Assessing human security through human development in Pakistan: Applying Maslow's theory of hierarchical needs

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Abstract

Human Security has gained much of the importance in the recent times due to its crucial links with development, particularly sustainable development. Assessing human security through the human development index will prove beneficial as it undertakes the most important spheres of human life. This paper assessed the human satisfaction through utilizing Maslow's Theory of Hierarchical Needs keeping in contexts with the human development index. This study explores the major aspects of human development index as a tool to view the human security conditions in Pakistan. Pakistan misses some of the eminent milestones to achieve during the last few decades in the context of human development. In this regard, it provides rationales to consider a framework for the state policy makers to focus on achieving the highest level of human satisfaction, i.e. self-actualization needs. Furthermore, the major countries who have implemented human security in the state policies have progressed rapidly in ensuring the wellbeing of its people. Therefore, human security is a unique aspect to deal with the current distressing situation in order to enhance the living conditions of population at large.

Keywords: Human development, human security, Maslow's theory of hierarchical needs, human satisfactions, human development indicators

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Pakistan'da insan gelişimi ile insan güvenliğinin değerlendirilmesi: Maslow'un hiyerarşi ihtiyaçlarının teorisine uygulanması

Öz

İnsani güvenlik, son zamanlarda öneminin büyük çoğunluğunu, kritik bağlantıları olduğu kalkınma, özellikle sürdürülebilir kalkınma konusunda kazandı. Bu makale İnsani Gelişim Endeksi bağlamında Maslow›un İhtiyaçlar Hiyerarşisi›nden yararlanarak Pakistan'da insan memnuniyetini değerlendirmektedir. Maslow'un teorisi devlet politikasına yön verenlerin insan memnuniyetini en yüksek seviyede gerçekleştirme konusunda odaklanmaları için kendini gerçekleştirme ihtiyaçları hususunda genel bir çerçeve sunmuştur. Devlet politikalarında insan güvenliğini sağlamış, başlıca ülkeler vatandaşlarının refahını sağlamada hızlı bir ilerleme kaydetmiştir. Bu nedenle "insani güvenlik", şimdiki endişe verici duruma karşı mücadele etmede, nüfusun büyük çoğunluğunun yaşam koşullarını geliştirmek için benzersiz bir politikadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: *İnsan gelişimi, insan güvenliği, Maslow'un hiyerarşi ihityaç teorisi, insan memnuniyeti, insan gelişimi göstergeleri*

Introduction

This paper defines approaches of human development in the perception of human security. Furthermore, the human development approaches were further explored through the Maslow's theory of hierarchical needs in order to view how far the state (Pakistan) has made progress in fulfilling the needs of its citizens.

Additionally, human development is a well-being impression within a ground of international development in terms of human security (Phelps, 1966). Within the human development, human security has a considerable impact not only on national territories but also on international security. Human security not only focuses on state concerns but also highlights the notion of individuals within the state (Pronk, 1992). Therefore, the main focus is about protecting and securing the clash of "freedom from want" and "freedom from the fear", which is associated with the framework of global insecurity towards the development (Alkire, 2010).

Human development in terms of human security

This study explores a new paradigm of the development in which the central motive of the research is human welfare, security and human well-being. Furthermore, the human development depends on six basic pillars or components which primarily focus on the economic and social aspects. One of the pillars is security which is providing people development opportunities without restraint. Another one is productivity defined as active participation of people in the generation of income and revenue. Most important component is cooperation belonging to groups and communities as a means of mutual improvement. Yet another component for human development is sustainability which is defined as the right of living and access of sustaining their lives (Ghaus, 1996).

Generally, multiple approaches are used to measure the real progress in the human development to secure the adjusted inequality in the progressive human development. Thus, this concept is measured by Global Human Development report which consists of four main indexes such as Gender Empowerment Measure, Gender-related Development Index, Human Development Index (HDI), and the Human Poverty Index (HPI), Gender Empowerment Measure given by the United Nations (Ghaus, 1996).

The main purpose of human development is to expand people's capabilities which transform economic development into multi-dimensional human being comfort zone. Examples include leading a well standard of quality living and being educated by increasing associations between human development and economic development (Birdsall, 1993). Furthermore, to secure human development might involve a non-minimalist government such as a diverse economy and knowledgeable encouragement which modifies self-centeredness performance (Sen, 1984).

Impacts of socio-economic indicators on human development in Pakistan

With respect to human security, the significant impact of human development works at different levels in different countries including Pakistan which is the main concern of this research. This paper mentions the relations of different elements which play a crucial role whether positive or negative on human development in Pakistan. The conditions

of human development in Pakistan could be reflected through a careful observation of the following points: Role of economic growth, poverty, social development policies and the role of human development policies implementations in human development (Nasir et al., 2014).

Role of economic growth and human development:
It is the need of time to administer such public policies which aims to secure the citizens from the future risks regarding health, education, environmental issues and financial concerns. A positive correlation can be observed between economic growth and securing human lives (Khadija, 2002).

Undoubtedly, the association can be out of order in terms of unequal and dangerous circumstances when the employment of civil rights is not certain or confined. Furthermore, indicators of the social security connections are not in position to handle further risks and uneven circumstances (Ahmad, 2014). Therefore, one of the key solutions to protect human security is through accurate governance, especially the way in which state institutions deliver services to the people at the local or 'grass roots' level is key to assuring human security (Gore, 1997). Another important aspect is the labor capital in Pakistan which could prove to be of great significance in improving human development (Nasir et al., 2014). The abilities and potentials of labor capital are built in such a way that it would prove beneficial to human security and human development at large (Khadija, 2002).

Thus the above mentioned solutions can help to form active policy program implementations for protecting human security in the road of human development (Nasir et al., 2014).

Role of poverty in human developments
Generally, the human development is measured by the optimistic approach but the negative aspect cannot be neglected as it hinders human development and might result in human insecurity. For instance, intensity of human security in Pakistan is highlighted by the calculation of the absolute quantity of people who suffer from the scarcity of resources. Pakistan faced a huge setback in 1990, in the form of poverty. The fact

that more than 30% of the population lives below the standard earnings simultaneously decrease the life standards (Nasir et al., 2014).

Since Pakistan has experienced both an inferior growth and a privileged rate of poverty, the income allocation across different income groups have worsened. Keeping in view the present condition of Pakistan, the creation of more employment opportunities could actually play a pivotal role in creating positive conditions between economic growth and human development. An irony is that many countries at large are facing economic crisis and unemployment is becoming a huge problem for the masses. Thus, it can be concluded that the conditions such as provision of health or education worsened and opportunities regarding employment decreased even more during the recent decades in Pakistan, which could play vital roles in development instead (Clarke, 2006).

Role of social development policies
According to United development program the foremost aim of social development policies is to protect the citizens from social unforeseen events and eventually to assist them to achieve their individual or collective goals. On the other hand, Pakistan organized different social development policies and strategies to face the risk and overcome the bridge of the development. Pakistan's commitment for education in 1990s at the United Nations (UN) conferences in Cairo indicates the interest of social development through the social indicators (Sen, 2005). The participation in schooling increased the entire public spending, thus this improvement, concerning the recent decades, were one of the essences put into practice for the purpose of the human development (Nasir et al., 2014).

In comparison, social sector gives you an idea about various developments thus, this shows the alarming need of change in using social indicators for development to secure sustainable human development where there is less risk to cope with (Phelps, 1966).

Role of human development policy implementations
Human development matters a lot for the protection of the human security in case these development policies are implemented properly, consistently and sustained over a long period of time (Clarke, 2006). The challenges

faced by developing countries such as Pakistan is not only to speed up economic development but also to recover the life style of people (Sen, 2005). However, in the contemporary era Pakistan is required to build a persistent hard work of extensive strategies (Alif, 2015). Therefore, the focus of such strategies should be on areas such as improving governance, reducing poverty, education and advancing gender equality which is associated with development (Brighouse, 2004).

Maslow's theory of hierarchy needs

The revolutionary theory of hierarchy needs was presented by Abraham Maslow in 1940-50s in USA. Even after so many decades and changing systems of the world, this theory remains eminently effective in understanding the desire to fulfill a certain level of need in order to get to the next level of need. The original and most well-known version of Maslow's hierarchy of needs consists of five levels of needs, often displayed as a pyramid of interconnected needs. Referring to Maslow's theory, the only requirement for an individual to get to the next step of hierarchy of needs is that he/she must have fully satisfied the same or low level needs. In simple words, only after the successful accomplishment of basic needs, the secondary ones should be considered (Sen, 1984).

Likewise, the contributions of Abraham Maslow, with regards to identifying the key needs of human beings and also categorizing these needs in order, play a key role in the development of human security concept at large (Gore, 1997). Maslow has categorized the needs of human beings in five major levels. The needs are defined in the hierarchy below: Physiological Needs, Safety and Security needs, Love and Belongingness, Self-esteem needs and Self-Actualization.

Physiological needs

Primary or physiological needs are the basis of the pyramid. Maslow proposed that the basic assumption of satisfying the basic needs is for survival. For survival in today's world, a person should have food, water and shelter which comes under the physiological requirements. An individual would not be motivated to step to the next level of needs if any of these basic needs are missing or partially satisfied. Hence, satisfaction of basic needs such as food to eat, water to drink, and clothes to wear on

are important for human beings if they are expected to get to the secondary set of needs (Sen, 2004).

Safety and security needs

The second level of needs in Maslow's Hierarchy is the safety and security needs. As mentioned before, an individual can only motivate to jump up to fulfill the secondary needs if he/she has successfully accomplished the basic needs. Safety and security needs can be defined as those needs in which individuals try to achieve the level of feeling secure and safe whether from disasters, ailments, external or internal ward within the designed boundary (Haq, 1995).

The safety and security needs can be so dominant in people's life that if not available, they can invest all their belongings and resources in order to feel secure (Sen, 1980). Therefore, basic economic, social and societal needs and power values also fall under this category as these are not only needs but also the continuation of the fulfillment of basic needs (Rawls, 1971) such as, financial security, safety against illness and adverse impacts, and health and well-being.

Love and belongingness needs

After the satisfaction of the primary and the safety and security needs, an individual is urged to fulfill a higher level of needs in the pyramid i.e. love and belongingness needs. As the name suggests, these needs are important in fulfilling one's emotional needs. It is the greatest desire of an individual to get satisfaction in every variety of relations he/she is in (Khan, 2001). Thus, a relationship not only gives emotional satisfaction but also implies belongingness and acceptance by others (Haq, 1995). Having satisfied their physiological and security needs, people can venture out and seek relationships from which their need for love and belonging can be met (Ahmad, 2014).

Abraham Maslow speculates on the types and hierarchy of the needs of an individual, moreover he also observes the nature of the need and concludes that to give and receive are almost two different domains. Abraham Maslow has clearly specified that the need to give love actually comes in the perspective of growth needs as through this careful development or nurturing is possible whether on individual or group level.

Secondly, he specified the need to be loved or get attention as a deficiency need. The withdrawal of love and belongingness needs could result in an increase or diminish future love-seeking expectations, depending on the individual, the circumstances and the environment (Nussbaum, 2000).

Esteem needs

When the low level needs such as survival needs are fulfilled, an individual is now able to motivate the next level of needs i.e. esteem needs. These needs are characterized as an urge to acquire self-respect in the groups an individual relates him/herself. According to Maslow, the esteem needs include the desire for a high and accurate estimation of the self as well as the need for others to appraise the individual as worthy (Cohen, 1993).

However, an important point to be considered is that to get esteem from others is much more different from love and belongingness needs. The development of self-esteem and ego strength leads to feelings of self-confidence, worth, strength, and capability; these emotions propel behavior toward the higher goals. Individuals who have fulfilled their esteem needs tend to be immensely productive and creative. However, destroying self-esteem needs or not getting an appropriate level of satisfaction in fulfilling such needs can produce various psychology related problems especially insecurity, helplessness, and inferiority complexes (Sen, 2005).

Self-actualization

The final and the most important goal for an individual striving to achieve is the level of self- actualization needs. Similarly, in context of this thesis, self-actualization needs are considered to be the highest goals which the nations struggle to achieve in order to acquire the desired standard of living. These needs are actually a continuing process in itself. These needs cannot be viewed in a way that once achieved will remain forever. Rather, several strategies need to be developed for the consistent fulfillment of these needs. It is the need to be what one was born to be. Self-actualization is the portrayal of one's potentials. Self-actualization can be considered analogous to capability approach that was proposed by Amartya Sen (Clarke, 2006).

According to Maslow, the development of self-actualization denotes the necessity for personal growth and discovery throughout a person's lifetime. In self-actualization a person comes to find a meaning to life that is important to him or her. As each person is unique, the motivation for self-actualization leads people in different directions (Ghaus, 1996). For some people self-actualization can be achieved through creating works of art or literature, for others through sport, in the classroom, or within a corporate setting.

Basic threat to human security
In 1994, Human Development Reports have clearly specified the seven dimensions which together compose the human security. The dimensions vary such as economic, political, community to health and personal security (Haq, 1995). While Owen has specified the criteria of threats for different aspects of human security, he also referred to the context of Pakistan and what misleads human development (Hill, 1995) such as, poverty. Food security which is threatened by the scarcity of resources to satisfy the hunger needs of a large population. The scarcity of food resources causes famines etc. Health security is threatened by diseases particularly chronic diseases and disabilities. Another dimension of human security is environmental security which is susceptible to pollution, environmental degradation and resource depletion. The foremost important dimension of human security is the personal security. This dimension is exposed to different forms of threats such as violence. It can be analyzed while viewing the definition of personal security that security refers to distinction among different categories of social groups and the authority to live the life according to one's own will and choice. Political security is threatened by political repression; communal security is another important pillar of human security faces certain breakouts in terms of social unrest and instability.

These above mentioned dimensions have a range of characteristics which are significant. First, they are flexible (Sen, 1983) lists of relevant dimensions or capabilities. Additionally, human development has also proved to be an easy to measure administrative goals as the states can rationally formulate such effective long or short term policies which are best in improving the wellbeing of its citizens (Alkire, 2010).

Discussion

Application of Maslow's theory of hierarchical needs in Pakistan to achieve human security through human development:

Societies, particularly governments that permit and provide enough opportunities for the citizens to achieve each level of this hierarchy will have higher levels of human development and simultaneously human security can be achieved. For this very reason, human development approaches can be analyzed through the Maslow's theory of hierarchical needs keeping the specified indicators in consideration.

One of the core needs in Maslow's theory is the love or belongingness needs. These needs would be assessed through the infant mortality rates in Pakistan which is an important indicator of human development index. Infant mortality rate is actually the true depiction of state policies being capable of providing the basic health provisions to the mother and child. Pakistan has been unsuccessful in fulfilling these needs as the child mortality rates are high in this region.

After successfully achieving all the previous levels of needs, an individual or a country now strives to get to the level of self-actualization.

However, little or no improvements have been seen over the last few years in Pakistan. Pakistan is a democratic state but the population at large is not able to participate in the decision making process. Although amendments in laws are called to be in the name of "national interests", these amendments normally contradict the interests of the large number of masses many times and support the interest groups. Therefore, all these uncertainties actually result in distrust among people regarding the government policies and perhaps the population at large will not be supporting the government decisions further in the future creating a situation of instability. The policies and strategies made by the government to cope with basic issues will be viewed in order to get a description of how far the Pakistani government, whether partially or fully, is able to perform in this level of needs.

Conclusion

This research also views the application of Maslow's theory of hierarchical needs to assess how far the state is successful in achieving the level of needs. In order to view this, the human development indicators were operationalized on each level of needs (Physiological, secondary, self-esteem and self-actualization needs). It has been found that Pakistan is struggling hard to fulfill the basic needs. These basic needs are considered to be important components for the economy since basic needs remaining unfulfilled could result in more difficult and challenging situations than before.

The most important level of Maslow's hierarchical needs is self-actualization which can only be achieved if all the other levels of needs are successfully satisfied. This study has only focused on the original order of the hierarchy of needs, with minimal or no adaptations. This concludes the research study with some opinions on policy implications particularly an urge to view the priorities in budget allocation.

Furthermore, it has been analyzed that Pakistan strives to achieve the minimal level of human security as the conditions explored through Human Development index over the years have not shown significant improvements. It is also the need of the time to instigate the main vision of human security in state policies and strategies to offer better conditions for its citizens.

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