

Seminar Series on

Right to Education (RTE)

[Article 25 A]



Title

Trends in Privatization of Education and Shadow Schooling in Pakistan

Speakers:

Baela Raza Jamil
Monazza Aslam

Discussants:

Dr. Faisal Bari,
Open Society Institute (OSI)

Dr. Yaqoob Bangash
Oxford University Press (OUP)

Date:

January 6, 2012

Time:

2:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Venue:

Human Rights Commission
of Pakistan

107-Tipu Block,
New Garden Town, Lahore
Tel: 042-35838341-35864994

The challenges of education in Pakistan are multiple straddled across access, equity, quality and governance at all levels of the education spectrum. There is growing evidence through robust research to inform the public on trends in education to influence evolving policies, financing and implementation in the sector. Debates are gaining momentum on issues of education provision and responsibility: provision of education by the public and non-state actors in Pakistan; rolling back of the state in extending the fundamental right to education; rising number of vulnerable groups due to growing poverty and displacement; gaps in girls education; poor quality of learning outcomes and above all abysmal allocations/expenditures for education in Pakistan.

Households at all income levels continue to bear the brunt of allocating a significant proportion of disposable incomes for not just private schooling but also tuitions in both rural and urban areas. Tuitions also referred to as shadow schooling are intended to make up for quality and learning gaps. Is that fair on households to be doubly burdened? What do we know about these trends in Pakistan to inform the public for an animated debate on implementation of Article 25-A and the issues of provision and choice?

“Right to Education” – The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of five to sixteen years in such a manner as may be determined by law”.

Long overdue democratic actions are acknowledged in making Education as a Fundamental Right for all Children aged 5-16, guaranteed through Article 25A of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, following the 18th Constitutional Amendment (April 19, 2010).

A Joint Declaration on Education was signed on September 16, 2011 by the Prime Minister of Pakistan along with the senior representatives of all provinces and areas: Chief Ministers, Governor, Minister of Education and the Prime Minister of AJK. The Joint Declaration urges: Each province/area shall develop an Action Plan which shall commit to appropriately raise allocations for education, set priorities according to provincial needs of access and quality of education and provide implementation strategies/processes with timeframe and key indicators; ensure fulfillment of constitutional needs with respect to education and meet the international commitments including targets of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Education for All (EFA) (download from www.safedafed.org).

Both speakers will share findings from studies commissioned under the Privatisation in Education Research Initiative (PERI). PERI is a multi-annual global initiative supported by the Education Support Program of the Open Society Institute that seeks to contribute to a better understanding on whether, through what mechanisms, with what outcomes, and for whom the increasing adoption of a widening range educational service regulation and delivery mechanisms might lead to more effective and equitable education systems.

Join us to hear more about trends in privatization and shadow schooling. This is the first in a public seminar series to be held once every quarter across Pakistan informed by research for information and more importantly action to influence the political economy of education.

Speakers Introduction

Baela Raza Jamil is a public policy specialist former technical adviser Ministry of Education, Pakistan and activist in the education sector. She has worked extensively in the areas of quality, community based initiatives for education access and quality, popularizing early childhood education; district education planning, local governance and public private partnerships in three continents and across several countries. Inspired by her identity formations in Pakistan, she has studied comparative education, public policy, and economic history. She is currently Director Programs Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA); Director Institute for Professional Learning (IPL); Coordinator South Asia Forum For Education Development (SAFED) and Managing Trustee Sanjan Nagar Public Education Trust. She serves on several Boards across Pakistan. She is associated with research on public private partnerships; education sector and curriculum reforms; learning outcomes and assessments; decentralization; child rights; children's literature festival/promoting reading culture and right to education campaigns etc.

Dr. Monazza Aslam is an education economist working on education, gender and labour market issues in Pakistan. A Rhodes scholar from Pakistan (2000), Monazza completed her Msc. in economics from Oxford in 2001 and her Phd./Dphil. in 2006. Since then she has worked as a Researcher at the University of Oxford and at the Institute of Education, University of London. She is a member of the core team at the Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA), a member of South Asia Forum for Education Development (SAFED) and a Research Fellow of the Centre for Economic Research, Pakistan (CERP). She has been an independent consultant, working on education issues for South Asia, Africa and other countries in the world. Monazza has also taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels in Oxford and at the IOE in London where she is a visiting Research Associate (2011-2013).

Discussants' Introduction

Dr. Faisal Bari is a senior advisor for the Open Society Institute, and lead education economist and researcher for South Asia for the Education Support Program. He is an associate professor of economics at Lahore University of Management Sciences. Bari has been a teacher and researcher in the field of development and education in Pakistan for over 12 years. He is also a Visiting Research Fellow at Institute of Development and Economic Alternatives (IDEAS).

Dr Yaqoob Khan Bangash is a historian with a research focus on Pakistan, with a special focus on questions of identity and citizenship. His forthcoming book is on the accession and integration of the princely states into Pakistan. He completed a BA in History and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Notre Dame in 2004, and his DPhil (PhD) in Modern History from the University of Oxford in 2011. With past experience with several NGO's on issues relating to development, Dr Bangash has taught history and politics at Oxford and is currently Assistant Professor of History at Forman Christian College and Academic Commissioning Editor at Oxford University Press, Pakistan.

Agenda

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| 2:30 p.m. | Welcome and Introduction to Right To Education (RTE) Seminar Series |
| 2:35 p.m. | Tuition Centers/Shadow Schooling in Pakistan – Dr. Monazza Aslam Presentation and Discussion |
| 3:35 p.m. | Trends in Privatization in Pakistan: Evidence from Rawalpindi & Peshawar Districts - Baela Raza Jamil - Presentation and Discussion |
| 4:30 -5:00 p.m. | Open Discussion & Closing Remarks by Discussants |