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### Research Article

# Spatial Assessment of Transgender Population: The Deprived Community of Pakistan

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### Abstract

Transgender are the most deprived gender in the world. Pakistan recognized transgender to be the third gender in 2009, and it is considered to be a milestone in South Asia. Moreover, Pakistani apex court ordered that transgender must be counted separately in the census of 2017, and separate column was made for the said purpose. The objective of the study is to explore transgender population in Pakistan and trend of transgender in urban and rural areas of Pakistan. Secondary data is derived from 2017 census; and it is further explained through maps using ARC-GIS 9.3 software, tables and figures. Total transgender population of Pakistan is 10418. Out of which 8.3% are living in KP, 0.25% is living in FATA, 64.39% are living in the Punjab, 24.25% are living in Sind, 1.04% is living in Baluchistan, and 1.27% in the federal capital territory. Maximum population of transgender is found in Punjab, and minimum is in FATA. The transgender population in urban areas is (73.44%) while (26.56%) is in rural areas. Furthermore, this study might be of immense help to highlight and protect the rights of transgender, and to solve the problems being faced by them especially in Pakistan and generally in the world.

**Keywords:** Transgender, MTF, FTM, Hijra, Pakistan.

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## 1. Introduction

Historically people in the western society, who have no identity to their gender, are oppressed and transgender people are mostly victimized. Due to this subjugating behavior transgender activists' are challenging these people by media (Mackenzie, 1994). Traditionally transgender people are known (hijra) in Pakistan. They have been living in the subcontinent for centuries

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(Nanda, 1990). Transgender is not a confirm gender, it may be male or female (khan et al., 2009). Hijras are examples of cross culture in India, their affiliation in India are related to both Hindu and Muslim culture. They are playing their role in Indian society (Nanda, 2015). Transgender phenomena are anything that denaturalize the normative the linkages do not make sense (Stryker, 2004). According to oxford dictionary "Denoting or relating to a person whose sense of personal identity and gender does not correspond with his birth sex" (Oxford Dictionary).

In 2016 Australian population of non-heterosexual population 18 plus is estimated 592,000, in which adult population is 3.2 %. New South Wales is the largest non-heterosexual population and Northern Territory is the smallest one, while the highest prevalence is in Australian Capital Territory (Willson & Shalley, 2018). Although male- to- female (MTF) and female- to- male (FTM) terms used are for transgender population. It is imperative to study in the community of transgender doctrines that transgender people show them as male and female and some say that they are neither male nor female (Singer, 1997). Gender diversity is growing in Australia. Parents deny by taking into account stress and other problems faced by society, so transgender prefer homicide. Population based studies estimate that adolescents in Australia have 1.2% of transgender population (Telfer et al., 2015). It was revealed in a study that high depression level in transgender and slightly less level of depression in normal gender is found (Cole et al., 1997). There are many reasons that transgender have more depression than some male or female. The rise of depression in transgender is due to dysphoria. Dysphoria growths are due to gender-based treatment (Clements -Nolle et al., 2006).

A survey was conducted in America which revealed that discrimination in education is rising against transgender community in America; the study concludes that verbal and physical harassment are very high to surveyed transgender (Baum et al., 2014). The word transgender describes individuals whose sex at birth is different from inside as compared to what they look like. Gender individuality is a person's deeply felt inner sense of male or female. Transgender people are facing discrimination everywhere because of their gender identity and expression. They are also experiencing discrimination to their sexual alignment. In U.S.A only 12 states have laws for the protection of transgender population. According to the health department of U.S.A ACT of 2010 was passed stating that there would be no discrimination in basic health services against transgender. That is more shocking that almost 41% of respondents revealed that they tried to commit suicide. In some countries it is known that being a transgender is a crime. Therefore, their appearance is main barrier against them at the time of immigration. They may not feel easy or relaxed while at the time of immigration, during their identity checking at departure (MAP, 2016). Fifteen thousand transgender people are serving in military of U.S. A. But due to some medical restrictions it was banned and, it was opened from 30 of June 2016 after improvement in health facilities (Beauchamp, 2017).

Transgender people are facing lot of stress and stigma in the world, and being a transgender is thought to be their fault. A study was conducted in 50 groups and 75 in-depth interviews. This shows that their teacher 'gurus' or their male sex partner must look after and the trans-women's who have their sex business have been facing lot of troubles. Their families offer zero support to them. They may become useful citizens of their country if they are supported by the Government or Non -Governmental organizations (Subramanian et al., 2016). A study exposed in Mumbai that most of the transgender are victimized by police or law-enforcers, (50.09) % of respondents are affected by their local area police, (26.3) % are affected by railway police and (8.8) % are affected by traffic police. Some transgender are victimized on regular basis (Chettiar, 2014).

In Australia a study was conducted to know the psychosocial factors associated with the distress of transgender people in Australia. 169 respondents were included from Australia, questioner was about to contact with lesbian, sources of their support, agony, support from their families, health and other types of issues, but it was found that 46 % of respondents were in distress (Bariolaet al., 2015). Another study is conducted in Australia and New Zealand to know the health, and well-being of transgender people. Total respondents were 253, 90.5% of them were Australian and 9.5 % were from New Zealand. Respondents were asked about their health, and maximum transgender were in good health. But when they were asked about their stress level, all were feeling depressed on being a transgender (Pitts et al., 2009). In Mexico homophobia and trans-phobia propelled the transgender to become homeless. These people have to search shelter in San Francisco gay enclave or in district Castro for safety. Unfortunately, in Castro they have to face sexual harassment by the police and community (Reck, 2009). A survey was conducted to give home to homeless LGBT from October 2011 to March 2012. There were 381 respondents who were standing for 354 agencies giving homes to homeless. All agencies were in U.S.A. Agencies are co-operating with each other and these agencies have an average age of 42 years and some have 35 years. Approximately 90 % of agencies have only one method individuals they serve staff or through volunteer of them small proportion of agencies 7% are through studies or using sign -in sheets or databases. The health of 58% homeless were physically and mentally worse but quarter of respondents have said that they have much worse health than others (Dusro & Gates, 2012).

In Bangladesh to use the condoms in transgender health safety, fifty in-depth interviews and 20 interviews and 13 focused group discussion were made. This concludes that all hijras are aware of imperative role of condoms, but they cannot use it consistently. The things that made them condom free are low self-confidence and sexual desire, financial issues, choice of sexual partner, preferences, humiliation, fear in producing of message about condoms and incompetent management (khan et al., 2008). A study was conducted in USA to know the friendship with transgender people, 342 graduates completed the questionnaire about transgender behavior and attitudes towards friendship experiences. Participants had zero versus at least one transgender across negative intensions, negative attitudes, positive intentions and views and supporting public intention towards transgender contact (Barbir et al., 2017).

## 1.2 Transgender Achievements in Pakistan

Transgender got historical status in Pakistan, as National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) had been instructed by the apex court to calculate them separately. The petition was made by the transgender named "Waqar Ali" for granting those fundamental rights and issuing identity cards. In 2009, identity cards were issued to the transgender on the orders of Supreme Court. (Ali, 2017) Jannat Ali, who after attaining the age of twenties has to walk outside as a woman, but now Jannat ali is considered to be a transgender (Toppa, 2018). A school opened in Lahore on 15th of April 2018 for transgender. There, transgender can get primary and college level education. Name of the school is "The Gender Guardian". The owner of the school is eager to open school in Karachi and Islamabad (Bilal, 2018). Pakistan has decided to give basic rights to the transgender people in both public and private sector. This is a historical movement to launch by the transgender activist in South-Asia. Previously in South Asia the transgender (Known in south Asia as Khawaja Sira) are only for dancing and singing (Hashim, 2018).

Pakistan implemented a protection law for the security of transgender people. The law protects transgender people from sexual harassment and distress. This law also allows them to get driving license and passport. Moreover, provision of houses for transgender has been made the responsibility of the Government by this law, apart from providing medical and psychological counseling (Osborne, 2018). In Pakistan, a transgender journalist, Maria Malik, who was disowned by parents, is currently working as news-anchor in Kohinoor TV channel, a milestone achieved by someone in transgender community (Baynes, 2018). First time in Pakistan passport has been issued to transgender. That is the greatest achievement for the transgender activists. At this historical moment no ceremony was held by the officials. But in KP an alliance of transgender celebrated the moment (Akhter, 2016). Tanzeem-Itehad-I-Ummat Pakistan has issued a fatwa that marriage with transgender is legal. Fatwa explains that a transgender person having "visible signs of female" can marry male, or a transgender person having "visible signs of male" can marry female, in this religious organization there were 50 muftis (Desk, 2016). In 2009, it was announced that transgender must be accepted in Pakistan as 3rd gender. They too are given identity card in the same year but now the Supreme Court has ordered that they are hiring two transgender in the supreme court of Pakistan (Rehman, 2018). In this context the objectives of this study are to examine the trends of transgender population in different areas of Pakistan such as at district, division and country level through mapping the spatial pattern of transgender population.

## 2. Study Area

Pakistan is located between 24° to 37° North latitudes and 61° to 75 .31° East longitudes. In the East of Pakistan there is India, in the west lies Iran, to its north to west, is Afghanistan, to its extreme North, china is located, to its South-West Iran is found, small strip of Wakhan separates Pakistan from Tajikistan. The most strategic point in Pakistan is Gwadar Sea Port (Kazmi, 2009). Pakistan has high temperature in summer whereas winters are not severe, but in northern parts of the country temperature can be recorded in negative. Country is surrounded by land from three sides except from the South, where Arabian Sea is located which is part of the Indian Ocean, (khan, 2006). Pakistan remained the cradle of one of the world oldest civilizations, known to be Indus valley civilization. The mighty Indus river has been country's lifeline, and shaping the identity of Pakistan (Lodhi, 2016). Pakistan is also called "the Land of the Pures", it is also the cross roads to Asia. The land of Pakistan is covered with fertile soil and drained by Indus River. Baluchistan is famous for abundance of mineral resources. Pakistan has suitable climate for crops cultivation and well-irrigated plains make agriculture an important sector of Pakistan's economy (Khalid, 2003). Having an area of 796,096 km, Pakistan is a medium-sized country with a population of 207.77 million, making it the 6th largest country in terms of population (Basit et al., 2018).

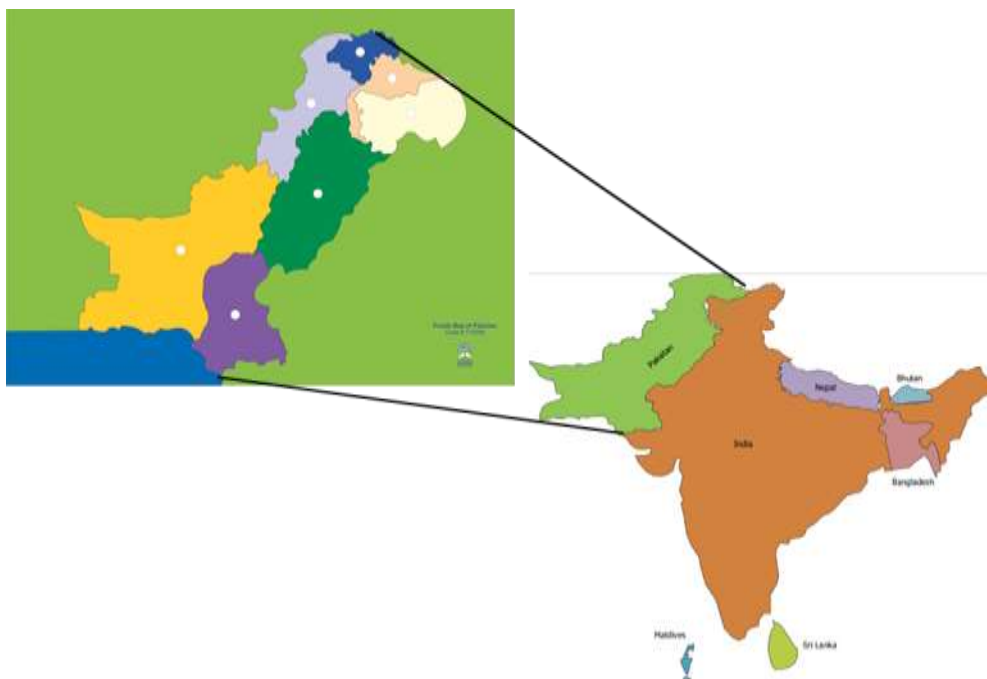
## 3. Materials and Methods

Secondary data is used in this research paper to establish the analysis and results. Literature review is conducted to support

the study of transgender people, the most deprived gender of world and its status in Pakistan. To make a clear view ArcGIS 9.3 is used for map making. Maps through this software are very clear to understand the Spatial-o-temporal transgender population in Pakistan. It should be kept in mind that for the first time in the history of Pakistan, transgender people have been included in the census conducted in 2017.

#### 4. Results and Discussions

Discussions are made after results acquired through secondary data. Transgender population in all over Pakistan and the areas having minimum or maximum population of transgender are displayed through table's figures and GIS maps.



**Figure 1:** Location map of the study area. Source: Basit, 2018.

**Table 1:** Transgender Population in Pakistan according to census 2017.

Area	Population	Population of Transgender in %
Pakistan	10418	100
K.P. K	913	8.73
F.A.T. A	27	0.25
Punjab	6709	64.39
Sindh	2527	24.25
Baluchistan	109	1.04
Islamabad	133	1.27

Source: Population Census Report 2017.

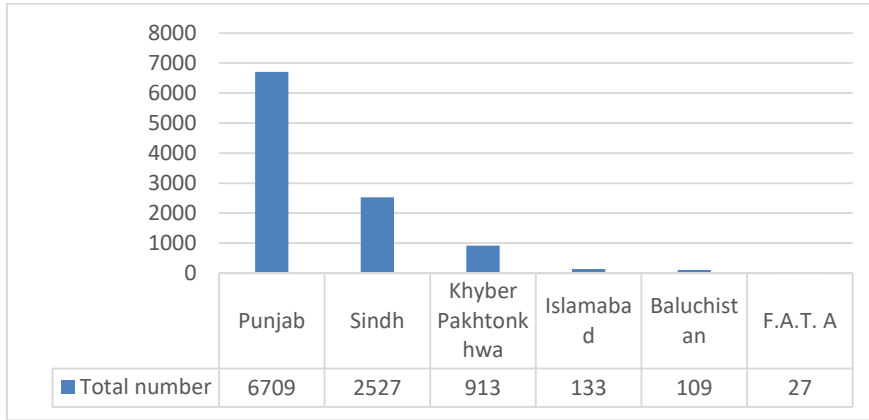


Figure 2: Total number of transgender Population in Pakistan.

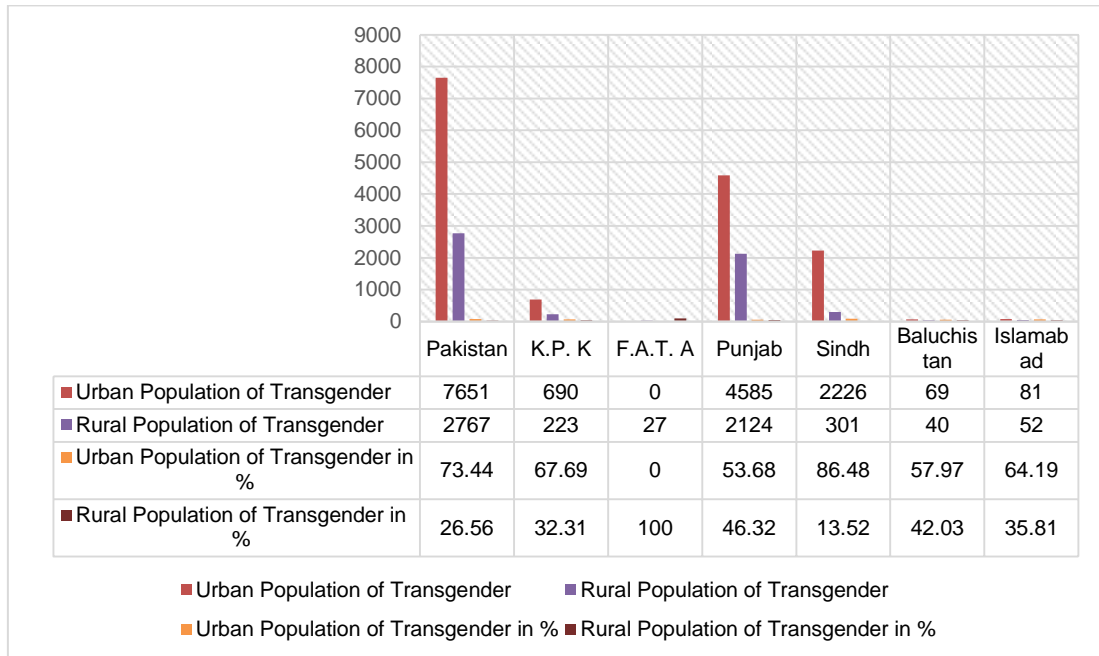


Figure 3: Transgender population in urban and rural areas of Pakistan.

In the census of 2017 total population of transgender is 10418. Highest population is found in the Punjab, which is 6709, and minimum is in FATA that is only 27 transgender people. Punjab province has 6709 transgender, K.P.K has 913 transgender, Sind has 2527 transgender people, and Baluchistan province has 109 transgender.

The above chart shows that in Pakistan transgender population is living in both urban and rural areas. In urban areas the transgender population comprising 73.44%, and in rural areas 26.56% of total transgender population is living. While in Punjab urban transgender population living in urban areas is 53.69 % and in rural 32.31%, in KPK 67.69 % population is in urban areas and 32.31% is in rural areas, in Sind 86.48% are living in urban areas whereas 13.52% are living in rural areas, in Baluchistan the urban transgender population is 57.97% and rural is 42.03 %, in Islamabad the urban population is 64.19% and rural is 35.81%, while in FATA 100% transgender population is living in rural areas.

Table 2 shows the transgender population of KPK province at divisional level. The Bannu division has 18 transgender of which

13 are living in rural areas and 5 are living in urban areas, in Dera Ismail Khan division transgender are 49, of them 13 are living in rural areas and 36 are living in urban areas, in Hazara division transgender population is 311, of them 116 are living in rural areas and 195 are living in urban areas, in Kohat division transgender population is 54, of them 14 are living in rural areas and 40 are living in urban areas, in Peshawar division transgender population is 292, of them 24 are living in rural areas and 268 are living in urban areas, in Mardan division transgender population is 121, of them 24 are living in rural areas and 97 are living in urban areas, in Malakand division transgender population is 69, of them 19 are living in rural areas and 50 are living urban areas.

Table 2: Transgender population in urban and rural areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Region	Total	Rural	Urban
Bannu	18	13	05
Dera Ismail Khan	49	13	36
Hazara	311	116	195
Kohat	54	14	40
Peshawar	292	24	268
Mardan	121	24	97
Malakand	69	19	50

Source: Population Census Report 2017.

Table 3: Transgender population in urban and rural areas of FATA.

Region	Total	Rural	Urban
Khyber Agency	11	11	0
Kurram Agency	3	3	0
Mohmand Agency	0	0	0
North Waziristan Agency	7	7	0
Orakzai Agency	0	0	0
South Waziristan Agency	2	2	0
Bajjur agency	4	4	0
F.R. Bannu	0	0	0
F.R.D.I. Khan	0	0	0
F.R. Kohat	0	0	0
F.R. Lucky Marwat	0	0	0
F.R. Peshawar	0	0	0
F.R. Tank	0	0	0

Source: Population Census Report 2017.

Table 3 shows the transgender population in FATA. In FATA total transgender population is living in rural areas, of them some areas have zero transgender population. The areas having transgender population are Khyber Agency having 11 individuals, Kurram agency 3, North Waziristan Agency has 7, South Waziristan Agency has 2 and Bajjur Agency has 4 transgender, the remaining agencies has zero transgender population.

Table 4 reflects the transgender population in Punjab. In Rawalpindi division transgender population is 831 of them 114 are living in rural area and 717 are living in urban area, in Sargodha division transgender population is 426 of them 152 are living in rural areas and 274 are living in urban areas, in Gujranwala division transgender population is 939, of them 356 are living in rural areas and 583 area living in urban areas, in Lahore division transgender population is 1591, of them 150 transgender are living in rural areas and 1441 are living in urban areas, in Sahiwal division transgender population is 437, of them 203 are living in rural areas and 234 are living in urban areas, in Bahawalpur division transgender population is 622, of them 283 are living in rural areas

and 339 are living in urban areas , in D.G.. khan transgender population is 351, of them 183 are living in rural areas and 168 are living in urban areas, in Faisalabad division transgender population is 905, of which 365 are living in rural areas and 940 are living in urban areas, in Multan division transgender population is 607 of which 318 are living in rural areas and 289 are living in urban areas. In Punjab maximum population of transgender is living in Lahore division and minimum in D.G. khan.

Table 4: Transgender population in urban and rural areas of Punjab.

Region	Total	Rural	Urban
Rawalpindi	831	114	717
Sargodha	426	152	274
Gujranwala	939	356	583
Lahore	1591	150	1441
Sahiwal	437	203	234
Bahawalpur	622	283	339
D.G. Khan	351	183	168
Faisalabad	905	365	940
Multan	607	318	289

Source: Population Census Report 2017.

Table 5: Transgender population in urban and rural areas of Sindh.

Region	Total	Rural	Urban
Larkana	161	36	125
Sukkur	202	38	164
Hyderabad	413	75	338
Karachi	1497	82	1415
Mirpur Khas	104	37	67
Shaheed Benazir Abad	150	33	117

Source: Population Census Report 2017.

Table 6: Transgender population in urban and rural areas of Baluchistan.

Region	Total	Rural	Urban
Kalat	9	4	5
Makran	25	1	24
Nasir Abad	20	10	10
Quetta	39	12	27
Sibi	7	4	3
Zhob	9	9	0

Source: Population Census Report 2017

Table 5 shows the transgender population of Sind province division wise. The table is also showing the urban and rural transgender population. Larkana division has 161 transgender people ,in which 36 are living in rural areas and 125 are living in urban areas, in Sukkur division transgender population is 202, of which 38 are living in rural areas and 164 are living in urban areas, in Hyderabad division transgender population is 413, of which 75 are living in rural areas and 338 are living in urban areas, in Karachi division transgender population is 1497 , out of which only 82 are living in rural areas and 1415 are living in urban areas, in Mir Pur Khas division transgender population is 104, of which 37 are living in rural areas and 67 are living in urban areas, in Shaheed Benazir Abad transgender population is 150, of which 33 are living in rural areas and 117 are living in urban areas. The maximum transgender population after Lahore division is in Karachi division.

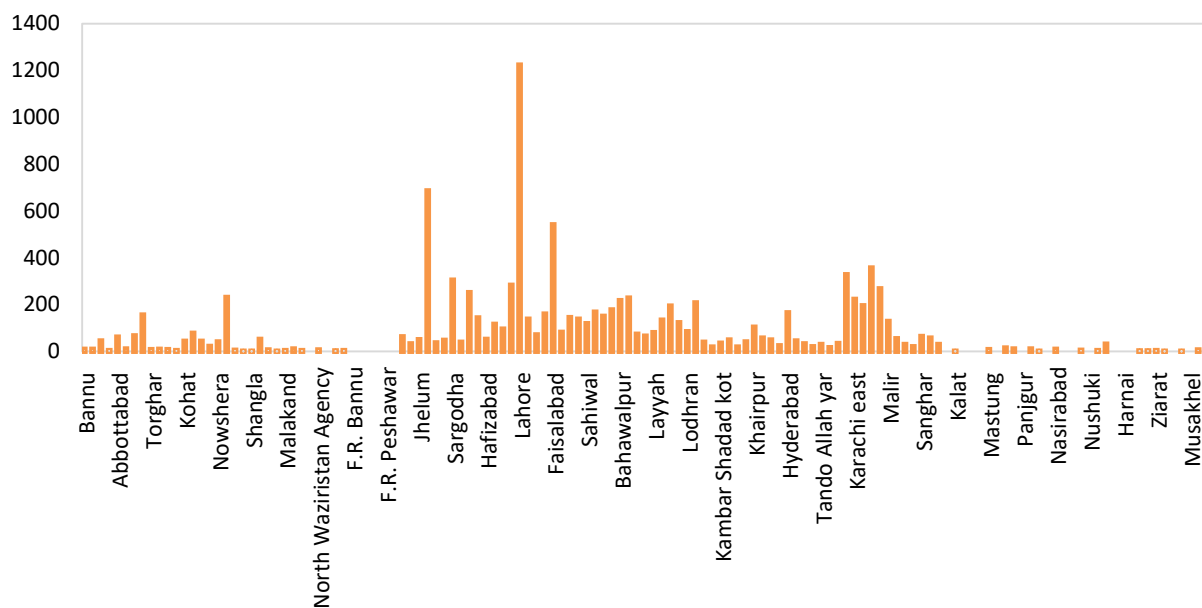


Figure 4: Level of Transgender Population in Districts of Pakistan.

Table 6 highlights the transgender population in Baluchistan province. Of all provinces Baluchistan has the least transgender population. Kalat division has 9 transgender people among them 4 are living in rural areas and remaining 5 are living in urban areas, in Makran division transgender population is 25, of which only one is living in rural areas and 24 are living in urban areas , in Nasirabad division transgender population is only 20, of them half is living in urban areas and other half is living in rural areas, in Quetta division transgender population is 39 , of which 12 are living in urban areas and 27 are living in urban areas, in Sibi division transgender population is 7 , of them 4 are living in rural areas ,and 3 are living in urban areas, in Zhob division transgender population is 9 ,and all of them are living in rural areas. In Baluchistan the division having maximum population is Quetta the capital of province.



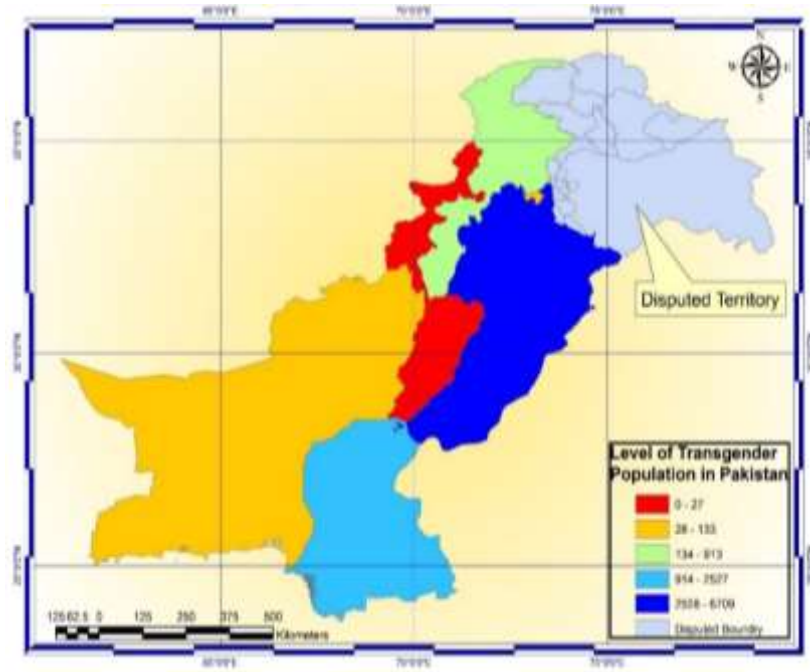


Figure 5: Population of transgender in Pakistan.

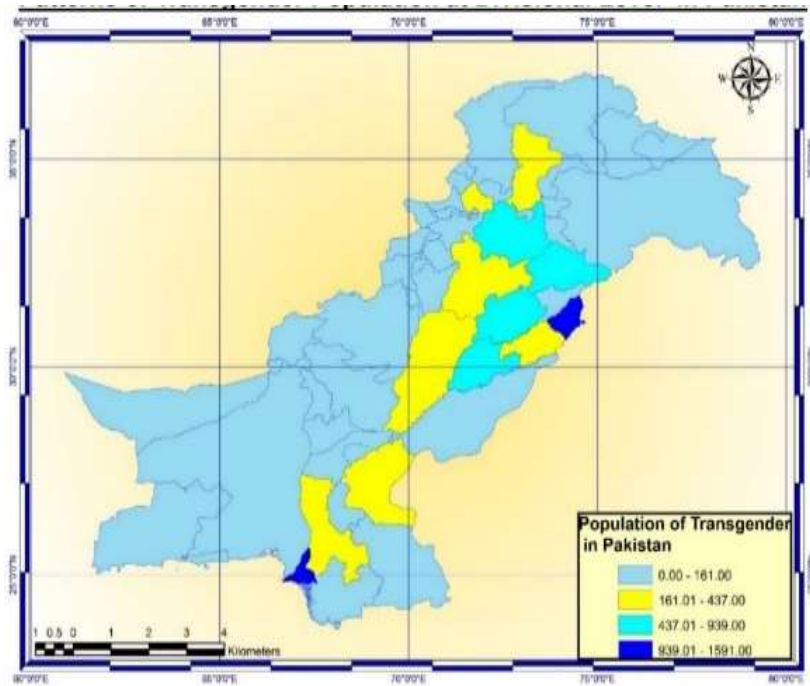


Figure 6: Population of Transgender in divisions of Pakistan.

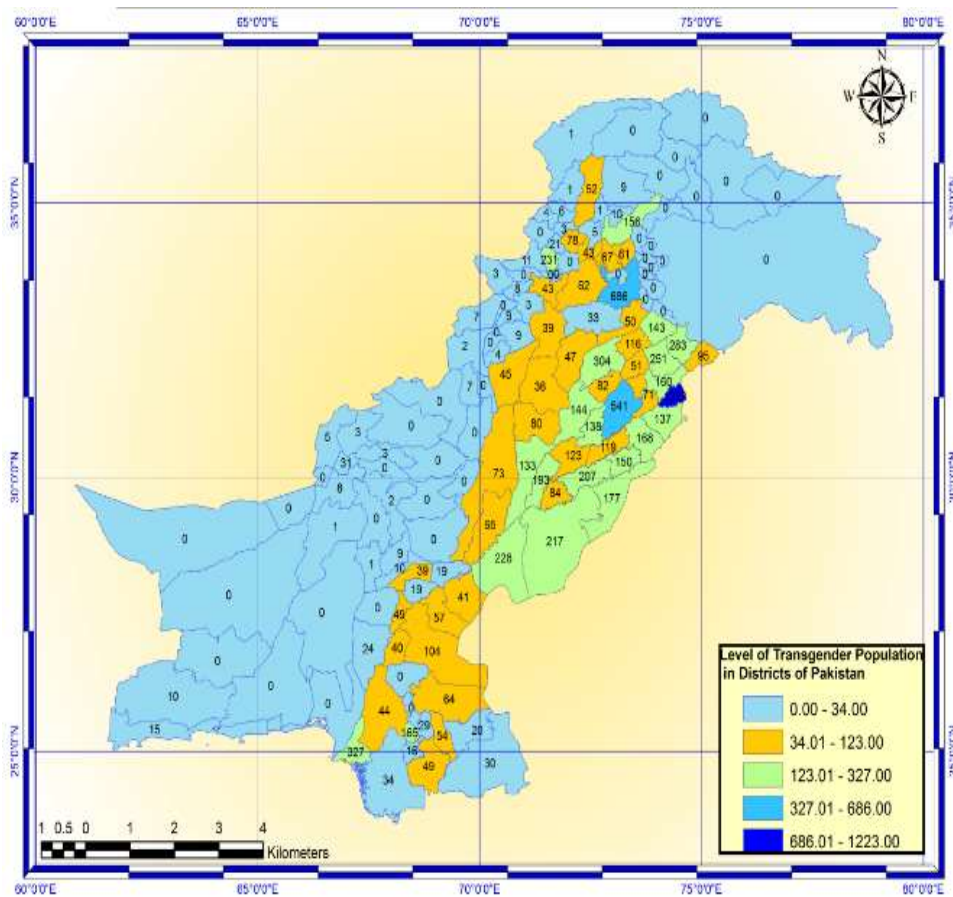


Figure 7: Population of transgender in districts of Pakistan.

Figure 5, 6 and 7 shows the transgender population among provinces, different levels of transgenders among divisions and district level of Pakistan, respectively. Maps are also showing the population among districts of Pakistan that have higher or lower level of transgender population.

### 5. Conclusion

According to 2017 Transgender population in Pakistan is 10418. Punjab province has 6709, Sind province has 2527, KP province has 913, Baluchistan province has 109, FATA has 27 and Islamabad has 133 transgender people. 73.44 % population of transgender people are living in urban areas as they are disowned by their families and strain of being a transgender compelled them to move towards cities. Almost 30% of transgender population is living in only two cities of Pakistan Lahore and Karachi. Transgender people in the world are the most discriminated, helpless, and frustrated people. They have to face multiple problems in Pakistan; even basic amenities are not available to them. Although Pakistan has accepted them as a third gender, legislation made for their protection is only confined to the files. According to an NGO which recently claims that in KP almost five hundred transgender have been killed. They are such a segment of our society as is being ignored in every aspect of life. They are living without health and educational facilities, no employment for them, and no respect and security. In Pakistan, they are only used for singing and dancing, but transgender activists are striving hard to protect their rights. But the ray of hope is that Pakistan is the first country in South Asia which is taking some steps to protect them and to empower them. For example, provision of separate Identity Card and passport, two transgender jobs in Supreme Court, and creation of Transgender School prove that their plight will be improved in the foreseeable future. This is only a start for the protection of transgender rights in Pakistan. Pakistan has to do more

for the rights of transgender in future so that they can be brought out from the clutches of anxiety and depression, and they can become constructive citizens of Pakistan and participate in every walk of life with full freedom and confidence.

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