



Women Political Empowerment in Makran

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Abstract: Women's political participation is crucial for the promotion of gender equality and democratic governance. However, women are often underrepresented in political positions and face numerous barriers to participation. This paper aims to examine women's political empowerment and their participation in Makran division of Balochistan and identify strategies for promoting it. The study uses quantitative survey in which 310 questionnaires were distributed in three districts of Makran. The collected data was analyzed in SPSS software. The results show that the women in Makran are not empowered politically, but there is a good environment of politics and women have political awareness in the region. The findings of the present study have significant implications for civil society organizations, policymakers and women's rights advocates who are seeking to encourage women's political participation and gender equality.

Introduction

Political participation is a vital aspect of democracy and a cornerstone of good governance. It involves the engagement of citizens in decision-making processes that affect their lives. Women have an important role in the development and prosperity of every community. They make up the essential pillar of rural development in most developing states. Women are usually contemplated to be the weaker gender. Due to such beliefs, it is supposed that their responsibility is to look after and serve families, children, husbands, and homes. Women are a key feature in any civilization and without women every field is imperfect. Women's political contribution has remained an essential concern all over the world. Women were not thought to be fit especially for politics from the

inception. More than any other activity of humans, politics is identified as a masculine sphere. It has remained more explicitly confined to males than any other human social activity and practice.

Everyone in a democracy is considered to be equal. The constitution of Pakistan assures and guarantees equality for both genders. Right after the independence of Pakistan, the framers of the Pakistani constitution ensured that women would get equal status in every sphere of life. The constitution of Pakistan recognizes the equality of rights for men and women and allows special measures for women to realize the guarantee of equality (Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1973, 1973). But in reality, females have to face intolerance and gender biases in different

stages of life. To get away from such injustices and discrimination in society, it is fundamental that women too, like men, get into politics, participate and get themselves empowered. Women empowerment is not a new chapter. It has been under discussion throughout history in almost all societies whether developed, developing, or underdeveloped states.

The empowerment of women is not a new movement. It has been prevailing throughout the history of mankind. Here it is important to mention that this struggle or movement has brought shifts or alternations from many steps and segments. For an instant, the welfare of women has been in demand at the beginning of this movement. Later on, it was shifted to women's development. Lastly and currently, it demands women's empowerment. This issue and its significance are now world-wildly recognized and it is emphasized that the empowerment of women is the need of the hour. With a vibrant, female rights movement in Pakistan, there are constant claims for improved acts and regulations as well as seeking accountability for their enforcement. It has been accentuated and acknowledged that actual assurance and efforts have to be taken by every state at the central governmental level, non-governmental as well as the individual capacity to seriously work on the empowerment of women. It has also been discussed at UN World Conference on Women and decided to work on the Plan for Action (UN, 1997).

Discussing about the social and cultural environment of Balochistan, Ahmad narrates that Balochistan's cultural and social landscape is predominantly controlled by male. It lessens the approach of females to educational institutions and civic involvement (Ahmad, 2011). Women are deliberately belittled in Balochistan. The opportunities which are available to females in the entire advanced and civilized world are out of reach to women in Balochistan (Baloch, 2012). The concept of women empowerment in Balochistan province has been fundamentally shaped and controlled by cultural, traditional,

and religious aspects (Paterson, 2008). The cost is that the women would settle discouraged, belittled and backward and remain engaged in the home chores. Politically active females have face-to-face links with males; they may be open invitations to harassment. Women are thought to be the reputation and the honor of men. They do not want to picture their women in front of others or stranger (men). Outside of the social environment and security concerns, men do not allow their wives, daughters or female members of the family from joining any political group. Females have a lot of responsibilities in their houses which they have to render. Baloch women lack political clout because they are not aware about the politics and state's atmosphere. They are not allowed to get out of their houses and are prohibited to get into politics. Any empowerment of women be it economic or political is thought to be a danger to men's supremacy (Shumaila Umer, 2016). Therefore, this study will attempt to illustrate how much women in Makran are politically empowered.

Statement of the Problem

The role of women is essential in all walks of life. Women play a crucial role not only in the home but also keep the edifice of a strong nation. It has been studied and observed that the role of women is very limited in political matters. Therefore, this study would narrate how much empowerment is gained by Baloch women in the present scenario and if any positive impacts women's political empowerment and involvement can make on economic growth if women are in co-equal positions with men.

Significance of the Study

The topic which is under study in this research is 'Women Political Empowerment in Makran' is a significant topic for the people of Makran and Balochistan which will provide information about the status of women related to their civic involvement. It will be a useful scholarly work for not only the people of this region but also for the provincial government of Balochistan as well as

for the federal government. It will narrate how much women in Makran are politically active and empowered.

Literature Review

Empowerment

Discussing empowerment (Czuba, 1999) argues that empowerment is a multi-dimensional social process that supports mankind getting control over their lives. Empowerment as referred to above is a pluridimensional process due to which anyone can gain command of their own lives. Furthermore, (Roodt, 2001) elaborates on empowerment, and narrates that empowerment is about people- both men as well as women- taking command of their own lives; deciding their agenda, improving skills, getting motivation and self-confidence, humanizing self-sustenance, and resolving their matters. It seems like a continuous process and a conclusion. Empowerment seems like a power or an authority due to which one (male and female both) can get control over life as per Roodt's definition. Moreover, (Promilla, 2001) narrates that empowerment means to delegate or entrust control and power. The objective of this decentralization is to get involved in the suppressed fragment of the society in politics and become a part of the procedure of making a decision. He further simplifies the meaning of empowerment that it is an attempt to give voice to voiceless people. Empowerment (of women) is possible when they are included in legislative procedures and social wellbeing. Empowerment is the progression by which the disempowered or weak section of the society can bring changes in their lives and originate to get the authority of their lives. The above definitions by mentioned authors indicate that empowerment is a social phenomenon due to which anyone (men and women) can be able to get control over their lives. They can enhance their skills, get confident and self-sufficient and be able enough to tackle their problems on their own.

Women Empowerment

Political empowerment is the result of the economic and social empowerment of women (Siddiqi, 2015). South Asian women have served in high governmental positions but despite that, the overall representation of women is not considerable. Pakistan stands in the third position in South Asia. It is important to mention here that Pakistani women have been indulged in politics before the partition of India and Pakistan. Mentioning the then one of the houses of parliament (senate), he narrates that there are seventeen women out of 104 seats and all of them are on reserved seats. In the National Assembly of Pakistan, women are holding sixty-nine seats out of 340. The reserved seats for women in National Assembly are sixty in total. So the representation of women is not up to the mark. An important thing here is mentionable that these female representatives do not play any satisfactory role in improving the condition of common women and their socio-economic conditions. The reason is that these women who hold the reserved seats in the parliament are from influential families and political parties. Even if they are from general seats, these women are unable to understand and sort out the problems of common women. Because they do not come step by step, from different levels of political engagements. Another reason for the lack of women's empowerment (Siddiqi, 2015) mentions is that the weak position of female representatives in legislatures is due to norms. He says that the position of women cannot be changed until there are social structural changes or changes in social norms. So according to him, the number of women in parliament must not imply women empowerment but the quality of work they independently produce through their social-political engagements which become a source of change in the values and norms of that social structure. A research paper on 'Women political participation in South Asia' was published under the auspicious of the United Nations in which country wise the reviews have been discussed.

The mentioned paper analyzed the agreement which was signed by India with United Nations women (UN Women) (formerly known as Unifem) in 2009. The very purpose of this agreement was to strengthen and empower the elected female representatives of South Asian countries at the local level. The said program covered five South Asian states which were Bhutan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India and Nepal. Expressing the barriers and difficulties of women in politics in Pakistan, the writer mentions that women have to face a lot of problems after stepping into politics. They have to face institutional confrontation from their male counterparts (Nandita Bhatla, 2015). There is an unambiguous demarcation between the public and private domains. Women's participation in the public domain is thought to be unsuitable. Though there are some conventions and policies in this regard, but still females encounter many difficulties in civic engagement. For instant, internationalization of patriarchal theory, gender-based division of labor, domestic and other violence, the non-democratic and totalitarian structure of political parties, religious constraints, and fundamentalism. The writer further states that even though women have theoretically and legally been granted equal rights with that of men but in practice, they are still controlled and dominated by their male counterparts.

Adding to women empowerment, (Naik, 2017) mentions that empowering women means permitting or arming them to function autonomously. He further says that due to the lack of space (in political area) women's participation in the political process has not only resulted in their absence or less in numbers in legislative assemblies, but also ignored their ordinary grievances. For valuable governance and a strong democratic system, he adds, the participation of women in legislative assemblies is vital. Their low participation is of special concern.

(Gana, 2018) quotes Steve who narrates that it is a general knowledge that due to male-dominated cultural and religious orientation, women seldom get involved in civic affairs. Partaking (in public activities) is a vital factor for females' empowerment and advancement as well. Women need to reach the point of growth and self-actualization. They have to raise their voice and be able and develop as much as they need.

Politics and Political Participation

(Begum, 2015) describes politics as the process by which a few couples of people make decisions to deal with peoples' problems. It comprises social relations involving power or authority and denotes the regulation of a political unit and the methods used to execute programs and apply procedures.

Defining the meaning of political participation, (Kafilat, 2004) quotes Hague and Harry in his article that political participation is an activity by a person aimed to influence who rules or the decision taken by the ruling group by conventional or unconventional methods. Women should be empowered to promote equitable and accelerated development which will improve their competence in all the spheres of life. Another notable point he further mentions is that women should also change their perceptions regarding politics. Because women always think that politics is only money-oriented and it is a dirty game of and for men. This belief has kept women away from politics (Kafilat, 2004). Another obstacle in the way of women in civic participation is the social and economic factors and the existing structures (Arfan Latif, 2015). In a male-dominated society like Pakistan, the political engagement of females is very much dependent on and connected to their male counterparts. Because most of the women are financially dependent on their fathers, brothers or husbands and they have to follow all the social norms which their men believe in.

(Baloch, 2012) describes Balochistan as the least developed province of Pakistan. Baloch society is a conservative society. It seems impossible to take part in political activities for Baloch women as their families do not accept such public involvements. The strong traditional forces of religion and cultural values make it almost impossible for females to make an impact in politics (Paterson, 2008).

Despite the fact that Balochistan is very rich in terms of natural resources, the political environment and culture suffer from a platform of problems such as low literacy rate of women, unemployment, the wide gender gap, and high maternal mortality rate. The miserable state of females in Balochistan is considered to be linked to the inflexible culture and social system. This has been brought out by discrimination against females on different bases in the society and country (Baloch, 2012). Unconsciousness about their rights and lack of resources is the factor that keeps away females from their rights in all aspects of life in Balochistan (Awan S. , 2012).

Objectives of Study

1. To point out the different levels of political participation among Baloch women in Makran.
2. To figure out the perception of men regarding the role of women in politics.
3. To find out if women's political participation is satisfactory in Makran.

Research Questions

1. To what extent have women in Makran achieved political empowerment?
2. What is the significance of women's political participation?
3. What will be the impacts on the growth of the economy if women are politically active?

Limitations of the Study

Limited Generalization: This study focuses on the women's political participation and

empowerment in a specific geographic region Makran which is a division Balochistan province. It may not be the representative of other regions in Balochistan. Therefore, the findings of this study may have limited generalization.

Self-Selection Bias: Study participants who volunteer may not be representative of the general population. Therefore, the results may be biased towards individuals who are more politically engaged or have a higher level of education.

Time Constraints: Conducting a comprehensive study on women's political participation can be time-consuming and resource-intensive. Therefore, the study may be limited by the time and resources available for the research.

It is essential to acknowledge these limitations and address them appropriately to make sure the reliability and validity of this study's findings.

Research Methodology

Quantitative Survey: A quantitative survey would be an appropriate methodology to collect data on attitudes, behaviors, and experiences related to women's political participation. The survey is administered to a representative sample of the population and statistical analysis is used to identify patterns and frequency is checked through Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software.

Case Study: Case study approach is an appropriate method to examine successful initiatives and policies for promoting women's political participation. The case study method is used to conduct the study in Makran regions to get information about the specific area.

Sampling method: Purposive Sampling is opted to select the samples from the population. Purposive Sampling method is adopted so that the participants could serve the purpose of data collection. Only educated and participants who were above 20 years old were involved in the survey to get information. Makran division of

Balochistan consists of three districts, district Kech, Panjgur and Gawadar. Total 310 samples were collected from three districts with equal proportion of 103 of each district with the exception of Kech with 104.

Data Analysis and Discussion

This section of the study deals with the data acquired by survey questionnaire. SPSS is used to analyze the gathered data to get the frequency of the variables.

Table 1

Women in Makran are Politically Empowered.

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	23	7.4
Disagree	133	42.9
Agree	124	40.0
Strongly agree	30	9.7
Total	310	

Source: Primary data

This table finds the frequency distribution of responses to the survey statement on a four-point Likert scale about an individual's agreement with the statement related to the political empowerment of women in Makran. A total of 310 respondents answered the survey question, and very few respondents were of the view that women in Makran are politically empowered, using "Strongly disagree". Nearly one-fourth of the respondents indicated "Disagree". Almost less than one-fourth of them indicated "Agree," and a very few indicated "Strongly agree." In summary, the majority of respondents either disagreed or agreed with the statement, with more respondents indicating "Disagree" than "Agree." The responses were relatively evenly distributed across the four response options, with the largest proportion of responses falling under "Disagree."

Overall, the results suggest that there is no clear consensus among the respondents regarding the political empowerment of women in Makran. A significant proportion of the

respondents (50.3%) either strongly disagree or disagree (Both together) with the statement, while a slightly smaller proportion (49.7%) either agree or strongly agree with it. This indicates a somewhat balanced view among the respondents regarding the political empowerment of women in Makran.

Women Play a Significant Role in Politics

Here are some researches and studies related to women playing a significant role in political areas:

"Women in politics: Gender, power, and development" by Mariz Tadros examines the role of women in politics in the global South, focusing on how women's participation can contribute to more inclusive and democratic political systems. The study finds that women's participation in politics can lead to greater representation, more gender-sensitive policies, and increased accountability of political institutions (Tadros, 2015).

Another work "The impact of women in public office" by Susan Carroll and Kira Sanbonmatsu examines the influence of females in public office in the United States, focusing on the effect of women's presence on policymaking and political culture. The study finds that women's presence in political institutions can lead to greater attention to issues related to women and families, more collaborative and inclusive decision-making processes, and a more diverse and representative political system (Sanbonmatsu, 2001).

Table 2

Significant Role of Women in Politics in Makran

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	1	0.3
Disagree	122	39.4
Agree	143	46.1
Strongly agree	44	14.2
Total	310	100

Source: Primary data

This table shows less than one-seventh of the respondents strongly agree that women play a significant role in politics in Makran, while a little less than half of them agree and a little more than one-third of participants disagree with this statement. Only a very few of the respondents strongly disagree with the statement. This suggests that there is some level of disagreement among the respondents regarding the significant role of women in politics in Makran.

Overall, the results suggest that the majority of respondents agreed (including strongly agree) with the statement, with a smaller proportion indicating disagreement (including strongly disagree).

Table 3

Satisfaction of Women's Participation in Demonstrations and Protests in Makran

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	1	0.3
Disagree	101	32.6
Agree	175	56.5
Strongly agree	33	10.6
Total	310	100

Source: Primary data

The table shows the responses of participants to the statement "Satisfaction of women's participation in demonstrations and protests in Makran". Out of 310 valid responses, more than two-third of the participants (approximately 67.1% - combining those who agreed and strongly agreed) expressed positive views about women's participation in demonstrations and protests in Makran. On the other hand, about one-third of them held differing opinions, expressing their disagreement. No participants chose the option 'Strongly disagree' in response to this question. The data highlights a notable acceptance of and support for women's active involvement in voicing their opinions through demonstrations and protests in the region.

Table 4

Satisfaction of Women's Membership in Political Parties or Students Organisations in Makran

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	26	8.4
Disagree	105	33.9
Agree	141	45.5
Strongly agree	38	12.3
Total	310	100.0

Source: Primary data

Table No. 4 reveals varying perspectives on women's membership in political parties or student organizations in Makran. The data shows that more than half of the participants (approximately 58%) expressed support for women's involvement (both agreeing and strongly agreeing). On the other hand, approximately one-third of participants disagreed with the idea. A smaller proportion which was 8.4%, strongly disagreed. The data highlights the diverse range of opinions and the importance of fostering an inclusive dialogue on women's roles in politics and student organizations in the region.

Overall, the results propose that a good proportion of the respondents do not think that membership of women in political parties or student organizations is satisfactory. However, the percentage of those who agree is higher than the percentage of those who disagree, indicating that there is some level of satisfaction among the participants regarding the participation of women in these organizations in Makran.

The Representation of Women in Assemblies

There is an ongoing research on the representation of women in assemblies and legislative bodies worldwide. However, the findings of these studies vary widely based on the country, region, and the level of government being examined. In some cases, the number of women in assemblies may be considered satisfactory, while in others, it may fall short of gender parity goals.

Here is a report example of Inter-Parliamentary Union which indicates the number of women in assemblies:

The report titled as "Women in national parliaments" by Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) airs an annual report on the percentage of females in national legislatures throughout the world. According to their most recent report, the global average of females in national legislative bodies was 25.5% as of February 2021, with some countries achieving gender parity while others lag far behind (Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), 2021).

Table 5

Satisfactory Representation of Women in Assemblies

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	20	6.5
Disagree	173	55.8
Agree	110	35.5
Strongly agree	7	2.3
Total	310	100.0

Source: Primary Data

Table No. 5 provides an insight into the perspectives of 310 participants regarding the satisfactory representation of women in assemblies. The data shows the frequency of participants who expressed different levels of agreement or disagreement with the notion. Among the participants, a very few of the respondents strongly disagreed with the satisfactory representation of women in assemblies. About one-third of the participants agreed, recognizing the presence of satisfactory representation of women in assemblies. A significant portion, comprising a little more than the half of the participants disagreed with the notion, expressing concerns about the current state of representation. Lastly, a minority of participants (approximately 2.3%) strongly agreed, voicing strong support for the satisfactory representation of women in assemblies.

The data shows varying opinions on the subject, some believe it is satisfactory. While a majority of participants expressing concerns about the current level of representation. The findings highlight the need for ongoing efforts to ensure better representation and inclusivity of women in political spheres.

Women's Participation in Elections (As Contesting Candidates)

There have been many researches and studies conducted on females partaking in elections as candidates. Here are a few examples:

"Women's political participation in Africa: A case study of Liberia" by Phoebe Davis examines the factors that contributed to women's success in securing a significant number of seats in Liberia's parliament in 2005. The study finds that the mobilization of women's organizations and civil society was crucial in enhancing women's political engagement. (Davis, 2012).

"Women and Electoral Politics in South Asia" by Mona Lena Krook examines the role of political parties in promoting female's participation in elections in South Asia. The study finds that political party policies and practices can have a significant impact on women's ability to participate in elections as candidates (Krook, 2010).

Overall, these studies suggest that women's participation in elections as candidates is not satisfactory, and that significant barriers exist due to gender stereotypes, cultural norms, and institutional barriers.

Table 6

Satisfactory Electoral Participation of Women (as contestants)

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	77	24.8
Disagree	224	72.3
Agree	8	2.6
Strongly agree	1	.3
Total	310	100.0

Source: Primary data

Table No. 6 reveals the perceptions of 310 participants on the satisfactory electoral participation of women as contestants. The data presents the frequency of participants who expressed different levels of agreement or disagreement with this notion. The table shows that around one-fourth of the respondents strongly disagreed to the statement, two-thirds disagreed, a small proportion of respondents agreed, and an even smaller proportion strongly agreed with the statement about women's participation in elections.

Overall, the table demonstrates difference of opinions among participants regarding the satisfactory electoral participation of women as contestants. There were a few participants who perceived the participation to be satisfactory while the majority expressed concerns or disagreements on this point.

Women's Electoral Participation (As Voters)

Studies have shown that women's participation in elections as voters has improved in many countries over time, although there are still barriers to women's full participation. Here are a few examples of research on this topic:

"Gender and Elections: Why Women's Votes Count" by Sarah Repucci and Ellen Lust examines the impact of women's participation as voters on electoral outcomes in various countries. The study finds that women's votes can have a significant impact on election results, particularly when women are mobilized and organized to vote (Lust, 2008).

"Women's political participation and representation in Southeast Asia" by Aileen S.P. Baviera investigates the regional impediments to women's political engagement including their participation as voters. The study finds that while women's participation as voters has improved in some countries, there are still significant gaps in participation between men and women (Baviera, 2017).

Overall, these studies suggest that women's participation in elections as voters has improved in many countries, but that there are still significant gaps in participation between men and women.

Table 7

Satisfaction of Women's Electoral Participation (as Voters)

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	8	2.6
Disagree	72	23.2
Agree	168	54.2
Strongly agree	62	20.0
Total	310	100.0

Source: Primary data

Around three-fourths of the respondents agree or strongly agree that women's participation in elections as voters is satisfactory. Less than one-fourth of them disagreed, while only a small percentage (2.6%) strongly disagrees.

Women as Free and Independently Voters

There are limited studies specifically addressing the issue of women being able to vote freely and independently, but some studies have explored related issues such as women's political empowerment and the factors that influence their voting behavior. Here are a few examples of research on this topic:

"Gender, Political Participation, and Democracy: A Cross-National Analysis" by Pamela Paxton and Melanie Hughes examines the factors that influence women's political empowerment, including their ability to vote freely and independently. The study finds that women's political empowerment is effected by a range of issues including the level of economic development and gender equality in a country (Hughes, 2007).

"Gender Differences in Voter Turnout in India" by Shaina Potts and Ellen Lust examines the factors that influence women's voter turnout in India. The study finds that in India females are

less likely than men to vote and that this is due in part to cultural and social factors that limit women's mobility and participation in public life (Lust S. P., 2016).

Overall, these studies suggest that women's ability to vote freely and independently is influenced by a range of factors, including cultural and social norms, economic development, and political empowerment. Efforts to promote women's political participation and empowerment may include targeted voter education and outreach campaigns, as well as efforts to address structural barriers such as voter ID requirements and long waiting times at polling stations.

Table 8

Women as Free and Independent Voters (in Makran)

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	34	11.0
Disagree	122	39.4
Agree	106	34.2
Strongly agree	48	15.5
Total	310	100.0

Source: Primary data

The table shows that only a little more than half of the respondents either disagree or strongly disagree that women can vote free and independently as per their own choices in Makran. Around one-third of respondents agree with the statement, while nearly one-fifth of them chose strongly agree. The table can be used to get a sense of how people feel about the current voting status of women in the region. The majority or a little more than half of respondents (50.4%) either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. This shows that people are not very satisfied with the current state. However, there is a significant minority of respondents which is much closed to the number of disagreed participants (49.6%) who either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. This suggests that a good number of people are

satisfied with the current status of women's voting and their independence in this regard.

Table 9

The Influence of Political Family Background on Women's Political Participation

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	2	.6
Disagree	70	22.6
Agree	180	58.1
Strongly agree	58	18.7
Total	310	100.0

Source: Primary data

More than half of the respondents agree that political family background influences women's political participation, while only a very few strongly disagree. Additionally, almost one-fifth of the respondents strongly agree with this statement.

To summarize it, the data reveals a diverse range of opinions among participants regarding the influence of a political family background on women's political participation. While a minority disagreed, a significant majority agreed, with a considerable portion strongly supporting the idea.

Educated Women and Their Inclination towards Politics

Education and political engagements have always been thought to be interconnected with one another. To see their relationship here are a few examples of research studies related to education and female's political involvement and then the condition in Makran.

"Education and women's political participation in Asia" by Sarah E. Johnson examines the relationship between education and political participation of females in Asia. This study finds that education can positively impact women's political engagement and leadership, as it can provide the knowledge, ability, and confidence needed to take part in politics (Johnson, 2016).

"The Impact of Education on Women's Political Participation in Latin America" by Ana M. Alvarez and Maria Escobar-Lemmon examines the impact of education on women's political participation in Latin America. The study finds that education can increase women's political knowledge and interest, as well as their participation in political activities such as voting and attending political meetings (Escobar-Lemmon, 2012).

Table 10

Educated Women and their Inclination towards Politics

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	1	0.3
Disagree	62	20.0
Agree	238	76.8
Strongly agree	9	2.9
Total	310	100.0

Source: Primary data

The table shows that a majority three-fourth of the respondents agree that educated women are more inclined towards politics in Makran. One-fifth of the respondents disagreed with the statement. While "Strongly disagree and Strongly agree" are chosen by a very small minority. This suggests that the participants believe that education plays a significant role in promoting political participation among women in the region.

Table 11

Men's Support to Women's Political Participation (in Makran)

Valid	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly disagree	122	39.4
Disagree	1	0.3
Agree	1	0.3
Strongly agree	186	60.0
Total	310	100.0

Source: Primary data

The table shows the frequency distribution of the statement that 'Men's support to women's

political participation (in Makran)'. The data reveals that a little less than two-third of the participants strongly agree to the statement. The option strongly disagree was chosen by more than one-third of the respondents. While a very small minority chose 'Agree and Disagree' option with .3 percent. The data shows that a majority of respondents agree that men in Makran support women's political participation.

Analysis/Conclusion

From the above data and the discussion, it can be concluded that there are variations in concepts regarding women political participation in Makran. Women in Makran, as shown and discussed in the data analysis and discussion portion, are not politically empowered. The number of Makrani women in assemblies according to the data is not satisfactory neither is their number as contesting electoral participants while there is consensus among the respondents about satisfactory participation of women in protests and demonstration in Makran. It shows that women in Makran do have awareness about their rights and they raise their voices through demonstrations. Furthermore, there is also agreement among the respondents about the positive perception of men regarding the political participation of women and their involvement in politics and that their political engagement is significant and vitally needed for the economic growth. Overall, the study shows that women in Makran have a weak position in politics. It remains a topic of discussion for further studies that what factors influence and effect women's political participation in Makran.

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