

Socio-Economic Impacts of (CPEC) at Small Level Businessmen. A Case Study of Lahore's Four Markets, Pakistan



Ghulam Shabbir¹, Dr. Jianfu Ma²

¹PhD Scholar, Ethno Sociology Department, Ningxia University, Yinchuan, Ningxia, China, 750021.

²Professor of Anthropology, Pakistan study center, North Minzu University, Ningxia, China.750021.

ABSTRACT: Purpose: identify the development of projects which are working with CPEC and small level businessmen are getting positive or negative benefits from these projects. Their social status and culture remained in good way or negative way. This study find out the problems and hurdles which normally businessmen are facing and solutions to overcome of the hurdles which can become the solution of CPEC completion.

Design/ Methodology/ Approach: in this study quantitative and qualitative designed were implemented and convenient sampling techniques was used from the concerning region. A semi-structured in depth interview was conducted with small level businessmen directly concern with CPEC projects. Researcher used thematic analysis and structured questionnaire with required respondents who were directly affected from CPEC projects. A total 500 respondents were chosen and convenience sampling approach was used with different types of small level of businessmen.

Findings: research explained the knowledge of respondents about CPEC (86.4%) was aware and only (13.6%) respondents were not known to CPEC projects. Study also explored that total 500 respondents from which 382(76.4%) purchasing Chinese products while only 118(23.6) were not purchasing Chinese products. Social, cultural and economic impacts were seen in positive direction which small level of businessmen perceiving and expecting. Small level businessmen were mostly exploited from big stakeholders and governments taxes implementations.

Implications /Value/Originality: This is the facts CPEC and its projects are for the welfare of society. Small level businessmen cannot ignore there, their participation in these projects should be compulsory because mostly small level business were observed in markets. Local community and their cultural values are their identity which should maintain on every condition. Both side governments and policy makers should so assign the projects accordingly the socio-economic status of all nationals

KEYWORDS: development of CPEC, Socio-economic impacts, small level businessmen, social values

INTRODUCTION

Pakistan is developing country and 6th largest country of the world regarding the population. Lahore is the 2nd largest city of Pakistan and 18th largest city of the world. Lahore is the capital of Punjab and famous due to her history and specific culture also consider the hub of business in Pakistan. China launched a project CPEC which is the initial project of Silk Road. China wants to build a route where she will connect with almost whole world. CPEC started from Kashgar, Xinjiang, China to Gwadar, Baluchistan, Pakistan. CPEC will bring different projects in Pakistan like infrastructure, pipelines, transportation, and advancement in agriculture, rail, and pipeline and in energy corporations. Current status of Pakistan's economic getting very low so Pakistani Government is claiming CPEC will cover Pakistan's GDP and will create new jobs also enhance business opportunities to Pakistanis. Small scale businessmen were the key elements of every society because majority of people were directly attached with them. Social and cultural values are important factors which cannot ignored during any implications of projects or new policies in any society.

The approach of distributions of projects in different areas should be on the base of equality. Local people are actually key of success for any projects success. The implication and distribution of CPEC projects seems different in Gwadar as well Baluchistan. Local people of Baluchistan are feeling injustice and insecure from CPEC projects. Normal people are claiming only 5% benefits they are getting while more than 60% resources of their land CPEC and Government of Pakistan using. Local people of Gwadar seem unhappy because they are claiming other districts and Punjab province is getting more benefits from CPEC AND ITS PROJETS.

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The demand of local people in Baluchistan having more from CPEC. They want get jobs for local community and easy access of business for local people. Local people had already lost their business and earning source to Gwadar construction. (Ahmad 2017) Many mega projects are working in Gwadar port like pipelines, power plants, development of infrastructure, new roads, modern transportations, high standard hotels and international airport. Small levels of businessmen and local people have strong expectations from these projects. They can get jobs, enhance their business and learn new business methods from international community. Small scale level industry can earn more and develop more business in Gwadar as well in Baluchistan. (Ijaz, 2015).

China Pakistan ties tour of key project of China Pakistan economic corridor. Pakistan's businessmen's opinion is that this project is very good for farmers, Pakistan's businessmen and traders. Especially for southern side of Punjab Multan to Karachi will be more prosperous because due to transportation their access of selling of mangoes and cotton would be easy. They can use more advance technology to Multan to Karachi highway which is the part of CPEC. Pakistan's businessmen are taking it a mega project which would be source of poverty reduction. They are considering it is a long term friendship's credit and saying thanks Chinese. (Ishaque, 2016).

Abbas Hassan a research fellow at ISSI said in his interview "when we talk about the future of CPEC, blue economy is going to play a vital role because blue economy will be sustaining the projects and will offering additional support to the projects of CPEC. Moreover China will be able to assist us in blue economy in the term of deep sea mining. Gwadar is an unchartered terrain and with the help of Chinese we not only utilize the resources and the ocean but we can also generate revenue. Also make Gwadar port more sustainable and add the value to the CPEC projects. Institute of Engineers. (2017)

People of both countries will get jobs due to this mega project. Gwadar to China's Kashgar development of train and road construction is a positive approach for both countries transportation. This will connect north side of Pakistan to west side of China mean snow area. In this way both countries common peoples will connect easy way. Businessmen can get benefits to import and export, Easy and cheaper access of transportation for Pakistan's businessmen. (Iftikhar, 2020)

Huge investment is going to do work in different sectors like power plants, pipeline and infrastructure in Pakistan. A famous power station is situated in Sahiwal which is a big district in Punjab. This project was started in those days when Pakistan was facing energy problem in the shape of load shedding. This is a mega project which is giving energy to local people. Main thing is here this project will give cheaper energy to local people. They are using Pakistani coal which is another benefit to local industries of Pakistan. (Ahmed & Mustafa, 2016)

Lahore to Karachi motorway completed where all types of businessmen feeling secure journey and easy way to doing business. Third mega project of CPEC is Karachi to Peshawar motorway which will connect to Pakistan with China by road. In this way people will feel easiness in traveling. Where they are spending two days after this they will spend one day. Due to this project both countries increase their business and tourism industries. Local people will get good opportunity to build their relation with each other in every social and business sector. (Awais et al., 2019)

Karachi is first capital city of Pakistan and now become the capital of Sind province. Karachi is biggest city of the world and Pakistan's 1st big city also a hub of stakeholders and businessmen. 25 million people are living in Karachi. Pakistan's big stake market and business is running in Karachi. In 1985 there was launched a rail tram which was stopped due to some circumstances. Now due to CPEC project they are also working on it in this way a mega city's population will get a good relief in transportation. Local and international Pakistan's businessmen will spend their money, because they will get cheap labor and good transportation. Karachi's pollution can be minimizing due to this project. (McCartney, 2020)

No doubt Gwadar port is going to become international business hub in coming years. This port is very important which will connect BRI with Middle East and Europe. There are going to become a good international airport, good standard hospitals, restaurants, hotels and big storeroom for containers. This port will boost up Pakistan's local manufacturing industries. Local Pakistan's businessmen will attach with nationals and multinational companies for earning. (Naz et al., 2018)

China launched the CPEC in Pakistan which will develop the structure of Pakistan as well socio-economic graph. The project called game changer for the economy of Pakistan still a big one in the history of Pakistan (Ahmad et al., 2020). It is also a crucial from china's side because China will access the big markets through this route. The local people of Pakistan have different views relevant the CPEC projects. Local areas of Pakistan exhibit the picture of socio-economic fabric so this type of facilities represents a symbol of country's development. Except the socio-economic benefits country will enhance the level of education, health and energy progress. (Sial, S, 2014)

LITERATURE REVIEW

BRI and CPEC:

BRI and CPEC both are flagship projects of Chinese gaining around the clock attention of the researcher in different fields. BRI covering many Asian countries and becoming the hub of financial markets and China intend to access the Europe and African

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markets. The South Asian Association for Regional Corporation (SAARC) all members are included except India. All (SAARC) members are under BRI umbrella that will get the fruits of development in coming years. (Ahmed et al, 2019) BRI launched six corridor while CPEC is central and first corridor between Pakistan and China, this route will start from China Xinjiang, Kashgar to Pakistan, Baluchistan, Gwadar. This corridor came with pipelines, roads, trains, energy power plants costing around 62 billion USD. (Das, K.C, 2017) Project gained the momentum when Chinese president Xi Jinping and Pakistani Prime minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif met in road and belt summit in 2017 in Beijing.

Abid and Ashfaq (2015) argued CPEC will game changer in development of Pakistan. Due to CPEC local industries of Pakistan will boost up and people can get jobs in different projects of CPEC. Educational skills will enhance in future to this mega project. Quality of life will improve of local people. CPEC will create access of Pakistan's businessmen in markets to build new roads, pipelines, rail lines and technology in agriculture will more advance. Technical and vocational education would improve due to CPEC in Pakistan. CPEC embraces the construction of textile industry, apparel industry, industrial park projects and installation of nuclear reactor.

Khan and Anwer (2016) nine special economic industries entered in local market in all province of Pakistan due to CPEC. So local industries were also optimistic for specific economic zone. Imports of the countries will reduced all estimated things will produce in local areas. 200 million jobs will create due to this project with the collaboration of national and multinational companies.

Habib et al. (2015) argued that easy access of transportations reduced the time in 11 districts, while health facilities were taken in easy way. Mortality rate were also decreased due to good transportations. Enrollments of children in schools level were increased. These things were done due to good transport and good roads.

Govt. (2019) Prime Minister Mr. Imran Khan said CPEC is way to connect a big market for Pakistan. As he mentioned in Saudi Economic forum CPEC is a big opportunities for all over the world's businessmen. Pakistan will give the opportunities to all businessmen here for easy business. Due to CPEC China and Pakistan will enter into business hub home.

Aziz, I. et al. (2020) this is a mega project to south Asians/ region with understanding China and Pakistan. However CPEC is on his preliminary phase. Many policy makers' scholars are giving ensured that this project will lead and boost the economy of Pakistan as well China. Due to this project many job opportunities and small scale business ideas will create. This study explored the influenced and impacts of CPEC on local citizen's life style. Here researchers took the sample of local citizens 335 by online survey from Pakistan. Mostly response is positive impact of CPEC from local people.

This study theoretically explains and related the social exchange theory. Homans. (2021) SET playing motivational primary orientations; SET assumed that social interactions are the products of both sides' benefits. So here assumed benefits are more than the cost of projects. Socio-economic wellbeing process is two ways where both parties expect more benefits than cost. SET assumed human interactions are more beneficiary than the profits of 2nd party in projects. If local community considered that CPEC is economically, socially and culturally benefited for society the 2nd party will success in launching the projects. Ali, L et al. (2018) SET has been applied in many projects but now it has been limited application to judge the societal issues and encourage the international projects. This study contributes to acquire the knowledge of small level businessmen for the success of CPEC and its projects in the city of Lahore.

CPEC projects believed that this project is beneficiary for the local people of Pakistan.

Economic Impact:

It is believed CPEC is beneficiary for the economic perspective for the local people of Pakistan and Pakistan's economy. Ali, L, et al. (2017) as the name of Economic impacts which suggested CPEC will enhance the economic system of Pakistan as well for the local people of Pakistan. Many new projects like pipelines, new roads, modern transportation and advancement in it sector will boost the economic structure of local people of Pakistan. Local people believed that CPEC will up their living standard. Javaid and Jahangir (2018) some people are thinking CPEC will leave the negative impact on local industry of Pakistan. Many new projects, like development of infrastructure, telecommunication, products units, pipelines, coal power plants, energy sectors, advancement in agriculture industry will create new opportunity for the local people of Pakistan where they will get easily jobs and trainings. Many new restaurants, hotels and airports will create more easy access for their job and business where local industry will not find suitable opportunities for their grooming and developments.

Unemployment in Pakistan is increasing day by day due to over population in Pakistan. Many social issues like hunger, poverty, social exclusion and criminal habits are increasing which are the burdens on Pakistan's economic. Haq, R. and Farooq, N. (2016) in this critical situation CPEC is blessing for the local people, and businessmen of Pakistan. This will enhance the job opportunities and will boost the local industry of Pakistan as past studies also heightened. Nunkoo and Gursoy. (2012) Economic impacts would lead more valuable for any international projects as it is considered rightly way for the exact reason of justification and favor. In this way current study pursue a hypotheses that higher the economic impacts, higher the local inhabitants, will support for the CPEC projects. This hypothesized was considered for the study. The development of infrastructure, implementation of projects,

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build the new Chinese restaurants, advancement in business sectors, Confucius institutions and transportation development will create the opportunities for the small level businessmen. Where they will get more benefits to adjust their business and settlement with this emerging economy.

Hypothesis (H1). The perceived economic impact of small level businessmen has a positive effect on the local business' support for the CPEC projects.

Social impacts:

Social impacts of CPEC on the social interaction, social cohesion, welfare of society, which is indicated by education, health, housing, and other basic facilities which normally people of those specific areas, are receiving. Haq, R. and Farooq, N. (2016) Family life, cultural values securities, education and health facilities are expected more advance due to CPEC in Pakistan. Developments in IT sectors and health sectors also hope well from local people of Pakistan due to CPEC. Living standard of people and social protection is also expected from CPEC more in coming years. Rafiq and Weiwei. (2017) Past studies indicated many positive influences were seen in Pakistan due to CPEC. Health, education, and social standard of people were upgraded. Many new educational institutions are working in Pakistan with the arrival of CPEC. Many small and big businessmen are working in a same plate form which indicated the exclusion of social discrimination from the society.

Inside Pakistan and China many events were seen which celebrated the cultural festivals and social gathering. Inside Pakistan many social and cultural events relevant China's culture are celebrating. Many national days and inauguration of new projects were celebrated with each other's clothing and flags in Pakistan. Ali, L et al. Asif and Ling. (2019) overall trending of normal people is happening from rural areas toward cities for the cause of business and employment which is the positive impacts of CPEC. Many businesses are getting traveling from Pakistan to China by bus for the cause of their business which is also reason of CPEC. Such types of social changes like manifestations of developments, social prosperity, healthcare and developments of smart cities to town and urban areas are positive influences. Small level businessmen normally belong from rural areas of Pakistan but now they are attaching with big cities which seem the uplifting their areas is happening due to CPEC. Many health units, transportation facilities, new roads are upgrading the standard of life. so the small level of businessmen will also enhancing their social status in Pakistan due to CPEC.

Hypothesis (H2). The perceived social impact of small level businessmen has a positive effect on the small level businessmen' support for the CPEC projects.

Cultural Impact:

The standard of host nation actually depending on social and cultural changes that are introduced by international projects. Iqbal, K. (2018) Local culture accepts new cultures which are going to change by infrastructure, developments of roads and educational innovations. Many new tourist places, hotels and restaurants bring a positive change in the mindset of local people. New cultural changes and innovations from CPEC can be anticipated by developing the close relations of families, friends and people to people contacts. Many people got marriages, build the strong relations like families and they are adopting the food habits from each other's which is the reason of CPEC. Ali, L et al. (2018) Mega projects like CPEC will become the cause of many historical places, may build the museums and libraries. This type of projects may increase the archeological site where many archeological study centers can be functions. Many researches Centre from Chinese side is going to start inside the Pakistanis universities. Many universities have already opened the Confucius center in Pakistan' educational institutions. Roads, infrastructures, new building and plazas can become the cause of social development where normal people are learning the habits. Many researchers pointed it CPEC and its influence in Pakistan is the threat to local culture of Pakistan. Many religious and traditional values can be become the hurdles in the path of CPEC and its changes.

However as the base of rational SET, small level businessmen will see the advantage of CPEC and implementation in Lahore as well in Pakistan. As previous study indicated we can assume CPEC will give more advantage to small level businessmen so the perception of small level businessmen will be positive and common people will support the project.

Hypothesis (H3). The perceived cultural impact of small level businessmen has a positive effect on small level businessmen' support for the CPEC projects.

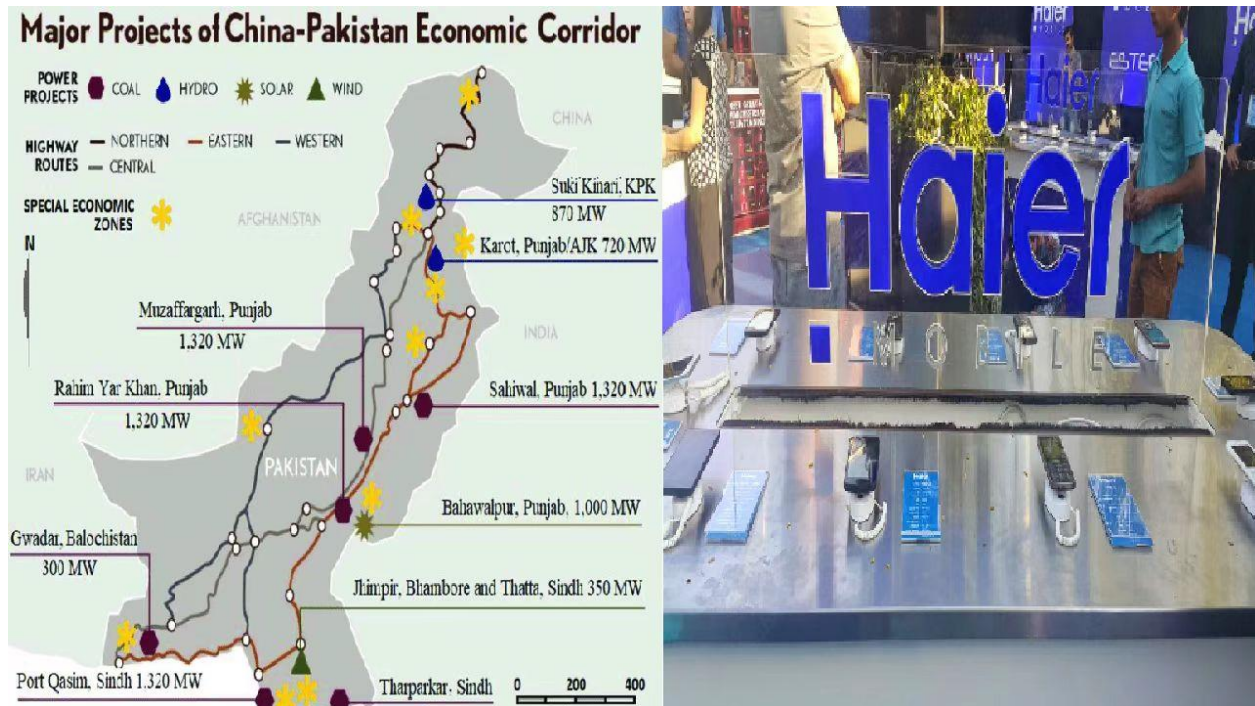
METHODOLOGY

Sampling and data collection:

For the completion of this study, this study was conduct from capital city of Punjab Lahore. A cause study of four markets was taken with 500 questionnaires. CPEC road already connected from south Punjab to Lahore as called Motorway N3 Lahore to Karachi. The respondents of local four markets were taken who are working with Chinese products like shopkeepers, small

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industries owners and stakeholders. Mostly businessmen are buying this stuff from Karachi and then them selling to small shopkeepers as well local people of Lahore. Many small cities shopkeepers are directly purchasing the products from these small level businessmen. The study used the convince sampling as used in many previous studies. Kanwal, S. et al. (2020) this approach is more suitable and convenient to get information from local small businessmen of Lahore.



Map of projects inside Punjab (source of CPEC pictures on goggle)

In this study qualitative research method is used. (Denzin&Lincoln, 1994) narrated the real point of qualitative research is to explain social issues in natural way. This method is particular focus on responses and practical work rather than researcher on thinking. In this study qualitative design is considered as appropriate method to explain the thinking of local communities.

Sampling technique:

Current study's required convenient sampling to explain the people's perceptions. The reason of this technique is targeted group of people is directly involve with CPEC project. The target group is doing business with Chines products. Here 500 participants were chosen to use simple random sampling. The targeted area is four markets of Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan. Cleland and Gareis. (2006) observations were keeping in mind. More than 100 participants make up unique size of sample to explain the thematic analysis within short time framework with single ended questionnaire.

Sample Size Calculation:

There are different type of sampling is using for analyzing data for suitable sample size. In this study Gorsuch's rules is applied. McGhee and Andereck. (2004) which illustrated that more than 5 times sample size is suitable for appropriate for sample size calculation. The questionnaire of current study is prepared with total 25 questions and the final question size should be at least 125 (25*5). Researcher also taken help from Mike Petres for further improve the sample size. Peters, M. and Chan, C. (2018) Methodology assigning sample size for the improving the results so in our research sample size seeming acceptable and suitable. In the current study sample size 225 was assigned which is easily reliable and also pursuing previous studies criteria. All participants were the part of our survey when they felt easy and free time. All ethical and confidential terms were mentioned in front of them for our study cause is just publication.

Measurements:

All relevant measurements were use in the present study which to support the international projects which previous studies indicated in past. The measurements and conceptualizations used McGhee & Andereck McGhee and Andereck. (2004) Jurowski, C. A. (1994) were also agreed with this study. Likert Scale was used with 5 point which one was strong agree and one with strong Disagree. Cheng, L. K, (2016) all instruments with valid questions were checked with language clear for the suitable and clear answers. Senior professors and seniors students also checked the questioner for the betterment of research.

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DATA ANALYSIS

For quantitative research all basic and important factors were used for the suitable research. In this research validity research is used on focus group. As per demand of focus group some items were excluded from the research. The quantitative analysis use by spss software for the validity of research. Four markets were the part of the research which is Anar Kali Bazar, Data Ganj Baksh Town, Shalmi Bazar and Rang Mehal. For the validity of research and data cleaning techniques were applied. Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) Confirmatory Data Analysis (CDA) was used the validity and reliability of questionnaire. Further correlations and regression analysis techniques were used for the relationship between the latent and observed variable.

DATA ANALYSIS PROCEDURE

For the section of qualitative research method used inductive thematic analysis approach. (Clarke and Braun, 2013) elaborated thematic analysis like this way, this method can identifying, analyzing and reporting way within data. This technique to coding plan, semantic, inductive and descriptive to explain the data and to stay remains the reliable data. Inductive TA remains grounded in the data rather than any other existing theory. Semantic TA focus on obvious real meaning of the field, finally Descriptive TA explains to summarize and elaborated exact meaning purpose of the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 explains the education status of respondents who are doing business in four markets. Their levels of education show their abilities about CPEC and implication in their society. Researcher can assess the level of education is changing the thinking of respondent or not.

Table 1: Arrangements of respondents regarding education point of view:

Education	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Illiterate	22	4.4	4.4	4.4
Middle	71	14.2	14.2	18.6
Matric	164	32.8	32.8	51.4
Above Matric	243	48.6	48.6	100.0
Total	500	100.0	100.0	

The data is taken from four markets of Lahore; from each market 125 respondents were taken for valid results. Data indicates 22(4.4%) respondents were illiterate, 71(14.2%) were middle education, 164(32.8) respondents were matric and 243(48.6%) were above to matric in education field. Howard and Masset (2004) explained the education and health are closely related to traveling and mobility. For local people's benefits easy transportation make easy access to communicate with communities, education and their health care facilities. Citizen are getting more benefits in all sectors of life if giving them easy mobility and transportation. Main point is educated people can understand the transportation systems and health rules easily rather than illiterate.

Table 2 indicated the economic status of respondents, mostly are belonging from middle class. They want more stability in their business as well in social values. Equal collection was taken from four markets of Lahore.

Table 2: Arrangements of the respondents regarding economic status:

Economic status	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Lower class	36	7.2	7.2	7.2
Middle class	360	72.0	72.0	79.2
Upper class	104	20.8	20.8	100.0
Total	500	100.0	100.0	

Data was collected from 500 respondents from 4 markets of Lahore, where 36(7.2%) respondents was from lower class 360(72%) was belong to middle class while 104(20.8%) belong from upper class. (Aqeel 2016) Every project is applied for whole society if you want to see popular culture you need to go in middle class which is majority in many states. In this study percentage of middle class is more which shows a good sound of validity of variables.

Table 3 illustrated that inside the four markets of Lahore people attitude toward CPEC is positive. Data was chosen from four markets that are doing business in Lahore. Mostly respondents were belonging from local areas.

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Table 3: Arrangements of the respondents regarding CPEC is secure for your future:

CPEC is secure for your future	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	417	83.4	83.4	83.4
No	83	16.6	16.6	100.0
Total	500	100.0	100.0	

Data was taken from four markets of Lahore out of 500 respondents 417(83.4%) was said yes CPEC is secure for their future and 83(16.6%) said CPEC is not secure for their future. It is a positive gesture of small level business toward CPEC which will effects a positive role is their business and will build a strong affiliation with social and cultural values.

(PIPS 2016) 81% respondents believe due to CPEC areas economic conditions will go to development way mean it would be extreme positive impact on Pakistani society. Even 67% also believe due to CPEC they will see positive impact on culture and society. According to this reports majority of respondents told innovation and development are good way if it will do in proper way and channels.

Table 4 interoperates the structure of the research area that is the demand of equality from four markets of inner Lahore. Local people are mostly belonging from these markets. In this table 125 respondents were selected from each market. Their ways toward CPEC seem interesting in future.

Table 4: Arrangements of the respondents regarding CPEC will give them more opportunities in your business

CPEC will create opportunities	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	185	37.0	37.0	37.0
Agree	208	41.6	41.6	78.6
Neutral	96	19.2	19.2	97.8
Disagree	8	1.6	1.6	99.4
Strongly disagree	3	.6	.6	100.0
Total	500	100.0	100.0	

Data was taken from 500 respondents from 4 markets of Lahore 185(37%) was strongly agree, while 208(41.6%) was agree that CPEC will become the source of opportunities for them. Meanwhile 96(19.2%) was neutral, 8(1.6%) was disagree and 3(.6%) was strongly disagree that CPEC will become the source of new opportunities for them in future. 41% respondents view is show there is strong validity in variables and observations.

McCartney M (2018) analyses propulsive countries like USA, EUROPE, India and Germany have also did long term projects but CPEC seems long term impacts on Pakistan and China's economy as well their natives. CPEC deal great projects with both countries. Those project signed great infrastructure, shortage of electricity, enhancement of transportations and jobs opportunities for local people. This type of mega project boosted the economy and social status of common people in different countries.

Table 5 highlighted the local community from four markets of Lahore, which is chosen on the equality base. Majority of the respondents are positive toward modernization in culture as well adjustment with other people's culture. From four markets 500 respondents were selected as per 125 from each market.

Table 5: Arrangements of the respondents regarding CPEC will impacts on culture in their hometown:

Impacts on hometown	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Positive	308	61.6	61.6	61.6
Negative	32	6.4	6.4	68.0
I don't know	160	32.0	32.0	100.0
Total	500	100.0	100.0	

Research interpreted that out of 500 respondents from 4 markets of Lahore 308(61.6%) was said positive impacts, 32(6.4%) was said negative while 160(32%) was said they don't know either CPEC will impact on their culture. 61.6% shows a strong affiliation with positive cultural change of small level businessmen, which is also show validity of variables.

(D. Tynan 2013) new arrangement of (GCAP) seems in a good sense which is economic, political and geographic authorities in region. These routes will connect new methods of business in Pakistan. Their linkages will refresh the methods of business which

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already working in Pakistan. It's seen all groups who are trading want to get more connections in all over the world, which impacts good terms and relations with other traditions. (GCAP) Great Central Asia Partnership also observed for the trade propose. Professor S. Frederick Star gave a theory of (GCAP) which mean is connections between two regions for various causes. It's a good way of economic cooperation and geo politic between heartland and Rimland. Mindset of both states leaders and public enhanced due to their MOUS on different projects. In this way both cultures and traditions can become more understandable between nations.

Table 6 explaining the association of economic status of the respondents from 4 markets of inner Lahore. From every market 125 respondents were taken for the validity of research.

Table No 6: Association between Economic Status of the respondents and social cognations about CPEC:

Economic status	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Lower class	36	7.2	7.2	7.2
Middle class	360	72.0	72.0	79.2
Upper class	104	20.8	20.8	100.0
Total	500	100.0	100.0	

Chi Square = 183.664 df = 28 P-Value = .000 Gamma = .060

183.64, is the chi square value that indicates the significant association ($p=.000$) among the economic status of respondents and their social cognition for the knowledge of CPEC. The gamma value (Gamma = .060) shows the positive association among variables (i.e. with economic status of the respondents will high social cognition for future of CPEC). The value of the chi-square is greater than the table values. So, the hypothesis "Economic status of the respondents' can play a vital role in developing social cognition for the knowledge of CPEC" is accepted at 5% level of significance.

(Hendrick, S. S. 1988) Gave the findings in study upper class never focuses to jobs or on small scale business. 67% people in his study were belongs to middle class. All middle class responds want friendly loan scheme in their areas where they can start their own business. Lower class preferred to join public or private job. Upper class responds just want earning money and don't want to engage in any type of public gathering. Middle class respondents were happy in public festivals and activities.

Finally association of education between social thinking is showing positive impacts on small level business. All hypotheses H1, H2, H3 are accepted as Chi Square values have positive association.

Table No 7: Association Education and social perception about CPEC:

Education	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Illiterate	22	4.4	4.4	4.4
Middle	71	14.2	14.2	18.6
Matric	164	32.8	32.8	51.4
Above Matric	243	48.6	48.6	100.0
Total	500	100.0	100.0	

Chi Square = 271.394 df = 42 P-Value = .000 Gamma = .048

271.394, is the chi square value that indicates the significant association ($p=.000$) among the higher education of respondents and their social cognition for the success of CPEC. The gamma value (Gamma = .048) shows the positive association among variables (i.e. with higher age of the respondents will high social cognition for future of CPEC). The value of the chi-square is greater than the table values. So, the hypothesis "Higher education the respondents' high social perception for CPEC" is accepted at 5% level of significance.

Davis, K. (2014) elaborated that education a key way to understand of technology and entrepreneurship in every fields of humanity. Illiterate people were not ready to adopt innovations in their business. Educated people exploring all the type how can they save their time and earn more profits in different methods. 65% responds were able to adopted technology in Africa.

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DISCUSSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

Main purpose of the study is the assess to impacts of CPEC in Pakistan, especially in four markets of Lahore. Because this area is the hub of business and mostly local people belong from this area. CPEC projects are directly or indirectly working with these markets. The socio-Economic impact of CPEC was probe inside the 4 markets of Lahore. Majority of the people has knowledge of CPEC and they think CPEC will boost their business through multiple sources. These finding consisting with previous studies as well. Park, D. (2015) many media reports were observed which indicated CPEC is only for Gwadar people or just Chinese will get everything.

The implication of the study refers access of education for the local people are compulsory. The development of Lahore is essential elements which 4 markets of people also accepted. The support of local people is very important which is also showing positive with previous and current study as well. The results of current study indicted people have strong affiliation with CPEC. They want to get more benefits from this project which will facilitate to their socio-economic structure.

Our results show the positive association between Pakistanis people toward CPEC and its implication in Lahore. Our results are similar with many previous studies like Ali, M. (2018) who also suggested CPEC will create many new jobs in markets and will boost the economy of Pakistan. Pakistan will earn more revenue from this project this mega project is the game changer for Pakistan as well China. Majority of Pakistanis belong from middle class so their opinion and willing is essential for the success of CPEC implementation. Lahore is the 2nd largest city of Pakistan so its influence and role can do more important for CPEC. Lahore is also unique with its culture and traditions where our study also implemented local people will accepted the other culture in their limitations.

It is reality CPEC is mega project for the people of Pakistan which will lead the economy of Pakistan. Local people will get more benefits in their business and well local productions products which will use inside this project. This project will provide the aids and benefits to local businessmen Ahmad, R. et al. (2020). Much cultural and economic cooperation will enhance in different sectors which is also reason of CPEC. Many educational and technical institutions are going to build with the arrival of this project. Many physical examples are seen in the selected areas as well.

This research has left multiple implications for future. New projects and their implementations in new communities with the reference of Social Exchange theory are useful for the future scope. Many mega and small projects can implicate in different societies on the behalf of this study. For the particular mean CPEC in Pakistan with different perspective it is applicable. Many policymakers, bureaucrats, officials and politicians can implemented their rules and terms with help of this study. Past studies also similarities with this study as Zhang, R. et al. (2018). these findings are helpful for social interaction, social cohesion, cultural diffusion and cultural acculturation for the strengthen of society.

CONCLUSION

Main object of this study is concern with CPEC and its social and economic impacts in Pakistan. Pakistan's 2nd largest city Lahore was taken as a sample where 4 markets were specifically selected which are famous for business. CPEC is a mega projects for the community of Pakistan as well small level businessmen also accepted it. Many new roads, infrastructures, pipelines, hotels and plazas are under process and some are completed which are already local business took as a positive point. Positive and negative thoughts of businessmen were measured in this study but majority of the businessmen indicted positive expressions. A total 500 respondents were selected for this study from 4 markets of Lahore. Many of them already purchasing their products from Chinese companies and some of them purchasing from big businessmen of Pakistan. To test the hypotheses multiple regressions were used with latest version of SPSS. Main findings concluded small level of community is supporting and many more expectations from CPEC. Business community will boost their economic structure with CPEC and its projects. Business community also builds their social interactions, Social cohesion, acculturation and cultural diffusion with Chinese as well other nationals. Many social and environmental issues can be created nut CPEC and official of Pakistan will overcome them for the success of CPEC. This study is also helpful for the Chinese Government, Pakistan's Government and officials of Pakistan to implement the new projects in Lahore as well in Pakistan. This study mainly focuses on small level businesses that are the backbone of Pakistan's economic structure. Finally CPEC is game changer for countries, small businessmen and development of Pakistan.

LIMITATIONS AND SUGGESTION FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

CPEC is center point of One Road One Belt which is going to connect to whole world, where all investment is from China. CPEC is a flagship for China Pakistan's government and a mega projects. CPEC project is a game changer not only China and Pakistan also as well with all other connects countries as well. This CPEC and its projects are directly concerned with communities' development. So researchers have knowledge CPEC concerns and maintain its limitations of the study, which could be used for future research. Convenience sample method was used in this research so finding cannot generalize in all type of communities. Mainly these

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findings can be used for policymakers, bureaucracy and officials for the implementations of different projects. Public opinions were published in this study which purely depends on their wailings. It is also suggestion that media, public opinions and print media can make it more suitable and friend in the minds of small level businessmen. Many social and economic development methods can use in future on the behalf of this study. Many new variables like health, media, age and demographic location's impact on CPEC can explore in future.

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