

# FACTORS INFLUENCING REPATRIATION INTENTIONS OF AFGHAN REFUGEES: A CASE STUDY OF AFGHAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN DISTRICT PESHAWAR

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Received	Revised	Accepted	Published
28 November, 2024	28 December, 2024	13 January, 2025	20 January, 2025

## ABSTRACT

*This research study was conducted to know about those factors which affected the intentions of afghan refugees towards repatriation. This study was carried out in seven camps of afghan refugees in district Peshawar i.e. Kababian, Khazana, Naguman, Khurasan, Badaber, Mera Kachori and Shamshatoo camp. Out of the sampling frame of 11662 households a sample size of 372 household was proportionally allocated to each camp and selected through lottery method of sample random sampling. The data was collected through interview schedule. The conceptual framework of the study consist of four independent variables (lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan) and one dependent variable (intentions to repatriation). The variables were measured on three levels Likert scale and chi-square was applied at bi variate level to determine the association among these study variables. The results show that intentions to repatriation of afghan refugees and lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan have significant association with their homeland villages lacks basic amenities ( $P=0.001$ ), education system in their home country is weak ( $P=0.001$ ) and There is no open access to print and electronic media of the general public, making them unaware of the geo political situation of the country ( $P=0.001$ ). The study concludes that repatriation is undeniably a complicated process which need some handy solutions by the help government of Afghanistan, Pakistan and from international community.*

**Keywords:** *Afghan refugees, Repatriation intentions, Basic amenities.*

## INTRODUCTION

Afghanistan geographical position played an important role in shaping its history and geopolitical significance. Being situated at the crossroads of Central and South Asia has made it a focal point for trade routes and cultural exchanges throughout history the rugged landscape has historically contributed to Afghanistan's reputation as a challenging region for invasions or control by external powers, fostering a strong sense of independence and resilience among its people. Moreover, its strategic location has made it a corridor for trade and cultural exchanges between different civilizations, playing a role in the Silk Road and other ancient trade routes that connected Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. Understanding Afghanistan's geography is crucial for

comprehending its historical, political, and socio-economic dynamics (Barfield, 2022).

### 1.1: Explanation of the term Repatriation

The term repatriation means sending home it's about the return of individuals, or assets belongings to their place of origin or to their rightful owners. Voluntary refugee repatriation, in particular, emphasizes the importance of returning refugees to their home country without coercion and ensuring their safety and dignity throughout the process. This voluntary aspect respects the refugees' agency and choice in deciding to return home when conditions allow for it. Repatriation can indeed encompass various scenarios, including immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and even international

officials, each with its specific circumstances and considerations (UNHCR, 2004).

### 1.2: Explanation of the term Refugees

A refugee is someone who has to leave their country because it's not safe for them, usually because of war, violence, or being treated badly (UNHCR 2018). We can also think of refugees as people who might have to leave because of natural disasters, like big floods or earthquakes. Another kind of refugee called an internally displaced person, (IDP). These are people who have to move to a different part of their own country because it's not safe where they were living, maybe because of fighting or conflicts in their area. Potocky-Tripodi, M. (2002) in her book write that Refugees are those individuals which flee their home countries due to fear of persecution, war, violence, or severe human rights violations. They are forced to seek safety in other countries. They often have no choice but to leave and face significant hardships in their home country. Immigrants: Immigrants choose to move to another country for various reasons, such as better economic opportunities, family reunification, or a desire for a different lifestyle. Their migration is voluntary and not primarily driven by immediate threats to their safety or lives. Internally Displaced People (IDPs): These are individuals who have been forced to flee their homes, similar to refugees, due to conflict, persecution, or human rights violations. However, unlike refugees, they remain within the borders of their own country. They face similar challenges as refugees but do not cross international borders to seek safety.

### 1.3 Afghan refugees in Pakistan

Pakistan has been a host to one of the largest refugee populations globally for several decades. As of my last update in January 2022, the country hosted a significant number of Afghan refugees, many of whom were holders of Proof of Registration (POR) cards issued by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). This population numbered around 1.5 million. Additionally, Pakistan estimated that there were roughly one million undocumented Afghans residing within its borders. The

Afghan refugee situation in Pakistan has been a protracted issue, with many refugees having lived there for years, often facing various challenges related to livelihood, education, healthcare, and legal status (UNHCR Report, 2015).

People from Afghanistan, spanning generations, have moved to other countries like Pakistan due to conflict. Some were young when they left, grew up there, started families, and now their children have never experienced life in Afghanistan. Others left Afghanistan more recently because of ongoing instability, looking for safety, jobs, and a better life (Connor, 2015).

The Soviet Union's presence in Afghanistan did indeed have a significant impact on the country, especially in terms of the refugee crisis and the political landscape. The conflict led to a massive exodus of Afghans seeking refuge in neighboring countries especially in Pakistan, with the number reaching around 2.4 million. Najibullah's presidency and the subsequent replacement by Babrak Karmal marked a shifting political scene within Afghanistan during the Soviet occupation. The withdrawal of Soviet forces in 1989 was a pivotal moment, prompting the return of a portion of the Afghan refugees approximately 206,000 people (Refugees Magazine, 1997).

### 1.4 Current Figures and place of Afghan refugees

Afghan refugees in Pakistan as of early 2022. Here's a summary based on the information provided by Euaa Report, (2022) Approximately 3 million Afghans were estimated to be residing in Pakistan among them, around 1.4 million held Proof of Registration (POR) cards, roughly 840,000 had Afghan Citizen Cards (ACC), and an estimated 775,000 were undocumented Afghani. Discrepancies exist in estimates: a Pakistani news report in August 2021 suggested the undocumented Afghan population to be between 300,000 and 400,000, differing from UNHCR's figures. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa hosted the largest number of registered Afghan refugees (approximately 834,381 individuals, about 58%), followed by Baluchistan (around 326,932 individuals, about 23%), and Punjab (approximately 168,342 individuals, about 12%). Registered Afghan refugees

resided in Afghan refugee villages (ARVs), urban, or semi-urban areas, coexisting with the Pakistani population. An ADSP study in June 2019 indicated that generally, only POR cardholders were permitted to live in ARVs. However, the Government of Pakistan did not mandate POR cardholders or other Afghan refugees to reside in these villages.

### 1.5 Justification of the study

The repatriation of Afghan refugees is indeed a complex issue, especially for Pakistan and Afghanistan. The conflict that began in 1979 in Afghanistan led to a significant displacement of Afghans, towards neighboring countries like Pakistan and Iran. Pakistan being a close neighbor, absorbed a considerable number of Afghan refugees, which undoubtedly had a profound impact on the overall country. According to many studies the influx of Afghan refugees into Pakistan brought various challenges and concerns. Such as socio-economic pressures, balancing the humanitarian aspect, conflict between refugees and host people on various resources, security issues, and the presence of a large refugee population significantly affected different faces of life in Pakistan. Studies have highlighted these concerns, shedding light on the strains on resources, infrastructure, and social services due to the refugee influx. Moreover, the prolonged stay of Afghan refugees in Pakistan raised questions about their integration, livelihoods, and the strain on the host communities. Balancing humanitarian obligations with domestic considerations and security concerns has been a delicate task for Pakistan.

The current situation of Afghan refugees' repatriation and the impact on the host country (Pakistan), need comprehensive solution to facilitate a safe dignified and voluntary return, motivated me to conduct this study to find the factors which are affected the intentions towards repatriation of Afghan refugees such as lack of peace and stability in Afghanistan, lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan, economic opportunity in host community and adaptation of Pakistani life style and to know the perception of Afghan refugees regarding their repatriation. Some fruitful recommendation and policies will be

recommended for government of Pakistan, Afghanistan and also for the global community to address the complexities and concern of Afghan refugees' repatriation. Also, for some international organization to provide sustainable solutions, such as investment in rebuilding Afghanistan, creating opportunities for returnees, and fostering stability, are essential for resolving this protracted issue.

### 1.6 Objectives of the study

- 1.To find out demographic profile of the respondents.
- 2.To find out the perception of respondents regarding various push and pull factors restricting refugee's intention to repatriation.
3. To know about the refugees intention to repatriation.
- 4.To measure the association between various push and pull factors with refugees intention to repatriation.
- 5.To put forward the policy recommendation in light of study finding.

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This chapter explores lots of research studies about Afghan refugees going back to their homes particularly focusing on the factors and underlying causes that affect the returning intentions of Afghan refugees from various regions of Pakistan. I examine diverse perspectives from various authors regarding the concept of repatriation and the returning process of Afghan refugees to their home country in different era.

The findings of the World Bank report shed light on crucial barriers hindering women's participation in higher education in Afghanistan. The under-representation of women in higher education often stems from a complex interplay of social, cultural, and infrastructural challenges. The report's identification of lower participation of girls in secondary education is significant, as it directly impacts the pool of eligible female applicants for higher education. Limited access to quality secondary education restricts the number of young women who can pursue higher studies, creating a substantial gap in representation.

Moreover, without adequate infrastructure to support their needs, female students face difficulties accessing and staying in educational institutions, impacting their

enrollment and retention rates. Additionally, the report's mention of inadequate childcare provision highlights a critical issue. Many women, especially those with children, might find it challenging to balance their educational pursuits with caregiving responsibilities. The absence of proper childcare facilities can act as a deterrent for women seeking higher education. Addressing these multifaceted challenges requires a comprehensive approach that encompasses improving access to quality secondary education for girls, investing in gender-sensitive infrastructure within educational institutions, and establishing support systems such as childcare facilities to enable women to pursue higher education without significant impediments (World Bank, 2013).

Since 2001, Afghanistan has been trying to rebuild, but there are a lot of problems making it hard. There's still fighting going on, not enough trained people or money, bad roads and buildings, and the help from other countries isn't working well enough (Donini, 2007).

So basically, even though they've been trying to make things better after a tough situation, like helping the government and the people live better lives, it hasn't worked out well. One big worry is that they haven't been able to make things stable or improve how people live. When they started fixing things, they really wanted to make sure that people with disabilities were part of all the plans and rules that affect everyone. But the problem was, they didn't really understand enough about what people with disabilities needed. So, there was this gap between what they were trying to do and what people with disabilities actually needed (Bakhshi et al., 2004).

The present study aims to investigate the factors which affected the intention to repatriate. To achieve this, we utilize Fishbein and Ajzen's (1975) theory of reasoned action, which suggests that intention is the most reliable predictor of behavior. According to this theory, intentions are shaped by attitudes and subjective norms. While the theory of reasoned action effectively explains the link between attitude and behavior when the behavior is within an individual's control, it

is less effective in explaining behavior under other conditions.

Ajzen (1985) developed the theory of planned behavior to address this limitation, introducing the concept of perceived behavioral control to predict behaviors that are not entirely under an individual's control. Perceived behavioral control is thought to stem from underlying beliefs regarding resources, opportunities, and past experiences, influenced by both internal (e.g., personal characteristics) and external (e.g., financial) factors. Numerous studies have supported both theories. Additionally, recent research strongly supports the role of self-identity in the attitude-behavior relationship (Terry, Hogg & White, 1999).

### III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research methodology describes the techniques and procedures used to identify and analyze information about the factors affecting intentions of Afghan refugees regarding their repatriation. This chapter particularly includes all the important aspects of research i.e., research design, data collection and analysis methodologies, and holistically the overall framework within which the research will be conducted.

#### 3.1 Universe of study

The study universe for the current research study encompasses seven camps of Afghan refugees in district Peshawar which have got huge number of residents namely Kababian, Khazana, Naguman, Khurasan, Badaber, Mera Kachori and Shamshatoo camp. These camps are the most congested places of Afghan refugees and many of them are registered having Proof of Registration (POR) or Afghan Citizen Card (ACC).

#### 3.2 Sampling and Sample size

Sampling is the methodological procedure employed in this research study to choose a smaller representative selection of individuals or item from a larger population, for the purpose of statistical analysis. Sampling is a crucial aspect of research and experimentation, as it carefully chosen subset. In contrast, the sample size refers to the quantity of observations or individuals that are encompassed within a study or experiment. The dependability and generalizability of the study findings to the

larger population are directly influenced by a critical variable.

As per the available record from the Afghan Commissionerate in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the total number of Afghan refugee camps in district Peshawar are seven as mentioned above namely Kababian, Khazana, Naguman, Khurasan, Badaber, Mera Kachori and Shamshatoo camp in which the total household population are 794, 921, 410, 376, 2840, 2,690, 3,631 respectively. Thus, the sample frame for this research comprised of 11,662 households. The sample size for this study was calculated by using the following Chaudhry (2009) formula (Equation-1).

$$n = \frac{Np^2qZ^2}{PqZ^2 + Ne^2 - e^2} \dots\dots\dots$$

(Equation-1).

**Whereas in Equation 1:**

N = total number of households in selected camps which are 11,662

p = population proportion which is 0.05

q = opposite proportion (1-p) which comes to be 0.05

z = confidence level

e = margin error which is 0.05 and n = 372

As per the given formula, the required sample size (n) for a population of 11,662 is 372. Sekaran (2010) has suggested a proportional allocation procedure for the allotment of respondents among different strata of the population as given in Equation-2 as mentioned here under. The same procedure is also adopted for the proportional allocation of refugees in different camps.

$$nh = \frac{N_h}{N} * n \dots\dots\dots$$

(Equation-2).

Whereas nh = required sample size for a specific camp

Nh = population of corresponding camp

N = total population

n = total sample size

Proportional allocation of respondents in each camp is given in Table-1.

**Table 1: Proportional allocation of sample to selected camps**

S.No.	Name of camps in district Peshawar	Household population	Simple size
1	Kababian	794	25
2	Khazana	921	29
3	Naguman	410	13
4	Khurasan	376	12
5	Badaber,	2840	91
6	Mera Kachori	2690	86
7	Shamshatoo	3,631	116
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11,662</b>	<b>372</b>

**3.3 Data collection**

Data collection was carried out through interview schedule. The interview schedule consists of one independent variables and one dependent variable detailed under Table 3.2. The variable was measured on three level Likert scale. For authentic data

collection, the face-to-face interview method was adopted in the current study and the data was collected by the researcher himself. The interview schedule is pretested before data collection to assess the reliability of data collection tools.

**Table 3.2: The conceptual framework of the study**

Independent variables	Dependent variable
Lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan	Intention to repatriation

**3.4 Data analysis**

The collected are coded and entered in SPSS software version-21, for its analysis at - variate level analysis frequency and percentage distribution is carried out while at bi-variate level, the independent and

dependent variables was cross-tabulated through Chi-square Test.

**3.4.1 Uni-variate analysis**

Uni-variate analysis of data involves descriptive statistic, like, frequency count and percentage calculation for demographic,

background, independent variables (lack of daily life facilities) and dependent variable (intention to repatriation). Percentage are calculated by using Equation-3.

Percentage of data class =  $f/N * 100$ .....  
 (Equation-3)

Whereas,

f = data class's frequency

N = total observation

### 3.4.2 Bi-variate analysis

To test the association between the dependent and independent variables, bi-variate analysis procedure was applied. Chi-square test is used for the association between the study variables. The values of chi-square are collected by using Equation-4 (Tai, 1978).

$$\chi^2 = \sum (O - E)^2 / E \quad \text{(Equation-4)}$$

Whereas,

$\chi^2$  = chi-square

O = observed frequency in i row and j column

E = expected frequency regarding i row and j column

r = number of rows

e = number of columns

Df = (r-1) (e-1)

## IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter elaborates the results obtained from the analysis of data which was collected from the respondents in the selected afghan refugee's camps in District Peshawar. The data was analyzed into three main sections; first section 4.1 describe the demographic and general characteristics of the respondents. Uni-variate analysis of both independent and dependent variables are described in section 4.2. Bi-variate analysis are discussed in section 4.3, and chi-square statistics are used to illustrate the relationship between the dependent variables (intention to repatriation) and independents variables (lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan).

### 4.1 Uni-Variate Results

This section elaborate the univariate result frequency and percentage proportion of the dependents variable (intention to repatriation) and independent variables (Lack of peace and stability in Afghanistan, Lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan, economic

opportunity in host community and adaptation of Pakistani life style.

#### 4.1.1 Lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan

Daily life facilities refer to the amenities and services that support our day to day activities such as transportation, healthcare, education, housing, utilities and recreational facilities. Daily life facilities play crucial role in the ensuring a comfortable and efficient lifestyle for individuals and communities. Afghanistan has faced significant challenges in providing adequate daily life facilities due to some factors such as conflict, political instability and underdeveloped infrastructure.

The below Table 4.9 indicates that majority of the respondents 74.7% were agreed that their homeland villages have no basic amenities such as clean water, gas, internet etc followed by 22.0% respondent's villages have the basic facilities and 3.2% respondents having no knowledge about their homeland village. Healthcare system is one of the basic facilities but 92.7% Afghanis were agreed that in Afghanistan having no proper health system and adequate number of health professionals and 4.0% respondents were agreed while 3.2% respondents have no idea about the statement. Afghanistan faces significant developmental challenges, reflected in its low ranking of 175<sup>th</sup> out of 186 countries on the Human Development Index. The country struggles with persistently high maternal and infant mortality rates. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2013, the maternal mortality ratio was estimated at 400 per 100,000 live births, and the under-five mortality ratio was 103 per 1,000 live births. These statistics, although alarming, likely understate the true scope of the healthcare needs in Afghanistan (Niamh Nic Cart Haigh, et, al. 2014).

91.1% respondents were agreed that Afghanistan have no proper education system especially female faces many issues in getting education and 3.2% respondents were disagree while 5.6% respondents answered in don't know. While Afghanistan faces many hurdles in its education system, higher education have more importance. It plays a pivotal role in fostering a unified national identity, promoting cross-cultural

understanding, enhancing social cohesion, and bolstering democracy within the country. Despite these crucial roles, Afghanistan struggles with one of the world's lowest rates of higher education participation, around 5% of eligible individuals enrolled, as reported in (World Bank 2013).

Majority of the respondent 72.8% were agreed that there is no open access of the people and journalist to print and electronic media and mostly Afghans are unaware about the geo political situation of the country followed by 23.4% respondent were disagree and some of them were very critical to media and 3.8% are don't know about the access of print and electronic media. Further the results of table 4.9 show that 89.2% respondents agreed that after the established of new Taliban government the infrastructure of Afghanistan has been rebuilt while 5.1% respondents stats that there are no any rehabilitation in Afghanistan and 5.6% respondents were

don't know about the mechanism of new government. Moreover 93.5% respondents respond that female have no proper access to get education or do job while 3.5% respondents were disagree and 3.0% have no idea about the female education and their jobs.

The results also show that 80.4% respondents were agreed that Afghanistan have no business opportunities followed by 15.1% respondents were disagree and said that in Afghanistan there are many opportunities of businesses and 4.6% respondents don't know about the business opportunities in Afghanistan. The absence of security disrupts everyday economic activities, causing infrastructure damage, livelihood loss, community displacement, and the breakdown of vital services. This instability undermines the foundation of sustainable development and jeopardizes the well-being of individuals and communities (Junkie, 2019).

**Table 4.1 Frequency and percentage distribution of the respondents on the basis of Lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan**

S.No	Statement	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	Total
1	Your homeland village lacks basic amenities such as clean water, electricity, gas, internet, etc.,	278(74.7)	82(22.0)	12(3.2)	372(100.0)
2	Afghanistan lacks a proper health system and an adequate number of health professionals	345(92.7)	15(4.0)	12(3.12)	372(100.0)
3	The education system in your home country is weak	339(91.1)	12(3.2)	21(5.6)	372(100.0)
4	There is no open access to print and electronic media of the general public, making them unaware of the geo political situation of the country.	271(72.8)	87(23.4)	14(3.8)	372(100.0)
5	The main infrastructure in Afghanistan has been rebuilt after the establishment of new government	332(89.2)	19(5.1)	21(5.6)	372(100.0)
6	Female can easily avail education and find jobs in Afghanistan after the establishment of new government.	13(3.5)	358(93.5)	11(3.0)	372(100.0)
7	Afghanistan lacks business opportunities	299(80.4)	56(15.1)	17(4.6)	372(100.0)

Source: Survey 2024

#### 4.1.2 Intention to repatriation

The concept of intention to repatriation refers to an individual's or a group's plans or

desire, return to their country of origin or homeland after residing in a foreign country. The intention of afghan refugees towards

repatriation can be influenced by various factors, including personal, economic, political, and social considerations.

According to the results of table 4.12 show that 45.2% respondents that Pakistan is safer as compared to Afghanistan while majority of the respondents 51.6% were not agreed and say that Afghanistan is safer than Pakistan and 3.2% don't know about it. Both Pakistan and Afghanistan have experienced significant challenges related to terrorism and political instability. Pakistan has been grappling with insurgencies and extremist violence, particularly in regions like the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and Baluchistan. On the other hand, Afghanistan has been embroiled in conflict for decades, with various factions vying for control and frequent attacks by insurgent groups like the Taliban (Kim, 2001).

The results also show that 67.5% respondents agreed that cooperation between Pakistan and Afghanistan would improve the repatriation of refugees, 30.4% respondents disagreed to the statement that cooperation between Pakistan and Afghanistan would improve the repatriation process and 2.2% respondents answered in don't know. Majority of respondents 90.1% agreed that the main factors hindering repatriation intention are the chaos and unstable condition in Afghanistan, 8.3% respondents mentions that chaos and unstable condition of Afghanistan is not the main factor to hinder repatriation intention of afghan refugees, 1.6% respondents don't know about it. 92.7% respondents were agreed that

socio-economic improvement in Afghanistan are necessary for facilitating the voluntary repatriation of refugees while 4.3% disagree and 3.0% have don't know about the facilitating voluntary repatriation of afghan refugees by improving the socio-economic condition of Afghanistan.

Further the table show that 79.3% of the respondents response that national and international support of any nature is needed to encourage the repatriation of afghan refugees while 18.8% were disagree and 2.2% respondents don't know about the national and international support to improve the repatriation process. Ensuring security is essential for promoting economic development. Stability and safety lay the groundwork for investments to prosper, businesses to expand, and for society to thrive economically. Governments frequently need to prioritize security alongside efforts for economic development to establish a stable environment conducive to growth and progress (Junxia, 2019). 78.5% respondents show that forcefully repatriating of afghan refugees have negative impact on both countries, 19.4% respondents were disagree and 2.2% are don't know about the negative impact of forcefully repatriating of afghan refugees on both country. The differentiation between voluntary and forced migrants carries significant implications for future reconstruction and repatriation endeavors. Reconstruction strategies should consider the potential positive impacts of voluntary migration (Cohen and Deng, 1998).



**Table 4.2 Frequency and percentage distribution of Intention to repatriation**

S,No	Statement	Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	Total
1	Pakistan is a safer place as compared to Afghanistan	168(45.2)	192(51.6)	12(3.2)	372(100.0)
2	Enhanced cooperation between Pakistan and Afghanistan would improve the repatriation of refugees	251(67.5)	113(30.4)	8(2.2)	372(100.0)
3	The main factors hindering repatriation intention, are the chaos and unstable conditions in Afghanistan	335(90.1)	31(8.3)	6(1.6)	372(100.0)
4	Socio-economic improvements in Afghanistan are necessary for facilitating the voluntary repatriation of refugees	345(92.7)	16(4.3)	11(3.0)	372(100.0)
5	National and international support of any nature is needed to encourage the repatriation of refugees	295(79.3)	70(18.8)	7(1.9)	372(100.0)
6	Forcefully repatriating Afghan refugees will have a negative impact on both countries	292(78.5)	72(19.4)	8(2.2)	372(100.0)

Source: Survey 2024

## 4.2 Bi-Variate

Bi variate analysis shows the association between dependent (intention to repatriation) and independent variables (lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan).

### 4.2.1 Association between Lacks of daily life facilities in Afghanistan and intention to repatriation.

Daily life facilities are important for maintaining the quality of life and ensuring the smooth functioning of daily routines. Afghanistan faces to many challenges in daily life facilities due to some factors like conflict, political instability, economic decline, and environmental crises. The association between intention to repatriation and lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan were given below in the table 4.14.

The table 4.14 show relationships between the intention to repatriation and lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan, in this regard a significant association was found between intention to repatriation and lack of basic amenities such as clean water, electricity, gas, internet etc. in the homeland villages of afghan refugees. Quality of Life in the Villages" concluded that in rural areas, factors such as education, connection to place, social welfare, access to information, health, security, infrastructure, living environment, income, and community involvement all impact the quality of life. The quality of life in villages can be compared and analyzed by looking at these components (Rahim Bakhsh, Habib, & Gerkani, 2018).

Furthermore result of the table 4.14, a significant association was found between the intention to repatriation and the weak education system in Afghanistan ( $p < 0.001$ ). However, educating girls provide numerous additional socioeconomic achievements that surely benefit the whole societies. These benefits comprise of the increment in economic productivity, increase in the family income, delayed marriages, reduction in the mortality rate, and better health and survival rates for infants and children (Hazrat Usman Mashwani and Sayed Jamaluddin 2017).

Also a significant association was disclosed between no open access to print and electronic media and intention to repatriation ( $P = 0.001$ ) due to which most of the Afghans unaware from the geo political situation of the country. Afghanistan has witnessed a blossoming of independent media outlets, offering diverse viewpoints and contributing to the country's democratization. However, journalists face significant threats, including violence, intimidation, and censorship, particularly in the face of resurgence by the Taliban in 2021. Fear of reprisals has led to self-censorship, while legal constraints and societal norms continue to stifle free expression, especially for women in media. Despite these challenges, Afghan journalists demonstrate remarkable resilience, continuing to report on critical issues with courage and determination. International support remains crucial in safeguarding media freedom and promoting transparency and accountability in Afghanistan's evolving socio-political landscape (UNHCR, 2023).

**Table 4.3. Association between Lack of daily facility in Afghanistan and intention to repatriation.**

S, No	lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan	Response	Intentions to repatriation				Chi-square (P-value)
			Agree	Disagree	Uncertain	Total	
1	Your homeland village lacks basic amenities.	Agree	102(60.7)	168(87.5)	8(66.7)	278(74.7)	X <sup>2</sup> =43.895 (P=0.001)
		Disagree	62(36.9)	16(8.3)	4(33.3)	82(22.0)	
		Uncertain	4(2.4)	8(4.2)	0(0.0)	12(3.2)	
		Total	168(100.0)	192(100.0)	12(100.0)	372(100.0)	
2	Afghanistan lacks a proper health system.	Agree	236(94.0)	101(89.4)	8(100.0)	345(72.7)	X <sup>2</sup> =4.409 (P=0.353)
		Disagree	7(2.8)	8(7.1)	0(0.0)	15(4.0)	
		Uncertain	8(3.2)	4(3.5)	0(0.0)	12(3.2)	
		Total	251(100.0)	113(100.0)	8(100)	372(100.0)	
3	The education	Agree	317(91.9)	14(87.5)	8(72.7)	339(91.1)	X <sup>2</sup> =22.151

	system in your home country is weak	Disagree	8(2.3)	1(6.3)	3(27.3)	12(3.3)	(P=0.001)
		Uncertain	20(5.8)	1(6.3)	0(0.0)	21(5.6)	
		Total	345(100.0)	16(100.0)	11(100.0)	372(100.0)	
4	There is no open access to print and electronic media of the general public, making them unaware of the geo political situation of the country.	Agree	97(57.7)	167(87.0)	7(58.3)	271(72.8)	X <sup>2</sup> =47.303 (P=0.001)
		Disagree	65(38.7)	17(8.9)	5(41.7)	87(23.4)	
		Uncertain	6(3.6)	8(4.2)	0(0.0)	14(3.8)	
		Total	168(100.0)	192(100.0)	12(100.)	372(100.0)	
5	The main infrastructure in Afghanistan has been rebuilt after the establishment of new government	Agree	260(89.0)	65(90.3)	7(87.5)	332(89.2)	X <sup>2</sup> =2.807 (P=0.591)
		Disagree	14(4.8)	5(6.9)	0(0.0)	19(5.1)	
		Uncertain	18(6.2)	2(2.8)	1(12.5)	21(5.6)	
		Total	292(100.0)	71(100.0)	8(100.0)	372(100.0)	
6	Female can easily avail education and find jobs in Afghanistan.	Agree	323(93.6)	16(100.0)	9(81.8)	348(93.5)	X <sup>2</sup> =8.536 (P=0.074)
		Disagree	11(3.2)	0(0.0)	2(18.2)	13(3.5)	
		Uncertain	11(3.2)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	11(3.0)	
		Total	345(100.0)	16(100.0)	11(100.0)	372(100.0)	
7	Afghanistan lacks business opportunities	Agree	191(76.1)	103(91.2)	5(62.5)	299(80.4)	X <sup>2</sup> =13.398 (P=0.009)
		Disagree	47(18.7)	7(6.2)	2(25.0)	56(15.1)	
		Uncertain	13(5.2)	3(2.7)	1(12.5)	17(4.6)	
		Total	251(100.0)	113(100.0)	8(100.0)	372(100.0)	

Source: Survey 2024

## V. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter describes summary of major findings, conclusions and recommendations of the current study which are given below.

### 5.1 Summary

This chapter describes the summary of major findings, which includes the demographic characteristic, Uni-variate analysis of the study variables and bi-variate analysis of both the independent and dependent variables which are find out by using the chai-square test.

Responses of the respondents on lack of daily life facilities in Afghanistan are summarized as; 74.7% of the respondent's homeland villages have lack of basic amenities such as clean water, electricity, gas, and internet etc, 92.7% addresses that Afghanistan lacks proper health system and adequate number of health professionals, 91.1% stated that the education system in Afghanistan is weak and 72.8% highlighted

no open access to print and electronic media due to which public is unaware of the geopolitical situation of the country. Furthermore, 89.2% of the respondents agreed that the infrastructure in Afghanistan has been rebuilding after the establishment of new government and 93.5% agreed that female can easily avail education and find job in Afghanistan. At the end of this particular analysis, 80.4% of the respondents stated that Afghanistan lacks business opportunities.

Results about the statement on intentions to repatriation from the Afghan refugees are summarized as; 51.6% of the respondents disagreed that Pakistan is safer as compared to Afghanistan, 67.5% agreed that cooperation between Pakistan and Afghanistan would improve the repatriation process of Afghan refugees and 90.1% of the respondents stated that the main factors hindering repatriation intention are the chaos and unstable condition in Afghanistan. Moreover, 92.7% agreed with the statement that socio-economic improvement in

Afghanistan are necessary for facilitating the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees and 79.3% agreed that national and international support of any nature is needed to encourage the repatriation of refugees, at the end 78.5% of the respondents agreed that force repatriation of afghan refugees will have negative impact on the both countries. Associations between lack of daily life facilities and intention to repatriation are summarized as; their homeland village lacks basic amenities such as clean water, electricity, gas, internet etc, have significant association with intention to repatriation of afghan refugees ( $p=0.001$ ), there is no open access to print and electronic media of the general public, making them unaware of the geo political situation of the country ( $P=0.001$ ), the education system in their home country is weak ( $P=0.001$ ) and Afghanistan lacks business opportunities ( $P=0.009$ ). Moreover, non-significant association was found between intention to repatriation and Afghanistan lacks a proper health system and an adequate number of health professionals ( $p=0.353$ ), the main infrastructure in Afghanistan has been rebuilt after the establishment of new government ( $p=0.591$ ) and female can easily avail education and find jobs in Afghanistan after the establishment of new government ( $p=0.074$ ).

## 5.2 Conclusions

Daily life facilities is an important factors which attract and repel refugee's intentions towards repatriation. The main factors responsible for low repatriation are attributed to refugee's homeland villages lacking basic amenities of daily life, lack of proper health system and adequate number of health professionals to suffice their requirement along with no proper education system. Moreover, in Afghanistan there is no accesses to print and electronic media due to which the public is unaware of the geopolitical situation of the country. The infrastructure in Afghanistan has been starting to rebuild after the establishment of new government, however still lacking the potential business opportunities, which can be considered another major factor towards low repatriation of afghan refugees from Pakistan.

## 5.3 Recommendations

Foregoing in view, few recommendations are hereby mentioned below for the improvement of intention to repatriation by the Afghan Refugees from Pakistan.

1. The current Afghan government may work on their socioeconomic and cross border relations with adjoining countries to curtail the militancy while providing a steady living environment to their citizens, free of anarchy and conflict. This would definitely attract the refugees to repatriate from Pakistan.
2. The current Afghan government should predominantly revisit their existing Policies, regarding the female education and their existence at the work places, one of the major impeding reason in repatriation of refugees. The policies if thus relaxed would result the girls education and their participation in the work places under the provision of Islamic rules which will in turn exaggerate the intention of Afghan Refugees towards repatriation.
3. The daily life facilities in Afghanistan are somehow in building phase, however, not attractive enough to catch the intention of their refugees in nearby countries. The Afghan government in collaboration with host countries may approach the human rights commission and other multilateral donor agencies for providing them with grants and other financial aids for the recovery of the damage infrastructure and improvement of daily life facilities. This will ultimately boost the intention of afghan refugees towards repatriation.
4. The local community in Afghanistan can play a vital role in bringing peace and stability through settlement of their meagre disputes in between, such as personal conflicts. This will not only benefit the community itself but prove to be a handy reason for the people to repatriate back, who had become refugees due to the said disputes.
5. The Pakistan government can also play its role in peaceful repatriation of the afghan refugees by incentivizing them with specific means such as safeguarding their existing businesses, providing basic facilities necessary for travelling back to Afghanistan and most importantly a safe and secure escape in a dignified manner. The

force repatriation shall be avoided as it would result a negative contention between both countries.

The international communities shall also pay attention to the repatriation of afghan refugees from Pakistan through financial assistance to both countries, since both are in developing phase and can't have the sufficient resources to cope with and chalk out a sustainable solution to this cumbersome matter

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