

Bahria University  
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

# Development as Neocolonialism;

An Account of Social, Cultural, and Economic Transition in Shah Allah Ditta

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*To my parents, Dr. Abdul Bari and Ansa Bari for being a constant source of inspiration;*

*And my sisters Ayesha, Maria, and Adila*

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## Acronyms

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ADB	Asian Development Bank
BHU	Basic Health Unit
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HIPC	Highly Indebted Poor Countries
ICT	Islamabad Capital Territory
IDA	International Development Assistance
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
KPK	Khyber Pakhtun Khwa
LDC	Least Developed Country
LHW	Lady Health Worker
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MNC	Multinational Corporation
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
OPEC	Oil Producing and Exporting Countries
PPP	Pakistan people's Party
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
RBA	Rights Based Approach
SAP	Structural Adjustment Program
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Social, and Cultural Organization
WB	World Bank

# Table of Contents

<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>10</b>
1.1. RESEARCHER POSITION .....	15
1.2. LOCALE OF THE STUDY .....	15
1.3. METHODS & METHODOLOGY .....	16
1.3.1. DATA COLLECTION.....	20
1.3.2. ANALYSIS OF DATA .....	21
<b>CHAPTER II REVIEW OF LITERATURE .....</b>	<b>24</b>
2.1. A DEFINITION FOR NEOCOLONIALISM .....	25
2.2. DEFINING INDIGENOUS .....	27
2.3. A HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT .....	29
2.4. NOTIONS OF PROGRESS AND MODERNITY .....	31
2.5. THE DEPENDENCY MODEL.....	33
2.6. THE POST MODERNIST CRITIQUE .....	35
2.7. DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE, AND NEOCOLONIALISM .....	37
2.8. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK .....	40
2.9. COMPOSITE THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK .....	43
<b>CHAPTER III FINDINGS &amp; ANALYSIS.....</b>	<b>46</b>
3.1. SOCIAL ORGANIZATION.....	47
3.1.1. RELIGION & CASTE .....	47
3.2. ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION .....	50
3.3. WINDS OF CHANGE .....	55
3.3. 1. EVIDENCE OF DEVELOPMENT .....	57
3.3.2. REINVENTING DOMINATION .....	59
3.4. DEVELOPMENT AS A PRECURSOR TO PROGRESS .....	63
3.5. MODERNITY: REALIZING THE WESTERN IDEAL .....	70
3.5.1. THE CONTEMPORARY DIALECT .....	71
3.5.2. MECHANIZED LIFE .....	73
3.6. CULTURE .....	74
3.6.1. COMMUNAL LIVING .....	74
3.6.2. CULTURE & RELIGION.....	75
3.6.3. PATRIARCHY.....	77
3.6.4. KINSHIP .....	80
3.6.5. SOCIOCULTURAL EVENTS .....	80
3.7. SOCIAL CHANGE .....	82
<b>CHAPTER IV DISCUSSION .....</b>	<b>88</b>
4.1. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY.....	89
4.2. IMPLICATIONS .....	90

4.3. CONCLUSION .....	92
GLOSSARY OF TERMS.....	94
ANNEX A.....	95
ANNEX B.....	97
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>98</b>

## Table of Figures

Figure 1 Lubana.....	16
Figure 2 Shah Allah Ditta .....	16
Figure 1-3Aerial view of Shah Allah Ditta.....	18
Figure 1-4street view of Shah Allah Ditta.....	18
Figure 1-5Aerial view of Lubana .....	19
Figure 1-6Street view of Lubana .....	19
Figure 2-7 conceptual Framework (original) .....	41
Figure 3-1 'panj tann pak' a shi'a symbol dots the skyline of Shah Allah Ditta exhibiting Shi'a preeminance .....	49
Figure 3-2Agricultural Land in Lubana .....	51
Figure 3-3 Hadia with her own goat.....	52
Figure 3-4 An under Construction house in Shah Allah Ditta.....	54
Figure 3-5 A House in Lubana .....	54
Figure 3-6A view of the main road leading to Shah Allah Ditta .....	58
Figure 3-7 Office of the Sadaat Welfare Society in Shah Allah Ditta .....	62
Figure 3-8 A view of the school in Shah Allah Ditta visible in the distance .....	65
Figure 3-9 A view of the school in Lubana .....	65
Figure 3-10A woman from Lubana filling her water bucket from one of the communal well .....	68
Figure 3-11 The local BHU in Shah Allah Ditta.....	69
Figure 3-12Camels are used to bring firewood to Shah Allah Ditta .....	86
Figure 20 Courtesy Google Earth .....	97



## Abstract

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*This paper makes an attempt to connect the concepts of modernity, progress, social change as concepts envisioned by development agenda of neoliberalism. It also draws on the economic agenda of neoliberalism in considering the spread of capitalism. With this framework in mind the author suggests creation of a condition of neocolonialism through economic and cultural globalization. This model suggests that cultural autonomy of indigenous cultures is compromised due to the creation of this neocolonial condition. Through an ethnographic case study of a village in Punjab, Pakistan, the author analyzes the culture, social and economic organization of the area along with patterns of hegemony, in an attempt to decipher how the neoliberal ideology is contributing to the creation of neocolonialism.*