

## **SOCIAL CHALLENGES IN GIRL'S EDUCATION CONCERNING "*I AM MALALA*"**

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This will also provide insight into the world depicted in *I Am Malala* and news media to consider the context and presents the events according to their beliefs. Pakistan became an independent state from the British Indian Empire, 1857—1947. However, this was not supported by all who demonstrated there was a cultural and religious divide within the country. In the timeline of events presented relevant to the story in *I Am Malala*, reveals that the independence of Pakistan is significant because it acts as the first catalyst event that will shape further events in *I Am Malala*'s narrative. Both known today as India and Pakistan, during colonial times the land was known as British India. Those who supported the break wished for a homeland for Muslims of South Asia as opposed to the Hindu.

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This caused major concern as to how the Taliban interpreted the Sharia law. Weiss says Sharia law is the Islamic legal system by which Pakistan governs through. It is based on the teaching of the Quran, and fatwas which are the rulings of Islamic scholars called the Hadith. (7)

*I Am Malala* provide a glossary of terms that the reader may not be familiar with. Malala defines the Hadith as —Hadith – saying or sayings of the Prophet, peace be upon him. (267) The Quran is the religious book of Islam and the Hadith is the collection from the prophet Muhammad.

As previously stated, the Taliban have played a huge role in the enforcement of extremism based on Islamic ideals. They are claimed to be carried out due to statements in the Quran such as these. However, it does not consider varying economic, patriarchal, and political factors that may also influence the acting out of extremism. Hoodbhoy explains, originally from Afghanistan, the Taliban overthrew the Afghanistan government in Kabul in 1996 (151). This is also mentioned in *I Am Malala*'s timeline of important events. —1996 – Taliban take over Kabul (175). By listing this event in *I Am Malala*, the narrative is conveying that the Taliban's control in Kabul is a significant event to the story.

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In 1996, Pakistan's military helped the Taliban to oust the Mujahideen and take Kabul. It was a government that was recognized only by Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. Over time, the Taliban would allow Al Qaeda to ensconce itself more firmly into Afghanistan and launch the 9/11 attacks. The aftermath of 9/11 sent shockwaves across the Western sphere which is expressed in I Am Malala as another key event to the narrative alongside the US's bombing of Afghanistan, the Taliban's government there being overthrown. Further numerous reports in Western media after 9/11 showed the Taliban conducting violent acts against non-Muslim citizens. This received attention from the U.S. In particular from the Obama administration who in 2009 announced his plan to deploy 30,000 more US troops to Afghanistan to fight the Taliban in Afghanistan and Pakistan?

For example, the extreme reluctance to accept the U.S presence in Pakistan was made evident via the beheadings of Christian journalists a year after 9/11. her experience of this time. Other than the Taliban, Pakistan's government has received criticism from other outside groups from Europe when enforcing the rights of women. This is evident within the progression of Pakistan's education system; a system that has directly affected Malala.

Pakistan and Education is a topic strongly connected to MalalaYousafzai who had endured part of her childhood within the Pakistan education system whilst the Taliban were at large. This information has been selected because MalalaYousafzai would have been 9 years old in 2006 and attending school. The information provided by UNESCO shows the statistics in terms of Pakistan's education structure and the climate in which Malala grew up within. Outside influences that have monitored Pakistan's education statistics have been deemed as results from westernization and globalization, which are seen as intrusive. These forces are perceived as taking the form of females in the workplace, receiving education, and taking higher positions in government. Foreign research programs were first introduced in aid of women's rights in 1996 to promote equality in Pakistan. Research conducted in Pakistan has criticized ideals enforced by laws that oppose their human rights which are founded in religious beliefs. Organizations have in the past condemned Pakistan's slow progression of equal rights for women. International laws as stated in 'The Report of the Commission of Inquiry for Women in Pakistan'(1997) cited by Weiss condemned the lack of progress towards equal rights for women in Pakistan. —

No community or nation is an island anymore, and Pakistan cannot remain unwashed by the rising global currents. It needs to address its domestic issues in ways that are in some harmony with the international perspective and universally accepted norms. If it does not do it now, it will be compelled to do it later, after much damage. (89)

There have been several large organizations reviewing Pakistan's educational system amongst other territories surrounding equal rights. The Community Voice in Planning initiative, a union

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between UNICEF (United Nations Children Fund), UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), and CIET (Community Information and Epidemiological Technologies) researched each of the four provinces towards —the gender gap in primary education and how to obtain an education for all. Other areas of development such as water sanitation and child malnutrition were included.

The literacy ratio listed by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics 25 showed 54.81 males and 32.02 females were literate in 1998. In 2005 the first National Education Census (NEC) researched 245,682 educational institutions in Pakistan to improve education quality. The results gathered in May 2006 show that there were fewer girls in educational institutions in both rural and urban areas. A total of 14,398365 girls and 18,981213 boys were registered in all levels of education. (pbs.gov.pk) From the results, UNESCO reported that the literacy rates of youth between ages 15 to 24 showed 53% of girls and 77% of boys were literate in Pakistan. (unesco.org.pk) Overall this information reveals that Pakistan's education system and progression towards equality have been monitored by UNESCO for years.

Even after Pakistan became an independent state, the aftermath has led to a continuous outside influence suggesting that colonial practices are far from over in Pakistan's post-colonial environment. This is significant to the study because it enables an understanding of the world *I Am Malala* reflects. This is a world where gender equality is affected by education and religion. Taliban continues their brutality and injustice. But they were not able to silence the brave little warrior.

Malala's voice remains to reverberate all around the globe. She was a valiant youth from Pakistan with a big story and a whale of dreams. Malala's greatest strength, support, and inspiration was her father, Ziauddin Yousafzai and with his moral guidance she achieved the statue of children's activist and an advocate of girl's education. After the Taliban's control over the swat valley. It became a vulnerable and deadly spot to live. They imposed harsh rules and restrictions upon people, especially upon women. TV, music, dance was banned; women well no longer allowed to step inside a school, enjoying shopping, and not evening given the right to go for a job. Women were heavily segregated.

Malala, a brave teen from Pakistan nearby lost her life by standing up for the right of the girls everywhere to great an education. Malala stood up for her beliefs. When she left the hospital at Birmingham she had a bundle of experience in her hands that greatly helped her in reforming the future of every girl. Though any girl like Malala who has been deprived of education is a basic human right and every female should enjoy equal rights and opportunities. When a woman moves hand in hand with men we can fully remark that a country is developed. She courageously raised voice against atrocities and Taliban and continued her advocacy for education. She became an advocate for girl's education and children's activist at a very young

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age. She made the world aware of the necessity of education through her energetic speech. Former, U.N. Through relentless efforts and speech Malala persuaded world leaders to take a firm policy over education and women's right. She bravely asserts that when the Taliban tried to suppress her ambitions, aims, and desires, but they were never able to do it, instead their act helped Malala to suppress her fear, weakness and helped Malala to suppress her fear, weakness and helped her in molding herself into a powerful and courageous voice.

Malala through Malala fund: a man profit organization which greatly helps girls to attend school and raise their voice for their basic rights and opportunities. This youngest activist took the initiative to provide education to girls in a Syrian refugee camp with the support of the Malala Fund. Malala thus became the Symbol of global education. This staunch advocate of education received the Nobel peace prize in 2014 and passionately continues her advocacy for children's rights and women's education.

She miraculously recovered and came back to life. Taliban asserted that Malala was targeted by them as she stood for the education of girls and encouraged secularism. But the Taliban was not able to silence her. She continued to raise her voice for global education. Taliban was only able to shoot her body; they were not able to shoot her dreams. She faced many hurdles and challenges in her path. She was forced to face emotional and physical challenges. She overcomes all the obstacles in her journey through strong determination, perseverance, persistence, and courage. Malala's voice opens a world of opportunities for young girls. She was stubborn in her activism and bravely continued her crusade for gaining educational rights for women.

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