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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CHALLENGES TO THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SYSTEM AND PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT IN THE POST-EPIDEMIC ERA

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Abstract

After the outbreak of COVID-19, such global and public health events have a potential impact on the structure of international relations. Such impacts cover many areas of international relations, such as the stagnation of international economic development, the challenges of international security, and the obvious differences in the level of global health and epidemic prevention. When a real "post-epidemic era" is approaching, we need to conduct effective research and judgment on the international changes in the "post-epidemic era", which has both theoretical academic value and practical needs. The academic community should strengthen in-depth research on the changes in the international situation of peace and development in the "post-epidemic era". Combined with the new world changes, this article attempts to analyze the changes in international relations brought about by the "post-epidemic era" and the challenges faced by maintaining world peace from multiple perspectives.

Keywords: post-epidemic era, international trends, peace and development, system of international relations.

Introduction

Since the outbreak of the new crown epidemic, the virus is still raging around the world, which not only has an impact on global health security, but also hinders the development of the world economy, and also has a significant impact on international relations. Now that the "post-epidemic era" is gradually coming, the US hegemony has declined, the global security situation has become more complex and volatile, and the international order is facing the possibility of reconstruction. More research and professional guidance.How to deal with the issue of international relations in the "post-epidemic era" requires more research and professional guidance from the international relations academic community.

The definition of the "post-epidemic era" is also worthy of our ideology. Most people simply attribute the areas affected by the epidemic to the "post-epidemic era". In fact, if analyzed from an academic point of view, such a summary is inaccurate. The "post-pandemic era" should be equated with the "post-Cold War era," referring to the consequences of the current global COVID-19 pandemic.

In contemporary times, under the impact of the epidemic, the inclusiveness and openness of the international system has declined, and the effectiveness of the international order has also weakened. The trend of anti-globalization in the international community has become popular, which makes the development of countries face more challenges. The "post-epidemic era" is like a catalyst for the effects of international relations. It exacerbates the structural contradictions between hegemonic and rising powers, and highlights the urgent need for reform in the global governance system.

Material and Methods

Methodologically, this research is based on the analysis and summary of papers on international relations published during the epidemic. This type of analysis requires contrasting and reorganizing the views of different scholars, and the categories share similar patterns and meanings. On the basis of this structure, it is possible to develop some critical interpretations and coherent meanings. For example, scholar Yang Shufei's article provides some analysis of global industrial and economic trends in the "post-pandemic era." and Li Chun's article analyzes the issue of regional integration under the influence of COVID-19.

In the content analysis, the author combines the changes and status of the international situation under the influence of the epidemic, and attempts to analyze several aspects of future international trends from different perspectives. From the status quo of international relations, the accurate analysis of international relations in the "post-epidemic era" is practical and academically.

This paper focuses on the post-epidemic era, whether it is possible to rebuild the international relations system and the challenges to peaceful development. In the study of these two key issues, the definition of "post-epidemic era" needs to be professionally explained, and detailed analysis from national security,

world economy, international system and other aspects should be made, and make professional conclusions.

Literature Review

Academic literature emphasizes the importance of analyzing changes in the international situation. Kissinger, in his 2015 article on world order, mentioned the law of changes in the world order. Samuel Huntington's "Clash of Civilizations" can be used to analyze whether the conflict between civilizations will become an important reason for breaking the existing international order when the international pattern becomes more complex in the "post-epidemic era".Saul Korn's Geopolitics analyzes factual knowledge of political geography changes in major regions of the world, including their historical and current interrelationships. In the age of globalization, the growing degree of strategic and economic interdependence presents an opportunity for geopolitical zones that are already areas of conflict between great powers. Saul Korn's profound geopolitical wisdom provides the knowledge base for our analysis of regional hotspots.

Results and Discussion

How to define the "post-epidemic era", some scholars believe that our current environment is the "post-epidemic era", but the author agrees that the "post-epidemic era" should be equivalent to the "post-Cold War era", referring to the current global new crown pneumonia pandemic's consequence. This definition is not only an interpretation of the "post-epidemic era", but also the direction of future trend analysis of international relations. We can use the direction of international relations analysis in the "post-Cold War era" as a guide to make predictions about international relations in the "post-epidemic era". Different scholars have different views on the impact of the new crown epidemic on the international landscape. At present, the academic community's prediction of the overall trend of the world's "post-epidemic era" is still uncertain. Some scholars believe that the new crown pneumonia epidemic can be an important watershed in the post-war world history and the history of human civilization. The epidemic not only affects the operation mode of economic globalization and global governance mode, but also affects the relationship between major powers, the international pattern and even human beings. The trend of civilization reshaping. Some scholars pointed out that the new crown pneumonia epidemic has affected

the current historical development path of the world, which will affect the world order established since World War II. "How to restore the future international order, how to establish leadership, and how to further strengthen international rules" is still unclear. The international order is likely to continue to change in the years to come. Some scholars also believe that "the new crown pneumonia epidemic may have a certain impact on changes in the international pattern, but even after the epidemic, the basic international pattern will not undergo fundamental and major changes." It can be seen that experts are analyzing the epidemic from different angles. It is not difficult to find that the current analysis of scholars mainly focuses on human survival and lifestyle, the world economy, the international pattern of internal and external environment faced by the country, the world order, the global industrial layout, and the form of world civilization. These aspects are interrelated.

The global outbreak of COVID-19 in 2019 has also made the international situation more complicated. The first is the negative impact of COVID-19 on the global economy. As we all know, the global economy is now in the worst recession since the Second World War. The global epidemic of the virus not only threatens the survival and development of human rights, but also increases the cost of social governance in various countries. In the context of epidemic prevention and control, a period of suspension, shutdown and other measures will have a huge impact on the established global industrial and supply chains, and several of the world's largest economies have suffered a heavy blow. For instance, the United States, which dominates the military, technology and finance sectors, has far more COVID-19 infections and deaths than any other country. In 2020, most of the world's major economies are in recession. In 2021, although the United States, Japan and other countries have seen a degree of economic recovery, the situation is still not very optimistic. On the whole, the United States is still the world's unique superpower, maintaining hegemony in many areas. Therefore, COVID-19 does not directly affect relations between countries, nor does it fundamentally change the results of the power balance between major countries, but it has a potential impact on international relations.

While global economic exchanges and social life have been affected by the epidemic, some changes have also taken place in global social ideology and politics. What needs to be emphasized is that this change is the acceleration of the trend of the change of the world pattern in the past. Marked by the Brexit referendum in 2016, there has been a wave of anti-

globalization around the world. Due to the global outbreak of COVID-19 in 2019, on the one hand, the global movement of people and goods exacerbated the spread of the virus and caused public discontent; On the other hand, the disruption of industrial chains in some countries due to the shutdown of factories caused by the epidemic has exposed the inadequacy of the current division of labor and intensified the public's rejection of globalization. Under the joint influence of these two aspects, the global economic growth curve began to slide. In this context, anti-globalization ideas gradually became popular and regionalism became more and more intense.

The COVID-19 outbreak is like a "butterfly effect", which first affected global health security, and countries have taken measures to restrict the movement of people in public places in order to prevent the epidemic. Although such measures are very effective for epidemic prevention, it also affects economic development. With the global economic downturn, the global governance system has also changed. The post-Cold War global governance system is centered on western countries headed by the United States. However, as United States hegemony declined, so did the willingness and ability of western countriesto provide public goods to the world also declined. At the same time, as the US has become less inclusive in global governance, its leadership and participation in global affairs are increasingly focused on unilateral interests. The global outbreak of COVID-19 has accelerated this process.

Whether the world order in the "post-epidemic era" will change can be analyzed according to Kissinger's World Order published in 2015. World order has a process of germination, development, destruction and reconstruction, and the world order is formed on the basis of the international pattern. The international pattern is the result of the balance of power between nations over time. A striking feature of the international structure of today's world is the change in the balance of power between the East and the West. There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on the international landscape, and the international landscape and the balance of power has also begun to change, so the post-COVID-19 world order will undergo some changes. But the fundamental nature of the world order is not easily changed. The COVID-19 pandemic will only accelerate to a large extent the historical process of the world before the epidemic, including the basic dynamics of the evolution of major-state relations.It is obvious that the epidemic has hit the world economy and accelerated the adjustment of the strategic layout of major powers. The US, Europe,

Russia and other powers in the Asia-Pacific region compete with each other, the international situation is more complicated, and the future world order will inevitably be reconstructed, which is also in line with the laws of historical development. With the increasing uncertainty in the international environment, it will become more difficult to maintain world peace in the future, but the goal of peace and development is still the direction of human efforts.

The sudden interruption of global supply and demand caused by the epidemic has also made countries realize that in the "post-epidemic era", they should restructure their industrial chains and reduce external dependence. Therefore, the global industrial and supply chains are bound to be recombined, and the international strategic confrontation and geopolitical conflicts are inevitably further deepened. The Russia-Ukraine war is a typical manifestation of geopolitical conflicts.Ukraine, which is linked to Russia and Europe, has an important geographical location, and the major powers have been intervening in Ukraine for a long time, and there are complicated interests' disputes. The outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine war, in addition to the internal ethnic conflicts and economic depression in Ukraine, also has external factors affecting the strategic deployment of the United States to Ukraine and Russia's national security considerations.There are powerful political blocs on both sides of Ukraine. NATO's eastward expansion has touched the strategic bottom line of Russia's national security. The Ukrainian government failed to keep strategic clarity and broke the balance diplomacy when its own strength was insufficient, which is bound to lead to Ukraine becoming a victim of internationalpower struggle.

The outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine conflict shows the instability and uncertainty in the changing world. International tensions caused by conflicts undoubtedly pose more severe challenges to the development of other countries. States around the world are seeking their own new international status, and the relations between states are more complicated. To some extent, the Russia-Ukraine conflict also led to the serious regression of the globalization of the world economy and the partial separation of the international market. For instance, the EU and the US imposed extreme economic sanctions on Russia, which was the main energy exporter of the EU, because the sanctions made the energy prices of the EU countries soar. Russia and Ukraine are also a major food exporter in the world. Because of the outbreak of the conflict, the food export of Russia and Ukraine will be sharply reduced. For countries that rely heavily on food import, they will also face the problem of insufficient domestic food

supply due to rising prices.This shows that although maintaining peace and development remains the goal of the international community, the environment for maintaining world peace and promoting common development is very complex. The outbreak of military conflicts and the rise of traditional and non-traditional security risks will intensify the confrontation of ideologies and values and intensify the confrontation between political groups worldwide. The US and Europe imposed extreme sanctions on Russia, which forced small and medium-sized states in the gap between big powers to defend their own security by taking sides with political groups.After some NATO members issued a statement against Russia, Russia put its nuclear forces into a "special combat readiness state", causing people to worry about nuclear war, to, to the outbreak of another world war, the nuclear game between the United States and Russia will continue to impact global strategic stability.At the same time, the sanctions against Russia have even spread to the fields of culture and sports. Such a result will only intensify the ideological struggle, the conflict between civilizations and the confrontation between peoples around the world.

Conclusion

Peace and development are in line with the general trend of world development. At present, regional hotspot conflicts continue and states around the world face more and more challenges. But maintaining peace is still the theme of the world, and the force of maintaining peace is far stronger than the force of war.In light of the development of the epidemic, the situation of international relations in the "post-epidemic era" is becoming more complex, the evolution of the international landscape is accelerating, a multi-polar international landscape is emerging, global governance is becoming more difficult, and the international environment for peacekeeping is changing. State behaviour has become less predictable and the foundations of the international order have been shaken.

As the spread of COVID-19 has a global effect, the conflict between nationalism and globalization has intensified. Countries adopt trade protectionism and isolationism policies for their own interests. The implementation of these policies challenges the original order of international relations, and the emergence of international problems is more sudden.Under the influence of anti-globalization trend, people's attitude towards globalization has become negative. In spite of the bad international environment,we should still have confidence in the future development of international relations. The possibility of global systemic war is still very low, and the fluctuation of relations between the major powers in the world is also at its peak. For instance, the trade war between China and the United States for a long time led to a sharp decline in China-US relations, but China still sought to solve the problem through negotiation and consultation. It can be seen that the interaction between China and the United States is still within the framework of peace, and the two sides do not regard war as a solution to the problem.In general, COVID-19 has had a negative impact on international relations, but these impacts are still within the scope of changes in the international system and have not directly affected the development of the existing international system.

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A NEW APPROACH TO REDEFINING POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

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Abstract

Understanding political geography requires understanding the interaction of geography and politics. Since the design of the University of Political Geography, various definitions and interpretations of this science have been offered, most of which have been subject to the ruling paradigm and the expertise of commentators. New interpretations, influenced by the school of space, have been content with the statement that "political geography studies the interaction of space and politics." Questions and answers in the Afghan university community also indicate that this statement has not been sufficiently understood. Therefore, providing a scientific and practical definition for research and academic fields is inevitable. The present study, with its fundamental nature and interpretive-analytical method, aims to provide a new definition of political geography by using the resources of libraries in the framework of understanding geography and politics in order to recognize the epistemological domains of political geography and the researcher's entry into borders. Avoid other strings. The results show that territory is more than a spatial container, it is a reflection of human authority, power and control, and issues of territory and territoriality are the basis of geopolitical issues. Based on such characteristics, political geography is a science that defines the political dimensions of geographical space in the form of interaction of power relations (in the dimensions of coexistence, coexistence, tension, conflict and war) with territory (space and land) and territoriality (territorialism, territorialization and Territory) man studies.

Keywords: *Political Affairs, Political Geography, Territory, Territoriality, Power Relations.*

Introduction

Understanding political geography requires understanding the interaction of geography (space) and politics (power) or the interaction of geographical features such as space, place, and territory with matters of politics, power, and policy-making (Story, 2009). The University of Political Geography was founded in the 1750s by Emmanuel Kant (18024-1724), the famous German philosopher, and Robert Jacques Turgot[1] (1727-1781), and the book of the same title was written by (Gregory, D., 2009). And there have been various interpretations that have been mainly subject to the prevailing paradigm (determinism, chorology, etc.) and the expertise of commentators. New interpretations influenced by the school of space have been content with the statement that "political geography studies the interaction of space and politics." Questions and answers in the academic community of Afghanistan and Iran also indicate that this statement was not sufficiently comprehensible even for graduate students. Therefore, providing a scientific and practical definition for research and academic fields is an inevitable necessity. The present study has a fundamental nature and interpretive-analytical methodIt is to use library resources, in the context of understanding geography and politics, to obtain a new definition of political geography through which to recognize the epistemological domains of political geography and to prevent the researcher from entering the boundaries of other disciplines(Dikshit, R., 2000).

Literature review

Political matter

Understanding the concept of politics is the foundation of cognition and research in disciplines and trends that have a "political" suffix and character. Contrary to popular belief, political character is not just about government behavior; It also covers different areas. Hence, it is possible to examine different dimensions of political behavior. In general definitions of politics, five general manifestations in the form of propositions of good and public interest (Aristotle, 1998). has come; Manifestations that

In a way, they observe different dimensions of politics. However, their distinction from social, cultural and private affairs has been less pronounced; For example, politics as a power has social and political dimensions. Compromise and consensus are social matters, and public affairs is a step in the social sphere. Only in this definition, the government is specifically inThe sphere of politics is located, which also does not cover the whole field of politics. Combining these four features seems to give a broader meaning to politics:

1. Politics is the sphere of determining, maintaining and reforming the general rules of social and political life. The sphere in which the social spheres also play a role, but the achievement of a basic and general structure about bio politics, is above all a political matter.

2. Politics oversees the management of the public sphere. The organization of the public sphere and policy-making in this regard is in the realm of political discourse, which, although the social spheres also influence it, but the general public sphere beyond the social processes, is in the realm of the political matter; For example, the process facing social institutions such as the family is a social one, but how these processes can be managed and managed by different institutions is a general and political one, or the features of "compatibility and unity" are part of the public affairs of society. Also, the search for economic affairs and finding solutions to the economic problems of society is the focus of public affairs, which is mainly in the field of politics.

3- Violence, social differences and methods of resolving disputes are in the realm of politics. In social affairs and public affairs, differences are natural phenomena arising from human nature, even before the emergence of society and the establishment of government, and thus, the existence of differences and conflicts is inevitable. Therefore, managing and resolving disputes and conflicts are considered as political affairs of the society.

4. The sphere of political power and the sphere of government are the highest legitimate authority for exercising power inside and outside the country. In this case, enforcing law and order at home and protecting the political structure against foreign aggression is a political matter (GharayaghZandi, Davood, 2013) The constructions and demands of its inhabitants have placed the political matter in a strong connection with the political geography. Territory and related concepts are the most fundamental terms in the field of political geography, which are described below.

Research method

The present study is of a fundamental nature and seeks to find the facts and identify the reflections arising from the interaction of geography and politics. Based on such a goal, using the interpretive-analytical method and using library resources in the framework of understanding geography and politics, a new definition of political geography is provided in order to recognize the epistemological domains of political geography and the arrival of the researcher.

In particular, students of political geography should be prevented from entering other fields.

Territory

The word territory is a combination of noun (pen) and matter (face). Geography is in the form of the earth and its material resources (Story: 2009). Hence, the term territory refers to the limited space that individuals and groups use and defend as their exclusive domain. In the realm of social human behavior, territory is a part of the surface of the earth that a particular group or political entity claims ownership and sovereignty over. Accordingly, the realm represents the exercise of power over space, which has emerged at the highest level in the form of nation-states. Today, territory is the spatial extent of a country's power and the material resources that provide that power. Issues related to the understanding of the concept of territory and its role in political, social and economic relations in its general sense have been considered by geographers; That is, the area in which property rights are exercised and, in a way, restricted and demarcated. Geographers use the word border to describe the boundaries of such territories (HaggPeter,, 2000). Has followed in the form of coexistence, harmony and conflict (from small to large scale). In political geography, the three concepts of land, border, and sovereignty are closely related to the formation of territory. Accordingly, territory is a space influenced by power, domination and ownership (Jones et al., 2004) and the intensity of influence of power, domination and ownership is a function of spatial weight characteristics such as vastness, amount and variety of natural resources, shape (round, fragmented, etc...) Shows the offensive, defensive, strategic and test position (Glassner, M., 1993).

Human Realm

The realm of human activity means the individual and group effort to preserve and preserve the identity, property, and space in which it grows. Some theoretical approaches have considered human territorial behavior as a natural and instinctive phenomenon (Story: 2009). Finds. Part of this action and arena has an inherent and natural nature, which is called territorialism; Part of it is the result of human extravagance and domination, which is manifested in the forms of expansion and domination, which is referred to as the realm of expansion. Hence, the concept of territory and its geographical boundaries indicate the geographical scope of sovereignty, competence (Zarei, B. and Pourahmad, A., 2006) and the acquisition of political units and social actors, which are highly correlated

with the category of power in its comprehensive concept. From the perspective of political geography, territorial behavior is a geographical and political strategy to achieve specific goals such as controlling the geographical space to maintain or gain power or resistance to the power of the dominant group and follows the principle that territory is not a natural entity; It is the result of the diversity of social activities and processes in which space and society are interconnected. Accordingly, issues of territory and territorialism are the basis of many geopolitical issues and phenomena (Story: 2009) as the International Union of Geography(IGU) has declared conflict over territory as one of the research topics of 21st century political geography (Gosar, A., 2007).

Territoriality

The realm is the spatial and objective manifestation of the sense of belonging and possession of man and arises from the principle of love of nature and desire for comfort and tranquility. Hence, territorialism is one of the institutional and natural aspects of human beings. The intensity of the territorial reaction varies according to the season (cold and heat), the biological condition of the animals (the time of birth) and the decrease and increase of food sources. According to some scientists, humans, like animals, instinctively want to capture and defend such space. Some symbols andSigns in everyday life are manifestations of the territorial ambition of human dynamics on a micro scale (Story: 2009). Therefore, human beings and human groups in the form of tribes and nations are territorial identities with a territory (of any geographical scale). Where they have lived, have developed a strong emotional attachment; In a way, this spirit has led to the defense of the territory against any foreign aggression; However, many social scientists have not accepted human territoriality as a genetic and biological trait (De Blij H. J. and Muller, O, P., 2007). However, some have considered the domination of geographical regions as an instinctive phenomenon that must be satisfied and taken into account (Odum, E., 2003). Territorialism or geographical expression of power is one of the most common strategies for exercising political control, which is in the field of interaction of geography and politics (Clark, I., 2002). The desire to survive in the form of striving for the means to create peace and comfort is a constant component of behaviorHe is a human being. This feature influences the direction of human endeavor and character to gain power through the acquisition of resources that provide comfort and tranquility. For this reason, the land, as a platform for providing these resources, has always been a gateway

for individuals and human groups to control, own and rule resources. These conflicts begin at the micro-scale and continue to the macro-scale, such as disputes over ownership and control of a frontier or rivalry for control of geostrategic territories. When human beings realized that grouping and group life, their stability and cohesion in waysBetter ensures, the territory came under the rule and ownership of human structures, and the effort to protect the resources and reserves of this territory and even its expansion in order to direct the structure and political function of space, played a central role(Cox, K., 2002).

Territory and Expanded

Because territorialism is an effort and a context for building territory and territory, it requires several methods and tools that have evolved over time, and many of them today are software in nature. However, political actors and actors do not necessarily need full monitoring and land acquisition to claim territory; Rather, the influence and control of the public mind and political activists make that land their territory. For this reason, scientists believe that the realm and its various forms of expression should be recognized as a means to an end, such as survival, political domination, or xenophobia (Mojtahedzadeh, Pirooz,, 2000). Territory is sometimes accompanied by an exploitative and reckless approach to the ecological rights of other human beings; This means that some governments have always tried to expand their territory in different ways. This phenomenon always occurs when the ruling elites come to the conclusion that the allotted space does not meet the current and future needs of the people and their essential activities. In such a situation, territorialism becomes essentially developmental in nature and seeks to acquire tools to integrate more space (Blacksel, M., 2009).

Attacking other lands is one of the most important mechanisms that governments have chosen to expand their territory. Specifically, the study of this dimension of geographical human territorial action can be traced to the works of Friedrich Ratzel in the form of the theory of the living country and the geopolitical strategy of Hoos Hoofer in Germany and the geopolitical theories of the Cold War (Blacksel, Mark, 2010).

Real Estate

Human endeavor, individually or collectively, to monopolize a particular part of space is called territorialization. Geographical land, geospatial boundaries, and human sovereignty and ownership are the three main components of this definition. This definition covers a wide range of spaces; From

the space that is differentiated through the intricate and intertwined borders within countries for various purposes, to the space of government or governments of the nation-state, and finally the world space that includes the planet Earth. From this point of view, territory and sovereignty are necessary for each other (Mir Haidar, Darreh, 2005). The traditional relations of the people and other institutions with the government through the concept of citizenship, to maintain their rule in terms of time and place (Bigdeli, A., 1997).

Accordingly, territorialization arises with the emergence of territorial sovereignty; That is, in determining the realm of sovereignty, in addition to military, political and commercial requirements, the physical and physical aspects of space were also effective. After World War II, the focus of political geography was for several years limited to border research in the form of classification, delimitation, and demarcation of borders, but later border studies turned to the fact that political borders were the result of human territorial sentiment and determination.

It is the boundary of a territory in which it can maintain its cultural identity and shape its political future (Dikshit, R., 2000). Based on these characteristics, the concept of human territory emerged. Edward Suja considers territorialization to be a behavioral phenomenon that is very closely related to the organization of space into areas of influence or specific territorial boundaries, and one of its obvious geographical consequences is the emergence of a recognizable pattern of spatial interaction; That is, some activities are carried out exclusively in a certain area; In such a way that others are prevented from entering that area (Mir Haidar, Darreh, 2005).

From Kellers' point of view, territorialization is initially a strategy of constraint and control. An action that creates a geographical space; A space that is dependent on the earth and is managed by humans. According to him, not all spaces - for example, cyberspace - are geographical (Kolers, A., 2009). According to Ronald Johnston, territorialization is a strategy through which individuals and groups have exclusive control over a specific and limited part of space (Mir Haidar, Darreh, 2010).

Humanistic geography does not consider the quest for territoriality as a biological basis and considers it as the result of place-based policies (Mojtahedzadeh, Pirooz,, 2000). Unlike positivist geography, which places the laws of science and quantification within the concept of space, the focus of human geography research - humanistic geography seeks to analyze human relations, nature, ideas, geographical behavior, and the human biological world. Interact with space

and place (Keith, M. and Pile, S., 1993). So spatial realities such as realm and space are not prefabricated beings; Rather, they are built on society and power, which are influenced by the political, social, and economic actions and relations of individuals, and are produced in different places and in different forms (Afroogh, E,. 1987). Accordingly, the themes of space inherently create power. Trying to take over the space provides the ground for the rivalry of currents and trends in space. Since power, as a result of society, is scattered in the field of space, those who rule places and spaces that have the ability to organize the processes and objective and mental processes of the space maker through democratic methods (Kaviani Rad, M., 2013). Socio-spatial changes are the result of the impact of political decisions and actions on geographical space, which in turn leads to the production of forces of pressure. These social forces, in all political systems, change and reform political policies and practices, and even change their value system, ideology, and presuppositions. Space and politics have a moving and dynamic nature, and the change of each of these two components causes the change of the other. In fact, political dynamism acts as the cause and effect of social and spatial dynamism, which is the basis of public balance in society. Hence, the imbalance of societies, rather than returning to their natural state, is a function of the consequences of political dynamism of societies as the ultimate cause of social dynamism and, consequently, the spatial dynamism of societies (Hafeznia, M., 2005). From a territorial point of view, all the inhabitants of the territory feel responsible and think about matters related to their habitat and destiny. They naturally have the right to intervene and participate in processes and decisions that affect their individual and social life. The transformation of territorialism into territorial domination has been largely influenced by the growing awareness of the use of power in the construction and reconstruction of human geographies. As a result, all sub-disciplines and tendencies of human geography are more politically oriented, given this new understanding of the phenomenon of power.

Realm of consciousness

Territorial consciousness is a spatial manifestation of change in social life and territorial foundations, which is mainly interpreted in connection with globalization. In the realm of consciousness, the interconnectedness of economics, politics, and culture with the land weakens, and currents of globalization pervade places and territories (Popescu, G., 2010). Among the aspects of globalization are the free and

increasing circulation of capital, services, goods, labor, and information on a spherical scale. Such features define the different functions of the border in the form of separation and integration of defense and economy, creating obstacles to human movement, transfer of goods and dissemination of ideas from one side and conflict and communication, delimitation of the region, exercise of sovereignty and power of government, formation of economic relations. And political governments (Hafeznia, M., 2005). On the other hand, it has transformed various dimensions of territory. Many researchers, the emergence of the concepts of the global electronic village, information revolution, the expansion of world consciousness, the end of geography and the cybernetic age, time constraint, distance wear (Hamidi, H. and Sarfarazi, M., 2010). World Nation, World Government, World Culture, World Economy and One World and World Village (Mohammadi et al.: 2012). And have considered global security as a fundamental feature of the age of globalization; Emerging and evolving events that have challenged the geographical concepts of government, land, border, country, territory, and region, claiming deregulation, erosion of borders, and a tendency toward cosmopolitanism rather than national and local ideas. In conceptual terms, the demilitarization of the worlds of Fordism produces the spatial division of labor and political hegemony and the long-standing discourse of nation-state and traditional forms of nationalism and internationalism; Are made (Sack, R., 1986). Accordingly, secularists believe that the mechanisms of territorialization have been improved and their function is no longer territorial (Clark, Jan, 2003). Hence, the traditional function of political-spatial phenomena such as the country, with territory, sovereignty and borders Clearly, it will no longer continue as in the past, and the currents of globalization, from various dimensions (economic, social, political, technological, etc.) will reduce the absolute authority of governments in exercising national sovereignty (Galbraith, J., 2001).

Open the realm of consciousness

Globalization has been met with serious condemnation from various economic, political, cultural, environmental and developmental perspectives. These criticisms and criticisms have paved the way for the formation of numerous anti-globalization movements that oppose any economic and cultural institution that seeks to create a homogeneous and uniform world economic and cultural system. In the meantime, redemption and awareness oversee the stability and efforts of political actors and activists in emphasizing

and affirming indigenous and national values against the specific values and patterns of Western culture. Accordingly, re-consciousness (non-warfare) is in a way opposed to consciousness (Gregory, D., 2009). And is a critical response to globalization and post-Fordism, in which new actions by individuals and groups, cities and regions, corporations and industrial sectors, cultures and nations, are manifested in the reconstruction of territorial behavior in the form of resistance. (Jones, Martin, Jones, Rice and Michael Woods, 2007). Also, globalization has had tremendous consequences for identities and activities on a local-global scale by increasing the volume and acceleration of relationships and expanding communication; In addition to governments, new actors in the form of organizations and companies have emerged in the context of world trends and events. Re-territorialization refers to the reconstruction of a place or territory at the same time as the process of de-territorialization. The data show that the issue of territory can be explained in a range from globalization to re-territorialization; In such a way that no one denies the other. Hence, complete de-territorialization and globalization are not possible, and the dialectic of territorialization and globalization gives direction and meaning to political geography. Changes in the processes of re-awareness, marking and functioning of bordersThey give and create a new realm of power (Feitelson, E. and Levy, N., 2006).

Conclusion

Politics, in its modern sense, is the center of all social activity in a land. In other words, politics exists in the context of all collective, formal and informal, public and private social activities. In this sense, politics means internal organization and directing foreign affairs. Accordingly, political geography refers to the political order of the land (political organization of space) inside and outside (spatial interaction). In this sense, what distinguishes spatial phenomena from politics is the existence of land issues, its natural and material capabilities and characteristics, and the natural actions and reactions of individuals. Spatial phenomena interact with politics, and in the meantime political geography is born. Thus, understanding the relationship between man and nature on the one hand and man and politics on the other, in the definition of knowledge of political geography, an important function

has it. Understanding political geography requires understanding the interaction of geography (space) and politics (power) or the interaction of geographical

features such as space, place, and territory with matters of politics, power, and policy-making. Accordingly, "Political geography, as a subset of human geography, is a science that defines the political dimensions of geographical space in the form of the interaction of power relations (in the dimensions of coexistence, rivalry, conflict and war) with territory (space and territory) and territoriality (territorialism, Territoriality and Territoriality) Man studies.

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GEORGE H.W. BUSH, JAMES BAKER, NURSULTAN NAZARBAYEV, AND AMERICAN RECOGNITION OF KAZAKH INDEPENDENCE AUGUST-DECEMBER 1991

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Abstract

The article is devoted to the study of the process of the emergence of Kazakh-American relations at the initial stage of the formation of the independent Republic of Kazakhstan. The historical stages of building the first international relations of the young sovereign Kazakhstan with the United States are considered: the first visit of the Kazakh delegation headed by Nursultan Nazarbayev to the White House, the first visit of Secretary of State James Baker to Kazakhstan, the first negotiations of the heads of state. Important events in the history of the formation and formation of the independent Republic of Kazakhstan are considered: the December 1986 events in Alma-Ata, the growth of the importance of N. Nazarbayev, attempts to save the USSR from complete collapse, the events of August 19-21, 1991, called the "August putsch", the turning points of the collapse of the Soviet Union, the confrontation between Boris Yeltsin and Mikhail Gorbachev, the BelavezhaAccords and the formation of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The article describes the first historical steps of the Republic of Kazakhstan as an independent, peace-loving state: the rejection of nuclear weapons.

*Keywords:*George H.W. Bush, James Baker, N. Nazarbayev, independence of Kazakhstan, USA, Russia, USSR

Introduction

"Mr. President, distinguished members of the Kazakhstan delegation, it's been a great pleasure to welcome you to the White House on this historic occasion, the first-ever visit of the head of state of an independent Kazakhstan. I have never been to your country, but Secretary Baker has. And he has spoken to me about the tremendous potential of a nation rich in resources, a nation stretching from the Steppes to the Tien Shan in the south, four times the size of Texas. Mr. President, our meeting today marks the beginning of a new relationship, a relationship made possible by the end of the long era of East-West conflict that we called the Cold War. With the passing of that bitter conflict, we enter a new era of hope for a more democratic and free order in Eastern Europe and in Central Asia.

Under your leadership, sir, Kazakhstan is pursuing a course true to these aims. Our meetings today confirm the many interests that we share. The U.S. supports your independence. We believe its security, Kazakhstan's security, is important for stability in Europe and in Asia. We welcome President Nazarbayev's commitment that Kazakhstan will join the Non-Proliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear-weapons state and that it will adhere to the START Treaty. We'll continue to work toward a signing of the new START protocol by Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Byelarus, Russia, and the United States in the very near future. On behalf of all Americans I pledge the support of the United States as Kazakhstan seeks a future that is peaceful, prosperous, and free." So said American President George H.W. Bush in the company of his Secretary of State, James Baker, on May 19 1992, at a farewell ceremony at the White House to a Kazakh delegation led by NursultanNazarbayev, president of the newly independent Kazakhstan, the largest and most influential of the Central Asian republics which, five months earlier, had been part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. It was a meeting that scarcely could have been imagined the last time Bush, Baker, and Nazarbayev all met face to face, on July 30 the previous year in the Kremlin, with Gorbachev and several other Soviet leaders. Nazarbayev was the leader of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic (SSR), and a strong supporter of Mikhail Gorbachev's attempt to preserve the Soviet Union from complete collapse. Bush and Baker shared the same desire of Gorbachev and Nazarbayev, fearing the political and military consequences of a Soviet collapse, and the prospect of dealing with four nuclear powers (Russian, Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan) as opposed to one.

At the meeting on July 30 1991, Gorbachev, as was expected, took the lead during the initial sessions, although Nazarbayev made number of contributions, concerning how the Kazakh SSR could develop its considerable agricultural and mineral resources to export abroad, and how it could establish connections with Western oil companies, especially Chevron. The main topic during the Moscow meetings was

economic aid from the West to the USSR, something that the American President and his Secretary of State hoped would shore up Gorbachev's imperiled position at home between nationalists and reformers such as Boris Yeltsin who claimed the General Secretary was not doing enough to liberalize the USSR, and Communist hardliners like Defense Minister Dmitri Yazov and KGB Chief Vladimir Kryuchkov who felt Gorbachev had gone too far already.

In the months follow the meetings on July 30, first the hardliners and then the reformers destroyed any prospect of maintaining the Soviet Union. Bush and Baker moved from attempting to preserve the USSR to preparing for its collapse, while Nazarbayev abandoned Gorbachev, and by extension Kazakhstan's place in the Soviet Union, in favor of positioning himself as leader of an independent Kazakhstan, with American aid to deal with all the political, economic, and social problems a post-Soviet order would entail.

Main part

Despite its position on the periphery of Tsarist and later Soviet rule, the history of Kazakhstan served as a bellwether of the collapse of both systems. The draft riots in Kazakhstan against conscription into labor battalions in the fall of 1916 was a signal of worse to come for the Tsarist order in 1917. The December 1986 nationalist Jeltoqsan demonstrations in Alma-Ata against Gorbachev's appointment of the ethnic Russian GennadiKolbin to head the Kazakh Communist Party revealed how perestroika unleashed forces they could not control. These demonstrations were violently suppressed by Soviet authorities, although the Prime Minister of the Kazakh SSR, NursultanNazarbayev, was rumored to have secretly encouraged them as a way of demonstrating Alma-Ata's growing independence from Moscow. Gorbachev's appointment of Kolbin was intended to demonstrate his intention to exercise direct rule over the various republics, and bypass local elites, whose influence had grown considerably during the Brezhnev era. The open opposition of the Kazakhs to Moscow over this decision, the first large scale resistance to Soviet authority since the early 1930s, meant Kolbin, who possessed little familiarity with Kazakhstan, had little opportunity to serve as Gorbachev's point man in Kazakhstan, and Nazarbayev continued to rise in importance, eventually taking over from Kolbin as First Secretary in June 1989.

By this point, events in Eastern Europe, specifically the dismantling of the Communist order and the reintroduction of multi-party democracy in Hungary and Poland, indicated Gobachev's policies were just as likely to lead to the end of the one-party monopoly of power than democratic socialist reforms. By the end of the year, fall of the Berlin Wall, the Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia, and the bloody end to NicolaeCeaucescu's regime in Romania heralded the end of the Soviet Empire in Eastern Europe. By 1990 the Soviet Union was in danger of collapse, with the Baltic States declaring independence, Georgia and Ukraine leaning in this direction, Armenia and Azerbaijan mired in ugly ethnic conflicts, Yetsin openly challenging Gorbachev's authority in Russia. Despite his determination to obtain greater autonomy for the Kazak SSR, Nazarbayev was broadly supportive of glasnost and perestroika, and certainly was not an ally of Yeltsin at this stage, nor a proponent of Kazakh independence. The son of a Kazakh nomad, a member of the Communist Party since 1952 with a genuine proletarian background as a metal worker in Dniprodzerzhenysk in eastern Ukraine, who spoke Russian better than Kazakh, Nazarbayev did not appear to be a man who would lead Kazakhstan out of the USSR. The events of 1991 forced his hand.

This proved to be the case with both Bush and Baker. Somewhat paradoxically, they supported the drive of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania for independence, but hoped to preserve the rest of the Soviet Union under Gorbachev's leadership. The legal justification for this was when the United States legally recognized the Soviet regime in 1933, the Baltic states were not a part of it at that time. The American government never formally recognized the incorporation of the Baltic States by the USSR during the Second World War, and so they were a unique case. The Bush Administration had little problem rollback the effects of 1945, but was not willing to do so with 1917. Yet the events of 1990 and 1991 demonstrated that such as policy was impossible to pursue. By the summer of 1991, it was increasingly obvious that, if the, the USSR was to survive at all, it would be looser confederation of states, as the New Union Treaty of July 1991 guaranteed. Whether this arrangement, which replaced the 1922 Union Treaty which formally established the Soviet Union as centralized one-party dictatorship, could have preserved it in a truncated, federalized form is impossible to know, as events the next month proved to be the death knell of the regime.

The events of August 19-21 1991 were a watershed of the late 20th century. A group of hardliners in the Communist Party, the Soviet government, the KGB and the military, naming themselves the State Emergency Committee, attempted to seize power away from Gorbachev and use to suppress both

nationalist movements in the republics and democracy activists in Russia. The "Gang of Eight", as they soon became known, attempted to repeat in the USSR what General Jaruzelski had done in Poland ten years before to suppress the Solidarity movement in his country. The putsch turned out to be an amateurish failure, with Gorbachev and his family taken hostage at their holiday home in the Crimea, Boris Yeltsin railed opposition to the conspirators in Moscow, while Bush denounced them in unequivocal language soon after it began. In Kazakhstan, Nazarbayev also threw his support behind both Yeltsin and Gorbachev and attacked the leaders of the State Emergency Committee. By August 21, Gorbachev returned to Moscow and the putsch leaders were under arrest, one of the key figures, Minister of the Interior Boris Pugo, committed suicide. Yet Gorbachev's reputation was badly damaged, the men who attempted to drag the country back to the Neo-Stalinist era before 1985 were all his appointees.

For the Bush administration, it was also obvious they could no longer deal solely with Gorbachev, whose authority appeared to be rapidly disintegrating. It was past time to establish deeper connections with the various Republic leaders, such as Yeltsin, Ukraine's Leonid Kuchma, Belarus' Stanislaw Shushkevich, and Nazarbayev. On September 13, following a meeting with the Baltic leaders the day before, US Secretary of State James Baker arrived in Alma-Ata with a meeting with Nazarbayev to discuss the future of Kazakhstan, including, for the first time, the possibility of independence. Baker and Nazarbayev's families dined together, while the Kazakh leader's eldest daughter Dariga entertained the Secretary of State while a piano recital. After the families departed, Nazarbayev and Baker had a long conversation about the future of American and Kazakh relations. Certainly, for the first time to a foreign statesman, and perhaps for the first time to anyone outside of his family, Nazarbayev revealed one of his deepest concerns for the future of his country, what relations would be like between the Kazakh and Russian populations in an independent Kazakhstan. Nazarbayev provided a long monologue over the waves of Russian settlers who arrived in Kazakhstan over the previous century, particularly during the early 1930s, the Second World War, and the Virgin Lands campaigns of the late 1950s and early 1960s. By this point, ethnic Russians were the majority in the urban centers of Alma-Ata, Karaganda, and Tselinograd. There was more to the issue than population statistics, as Nazarbayev told Baker: "If you traveled around my country, you would see Russian kids beating up Kazakh kids in the street. That is how it was for me as well. It is not always easy to live with them."

Nazarbayev informed Baker he felt Kazakhstan, wedged between Russia and China, would need the United States as an ally which could counter-balance them. This was particularly necessary, given the fact many Russian nationalists, including the dissident leader Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, suggested the northern and northwestern parts of the country, as they had a Russian majority, should unite with their "Slavic motherland." He reluctantly admitted Gorbachev, his former ally, probably had little future after the debacle in August, but also stated he did not trust Yeltsin, or at the very least, did not believe he could restrain ethnic nationalists who aspired to enlarge Russia at the expense of the areas of Kazakhstan where a Russian ethnic majority lived. Following this serious and rather grim conversation, Nazarbayev ironically invited Baker and his staff to join him for a tradition Russian banya, Baker and his personal aide Bob Strauss accepted. Through his interpreter, Nazarbayev went into another long monologue about Kazakh history and traditions. He then took a eucalyptus branch and beat Baker's back and legs with release his pores and improve therapeutic value of the heat. At this point, Strauss left the banya and jokingly informed his security detail: "Get President Bush on the phone, his Secretary of State is buck naked in a sauna, and he is getting beat up by the President of Kazakhstan." The meeting ended successfully, and Baker promised Nazarbayev he would speak with soon, reflecting to himself "Is this still the Soviet Union anymore?"

Despite Baker's concluding statements, there was no immediate plan for his return to Kazakhstan. Events, one again, dictated otherwise. Gorbachev, in a last-ditch attempt to maintain some authority in the country, invited Yeltsin, Shushkebtich, Kuchma, and Nazabayev to meet him in Moscow on December 9. Instead, the Russian, Ukrainian, and Belarussian leaders met the previous day at one of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev's favorite dachas for his hunting trips in the Belarussian SSR, near Viskuli. The result was the Belavezha Accords, which announced Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine would formally secede from the Soviet Union and form the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Nazarbayev was angered, but not surprised, at the fact Yeltsin did not invite him to the meeting, and for a few days considered leading a Central Asian union to counter-balance the "Slavic Union" formed by the Belavezha Accords. By this point, the Kazakh SSR had changed its name to the Republic of Kazakhstan, with Nazarbayev as its President.

Ultimately, on December 11, 1991 Nazarbayev agreed that Kazakhstan would join the CIS, but

insisted on a meeting in Alma-Ata to discuss how the remaining Soviet republics would enter it. The Summit was scheduled for ten days later, on December 21. President Bush sent Baker to Central Asia once again to as preparation for American recognition of the independence of these former Soviet Republics. He explicitly informed Baker to raise the issue of nuclear non-proliferation as well as American aid with Nazarbayev. After spending much of day at the capital of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan to meet its president AskarAkayev, Baker arrived in Almaty on the evening of December 15 for another meeting with Nazarbayev. After formal greetings at the airport, and a trip to Nazarbayev's home, the Kazakh president once again offered a lengthy monologue about the Belavezha accords, how Kazakhstan would be a bridge between East and West, and could help contain the danger of Islamic fundamentalism. He alsodiscussed how he dealt with Yeltsin's snub of not inviting him to the meeting. He conceded to Baker that, despite his anger at Yeltsin, Gorbachev's hopes of maintain the New Union Treaty was "simply impossible, we are finished with that." The upcoming summit in Alma-Ata would finish the process begun in Belarus the week before. Yeltsin won Nazarbayev's acquiescence to his actions (and by extension Bush and Baker's as well) by promising the Russian Federation would respect the Republic of Kazakhstan's borders as being the same as those of the Kazakh SSR.

Baker made it clear to Nazarbayev if the leader of Kazakhstan hoped for American assistance, Kazakhstan would give up its nuclear arsenal, much like Ukraine and Belarus, leaving only Yeltsin with command of the Soviet Union's former nuclear missile system. Nazarbayev quickly agreed to this, although he informed Baker the disastrous environmental legacy of the dozens of nuclear tests in the Soviet era in the region near Semipalatinsk convinced him Kazakhstan would be a strong supporter of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). He also told Baker he was far not interested with direct financial aid, something which had been so crucial for Gorbachev over the last three years. "Send me advisors and investors, as many as possible, not money." Baker promised to send members of the State Department's Asian Bureau for Economic Affairs in the new year. He did not finish his meeting with Nazarbayev and return to his hotel room until three in the morning. He departed the next day to discuss the nuclear issue with the leaders of Ukraine and Belarus. Later in the day, on December 16, Kazakhstan declared its independence, almost five years to the day after the Jeltoqsan nationalist demonstrations in 1986. The United States of America was the first country to recognize it. Five days later nearly all the remainder of the former Soviet republics agreed at Alma-Ata to join and the CIS, and on December 25 Gorbachev resigned from his position as Soviet Premier, the final step in the fall of the USSR.

Conclusion

Although both Mikhail Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin contributed, if indirectly, to the emergence of an independent Kazakh state for the first time since the AlashOrda from 1917-1920, Nazarbayev and Baker, as well as President Bush, were the key instigators of this process, which was ironic given the fact all three attempted to prevent the Soviet breakup until the events of late August 1991 made in inevitable. Like many of the other Soviet republics, Kazakh independence was achieved through negotiations between powerful foreign and domestic political figures, not massive protests on the streets of the cities. Nazarbayev, Bush, and Baker, having concluded the Red Empire was finished, hoped to gain something from the other. For Bush and Baker, they desired a nuclear-free Kazakhstan which would begin to integrate itself with the global capitalist economy. For Nazarbayev, he desired American support against territorial encroachments from Yeltsin's Russia, or possibly oneday China, as well as assistance in economic modernization. Once both sides agreed to this from the period of August to December 1991, American support for Kazakh independence, something that could scarcely be imagined three years or even three months earlier, became a reality.

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The George H.W. Bush Presidential Library

A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF PAKISTAN - AFGHAN RELATIONS
(2017-2021)

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Abstract

Pakistan and Afghanistan share 2,260 kilometers. Though both the states are immediate neighbors, but since 1947, their relations remained fragile and have seen many ups and downs. However, this research is focused on Pakistan-Afghanistan relations during the Pakistan government (2017-2021) from a critical point of view. The era has witnessed some basic changes in the attitudes between the two countries towards each other. Pakistan abandoned its policy of strategic depth while Afghanistan and America realized that the road to peace, stability and prosperity goes through Pakistan. Though the dialogue and talks did not succeed but it provided a base for future discussions. This study critically analyzes the relations between the two countries in the given period of time from different dimensions: political, economic, social, and strategic etc. Though the relations of Pakistan and Afghanistan did not remain ideal from the day first but there are some common areas where they can co-operate the convergence of interest while there are also other areas where their interests contradict, the divergence of interest. However, the study finds that the convergence points are more than the divergence but the countries failed in building durable trust. The problems started from disagreement on Durand Line and then the chain of events and issues stretched to the current war against militancy and peace process in Afghanistan. During the under-discussion era, trade and cooperation increased between Pakistan and Afghanistan. In this respect, this article shows that the development of Pakistan-Afghanistan relations is somewhat like one step forward and two steps backwards.

Keywords: state, peace, terrorism, relations, Afghanistan, Pakistan, stability, war, security.

Introduction

For most of the time, the Pakistan-Afghanistan relations have remained victims of conflicts and mistrust since the creation of Pakistan. Afghanistan was the only country to oppose Pakistan to become member of the United Nations in 1947primarily due to the issue of Durand Line border. In 1950s, the Pashtunistan issue further worsened the relations between the two countries as it took various forms of propaganda warfare, closure of consulates, border fighting etc. However, in 1960, these relations were turned to become normal, but after a decade, their ties became strained once again when President Dawood came into power as the nationalist had tilted towards the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR). Likewise, in 1980s, due to Saur Revolution and the USSR interventions in Afghanistan, these relations were again affected negatively. Pakistan started to support Afghan Mujahedeen which were fighting against the Socialist Regime. Therefore, in 1992, the Socialist Regime was overthrown after the Soviet withdrawal and Mujahedeen government was formed in Afghanistan However, the short period of Mujahedeen government did not prove well for the bilateral relations of the two countries. Thus, the new government has created chaos for civil war which had brought further destruction to Afghanistan. Therefore, utilizing the opportunity, the Taliban emerged on Afghan scene in 1994 when they captured their stronghold in Kandahar and thus they finally entered Kabul in September 1997.

The episode of 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center (WTC) in the United States of America (USA) which took the lives of more than 3000 people. The attacks urged the US to launch a war against terrorism. Therefore, the Pakistan's policy towards Afghanistan was influenced by the new world order by becoming the US ally in the war on terrorism. As a result, Islamic extremism has become one of the pressing factors in Pakistan-Afghanistan relations for the last two decades. Islamic extremism, a product of cold war, has always set a parameter of relationship between the two countries. This factor played an important role during military dictatorship in Pakistan (1999-2007).

Moreover, the restoration of democracy in Pakistan brought some positive changes. This is due to the fact that democratic countries usually avoid wars and try to resolve their problems through diplomacy and peaceful means. When elections took place in Pakistan in 2017, the Afghan President Ashraf Ghani expressed his hope that both countries would fight against terrorism which was considered as the common enemy being faced by both the countries. The Imran Khan government

witnessed some challenges but the then incumbent government had made efforts to resolve the confronting issues through peaceful means(Safdar, 2011).

Among the peaceful developments, one of them was the Lisbon Summit held in 2010 which set the agenda for withdrawal of the US forces by 2014 to 2020. This summit also discussed the security situation and power sharing with Taliban for which Pakistan's assistance was quite essential. The PPP government also prepared the ground for economic ties and development projects with Afghanistan.

Therefore, the government also took steps for countering the monopolized economic competition in the region where India and Iran were the major players. In short, the government tried its level best to improve and normalize Pakistan-Afghanistan relations for durable peace and stability in the region. the Afghanistan's recurring accusation on Pakistan for sponsoring terrorism and suicide bombing increased the mistrust. Nonetheless, peace, political stability and economic development and social progress of both the countrieswere deeply linked with the cooperation and support of each country (Safdar, 2011).

Objectives of the Study

1. To explore the nature of relationship between Afghanistan and Pakistan during (2017-2021).
2. To examine the political relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan and their potential impact on bilateral relations.
3. To assess the security challenges that confronts Pakistan-Afghanistan relations.

Theoretical framework

National interests govern a state's foreign policy system and the realistic paradigm. There are areas where the national interests of Pakistan and Afghanistan are converged and diverged from each other. Pakistan and Afghanistan relations are based on their common historical legacy, cultural and religious commonality, historically the relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan remained unpredictable. An incident on the border or any foreign propaganda or intervention and policy could affect the relations between them. They are immediate neighbors that's why the foreign policy or even the internal policy of one can affect the other directly or indirectly through many ways. It is said in international politics that everything could be changed in international politics except neighbor. Many shifts could be seen in the Pakistani foreign policy due to the foreign intervention in Afghanistan.

Mujahedeen, Taliban and the impacts of terrorism were felt equally by both states. This study is a critical appraisal of Pakistan-Afghanistan relations during from 2017 to 2021. The realist theory of international relations bests suits the study. Both Pakistan and Afghanistan are doing efforts to survive in an anarchic environment. According to this theory "international politics is governed by national interest". Each actor tries to maximize his power for the advancement of national self-interest. The theory of Realism is a "state centric" approach measuring the state response in terms of power. Moreover, critical policy analysis will be used to analyze the data from technical and other aspects

Research Questions

1. How and where the national interests of Pakistan-Afghanistan bilateral relations converge and diverge during (2017-2021)?
2. What were the peaceful efforts initiated by Pakistan and Afghanistan during the PPP Government (2017-2021)?
3. What prospects and problems were faced in area of political cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan during this particular time period?

Data collection & Data Analysis

The research paper mainly relies on the documents available in either electronic or printed form. The secondary sources will consist of books, research reports and articles, and scientific commentaries available on line or in printed form. The researcher also has utilized websites of television channels and newspaper, particularly those from Pakistan and Afghanistan including The News, DAWN, Express, Journal and magazine such as IPRI, PIPS, The Afghanistan times Daily, The Kabul times, ICG etc.

The collected secondary data has been analyzed qualitatively through Critical policy analysis; A critical Analysis of Pakistan-Afghanistan relations (2017-2021). The gap between theory and practice has been investigated from the critical policy analysis. This research also critically analyzed the areas of diverge and converge of interests, political challenges and their solution for achieving the trust factor and have cordial ties.

Methodology for the research study

This research paper explores the issue in-depth while conducting qualitative research methodology

and analytical research to understand the prevailing situation between Pakistan and Afghanistan relations (2017- 2021). Secondary sources like research articles, books, newspaper articles, available literature and internet sources will be consulted to dig out historical account, converge and diverge of interests, Issues and Political and challenges of Pakistan-Afghanistan ties (2017-2021).

The Status of Durand Line and Mistrust between both Countries

Afghanistan and the British supported each other before the partition of the Subcontinent despite the fact that the British government in South Asia used Afghanistan as a buffer zone against the U.S.S.R. Therefore, the partition further accelerated the problems for Afghanistan in case of Durand Line. Afghan government has recognized the validity of Durand Line agreement and legitimacy of its border with the British India on multiple occasions and their agreement concluded in 1905, 1919, 1921 and 1930. Afghanistan with its weak legal stance took the agreement of historical and ethnic similarities to expand its territory in shape of Pashtunistan (Daveed Gartenstein, 2012).

The Durand Line is about 2,260 km long boundary between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Since the birth of Pakistan, Durand Line became a hardcore issue between the two countries. The Durand Line issue gives an opportunity to Pakistan to counter Afghanistan in different ways. The Durand agreement was signed in Kabul on 12th November 1893 between the British government and Amir Abdul Rahman. Pakistan considered the Durand Line as international border but Afghanistan always opposed it. Afghanistan approached Pakistan after 1947 to resolve the issue of Durand Line and division of Pashtuns. Pakistan rejected this proposal and said that border could not be reformed because of Vienna Convention on Succession of States on Respect of Treaties (VCSSRT) which says that bilateral treaties between the colonial powers on descendent states. So, this is a reason that Durand Line could not be changed. However, afterwards, hostile and mistrust developed between both nations. It was. not the will of Afghans but British India established Durand Line by force. Afghanistan argued that Durand Line agreement was valid for 100 years and it has expired in 1993. They believe now these agreements have no value because all agreements were signed with the British India not with Pakistan. In response, Pakistan said Afghanistan cannot ignore the legal aspects of international laws (Bazai, 2008, pp. 11-19).

The role of Islamists in Pakistan-Afghanistan relations

Dawood Khan government reacted very strongly to its opponents as he assassinated more than 600. Islamists and the remaining fled to Peshawar. The prominent among them were Professor Burhan Uddin Rabbani, Professor Abdul Rab Rasool Sayyaf and Gulbadin Hikmatyar. The agenda of these religious leaders were to develop modern Islamic political ideology in Afghanistan according to which people could live in terms of principles and teaching of Islam. The government considered these religious scholars a major threat because these were against the USSR, Pashtun nationalism and communism. More than 50 religious leaders came to Pakistan during the Dawood Khan government. Pakistan got an opportunity to use them against Dawood Khan government to weaken and damage it. Bhutto government helped these leaders for strategic rather than ideological reasons. In response to bomb attack in Pakistan, the Afghan Islamists in July, 1975 attacked on two police stations in Panjshir Valley. Nasir Ullah Baber associated with Afghan affairs during the Bhutto era stated in the book by Imtiaz Gul "The Unholy Nexus: Pakistan-Afghanistan Relations under the Taliban" We had a small operation in Panjshir in August 1975, a time when there were so many bomb attacks in Pakistan, probably by the Afghan insurgents. So, we thought we must give a message to Afghan Ruler Dawood Khan and I personally advised Mr. Bhutto to do something. We also wanted to assess the level of training of these people who had been training since 1973 (Usman, 2013, pp. 12-13).

Emergence of Taliban

Taliban is a plural of Talib, which means a student, the one who studies in religious Madrassa or School. Taliban were always the parts of religious Afghan society but some political analysts argue that they were a new phenomenon. Taliban gained power after 1994 when they occupied the Helmand, Kandahar and Kabul. Earlier, the Afghan warlords blocked the trucks of Pakistan convey which were going to Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Taliban came forward to help Pakistan convey and opened the roads to Central Asia. Mullah Mohammad Umar controlled the area where threewomen were raped besides two boys which were dressed as girls belonging to infamous warlords like Daro Khan, Saleh Jan and Nadir Jan. These types of activities were not acceptable to Taliban and they started to eliminate these activities. Talibanextended

their influence with the passage of time and decided to work for introducing Islamic values, justice, peace and harmony. In order to achieve these goals, he founded Tahriki-Islami-Taliban. The main objectives of Taliban were to disarm all the rival militias, fight against all those who did not give up arms, enforce sharia-law in liberated areas and controlled all the areas they captured. After implementing objectives, Tahriki-Islami-Taliban controlled most areas and Mullah Mohammad Umar become powerful leader of his country. Pakistan and Afghanistan relations were good in Taliban regime, so in 1994 Pakistan getting the opportunity and wanted to establish road and road links to central Asia to utilize the resources of the region.

For this purpose, Pakistan approached Powerful warlordsAbdul Rashid Dostam and Ismail khan; these were the heads of Council of Mzaar-i-Sharif (Balkh) and Herat. So finally, the agreement was done and they assured Pakistan for help and co-operation. Thirty trucks of convoy which were carrying food, clothes and medical left Pakistan to central Asia, the purpose of trade was to increase the economic development in the region. The Central Asian States also want to reach to sea for their development and trade; otherwise, they have no other options for development and regional connection. Mujahedeen commanders blocked Pakistani convoy of trucks and asked for ransom, the power of Taliban once again helped Pakistan to resolve the issues as the Taliban had good relations with Pakistan which was not absorbed by many regional and international powers. Like Russia, India and Iran, they believed the rise of Taliban is due to Pakistan's support. Taliban became powerful day by day and Afghan leaders like Burhan Uddin Rabbani and Ahmad shah Masood started bashing Pakistan for supporting Taliban and their supporters attacked on Pakistan Embassy in Kabul. The result of these activities and non-stop aggressive towards Pakistan, give an opportunity to support Taliban (Bazai, 2008, pp. 147-150).

The Indian Factor and the Pakistan's foreign policy

The Indian always in search of opportunities to oppose Pakistan interest's in Afghanistan.From the birth of Pakistan till to date India always support Afghan government which creates trouble for Pakistan. Durand line and Pashtunistan issue give chance India to destroy Pakistan in two fronts. In 1992, the situation was totally changed when mujahedeen took control of Kabul and later civil war started between different mujahedeen groups. In 1996, when Taliban captured Kabul, For the first-time, India supported opposition parties in Afghanistan, otherwise, some Politicians in Pakistan army think that Afghanistan would be a strategic depth in case of war with India. Afghanistan and U.S should know India's presence in Afghanistan is threat to Pakistan's security. Instability in different parts of Pakistan like Baluchistan, FATA and Karachi is due to Indian involvement. Indian presence in Afghanistan is only for development and other projects but they also sponsor terrorism in Pakistan. Pro-India government in Afghanistan is a risk to Pakistan security as the Afghanistan did not want Taliban government, so the situation is difficult for both sides. Now there is mistrust on both sides, and solution is sitting together to resolve these issues by peaceful means (Sial; 2011, pp. 7-8).

The corner stone of Pakistan's foreign policy is directly linked with its security and economic development. In this respect; the history of Pakistan shows that its foreign policy is India centric. Regarding its security issues, no matter what happens but Pakistan is never ready to ease this approach in Afghanistan. From the first day, Pakistan had some important issues which need attention here to identify that why Pakistan and Afghanistan lack trust on each other. India remained a dominant factor in Pakistan's foreign policy. Pakistan considers Afghanistan its strategic depth against India. In a nutshell, the influence of India in Afghanistan is not acceptable for Pakistan whatever its reason may be and Pakistan always tried to install a friendly government in Kabul particularly focusing on Pashtun ethnicity. That's because, Pakistan does not want to be confronted on the both western and eastern borders at the same time. This is clear that India through different techniques exploited Afghanistan for its covert operations against Pakistan. India always tried to have friendly relations with Afghanistan, through which she can keep an eye on Pakistan and even tries to influence. Pakistan on different occasions accused India for supporting Baloch militants and the TTP (Tahrik-e-Taliban Pakistan), which are constantly attacking Pakistani security forces and Politicians. India denied these accusations and termed them propaganda by Pakistan. India is innocent on this matter, because both the states do not miss a chance to interfere in each other is a matter this time Afghanistan is battle field where they try to get power by supporting different groups (Fair, 2014).

Pakistan role Post 9/11 and War on Terrorism

After the 9/11 incident, Pakistan was also affected especially its relations with the Taliban government

in Afghanistan. Pakistan had limited options either to support or oppose the Taliban government and there was no third option. So, Pakistan joined war on terrorism led by the United States. Pakistan deployed 100,000 troops around the border areas to stop Taliban and al-Qaida infiltration into Pakistan. Despite its sincere efforts, some al-Qaida and Taliban members were successful to enter Pakistan and take a shelter in different areas like Karachi, Peshawar, and Quetta etc. During various operations, Pakistan and the U.S arrested different Taliban and al-Qaida activists, in response, these extremist's groups developed a network to launch attacks in Pakistan and pro-western parties Pakistan had to pay the price of its changed policies towards Taliban in different ways, like increase in terrorism, collapse of economy, disorder in society, radicalization, security issues etc. (Akhtar, 2008, pp. 61-63).

The 9/11 incident forced Pakistan to change its policy towards Taliban and pursue anti-Taliban policies. Although it was a big decision because Pakistan has always supported the Taliban government and enjoyed close relations with them. Pakistan deployed 80,000 troops to its western border to stop cross-border terrorism despite that Afghan officials alleged Pakistan for supporting terrorists which they claimed easily come to Afghanistan and carry out their activities. They further alleged Taliban and Al-Qaeda leadership had safe heavens near Pakistan-Afghanistan border. Pakistan consistently accused India for sponsoring terrorism and collected all proofs of supplying money and arms ammunition to the militants. In July 2006, Senator Mushhid Hussain, Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs stated that the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) was giving training to 600 Baloch's and Afghan Intelligence. These accusations are difficult to prove or refute because historically India has always good relations with Afghanistan while Pakistan and Afghanistan have hostile relations. So, India and Pakistan are fighting proxy war in Afghanistan. The killing of Indian engineer and it was assumed that Pakistan is trying to stop Indian presence in Afghanistan. There is no doubt the strong presence of Indian intelligence in Afghanistan but this does not mean to conduct operations against Pakistan (Grare, 2006).

Pakistan's Interest in Afghanistan

The security of Afghanistan is of paramount importance for Pakistan in many respects. After the soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the neighboring state Pakistan suffered the most due to the spillover effects of the war as Pakistan has hosted around three million of Afghan refugees. As a result, the law and order situation of Pakistan was also deteriorated. The border management has also become a difficult task especially handling the refugees coming to Pakistan. The huge inflow of refugees has increased burden on the economy of Pakistan. Therefore, Pakistan had a very bad experience while fighting the American wars. The US left Pakistan alone to tackle the aftermath of the American sponsored war against the USSR. This may happen againafter the war against the Taliban and Al-Qaida. This is a fact that if the NATO forces leave Afghanistan, it would not only complicate the situation for Pakistan but for the whole region (Rehma, 2013). Furthermore, due to the spillover effects, Pakistan had conducted military operations in which more than 60,000 people lost their lives and along with billions of dollars of loss occurred to the economy of the country (Rana, 2013). Pakistan is considered as assets and so long as the Indian factor posed an existential threat to its security, Pakistan would not desert themselves or change its policy. In 2011, when attacks were mounted on the NATO forces, the US administration was left with no choice but to blame Pakistan and the Haqqani network. Some analysts consider that the Salala Check post incident was a shut-up call for Pakistan but they also considered that it would be very difficult to change Pakistan's policy if there is an Indian threat (Hilali, Nov 2013).

Convergence of Interests and Political Aspect

Interests which both Pakistan and Afghanistan are sharing would be discussed in this section. Though the relations of Pakistan and Afghanistan are hostile since the beginning but there is a considerable level of geo-economic and geo-strategic interests which both the neighboring countries are sharing. As both Pakistan and Afghanistan are bound in socio-cultural and religious bonds, there is a considerable level of rapprochement on different times in different sectors. Some of political, economic, social-cultural and geo-strategic development is responsible for the convergence of interests are as the followings.It is very important that the civil leadership of both countries should be on the same page against these problems. It is very important that the leadership of both states should not blame each other for their political point scorings. Furthermore, they should not let their soil to be used against the other. The US persistently press Pakistan to "do more", and they had started strategic talks with Pakistan to find out a safe way to get rid of the fatal Afghan War On the other hand, the Afghan

government is giving priority to India over Pakistan which is of grave concern for the Pakistan. Since inception, the foreign policy of Pakistan is being dominated by the Indian factor. They fought deadliest wars, and Pakistan cannot afford a two border wars which could be possible due to priorities and policies ofAfghanistan. It is in the best interest of both the countries to work closely instead of fighting proxies against each other because in that case there could be no winner (Sial, 2013, pp. 8-9).

Interference in internal affairs

Afghanistan persistently accused Pakistan of interference in internal affairs. Pakistan does it as it needs security and a friendly government in Afghanistan. According to Pakistan, Afghanistan has given safe havens to the Baloch separatist militants supported by India to sponsor terrorism in Pakistan. Furthermore, they had given more space to India than Pakistan desire for them, which it considers bad for Pakistan. On the other hand, the terrorists who were pushed by military operations are using Afghanistan as a launching pad against Pakistan. Afghanistan thinks that when the NATO forces defeated Taliban than the Taliban crossed the border and went to former FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, they regrouped themselves over there and are carrying out their activities against the Afghan authorities and they also blame Pakistan of creating Taliban. One of the major sign of developing country is weak government which had zero performance in policy making of both internal affairs and external affair. These countries also face security issues which leads anarchy in a country. Due to these issues, a foreign country can easily interfere in the matters of the country. Here is the same situation with Pakistan and Afghanistan, in 2011-12 Afghanistan believed their internal situation is violent and unsatisfactory due to Pakistan interference(Rizvi, 2011).

Strategic Depth

A theory constructed by Pakistani military dominated establishment. It means that in case of a war with India, it will provide the second-strike capability from Afghanistan to counter India. Currently, some scholars believe that Pakistan haschanged this policy of strategic depth, in which, only the Pashtun ethnicity was considered as suitable for its interests. It is believed now that Pakistan is contacting the political forces of northern parts (Sial, 2011). In the words of Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad: "Thus, in the current cost-benefit

calculus, the cost of not changing the policy course is far higher than the benefit accruing from continuing it and hence the recent shift in Pakistan's Afghan policy" (Ahmad D., 2013). Every state wants to maximize its gains and minimize its losses, the same is time for Pakistan. On the part of Afghan policy, the change was inevitable because the change in the foreign policy should be according with the changing dynamics. This is a positive development to build trust with Afghan government and to normalize its relations with Afghanistan.

Terrorism and cross border Infiltration

A concern which both countries have against each other. As mentioned above that Afghanistan blame Pakistan for providing safe havens in FATA and KP to the Taliban and other groups who are persistently targeting in Afghanistan. Furthermore, it is believed that Pakistan is distinguishing between the Taliban, like good Taliban and bad Taliban. This is not acceptable for Afghan government. On the other hand, Pakistan has the same concern. When the. TTP started the Tahrik-e-Nifaz-a-Shariat Mohammedi and demanded the implementation of Sharia law in Swat, the Pakistan government accepted their demand on the conditions that they would lay arms after the implementation of the agreement but they breached these arrangements and entered in Buner. Thus, Operation Rahe-e-Rast was launched in Swat against the TTP and about 2.5 million people become Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) (Ali, 2012, pp. 12-14). The TTP leadership pushed by Pakistan-Army crossed the border and are currently stationed in Afghanistan, from where they operated without any interruption. The US pressed on Pakistan for a military operation in Waziristan but Pakistan insisted and successfully defied that we will do the operation but at the time of our own choice Pakistan started the South Waziristan operation called the Rahe-e-Nijat in 2009. Pakistan has the concerns that these TTP leaders and warrior should be brought to justice and that they should be eliminated to root out militancy. Furthermore, the Baloch separatists are also using the Afghan soil against Pakistan to disrupt the peace and stability. Likewise, it was also blamed long time ago that Afghanistan was supporting the Pakhtunistan cause (Sial, 2011).

Political support and Afghan Peace Process

Pakistan ever tried to provide political support to bring peace and stability to war torn Afghanistan. After the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan,

it was Pakistan that actively engaged to bring the war lords for conflict resolution to the talk table. And indeed, Pakistan was successful in this respect because in early 1990s, it has managed to install the government in Kabul. Due to the lack of trust among the warlords, civil war was once again breaking out. This time a new class, the clergy class from a very lower level came to power with the support of common people and Madrasah students. The Madrasah Teacher Mullah Mohammad Umar rose to power. He was given the title of Amir. When the 9/11 happened and America demanded from Afghanistan to hand over Osama bin Laden. It was Pakistan who pressed for the handing over of OBL, to save the Taliban regime but due to their strictness to the Pashtun social codes and their conservativeness led to the most devastating and fatal war against terrorism. In 2009, when the ISAF forces held elections in Afghanistan, Pakistan appreciated and supported the political arrangements as a solution for instability in Afghanistan. Due to the elections, Hamid Karzai came into power. He started the reconciliation process for the purpose to arrange talks with the Taliban, he visited Pakistan in 2010. He recognized the important position of Pakistan and requested for help to reconcile with the militant groups. Pakistan welcomed himand assured of all possible assistance in this regard buthe Afghan issue is very complicated and it is not possible to resolve it with the support of only one stakeholder. This peace process was failed because the US was only interested to hold talks with the Taliban and not with other militant groups particularly, the Haqqani group. Though talks were failed but it was a positive sign to bring peace and stability through a civil and political process owned by the Afghan government and people themselves. In 2018, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan visited Kabul and the final statement issued on this occasion said that both Pakistan and Afghanistan will counter terrorism collectively because it was a common enemy. On one occasion, Hamid Karzai said that the permanent bases of American in Afghanistan or their withdrawal must be according to the interests of all major neighboring countries. On 27 December, in Mini-Summit Ghani said that the security of Pakistan and Afghanistan is interconnected and the security of one country is guarantee to the other as the political and economic interests of both are the same. Afghan High Peace Council led by Abdul Salam Rahimi in 2019 came to Islamabad to discuss the ways and means for the Afghan peace process and the role of Pakistan in this respect. It was a positive thing because not long-ago Afghanistan was blaming Pakistan for the sponsoring of terrorism on Afghan soil (Sial,

2019, pp. 9-11). The peculiar situation of Pakistan after the 9/11 attacks and the influence of military establishment in foreign policy are some major elements on which not only the Afghan governments but the Americans as well consistently blamed that Pakistan was playing a double game in this whole pack of war against terrorism. They believe that Pakistan had the concept of good and bad Taliban. It is also a fact that the Taliban were more interested in dialogue with the Americans instead of Ghani government. At the same time, However, Pakistan believed that the NATO and Afghan forces were not doing operations to prevent the Pakistani Taliban to intrude into Pakistani territory and attack on civilian and military. Analysts believe that the Trilateral Border Commission which includes Afghanistan, Pakistan and the US could stop the clashes between the forces of both the states and the infiltration of Taliban to Pakistani soil. The British Prime Minister David Cameron in July 2012 has brought Pakistan and Afghanistan to a trilateral summit in Kabul together. The result of the meeting was not very fruitful. Later on, both the countries agreed to send joint military team to investigate the matter of the military skirmishes. In order to encourage the Afghan peace process, Pakistan released 13 senior Afghan Taliban leaders including Mullah Noor Uddin Turabi (John Lunn, 2013).

The role of Regional and International Actors in the Peace

Process During the NATO conference in Lisbon, it was called on America to develop an administrative, political and a judicial system to take the issues of the Afghan people secondly, to give big role and engage the regional countries in the peace process particularly Pakistan, Iran and China thirdly that a power sharing arrangement with stockholders to ensure a representative government including Taliban (Sial, 2011). Up till now, it is crystal clear that without a pro-active role for the regional countries, the peace in Afghanistan is a distinct dream. Their institutions are very weak and take time to come to the level to deliver quality services to their people. On the other hand, the-trust deficit between Pakistan and Afghanistan has not been mitigated till now. Resultantly, the common men suffer e.g. the skirmishes on the border result in causalities for common people, if the border closed than common men face the fatality due to using alternate routes which are not safe because people living in these states particularly KP province are connected and have relations which is not easy to separate.

Pakistan's Regional Pivot

A Pakistani policy shift in the changing regional dynamics, unveiled in 2009 for the first time. Based on good neighborliness and economic relations diplomacy with CARs and South Asian countries, the basic pillars of this policy are, to normalize the relations and trade with India, to make Pakistan as bridge for transportation of energy resources and other trade and finally to reach to the CARs resources. In fact, these are not possible without peace in Afghanistan. (Ahmad D., 2013). As it is desire of both the states to counter militancy and has peaceful relations, Pakistan has launched operations against the TTP in FATA and other parts of country, though it was tough decision because it would further create a lot of problems. Pakistan' relations with the NATO were also endgame phase so it made Pakistan more focused to fight against these terrorist groups. However, weak Afghan Government was fighting against Afghan Taliban and other groups but unable to bring peace and stability as desirable (Yusuf, 2013). Though Pakistan is also strong stakeholder in Afghanistan, in 2009 December when President Obama announced to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan, then in response, Pakistan asked about the strategy of troop's withdrawal and conditions on the ground. Islamabad was worried about these conditions because after all Pakistan would face whole of the issues, which are happening in Afghanistan. The US has always focused to fight against Taliban and to build pressure on them in order to bring into negotiation table. Pakistan believed in negotiation talksby peaceful means not by pressure tactics, and further argued Taliban would like to sit on table after end of night raids and ceasefire by US and NATO forces (Nicoll, 2013).

Issues and Challenges to Pakistan-Afghanistan Relations

Pakistan is as equally important for Afghanistan vis-à-vis as Afghanistan for Pakistan. They share "history, ethnicity, religion and geography". It could be reasonably deduced from this fact that Pakistan is more concerned with the Afghan problem than any other neighboring country and would adopt itself accordingly. (Ahmad D., 2013) As a matter of fact, the issues and contestations between the two neighboring countries are historical in nature. Pakistan is considered as the only country which has suffered the most due to instability of Afghanistan among the neighboring countries. The history of relations

between these two countries is characterized by the blame game and periodical rapprochement. The era from 2008- 13 is very important in the relations, because in 2008, a civilian government came to power in Pakistan followed by Afghanistan. However, this could be characterized asrapprochement oriented and with the emergence of a shift from the historical hard-core policy of Pakistan. The debate in this chapter has been dedicated to the critical analysis of Pakistan-Afghanistan relations between 2017 and 2021(Ahmad D., 2018)

Afghan government collapse in August 2021

The Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in August 2021 has produced a surge of misinformation about the country. It has been fueled by information shortages that emerged following the Taliban's ascent to power and the withdrawal of NATO forces. Initially, much of the misinformation focused on U.S. actions. On the whole, the rapid collapse of Afghan government forces and the Taliban's seizure of power have shocked all the world. While the United States was the prime mover and decided the strategy of Western intervention in Afghanistan, several European countries made a big investment of troops and resources in the effort. Now that effort lies in ruins, and Europeans are left with several unavoidable questions. In the first instance these revolve around the best ways to get their citizens, and those who worked with them, out to safety. But, further ahead, they must consider the lessons of the Afghan experience for their policies on security, the reason of afghan government collapse needs more studies and research to find the main causes and findings (South Asian Voices, online policy platform for strategic analysis on South Asia)

Conclusion

Pakistan and Afghanistan, the neighboring states, share around 2,260 km long borders dividing the Pashtun ethnicity from North to the East. In the same fashion, throughout history, the relations of these two states underwent many fluctuations. Furthermore, the relations of both the countries have remained subjects to inter-stated and intra-state rivalries not only on the local level but internationally as well. The Durand Line is considered as the line of separation between Pakistan and Afghanistan creating the first controversy between the two states. That's why Afghanistan (the only state) opposed the membership of Pakistan in the United Nations. Though both the states lack trust but still

there exists a considerable level of goodness toward each other. It also played the role of a facilitator in the Afghan rapprochement and peace process to bring stability. Pakistan has also tackled the post- Soviet withdrawal waste to end the civil war and bring the warlords to the table talks. Indeed, it was successful to some extent but with the rise of Taliban, civil war was once again started. However, on one hand, Afghanistan blames Pakistan for militarization, radicalization of Madrassahs, and instability. In addition, Pakistan is also blamed that it has been backing the government of its own choice in Afghanistan. On the other hand, it is also claimed that the whole history of Pakistan is Indian centric but the country cannot afford to have hostile neighbors on both western and eastern borders. India being a factor to the Pakistan-Afghanistan relations is quite well discussed by scholars and international relations analysts. Pakistan, on the other hand, complains that Afghanistan is sheltering the Baloch nationalists supported by India. During the era 2017-2021, America and Afghanistan have given free hand to India in Afghanistan as the country has established consulates near the areas of Pakistan-Afghanistan border, which Islamabad believes are used for subversive activities in Pakistan. Furthermore, Pakistan also blamed Afghanistan for supporting the Pashtunistan cause After 9/11 episode, both Pakistan and Afghanistan suffered on the same footings from the brunt of militancy and terrorism. In the changing geo-strategic situation, Pakistan has joined the Western Powers in war against terrorism by becoming the front-line ally of the US. However, despite huge human and economiclosses in the war against terrorism, Pakistan is still blamed by Afghanistan and Western Powers of doing the "double game" Likewise, when the NATO forces intervened in Afghanistan, the Taliban crossed the border areas and moved to the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, particularly the erstwhile FATA and KP - the areas of Pakistan. But the country is kept on accused for supporting certain militant groups who are carrying activities against the Afghan government and Western powers in Afghanistan. But Pakistan itself became victim of terrorism, as a result, it had launched military operations for rooting the menace of terrorism. Moreover, Pakistan believes that some of the major terrorist acts carried out in Pakistan have been planned in Afghanistan. In a nutshell, the Afghan soil is being used for anti-Pakistani activities. Thus it is assumed from the discussion that the PPP era (2017-2021) has been characterized by blame game and periodical rapprochement between Pakistan-Afghanistan relations. While focusing on the economic relations during the particular era, the study reveals that the bilateral trade has been increased. But due to the complexities in bilateral relations, the desired targets were not achieved. Likewise, Pakistan and Afghanistan are the members of some regional organizations like SAARC, ECO etc. which provides some relations and incentives for political and economic engagement. Regarding economic relations, both the states have bilateral agreements. The research also shows that the major issue between Pakistan and Afghanistan is the trust deficit, which is a hindrance in smooth relations. Its roots are historical and very complicated. Due to the geo-strategic and geo-economic position of Afghanistan and Pakistan, it attracted not only the regional, but most importantly,the major powers. Many times, the ground became the battle ground between and among the regional and great powers. In these wars, the most sufferers are Pakistan, Afghanistan or both of them. Throughout from Pakistan-Afghanistan troubled relations, the enemy states took the advantage; particularly, India has left no stone unturned in this regard. In the understudy period, a paradigm shift was seen in Pakistan's foreign policy towards Afghanistan and other regional countries. The Pakistan's approach turned from the historic strategic depth to a strong Afghanistan for ruling itself without external influence. Furthermore, during the PPP era, Afghanistan has also sought Pakistan's help in the peace process. Pakistan has assured that it would provide every possible help for restoring long-term peace in the war-torn Afghanistan. Thus Pakistan is in favor of Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process as the former Foreign Minister of Pakistan during the PPP government of the mentioned period once said in a statement, 'Pakistan will support Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghan- driven initiative regarding the peace process and that nothing is dearer to Pakistan than peace, stability and security; " (Ahmad D., 2013). The stability in Afghanistan is very important subject for Pakistan, because it directly affects the security of Pakistan. Moreover, the menace of terrorism has affected the political and economies activities of both the nations besides badly affecting the image of these countries (Hussain Z., 2011). But first and foremost, efforts are needed to address the issue of trust deficit and the powers rivalry in shape of proxies between the two countries for restoring peace. Moreover, peace in the region is not possible without restoring peace to war-torn Afghanistan. Currently Pakistan Government have fully Influence on Taliban new Government after 15 August 2021 previous Ghani Government collapse.

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SOCIOLOGY

LATINIZATION OF THE KAZAKH ALPHABET: ANALYSIS OF REASONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND THEIR POSSIBLE PROBLEMS

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Abstract

The introduction of Latin alphabet in Kazakh language caused on the one hand great concerns anduproars within the society of Kazakhstan regarding its importance and relevance, while on the other sidecausing an optimistic outlook at the language policy reforms for the future to be debated. People startedactively to discuss this long-term oriented government initiative within the social media outlets as well as ona higher governmental level. It also sparked controversial but interesting discussions concerning sensitivedomestic issues such as on topics concerning aspects of national identity, civic identity matters, nation-buildingprocessesandsocio-politicalmattersthatbothdirectlyandindirectlyaffectedthe processoftransition from Cyrillic towards a Latin script. This paper analyzes the importance and relevance of theLatinization process of the Kazakh language in the contemporary time period for the Kazakhstani society anddiscusses the implementation problems from the orthographic and phonetic aspect; institutionalism and pathdependency approach; modernization process; and the financial and socio-political aspects. Moreover, ahistorical literature review has been provided in this paper, summarizing the different periods of transition ofthe Kazakh language since the early 19th century up to the contemporary time period. Last but not the least, alist of recommendations was provided with arguments supporting this grand government policy and how tooperationalize these potential recommendations to policymakers as well as other stakeholders involved in theprocess of latinizing the Kazakh language. This paper will serve as a discursive paper for scholars in the fieldofpublic policy,philo logicalstudiesandsocio-politicalscience.

Keywords: *latinizationprocess; Kazakhlanguage;nation-buildingprocess;nationalidentity; language policy.*

Introduction

The Kazakh language in Kazakhstan's constitution has a clear status: it is a state language.However, officially the Russian language plays an important role for inter-ethnic communicationwithin the society of Kazakhstan. TheKazakh languagehas gone through difficultperiods oftransition due to the colonization period of Kazakh lands by the Russian Empire, and further activeSovietization (or Russification) of Kazakh people during the Soviet era. Coercive immigration ofmany ethnicities into Kazakh lands was crucial focal point in weakening the status of Kazakhlanguage but has enriched at the same time our multiethnic composition. Some even may go furtherand argue that paternalistic view from Russia also prevailed and may even prevail to this day.Nowadays, the Kazakh languagefaces significantproblems, as its overall usageis not widespreadin Kazakhstan. Even a considerable number of ethnic Kazakh people do not speak their own mothertongue.Ontheonehand,somespeakitpartiallywhileontheothersomedonotspeakorunderstand the language at all. With this linguistic degradation so to speak, it is not only a challengefor Kazakhstan as a nation, but also for the society to uphold and preserve its ethnic identity. However, there are also other matters at stake that needs to be discussed thoroughly as well. Theissueofimplementingsuchalarge-scalelanguagereformaccompaniesalsoitsbottlenecksconcerning financing capabilities, social adaptability aspects as well as the implementation issue ofpreparing language teachers. A language reform is not a simplematter of policy change, takingmore than just a simple long-term investment into both human and capital resources. The period oftransition from Cyrillic to Latin alphabetshould not aggravate existing or non-existing problemsand create even more unforeseen complications in the future, be it in terms of political or economicterms. For the time being, the process of implementation is at its early stages and there is still moretolookoutforifwewanttounderstandhowitwillbedevelopingoverthenextchallengingyears.

Aims & Objectives

The aim of this research article is to describe on the one hand the importance of Latinizationprocess of the Kazakh alphabet in the context of Kazakhstan's

multi-ethnic society, but also at thesametime toanalyz ethechallengesofimplementation processalongsidethe-reasonsforthetransition of the Kazakh alphabet in order to understand where the existing problems could lie and where otherpossible difficultiesor opportunities would appearin thefuture. As such a topicdirectly affects every Kazakhstani citizen, it touches upon crucial concepts like nation-buildingprocess and national identity aspect that directly affect and shape dimensions of political as well associo-cultural significance. Therefore, its weight of importance is enormous for the whole domesticsector of Kazakhstan and this papershouldservethe purpose toenlighten scholars andexperts inthe field of public policy, political science and linguistic matters for a better understanding of whythe Latinization process is important in the context of Kazakhstan as well as for the discussionamongtheacademia. The paper is divided into three sections. The first section introduces the Kazakh language devel opment frompre-independenceperiodstopost-independenceperiod. Here, athoroughhistorical literature review is provided. The second section analyzes the different reasons that couldhave led to the changing of the Kazakh alphabet. Lastly, the third section thoroughly analyzespossible implementation issues concerning the financial and socio-political aspects of the transitionperiodfrom Cyrillicto Latinscript. By the end of the thirdsection, afollow-upsectionofviableandpracticalpolicyrecommen dationsisincluded.

Research Methodology

For this paper, we will apply a qualitative discourse analysis approachin order toanalyzethe Latinization process in Kazakhstan from a third-person perspective. For that, all materials wereextractedfrom only official secondary sourcesof information.In thisregard, thepaperanalyzesonly existing sources of information that were provided on the Internet. These for instance includeofficiallypublishedreports,brochures orjournal articles. This paper is of high analytical value forthose scholars or experts seeking a clearer understanding of possible problems that the Latinizationprocess could bring on to the society and the government, as there is a huge knowledge gap in thisfieldofstudiesofin-depthcontextualcountry-specificanalysis.

Literature Review
The evolution of the Kazakh language script
Pre-independence period

Before the 19th century, the writing system of the Kazakh language was absent, while the oral system of communication had been dominantly present (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 12). With the surge of the Islamic influence among the neighboring countries, Kazakh people started off adopting first an Arab script (Kim, 2018). With the coming of the Russian Imperial Empire and their influence within Central Asia, the gradual period of colonization marked the beginning of neighboring regions getting closer and closer (Ornstein, 1959). However, this surge of foreign influence also meant that changes within aspects of ethnic, political, religious and demographic aspects were inescapable within the region of Central Asia. One of the main changes that the Russian Imperial Empire brought along with it was the opening of Russian schools as well as the process of russification within the society (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 12). During this period, the Russian language, Russian schools and people who spoke Russian were considered as the "elite" and education among Kazakh people were not always open for everyone (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 13).

Years have passed and the Soviet Union being created, Kazakhstan officially had received its "National Territorial Delimitation" zone and the Republic of Kazakhstan had been created (Levin, 2017: 265). While Soviet policymakers had built five new states, in 1927 the Arabic letter had changed for a short period of time to Latin alphabet, which was architected and introduced by the local scholar Akhmet Baitursynuly (Tanayeva, 2007) (Iskhan, Ospanova & Dautova, 2014). This bold move had somewhat alarmed the Soviets as they had viewed the change of the Arab script to Latin in a way to become united with the Turkic-speaking community (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 13). Besides that, the Soviet Union feared that this would also lead to the gradual shift of Kazakh people to become engulfed by the Islamization process in Central Asia (Tanayeva, 2007). To counterbalance it and undertake drastic policy measures, the Soviet Union implemented the policy of korenizaciya in all five republican states by increasing the level of education people have received (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 13). As a result of this policy, the literacy level had increased during the 1920's and 1930's (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 14). While the policy had political goals, it though positively fostered the development of national cultures and the popularity of learning the Kazakh language nationwide. Eventually though, the Soviet authorities decided to create a new homogenous identity by institutionalizing the Russian language as compulsory learning in schools of national republics in order to different unify cultures together into one rather than elevating their uniqueness. Hence, the ideal version of the "Soviet Man" speaks Russian and

propagates the values of the Soviet Union (Hobsbawm & Ranger, 1983). This meant that the Soviets had changed their course of policy direction from tolerating linguistic diversity to viewing it later as political threat towards the ideological unity of the Soviet Union (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 16). Following this, the Soviet Union started to become more repressive in nature and used relocation policies to let ethnic Russians emigrate into different Soviet states to remove ethnic boundaries (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 16). To illustrate you the relocation policies success, we will look at how the composition of ethnic Russians in Kazakhstan. While the number of ethnic Russians constituted roughly 20% by 1926, this number doubled by 1939 (Tanayeva, 2007). Another policy that was ill famous for the loss of many ethnic Kazakhs was the process of collectivization (Pianciola, 2004) (Bonnenfant, 2012).

The introduction of the Cyrillic alphabet in the late 1930's also meant that the Kazakh language faced some challenges in incorporating new Cyrillic letters and to be influenced by its writing system as well as vocabulary (Tanayeva, 2007). Even if from the start the Kazakh language did not properly correspond phonetically and pronunciation wise (Iskhan, Ospanova & Dautova, 2014), the Kazakh language became more modern followed by massive standardization process and gave many Kazakhs the opportunity to become literate in two languages (Tanayeva, 2007: 79). Such changes in the script also meant that endings of first and last name of Kazakhs holding a person's father's name changed into Russian endings from -kyzy or -uly to -ova (ова), -eva (-ева) or -vna (вна) or -vich (вич) (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 17). The Russian language though became the lingua franca throughout the Soviet Union (Brubaker, 1994: 51). Throughout the years, Kazakh people started to pick up more and use more the Russian language in order to climb up the ladder of societal status within the socialist regime, leaving their mother tongue as a second language, or also known as the titular language (Kim, 2018). The Russian language became the dominant language associated with sophistication, prestige, urbanism and elitism until the end of the Soviet period (Bilaniuk, 2005: 91).

Post-independence developments

With the emergence of Kazakhstan as an independent state in 1991, the country faced an identity crisis right from the start (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 19). By that time, most ethnic Kazakhs lived in rural areas with most Russians living in urban cities (Burkhanov, 2017: 23) (Smagulova, 2008). With the aftereffects of the Soviet migration policy, Kazakhstan was socio-demographically as well as ethnoculturally complex in nature with multinationalism and ethnic heterogeneity being institutionalized (Brubaker, 1994: 49). With the breakup of the Soviet Union and Kazakhstan's national sentiments having been rising, from the very early on Kazakh nationals have demanded to remove any ties left with the country's Soviet past (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 24). This concerned not only the aspects of language itself, but also touched upon other matters. Having considered these demands, the First President Nursultan Nazarbayev decided to approach this issue from a more diplomatic way by adopting a more civic identity-based policy rather than an ethnic identity-based policy (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 24). Unlike Kazakhstan, other post-soviet states were rather not so tolerant in institutionalizing a civic identity policy and have rather de-russified their approach (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 25). Since then, the country promotes a civic identity-based domestic approach with the principles of multi-ethnic tolerance and mutual co-existence and harmony. However, this civic identity-based policy path has been already laid out during the 1970's when Dinmuhammad Kunayev introduced the "Kazakhstanets" identity based of a non-ethnic connotation approach (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 25).

As a result of this civic identity-based strategy of a nation-building process, the Russian language stayed as the language of "civic nationhood", where ethnocultural groups could live together (Brubaker, 2004: 134). This strategy was similar that of the Soviet Union with the "one big family" vision, leaving Kazakhstan to continue the path of dual identity (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 20) (Burkhanov, 2017: 26). Despite these efforts to preserve a civic identity, the government of Kazakhstan has tried since then to revive the lost artifacts of the pieces of what constituted being Kazakh. This concerned aspects such as the kazakhization of history, promoting folklore dances and music, national gastronomy as well as introduction of national holidays (Kesici, 2011) (Smagulova, 2008). This also meant that the language reforms were similarly introduced, especially what concerned awareness rising initiatives of Kazakh cultural heritages and the education sphere (Kesici, 2011) (Smagulova, 2008) (Melich & Adibayeva, 2013: 271). For example, in the education sphere more grants were available for Universities teaching their programs in Kazakh language (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 21). Despite that, Kazakhstan even today is heavily influenced by the Russian language. This concerns not only the demographic composition of Kazakhstan, where one-fifth of the population make up of ethnic Russians,

but also the way how the russification process had ingrained in the Kazakhstani society a new identity of Kazakhs speaking Russian as good as or better than their mother tongue (Blackburn, 2019).

The discussions concerning the proposal to change from Cyrillic to Latin script have emerged during the early 1990's at the summit of Turkic-speaking countries (Tanayeva, 2007: 80). As a result of the summit, countries such as Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan or Azerbaijan have adopted the Latin script (Tanayeva, 2007: 80). Even if the fall of the Soviet Union at the beginning has pushed a strong bond to be formed among Turkic countries, the sociolinguistic alongside the demographic situation has halted the language reform to the Latin script (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 25). If otherwise done, according to Blackburn, it would have caused a negative effect on the non-Kazakh speaking group of people via emigration issues and possible multi-ethnic strife (Blackburn, 2019). The government will thaw this matter only in the case when the Kazakh-speaking population will become urbanized and increase in number in the future (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 25).

In 2007 a new project was launched that was called the "trinity of languages" that had its main goal to form a trilingual language development in Russian, Kazakh and English in Kazakhstan (Smagulova, 2008: 455). It also served the purpose to increase the overall level of language proficiency and lay down the basics for future projects what concerned the Latinization project (Smagulova, 2008: 455) (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 28). However, the initial responses towards this project by the society were somewhat skeptical and even critical, especially what concerned the older generation (Melich & Adibayeva, 2013: 271. They believed that this project would undermine the Kazakh language development among the younger generation, and as a result the project became ill famous (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 28).

Ten years later, in September of the year 2017 the first version of the Latin script has been introduced to the public but has received several backlashes and harsh criticisms (Kim, 2018). First and foremost, problems were noticed with the orthographical and phonological aspects of diagraphs (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 28). Secondly, many also started to publicly criticize and discuss this matter on a more political dimension, asking themselves whether the Latinization process is crucial for the time being or whether it had political connotations with it (Mamashuly, 2017). Despite these reactions, the First President Nursultan Nazarbayev signed the decree "On the transition of Kazakh language alphabet from Cyrillic to Latin Script" on October 2017 and the following months the proposed Latin script underwent several updates (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 30). Besides that, just five months after the initial introduction of the first Latin script, a follow-up decree was signed urging the government to form a National Commission and adopt changes in the legislation regarding this matter and achieve by 2025 a smooth transition towards the Latin script (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 30). However, the decree was also met with doubts, as many citizens asked themselves how the process would look like, how successful the transition will be and what kind of methods and resources will be applied and needed for the transition (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 30). According to Shingaliyeva's survey on this matter, many Kazakhstani citizens claimed the "step-by-step" Latinization process to be disorganized and the public perception of tolerance towards such transitionary changes to be not ready yet for complete acceptance (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 30). For instance, according to Sputniknews, by the end of the year 2020 around 8 Latin script versions were developed, but only 3 of them have been shown to the public (Sputniknews, 2020). She also argued that the second follow-up decree that was signed contained very little and ambiguous information on who would be exactly in charge of the process (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 32). This also touched upon matters such as the changing of ID cards, publishing of books or translations of official documents (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 32). Hence, the little-informative second decree that was signed leaves on the one hand much room for further additional improvements and changes, but also at the same time caused much confusion and lacked accurate direction for citizens to properly adopt and prepare themselves mentally for the upcoming language reform (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 37).

As of end of January and April 2021, two new versions of Latin-based Kazakh alphabet have been proposed after more than forty versions had been reviewed (Tengrinews, 2021) (Kudrenok, 2021: para. 3). The latest new version from 22nd of April 2021 did not include in their script the digraphs and the public discussion regarding the version has been extended until the 6th of May 2021 (Tengrinews, 2021: para. 4 and 6). Besides that, it is expected that the implementation phase will likely start from 2023 on through the years 2031 (Kudrenok, 2021: para. 5). Thus, there is a high likelihood that the Latinization process will be further extended than initially planned.

Results & Discussions Section
Reasons for changing to Latin script
Institutionalism and Path Dependency Approach

It might be interesting to know that institutions also evolve over time and respond to the changing environment surrounding them, meaning that they must maneuver their own trajectories around the ongoing socio-political development in the country with considerations of past events and experiences (Thelen, 1999: 19). This concept is called the path dependency approach (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 26). In other words, it is explained as the situation when the developmental path of a state in terms of socio-political, economic or any other aspect are dependent on the past formed experiences and events. This can also be considered as one of the reasons why Kazakhstan tries to transition towards the Latin alphabet. And here again, the idea of nation-building process of the national identity can be incorporated as arguments for justification of that concept (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 27). By that understanding, it is logical and rational that a developing country like Kazakhstan pursues a path dependency approach in order to reconcile oneself with the ongoing changes within and beyond the country, while at the same time keeping past experiences incorporated. As a result of the process of trying to rebuild the national identity in Kazakhstan, the country understood that the path dependency approach is inevitably an important element of national identity building policies (Zabortseva, 2016: 25) (Fierman, 2009) (Miles, 2015).

The same viewpoint was also shared by Bhavna in the 2007 study on Kazakhstan's aspects of ethnicity, language and power (Bhavna, 2007). The author stated that Kazakhstan's survival as a nation is directly intertwined and dependent on the question of the development of the Kazakh language, considering that in the context of past events with the dictation of the Soviet language policies being very strong during the Soviet era (Bhavna, 2007: 99). Hence, the language planning policies within the entire post-Soviet space is of immense importance, especially for Kazakhstan (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 27). Since Kazakhstan and other post-soviet states such as Uzbekistan or Ukraine to a certain degree carry alongside with them Soviet legislative and socio-political legacies, they must choose their own path dependent approach policies (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 27).

The same idea can be applied to "policy transfers" and "policy convergence" examples from developing countries imitating the best practices of developed countries in various spheres of the economy and attempting to inject some ideas or entire projects into their own domestic domain. This is also probably the reason why the idea of Latinization process in making Kazakh language more popular around the world had been raised, especially bringing Kazakhstan closer to western part of Europe.

Another argument why Kazakhstan has chosen to change and adapt the language to the modern state in accordance with the path dependence approach could also be explained by the fact that the country tries to experiment in their own way to see what works out in their contextual societal public discourse and what should rather be taken cautiously into consideration. This way, they can draw lessons for future public policy implementations in planning governmental programs and initiate public discourse discussions to test the limits and potential opportunities. The same analogy can be given to how environmental awareness campaigns raise environmental concerns and ecological problems in the country. Things do not have to change right away, as they may take time

and often the country needs to strike a right balance between what works out for them, what can be challenged and what must be postponed or completely left out. If we for instance look at how Turkey had moved towards a latinized alphabet with the initiative of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, who sought to Europeanize along that way Turkey, it can be argued that the removal of an Arabic script had made passed the process successfully. However, in the context of a post-soviet country like Kazakhstan, the conditions and factors might be different.

Any change that comes along as quite radical will have to be compensated by other means that would incur huge costs and consequences. This is also why certain "policy transfer" or "policy convergence" of best practices, as exemplified with the pension reform from developed countries, were not effectively implemented in Kazakhstan. Eventually having caused huge an ineffective pension system reform in Kazakhstan. With these things said, the decision in postponing the entire Latinization process to the year 2025 and even to 2031 is without any question the right way to go about it, as it gives the government, policymakers and the people the necessary amount of time and resources to properly sit down "on the table" altogether and ponder critically but wisely about the shortcomings, limitations and opportunities in changing a language.

Latinize to Modernize?

According to the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev, the need for

modernization is one of the main driving factors that will push and had pushed the Kazakh language to be reformed completely (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 38). Besides that, the modernization of the language is also inevitably correlated to the ongoing global changes in the economic market, which would mean that the vision for changes in the Kazakh language would advance the nation's presence in the global arena (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 38). This statement has also been supported by Dotton's research on Language Policy and Language Planning in Kazakhstan (2017), where she outlined the rationality of the Kazakh language change to be associated with modernity of the West (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 38). According to her, the dominance of the English language and its alphabet among the global community makes it for other states quite appealing to emulate a language reform (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 38). Hence, modernization is attributed to the notion of what represents the West and getting closer to its path of development in terms of the economy, trade or technological advancements (Yergaliyeva, 2018: 38) (Maksudov, 2019) (Alpatov, 2002). The same viewpoint has also shared the first President Nursultan Nazarbayev, emphasizing the importance of modernization process with the Latinization script, which will positively impact the national identity formation of Kazakh and Kazakhstani people (Kim, 2018). Nowadays, in Kazakhstan many street signs and businesses have started to use the Latin alphabet to become more 'western' so to say. Another viewpoint argues that Latinization process itself is a way for Kazakhstan to rewrite history by distancing themselves from Russian influence and coming closer to Turkic community (Melich & Adibayeva, 2013: 273) (Shervin & Gunkel, 2019) (Buchko, 2019) (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 26).

Any concept of "modernization" accompanies questions like these: What does modernization firstly mean and how can we distinguish it from what not a modernization would be? The same question also applies to ideas of reformation or globalization. How they are understood may vary for different countries. Their interpretation is as controversial as much as there are differences and similarities among countries around the world. In the context of Kazakhstan, modernization applies to the comprehension of the Kazakh language in need for an "evolution". In other words, it means the drive for a change to a more modern version, which would be a latinized form of alphabet. However, for what purpose are we really modernizing the alphabet? Is it for the sake of "modernization" or is there something else that probably is a long-term oriented plan with its goals and visions, which

the society may not understand? To answer such questions, one must understand not only Kazakhstan´s history and its political structure, but also be able to disseminate socio-cultural characteristics of past and present time periods. However, then another question lies ahead: How a "society" is shaped and what it is for Kazakhstan?

What concerns the Latinization process, there were many reasons for its implementation. For instance, first concerns the rebuilding of the national identity, by which the concept of modernization accompanies the process of latinization like a socially accepted "dogma". But would that "dogma" really justify its real purpose? In a sense it can be argued that the so-called "national identity" serves like a mantra for the revival of Kazakh language, as the language itself has lost to a certain degree its popularity and importance within a multiethnic society as explained by the path dependency approach. This argument might be too far-fetched as both the Russian and Kazakh languages are official state languages according to the constitution. However, a language is a powerful societal and governmental tool to characterize a nation, lead it towards its future as well as control it. The Kazakh language in Kazakhstan can be considered as a building block of the Kazakh national identity. Without the language, there would be no ethnic national identity. Hence, any change that comes along with the language policies will directly impact and shape the way how the ethnic national identity in Kazakhstan will be formed and developed.

Another argument suggested is that it would bring Kazakhstan closer to the Western World and stimulate a breakthrough in its political image internationally. But these are just assumptions that are presumed to result out of the transition process as by-products. However, it is arguable whether it will eventually bring us more positive outcomes that will outweigh the costs and unintended consequences. But all those arguments seem still not to justify the process of Latinization of the Kazakh alphabet, as they are normative statements that help to understand why it was implemented in the first place. It is not enough to have just a political will for a policy, even if it is well intentioned. In fact, street-level bureaucrats will be the ones to implement the process for a successful and full transition. How the street-level bureaucrats will implement the process and how it will adapt to the contextual socio-political environment will play even more an important role and from our understanding this thing could also be one of the possible theoretical reasons why the Latinization process could fail. Even if the blueprint for the language transition process is well-designed

and well thought out, its effectiveness can be lost at the street-level bureaucratic level.

Implementation Challenges
The new Kazakh Alphabet

The transition to Latin alphabet in Kazakh language is not and will not be an easy task for the government. First, Kazakhstan's government should carefully identify potential policy problems that may occur during the transition process and effectively cope with them. The first policy problems concern the creation of an alphabet that will be comfortable to use not only in everyday life, but also for professional and academic purposes. In this regard, users of new Kazakh alphabet should be able to use it in a convenient way while writing and reading. Phonetic, phonological and orthographic laws of Kazakh language must be carefully implemented while introducing Latin alphabet (Bazarbayeva, Zhunisbek & Malbakov, 2014). For example, during the last four years since 2017, several options of Latinized Kazakh alphabet were proposed (Shingaliyeva, 2020). In September 2017, Kazakh alphabets with digraphs were presented, where some sounds were represented by combinations of two characters. However, this alphabet was not accepted by the society (Zheksenbekov, 2017) (Shingaliyeva, 2020). In order to avoid writing double characters, other options were presented with specific sounds in Kazakh language by apostrophes. This version also could not stand criticism because it was both inconvenient to read and write with apostrophes (Kudaibergenova, 2018). Eventually, the next version was an alphabet with acute labels (RFE/RL's Kazakh Service, 2018). In this version characters such as 'и' 'й' 'і' were merged from Kazakh- Cyrillic alphabet into one character 'i', and two sounds 'ш' and 'ч' are represented by double characters 'sh' and 'ch'. Unlike the first two versions, Kazakhstan's society was satisfied with the last version, but problems had emerged. For instance, recently Kazakhstan's government conducted a nationwide dictation of the last proposed alphabet. Complains about confusion in writing characters 'и' 'й' 'і' were evident since it was merged into one character 'i'. Furthermore, people had difficulties in distinguishing sounds 'sh' and 'ch' because these combinations of characters also may represent two separate sounds. For example, in Kazakh the word 'Ashana', characters 's' and 'h' represent two sounds, not one 'sh'.

Despite these problems, Kazakhstan's government keeps updating the Latin script and gradually started to move towards implementation phase. One of the first steps towards integration of new alphabet was changing the word 'Қазақстан' (kaz. Kazakhstan) in the national emblem into Latin characters 'Qazaqstan' (Abramovskaya, 2018). This means that the implementation process has started but it's unclear how the society will cope with the last version of Latinized Kazakh alphabet. But will the implementation of Latin alphabet be successful? From one side, it is good that the government attempts to negotiate with the society on selection of the right alphabet. Bringing the issue to public discussions signifies a collective action of the government and citizens. As a result, it shows a mutual interest towards changes in Kazakh alphabet since it influenced government's decision to change it twice. Therefore, government is on the right path in policy implementation. However, as previously mentioned, the nationwide dictation revealed some specific issues. In order to avoid difficulties in implementation process, Kazakhstan should refer to experiences of international practices that were successful. Among Turkic group countries successful transition polices were in Turkey and Azerbaijan. The reverse pattern can be observed in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, where transition process to Latin alphabet could not be accomplished entirely and can be labeled as having failed to some degree to be properly implemented.

Financial & Socio-political Issues

Undoubtedly, the change of the alphabet is a complicated issue that needs incentives and responsibilities by the government as well as society (Landau, 2010). The huge problem that could occur during implementation of Latinization program is in transferring all the database and educational materials from Cyrillic to Latin script (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 32). First, there will be necessity in significant funding, as large number of documents, books, manuscripts or publications needs to be replaced (Landau, 2010) (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 32 and 34). And here, of course the question is how long that process would last and with what issues ahead. Additional funding is also necessary for retraining the teachers and reorganizing education system (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 34). The main reason of criticism of this process relates to these inevitable funding's (Dotton, 2016).

Besides the financial aspect, transition of database and education system to Latin script is a time-consuming process. Additionally, we need qualified specialists in philology for correctly rewriting all the available data in Latin alphabet (Landau, 2010). From a psychological perspective, community with strong educational basis and traditional way of thinking

will hardly translate into a completely new mentality (Alpatov, 2002). In other words, adults will unlikely learn a new alphabet. Thus, from a psychological point of view, those people who have been used to the way it was "before", they will find a change difficult to accept in a "new" reality, as the "fear of the unknown" has always been and will always a factor that will accompany them alongside the society and the government (Shingaliyeva, 2020: 34). We can also say that humans have survived throughout the evolution as they stayed out of the fear of the unknown or anything, they deem to radically change their habit and co-existence. However, here the question concerns the issues of to what degree the "change" will instigate in people the "fear of the unknown" and whether the society with its people accepts a new reality.

There is also another risk of the transition of the scripts leading to a decrease in average literacy of population due to shortage in learning materials, as cultural-linguistic customs will be eliminated (Kosmarskii, 2007). Besides, reading habits of Kazakhstani people might be affected at the same degree most likely. For instance, people reading in traditional way will hardly get used to read in Latin script, so they may lose interest in Kazakh literature and the language eventually entirely. In addition, as Russians will likely continue using majorly in Cyrillic, it causes confusion in daily reading. Also, due to shortage of materials, citizens will have limited access to books, articles and database. Politically, Kazakhstan is somehow undertaking a safe policy towards Russia by removing Cyrillic from national alphabet (Alpatov, 2002). Although government officials refuse that it has geopolitical purpose, most of citizens, also even Russian authorities, realize that shift from Cyrillic script will decrease Russian influence on Kazakhstan. Here, we must be careful not to over-politicize the issue, where it snowballs like domino effect a chain reaction of dissident social movements resulting in social strife and ethnic conflicts. Moreover, dissatisfaction with this policy may strengthen migration mood of ethnic minorities or let parents change their preference from Kazakh schools to Russian (Yergaliyeva, 2018) (Dotton, 2016). However, such speculations are not empirically based and how realistic such an occasion would be quite doubtable and should be left on a theoretical matter, but not forgotten or totally dismissed as something fictitious. In any case, the Latinization of the Kazakh script has no purpose directly or indirectly affecting the Russian speaking population in the country. Thus, a multiethnic Kazakhstan has not to fear a schism of an ethnic tension even if there is always a possibility. The only thing that needs to be

ensured is the safe, smooth and proper transition at the right time with the right methods, resources and more importantly with its people as human capital. Of course, the interplay between human capital and the contextual politico-administrative system Kazakhstan operates with will matter as well. However, one must understand the following phrase: Understand your fears, but do not fear them. Instead, challenge them in your own way like we have challenged ourselves as humans to evolve over the many centuries as a modern society. Consider the "fear of the unknown" or a "change" like something that is inevitable and will likely come in one way or another at a time one can expect or not expect it. Hence, facing the Latinization process head on is probably better than doing nothing about it.

Policy Recommendations

The following policy recommendations for the proper transition of the Latinization project in the context of our research question are proposed:

- Keep the status quo of the implementation process until 2031. There is no need to extend it further than that.

- Revision of the alphabet should continue to be discussed in the social media among the public society. Alongside this, a strong marketing approach needs to create wide-reaching public awareness of the project via mass media outlets.

- The Ministry of Education shall create a special committee responsible for an impact assessment of Latinization implementation process of every region in Kazakhstan with their own evaluation criteria on the successfulness of the project. Such special committees should provide monthly reports on the situation with the Latinization process in all spheres of the economy.

- Create a more target-oriented blueprint for the procedural approach of what exactly shall be achieved regionally as well as nationally in the context of all spheres of the economy. For instance, set targeted goals in numbers of teachers capable of teaching Kazakh to older generations.

- Concerning the facilitation of the process for informational delivery: Now, there is an expert group that is concerned about the development of Kazakh alphabet. Many philologists, experts from various fields, representatives of IT community and public figures were involved in this process. Besides that, several meetings of the National Commission for the transition of the alphabet of Kazakh language into Latin script; conferences and round tables held; serious discussions were launched in the media and

social networks (Borisova, 2018). Nevertheless, there is no unified institution that considers all aspects of realization. It is necessary to create a separate committee on implementation aspect. Such a specialized Committee will help to take control over the process and provide enough transparent information to the public.

The recommendations mentioned above will have to be carefully chosen as each one of them may be used in different intensities, situations or time frames. It is recommended to devise a target-oriented blueprint in order to have specific goals for specific purposes to achieve by 2031 the full transition into Latinization of the Kazakh alphabet in Kazakhstan.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Latinization process in Kazakhstan has still a long way to go before we can see its real positive empirical and practical results. It is still in its early stages to introduce their Latinization project, but as ambitious and well intentioned it is, challenges still exist that tests how well this project progresses. In terms of socio-political acceptability, the Latinization project caused debates among citizens on its implementation issues but have also spurred mutual understanding between the society and government to reach a consensus on considering the project as a crucial matter to be resolved. The government from its side attempted and still attempts to this day to actively engage with the society, which shows a positive sign of reciprocating to criticisms and concerns. While on the other side of the coin, the society starts to shift its attitude from passive to active movements of engagement in a form civil society. This means that both the society with its people and the government must mutually cooperate to reach a favorable consensus for both sides.

Throughout the last two centuries, Kazakhstan has undergone several changes with the Kazakh alphabet. From the Arab script to Latin and then to Cyrillic script have changed the way how Kazakhstani people think, view and understand the world. This has of course been also heavily influenced by the historical past and the legacy that it left behind as of today. As of now, around forty versions of Latin script for the Kazakh alphabet have been proposed and there is a high likelihood that the Latinization process will proceed further up until 2031 before it is fully implemented. However, whether this implementation process will be successfully ingrained in the society is another story to be discussed for later.

When having discussed the question concerning the reasons for change to Latin script, the paper analyzed two main reasons. The first reason concerned the reason of the so-called institutionalism or path-dependency approach, where it was explained that Kazakhstan follows, builds and complements its developmental trajectories based on past events, experiences and formations on par with current patterns and needs. This explains also why Kazakhstan tries to rewrite its historical past of belonging to the Soviet Union by re-modeling an own trajectory path of a new Latin alphabet based on new realities and demands of its citizens. The second reason that was discussed in this paper concerned the idea of the fact that the Latinization initiative was implemented as a result and for the purpose of the modernization process. Here, the principal ideas lied in the fact that languages evolve over time and must become modern to adapt to new changes. This also concerned the aspect of becoming closer to the West and the Latins alphabet using countries.

Implementation problems discussed in this paper, as such as those of the potential orthographic and phonetic issues, might be as important as to be discussed as the reasons for the Latinization process to be implemented. Other factors such as the problem with preparation of the street-level bureaucrats, social risks of decrease in popularity of the language and possible tendencies for social and ethnic conflicts to occur are not fictitious ideas. Instead, they can happen and must be taken also into consideration when devising a plan. Other implementation problems were also analyzed. These also included the financial aspects of the budgetary and possible funding problems, decrease in average literacy among Kazakh-speaking population or the societal acceptability and adaptability concerns by the public.

Having considered the reasons for the Latinization process to be implemented and their implementation problems, in the context of a multiethnic society, Kazakhstan must form a more concrete and well-elaborated blueprint of their Latinization project in order to move step by step to their desired goals and have a crystal-clear vision of what lies ahead of them. Thus, when the process of transition to the Latin alphabet will start, Kazakhstan should be more confidently moving forward with stepping-stones of progression. Kazakhstan should not fear the change but fear the fact that it cannot change, as a change in every aspect could be both good and bad or positive and negative, but necessary and inevitable without a question.

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EDUCATION

ADVANCING THE METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES BASED ON THE ORGANIZATION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF STUDENTS

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Abstract

At the present time, the most important task of higher education is its focus on the acquisition of each student's own full-fledged personal experience. In this regard, a number of presidential decrees and orders will be adopted in the coming years, raising the education system to a new, higher level. Special attention is paid to the improvement of teaching methods, the gradual introduction of the principles of individualization of the educational process, the introduction of modern information and communication technologies and innovative projects in the field of higher education. Based on all of the above, going beyond the profile of our activities, as well as the scientific goal, our attention was drawn to the organization of research activities in the teaching of biological sciences. In the work under study, the terminological apparatus of the definition of the concept of "research activity" was given, which is presented by local authors, researchers from CIS countries and foreign authors. In the course of carrying out research activities, projects developed by us were provided, such as: Conducting a laboratory lesson on the topic: Studying the results of crossing cotton, tomato and night beauty plants based on a herbarium; Organizing a study tour on the topic: Studying genetically resistant cotton varieties (Bukhara 6, Porlok); Organizing a school scientific and practical conference on the topic "Hereditary diseases in humans". At the end of the research work, an experimental study monitoring the effectiveness of the organization of research activities in the teaching of biological sciences is presented.

Keywords: *education, pedagogical higher educational institutions, research activities.*

Introduction

Nowadays, the term "modernization of education" has often been used in the Republic of Uzbekistan. The development of the education system and the upbringing of the younger generation is an important direction of modernization of education (Khamdamova M.I., 2022)The improvement of the educational process is now in the direction of increasing active teaching methods that provide deep insight into the essence of the problem being studied, increasing the personal participation of each student and his interest in learning. The development of the student's personality, his intellect, feelings, will is carried out only in active activity. It is necessary to create conditions conducive to the emergence of students' cognitive need to acquire knowledge, to master the ways of using them and influencing the formation of skills and skills of creative activity. The success of students' research activities is mainly ensured by the correct planning of the types and forms of tasks, the use of effective task systems, as well as the skillful guidance of the teacher in this activity (Anisimova, V.A., 2009).

Literature review

Pedagogical science has recently been considering the educational process in a professional school as a means of forming students' readiness for research activities in unity with the development of personality, and the scientific activity of students is called one of the priority directions for the development of innovative processes in the system of professional pedagogical education abroad (Radionova, S.A., 2009).Next, we will consider a literary review of the concept of "research activity" by various authors:

Table1. The concept of "research activity" by different authors

A.I. Ivanova [3]	the process associated with the selective focus of human attention
N.E. Veraksa [10]	motivations for activity
N.F. Golovanova [2]	the unity of emotional-volitional and intellectual processes that increase the activity of consciousness and human activity

V.S. Mukhina **A.V. Petrovsky [7]**	emotional and cognitive attitude of a person to the world, with a motivated state of cognitive character
A.N. Poddyakov [8]	a type of activity of a child aimed at finding objective information about the structure of the surrounding world through personal practical experimentation with the object of research
Z.A. Mikhailova [6]	the specific attitude of a person to an object caused by the consciousness of his personal significance and emotional attractiveness
F.N. Kerlinger [4]	it is a systematic, controlled, empirical and critical study of hypothetical assumptions and permissible natural phenomena.
D. Woodhouse [11]	intellectually controlled scientific research, which, through discovery and systematization, leads to the acquisition of knowledge of new information or the development and further awareness of existing information and practice.

An analysis of the literature has shown that the process of ensuring the unity of scientific and educational training is being activated in European pedagogical higher educational institutions through the wide involvement of students in research and experimental work. For example, in France, Hungary, Germany, not only state and national educational standards indicate the mandatory involvement of students in research work, but also some university departments determine the presence of a completed and defended scientific project as one of the requirements for an applicant (Radionova, S.A., 2009).

Materials and Methods

I would like to emphasize that in order to form students' research skills, the teacher needs to organize research activities in the classroom, in extracurricular and extracurricular activities. The relevance of the research topic is thus determined by:

– low level of use of visibility and technical means of training;

– incomplete and insufficient individualized learning;

– poor organization of independent and research work of students;

low cognitive ability and activity of students due to the predominance of the classical paradigm of education and one-sided motivation of teaching (Yunusova N. KH., 2016);

Research methods:

1) theoretical study of psychological, pedagogical and methodological literature on the problem of research;

2) diagnostic: using methods adequate to the purpose and objectives of the study (observation, conversation, questionnaire)

3) experimental (implementation of the research activity organization program).
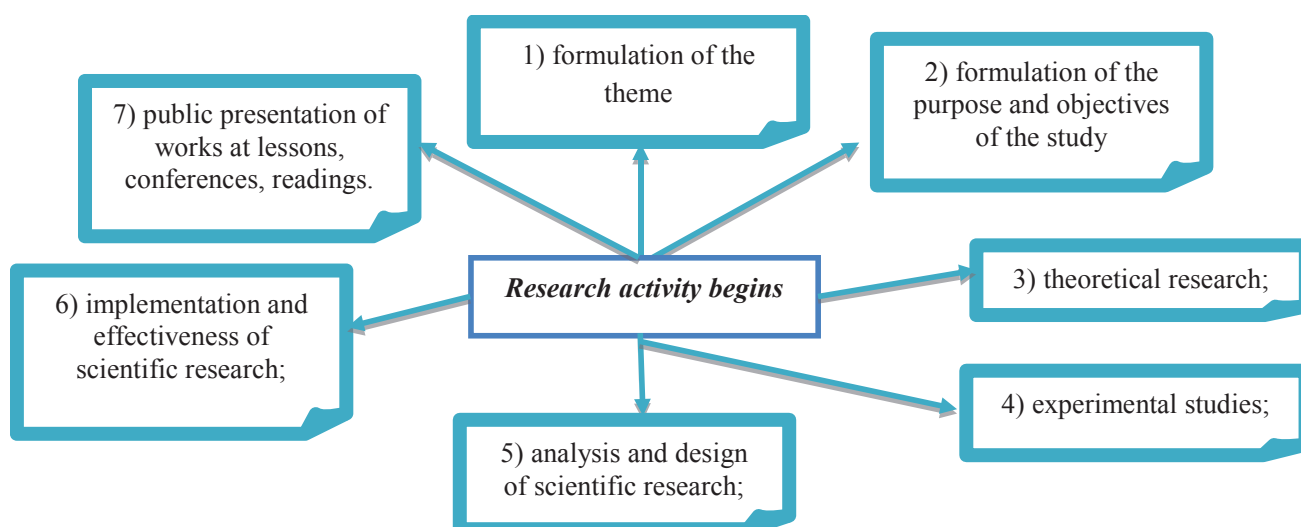
The execution process includes seven stages:

Figure 1. The process of organizing research activities

Results and Discussion

For the effective organization of research activities, close cooperation between the student and the teacher is necessary using various methods and techniques of organizing the research process. Its goal – the education of an educated, harmoniously developed, creative personality, the identification and support of gifted students – is achieved only if the scheduled and extracurricular types of educational and research activities are combined. To this end, we conducted the following experiment, which included the selection of two groups of pedagogical higher educational institutions. The first group was selected as a control group where classes were held as usual without conducting any excursions, conferences, etc.

The second group was selected as a control group, where the following types of research activities were carried out:

Examples of the organization of research activities

I. Organization of research activities in classroom classes

Conducting a laboratory lesson on the topic: Studying the results of crossing cotton, tomato and night beauty plants on the basis of a herbarium.

Purpose: To consolidate students' knowledge about inheritance based on herbarium.

Necessary equipment. Herbariums prepared from various varieties of cotton, tomato and night beauty, cotton fibers of white, brown, red, light beige color, tomato fruits of various shapes and colors.

The order of work. Students are divided into three groups. Each group works on individual plants, reports the results and justifies them.

1. Study herbariums of various varieties of tomato plants. Identify dominant and recessive signs, study the shape of stems, leaves, fruits and compare them with each other.

2. Study herbariums of various varieties of cotton plants. Identify dominant, recessive and intermediate signs. Determine the reason for the different color of the fibers.

3. Study herbariums of night beauty plant varieties with red, white and pink flowers. Compare the stems, leaves and the structure of the flowers. Based on the results of the work, fill in the following table:

Plant	*Dominant feature*	*Recessive trait*	*Intermediate feature*
Cotton			
Tomato			
Night Beauty			

II. Organization of research activities in extracurricular classes

Organization of a study tour on the topic: The study of genetically resistant varieties of cotton (Bukhara 6, Porlok). The purpose of the excursion: to form knowledge about the best varieties of cotton, to consider varieties Bukhara 6, Porlok, to develop the creative abilities of students.

Objectives of the tour:

– to introduce students to the variety of cotton plants;

– expand and concretize students' knowledge about the importance of cotton in agriculture;

– develop students' initial skills to observe sustainable varieties of cotton.

Place of the tour: Center of Genomics and Bioinformatics of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Stages of the tour:

The first stage is preparatory, preparation for the project can begin at the lesson that opens a new topic or at the end of studying the topic.

Setting the purpose of the excursion (helps to determine the content, ideological and moral orientation of the excursion, contributes to the effective selection and coverage of the material of the future event)

• Selection of content on the topic of the excursion (a list of books, brochures, articles that the student should read is compiled on the topic of the excursion.

• Selection and study of excursion objects (of all objects, the teacher selects the most interesting in appearance and informative content).

• Preparation of the tour route (the route should provide the display of objects necessary for the most complete disclosure of the topic of the tour).

Preparation of students for the excursion (it is necessary to focus their attention on certain objects in advance, explain how to conduct their observation)

The second stage is conducting, the tour usually begins with an introduction to the problem – a story or conversation. Then the teacher explains the purpose and individual tasks for students, determines the place and time of their execution (no more than 20 minutes).

route	stop	display objects	time (min)	list of questions revealing the topic and subtopics	organizational instructions	methodical instructions

Students are divided into two groups:

The first group considers the cotton variety Bukhara 6 (external structure, areas that can be planted with this variety of cotton, weight, fiber length, fiber type, root system, etc.)

Высота главного стебля	100-110 см
Вегетационный период	115-120 суток
Форма куста	цилиндробразный
Вес хлопка-сырца одной коробочки	5,5-8,0 г
Урожайность	40-50 ц/га
Вес 1 тыс. семян	145 г
Корневая система	сильно развитый
Длина волокна	38-40 мм
Вқход волокна	34%
Тип волокна	II
Микронейр (Mic)	3,9-4,2
Прочность (Str)	36 г.с./текс)
Длина волокна, дюйм (Len)	1,28

The second group considers the Porlok cotton variety (external location, areas where this cotton variety can be planted, weight, fiber length, fiber type, root system, etc.

Высота главного стебля	110-120 см
Вегетационный период	110-115 суток
Форма куста	конусообразный
Вес хлопка-сырца одной коробочки	6,5-7,0 г
Урожайность	45-55,0 ц/га
Вес 1 тыс. семян	140 г
Корневая система	сильно развитый
Длина волокна	37-38 мм
Вқход волокна	34%
Тип волокна	II
Микронейр (Mic)	4,3
Прочность (Str)	36 г.с./текс)
Длина волокна, дюйм (Len)	1,27

The third stage is the processing of the materials of the tour and summing up its results. Processing of the results of the excursion is carried out upon returning to school. The results of observations are recorded in a workbook or in observation diaries. The collected natural material is systematized.

III. Organization of research activities in extra-curricular activities

Organization of a school scientific and practical conference on "Hereditary diseases in humans"

Purpose: to form concepts about human genetic and chromosomal diseases, to study the statistics and distribution of genetic and chromosomal diseases, to find out their causes and consequences.

Tasks:

- develop research skills, cognitive and creative abilities in the process of studying hereditary human diseases.

- to deepen knowledge about the genetic patterns of human inheritance.

The effectiveness of the conference increases if the teacher addresses the students with 2/3 control questions after each report.

The conference plan:

1. Medical genetics – as the science of hereditary human diseases:

−tasks of medical genetics;

−methods of medical genetics.

2. Gene diseases:

−mutation;

−manifestation of gene diseases;

− examples of gene diseases.

3. Chromosomal diseases:

−causes of chromosomal diseases;

− medical genetic consultation.

Preparation of the conference.

The topic and time of the conference are reported after the introduction of the concept of gene and chromosomal diseases and their relationship. Explain the tasks of the conference. Report the topics of the reports. Each report is assigned to two students, which facilitates the preparation of a demonstration experiment, diagrams, posters.

Questions to students on reports.

According to the first report.

1. How many hereditary diseases are there in humans?

2. List the main tasks of medical genetics.

3. List the main methods of medical genetics.

On the second report.

1. How do human gene diseases manifest themselves?

2. Is it a mutation?

3. Factors influencing the occurrence of genetic diseases.

On the third report.

1. How do human chromosomal diseases manifest themselves?

2. Factors influencing the occurrence of genetic diseases.

3. How is medical genetic consultation carried out?

The assessment of students' knowledge was carried out in accordance with criteria that allow identifying three levels of knowledge: high, medium and low.

High level. The task is fully completed, the purpose of the question is achieved, the problem is fully disclosed; the student has a systematic full knowledge of the question; the content of the question is related, in a brief form, reveals the essence of the processes, does not allow biological errors and inaccuracies. A student can apply knowledge to substantiate the laws of wildlife, establish the relationship between the structure of organs and the functions performed by them.

The average level. The task is completed, the goal of communication is achieved. However, the problem is not fully disclosed, because some insignificant elements are missing, minor biological errors are made, the main content of the question is illogically, at length. There are a number of errors.

Low level. The task is partially completed, the purpose of communication is not fully achieved, the topic is disclosed to a limited extent, the student finds it difficult to draw a conclusion on the topic. The student cannot apply knowledge, cannot reveal the essence of the process. In the answers to the proposed control questions, there is a lack of understanding of the individual provisions set out.

Table 2. Results of the control experiment:

High level	Medium level	Low level	Lowest level
10 out of 25 students 40%	8 out of 25 students 32 %	4 out of 25 students 16 %	3 out of 25 students 12%

Table 3. Research activities of students:

Active students	Average active students	Passive students
14 out of 25 students 56%	6 out of 25 students 24%	5 out of 25 students 20%

Table 2, 3 shows that the initial level of knowledge of students in the control group is low.
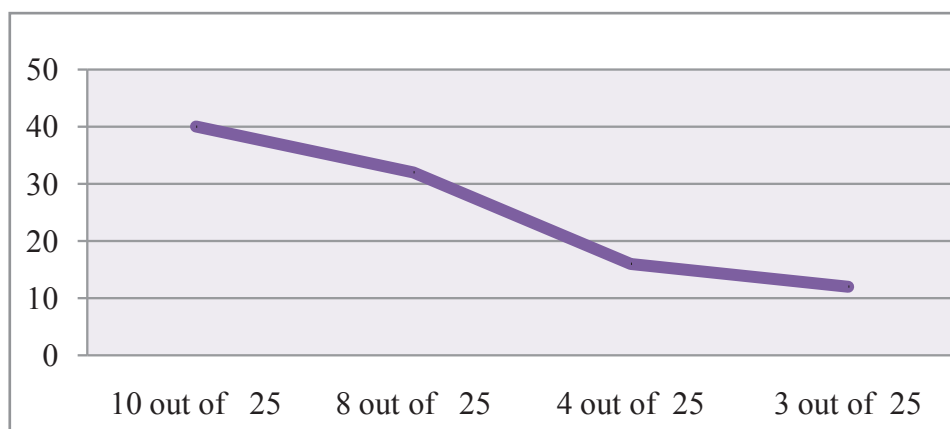
Figure 2. The results of the control experiment in the form of a graph

Figure 2 shows that when using only traditional teaching methods, the academic performance of the control group is low.

Conducting an experiment in an experimental group:

– conducting an excursion on the topic: The study of genetically resistant varieties of cotton (Bukhara 6, Porlok).

– organization of a school scientific and practical conference on the topic "Hereditary diseases in humans".

Table 4. Results of the organization of students' research activities:

High level	Medium level	Low level	Lowest level
11 out of 25 students 44%	8 out of 25 students 32 %	4 out of 25 students 16 %	2 out of 25 students 8%

Academic performance of the experimental group
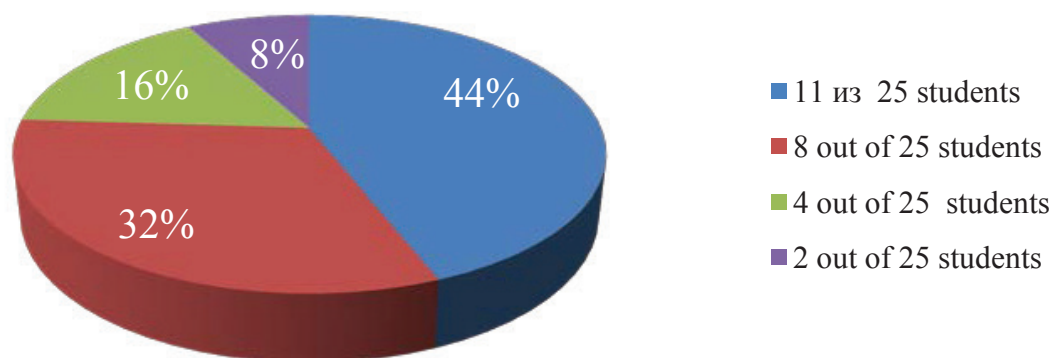
Figure 3. Results of the organization of students' research activities

Table 4 and Figure 3 show that the initial level of knowledge of students in the experimental group has increased.

Table 3. Research activities of students:

Active students	Average active students	Passive students
19 out of 25 students 76%	4 out of 25 students 16%	2 out of 25 students 8%

As can be seen from Table 3, the level of knowledge in the students of the experimental group has increased: a high level of knowledge by 20%.

Conclusion

In the course of the work, the literature on the organization of research activities of teachers and students in the lessons of genetics was analyzed and studied.

The use of research methods in teaching biology has shown an increase in interest in the subject, activation of independent cognitive activity.

Through the organization of educational research activities, the principle of individualization and differentiation is implemented, the development of interests, inclinations and abilities of students, basic competencies are formed, stimulates independent cognitive activity, conscious preparation for choosing a future profession, continuing education, taking into account the demand in the labor market. Research activity allows solving simultaneously the issues of education, development and upbringing of the younger generation. The classes that I conducted, with the help of research activities, caused a great emotional uplift and increased the level of assimilation of the material, stimulated initiative and creative thinking.

I think the organization of research activities is one of the most effective in developing motivation to study biology:
• contributes to the effective assimilation of educational material;
• helps to make the learning process more diverse and exciting, personal - developing;
• allows you to fundamentally expand the capabilities of the teacher in the selection and implementation of teaching tools and methods;
• provides great opportunities for the student to realize creative abilities.

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ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

ANALYSIS OF COVID-19 IMPACT ON THE FMCG MARKET IN KAZAKHSTAN

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Abstract

As a result of restrictive measures to combat COVID-19, new economic and social conditions have been formed. The pandemic has contributed to a major economic transformation, structural changes in lifestyles and health, and an opportunity to accelerate development and digital commerce. The scientific article analyzed the changes formed during the pandemic in the FMCG sector of Kazakhstan. The results of the sales structural transformation are reflected in the form of a trade turnover statistical interpretation in the pre-COVID and post-COVID period. Changes in individual FMCG categories and groups were analyzed in detail using statistical comparison and observation methods. In order to form a forecast for the application and change of strategies in the consumer goods market, an expert interview was organized and conducted. As a result of the primary research data systematization, key factors for the development of the trade market and a change in the strategic approach to managing these factors before, during and after the pandemic were identified.

In conclusion, recommendations were made for focusing a trading strategy for online and offline retail businesses. The results of the study can be used by Kazakhstani FMCG and retail companies, online stores, marketplaces when building an online trade development strategy, studying modern consumer behavior, as well as formulating a trade marketing policy.

Keywords: *FMCG market; analysis of sales structure; impact of COVID-19; trading strategies transformation; post-COVID period; expert interview.*

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact both on the economic sphere of Kazakhstan in general and on the consumer goods market in particular, the consequences of the pandemic also predetermine the further development of this market and its diversification in the coming years. A new economic turn determines the change in the purchasing power of consumers and, accordingly, the their behavior transformation. The current external conditions prove the need to revise consumer strategies in the FMCG market. In this regard, the relevance and importance of studying changes in the FMCG market in the field of the structure and product sales features is increasing.

Despite the sales insignificant dynamics due to the current economic situation, the structure of consumer goods sales demonstrates significant qualitative changes at the level of consumer behavior and in the context of sales channels.

The complexity of the FMCG retail and online market is due to the new trends identification and obstacles that have remained after the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. As a result, emerging challenges will determine the activities of retail companies in the medium term. Individual changes require special study and fragmentation: the structure of sales in the context of offline and online trade and in the context of individual categories; formation of new consumer habits; as well as changing consumer reactions to individual incentive mechanics from retailers.

Materials and Methods

The scientific article study objectives were implemented in two stages. At the initial stage, statistical observation was carried out by summarizing, grouping and comparing statistical materials. The source of statistical materials for the period from 2018 to 2022 was given from NielsenIQ sales data reports for the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The data for analysis was collected based on the aggregation sales by retail chains in Kazakhstan, traditional retail outlets, online stores and marketplaces. The classification and grouping of products was made in accordance with the basic trade features. Statistical information was assorted into two retrospective groups: a notional period showing the results of market development before COVID-19 as of January 1, 2019; the time period conditionally called the post-COVID period as of January 1, 2022. The study periods were determined based on the principle of the restrictions beginning their removal.

Technical systematization and grouping of data was carried out by writing an encoding and using Power BI tools.

At the study second stage, an expert interview was organized to assess the current strategic parameters of the FMCG sector and form forecasts for their further strategic management.

To conduct interviews, 20 experts from international and local companies in the Kazakhstan FMCG sector were involved. The main requirements for experts were:

– Experience in FMCG companies, retail or online commerce in marketing, sales or strategic development departments for more than 3 years;

– Possibility of obtaining a written consent to provide an expert assessment.

The peer review process was conducted on the basis of telephone and personal interviews.

Literature review

Scientific research on the consumer market transformation in the context of COVID-19 over the past few years has acquired particular significance and relevance.

Issues related to the sustainability of consumer products before and during the pandemic were considered by the author Torben Hansen in the article «Consumer food sustainability before and during the COVID-19 Crisis: A quantitative content analysis and food policy implications» [1]. The impact of COVID-19 on the consumer transformation in certain segments of the food industry was considered by scientists Muhammad Ghufran, Sumran Ali, Fitri Rini Ariyesti, Muhammad Asim Nawaz, Luigi Aldieri, Peng Xiaobao. In the process of writing the article «Impact of COVID-19 to customers switching intention in the food segments: The push, pull and mooring effects in consumer migration towards organic food», the authors assessed the main trends in consumer behavior regarding the organic products purchase [2].

The impact of the pandemic on the transformation of consumer behavior was studied by scientists Jorge Cruz-Cardenas, Ekaterina Zabelinac, Jorge Guadalupe-Lanas, Andres Palacio-Fierro, Carlos Ramos-Galarza [3]. The result of the work was the confirmation of a direct interdependence between the limited social life of the population and the growth of sales in e-commerce.

In a study by Ulpiano J.Vazquez-Martinez, Javier Morales-Mediano, Antonio L.Leal-Rodríguez, the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on consumer motivation and behavior was observed [4]. The study result contain a quantitative and qualitative assessment of consumer motivations in the beginning of 2020.

Motivating consumersfactors in choosing goods during the pandemic, as well as the difference in purchasing behavior by age groups, were studied by scientists Ludvik Eger, Lenka Komarkova, Dana Egerova, Michal Micik [5].

Issues of consumer behavior sustainabilityin the field of e-commerce before, during and after the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions were studied by Cameron Guthrie, Samuel Fosso-Wamba, Jean Brice Arnaud. This study reflects the transformation dynamicsof online shopping behavior during the COVID-19 crisis [6].

In an article entitled «Analysis and Prediction of Changes in Customers' and Retailers' Behavior under the COVID19 Pandemic's Influence in Russia» by Russian scientists Melikova E. F., Burmistrov A. N., Kostin K. B., Semenova A.A. various aspects of the consumer behavior transformation under the pandemic influencewere described. The paper presents the main prerequisites for changing the behavior of consumers and retailers, generalizing these changes in terms of consumer preferences [7].

The development of the consumer goods market in Kazakhstan during the pandemic was studied by independent consulting companies. The study entitled «Analysis of the retail e-commerce market in the Republic of Kazakhstan» was conducted by PwC Kazakhstan in cooperation with the Digital Kazakhstan Association. The paper presents the results of a study of the modern e-commerce market in Kazakhstan, taking into account the impact factors of COVID-19 [8].

Results and Discussion

The current state of the consumer goods market in Kazakhstan is determined by global trends formed and catalyzed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Based on a statistical information reviewby Nielsen Social Intelligence Solutions, it was revealed that the restrictions of COVID-19 led to the formation of seven main trends in the FMCG market. The interviewed experts also named the following trends:

1. Remote work - as of the beginning of 2021, 40% of employees continue to work online;

2. Online learning - according to experts, as a result of restrictions, the demand level for online courses and training has increased;

3. Online shopping - according to Nielsen, 72% of consumers increased the frequency for online shopping;

4. Eating at home - about 44% of consumers prepare food at home or order food;

5. Health care - about 75% of consumers began to exercise more often and buy healthy products;

6. Communications - 72% of consumers report a decrease in trips and receptions in the post-quarantine period

7. Savings strategy - according to Nielsen, 35% of consumers began to buy cheaper brands, 49% of consumers began to purchase more products at discounts and promotions, 73% reduced the purchase of impulse goods [9].

Similar global trends are also highlighted by Euromonitor International in the report «TOP 10 global consumer trends in 2022» [10].

In accordance with the research methodology, the FMCG market was researched in terms of the basic categorization: fresh meat, fish, vegetables and fruits; beverages; packaged food; personal hygiene products; home care products. The change in the order of purchases in these categories was considered based on the shares of purchases in online and offline formats. The sales structure also considered consumers who make online and offline purchases equally. Within the «fresh meat, fish, vegetables and fruits» category, in the period before COVID-19, 92% of consumers made purchases only in retail chains, 8% in online stores. After COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, 1% of consumers began to regularly buy these products online. As for the beverage category, the structure of online and offline sales in the pre-COVID-19 period was similar to the «fresh meat, fish, vegetables and fruits» category, in the post-COVID period the distribution has changed, the proportion of consumers shopping online increased from 8% to 10% (figure 1).
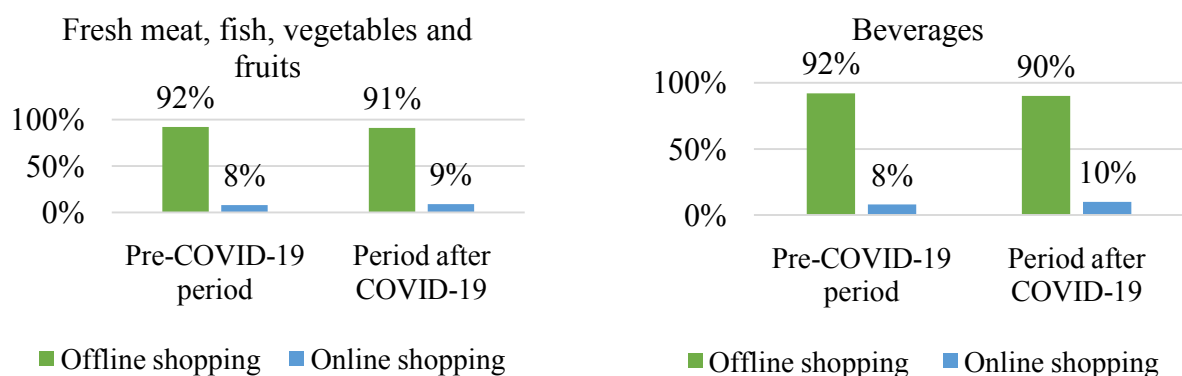

Figure 1 – Sales structure by categories «Fresh meat, fish, vegetables and fruits», «Beverages» for the periods before and after COVID-19

Separately, the sales dynamics in the packaged food category was also considered. This group included packaged cereals, canned food, frozen semi-finished products and other long-term storage products. In the post-COVID period, the online share of the category increased to 14%, which is also associated with increased demand for shelf-stable products during the restrictions and the consumer habits persistence in the post-COVID period (figure 2).
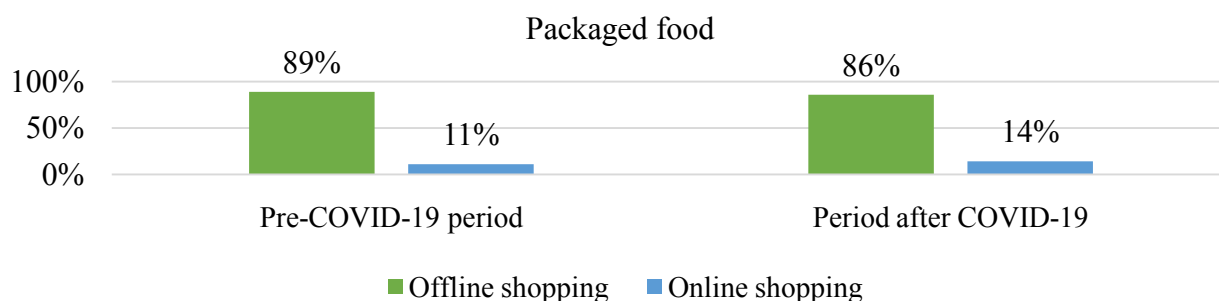
Figure 2 – Sales structure for the «Packaged food» category for the periods before and after COVID-19

As for the non-food category, during the period of restrictive measures COVID-19, the online sales share in the total turnover structure of the category increased from 16% to 22%, the sales structure of personal care products in the post-COVID period did not change significantly, theonline saleshareby category increased to 17 % (figure 3).
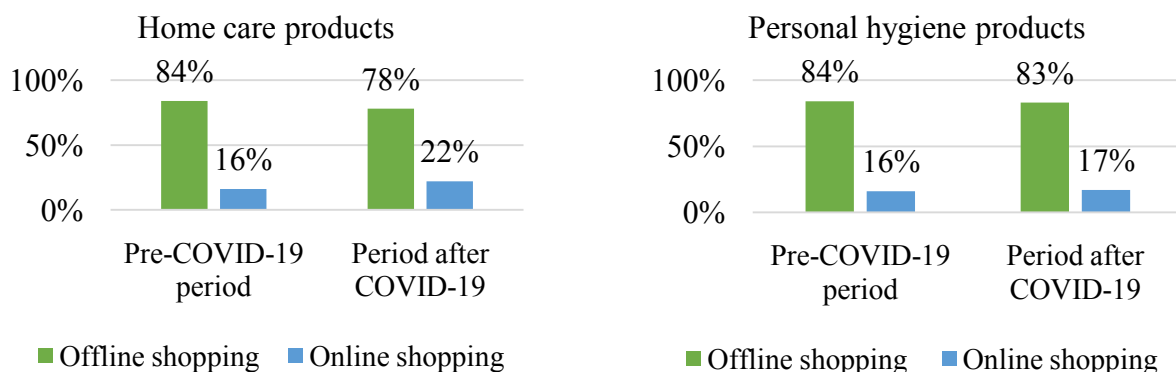
Figure 3 – Sales structure by categories «Home care products», «Personal hygiene product»
for the periods before and after COVID-19

As a result of the sales structure analysis, it was revealed that the level of retail purchases for showed a prominent level for all Kazakhstani consumers both before the COVID-19 restrictive measures and at present. At the same time, it is necessary to pay attention to the fact that the share of online purchases for all productcategorieshas increased and, accordingly, the sales share in the offline sector has slightly decreased. These trends indicate that consumer habits formed during the period of restrictive measures have persisted to the present. Thus, COVID-19 functioned as an accelerating factor in transforming consumer behavior and increasing the volume of online commerce.

Along with the sales structure in the online and offline sectors, the importance degreeof individual categories in the retail sector has transformed. As of January 1, 2022, the sales structure has also changed.

The increase in the main categories was calculated based on a comparison with the data of January 2019. The food products categoryremained the most significant (62% of the total retail turnover), the increase in sales in the category compared to 2019 amounted to 8.5%. The share of beverage consumption in 2022 was 19%, which is 2.8% less than in the pre-COVID period. Personal care and home care products accounted for a significant share in the total sales structure of 14%, however, the overall category sales trendwas transformed into a downward trend compared to the same period in 2019, a decrease of 2.6%. Sales of non-food products decreased by 3.4% by 2022, the share of sales in this category was 2%. The tobacco products consumptionin the overall structure of sales remained virtually unchanged, with a slight increase to 0.3%.
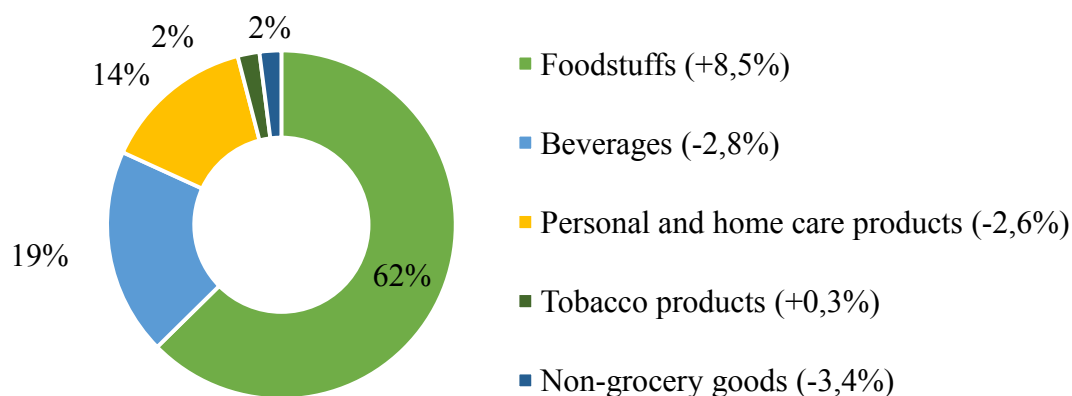
Figure 4 – Categories importance in the Kazakhstan retail chains, Jan. 2022

The quarantine period also contributed to the transformation of the top products list that showed the highest growth rate in sales compared to January 2019. As of January 1, 2022, top foodslist contained: fresh meat (121%), baking additives (117%), sausages (108%), fish and seafood (93%), rice (89%), margarine (82%), chocolate paste (78%), marinated vegetables

(76%), household cleaning accessories (75%), home cleaning products (74%), pasta (70%) (figure 5).

The results are explained by the general trend of increasing time spent at home for consumers, which has led to an increase in demand for home cooking and cleaning products. Growth in other categories, such as rice, marinated vegetables, pasta, is explained

by the general trend in the purchase of durable products. Experts predict that the general trend towards the popularity of products for home cooking and long-term storage products will continue. This

forecast is explained by the general trend of reducing the purchasing consumers power and the unstable economic and political situation in the world [11].

Figure 5 – Product categories with the highest growth from January 2019 to January 2022

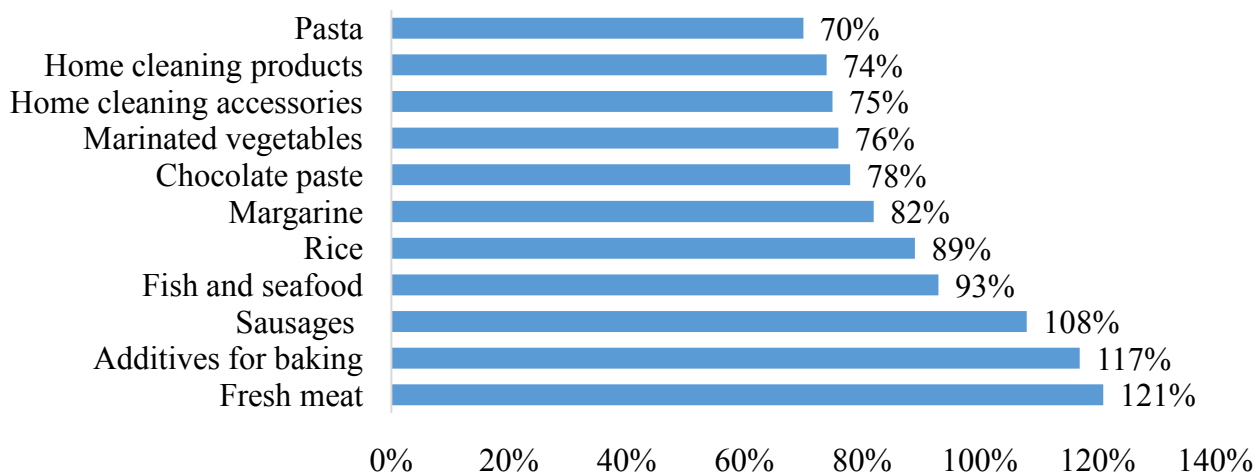In the process of assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the size of the average food basket purchased, it was also calculated that 45% of consumer checks show an increase in the amount of food purchases. At the same time, by the beginning of 2022, the volume of large-sized food packages sales increased by 46%, which also confirms the trend towards the formation of food stocks by consumers.

For a quantitative assessment, an analysis was made of sales in the context of standard prices and prices with discounts. This assessment was made for aggregated categories: FMCG food products, FMCG non-food products. The change in the sales structure by these categories in Kazakhstan was considered in the pre-COVID period and post-COVID period (Figure 6).
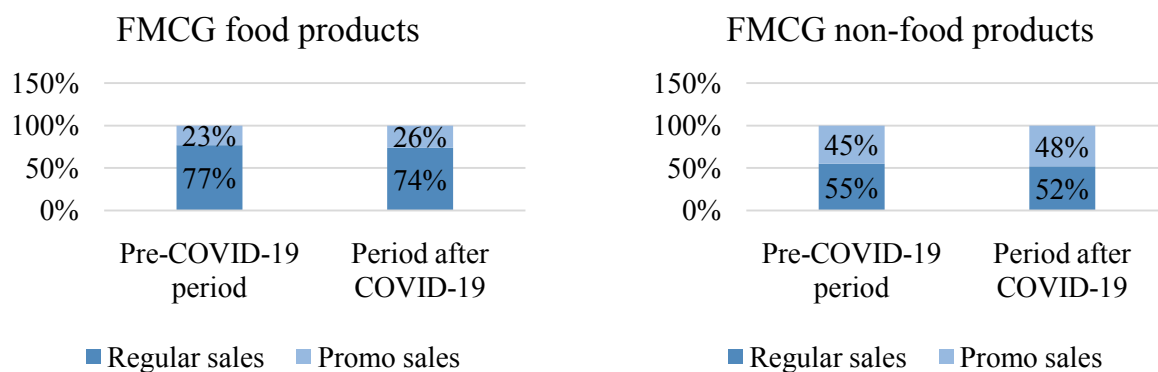
Figure 6 – Sales structure in terms of standard prices and prices with discounts for the periods before and after COVID-19

In the period before the pandemic, food products sale at regular prices accounted for 77% of the total turnover, promotional goodssales, respectively, amounted to 23%. In the post-pandemic period, the sales structure has changed, the sale of products at food prices has decreased to 74%, respectively, the purchase of goods at discounts has increased to 26%.

The non-food group was more sensitive to price changes. By the beginning of 2019, the average share of products sales at regular prices was 55%, 45% of products were purchased in accordance with

the promotions and discounts availability. In the post-COVID period, the sales structure of non-food products also transformed in favor of promotional sales. By the beginning of 2022, the goods sales shareat a discount amounted to 48% of the total turnover, the sales share of at regular prices, respectively, amounted to 48%. The results obtained clearly reflect the trend of savings, especially for non-food products. As a result of the analysis, the structural transformation of the FMCG market was reflected in accordance with the main trends that emerged during COVID-19.

As part of the considered changes, the trading strategy for FMCG companies was also transformed. An expert survey was conducted to identify the main strategic focuses before, during and after the restrictions due to COVID-19. When compiling the structure of the research parameters, the following elements were selected: trade assortment, store format, online sales management, management of changes in the average sales receipt of products.

In accordance with the specified criteria, the main strategic focuses of the FMCG segment were identified and characterized. All comments received from the experts were transformed into Table 1.

The assortment policy was defined as one of the basic trading strategy components. The period before the introduction of restrictions was characterized by merchandising in accordance with the goods categorizationand the basic principles of product placement (bakery products in remote departments of the supermarket, departments with fresh products close to the entrance, etc.). The period during the pandemic and severe restrictions is characterized by the presence of supply problems, and a significant amount of products absence in stocks.

Transformed consumer behavior also had a negative impact on the volume of product inventories: as it was revealed during statistical analysis, during the study period, the demand for durable products increased significantly and the average bill of purchases increased. As a result of the formed conditions, the products merchandising was carried out in accordance with the presence of the required stocks volume, or its absence.

The accelerated transformation of consumer behavior contributed to a change in the principle of building an assortment policy, especially in the retail placement field. Currently, the assortment and products merchandising are formed in accordance with the characteristics of their consumption and in accordance with consumershabits. For example, salty snacks are now placed not only in the snacks department, but also in the soft drinks department, which reflects the statistics of joint consumer purchases in this category.

Experts noted that planning for the introduction of this approach into trade policy was planned and partially implemented over the past five years, but current social and political events have accelerated the introduction of trade management updated models.

Table 1 – Strategic Focuses of FMCG Companies Before, During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic

Parameter/ dynamicsofchange	Pre-COVID-19 period	Period during COVID-19	Post-COVID-19 period
Assortment Merchandising according to product categories		Merchandising subject to availability	Changing the display of products in line with changing consumption habits
Store Format	Classification of stores depending on the purpose and size	Increasing the importance of traditional stores	Continued growth in traditionalstores
Online sales	Less than 1% share of the FMCG market	Sales accelerating, attracting new customers	Fixing the sales channel to a new level
Check size per purchase	Reducing the receipt, increasing the frequency of purchases and promotions	Purchase of goods for future use, price sensitivity	Demand stabilization, increasing importance of product quality (price-quality ratio), growth of promotions to compensate for reduced consumption

During the evaluating the second criterion «store format», approaches were evaluated in working with various channels for FMCG productssale. Modern distribution channels in FMCG market on the practitioners'part are divided into three main groups: organized trade (hypermarkets, supermarkets, chain stores); traditional trade (mini-markets, small convenience stores, markets and bazaars); trade of immediate consumption (cinemas, bars, cafes, restaurants, etc.).

Prior to the pandemic restrictions, the FMCG trading strategy was based on a clear classification of stores according to the trade purposeand its size. Convenience stores have skyrocketed in importance during the pandemic with social distancing and restrictions on organized retail stores. According to

experts, this category showed results in the degree of goods turnover and the sales marginality level. In line with this new trend in post-COVID distribution strategies, the surveyed FMCG companies plan to invest in supporting this distribution channel. As for the immediate consumption sector, investment support for the segment is planned to be restored in the second half of 2022.

Another principal factor in trade policy was the development of online trading by FMCG companies. Prior to the period of restrictions due to the low sales volume, according to experts about 1% in certain categories, online sales developed at an insignificant pace and had a low share of investment from trading companies, especially from the food sector. Under the conditions of restrictions, companies quickly developed and implemented online strategies. For other businesses that have established sales in e-commerce, as well as an influx of new consumers in this sales segment. In considering the strategic marketing policy, experts confirm the importance of online implementation and helping to consolidate the channel in a new position. 18 out of 20 surveyed enterprises are currently developing and partially implementing a separate policy for the sale of goods in e-commerce. These strategies also include assortment policy, digital merchandising, as well as quantitative indicators for product placement.

Strategies for ticket size management were also characterized through primary research. The pre-Covid period was characterized by a positive trend in the frequency of purchases and, accordingly, a decrease in the average bill for one consumer purchase. The period of social restrictions reduced the frequency of purchases and increased the size of the consumer's check due to the new «buy in advance» strategy, and, as was confirmed by the statistical analysis of sales,

the sensitivity of consumers to the price of products increased. The experts surveyed expect this trend to continue at least until the first half of 2023. For this reason, future FMCG strategies will focus on stabilizing demand, considering the importance of product quality (value for money), and increasing promotions to compensate for the overall decline in consumption.

During the interviews, the experts were also asked about the marketing factors that will be given special attention in future strategies. As a result, the experts named: the development of online commerce, the restoration of supply chains, the support of innovative strategies, the consumer behavior modeling, considering new behavioral trends.

Conclusion

As a result of a scientific article writing, the main objectives of the study were implemented as part of a structured sales analysis in the context of variousCOVID-19 stages. The findings reflected the changes in consumer behavior provoked by the social and political situation in the country. COVID-19 has caused not only the emergence of current trends, but the acceleration of the existing market innovations development.

The study of the FMCG companies'strategic focuses contributed to a qualitative reflection of the enterprise'scommercial reactions to the changes that have arisen. Based on experts' forecasts, the main elements of focusing future marketing strategies in the FMCG sphere were identified: assortment policy in accordance with consumer habits; investing in traditional trading; strengthening the position in online trading, as well as stabilizing demand for certain categories of products.

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EXAMINING CONSUMER BEHAVIOR ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN HOTELS IN KAZAKHSTAN

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Abstract

International organizations, including the United Nations and European Union member countries, emphasize promoting green consumerism in different industries, including the hotel industry. The same patterns are now observed in Kazakhstan and the other Central Asian States. This article examines consumer behavior when accessing and using green hotel services based on the theory of planned behavior. Depending on the degree of knowledge of consumers, the characteristics of their behavior in relation to the activities of the green hotel are discussed.

This study provides for the study of the possibility of applying the theory of planned behavior (TPB) in the hotel business of the Republic of Kazakhstan and was developed by conducting a survey among customers of 3, 4, 5-star hotels in Almaty. The study involved 50 respondents from 3 hotels. The questionnaire was chosen as the inquiry tool. Questionnaire questions were designed to determine the interest of hotel guests in buying environmentally friendly hotel products.

The results of the study showed that in general, there was a positive attitude of consumers to the use of green products.

Keywords: Theory of planned behaviour, consumer purchase intention, sustainable products.

Introduction

Following the state program for the development of the tourism industry in the Republic of Kazakhstan during the period 2019-2025, it is planned to create a favorable tourist climate and popularize Kazakhstan's tourist potential in the domestic and international markets, improve the quality and competitiveness of tourist products. The tourism industry is a profitable business in the world, the development of the industry contributes to solving social problems in the country and serves as the basis for improving the quality of life. Environmentally friendly products will increase the company's market share and reduce environmental pollution indicators. According to UNWTO forecasts, ecotourism is expected to develop at a high rate in the coming years.

Recently, the peculiarities of the behavior of consumers of tourist products are developing in connection with environmental awareness, and therefore the demand for flexible tourist products is increasing. Consumers and parties in the tourism sector are interested in green business, as a strategic focus on green innovations creates competitive advantages for tourist products.

Since tourist accommodation is an important element of tourism, this study evaluated the behaviour of consumers toward the development of green hotels based using the theory of planned behavior.

Literature review

Sustainable development requires maintaining a balance between the environment, society and the economy (Romagosa, 2020). The post-pandemic tourism crisis requires the professionalism of planning policy improvement and management. Since society is increasingly concerned about environmental issues, Green management is a strategic tool that increases the tourism sector's competitiveness. On the one hand, the state seeks economic development at the national and local levels, on the other hand, environmental protection issues arise, the desire of society as a consumer of tourist products for Sustainable Development or an indifferent attitude requires an analysis of their behavioral characteristics.

With the growth of environmental awareness, the value of environmental issues has also increased. (Chen, 2010). Many studies of consumer behavior have focused on the environmental problems of hotels (de Grosbois 2012; Goldstein et al., 2008; Han and Kim, 2010; Lee et al., 2010). Many scientists have also studied the behavior of consumers in the field of Tourism. The green behavior of a tourist is determined by the presentation of green tourist products. Environmental issues have become increasingly important in the hotel business, as a large amount of Water Resources and detergents are spent on washing and ironing essential items such as towels, bed linen.

These trends increase hotel costs. Many hotels hang an ad urging you to reuse the towel and protect the environment (Krakovsky, 2008).

Mishulina S.I. (2017) identified the factors of the development of the green economy. She is believed that it is necessary to have an ecological culture and education that will transform environmentally-oriented behavior into a traditional system.

Environmentally safe consumer behavior is associated with the consumption of environmentally useful, harmless products. (Mostafa, 2007; Lee, 2009; Huang et al., 2014). As a result of the Pandemic, there was an excessive increase in plastic substances and medical waste (Klemeš et al., 2020). In the hotel industry it is important to create positive customer intentions, as a result of which they make plans to visit the hotel again or offer it to other people (Namkung and Jang, 2007; Han and Back, 2008; Choi et al., 2015).

The human behavior is a solution to environmental problems in the hotel business. An individual consumer norms and environmental consumer behavior are linked to the desire to protect the environment (Jang et al., 2014). It is possible to influence the consumer's desire to use the services of an environmentally responsible hotel, thereby allowing the buyer to change consumer behavior. (Yadav and Pathak, 2017). Many researchers have extensively studied the theory of planned behavior and tried to identify indicators of consumer behavior. For example, Chen and Tung (2014) and Choi et al. (2015) correlated people's personal norms with consumer self-assessment and the moral feelings of environmentally conscious consumers. To assess the desire of consumers to use the service of a green hotel, it is established that a person who has no moral responsibility for Environmental Protection, based on subjective norms, does not purchase the service of a green hotel.

To determine consumer behavior, it is necessary to conduct a holistic study that includes individual norms and environmental awareness. As a result, the expansion of the theory of planned behavior opens up, expanding the provision of hotel services based on the individual norms of the target consumer. Also, the awareness of people regarding the development of green hotels makes it possible to develop environmental marketing strategies.

Materials and methods.

Human behavior is defined by three different characteristics: behavioral beliefs, normative beliefs, and control beliefs. Behavioral beliefs create a positive or unfavorable attitude to a particular situation, normative beliefs lead to subjective norms, and control beliefs are subject to perception by controlling behavior. TPB was originally used as a tool for understanding how people's behavior changes (Ajzen, 1991). This becomes important for understanding pre-planned behavior. TPB replaced the theory of conscious action (TRA), based on a specific study of human behavior (Ajzen, 1991; Fishbein and Ajzen, 1977). Based on TRV (theory of planned behavior), human behavior can be considered from the point of view of three characteristics: relationships, subjective norms, and behavior control (Figure 1).
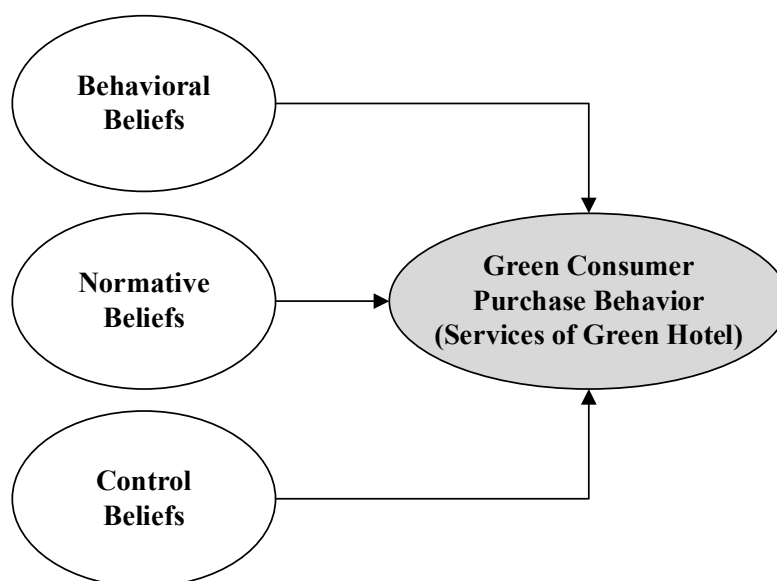

Figure 1 – Theoretical model of planned behavior theory

Relationships include all the beliefs that can affect a person's behavioral intentions (Adams and De Kock, 2015), and consumer behavior can be shaped by developing positive or negative intentions. Subjective norms are social pressures that force individuals to engage in certain activities, such as behavior formed as a result of the influence of parents, friends, colleagues, and public opinion (Fishbein and Ajzen, 1975). Consumers choose a rational option for making a decision when purchasing a product or service and can change their behavior based on regulatory beliefs. Behavior observation shows a person's perception of the ease or difficulty of performing a particular task, as well as the presence or absence of the resources, opportunities necessary to perform a particular action (Ajzen, 1991). The main requirements for green hotels can be seen in Figure 2.
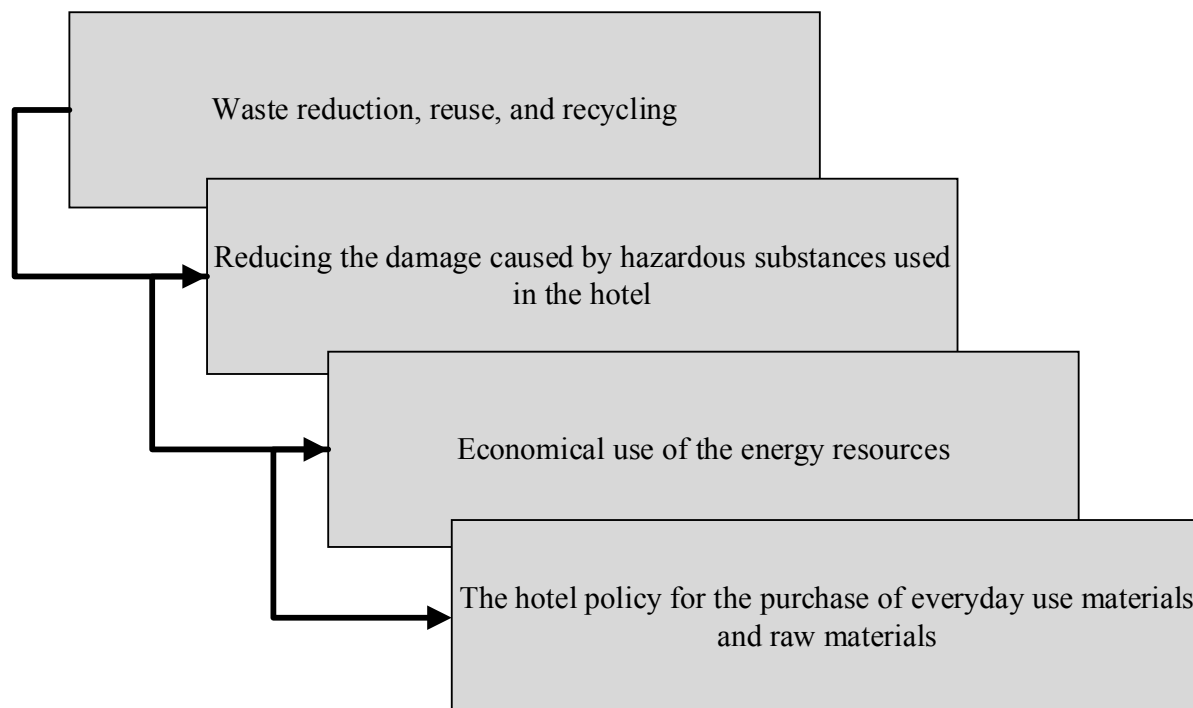
Figure 2 – Conditions for the formation of green hotels

This study, based on the above conditions, investigates the possibility of applying the theory of predicted behavior (TPB) in the hotel business of the Republic of Kazakhstan and is developed by conducting a survey among customers of 3, 4, 5-star hotels in Almaty. 50 respondents from 3 hotels participated in the study. The questionnaire was selected as a query tool. The questionnaire questions were designed to determine the interest of hotel guests in purchasing green hotel products. The first part of the questionnaire contains general information (age, education). The second section contains questions that include consumer attitudes to buying green hotel products, subjective norms, and behavioral control.

Measured on a 5-point Likert scale (1 is not important, 5 is important). The obtained data is systematized, entered into the table and analyzed. The average value, standard deviation, and ANOVA were used to analyze the data. The analysis was performed using EXCEL.

Table 1 shows the demographic characteristics of the respondents. 20% of respondents are aged 21-30 years, 50% are aged 31-40 years and 24% are aged 41-50 years, 6% are aged 51-60 years. The proportion of women who participated in the survey is 60%.

Table 1 – Demographic characteristics of respondents

Demographic characteristics		%
Age	21-30	20
	31-40	50
	41-50	24
	Over 50	6

Gender	Woman	60
	Male	40
Education level	Higher education	50
	Master's degree	20
	Other	30
Hotel category	3 stars	30
	4 stars	50
	5 stars	20

The attitude of hotel guests about green hotel products is shown in the table below.

Table 2. Attitude of consumers of hotel services about the use of green products in Almaty

Indicators	Average value
Consumer Attitude	
It is profitable for me to buy the services of a green hotel.	4,2
It is useful for me to buy the services of a green hotel	4,5
It gives me pleasure to buy the services of a green hotel	4,1
Subjective norms	
Most of the people who are important to me believe that I should use the services of a green hotel	3,7
Most of the people who are important to me expect me to buy the services of a green hotel	2,3
Most people whose opinion I value would approve of buying organic products.	3,7
Most of the people whose opinion I value believe that I should buy the services of a green hotel	3,6
Behavior control	
If I want, I can buy the services of a green hotel	4,8
It is important for me to buy the services of a green hotel	4,5
I am sure that I could use the services of the green hotel if it depended only on me.	4,76
I am sure I will be able to buy the services of a green hotel	4,9
For the most part, it depends on me to buy the services of a green hotel or not	4,3
I have personal control over the purchase of green hotel services	3,6
I have full control over the purchase of green hotel services	3,7

Further, the attitude of consumers of hotel services about environmentally friendly products, depending on the age and category of hotels, is classified. It is planned to determine how many indicators differ in accordance with the age characteristics of consumers and the category of hotels. To do this, we use a single-factor variance analysis. To evaluate the indicators of green hotel preference according to the level of knowledge of hotel service consumers, we Group the results of the study into the table below.

Table 3 - Results of a single-factor variance analysis

Groups	Number	Amount	Average	Variance
Higher education	14	56,7	4,05	0,647308
Master's degree	14	56,5	4,035714	0,553242
Other	14	55,6	3,971429	0,382198
Dispersion analysis				

Scattering source	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F-critical
Intergroup	0,049048	2	0,024524	0,046483	0,954633238	3,238096135
Intra-group	20,57571	39	0,527582			
Total	20,62476	41				

The results of the calculation show that F < Fcritic (0,046 < 3,238), respectively, there are no differences in the attitude of consumers of different degrees of knowledge about the use of a green hotel product. At the same time, the p-value (the probability of validity of the zero hypothesis of equality of mean values) is higher than 0.05, that is, it is not excluded.

Conclusion

The results of the study showed that in general, there was a positive attitude of consumers about the use of green products. Environmental aspects of the hotel business include such services as reducing the consumption of bath water, soap, separate waste collection, recycling, consumption of disposable products, the use of environmentally friendly detergents, and the transfer of outdated furniture to charity. Since these norms do not contradict the individual behavioral characteristics of all consumers, the vast majority of them expressed interest in the consumption of green products.

The Kazakhstan Tourism Association, the Kazakhstan Association of hotels and restaurants, EKOTEK (Spain), ECEAT (Netherlands) are implementing a project to introduce sustainable development of the tourism sector in Kazakhstan. Free training on sustainable accommodation management is being conducted, which means that the management of hotels is also interested in the development of green hotels. This research was limited to the study of consumer behavior due to time constraints. The subsequent study could be on the topic of sensitivity of green product prices and motivational aspects of the orientation of hotel management to green products, the possibilities of applying the theory of planned behavior in the management of green hotel development projects.

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THE EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL TAX
ON POLLUTION CONTROL IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The study examined the effects of environmental taxes on pollution control in Nigeria. It specifically the influence of environmental taxes on waste disposal in Nigeria. The research is predicated on planned behavior theory and value belief norm theory of environmentalism.

Primary data sources were used in presenting the facts of the situation. Purposive probability sampling methods were utilized to identify targeted respondents. Data gathered was examined using descriptive statistics for 100 surveys. The studies demonstrated that environmental taxes have a substantial influence on pollution reduction. This is based on the fact that the majority of respondents (95 percent) agree that environmental taxes have a significant impact on pollution control.

The result of the finding revealed that environmental tax has positive and significant influence on waste disposal in Nigeria which is a clear indication that environmental taxes have a beneficial and considerable influence on pollution control in Nigeria.

The researcher recommends that, considering the seriousness of these environmental hazards, which pose a great threat to the lives of the people, it is the responsibility of the Federal Government of Nigeria to establish a tax system that would allow environmental tax policies, so that the levy of tax may be planned, laying its weight on those who are responsible for generating a specific environmental issue, or problems, and also to make provision for statutory incentives to reduce the administrative cost to the government and the compliance cost placed on the tax payers.

Keywords: environmental tax, waste disposal, planned behavior,tax compliance.

Introduction

Pollution has been a major problem and represents a significant number of dangers to the environment in many countries, and Nigeria is not an exception to this rule (Yuan et al, 2018). This has an impact on the capacity of the environment to be sustained over the long run in Nigeria and elsewhere throughout the globe. The nation of Nigeria has been plagued by significant environmental challenges, including but not limited to: famine, deforestation, desertification, erosion, oil pollution, floods, water pollution, water hyacinth, loss of biodiversity, urban deterioration, and industrial pollution (Kasum, 2010). Numerous studies have concluded that the nation is at an increased risk of experiencing significant ecological as well as economic losses in the event that many of these environmental concerns continue to go unaddressed. Over the course of the last few years, several research investigations have highlighted the fact that environmental issues in Nigeria are of a very diverse character and of significant proportions. As a result of the contamination of the land and water, many sections of the country are today experiencing not only economic stress but also political stress, social stress, and environmental stress. This is due to the fact that the economy is still struggling to recover from the Great Recession. As

has been demonstrated in other nations, addressing the most pressing environmental issues of our time, which include a wide range of environmental changes, water scarcity, biodiversity loss, and the health impacts of pollution, is a course of action that is not only realizable but also within reasonable financial means (Kneese & Charles, 1975). Because pollution has been a problem on a global scale for a considerable amount of time, numerous governments and international organizations, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the European Economic Agency, are currently working to develop and implement effective solutions to the problem of pollution control. These efforts, made by many countries, were in response to the alarming pace at which pollution levels were increasing, as well as to the moment when environmental contamination became a severe menace to mankind on the globe. For example, in 1997, 160 countries from all over the world reached an agreement and signed the Kyoto Protocol, which required a significant reduction in the amount of greenhouse gases released (Jaeger, 2002).

Studies by Boscheck et al, (2013), Bosquet, B. (2000), Bruvoll and Larsen, (2004), Iliya, (2017), Iyohaetal, (2013), Fellerton, D. (2006), Fiorino, (2011). to mentioned a few offers greater insight for a deeper

understanding of the nexus between environmental tax and pollution control. Other studies believed stock prices could be determined by climate change factors (Di-Cosmo and Hyland,2011; Jaeger,2002;Jiménezand Asano, 2008; Jimoh et al,2013;Kasum,2010). These factors which include book value of the carbon tax, fossil fuel tax, emission from green house.

The current level of pollution in the country is ultimately due to environmental issues such as insufficient waste management, poor environmental planning regulations, and inadequate drains (Uwuigbe, 2012).Over the course of many years, there has been a consistent rise in the amount of pollution that has been found throughout the nation. The nation is home to a number of industrial estates, each of which has played a part in this and has been a major contributor to the pollution that can be found across the country. It is important to note that this is not only a problem in Nigeria; rather, it is a problem in a number of other nations as well. The main distinction is that whereas other nations have begun to use environmental taxes as a method for regulating their levels of pollution, Nigeria has been hesitant to go in the direction of adopting this kind of tax. In other words, while other nations around the world have developed sustainable ecological policies toward pollution control through the use of environmental taxes, the country has not implemented environmental taxes; instead, a number of regulations on ecological activities have been adopted. However, these regulations have not produced the expected results in terms of controlling environmental pollution (Jimoh, Daramola, &Uwuigbe, 2013).

Researchers have already completed a number of investigations in the past. The assessment of earlier empirical literature, however, showed that there was no consistency among the conclusions of the research conducted by prior researchers, which is evidence that there is a research gap. The vast majority of the available empirical information pertains to the analysis of environmental taxes and economic development; yet, the findings of the studies that have been conducted point to inconsistencies in this area. Few studies have been able to capture the relationship between environmental taxes and garbage disposal in Nigeria, which gives the impression that the conversation around environmental taxes and pollution management in Nigeria is one-sided. As a result, the purpose of this research was to investigate environmental taxes and how they influence efforts to reduce pollution in Nigeria.

This study therefore raises concerns in environmental areas that could be solved by the introduction of environmental taxes. Using examples of the impact the tax policy has had in other countries, the study makes a case for Nigeria. The purpose of this research is, therefore, to examine the possibility of the implementation of an environmental tax in Nigeria and how effective it can be in achieving pollution control. Therefore, the study specifically examined the likely impact of environmental taxes on waste disposal as a precursor to enhancing environmental safety in Nigeria.

Literature review

The management of trash disposal may not garner as much attention as other environmental concerns, but it is nevertheless a critical matter for any government. Because of this, there has been a significant shift in the behavior of households in a lot of different nations throughout the years. The production of trash is an inevitable by-product of many activities, including those involving humans and ecosystems. It is common knowledge that the amount of waste generated rises in direct proportion to the levels of scientific knowledge, consumer spending, industrial output, and technological advancement. This recent and noteworthy increase in waste generation has led to considerable public concern about ecological and environmental activities, and the ecological "sustainability" of current patterns in consumption and production is focused on the generation and disposal of waste. In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the amount of waste that has been generated. Some of these ecological processes, which ultimately lead to the production of trash, leave the ecosystem in a worse state than it was in the beginning.

As a result, the majority of this waste is disposed of in an improper manner, which puts the ecosystem in danger of suffering severe harm (Iyoha et al, 2013). The majority of actions that are harmful to the environment are often the emission of trash as well as the process of extracting natural resources. These two processes are often intertwined. Many of these improper practices regarding the disposal and management of garbage have a deleterious impact on the ecosystem over the course of time. The disposal of waste and the management of waste is, without a doubt, the most obvious of the key ecological and environmental difficulties that a number of towns and cities face. In Nigeria, the majority of the materials used for product packaging are either plastics or nylon, both of which are considered trash. Furthermore, after these materials have been utilized, they are not disposed of in an appropriate manner. The goods, in turn, contribute to the littering of the environment,

and when the rainy season or flooding finally arrives, they lead to the blockage of drainages and roads. In addition, the products contribute to the pollution of waterways (Akinbola, 2009).

Waste that is accumulated in drainages and gutters often prevents the free flow of erosion waters, which increases the chance of floods and, as a result, environmental harm. The incorrect handling of garbage disposal is often the source of the vast majority of flooding incidents that occur in Nigeria. This is due to the fact that almost every nook and cranny in the country is littered with waste products such as sachet water nylon, which is commonly referred to as "pure water." The large size of these sachets, in common parlance, contributes to pollution and constitutes negative environmental issues. Because poor waste disposal management may have such detrimental repercussions, there is a pressing need to create a tax system that discourages waste disposal practices that aren't environmentally sound among both producers and consumers. In a country like Nigeria, where waste practically litters every nook and cranny, a tax system like the environmental tax would be extremely beneficial in addressing these issues. When environmental tax is introduced, it will therefore create an avenue by which waste disposal management can be properly monitored. When environmental tax is introduced, it will therefore create an avenue by which waste disposal management can be properly monitored (Fellerton, 2006).

This research study is grounded in the theory of planned behavior and value-belief-Norm. The Theory of Environmentalism, or the theory of planned behavior, is one of the theoretical models that is typically utilized in the world of literature to investigate pro-environmental behaviors such as food choice, recycling, energy consumption, travel mode choice, water conservation, and ethical investment. Other pro-environmental behaviors include ethical investment and water conservation.

The Theory of Planned Behavior assumes that accurate behavior prediction can be accomplished by asking individuals whether or not they intend to behave in a certain way. At this point, we make the observation that the purpose of the individual being questioned would not manifest itself in behavior if it were physically impossible to do the behavior at issue or if there were unanticipated impediments that obstructed or impeded the route. According to the theoretical model's attitudes, perceived behavioral control and subjective norms are the factors that determine intentions, which would then in turn

predict behavior. Additionally, background elements like demographic characteristics are thought to have an influence on behavior through the three determinants and the purpose. These three factors attitudes, subjective standards, and the perceived ability to regulate one's behavior explain a person's behavioral purpose before the behavior itself is carried out. Because of this, the intent may be used as a helpful predictor of the actual behavior. The theory also argues that the perceived behavioral control is an appraisal and careful assessment of the essential skills needed for expressing the behavior and the possibility to overcome any obstacle. This is stated in the second part of the theory. (Wayne, 2019).

The Value-Belief-Norm Theory of Environmentalism This theory states that pro-environmental actions typically take place as a response to a personal or moral initiative regarding such actions, and that these are initiated by individuals or organizations who believe that such environmental conditions could pose threats to other people, species, or the biosphere, and that the actions they plan to initiate could avert those consequences. Specifically, this theory states that pro-environmental actions typically take place in response to a personal or moral initiative regarding such actions. This theory explains why many governments and companies feel the need to manage the ecological damage that constitutes a danger to the global population and species via an effective pollution control system that includes environmental taxation as part of its umbrella (Paul et al, 1999).

Bruvoll and Larsen (2004) investigate the effects that environmental taxes have had on the fluctuation of emissions in Norway. They discovered, via the use of a simulation of applied general equilibrium, that environmental taxes had a considerable impact on the reduction of waste disposal and contributed to a fall of two percent across the board. According to the findings of the research, there has been a considerable drop in the amount of waste produced per unit of GDP, and the immediate result has been a reduction in the amount of waste disposal.

After utilizing a CGE model to explore the effects of various waste management tax developments in China, Liang et al (2007) came to the same result as the study that was cited earlier in their research. Based on the findings of the research, relevant applications of various tax systems were suggested. Iliya (2017) conducted research to determine the extent of environmentally responsible taxation's potential to advance sustainable development. In order to analyze the results of the study's data, the researchers used

both qualitative and quantitative approaches. As a result of the research's results, the paper suggested that the Nigerian federal government should devise a tax system that incorporates environmental tax laws with the goal of imposing a tax levy on individuals and businesses that are responsible for environmental issues.

Oyedokun et al (2018) conducted research on the difficulties environmental accounting and taxes are encountering in Nigeria. According to the findings of the research, the most important obligation for ensuring that this kind of tax system is carried out in its entirety lies with the national government of the country. In his study, Vehmas (2005) considers the experiences that Finland has had with environmentally-based energy taxation. He comes to the conclusion that fiscally-driven deviations from the model environmental tax have weakened the real purpose for which this tax system was formulated. Vehmas's study was published in 2005.

Sterner (2007) investigated the fuel taxes of Europe in their research and found the beneficial long-term impact that such waste management and fossil fuel taxes had in Europe in terms of lowering waste disposal taxand carbon tax. The author demonstrates that the implementation of high gasoline taxes results in a reduction in plastic dispose tax and carbon emissions that is more than half the original amount. In addition to this, the amount of carbon that is present in the atmosphere has decreased by more than 1 ppm. Yan and Crookes (2009) highlight the importance of a scenario that includes fossil fuel taxes as a means of dealing with China's rapidly expanding vehicle industry and energy demand in their research. When compared to the existing scenario, this one has the ability to bring about a reduction in the demand for energy of 16.3 percent, the demand for petroleum of 18.5 percent, and the emissions of greenhouse gases of 16.2 percent in the year 2030. As a result, tangible empirical evidence demonstrated the effectiveness of such environmental related levies.

The research conducted by Convery et al (2007) examines the efficiency of the plastic bag tax that was implemented in Ireland and began operating in the year 2002. The establishment of such a tax system had a significant role in the development of responsible waste disposal management.

The purchase of plastic bags at retail outlets dropped by 90 percent as a direct consequence of the levy, which led to an increase in annual income of almost 13 million euros. This was a significant and easily visible outcome. The report suggested that a fee system similar to this one

be used to stop people from throwing trash away in the wrong way. Within the scope of their research, Deyle and Bretschneider (1995) investigated waste taxes in the United States (in particular taxes on land disposal). According to the findings of the research, increased taxes have a greater propensity to lower the amount of garbage that is delivered to landfills in comparison to other methods of waste management. Odunjo and Oluronke (2013), investigated the reasons why the nation has not yet achieved sustainable environmental management. In order to arrive at its conclusions, the research relied on both previously collected data and the author's own first-hand experiences. The author suggests in his suggestions that the government needs to devote a greater amount of attention to environmental conservation and sanitation and take stringent measures in order to attain this purpose.

Research methodology

The survey research design was employed in order to elicit information from the sampled respondents selected for the study. The choice of this method stems from its high reliability of engaging more honest response than other research methods and the descriptive nature of the study.

The research population includes all state in Nigeria, but it would not be possible to collect data from all the state in Nigeria due to the size of the population. Therefore, a cluster sampling technique was used to choose the South-West geo-political zone out of the six geo-political zones in Nigeria. The choice of South-West geo-political zone of Nigeria was based on menace on environmental pollution in this zone, high level of education and simple convenience. South-West zone comprises six states, namely; Lagos State, Oyo State, Osun State, Ogun State, Ondo State and Ekit State.

For the purpose of picking our sample, the purposive sampling technique was employed due to the size of the population under study. From all the six states (Lagos State, Oyo State, Osun State, Ogun State, Ondo State and Ekit State) in South-West zone four states (Osun State, Ogun State, Ondo State and Ekit State State) were randomly chosen. One hundred respondents were chosen from each of the four selected states.

It is expected that environmental tax will reduce waste disposal on the waterway and environmental tax will reduce erosion. (Appah&Eze, 2013, Lateef et al, 2015). Hence, a functional relationship is expected between environmental tax and water pollution as

Environmental tax $= f(Waste\ disposal + Erosion)$...*(i)*

This is expressed in code form as

$ENT = f\ (WD+ER)$...*(ii)*

This equation is transformed into econometric form as

$ENT = \beta_0 + \beta_1 WD + + \beta_2 WD + \mathcal{E}$...*(iii)*

ENT = Environmental Tax

WD = Waste Disposal

ER = Erosion

β = Unknown Coefficient of the Variables

Ɛ = Error Term

Close ended questionnaire was prepared in the form of five Likert-Scale, where; Strongly Agree (SA) = 5; Agree (A) = 4; Neutral (N) =3, Disagree (D) = 2; and Strongly Disagree (SD) = 1; the use of likert scale is to make it easier for respondents to answer questions in a simple way.

The research instrument used is the structured Likert scale questionnaire consisting of ten (10) questions: Five questions for the dependent variables and five questions for the explanatory variable. The section relates to water pollution and deals with the issues that concern waste disposal on the waterway, throwing of plastic bag on the water channel and erosion. The questionnaire has a Likert scale response of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Neutral (N), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagree (SD) with each of them coded as

5,4,3,2, and 1 respectively, that is (Strongly Agree (5) and Agree (4) will be taken as high level of compliance, Neutral (3) taken as undecided while Disagree (2) and Strongly Disagree (1)

The Spearman ANOVA Predictors: (Constant), Environmental Tax was applied to explain the strength of the relationship between the factor in the hypothesis of this research and environmental tax was applied in testing for significant relationship between the means of the variable and environmental tax. These tools were primarily employed to explain the relationship between water pollution and personal waste disposal which is regarded as water pollution.Environmental tax was taken as the dependent variable against the independent variable of water pollution. The study was carried out in South-West zone, Nigeria.

Analysis and results

Environmental Tax and waste disposal

SN	Items	A	SA	D	SD	Mean	SD
1	There is water pollution in Nigeria	87	76	5	15	3.10	0.97
2	Water pollution my not be easily ascertained talk less of imposing levy on offenders	86	75	13	9	2.85	1.03
3	Compliance with environmental regulation on waterway may be difficult	67	61	25	30	2.61	1.11
4	Weak compliance mechanism will vitiate environmental tax on waste disposal	89	71	11	12	1.70	0.84
5	Taxation for water pollution will not increase government tax revenue	34	21	67	61	2.78	1.13
6	Environmental tax will not reduce waste disposal	61	23	56	43	2.63	1.14

H_{01}**: There is no significant relationship between Environmental Tax and Waste Disposal**

Table 1.1:   Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.837[a]	.700	.698	.47684

a. Predictors: (Constant), Environmental Tax

Table2:   **ANOVA**[a]

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	96.069	1	96.069	422.516	.000[b]
	Residual	41.155	181	.227		
	Total	137.224	100			

a. Dependent Variable: Waste Disposal
b. Predictors: (Constant), Environmental Tax

Summary of ANOVA showing the impact of Environmental Tax on waste disposal

ITEMS		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
There is problem of waste disposal in Nigeria	Between Groups	119.406	3	39.802	399.862	.000
	Within Groups	17.818	92	.100		
	Total	137.224	100			
Waste disposal may not be easily ascertained talk less of imposing levy on offenders	Between Groups	96.013	3	32.004	255.100	.000
	Within Groups	22.457	92	.125		
	Total	118.470	100			
Compliance with environmental regulation on waste disposal may be difficult	Between Groups	200.855	3	66.952	1278.327	.000
	Within Groups	9.375	92	.052		
	Total	210.230	100			
Weak compliance mechanism will vitiate environmental tax on waste disposal	Between Groups	109.200	3	36.400	284.952	.000
	Within Groups	22.866	92	.83		
	Total	132.066	100			
Taxation for waste disposal will not increase government tax revenue	Between Groups	172.940	3	57.647	213.129	.000
	Within Groups	48.415	92	.270		
	Total	221.355	100			
Environmental tax will not reduce waste disposal	Between Groups	227.023	3	75.674	518.495	.000
	Within Groups	26.125	92	.146		
	Total	253.148	92			

Discussion

From the results obtained above, the following can be deduced. Out of 100 respondents used for the analysis, based on ANOVA summary result which reflected that 96 percent of the respondents strongly agreed with the notion to great extent that environmental tax on waste disposal revealed that the benefits derived from environmental tax have significant effect on waste disposal because the result clearly revealed waste

disposal posed a great challenge to the environment which is very harmful in the community, regardless of this representation by the respondents on the above subject matter, 96 respondents which represent 50 percent strongly agreed that. Environmental tax have strong relationship with waste disposal which is a clear indication that if environmental tax has been put in place it will curb the menace of uncultured waste disposal in the environment and anyone found guilty will face the tax burden. Therefore, from the results obtained it is affirmative with certainty to conclude that benefits derived from introduction of environmental tax has significant effect on pollution control. This is based on the fact that a large percentage (90.8 percent) of the respondents is in concurrence with the argument that environmental tax has significant effect on pollution control.

Conclusion

This research comes to the conclusion that water pollution has been a major catastrophe that has been experienced all across the globe, including in Nigeria. If environmental taxes are implemented, they will be a good source of income generation to the government, which is a dividend of promoting technology advances towards a cleaner environment and effectively regulating environmental protection activities, particularly as an effective and efficient complement to other regulatory efforts. If environmental taxes are introduced, they will also be a dividend of encouraging technological advancements towards a cleaner environment. Therefore, the introduction of environmental levies on waste disposal would lead to an enormous control of pollution in Nigeria, which will ultimately result in a reduction in the quantity of waste disposal. This is due to the fact that pollution makes up a significant portion of the environmental risk; as a result, the management of pollution in Nigeria as a whole will be aided, and the region will become more hospitable for human habitation and more sustainable in the long run.

Accordingly, the report suggests that the Federal Government, namely the Federal Inland Revenue Service, Public awareness programs should be initiated by the Federal Inland Revenue Service in order to educate the general public about the topic of environmental taxation. These programs should inform people about the dangers of pollution and the fact that those who are found to be responsible for the creation of any form of harmful pollution are obligated to pay a tax. Additionally, these programs should explain that the tax should be structured in such a way that it places the burden of taxation on those who are responsible for the production of a specific environmental problem. For best clarity further scientific investigation on how environmental tax and can reduce waste disposal with response to climate change should be conducted.

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