



# **Role of Women in their Household Income**

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## **Area: Jutial, Gilgit Baltistan**

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# Introduction

The pace of development in any country largely depends upon the people's participation including women. Women constitute almost half of the total population of the country. They can play a vital role in economic development of the family and of the nation.

In Pakistani families, income earning was usually the responsibility of males, while the remaining family members, usually women and children are economically dependent. Women had no choice but to live in this dependent condition, due to their relatively lower educational levels and fewer marketable skills, the resultant lack of available employment opportunities, and a lack of social acceptance of women earning a living.

The female contribution to the overall economy, particularly in agriculture is high throughout Asia. In the field of agriculture, there are around 43 percent of females who are working in the world as helpers in crop cultivation and production, animal husbandry, fisheries, post-harvest management, etc.

Women are the major contributor in the field of agriculture and industry. Women are playing a key essential role in growing food and providing food to all their families. Not only women are working in agricultural sector, but they are also playing a key role in the field of medical, health, law and education side-by-side their male counterparts.

# Demography of Jutial Gilgit

Jutial is a main city of Gilgit Baltistan. It has an estimated population, over 50000, among which 30000 are women & 20000 men. This covers an area about 500 square kilometer.

This city is rich in education and cultural values, having literacy rate up to 90%.

When we conducted a survey in Jutial, we got astonishing results. We found that women is involved in different fields of life & they thought that 'Role of women in their household income' may be tool of women empowerment.

They not only contribute to their homely expenditures, but have a proper plan for future.

# Role of women in their household income

The role of women in their household income is admirable, although, Jutial is a commercial area except women here is engaged with agriculture. Women are involved in different sectors through which they earn and contribute to their family.

The major source of income is;

- Farm income: Crop farming, fruits, vegetables, poultry and livestock
- Non Farm Income: Stitching, Beauty Parlor, Canteen & food distribution, shop and private school and tuition centers.

# Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of this study are;

- To study the socio-economic status of women in the society.
- To examine the role of women in household development in Jutial.
- To suggest to improve the role of women in economic process.
- To suspect how women contribution to their family effects overall household income.
- To examine the extent to which women is empowered.

# Selected variables:

Socioeconomic status depends on a combination of variables, including occupation;

- Name of respondent's
- Number of female respondent's
- Age
- Martial status- has been categorized as: Unmarried, Married, Divorced, and Widowed
- Education level- has been categorized as: illiterate, primary, middle, matriculation, intermediate, graduation and master's

# Data collection technique

For collection of data, a questionnaire was developed and the data were collected from a randomly drawn sample of 35 households during the period from 2<sup>nd</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 through direct interviews using a structured questionnaire. The information supplied by the women was recorded directly on the questionnaire.

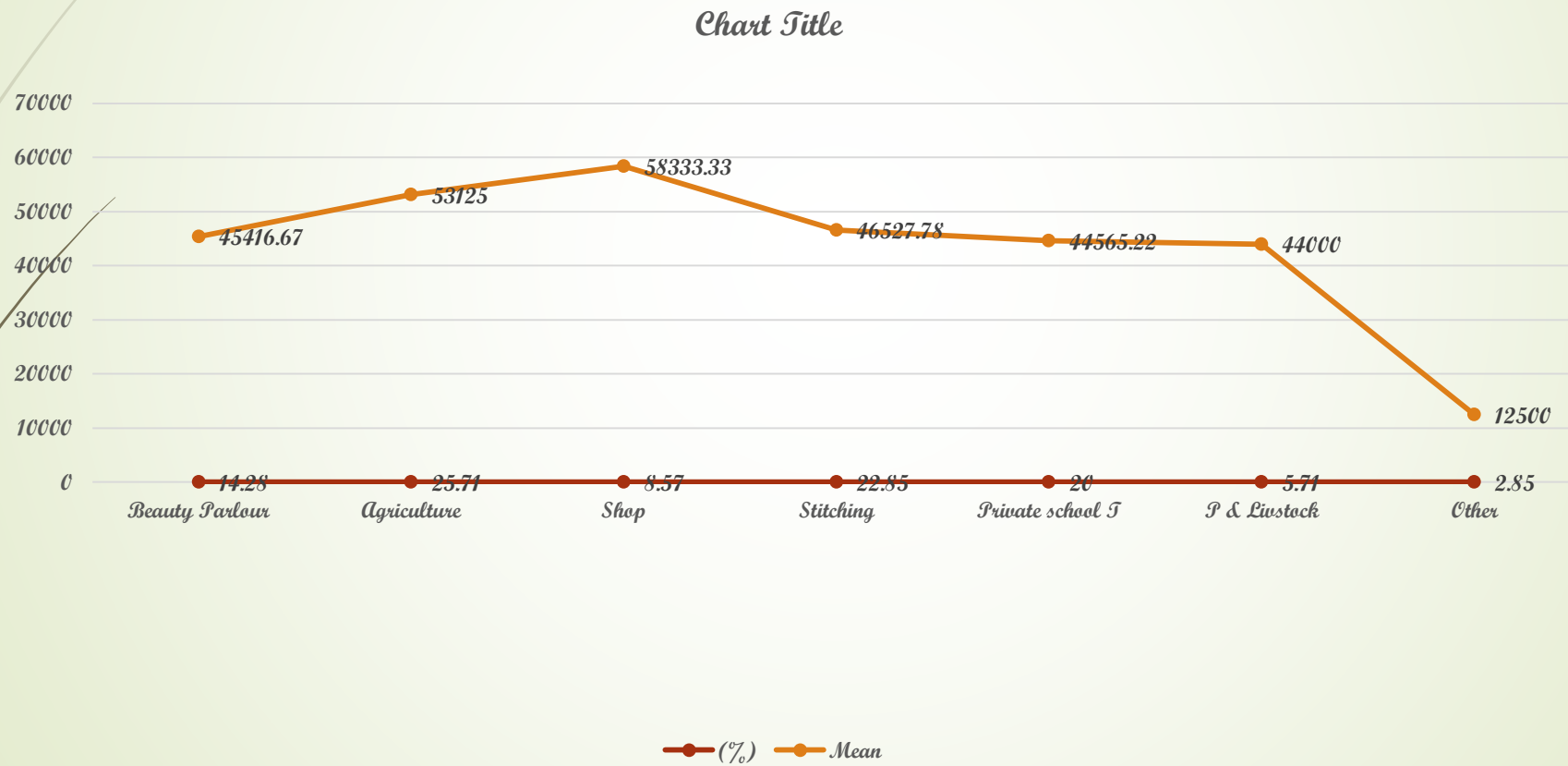
## **Analytical techniques:**

After the phase of data collection, it is tabulated for further analysis.

# Results

After complete analysis of data, the overall outcomes are showed via graph/table;

Source of income	Percentage (%)	Average/Mean
Beauty parlor	14.28	45417pkr. (Monthly)
Agriculture	25.71	53125pkr. (Annually)
Shop	8.57	58333pkr. (Monthly)
Stitching	22.85	46528pkr. (Monthly)
Private school & tuition centers	20	44565pkr. (Monthly)
Poultry & livestock	5.71	44000pkr. (Monthly)
Food distribution	2.85	12500pkr. (Monthly)



# CONCLUSIONS

Women are silent workers and good partners of the socioeconomic development of the country in general and the family in particular. They can contribute more to the socioeconomic upliftment of the family if proper environment and facilities can be ensured.

Economic pressure is forcing them to break away their traditional roles of housewives into wage earners. The contribution of women in different activities as well as in total family income was substantial.

The pattern of women's contribution to household income is changing. A present, women are participating in various farm and non-farm income generating activities especially in crop production, vegetables production, homestead gardening, livestock and poultry rearing,

Stitching, food distribution, Beauty parlor & teaching.

We found that women's income is positively related with women's education and farm size but negatively related with age, family size.

The potential of women must be tapped for the socioeconomic improvement of the families and development of the nation as a whole. Women should be organized and be made aware that they have equal right of participation.

For poverty alleviation, various income generating projects should be introduced for women. So, the government of Gilgit Baltistan , collaboration with Federal government should pay attention on the welfare of working women, so that their contribution in national income and GDP may increase and poverty and income inequality level be decreased.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- So, to get better production and outcomes in every field of life, women should be encouraged by giving them higher wages and providing better facilities so that gender gap may be reduced.
- There is strongly need for proper awareness about education and its effects on the economics life of human being.
- There is a need to create job and income generating opportunities for female in order to enhance their participation in household income.
- Government should take action against female's harassment, especially at workplaces and legal assistance may be provided to women suffering sexual harassment in those places which experiences such cases.

**THE END**