



RESEARCH PAPER

Impact of Social Status of Teachers on Students' Learning

Dr. Muhammad Asghar Ali<sup>1</sup> Saerah Shakir<sup>2</sup> Dr. Fouzia Tabassum<sup>3</sup>

1. Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Women University of AJ&K Bagh, AJ&K Pakistan
2. M. Phil Scholar, Department of Education, Women University of AJ&K Bagh, AJ&K, Pakistan
3. Federal Government Educational Institutions (C/G) Wah Region, Rawalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan

DOI

[http://doi.org/10.35484/pssr.2022\(6-II\)04](http://doi.org/10.35484/pssr.2022(6-II)04)

PAPER INFO

ABSTRACT

**Received:**

February 07, 2022

**Accepted:**

April 05, 2022

**Online:**

April 10, 2022

**Keywords:**

Social Status,  
Students' Learning,  
Teachers

**\*Corresponding  
Author**

aamasgharali@gmail.com

The purpose of this study was to investigate the impact of social status of teachers on student's learning. Population of this study was the secondary schools teachers of District Bagh AJ&K, Pakistan. A sample of 100 teachers and 100 students were selected using a random sampling technique. A questionnaire was developed to collect the data from sample of the study. The validity and reliability were estimated based on opinion of a panel of experts and Cronbach's alpha coefficient, respectively. The data was collected, tabulated, analyzed, interpreted and conclusions were drawn. Finding revealed that unlike other professions teaching profession and teachers are not enjoying the status like other professions. Even than teachers are satisfied with their profession but they are agreed that social status of teachers is declining and political interference to appointing teachers also effects on social status. It is also concluded that poor social image of teachers is a cause of less motivation that's why value and respect of teacher is declining in our society. The positive and significant correlation is present between social status of teachers and students' learning.

Introduction

Status is referred to socially identified position or public image of anybody. The teachers' status relates to their self image, the respect and perceived esteem in which they are held by others (Antony, 2016). Social status has strong effect on motivational level of individuals. When society gives importance to individual having high education then people will be willing for education. Social status is important factor that helps an individual in the selection of an occupation. This association between social status and job selection also create a theoretical relationship between wage structures, workers portion among different occupations and social status.

Teachers play very important role in the learning process. The students idealize their teachers and try to copy and follow them in their lives. The inspiration of teachers is essential as it directly influence their students. The motivation of the teachers is effected by several factors such as Personal/social factor, classroom

environment, socio economic standing, behavior of students, stress of Examination, donation/incentives, self confidence and teacher's personality (Cameron, 2003).

Teachers are role model and highly respected and teaching is a distinguished profession. Education system will depend on development of any nation because teachers are considered nation builders. A teacher has big influence than others and gives the splendid position and distinguished status to the nation. If teachers are not motivated and lack of commitment can has negative impact on students' learning and future of children can put at the stake? For taking initiatives motivation and willingness will greatly depend to the contribution of teachers in the human capital development and technological advancement. For all level of education motivation of teachers is a key to quality teaching and high standards of academic performance (Hamaimbo, 2008).

Status of the teachers and teaching profession was being in previous policies initiatives since 1997, to improve their status, when it was given importance in a White Paper Department for Education and Employment DFEE, (1998). The foundation of those initiatives that followed and a desire was there to raise and improve the status of teachers and principals of teaching profession.

According to teachers' view point, they felt that in the past, status of teaching profession was bettered than modern years with a usual assurance that profession of teaching was equivalence with doctors and lawyers but now teaching profession is the level of other service profession like nursing and social work. The head teachers and teachers' said that teaching profession is not equal as prestige of doctors and populace similar to them; we are not getting same respect from media and public as they do'. Someone has described this, as a consequence of a procedure of demystification of the occupation in that, the community is more conversant, now they inquiry things further. The passing of a golden era 'was correlated to a move towards a further pessimistic or blame' society and big communal troubles that teachers had to deal with. This study highlighted the social status of teachers, teaching profession and its impact on students' learning. Generic definition according to new Oxford English Dictionary location or status in culture; grade, work; relation importance' and situation or place of a thing especially, look upon to significance. Position of any profession is generally determined by the reputation, prosperity and power it possesses. A relationship of the social status of teachers and teaching by these criteria in diverse countries may expose the worth close to teaching and the sum of esteem given to teachers in each civilization.

### **Literature Review**

Education is necessary to national growth and development. It helps individual to become independent skilled and good citizens. The future of any nation depends mainly on the quality of its educational system.

Teaching is the supreme art of the academicians for awaking the joy in creative expression and knowledge. Teacher's participation in the human capital development and technological progression greatly depends on their motivation and readiness for taking initiatives. Teacher motivation is a key to quality teaching and high standards of academic performance at all levels of education (Johnson, Berg & Donaldson, 2005). The status of a profession is generally determined by the reputation, prosperity and

power it possesses. A comparison of the social status of teaching by these criteria in different countries may reveal the importance attached to teaching and the amount of esteem given to teachers in each society (Kane & Mallon, 2006).

### **Social Status of Teachers**

It was also revealed that the status of the teaching profession cannot be measured in isolation from the status of the education system in general. Research conducted in Pakistan on the status of teachers revealed that assessing the status of teachers requires an understanding of the teacher's competences, autonomy, commitment, social positions, remuneration and the degree of public recognition of the significance of education and the teaching profession. Subject of the teacher's status has been a matter of concern over the recent years. In both developed and developing countries it has become a topic of substantial concern (Nadeem, 2011).

Literature has shown that teaching is of lower status as compared to other professions. The status of a profession is usually determined by the prestige, wealth and authority it possesses. A comparison of the social status of teaching by these criteria in different countries may reveal the significance attached to teaching and the amount of respect given to teachers in each society. According to many researchers social status of the teachers is determined by the personal qualities and conduct of the individual teachers. McGinnis is of the view that social status of the teachers is fixed by students' judgment regarding the conduct of their teachers. Similar Hay says that teachers are respected or repelled according to their own conduct. Richardson says that those teachers are respected who are helpful and having square dealing attitude towards their students. Gesell states that humorous, good discipline and careful teachers possess great social status in society (Shah, 2012).

### **Students' Learning**

Ensuring teacher's development towards learning process, goal of enhancing performance is the key to professionalism. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) suggest that teachers necessitate being 'active agents' in analyzing their personal practice in the light of professional standards and their own students' progress in the light of standards for student learning OECD, (2005). This pledge has to be coordinated, though schools want to evade lose their teachers they should satisfactory support and provide opportunities throughout the teachers' career. It is considered school environment has serious influence on professional improvement which is respected by administration and social group and facility for teachers. Militating not in favor of it is teachers' extensive sense of being overloaded already, and inadequate funding for growth and for discharge (Tayyab & Fareed, 2011).

### **Material and Methods**

This research was descriptive in nature and survey was conducted for data collection. All the secondary level teachers of public schools in district Bagh, Pakistan was the population of study. In the sample of the study Public secondary school teachers of Bagh were included. The simple random sampling was used for selection of sample. Total sample was 100 secondary school teachers and 100 students. Keeping in view the objectives of study the researchers prepared questionnaire for teachers and students. Researchers reviewed related literature, books, journals, articles, reports,

thesis, and magazines. The instrument was developed on five -point Likert scale with following levels: Strongly Agree SA=1, Agree A=2 Undecided UND =3, Disagree DA= 4 and Strongly Disagree SDA=5. The Pilot-Testing was conducted to check items clarity. To ensure the reliability, the instrument was administered on a small sample. Researchers collected 15 questionnaires from the population for pilot testing. Reliability of data was calculated by using SPSS-23. The Cronbach's Alpha ( $\alpha$ ) value for questionnaire was .762 showed highly reliable. The validity was authenticated by sending questionnaire to the experts and the observations received from expert were incorporated and instrument was improved. The data was collected from sample by researchers visiting all public schools of district Bagh Pakistan.

## Results and Discussion

### Data Analysis

**Table 1**  
**Social Status of Teachers (Descriptive Analysis)**

No	Statements	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
1.	I am satisfied, being a teacher.	100	1.55	.770
2.	Teachers are most respected personalities in the community as compare to other professions.	100	2.18	1.095
3.	Teachers' salaries provide them with the means to ensure a reasonable standard of living for themselves and their families.	100	2.76	1.564
4.	Student gives respect and value to their teachers outside the classroom.	100	2.05	1.114
5.	I had a strong desire to become a teacher and chose teaching as a profession.	100	2.18	1.058
6.	Teaching profession has the same status as engineering and medical profession in our society.	100	3.36	1.432
7.	The social status of teaching profession is encouraging and motivating.	100	1.89	1.270
8.	Teaching is an attracting and well-paid profession.	100	2.04	1.127
9.	Social status of teaching profession is declining now-a-days.	100	2.08	1.203
10.	Political involvement to appointing teacher has an effect on social status of teachers.	100	1.80	.910

Table-1 shows the responses to 10 items contained the social status of teachers. The highest mean score was of item number 6 "Teaching profession has the same status as engineering and medical profession in our society" (Mean=3.36 SD=1.432). It showed that the teachers are disagreed with this statement, teaching profession has not the same status as other professions. The lowest mean value of item number 1. "I am satisfied with being a teacher (Mean=1.55 SD=.770) which means teachers are agreed with this statement and they are satisfied with their profession. Social status of teaching profession is declining now-a-days (Mean=2.08 SD=1.203) shows that teachers are agreed with this statement. Political involvement for appointing teacher has an effects on social status of teachers (Mean=1.80 SD=.910), it shows teachers are agreed with this statement.

It is concluded that although teachers are satisfied with their profession but they are agreed that social status of teachers is declining and political interference also effects on their social status. Teachers have not given the same status as compared to other profession like engineers and doctors in our society.

**Table 2**  
**Students' Learning (Descriptive Analysis)**

S. No	Statements	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
1.	Low status of teachers has an effect on student's learning.	100	1.93	1.249
2.	I am highly interested in learning and never creates disturbance in the classroom.	100	1.85	1.114
3.	My result is outstanding in all subjects.	100	1.83	1.092
4.	Moral values are mostly neglected part in student's learning now-a-days.	100	1.84	1.098
5.	Now-a-days teachers and parents are more focusing on students' grade than ethics.	100	1.89	1.043
6.	Interest and behaviour of student effects on their learning.	100	1.57	.782
7.	Teacher's attitude problem influence on students' learning	100	1.94	1.270
8.	I am satisfied with the teaching performance and behaviour of my teachers.	100	1.68	1.062

Table-2 Shows the responses to 8 items contained the student's learning. The lowest mean score belongs to item 6 Interest and behaviour of student has an effect on their Learning. (Mean=1.57 SD=.782), it means students are agreed with this statement. "I am satisfied with the teaching performance and behaviour of my teachers" (Mean= 1.68 SD= 1.062), shows students are agreed with this statement. The highest mean score belong to item no 7 Teacher's attitude problem influence on their students' learning (Mean= 1.94 SD=1.270), Low status of teachers has an effect on students' learning (Mean=1.93 SD=1.249), it means students are agreed with this statement that shows low status of teacher has an effect on students learning. It is concluded that students are agreed with student's interest and behaviour effects on their learning and most of the students are satisfied to their teachers' performance and behavior.

**Table 3**  
**Correlation of Social Status of Teachers with Student learning**

Factors	Students' Learning	
Social Status of Teachers	Pearson Correlation	.347**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
N		100

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 3 reflects that the social status of teachers has positive and significant correlation with students learning:  $r = .347, P < .01$ . It shows that social status of teachers has an impact on students learning.

## Discussion

The study results in the light of views of respondents revealed that majority of respondents were agreed that the teaching profession has low status as compared to engineering and medical profession in our society. Other profession has high status than teaching profession. The idea supported by Lalita (2013) who stated that these days cause of dissatisfaction is poor socio-economic status of teachers. Although teachers are satisfied being a teacher but findings showed that social status of teacher is declining now-a-days. The prestige or value of teaching profession is declining in the society. It was found that Political involvement to appointing teachers also effect social status of teachers. It is due to the promotion and transfer policy which is not managed well and fairly because political involvement to appointing and transferring teachers on political party based in the education system which effects social status of teachers. The ideas proposed by Lalita (2013) both private and government school teachers are not satisfied on procedure of fair promotion. In this regard the level of satisfaction among teachers can increase by taking impartial decisions on promotion.

The idea proposed by Nadeem (2011) Teachers' low salary is creating obstacle for their intention to stay in teaching profession. Poor salary becomes the reason of mental discontent.

Study revealed majority of the respondents agreed that "Moral values are most neglecting part in student's learning now-a-days". Teachers and parents are only focusing on results and grades and they are neglecting the moral values but this neglecting part is most important for next generation because education transfer generation to next generation. So teachers must pay attention on ethics it is necessary for character building.

It was found that teachers and students attitude problems effects social status of teachers, so both teachers and students should adopt positive attitude because teachers are nation builder. The idea supported by Kane & Mallon (2006) contentment with capability to influence students' accomplishments, attitudes and behaviours. It was found that majority of the respondents were agreed that interest and behaviour of students effects their learning.

Study revealed majority of the respondents agreed that Low status of teacher has an effect on student's learning both teachers and students were agreed with this statement. It means low status of teachers influence on students' learning.

Johnson et al. (2005) stated that to ensuring individual teachers' commitment to continuing learning with the aim of enhancing performance is important for professional development. The OECD suggests that to analyzing their own practice in the light of professional standards teachers need to be active agents' and also for their own students' progress in the light of standards for student learning. It was found in literature that majority of the respondents agreed that Teachers have good subject knowledge and they guide their students properly. Study revealed that students are

satisfied to their teacher's performance and teachers' behaviour. It is good for both teachers and students and for their positive teaching learning process.

### **Findings**

1. Result shows that teachers are satisfied with their profession but they are agreed that social status of teachers is declining and political interference to appointing teachers also effects social status. Teachers have not given the same status as compared to other profession like engineers and doctors.
2. Findings show that poor social image of teachers is a cause of less motivation that's why value and respect of teacher is declining. To encourage status of teachers, promotion policy should be based on performance of the teachers.
3. Result shows that salary packages are not enough for both public and private teachers and no incentive has given to the outstanding performance that demotivated the teachers. Home allowances would increase the status of teachers so, it should be given.
4. It is concluded that teachers are agreed that student's interest and behavior effects on their learning and most of the teacher are satisfied to their student's performance and behavior. Teacher's attitude problems influence on the social status and low status also effects the students' learning.
5. It is concluded that there is a positive and significant correlation between social status of teachers and students' learning.

### **Recommendations**

On the basis of findings of this research, the following recommendations were made.

1. Teachers are the backbone of the educational institutes and future of our nation is in their hands. It is recommended that teachers should be facilitated like other professions and all those activities should be discouraged that blight the image of the teachers. Respect must be given to the teachers in the society to promote the status of teachers because it effect the students' learning.

2. It is recommended that for the selection of teachers, transfers, merit based criteria should be adopted and competent teachers must be selected. Political references must not be considered in selection and promotion of teachers.

3. As the nation builders, salaries of the teachers must be increased by government for both public and private sectors. Good salary of teachers may be raised their level hence they might be dedicate themselves for enhancing the teaching process.

**References**

- Antony, P (2016). Motivational Factors and Motivating Level of College Teachers under Self-Finance Scheme. *International Journal of Recent Research in Commerce Economics and Management (IJRRCEM)* Vol. 3, Issue 3, pp: (91-95).
- Cameron, M. (2003). Teacher status project: *Identifying Teacher Status, its impact and recent Teacher Status Initiatives*. New Zealand.
- Hamaimbo Georgina, (2008). Status of Teachers in urban and rural basic schools of Kafue District of the Lusaka Province, Zambia. *Unpublished Master's Thesis*
- Johnson, S. M., Berg, J. H.; & Donaldson, M.L. (2005). Who stays in teaching and why: A review of the literature on teacher retention. *The project on the next generation of teaching*. Harvard Graduate School of Education.
- Kane, R. & Mallon, M., (2006). Perceptions of Teachers and Teaching: Final Report. *Ministry of Education, N.Z. Teachers Council*: Wellington.
- Lalita. (2013). Job Satisfaction Among Teachers of Private and Government School: A Comparative Analysis, *International Journal of Social Science & Interdisciplinary Research* ISSN 2277 3630 IJSSIR, Vol. 2 (9), indianresearchjournals.com
- Nadeem, M. (2011). The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Teacher's Competencies and Factors Affecting the Performance of Female Teachers in Bahawalpur (Southern Punjab) Pakistan.
- Shah. J. (2012). A Critical Appraisal of the Social Status of Teachers in Peshawar, Capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan: *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, Vol. 2, No. 1 ISSN: 2222-699
- Tayyab. A. M. & Farid. S. (2011). *Factors Affecting Teachers Motivation*. *International Journal of Business and Social Science* Vol. 2 No. 1.