

INTERGENERATIONAL ECONOMIC MOBILITY: THE CASE OF NORTH-WESTERN PAKISTAN

Ansa Javed Khan¹, Sajjad Ahmad Jan², Jawad Rahim Afridi^{3*}, Arshia Hashmi⁴, Muhammad Azeem Ahmed⁵

¹Assistant Director, P&D, Bacha Khan University, Charsadda, Pakistan; ²Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Peshawar, Peshawar, Pakistan; ^{3*}Lecturer, Department of Economics, Sarhad University of Science & IT, Peshawar, Pakistan; ⁴Assistant Professor, The University of Faisalabad, Department of Management Studies, Faisalabad, Pakistan; ⁵Associate Professor, Barani Institute of Sciences, Pakistan.

Email: ^{1*}director_pnd@bkuc.edu.pk, ²sajjadahmadjan@uop.edu.pk, ^{3*}jrfridi67@gmail.com, ⁴arshia.hashim@tuf.edu.pk, ⁵azeem@baraniinstitute.edu.pk

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Abstract

Purpose of the Study: The research aimed to investigate the role of tribal identity in the economic mobility of the people in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. Tribal identity is an important determinant of socio-status among the people living in the province and the adjacent areas bordering Afghanistan. This research argues that membership of a tribe either facilitates or constrains the upward economic mobility of people in this part of Pakistan.

Methodology: To affirm the aforementioned arguments, the research has used primary data composed of 61 households through random sampling technique via formal survey from an important and representative town of the province, i.e., Utmanzai, District Charsadda. Two kinds of analysis were employed for estimation purposes. First, the demographics profile was used and second econometrics techniques of Principle Component Analysis and Simple Regression Model were used.

Main Findings: The findings of the research study showed that tribal identity is a significant factor in determining the economic mobility among the people of the town because the majority tribe has better access to education particularly at a higher level of education. The findings obtained from the employment level shows lack of decent employment opportunities for minority tribe. It was also found that the majority tribe has more access to credit facilities while minority tribe accessing and availing of credit easy while minority tribe found access to credit difficult for the reason of low-income levels, lack of collateral, and high-interest rate.

Applications of the Study: The current study contributes to knowledge by explaining intergenerational economic mobility through tribal identity even though they profess the same religion, speak the same language, belong to the same ethnic group, and have the same skin color.

Novelty/Originality of this study: The study finds that people's socioeconomic attributes are highly dependent upon their tribal identity.

Keywords: Economic Mobility, Pakistan, Majority Tribe, Minority Tribe, Pashtun.

INTRODUCTION

In every society, certain social and cultural contexts divide people into various groups. Such divisions become marked determinants of their access to deferring economic opportunities (Atieno, 2001). The social and cultural contexts and identities of individuals and households have become important causes of their exclusion or inclusion in the mainstream of the economy and society. Individuals and households having different social and cultural identities at one point in time cannot explore the diverse economic opportunities equally, which has widened the gap between them and trapped some of them into permanent poverty. Dabla-Noris et al. (2015) conclude that inequality reflects deprivation for particular sections of society due to lack of equal opportunities and income mobility. Poverty reflects inequality in resource distribution in a world full of wealth and plentiful resources (Cobbinah et al., 2013). Economic mobility refers to the evolution of income through generations of specific individuals and households and depends upon the (in) equality of opportunity (Bloome, 2017; Braga et al., 2017).

People having greater opportunity to acquire education and knowledge, the opportunity to avail themselves of bank credit, and the opportunity to manipulate government offices and officials are more likely to move upward on the economic ladder as compared to those people who have lesser opportunities for the above (Shao et al., 2012). However, taking advantage of opportunities is constrained by efforts people may put into achieving economic mobility and also by the circumstances people are born into or surrounded by. The efforts could be considered in terms of the choice between leisure and work, the choice of choosing one's field of study and investing in education, and the choice of profession. The circumstances referred to include ethnicity, language, caste, tribe, religion, region or place of birth, gender, socioeconomic status of the parents, etc.

Efforts are more efficacious in democratic and egalitarian societies while circumstances play a more crucial role in availing opportunities in less democratic and more unequal societies. People have more control of the efforts they need to put in to take full advantage of the available opportunities in contrast to their circumstances where they have no or minimum control. Circumstances are also context-specific. The black and white divide in the USA and the caste system

in India are important determinants in accessing opportunities and thus for income distribution and intergenerational economic mobility ([Mazumder, 2011](#); [Bhattacharya, and Mazumder, 2011](#); [Wilson, 2004](#)). It is noteworthy that the socio-cultural dimensions of the society in the North-Western parts of Pakistan are different from other parts of the globe ([Corak et al., 2016](#)).

Tribal identity is the determining factor in access to opportunities in the North-Western parts, i.e., the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) of Pakistan. The earlier settlers who were often invaders in different parts of KP own most of the resources, specifically the land. As they settled here permanently long ago and often occupied the land and other resources by ousting the indigenous people, therefore, they also multiplied in number. The control over resources and the dominance of numbers enables them to assert themselves in the civil and military bureaucracy as well as in the parliaments and in other corridors of power. It also provides them with collateral for getting access to bank credit so as to accumulate more human and physical capital. They easily manipulate government offices and officials to get a larger share in developmental and other projects of the government. The easy and better access to different opportunities by the land-owning “majority tribe” in the province of KP qualifies them for more progress and prosperity across generations. On the contrary, the latecomers who settled in a specific part of KP by migrating from another part of KP or from neighboring Afghanistan might not own land and are also smaller in numbers thus making them a “minority tribe”. The landless “minority tribe”, often ethnic Pashtuns speaking the same language as the “majority tribe”, do not have much influence in the power corridors of the state and are also constrained by the lack of resources and collateral from investing in human and physical capital. The lesser and insufficient access to different opportunities by the landless “minority tribe” in the province of KP does not qualify them for more progress and prosperity across generations. The qualifying criterion for availing of different opportunities in KP is thus one’s socio-cultural identity in the society and for that matter, one’s belonging to a specific tribe either a “majority tribe or minority tribe”.

The current paper tries to answer the research question of whether tribal identity has any role in determining intergenerational economic mobility in the North-West province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in Pakistan. The town of Utmanzai in district Charsadda has been chosen purposely to find answers to the aforementioned research question. Utmanzai is an important town situated in central KP. It is located in an important central district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, i.e. Charsadda. The population of Utmanzai, according to the 2017 census of Pakistan, is 30,747 who belong to different tribes. The people of the town who are overwhelmingly Pashtuns may be broadly divided into two categories, the Majority Tribe and the Minority Tribe. The categorization is based upon the number of people who are identified as members of the respective tribes. The former is the earlier settlers and they own major assets of the town including large landholdings through inheritance. The latter includes smaller groups of more recently migrated Pashtuns from other parts of KP and neighbouring Afghanistan. They rarely own land in the town and are locally called “Kasabgar” (artisans). They may work as carpenters, hairdressers, cobblers, cooks, weavers, etc. The present study analyzes the role of tribal origin (majority/ minority) in the economic mobility of households in the study area and suggests policy options in light of its findings.

The research study is designed to address the following objectives;

- 1 To identify intergenerational economic mobility of tribes based on different indicators of the economic status of the household in the tribes in the study area.
- 2 To identify important determinants of economic mobility in the target area.
- 3 To analyze the role of majority/minority tribes in the economic mobility of households in the tribes in the target area.
- 4 To suggest some policy suggestions in the light of research findings.

Hypothesis1: The tribe does not determine households’ access to human capital, access to credit, and access to government in the research area.

Hypothesis 2: The tribe does determine households’ economic mobility in the research area.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical framework of this research is based on previous literature on access to physical and human capital, and access to government offices and officials as determining factors for moving up the economic ladder. [Corak et al., \(2016\)](#) explain the significance of social class in a rural environment where people either are self-employed or predominately dependent on landholding. The possession of assets including land makes them risk-takers and entrepreneurs as opposed to the landless class. Similarly, being in a numerical majority gives certain groups more political power and makes access to public offices and services easier as opposed to the minority groups ([Bourguignon and Dessus, 2009](#)). The enhanced power of the elite could result in limiting the provision of those public goods that might boost productivity, economic growth, and benefit the poor. According to [Qin et al. \(2016\)](#), education has primarily been identified as the major factor in economic mobility. Similar views are also found in a decade-old study of [Corak et al., \(2016\)](#) citing education as one of the reliable factors in economic mobility. Likewise, the study of [Cheema and Nisar \(2013\)](#) also shows a positive association between education and economic mobility. The other economic determinants of mobility are households’ wealth and the formal employment of individuals. The United Nations Development Program

(2015) has reported that 45% of variations in economic status between rural and urban households are due to lack of access to government offices and officials and the ensuing economic mobility since access to the government offices and officials helps in capturing employment opportunities and thus in achieving upward economic mobility (Ewing et al., 2016). Another variable that is closely linked with economic mobility is access to bank credit. Mwangi and Ouma (2012) have shown that accessing bank credit could produce upward economic mobility when used for the purchase of assets. However, if spent on consumable goods, it would lead to downward economic mobility (chauvel and Leist, 2015).

Most of the literature has mentioned access to human capital, access to bank credit, and access to government offices and officials as some of the highly important determinants of economic mobility. Some studies also mention religion, ethnicity, color, caste, etc. as determining factors in economic mobility (Ferreria et al., 2012). However, the present paper argues that a household's access to opportunities like human capital, bank credit, and the government is also determined by that household belonging to a majority or minority tribe in the study area. The color of the people residing in the community may be the same, religion and ethnicity may be identical, they may speak the same language, but they enjoy different levels of living, respect, and power in society. The present paper tries to explain this phenomenon distinctly in the area to be studied because the entitlements of different tribes are not the same. The majority tribe may own land, may have greater access to government offices and officials, may be able to invest in human capital, and they may possess the collateral to get bank credit so as to accumulate physical capital, while the minority tribe is mostly comprised of the artisan class and therefore is engaged in providing various types of services to the local population. They are mostly landless but some of them may own houses. They may not have access to government offices and officials, may not have resources to invest in human capital, and may not possess the collateral to get bank credit.

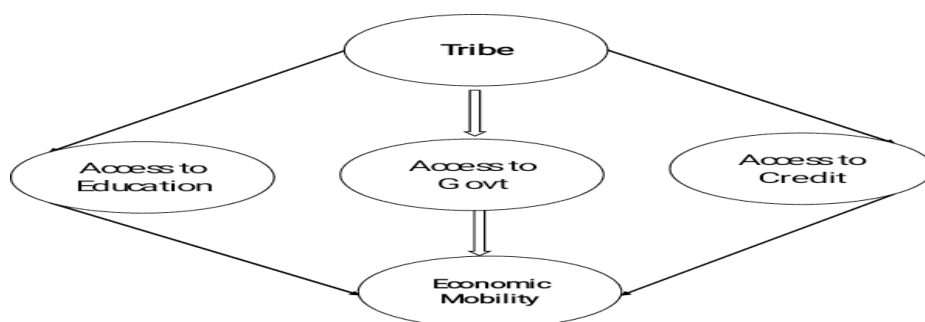


Figure 1: Theoretical Framework of the Study

Source: Author Analysis

Figure 1 summarizes the theoretical framework of this study. It shows that a household's affiliation with a particular tribe will determine its access to human capital, access to government offices and officials, and access to bank credit. Access to the aforementioned opportunities, in turn, determines the economic mobility of households. In other words, the root cause of intergenerational economic mobility is the socio-cultural identity of a household, that is, whether a household belongs to a majority tribe or a minority tribe. In the North-Western province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in Pakistan, a household's tribe determines its ownership of land and other tangible assets that in turn determine access to different opportunities. However, it also indicates likely and equal chances for a household to improve its economic conditions, irrespective of the household's tribe, if it somehow manages to accumulate human or physical capital and other assets.

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Sampling procedure

The research study has used primary data sources via filed survey to determine the factors of intergenerational economic mobility in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) which is in the North-Western part of Pakistan. The population of KP is 30,523,371 and it is comprised of 34 districts (Census, 2017). The Pashtuns are the major ethnic group in the province and there are slight socio-cultural and economic variations across the districts of KP. A district in Pakistan is often a homogenous entity occupied by the same ethnic and linguistic group and having the same social and cultural norms across towns and villages of the district. The Town of Utmanzai in district Charsadda has been purposely selected for conducting the survey to study intergenerational economic mobility in the province of KP and thus in the North-Western parts of Pakistan. The town represents well the North-Western province of the country as the same socio-cultural variables (tribes in this specific case) determine the economic mobility of households. The town of Utmanzai has a population of 30,747 people belonging to various tribes. The sub-groups comprising the majority tribe (Pareech Khel, Khwazi Khel, Shamozi, and Syeds) of the town are characterized by having ownership of agricultural property (land), possession of other assets, religious and political influence, and greater in numbers. The groups in the minority tribe (Artisans and late settlers) are high landers and migrated people who in the beginning provided services to the majority tribe and later adopted professions in labor market. However, they are still known as "Kasabgar", (those who provided services to the landowning class in return for free residence by the landowners). The total number of

households in the town of Utmanzai is 4564, of which, only 61 households have been surveyed randomly due to lack of financial and human resources. A semi-structured questionnaire has been developed for collecting information on the variables of the study from the sampled population.

Variables

The main variable of interest is the economic mobility of people belonging to the two broader categories of tribes. Identification of the intergenerational economic mobility of tribes based on different indicators of the economic status of the households was determined through an econometric technique of Principal Component Analysis (PCA). The main variables of interest for the study were economic mobility (dependent variable) and tribe (independent variable). The other variables in the study were access to education, credit, and governments, which were binary except for education that represented various levels.

Analytic Technique

Descriptive statistics and multivariate regression analyses have been used to study intergenerational economic mobility and its determinants in the sampled households. The upward and downward mobility within each tribe was also analyzed through the “Mobility Matrix”, for which we have used the technique of Principal Component Analysis (PCA). The economic mobility of each household was determined by measuring the economic status of parents and children’s generations separately. The components used for determining the economic status were the size of the house, number of rooms with attached washrooms, separate kitchen in the house, kind of roof of the house, quantity of gold, number of shops, and ownership of agricultural land in acres. Based on the economic status, PCA was constructed and economic mobility of Sons’ generation was determined by subtracting Fathers’ economic status from Sons’ economic status. The resultant figures calculated either had (+ve) numbers or (- ve) numbers. The positive numbers represented upward mobility and the negative numbers showed downward mobility. By employing the counting measure, we get an upward and downward mobility matrix for the overall sample and also for the individual tribes.

We have also used the following regression analysis for determining the factors responsible for the low or high economic status of the children generation.

$$EM(Sons) = \beta_0 + \beta_1(FAEdu) + \beta_2(FAC) + \beta_3(FAG) + \beta_4(Tribe)$$

Where ‘EM (sons)’ stands for Economic Mobility of the son, ‘FAEdu’ represents Father’s Access to Education, FAC shows Father’s Access to Credit, and FAG signifies Father’s Access to Government.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Access to Education and Intergenerational Economic Mobility

The following table 1 shows the change in educational status which has taken place between the parents and children’s generations for the overall sample as well as for the sub-groups (Majority and Minority Tribes). The absolute numbers (outside parentheses) and the percentage (within parentheses) in different cells of the table show the people who are illiterate or at different levels of education. The table on one hand shows the intergenerational mobility of people up and down the education ladder and on the other hand reveals the wide and persistent educational gap between the majority and minority tribes. The table shows that 26 % of the respondents in the kids’ generation do not have any education versus 46 % in the parents’ generation. The results affirm the government’s claims and the common perception that, on average, more people have become literate through time and therefore the people in the children’s generation are more likely to be educated than their parent’s generation. Further, the college and university graduates in the children’s generation outnumber the school graduates while school graduates outnumber the higher two educational categories in the parents’ generation as most of the students in past used to drop out at both primary or high school levels and couldn’t manage to get into a college or university for higher studies.

Table 1: Intergenerational and Cross Tribal Comparison of Educational Attainment Level

Education	Children Generation				Parents’ Generation			
	Overall Freq. (%)	Maj. Freq. (%)	Trib. Freq. (%)	Min. Trib. Freq. (%)	Overall Freq. (%)	Maj. Freq. (%)	Trib. Freq. (%)	Min. Trib. Freq. (%)
No Education	16 (26%)	5 (11%)		11 (69%)	28 (46%)	15 (33%)		13 (81%)
School Education	16 (26%)	13 (29%)		3 (19%)	20 (33%)	18 (40%)		2 (12.5%)
College Education	15 (25%)	14 (31%)		1 (6%)	6 (10%)	6 (13%)		0 (0%)
University Education	14 (23%)	13 (29%)		1 (6%)	7 (11%)	6 (13%)		1 (6%)
Total	61 (100%)	45 (100%)		16 (100%)	61 (100%)	45 (100%)		16 (100%)

Source: Author Calculations

The aggregate results for the whole sample are actually driven by the majority tribes as it shows identical trends from the parents' generation to the children's generation in all educational. The majority tribe has succeeded in decreasing the number of illiterates from 33% in the parents' generation to 11% in the children's generation. College and university graduates (total of 60%) outnumber the school graduates and the illiterate (total of 40%) in the children's generation as compared to the parents' generation in the majority tribe where the former is 26% and the latter is 73%. This indicates a visible upward movement of the educational ladder by the members of the majority tribe. The situation of education and literacy in the minority tribe is deplorable if the comparison is either made on basis of children's and parents' generations or if the educational attainment levels of the minority and majority tribes are compared. The illiterates outnumber all the other educational categories as in sharp contrast to the educational attainment levels of the majority tribe. The data further reveals that no or only a negligible improvement in the educational status of the people belonging to the minority tribe has taken place between the children's and parents' generations. This affirms our presumption that in the North-Western parts of Pakistan, the tribal affiliation of a person determines his or her access to education. The ease of access to education then further transforms into economic mobility or immobility of the people.

Access to Credit and Intergenerational Economic Mobility

Table 2: Intergenerational and Cross-Tribal Comparison of Access to Credit and Loans

Indicators	Children Generation		Parents' Generation	
	Maj. Trib. Freq. (%)	Min. Trib. Freq. (%)	Maj. Trib. Freq. (%)	Min. Trib. Freq. (%)
Credit Availed	11 (24.44 %)	2 (2.5 %)	4 (8.88 %)	1 (6.25 %)
Didn't Avail	34 (75.55 %)	14 (87.5 %)	41 (91.11 %)	15 (93.75 %)
Easy Access to Credit	41 (91.11 %)	0 (0 %)	10 (22.22 %)	0 (0 %)
Difficult Access to Credit	4 (8.88 %)	16 (100 %)	35 (77.77 %)	16 (100 %)
Total	45	16	45	16

Source: Author Calculations

The results conducted for the people's access to bank's credit is presented in the following table 2.

The table shows the comparison between the parents and children as well as between the majority and minority tribes for credit availed and their perception regarding ease of access to credit. The 91.11 % members of the majority tribe in the children's generation perceive that accessing credit from banks is easy while only 8.88% of them think that availing credit from banks is hard. This is in sharp contrast with the perception of the children's generation as well as parents' generation of the minority tribe where 100% of them consider it hard to access credit and loan from the banks. The perception of the members of the majority and minority tribes regarding ease of banks' credit reveal a deep and permanent divide between them in the study area. The results indicate that the perception of the children's generation in the majority tribe regarding ease of access to banks' credit is much improved than that of the parents' generation. This is also in sharp contrast to the minority tribe where no improvement has taken place through time and the perception regarding ease of access to banks' credit remains static between the parents' and children's generations. The upper portion of the table 2 reveals the statistics regarding the credit availed (and not availed) by the parents' and children's generations in the majority and minority tribes. In the parents' generation, the banks' credit availed by the majority tribe is 8.88 %, while it is 6.25 % in the case of the minority tribe.

The difference in terms of credit availed between the majority and minority tribes in their parents' generation does not seem large and very few members of both the tribes have availed banks' credit. This might be because of the underdeveloped banking infrastructure in this part of the country as well as the lack of the basic literacy necessary to avail and utilize banks' credit for starting a business. However, if we look at the statistics regarding the credit availed (and not availed) by the children's generation in both the tribes, we find the stark division between the two tribes. The members of the majority tribe have succeeded to increase the number of those who have managed to avail banks' credit up to around 24.44 %, while on the other hand, only 12.5% of the members of the minority tribe have managed to avail banks' credit. This shows that the majority tribe has succeeded to quadruple the number of people in the children's generation who have availed banks' credit as compared to the number of people in parents' generation who had availed banks' credit. On the other hand, the minority tribe has managed to double the number of people who have availed banks' credit in the children's generation as compared to the parents' generation. The banks' credit (availed) gap between the majority and minority tribes has widened in the study area while moving from the parents' generation to the children's generation. It clearly supports our presumption that access to banks' credit in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, is determined by the tribal affiliation of a person in that area. Further, the results also support our presumption that the intergenerational economic mobility of people is highly dependent upon their tribal identity of them.

Access to the Government/ Formal Sector and Intergenerational Economic Mobility

The tribal identity of people in the North-Western parts of Pakistan determines their presence and thus influence in the

government and in the formal sector of the economy. This access to the government and documented sector of the economy is shown in table 3 as the number (percentage) of people belonging to a specific tribe who are employed in the government and/or formal sector of the economy. The number (percentages) of people employed in the government and/or formal sector of the economy affirms our proposition that the tribal identity of the people in the study area determines people's access (or the lack of it) to government offices and officials and ultimately leads to intergenerational economic mobility (or the lack of it). The below table 3 shows that 47% of the people in the children's generation belonging to the "Majority Tribe" are employed in the formal government sector as compared to 25% in the same category of the "Minority Tribe". This clearly shows the wide gap on basis of access to the formal government sector between the people belonging to the majority and minority tribes. The people of both the tribes in the parents' generation who are employed in the formal government sector reveal that the gap of access to the government between both the tribes has widened from a difference of 19 percentage points to a difference of 22 percentage points. Further, the people belonging to the majority tribe have succeeded to increase their access to the formal government sector from 38% in the parents' generation to 47% in the children's generation, that is, an increase of 9 percentage points. On the other hand, the people belonging to the minority tribe have managed to increase their access to the formal government sector from 19% in the parents' generation to 25% in the children's generation, that is, an increase of 6 percentage points.

Table 3: Intergenerational and Cross-Tribal Comparison of Access to Government Offices and Officials as Indicated by Government and Formal Sector Jobs

Indicators	Children's Generation		Parents' Generation	
	Maj. Trib. Freq. (%)	Min. Trib. Freq. (%)	Maj. Trib. Freq. (%)	Min. Trib. Freq. (%)
Govt. / Formal	21 (47%)	4 (25%)	17 (38%)	3 (19%)
Not Govt./ Not Formal	24 (53%)	12 (75%)	28 (62%)	13 (81%)
Total	45	16	45	16

Source: Survey data

Majority & Minority Tribes and Upward & Downward Economic Mobility

This analysis is done in a single step with the help of PCA computed for such purpose. The data used in this study were primary and collected at one point in time. Information about the father's generation was also collected from sons' generations. Therefore, after the computation of separate PCAs for both generations, Sons' economic status was subtracted from Sons' economic status that helped in determining the Mobility Matrix of the overall, Minority and Majority Tribes.

The mobility matrix obtained through constructed PCAs of parents' and children's economic status showed 46% upward and 54 % downward mobility overall. The majority tribes' upward mobility is 49% in comparison to 37.5 % mobility for the minority tribe. The downward mobility in the majority tribes is 51 % while the data reflect 62.2 % downward mobility in minority tribes. Based on the results of the mobility matrix, we reject the null hypothesis because the role of the tribal affiliation is visible in the upward and downward mobility of the children's generations. People from minority tribes experienced downward mobility because of the low economic status of the father, low levels of education, and difficulty in accessing and availing credit which is not the case for people belonging to majority tribes. Therefore, we can conclude that tribal membership is a significant variable in determining the economic mobility of a household.

As shown above, the majority tribe has done better than the minority tribe. The reasons for this are rooted mainly in the economic status of the family. The children of the majority make their living on the basis of the inherited property while the sons of the minority start their living with their own efforts. Secondly, the children in the majority tribe have access to better schooling and education levels while the children in the minority tribe usually sacrifice their education in order to support their families. With less education and lack of skill, they only get meager earnings which also become a source of downward mobility for them in later life.

Table 4: Mobility of Majority & Minority Tribes

Tribe	Upward Mobility	Downward Mobility	Total
All	46 % (28)	54 % (33)	(61)
Majority	49 % (22)	51 % (23)	(45)
Minority	37.5 % (06)	62.5 % (10)	(16)

Source: Authors' calculations using the constructed PCAs of Parents' & Children' Generation based on Economic Status of Respondents

Estimation of Regression Model

The results in regression estimation show that the tribal affiliation of a person in the children's generation is the most significant determinant of his/ her economic status. It affirms our hypothesis that in the North-Western parts of Pakistan, a person's tribal identity is the main factor behind his/ her upward and downward economic mobility that in turn translates into his/her access to other variables such as access to education, credit, and various aspects of the

government. The results obtained affirm the proposition of the study that access to educational opportunities is constrained by the circumstances faced by the people in the form of socio-cultural identity which in this case is whether a person belongs to a majority tribe or a minority tribe. With respect to credit, no contradictory results were found because the majority tribes possess the required collateral necessary for availing and the means of accessing credit while the minority tribe are less likely to secure credit. Similarly, the variable of government access is only significant when a person belongs to a majority tribe. The data obtained showed that the people of a majority tribe are more likely to be in the government while a person from a minority tribe has fewer chances of acquiring a job in the government sector. Therefore, tribal affiliation is found to be statistically significant in affecting the economic mobility of individuals.

Table 5: Estimation of Regression Model Variables of Interest Estimated coefficients P-values

Tribe	.720*	.007
Education of Parents	.027	.173
Parents' Access to Credit	.358	.399
Economic Status of Parents	256**	.035
F- Stat	5.747***	.001
R²- Value= 0.295		

Source: Authors' estimation using data obtained from field survey

Major Findings of the Study

Access to Education

In the field of education, this research study found that the children's generation advanced more than the parents' generation in the given area. While comparison of children's education in the current generation, the majority tribe is ahead of the minority tribe at all levels of education. The differences become more visible at a higher level of education and thus we can say that the majority tribe has better access to education on the basis of their tribe.

Access to Employment:

In terms of access to employment opportunities to government and other services; the majority and minority tribes are found as: Access to government services by children and father generation in majority tribe, the latter (children) generation has more access to government services than former (parent) generation. While in minority tribes, children generation pursue the same professions as the parents which shows a lack of decent employment opportunities for them.

Access to Credit

The majority tribe has more access to credit facilities while the minority tribe has less access to credit. Rather, in minority tribes, the ones who have availed of credit facilities even found accessing credit difficult for reasons of low-income level, lack of collateral, and high-interest rate.

In the majority tribe, the number of people who don't avail credit is high than those who availed credit. However, it was found that people in the majority tribe found accessing and availing credit easy.

Economic Mobility

With the exception of a few, the children in the majority tribe are upwardly mobile than parents in the majority tribe. In the case of

minority tribes, very few children in minority tribes have managed upward mobility in comparison to the parents' generation. But, overall, there is downward mobility in the children's generation in the minority tribe.

Policy Recommendations

On the basis of this research study, the following recommendations may be furnished to the concerned policymakers.

1. The government should address the Inequality through equal employment opportunities and affirmative actions with the help of target interventions in the study area. This would help to improve the earnings which in turn would raise the growth levels and rates for the less privileged ones.
2. The disparity in the economic status of majority and minority tribes clearly translates the reality of poverty prevalent in the study area. Therefore, there is a specific need for the uplifting of those trapped in poverty. Because poverty has implications on the social side in addition to its economic implications.
3. The input aristocratic classes have a stronghold on almost all the money generating means and thus the minority class is remained backward in the field of education, economy, and positive mobility from low-income sources and professions towards the high income generating sources. In this regard, the government should take necessary steps to make the life of minority class/tribe to avoid all the opportunities of a higher standard of living.

4. This study reveals that the minority migrated class have a high potential to serve in any department with full devotion. They migrated in acute deplorable conditions and reached to the apex of all the professions and survived successfully along with the majority class /tribes. The government should seriously take into account this minority tribe and provide them opportunities to polish their professional skills. For instance, the government shall ensure the provision of SMEs small-scale business entrepreneurs. This Artisan class with the support of the government can best be utilized in terms of achieving the human development index. Human development index.

CONCLUSION

Economic mobility, whether upward or downward, has an impact on growth and equality. However, it is difficult to attain upward mobility when poverty is prevalent and equality of opportunity is absent. Also, it is not possible to put a stop to downward mobility where there is a difference in education level, provision of equal employment, and availability of credit for all. In the case of the study area, it is observed that economic mobility and tribal affiliation are associated. In fact, the main variables of interest of the study are found to be strongly associated. The tribe turned out to be a major determinant of economic mobility in the study area as the economic mobility of minority tribal members was found to be remarkably low.

LIMITATION AND STUDY FORWARD

Although economic mobility is an important and crucial factor that impact the growth and equality of the society. The limitations of the current study were time-constrained and the access to the tribal people because of ethnicity and cultural issues. It is recommended that researchers can conduct the same research study in a different society with increased sample size.

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AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION

Ansa Javed Khan and Sajjad Ahmad Jan substantially contributed by developing the conceptual framework and design of the study. Jawad Rahim Afridi and Arshia Hashmi and Ansa Javed Khan substantially contributed through the acquisition and analysis of the data. Sajjad Ahmad Jan, Ansa Javed Khan, and Muhammad Azeem Ahmad were involved in drafting and critically revising the article.

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