

A Sociological Impact Of Covid-19 And FATA Merger On Health And Education Services Of Erstwhile FATA Region

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Abstract

The study “A sociological impacts of Covid-19 and FATA merger on Health and Education Services of FATA” was carried out in six FRs of ex-FATA with objectives to ascertain the impacts of Covid-19 on services regarding, education and health and its association with merger of FATA. A conceptual framework comprises of education and health were independent variables while FATA merger was taken as dependent variable. Data was collected from a sample size 384 respondents from a population of 7, 13241 through Uma Sekaran formula. Data were collected through a well thought-out questionnaire was used for data collection. The collected data were entered to SPSS, and Uni-variate test was carried out for prevalence of the causes and chi-square was carried out for association between dependent and independent variables. At Uni-variate level majority of the respondent strongly agree that ex-FATA was lacking health and education, although reforms in health and education, improved the lives of the local people. At bi-variate level all the variables’ statements were found significant ($P=000$) with dependent variable FATA merger. The study concluded that the ex-FATA people are not happy with merger due to exit from one system but not fully entered and award from the applied system. This marginalization confused the residence of the area in structure and function of the life. Involvement of local people in the implementation of law, gradual internalization of new system, awareness and training sessions for adaptation with new system, special concession with women folk and old people in any sphere of life are policy recommendations.

Key Words: FATA, Covid-19, Education, Health.

INTRODUCTION

Historical Background

The North West boarder of Pakistan consists of seven agencies and six frontier regions (FRs) which are collectively known as Federally Administered Tribal Area (FATA). This region remained the epicenter of “The Great Game” between the Russian and British Empire in the late 19th and early 20th century. This tribal belt of Pakhtun fought against the British. Realizing the strength of the Pakhtun belt and their resistive nature, and in pursuit of the great game strategy,

the British came to an agreement with Amir Abdul Rehman and divided the tribal region in 1893 under the Durand Line Agreement. As per this agreement, one of the parts came under the rule of British India and the other went to Afghanistan (Coll, 2019). Members of these tribal areas frequently travel between the two countries Afghanistan and Pakistan but have less exposure in interacting with other regions of the country due to the structural constraints and tribal setup (Sulaiman, 2018). The FATA region consists of seven agencies including Khyber, Orakzai, Kurrum, Bajaur, Mohamand, South

Waziristan and North Waziristan and six frontier regions known as Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, Bannu, Lakki Marwat, Kohat and Peshawar Frontier Regions. It lies in the heart of South Asia, a landlocked tribal belt. The region is spread over an area of 27,220 sq. km (Noor, Hashmi, and Bukhari, 2018). FATA was given a constitutional status as a territorial part of Pakistan according to Article 1 and 2 of the 1973 Constitution. Autonomy in the region was granted to Malik who was basically the leader of the tribe reliable local elite. Political agent (PA) would provide grants to Maliks for their allegiance to the government and their tribes' role in maintaining peace and suppressing crimes (Ahmad and Mohyuddin, 2013). The Malik was considered an inspirational and influential figure of his tribe. His words were considered final in any verdict. The Malik dealt with other tribes and government on behalf of his tribe. The agencies were governed through PAs who were representatives of the federal government.

They were granted judicial, revenue and executive powers. Under FCR law, the federal government representative in the tribal area was empowered to punish the whole clan for a crime committed by an individual by imposing heavy fines, detaining the members of a tribe, snatching or vandalizing their property (Wazir, 2018). According to National Census Report 2017, the population of FATA is 5.1 million. The largest agency by population is Bajaur and smallest by population is Orakzai. The population of district Bajaur is 1.09 million while the population of district Orakzai is 0.2 million (Nawaz, 2009). FATA was being controlled through a draconian law which is also called frontier crimes regulations (FCR). The FCR was enforced by the British government of India in 1901 (Hassan, 2017). Former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto took an initiative to introduce reforms in FATA. He formed a committee with the purpose of developing a framework to make FATA part of North West Frontier Province (NWFP) for

1977 general elections (Ali, 2009). In November 2015, another FATA Reforms Committee was constituted for mainstreaming of FATA, which carried out an extensive study of all previous reforms to determine their shortcomings and to find the best possible solution. The Committee concluded FATA merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as a way forward for politically mainstreaming FATA (Aziz, 2017).

The final report of the Committee submitted to the Prime Minister in August 2016 suggested that the merger of FATA with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province was the most preferred option proposed by the locals. The rational decision was made based on the close socio-economic, ethno-cultural and administrative connections between the two regions (Bukhari et al., 2017). The suggestions of the Committee were approved by the Prime Minister in March 2017. However, due to the heated nature of the debate on the topic, with some arguing against the merger of FATA with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa while others in its favor and even some demanding status of a separate province, the passage of the bill took several months. It finally became the 25th Amendment to the Constitution of Pakistan on 31 May, 2018 (Waseem, 2019).

Health and education system

The health and education departments were previously controlled by FATA Secretariat but have now been completely merged with the provincial departments bringing them under the control of relevant provincial ministries. The performance of health department was not up to the mark before the merger into KP but it is still lagging behind from the mainstream departments of the province as well as country.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

FATA faced immense economic and humanitarian crisis after Soviet intervention, followed by Soviet disintegration and war on terror. The war on terror had grave impacts on the

population of FATA in social, political, economic, cultural and psychological spheres. The rising number of drones strikes and huge military operations in FATA and adjoining areas resulted in the displacement of 3.5 million people for their own safety towards the mainstream lands and settled areas of the country (Chughtai, 2013). The merger of FATA with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is an important step by the Government of Pakistan to address the prevailing security issues and bring prosperity to the region. The merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was also considered as a salient feature of National Action Plan (NAP) to establish strategies for addressing the local conflicts in the county. It is believed that the FATA reforms may help in dealing with the structural and cultural reasons of the violence prevailing under the old system, and developing a comprehensive plan for counter extremism and de-radicalization (NAP, 2019). The federal and provincial governments took the initiative to merge erstwhile FATA in to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Ostensibly, this merger is supposed to change the dynamics, rules, customs and traditions of the area. This study based on the post-merger scenario during Covid-19 in order to highlight the stance of local people and to put forward some workable and practical suggestions to the provincial and federal governments in regarding the covid-19 impacts on health and education services in FATA.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following were the main objectives of the study;

1. To examine about services regarding, education and health in FATA;
2. To inspect the impact of Covid-19 on Health and Education services and to put forward policy recommendations in light of the study.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

After the merger of erstwhile FATA with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and the outbreak of Covid-19, a lot of issues have been created forcing the people of FATA in mayhem. Due to the emergence of complex problems in social, educational and political spheres, it is a gigantic task for government and other stake holders to implement the modifications and changes in the erstwhile FATA. The roles and responsibilities pertaining to people in the tribal set up of existing officials will drastically be changed and as a result, it will bring in new modulus operandi as far as administration of tribal sub divisions and districts are concerned. Apart from this, the big hurdles are to implement the structure and writ of police and judiciary which will require new set ups starting from the very beginning. The additional challenges of rehabilitation, reconstruction and reorganization of the areas and masses concerned will alarmingly hurt and affect the smooth implementation of the merger process. The study highlighted the progress associated with educational and health. Furthermore, this study is useful in attaining the opinion of local people regarding the merger and post-merger scenario.

Literature Review

Impact on Education

The education system in FATA comprises three types: the government system, informal education and Madrassa system. The funds for training of teachers and higher studies, for example in universities, are funneled through treasures of KPK and other provinces of the country. The burden of education in areas constituting erstwhile FATA is also shouldered by different organizations providing technical and vocational training in tribal areas. Unfortunately, the standard of education in FATA is dismal and below par. It is reported that as many as 600 educational institutes are non-functional mainly owing to security concerns or displacement of locals to other parts of Pakistan.

Likewise, the data gathered for educational institutes for girls is equally pathetic and shows that out of total 1927 schools for girls; around 537 are non-operating making 28% of non-working institutions for girls. Of all the districts of FATA, Khyber tribal district has the highest ratio of non-functional educational institutes, like 44.5% are non-functional schools there (P & DKP, 2019). According to the FATA development household survey (2013-14), the literacy rate in tribal district is 33% which is too less as compare to average literacy rate (58%) of the country. The adult literacy rate too is abysmally low at 28.4% in merged areas against 57% adult literacy rate in Pakistan (Bureau of statistics, 2013). In general, there are only 4506 out of 6050, or 74%, institutions providing primary education. With the parameter of 40 students and above making an overcrowded institute, only 41% of schools are rightly overcrowded; too low a percentage if compared with the other parts of Pakistan. To the reader's dismay, as reported by the survey, around 13% of students of grade 1 could not read simple words written before them. Moreover, it is discovered that there are only 35 colleges, 23 and 12 for boys and girls respectively, with only 3% of students successfully completing their higher education (FATA Development Indicator Household Survey, 2013-14). It gives credence to the fact that education sector in FATA is dismal and needs a timely remedy. It also was discovered that girls, who are less likely to attend both formal and informal education because of prevalent societal norms and taboos, lacked way too behind if compared with their male counterparts. The boys who could read a single sentence in either Urdu or Pashto made 42% compared to only 17% of girls who could do same (Zia, 2017).

Apart from societal norms, rampant poverty also obstructs children from attending the schools providing formal education. Formal education, which is indispensable to tackle the modern world challenges, is both expensive and grueling for the locals. It is estimated that there

are 2.6 million out-of-school children in KP including areas constituting erstwhile FATA. A report published by KP government states that there were around 8,971 religious schools before FATA merger imparting religious education to more than 150,000 children (Yousafzai, 2013). The Taliban have, as reported by the education department, destroyed more than 750 schools since 2005 (Yousafzai, 2013). It is feared that these students are exceedingly vulnerable to falling in the hands of terrorists. The Pakistan army in collaboration with the federal government has reconstructed education institutes in the war-ravaged FATA. These institutes for the first time afford hostel facilities for both boys and girls and accommodate both married and single faculty members. For instance, newly rehabilitated Degree College Miranshah in North Waziristan and Educational Complex Dogar in Kurram district, offer these facilities. Similarly, a new model school and college with attached facility of hostel is also erected there. State of the art Cadet College Mohamand has also been established to provide education and career development to the students of the region. The civil government, as reported by the Demand Response Research Center Round 1 and II, 2018-19, has also approved a grand sum of 3376 million rupees for 345 projects in education sector (GOKP, 2019).

The development on these projects aimed at uplifting the tribal infrastructure, however, has either remained extremely slow or has not started at all. Most of respondents expressed deep concern over non establishment of required institutions especially in rugged mountainous region such as Wazirsitan region. In a nutshell, FATA merger with KPK has achieved negligibly low as far as improving the educational infrastructure of these remote areas is concerned. A robust mechanism to implement education reforms is the need of the hour. The grievances of the deserted people of FATA can only be addressed if education is propagated in these

areas. It will, definitely, pay long-term dividends in the form of wiping out the evil of terrorism and unemployment from the tribal region. If illiteracy perpetuates its hold in the region, it would become extremely detrimental to national efforts aimed at rehabilitation and maintaining security in the region.

Impact on Health

The current situation of health sector in tribal districts merits attention. There is presently no proper infrastructure for health facility and absence of doctors, nursing staff, latest laboratories and necessary medical equipment and medicines further aggravates the situation. There is, lamentably, only one doctor available to 7000 patients in FATA (Mehmood, 2018). There are only 784 doctors and 363 nurses available and an average distance travelled by locals to reach Tehsil HQ, due to lesser number of hospital facilities, is 12.3 kilometers. It speaks volumes for rising health emergency in the area. Here, too, in the post-military operations, the Pakistan army in collaboration with the civil government has played its pioneering role in establishing a few health facilities. For instance, rehabilitation of district head quarter hospitals, like a 40- bed facility in Mohmand district; a 100-bed facility in Orakzai district and establishment of a trauma center and category D hospital in Kurram district is worth mentioning in this regard. These facilities have proper Outdoor Patient Departments (OPDs), Indoor Patient Departments (IPDs), like gynecology, surgical and medical departments, Operation Theaters (OTs), in addition to administrative blocks and residential accommodation for the medical staff. Solar electricity is also being provided at numerous places to ensure continuous supply of electricity. Around 20 health projects of both small and medium scales have also been undertaken by Pakistan army in tribal districts (Mehmood, 2018).

Two significant developments by the federal government – approval of Rs 777.1 million funds to undertake 76 health projects in the region and announcement of “Health Cards” by the incumbent government– will play a major role in addressing the health-related issues of the tribal people. Lack of access to health facility can dramatically impede the political, social and economic growth of the region. Access to health is a prerequisite to achieve long-term dividends in any society. Its absence, keeps a society underdeveloped, malnourished and deprived. Conflict-laden FATA has never been able to give primary importance to the health issues, which, if neglected, can disturb an entire system. It is, however, increasingly important for the government to pay a constructive role in restructuring the worn-out health facilities in the region. Dividends of rehabilitation will remain a pipe dream as long as health issues are viewed narrowly by the federal government.

Research Methodology

Universe of the Study

The government of Pakistan via the national assembly’s resolution took the initiative to merge the erstwhile federally administered tribal area (FATA) into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa dated January 24, 2017. The merger of erstwhile FATA has brought some drastic changes to the social, political, and economic fabric. In order to gauge the impact of those changes on the people of FATA, six former frontier regions (FRs) were selected as universe for this study. Those six ex-FRs include FR Kohat, FR Peshawar, FR Bannu, FR Lucky, FR Tank and FR DI Khan. According to census 2017 the accumulative population of those six FRs was 7,13241.

Methodology

According to Creswell and Clark (2007), the methodology of a research project is an important phase and shall be designed in accordance with nature of the problem. Marvasti (2004) states that

a study shall be designed keeping in view the nature and objectives of the study concerned. Hence, considering the nature and objectives of this study, quantitative research approach was utilized in order to understand and explain various impacts of ex FATA's merger into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The data was collected from the respondents through questionnaire.

Sampling

Sampling is a systematic process of selecting sample units from the targeted population in order to present a larger and clear picture of the locale in terms of that problem (Sarantakos, 2005). The total number of 384 respondents were sampled from total population of 7,13241 through Uma Sekaran, 2006 table formula for sample size selection.

(https://www.google.com/search?q=uma+sekaran+sample+size+calculator&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjb_v3sofXuAhVuSBUIHRwUDrsQ_AUoAXoECAyQAw&biw=1366&bih=625#imgrc=mm415M8SD9NuSM).

According to the given formula the total sample size was 384 out of the total 713241 members of the selected six ex FRs. The sample size comprised of educated youth and members of the local community selected from the target population of the area through stratified random sampling

Tools of data collection

Questionnaire was utilized as a tool of primary data collection. The questionnaire included questions on the impact of merger on education, health, judiciary/ Jirga, policing and businesses in erstwhile FATA. According to Neuman (2007), questionnaire is a list of questions which is used for collection of desired information.

Data Analysis

The researcher collected the data from the respondents of six ex FRs of ex-FATA. The data was collected from the students, common people,

and religious clergies of the study area. The collected data was arranged in ordinal sequence which was then analyzed using uni-variate simple frequency and percentage for prevalence while chi-square statistical test was carried out for measuring the association at 0.05% confidence level. The dependent variable was indexed and cross tabulated with independent variables for desired results.

Chi Square formula

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^c \frac{(O_{ij} - e_{ij})^2}{e_{ij}}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^r = \text{Total of } i\text{th row}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^c = \text{Total of } j\text{th column}$$

O_{ij} and e_{ij} = Represent the observation and expected values

Chaudry and Kamal (1996)

Results on various dimensions of FATA merger were analyzed and explained under different sections and sub sections of this chapter. Description of basic information with respect to the respondents is given in section, 4.1. Univariate analysis of merger of FATA and its various aspects (education, health, Judiciary/Jirga, police and business) given in section, 4.2. Section, 4.3 carries the information about the association among independent variables (education, health, Judiciary/Jirga, police and business) and dependent variable (FATA merger), determined through cross tabulation and application of Chi-Square test.

Data Analysis and Interpretations

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As per nature of the questions incorporated in the questionnaire every respondent was interviewed

in form of a series of statement within each selected variable, categorized of five responses (Strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree and strongly agree). The respondents were asked according to the nature of the format of questions and placed as per their response to each question

accordingly. The major variables being treated with while asking questions from the respondents were perception about covid-19 and merger of FATA (dependent variable) and respondent's views regarding education and health.

Post-merger education system in ex-FATA

Statements	SD	D	N	A	SA
Do you see that education system will improve after merger	77(20.1)	201(52.3)	65(16.9)	27(7)	14(3.6)
Before FATA merger with KPK educational infrastructure/buildings were in bad condition	20(5.2)	50(13)	42(10.9)	217(56.5)	55(14.3)
Before FATA merger with KPK there was no concept of monitoring in education system	9(2.3)	21(5.5)	58(15.1)	203(52.9)	93(24.2)
The economic condition of schools and colleges improved after merger	25(6.5)	56(14.6)	231(60.2)	39(10.2)	33(8.6)
People were not satisfied from the performance of educational institutions before FATA merger with KPK	22(5.7)	35(9.1)	41(10.7)	199(51.8)	87(22.7)
I am satisfied from the post-merger reforms in education system.	4(1)	26(6.8)	239(62.2)	78(20.3)	37(9.6)
There is overall improvement in female education after the merger.	79(20.6)	203(52.9)	48(12.5)	33(8.6)	21(5.5)
Post-merger reforms in educational system will ensure meritocracy in teacher's recruitment process.	19(4.9)	41(10.7)	219(57)	63(16.4)	42(10.9)
The numbers/strength of qualified teachers Improved after merger.	103(26.8)	198(51.6)	29(7.6)	36(9.4)	18(4.7)
Post-merger reforms addressed the administrative failure in educational system of Ex-Fata.	27(7)	72(18.8)	243(63.3)	27(7)	15(3.9)

Values in cell show frequency while values in parenthesis show percentages.

Post merger education system in ex-FATA

The above table shows data regarding post-merger education system in ex FATA. In this regard, most of the respondents i.e. 52.3 percent respondents disagreed with the statement that education system is improved with merger, 20.15 percent were strongly disagreed, 16.7 percent shared their view in favor of neutral, 7 percent of the respondents were agreed and the remaining 3.6 percent were consider strongly agreed and opined that education system is improved. Majority of the respondents i.e. 56.4 percent agreed that physical infrastructure of the building was bad and not according to market demands before merger, 14.35 percent consider strongly agreed, 10.9 percent were found neutral, 13 percent were consider disagreed and the remaining 5.2 percent were strongly disagreed. Majority of the respondents 52.95 percent agreed with the statement that there is no concept and mechanism of education monitoring in Ex FATA before merger, 24.25 percent were consider strongly disagreed, 15.15 percent were found neutral, 5.55 percent were disagreed and the remaining 2.3 percent were consider strongly disagreed. Then the question was asked that whether the economic condition of the schools and colleges were improved after merger, 60.2 percent respondents found neutral, 14.6 percent were consider disagreed, 6.5 percent were found strongly disagreed, 10.2 percent of the respondents agreed and the remaining 8.65 percent were strongly agreed with such kind of

Post merger health system in ex-FATA

economic improvement. Similarly, the question was asked that whether people of the locality were satisfied from educational institution before FATA merger, most of the respondents 51.9 percent were agreed, 22.7 percent were consider strongly agreed, 10.7 percent were neutral, 9.1 percent were in favor of disagree and 5.75 percent respondents were consider strongly disagreed. A high number of the respondents i.e. 62.2 percent consider neutral with the statement that they are satisfied with post-merger educational reforms, 20.3 percent were agreed, 9.3 percent were in favor of strongly agreed, 6.5 percent were disagreed and a less number of respondents i.e. 1 percent were consider strongly disagreed. 52.95 percent of the respondents were consider disagreed with statement that female education is improved after merger, 20.5 percent were strongly disagreed, 12.55 percent were consider neutral, 8.6 percent were agreed and 5.55 percent of the respondents were strongly agreed. Then the question was asked that whether meritocracy is ensured after merger with KPK, 57 percent of the respondents consider neutral, 10.7 percent were disagreed with statement, 4.9 percent strongly disagreed, 16.4 percent were in favor of agreed and remaining 10.9 percent were strongly agreed. 51.6 percent respondents were agreed that number of qualified teachers were increased after merger, 28.65 percent were strongly agreed, 7.6 percent were consider neutral, 9.4 percent were found agreed with statement and 4.7 percent were consider strongly agreed.

Statements	SD	D	N	A	A
Access to health was not good before Fata merger with KPK	8(2.1)	26(6.8)	42(10.9)	115(29.9)	193(50.3)
The number of hospitals and allied facilities were low before merger	0(0)	31(8.1)	54(14.1)	77(20.1)	222(57.8)
Health monitoring system before FATA merger	107(27.9)	204(53.1)	33(8.6)	27(7)	13(3.4)

The overall reforms in health sector after FATA merger	13(3.4)	64(16.7)	246(64.1)	23(6)	38(9.9)
Merger reduced the practice of quackery	0(0)	24(6.3)	37(9.6)	132(34.4)	191(49.7)
Ex-FATA now has modern medical and health facilities	42(10.9)	204(53.1)	81(21.1)	51(13.3)	6(1.6)
The status of women's health is now better as compared to pre-merger	65(16.9)	227(59.1)	73(19)	19(4.9)	0(0)
Infant's health has now improved since merger	59(15.4)	245(63.8)	28(7.3)	34(8.9)	18(4.7)
People are aware of family planning after the merger of FATA with KP	73(19)	211(54.9)	37(9.6)	63(16.4)	0(0)

Values in cell show frequency while values in parenthesis show percentages.

Post-merger health system in ex-FATA

The above table shows post-merger health situation and positive improvement which take place in health system of the area. In this regard, most of the respondents i.e. 50.3 percent were strongly agreed that health system was not good before merger and not fulfilling local people needs, 29.95 percent were agreed with statement, 10.95 percent respondents were consider neutral, 6.8 percent were consider disagreed and 2.1 percent were consider strongly disagreed with statement. Most of the respondents 57.85 percent were of the opinion that the number of health facilities was low and not fulfilling local people needs of the locality, 20.1 percent were agreed with the statement, 14.1 percent were consider neutral and 8.1 percent consider disagreed. Similarly the question was asked from the respondents that health monitoring system was good before merger, a less number of respondent's i.e. 3.4 percent were strongly agreed, 7.55 percent were agreed, 8.6 percent were considering neutral, 53.1 percent was consider disagreed and 27.1 percent were in favor of strongly agreed. A high number of the respondents i.e. 64.1 percent were consider neutral that the overall reforms in health sector after merger was satisfactory, 3.4 percent strongly disagreed, 16.7 percent were in favor of disagree, 6.5 percent were agreed with statement

and 9.5 percent were consider strongly agreed. Then the question was asked that FATA merger reduced the practice of quackery, 49.4 percent were consider strongly agreed, 34.75 percent were in favor of agree, 9.65 percent were consider neutral and remaining 6.3 percent were found disagreed with statement. Similarly, the question was asked that Ex FATA has now modern health facilities which fulfilling local people needs, most of the respondent's i.e. 53.15 percent were in favor of disagreed, 10.9 percent were strongly disagreed, 21.15 percent were in favor of neutral, 13.3 percent were in favor of agreed and 1.6 percent was in favor of strongly agreed. Majority of the respondents i.e. 59.1 percent of the respondents shared that they are disagreed with the statement that women health status is now good as compared to before merger, 16.9 percent were strongly disagreed, 19 percent were consider neutral and 4.9 percent were found agreed with statement. A high number of the respondents, i.e. 63.8 percent disagreed with the statement that infant's health is improved now as compared to merger, 15.4 percent were strongly disagreed, 7.3 percent were found neutral, 8.9 percent were agreed and the remaining 4.7 percent were found strongly agreed. Majority of the respondents 54.9 percent shared that people are aware from family planning as compared to FATA merger, 19 percent were consider strongly

disagreed, 9.6 percent were consider neutral and 16.4 percent were found agreed with the statement.

BI VARAITE ANALYSIS

Dependent variable (FATA merger) was cross tabulated with independent variables (Education,

health, judiciary, police and business) and appropriate statistics i.e. χ^2 was used to ascertain the relationship between the dependent and independent variables as shown below;

Table 4.3.1 Post merger education system in ex-FATA

Statements	Independent	Dependent		Total	Statistics
	<u>Education</u> <u>system</u>	<u>FATA merger</u>			
	Responses	Yes	No		
Do you see that education system will improve after merger	SD	77 (20.1)	0(0)	77(20.1)	P= 0.000
	DA	201 (52.3)	0(0)	201(52.3)	
	N	9 (2.3)	56(14.6)	65(16.9)	
	A	0 (0)	27 (7)	27 (7)	
	SA	0 (0)	14 (3.6)	14(3.6)	
Before Fata merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa there was no concept of monitoring in education system	SD	9 (2.3)	0(0)	9(2.3)	P= 0.000
	DA	21 (5.5)	0(0)	21 (5.5)	
	N	58 (15.1)	0(0)	58 (15.1)	
	A	199(51.8)	4(1)	203(51.9)	
	SA	0 (0)	93(24.2)	93 (24.2)	
Before Fata merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa there was no concept of monitoring in education system	SD	9 (2.3)	0(0)	9 (2.3)	P= 0.000
	DA	21 (5.5)	0(0)	21 (5.5)	
	N	58 (15.1)	0(0)	58 (15.1)	
	A	199(51.8)	4(1)	199(52.9)	
	SA	0 (0)	93(24.2)	93 (24.2)	
The economic condition of schools and colleges improved after merger	SD	25 (6.5)	0(0)	25(6.5)	P= 0.000
	DA	56 (14.6)	0(0)	56 (14.6)	
	N	206(53.6)	25 (6.5)	231(60.2)	
	A	0(0)	39(10.2)	39 (10.2)	
	SA	0(0)	33 (8.6)	33(8.6)	
People were not satisfied from the performance of educational institutions before Fata merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	SD	22 (5.7)	0(0)	22 (5.7)	P= 0.000
	DA	35 (9.1)	0(0)	35 (9.1)	
	N	41 (10.7)	0(0)	41 (10.7)	
	A	189(49.2)	10(2.6)	199(51.8)	
	SA	0 (0)	87(22.7)	87(22.7)	
I am satisfied from the post-merger reforms in education system	SD	4(1)	0(0)	4(0)	P= 0.000
	DA	26 (6.8)	0(0)	26 (6.8)	
	N	239(62.2)	0(0)	239(62.2)	
	A	18 (4.7)	60(15.6)	78(20.3)	

	SA	0(0)	37 (9.6)	37 (9.6)	
There is overall improvement in female education after the merger	SD	79 (20.6)	0(0)	79(20.6)	P= 0.000
	DA	203(52.9)	0(0)	203(52.9)	
	N	5 (1.3)	43(11.2)	48(12.5)	
	A	0(0)	33 (8.6)	33 (8.6)	
Post-merger reforms in educational system ensure meritocracy in teacher's recruitment process	SA	0 (0)	21 (5.5)	21 (5.5)	P= 0.000
	SD	19 (4.9)	0(0)	19(4.9)	
	DA	41 (10.7)	0(0)	41 (10.7)	
	N	219 (57)	0(0)	219 (57)	
	A	8 (2.1)	55(14.3)	63(16.4)	
	SA	0 (0)	42(10.9)	42 (10.9)	

Values in cell show frequency while values in parenthesis show percentages.

Post merger education system in ex-FATA

The above table shows association of post-merger education system of Ex FATA and perception about merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In this regard, a high significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between education system improvement in tribal districts and merger perception with KPK. A high significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between bad infrastructure of educational institution before merger with perception about merger with KPK. Similarly, the concept of monitoring in education system was not found before merger in the targeted area and found a high significance association of ($P = 0.000$), as the institutions of the area was not developed and not according to national standard and market. A high significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between the economic condition of the colleagues and educational institution was developed after merger with KPK and people perception regarding merger with KPK, as after merger proper budget was allocated for new tribal. Similarly the people of the locality was not satisfied from the education of the area, as education was not according to national standard having no mechanism for monitoring before the merger, which was found a high significance association with the perception about merger with

KPK. A significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between satisfaction from FATA reforms after merger with perception of merger with KPK, as the people opined that now the system is changing and people inclination is towards education while the government are also playing their role positively in merger for the educational and economic development of the locality. Similarly, a high significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between female education improvement after merger and perception of merger with KPK, as the female education is an indicator of development and prosperity of the nation. Post-merger reforms in FATA ensured meritocracy and proper selection the teachers which shows a high significance association ($P = 0.000$). a high significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between the number/strength of the qualified teachers increased with perception of merger, as qualified teachers are ensured due to monitoring and proper educational system of the tribal district. A high significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between perception of FATA merger between post-merger reforms address the administrative failure in educational setting at Ex FATA. It is concluded that before merger the education system was weak and not fulfilling the local demands as well as not fulfilling national standards. Rather the education is improved positively due to merger with KPK.

Post merger health system in ex-FATA

Statements	Independent	Dependent		Total	Statistics
	<u>Health system</u>	<u>FATA merger</u>			
	Responses	Yes	No		
Access to health was not good before Fata merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	SD	8 (2.1)	0(0)	8 (2.1)	P=0.000
	DA	26 (6.8)	0(0)	26 (6.8)	
	N	42 (10.9)	0(0)	42 (10.9)	
	A	115 (29.9)	0 (0)	115 (29.9)	
	SA	96 (25)	97 (25.3)	193(50.3)	
The number of hospitals and allied facilities were low before Fata merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	SD	0(0)	0(0)	(0)	P=0.000
	DA	31 (8.1)	0(0)	31 (8.1)	
	N	54 (14.1)	0(0)	54 (14.1)	
	A	77 (20.1)	0(0)	77 (20.1)	
	SA	125(32.6)	97(25.3)	222(57.8)	
Health monitoring system before Fata merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was good	SD	107(27.9)	0(0)	107(27.9)	P=0.000
	DA	180(46.9)	24(6.3)	204(53.1)	
	N	0(0)	33 (8.6)	33 (8.6)	
	A	0(0)	27 (7)	27 (7)	
	SA	0 (0)	13 (3.4)	13 (3.4)	
The overall reforms in health sector after Fata merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are satisfactory	SD	13 (3.4)	0(0)	13 (3.4)	P=0.000
	DA	64 (16.7)	0(0)	64 (16.7)	
	N	210(54.7)	36 (9.4)	246(64.1)	
	A	0(0)	23 (6)	23 (6)	
	SA	0(0)	38 (9.9)	38(9.9)	
Ex-FATA now has modern medical and health facilities	SD	42 (10.9)	0(0)	42 (10.9)	P=0.000
	DA	204(53.1)	0(0)	204(53.1)	
	N	40 (10.7)	41(10.4)	81 (21.1)	
	A	0 (0)	51(13.3)	51(13.3)	
	SA	0 (0)	6 (1.6)	6 (1.6)	
The status of women's health is now better as compared to pre-merger	SD	65 (16.9)	0(0)	65 (16.9)	P=0.000
	DA	222(57.8)	5(1.3)	227(59.1)	
	N	0(0)	73 (19)	73 (19)	
	A	0 (0)	19 (4.9)	19 (4.9)	
	SA	0(0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Infants health has now improved since merger	SD	59(15.4)	0(0)	59(15.4)	P=0.000
	DA	228(59.4)	17(4.4)	245(63.8)	
	N	0 (0)	28 (7.3)	28 (7.3)	
	A	0(0)	34 (8.9)	34 (8.9)	
	SA	0 (0)	18 (4.7)	18 (4.7)	
	SD	73 (19)	0(0)	73 (19)	P=0.000

People are aware of family	DA	211(54.9)	0(0)	211(54.9)
planning after the merger of	N	3 (0.8)	34(8.9)	37 (9.6)
FATA with KP	A	0(0)	63(16.4)	63(16.4)
	SA	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

Values in cell show frequency while values in parenthesis show percentages.

Post merger health system in ex-FATA

The above table shows association of health system after merger and perception of the local people regarding merger and health before and after the merger. In this regard, a significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between the health system was not good before merger with KPK with perception of local people regarding merger. A high significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found that health facilities structure and number were not satisfactory before merger, which creates health issues to local people. Similarly, a high number of association ($P = 0.000$) was found between monitoring mechanism for health and perception of post-merger with KPK. Respondents opined that due to non-availability of proper monitoring the health facilities of FATA before merger was not according to market and needs. The overall reforms in health sector after merger with KPK was found satisfactory and shows a high significance association of ($P = 0.000$), with perception of the local people regarding merger. Similarly, A significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found between elimination of quackery after merger and merger perception, while the health institution improved up to some extent. A high significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found that Ex FATA has now modern medical facilities, the hospital was developed by structure as well as medicine and other facilities are available in hospitals now. Due to development and advancement in education and health the status of women health was developed and better in new tribal district as compare before merger situation which was found a high significance association ($P = 0.000$). Similarly, infants health are now improved with merger and found a high

significance association of ($P = 0.000$), perception of merger. A significance association ($P = 0.000$) was found that people of the locality are now aware from family planning process as well as the are aware from their positive aspects.

Conclusions

The current study focuses on the sociological impacts of covid-19 and FATA merger and its effect on the life of local people. Further the study explores services related to health and education in new tribal districts. The study explores and compares the facilities provided to people in Pre and Post-merger with KPK. The parameter of the study was developed according to the generated data. Analysis of the primary data shows that the people of Ex FATA were not in favor of merger with KPK. The educational system of the Ex FATA was not satisfactory before merger, which was developed and improved after merger. Monitoring system was implemented in FATA for the development and improvement of the education. The physical infrastructure of schools and number of teachers was increased in tribal districts. Results of the study reveal that health system in FATA was not according to the national level and not fulfilling local people needs. The reforms in health sector is also not satisfactory, however the merger reduces the practice of quackery in the tribal districts. The status of women health and infants are still not developing accordingly after merger with KPK.

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