Abstracts

Aid Effectiveness in Bangladesh: A Case Study of Health and Population Sector

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Abstract: This paper addresses volume of aid received by Bangladesh during the last two decades and its effectiveness on the overall health status of the population measured by the life expectancy. The data used for the study is the time series data during the period 1980-2004. Our assumption is that the impact of aid on health sector will improve maternal health and child health if the aid utilization is appropriately administered. We can express the health status as a function of a set of variables, which were included in the proposed model. First difference of the variables under study applied because differenting the variables for an appropriate number of times will make them stationary. The “Augmented Dickey-Fuller test” also confirms that data are stationary. The independent variables aid utilization, gross domestic product, person per physician and immunization coverage are statistically significant. The regression coefficient of aid utilization is positive indicating that aid and its effective utilization in health sector has impact on the overall health status of the population which is measured by life expectancy. Similarly, the higher is the per capita domestic product, the better will be the economic conditions of the population and the higher is the likelihood of expenditure on health at the household level. The analysis shows that in foreign aid in Bangladesh plays a significant role for the capacity building, infrastructure development and health interventions for improving the maternal and child health. The negative value of concentration index indicates mortality favor the poor. Despite limitation of the time series data, this econometric analysis shows that utilization of aid appropriately is an important determinant of the overall health status of the Bangladesh population which has many confounding effects simultaneously.

Nomadic and Denotified Tribals of Karnataka (India): Excluded, Isolated and Forgotten

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Abstract: Nomadic communities constitute approximately 7 percent of India’s population. Marginalization continues to characterize the nomadic experience, and phenomena such as urbanization and environmental conservation schemes have contributed to the increasing impoverishment of these communities. In turn, the growing poverty has contributed to high rates of malnutrition, illiteracy and landlessness amongst these communities. Land continues to be the primary source of livelihood, social and financial security in rural India. Consequently, many of these communities view settlement as the solution to their current difficulties. Impact analyses have to be conducted to determine how settlement will affect the cultural identity of the community, how the dynamic relationship between the community and the land will be altered, and how community customs can be preserved in light of the change in lifestyle. A majority of the Nomadic tribes exhibit the primitive traits even today. From generation after generation, these tribes have had wandering traditions and they have hardly been integrated in the society. Social Backwardness. Apart from the criteria mentioned above there are two other criteria which make these tribes eligible for having constitutional safeguards which are enjoyed by the Scheduled Tribes.
Determinants of Dowry: A Case Study of Rural South Asia

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Abstract: The focus of this study is to estimate an equation explaining the determinants of dowry. In this paper, we address a very common socio-economic problem for sub-continent, the problem of dowry. From a social planner's perspective, who wants to reduce overall dowry transfers, we consider the effect of change in a few relevant parameters like husband height, wife height, wet land, dry land, years of marriage and years of education for women and men on these decisions. According to the various studies the dowry phenomenon is exist heavily in rural sub-continent, at the same time research related to this system is very rare. The aim of this paper is to estimate an equation explaining the determinants of dowry. Several interpretations for dowry are distinguished using a simple theoretical framework and the predictions of this model are tested. Using the data provided us for this project is tested and reliable so that we will be able to draw our own testable relationships and determinants of dowry. The data will be use in the following sections for further analysis by estimating the determinants of dowry using multiple regression analysis. The study suggests that even though there are religious and cultural differences, the system of dowry in Pakistan appears to be for the same reasons as in India. A theoretical framework was developed that was inclusive of all the required variables by testing through the multiple regression analysis and the experimental findings shows the independent variable used to test have an impact on dowry by applying multiple regression step-wise method.

Board Meeting Density and Corporate Performance (Social Network Analysis of Lahore Stock Exchange Index Companies)

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Abstract
Philosophy of social network analysis (SNA) has captured the attention of researchers and relational capitalists in 21st century. SNA has been recognized as important tool to analyze the structural relations and consequences. In this study SNA has been used to analyze the involvement of directors at the event of board meetings. Through affiliation networks it is evaluated that how directors and meetings are simultaneously interrelated. This study measures the density of directors and meetings of Lahore Stock Exchange Index companies (LSE-25). Regression model has been constructed to explore the affiliation network density on operating performance of LSE-25 companies. Data for the year 2007 were collected through audited financial reports of companies to calculate directors and meeting density. Results support that directors and meeting density calculated through affiliation network matrices has marginally significant impact on operational performance of companies.

Diversion of Bank Loans: A Study of Central Cooperative Bank in Punjab

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Abstract
For the development of agriculture sector in any nation the facility of institutional credit system is essential. The adequate and timely loan disbursal is important for the upliftment of rural people. However, equally important is the recovery of the same in the stipulated time. The rising overdue has become a major problem in the efficient working of agricultural credit system. It affects the productivity of the bank and act as a constraint in the expansion and recycling of funds. The present study attempts to identify the major reasons responsible in case of loan defaults, i.e., where the loan defaulters have actually diverted the bank loan. For the purpose of the study, The Central Cooperative Bank, Tarn Taran (CCBTT) has been chosen. Data was collected from a sample of 250 loan defaulters.

Impact of the Age on Tennessee Williams’ *The Glass Menagerie* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*

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**Abstract:** Tennessee Williams wrote his plays when the world rocked with colossal turmoil. The present article takes the samples from two of his plays written in 1940s. The Depression makes the background of *The Glass Menagerie* and war is the dominant influence in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Both these plays reflect on the dehumanizing effect of the brutal age upon the soul of man. The protagonists search for survival and personal meaning but their efforts to reconstruct their lives end in smoke. All dreams of happy future collapse, innocence is lost, love does no solidify, sustainable human relationship becomes a rarity and agonizing loneliness dominates. It is a world replete with moral and physical sickness where the conquered and the conquerors are both defeated. Here Williams portrays a dark and barren world where every effort to beautify and humanize it turns into a nightmare.

Nonlinear Regression Modeling for Citrus Yield in Pakistan

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**Abstract:** In this paper nonlinear modelling for citrus yield is carried out. Different approaches are used to model such data. These include standard error, coefficient of determination, bias, intrinsic nonlinearity and parameter effect nonlinearity. Data for all provinces of Pakistan is obtained from Agricultural Census Organization (2007-08) and seven different nonlinear models are then applied. From different models Farazdaghi and Harris model seems best to model yield density relationships.

The Impact of Brand Expertise, Trustworthiness, and Likeability and Brand Credibility

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**Abstract:** The credibility of a brand as a signal is defined as the believability of the product position information contained in a brand, which depends on consumer perceptions of the willingness and ability of firms to deliver what they have promised. I examined the role of Brand expertise, brand trustworthiness, and brand likeability. I found that Brand credibility is highly influenced by brand likeability and brand trustworthiness but less likely by brand expertise.
Multinational Corporations: Nature, Development and Implications

Sikandar Ali Hayat Bhoon and Muhammad Ijaz Latif

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Abstract

This article examines the nature and development of MNCs and their implications for host and home countries on theoretical basis. Several theorists have tried to explain the nature of MNCs such as Vernon, Hymer and Kidleberger. The MNCs have been criticized on the ground that they develop technological dependence by conducting their Research and Development practices in the parent country. They do not allow local industry to flourish as these are more influential and local industry is quite feeble as compared to these corporations. Moreover, they tend to frustrate the national plans because they are not subordinate to national jurisdiction. They have also been blamed by the home states when they shift capital and jobs to other countries.