific days, crime, educational background and beggary in Hyderabad division. This study may be proved through a road map assessing for beggary in Pakistan, particularly in Sindh. This study may also be helpful in order to know and understand the causes, consequences as well as other factors which urge the people to beg everywhere.

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