MS Research Thesis

PROFILING OF JOURNALISTS IN BALOCHISTAN: AN EXPLORATORY STUDY

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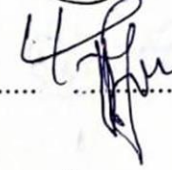
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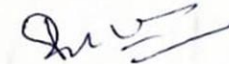
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ABSTRACT

In the today digital age the journalists face real threats around the world particularly in Pakistan, which is badly affected the freedom of expression and human rights. They lose their status due the different environmental factors. The current analysis explore the profiling of the journalists in Balochistan as an exploratory study. The researcher used quantitative technique on the population of different districts of Balochistan (Zhob, Musakhail, Chaman, Ziarat, Nushki, Jaffarabad, Gwadar, and Awaran) The data has been collected though survey method form 300 working full time, part time and free lancing journalists on the basis of systematic sample technique, using manual questionnaire consisting different scale questions. After the collection, the data was analyzed by statistical package of social sciences (SPSS) to tabulate the data with the categories, frequencies and percentage for batter understanding and real result. The researcher found out that the journalism in Balochistan deter the journalists form viewing journalism as a secure and alternative career. The journalist face extreme threats consist of harassment, intimidation and physical violence form both state and non-state actors, making their profession highly perilous. Limited institutional support, lack of security measure and constant fear for personal security further exacerbate the risk, different effecting their ability to work independently and ethically. The current study suggested that the government should develop journalist protection policies, Press clubs & media organization, Ensure independent journalism for the resilient profile of journalist in Balochistan.

Key words: *Journalists profile, Baluchistan, Security, independent Journalism*

CHAPTER NO.1

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background of the Study:

The profiling of journalists offers a serious challenges to press freedom and the principle of journalistic integrity, particularly in region influenced by political instability and conflict. In the province of Balochistan, (Pakistan largest yet most volatile province) this problem severely affect the struggle of journalist who seek to inform the people amid complex socio-political circumstances. The Balochistan has experienced longstanding insurgencies ethnic unrest and repeated accusation of human right violations, all of which contribute to an inducing perilous climate for journalists (Hussain, 2015). The current analysis seeks to explore the practices of journalist profiling in the province of Balochistan, aiming to focus on its characteristics, possible avenues for redress and consequences.

Balochistan's situation offers a compelling context for scrutinizing the complexities surrounding journalist profiling. As a region with a tumultuous history of conflict and marginalization, Balochistan presents journalists with unique challenges. They often grapple with the dilemma of reporting truthfully while facing threats from influential parties seeking to control the narrative. State security agencies, insurgent groups, and local power brokers employ various tactics to surveil, intimidate, and silence journalists, thus impeding the free flow of information and suppressing dissent. This study endeavors to unravel the multifaceted aspects of profiling in Balochistan, examining its implications for press freedom, journalistic norms, and democratic governance in the region (Niaz et al., 2017).

The journalism in Balochistan has been extended a weak and infantile region, facing many tasks that delay its growth and capability to meaning as an independent support of the social order. One of the maximum important reasons causative to this faintness is the safety position in the area. Balochistan has been the location of ongoing insurrection, military processes, and pressures among the Baloch separatist activities and the Pakistani national. Journalists frequently find themselves in the disagreement of this battle, facing pressures, harassment, and ferocity from both national and non-state performers. The safety environment

makes a climate of distress, where journalists are unwilling to cover delicate issues, leading to self-censorship and a partial possibility for critical journalism (Ullah, 2018).

The nonappearance of press liberty in Balochistan additional weakens journalism in the area. Journalists in Balochistan are frequently subject to restriction and pressure from establishments, which restrictions their aptitude to account easily on human privileges abuses, party-political unrest, and additional significant local subjects. Numerous media openings in the area repetition self-censorship to sidestep the risk of revenge, which primes to a lack of widespread coverage of proceedings. The political situation, with its preventive policies on allowed communication and press freedom, generates a situation where dangerous and analytical journalism is quiet. This donates to a skewed story in the media, frequently in errand of government or military benefits, while speeches critical of the national or the status quo are demoted (Shirazi, 2017).

In addition to the safety and political defies, the economic and infrastructural restraints of the media manufacturing in Balochistan additional exacerbate the faintness of journalism in the area. Media openings in Balochistan control with restricted resources and facade important financial challenges. Numerous of the homegrown newspapers, radio stations, and television networks struggle to uphold economic sustainability due to a lack of publicity revenue, deficient government provision, and the defies of working in a conflict-prone district. This economic instability varieties it problematic for these channels to capitalize in quality reporting, hire skilled reporters, or deliver the essential infrastructure to behavior investigative effort. As an outcome, greatly of the media content in Balochistan inclines to be superficial and be unsuccessful to address multifaceted issues with the complexity they justify (Agha & Demeter, 2023).

Moreover, the lack of professional training among journalist in Balochistan contributed to the overall weakness of the media landscape. Journalistic education and training program in the region are limited, and many journalists are faced to learn on the job without access to formal media education. This leads to a lack of investigative journalist skill as well as an inability to cover sensitively. Many reporters work under precarious conditions, with little support or protection from their employers, which further undermines the quality and credibility of journalism in the region. The absence of professional development opportunities for journalists exacerbates the vulnerability of the media to manipulation and self-censorship. (Prakash, 2013).

The journalism in Balochistan rests weak due to a mixture of security, political, financial, and specialized defies. The ongoing struggle, lack of media freedom, limited possessions, and insufficient exercise for journalists generate a situation where the media cannot function successfully as an independent organization. As long as these defies persevere, it is improbable that reporting in Balochistan will be capable to fulfill its possible as a tool for representative answerability and social alteration. To recover the national of journalism in the area, important struggles are desired to address these problems, including refining security for reporters, development press lack of restrictions, providing economic sustenance to media channels, and participating in journalist exercise curriculums (Hussain, 2015).

Furthermore, the practice of journalism in Balochistan is compounded by inadequate infrastructure and resources. Many regions within the province lack essential amenities such as reliable internet, electricity, and other utilities, posing challenges for journalists in their efforts to gather and disseminate news. Moreover, the media landscape in Balochistan exhibits a dearth of diversity, with a handful of prominent media outlets often under the sway of influential political and business interests (Niaz et al., 2020).

Effective journalism demands individuals possess robust research and communication skills, along with the ability to craft clear and engaging narratives while upholding ethical principles such as accuracy, objectivity, fairness, and impartiality. Journalists frequently operate under stringent deadlines, engaging in tasks like conducting interviews, attending press briefings, and pursuing leads to compile informative stories. Journalism is a recognized profession encompassing various roles and responsibilities, with definitions of a journalist varying across contexts (Wendo, 2022).

Despite these challenges, journalists in Balochistan continues to play a vital role in documenting and disseminating information about the region's socio-political dynamics. They provide a voice to marginalized communities, shed light on human rights violations, and hold those in power accountable. However, the risks they face underscore the urgent need for greater protection of press freedom and journalist safety in Balochistan, as well as the importance of supporting independent media outlets and fostering a culture of transparency and accountability (Umer, 2024). A journalist as an individual responsible for delivering news information to various mediums including newspapers, periodicals, radio, television, and the internet. Given

their critical role in society, journalists are expected to serve as watchdogs within the social system, gathering, interpreting, and disseminating news for the common good. In the contemporary landscape, journalists are influenced by both internal factors such as journalistic principles and organizational structures, as well as external factors including news production, publication, and public perception (Tumber, 2013).

Journalism is widely recognized as a cornerstone of democratic societies, facilitating access to essential information and fostering accountability among those in power. However, journalists often encounter challenges such as censorship, threats, and safety risks, particularly in regions with limited press freedom or during periods of conflict or political instability. Despite these obstacles, journalism remains integral to maintaining a free and informed society. In developing and transitioning nations, journalists face a myriad of economic, organizational, legal, and political challenges. Various political parties, terrorist groups, and other organizations worldwide are expanding their reach, leveraging every available means to advance their objectives, including influencing public opinion. Recognizing the media's potent role in shaping public perception, these entities often target journalists as instruments of influence (Olayinka, 2024).

Similarly, journalists themselves undergo scrutiny and profiling by the public. Such profiling aims to discern their information sources and how they shape opinions on systemic issues. Factors such as education, salary, job satisfaction, and political or religious affiliations significantly impact journalists and the content they produce. The profile of a journalist encompasses professional, demographic, organizational, social, economic, academic, and vocational dimensions. Social profiles delineate a person's social characteristics, aiding identification across various platforms like professional organizations and social media. Economic profiles gauge journalists' financial well-being, while academic profiles detail their educational qualifications and professional profiles outline their work experiences (Hertzum, 2022).

Gatekeepers, predominantly government officials and newspaper owners driven by financial interests, exert significant influence over media content production. Moreover, journalists' personal ideologies, racial and geographical backgrounds, organizational dynamics, economic pressures, and societal norms all shape media operations and content. Understanding

these factors is essential for comprehending how media functions and content is shaped. Hence, this study seeks to delve into the legal dimensions of journalist profiling, encompassing various personal, demographic, organizational, social, economic, academic, and professional aspects. Journalists encounter formidable challenges in Pakistan's provinces, where reporting on critical issues may be hindered by threats to personal safety and fear of retribution from extremist groups. Such risks often lead to self-censorship among journalists, resulting in limited and biased reporting. The pressure to conform to public sentiment in the face of terrorism can also breed sensationalism and compromise journalistic integrity (Khan et al., 2022). While freedom of expression is upheld as a fundamental right across the globe, it remains a contentious issue, even in countries with robust constitutional protections. This right, integral to personal autonomy, democracy, and truth-seeking, empowers the public to shape their nations. Journalists, as purveyors of current events, play a pivotal role in democratic societies, garnering widespread attention amid the rapidly changing global landscape (Umar et al., 2022).

1.1.1 Explanation of Key Concept

Press Club: A press club is a professional organization or facility dedicated to serving the needs of journalists and media professionals. It typically provides a physical space for members to gather, network, and collaborate, often hosting events, conferences, and workshops related to journalism and media. Press clubs also advocate for press freedom, support journalistic ethics, and may serve as a hub for promoting dialogue between journalists, government officials, and the public (Dickinson & Memon, 2012).

Journalist: The person who absorb, collect, organize, summarize, and disseminates the news to people in the form of text audio, video and picture. This process is called journalism (Ugland & Henderson, 2007).

Profiling of Journalists: The information which describes the background and character of the particular person or group called profiling, in the current study profiling of journalist indicator to the statues and value of journalist in Balochistan, that involve surveillance, monitoring, or scrutiny by authorities or other entities based on their reporting, affiliations, or perceived political leanings. Journalist profiling can have serious implications for freedom of the press and the safety of journalists, as it may lead to harassment, intimidation, or even physical harm.

Balochistan: Balochistan means the land of Baloch; it is the largest province of the Pakistan by land area, it is located in southwest of Pakistan (Javaid & Jahangir, 2020).

1.1.1 Journalist's Profile

The term "profile" holds various meanings and can apply across both professional and personal contexts (Ferraris et al., 2013). Profiling, as defined, involves categorizing individuals based on their personal attributes. Personal data can be categorized as legitimate or unlawful, with the latter often violating individual rights and freedoms. Journalists worldwide are particularly susceptible to scrutiny by both governmental and non-governmental entities. Their profile is shaped by two interrelated factors. However, navigating safely within a monitored environment poses significant challenges for journalists. In such settings, journalists and media entities are frequently targeted by both state and non-state actors. Particularly in authoritarian states like Pakistan, journalists are keenly aware of governmental power dynamics, whether real or perceived. International organizations dedicated to monitoring media freedom and protecting journalists have repeatedly highlighted increased surveillance of journalists in Pakistan (Dumas & Sanchez-Burks, 2015).

Aspects of Journalists' Profiles

Personal data encompasses both lawful and unlawful collection of personal information. Legitimate aspects of journalist profiles involve recording qualifications and earnings for documentation purposes, while illegal dossiers monitor journalists for unwelcome activities such as political or religious affiliations. Profiling encompasses various dimensions including demographic, organizational, individual, and social factors. Demographic aspects cover education, gender, income, marital status, and residency. Organizational profiles investigate into autonomy, news quality priorities, executive commentary frequency, wages, job security, and work schedules. Individual factors include feelings of accomplishment, emotional exhaustion, work stress, and loyalty to the organization. Social image pertains to a journalist's political, social, and religious beliefs. Notably, such collection of personal information occurs in mature democracies like the United States, both covertly and overtly (Josephi et al., 2019)

Journalism in Balochistan

Balochistan, also spelled Balochistan, is a province located in the southwestern region of Pakistan. It is the largest province in terms of land area, covering approximately 44% of

Pakistan's total land area, but has a relatively sparse population compared to other provinces. Balochistan is bordered by Iran to the west, Afghanistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province to the north, Punjab and Sindh provinces to the east, and the Arabian Sea to the south. Significant ethnic groups include Pashtuns, Brahuis, and Hazaras. Each group has its own distinct culture, language, and traditions. The population is concentrated, and compared with other provinces; the population proportion is the smallest. According to the 1998 census, its population was xx million, with a low population density per square kilometer. Geographically, Balochistan is a vast plateau with rugged terrain divided into basins based on sufficient height and ruggedness. Balochistan is divided into different districts Awaran, Barkhan, Chagai, Chaman Dera Bugti, Gwadar, Harnai, Jafarabad, Jhal Magsi, Kalat Kech, Kharan, Khuzdar, Killa Abdullah, Killa Saifullah, Kohlu, Lasbela, Loralai, Mastung, Musakhel, Nasirabad, Nushki, Panjgur, Pishin, Qila Abdullah, Quetta, Sherani, Sibi, Sohbatpur, Shaheed Sikandarabad (formerly Lehri), Washuk, Zhob and Ziarat (Wikipedia, 2022). But the researcher selected only seven regions for the current study. Journalists in Balochistan do not express their views publicly because freedom of speech and press are often attributed to independence, but journalism in Balochistan is not independent (Maqsood, 2022).

Agha and Demeter (2023) stated in their study that journalistic job in Balochistan is too dangerous. Journalists face threat from triable leader, government force militants and drug related criminal groups. Most of them receive harassed, death threat or even killed by other. In spite of these dangers journalists maintain their job but reporting neutrally become impossible because any group offended by a repot target the journalist. Oversell environment is dumping with fear, were murder frequently goes unpunished. The war has shifted from physical battels to handling information, which can destroy journalisms role in information the people and backing stability. The researcher highlight the need for local and international recognized of these risk. It also focus better training, legal safety and stringer support system for journalist in Balochistan to guarantee their professionalism and safety.

The Balochistan not only face the journalistic problems but the Balochistan also face many serious environmental issue across the province. Most of the expert claim that these challenges are produced by the Balochistan existing location. Some region suffer from long droughts, while other are frequently hit through floods during seasonal rain. In cities overpopulation has caused a shortage of energy and other resources. At the same time people are

cutting don old valuable forests to make more space to live. Like other parts of Pakistan, Balochistan has seen a lot of deforestation, which has led more issue such pollution and water shortage (Jan, 2022).

Due to the precarious security situation in Balochistan, residents endure a lack of peaceful living conditions. In terrorism-affected regions, journalists encounter obstacles accessing information sources due to security risks or control exerted by terrorist organizations. Such restricted access impedes thorough reporting, leading to incomplete or misleading narratives. Exploiting social media and digital platforms, terrorist groups disseminate disinformation and propaganda, inadvertently amplified by journalists covering terrorism-related events, thus contributing to misinformation spread. Governments may respond to terrorism by enacting restrictive laws or implementing censorship measures to regulate media reporting (Fatima, 2024).

Umer (2024) cleared in his study that journalist's job in conflict zone face serious daily risk and their safety is complicated by several threats. In Balochistan it very difficult for journalist to identify exactly where the danger is coming from, as the face pressure from separatist group, foreign agent extremist and nationalist. They also say that their media organization do not backing them and they frequently have to trust on the Pakistani army for safeguarding. After 9/11 the condition become worse. The United State war on terror led violence and obliteration in the area. The Pakistan allowed the US to use land and military bases in Balochistan for operation in Afghanistan. As a result the Balochistan hurt from the spread of Taliban effect and violence. Since then, over 54 journalist have been killed in area and more than 100 are till now facing threat.

While journalism is globally regarded as a noble profession, in many parts of Balochistan, its value has diminished due to biases or serving particular agendas. Practicing genuine journalism in Balochi society often invites online or face-to-face threats, deterring reporters from pursuing truth. Manipulation of facts has cast Balochistan's journalism in a negative light, with interference from both state and non-state actors compromising fair and impartial reporting. States often demand a favorable portrayal, while non-state actors advocate for the opposite, leaving unbiased journalism an elusive goal (Maqsood, 2022). Balochistan's

media and journalists grapple with numerous challenges, particularly in reporting on sensitive topics, notably within conflict zones.

Certain areas in Balochistan remain off-limits for journalists, governed by ethnic or sectarian groups, limiting their ability to cover news stories. Local media in Balochistan confronts various hazards, including attacks, abductions, and killings by Islamic extremists, military forces, and hardline Baloch separatists. Among these challenges lies the profiling of journalists in Balochistan (Baloch & Andresen, 2020).

Influencing Factors for News

The content of news is shaped by various factors, reflecting a socially constructed narrative rather than an objective portrayal of reality. Influences such as politics, economics, and ideology contribute to the fabrication of news, subjecting it to processes of cognitive simplification (Reese & Lee, 2012). Research indicates that the media often mirrors society's dominant ideologies, serving the interests of the elite. Consequently, prevailing societal norms and values are reflected in media content. Studies have shown that the media significantly impacts public opinion, particularly concerning international conflicts. Selection criteria for news coverage often prioritize conflict, tragedy, and familiar individuals or situations. However, there is limited research on the portrayal of journalists in Balochistan, with scant discussion from either perspective. This study aims to address this gap by examining the demographic, professional, organizational, and social profiles of journalists in the region (Reese & Shoemaker, 2018).

1.2   Statement of the Problem

The journalists profile in Balochistan is important concern requiring immediate attention on the basis of its effect on freedom of expression and human rights. Journalists in Balochistan face grave dangers, consisting harassment, violence and intimidation, which threaten their safety and obstruct their character in truthful journalism. Gaining inside into the scope and nature of this profiling is necessary for identifying the underlying ethical, political and other effects that seek to manipulate narrative and silence free journalism in Balochistan.

The current analysis aim to explore the reasons behind the targeted profiling of journalisms in the area and examine hoe these practices impact their personal and career security. By investigate the techniques and motivations involved, the current analysis intend to emphasize

to uphold journalists, rights. Ultimately, the current research aspires to foster awareness and guide police making to create a safer, more supportive situation for journalists to perform their important work without intimidation of retaliation.

1.3   Significance of the Study

This study on the profiling of journalists in Balochistan is significant because it sheds light on the challenges faced by media professionals in one of the most unstable regions in Pakistan. By exploring the specific threats, harassment, and violence those journalists encounter and why these threats are not highlight in the mainstream media, this study helps to understand the broader context of media repression in conflict zones. Highlighting these issues is crucial for advocating for the rights of journalists, promoting press freedom, and ensuring that diverse voices are heard, even in challenging environments.

The findings of this study are significance in several ways. First, they provide valuable insights for local and international organizations working to protect journalists, helping them to tailor their support and advocacy efforts more effectively. Second, the study can inform policymakers and human rights advocates about the urgent need to create safer conditions for journalists in Balochistan. Ultimately, this research aims to contribute to a more informed public debate on media freedom and the importance of safeguarding independent journalism as a pillar of democracy and transparency.

1.4   Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study consist of the following

1. To explore the profiles of working journalist in the districts of Awaran, Chaman, Gwadar, Jaffarabad, Musakhail, Nashik, Zhob and Ziarat.
2. To find out the challenges and risks faced by journalists in Balochistan**:**
3. To explore the motivations behind the practice of journalism by the journalist in Balochistan

1.5   Research Questions

On the bases of research objectives, the research questions consist of the following.

RQ.1 What are the profiles of journalists working in the districts of Awaran, Chaman, Gwadar, Jaffarabad, Musakhail, Nushki, Zhob, and Ziarat?

RQ.2 How does the experience of profiling impact journalists and ability to report independently on issues related to Balochistan?

RQ.3 How do journalists in Balochistan perceive and respond to the practice of journalism?

1.6   Delimitation of the Study

Limitations are vital in delineating the scope of a research endeavor. In this study, several delimitations have been established to provide a clear framework for investigation: Geographic Scope: The study focused solely on journalists registered within the Balochistan Press clubs. This decision is made due to the challenges associated with collecting data from all journalists, particularly regarding access to female journalists, which is constrained by cultural norms and time constraints. Therefore, the study specifically targeted journalists affiliated with district press clubs.

Data Collection Method: Given the limitations of resources, particularly in terms of time and access, only written questionnaires were utilized as the primary tool for data collection. While other data collection techniques offered valuable insights, such as interviews or observations, the study is constrained to employing written questionnaires. Geographic Selection: The study concentrated on journalists hailing from eight specific districts within Balochistan: Zhob, Musakhail, Ziarat, Chaman, Nushki, Jaffarabad, Gwadar, and Awaran. This selection was informed by the practical necessity to manage the breadth of the research. Covering the entire region comprehensively within one study is impractical due to its vastness and diversity. These delimitations are essential for ensuring the feasibility and effectiveness of the research within the specified constraints. They provide clarity on the parameters within which the study was operate, enabling focused and meaningful analysis within the defined scope.

CHAPTER NO.2

LITERATURE REVIEW

In the journalistic point of view the profiling refer to the surveillance, targeting and categorization of journalists based on their region, ethnicity and the subject they reported on. In Balochistan this practice is frequently but has lethal implications (Rumi, 2017). The present review scholarly explores credible report and literature to understand the scope, implementation and dynamic of journalist profiling in Balochistan.

Since its inception, media professionals have been regarded as guardians of objectivity and champions of unfettered access to information, earning them the moniker "fourth estate." Journalism holds significant historical importance in Pakistan, serving as a cornerstone of its media landscape and democratic structure. Despite facing a myriad of challenges and obstacles over the years, journalism in Pakistan has made strides forward. The media landscape in Pakistan is characterized by a dynamic mix of private and state-owned entities. While there have been advancements in media freedom, journalists in Pakistan continue to grapple with issues such as censorship, threats, and attacks, particularly in conflict-ridden regions. Pakistan boasts a diverse media sector comprising newspapers, television channels, radio stations, and digital platforms. While Urdu and English dominate the media landscape, regional languages also hold prominence, especially in local media outlets (Noor & Zafar, 2023).

Pakistan hosts a variety of reputable news organizations delivering comprehensive coverage and analysis across diverse domains such as politics, economy, social issues, and entertainment. Noteworthy newspapers and television channels in the country include Dawn, The News, Express Tribune, Geo News, ARY News, and Samaa TV, among others. However, journalists operating in Pakistan confront substantial risks, particularly when reporting on sensitive topics like politics, terrorism, human rights, and religious extremism. Instances of threats, attacks, and harassment targeting journalists have been documented, leading to a pervasive atmosphere of self-censorship and constraints on press freedom (ANI, 2023).

Journalists' Profiling in Pakistan

Despite facing formidable challenges, journalists serve a crucial role in providing society with accurate and impartial information concerning terrorism and its societal impact. To uphold the integrity of journalism amidst the threat of terrorism, it is imperative for both media organizations and governments to safeguard and support journalists, preserve press freedom, and advocate for ethical reporting practices (Hussain, 2021). Moreover, initiatives promoting media literacy can aid the public in distinguishing between reliable information and misinformation, thereby contributing to a more well-informed society. Pakistan, various gatekeepers control the dissemination of news to the public. These gatekeepers include the government, which sets policies, and newspaper owners who often align with these policies due to financial interests in media content creation. Furthermore, the ideology, personal beliefs, and backgrounds of journalists, as well as the influence of powerful economic entities, religion, and social norms, significantly shape media operations and content. The creation of journalist profiles facilitates these tasks (Jamil, 2018).

The influence of these gatekeepers often leads to observable biases within Pakistani media, where certain individuals or groups receive disproportionate coverage while others are marginalized or ignored. Globally, five normative theories of journalism guide media practices, each adapted to fit the socio-cultural, political, religious, and economic contexts of individual countries. These theories include the Authoritarian Theory, which asserts that truth and authority rest with a select group endowed with special abilities; the Liberal Theory, which champions equality and freedom of speech for all individuals; and the Communist Theory, an extension of authoritarianism seen in the Soviet Union (Siebert et al., 1956).

The Pakistani journalist is portray more by local culture and politics then by worldwide journalism stranded. While professionalism id growing journalist blend western practices with religious and national values. They emphasize on describing political problems rather than pushing for change and work under strict boundary. Pakistan reporters share people concern about terrorism and the economy with many critiquing the government but still backing spent by step reforms. The value objectify but believe it should consist interpretation and respect. Religion effect their jobs but does not handle it. They are frequently critical of both religion and government leader (Pintak & Nazir, 2013).

In all over Pakistan male journalists were criticized for being unprofessional, while female journalist faced sexist and gender based insults. The online users and political party frequently used social and culture problems to silence critical journalists. The journalist face today several form of online harassment and stresses the important of defense free speech and rebellious abuse in Pakistan media environment (Li et al., 2023).

The coverage of terrorism and violent incidents in Pakistan poses significant hurdles for journalists, compounded by government-imposed security measures in certain regions, which can impede access to information. Moreover, the rise of digital media and social networking platforms has reshaped the media landscape in Pakistan, with online news portals and social media emerging as pivotal sources of news and information for the populace. In terms of journalism training and education, Pakistan boasts numerous universities and institutions offering journalism and media studies programs, equipping aspiring journalists with essential skills and knowledge requisite for success in the field. Journalism holds a pivotal role in Pakistan's democratic discourse, functioning as a watchdog, ensuring accountability among the powerful, and empowering the public with vital information to make informed decisions (Iqbal & Rauf, 2018).

In 2018, 54 journalists worldwide lost their lives due to their profession, with Pakistan registering 91 journalist fatalities between 1992 and 2018. Pakistan, ranked among the countries with the poorest state of press freedom, was categorized as "not free" in the 2017 ranking index. According to the NGO Reporters without Borders, Pakistani journalists face grave threats of deadly attacks. This portrayal of Pakistan's media environment on the global stage underscores the importance of engaging directly with journalists to understand their experiences and challenges (Fazli Hussain et al., 2022). Shahzada Zulfikar, president of the Quetta Press Club, acknowledges the severe challenges facing journalism in Pakistan and pledges to continue advocating for free speech and journalists' rights across all platforms. He emphasizes the collective effort to defend press freedom and prevent media owners from exploiting journalists (Balochistan Voice, 2019). Hafeez Ullah Sherani, a member of the Balochistan Journalists Union, highlights the pervasive demand for news filtering among stakeholders in the province. He notes that the forces restricting journalistic reporting can be both visible and invisible, contingent upon the news content and the involved parties. As a reporter for international media,

Sherani observes that international outlets approach issues from the perspective of all stakeholders (Nadir, 2022).

In Balochistan, a significant number of journalists have affiliations with either anti-federal or pro-federal armed groups or nationalist movements. Consequently, any perceived bias in their reporting can lead to threats and serious security risks. Moreover, political pressures, exemplified by the directive from Balochistan High Court Chief Judge Faiz Essa Qazi, prohibit reporting on issues related to Balochistan nationalist and separatist movements. Judge Qazi's decree explicitly forbids the coverage of news pertaining to armed, militant, or nationalist groups in the province, imposing a penalty of at least six months' imprisonment for violators (Ashraf, 2013).

Balochistan has experienced waves of insurgency sine freedom of Pakistan, contributed to heightened securitization. Reporter effort in such political charged environment frequently find themselves labeled as traitors and sympathizers of insurgent groups The journalist have reported extensive surveillance consisting physical tracking, phone trapping and email monitoring. Such practice increase fear and promote self-censorship (Yusuf, 2018).

Insurgent group such as the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) also engaging in profiling, threatening journalist who fail to report favorably on their activities. This dual pressure create a dangerous environment (Yousafzai, 2019). Caught between state and no-state actors, journalist in Balochistan experience a unique vulnerability. Reporting neutrally is nearly impossible without risking retribution from one side or the other (Zahid, 2020). The linking impact of surveillance, profiling and threats have led to a substantial erosion of press independences in Balochistan. Journalists frequently promote to self-censorship to stay safe (Freedom Network, 2023). Although the constitution of Pakistan guarantees freedom of expression under Article-19 in practice these right are upheld in conflict zone such Balochistan. Legal protection are frequently overridden and ignored (Zakir et al., 2022).

Many cases have been documented where journalists were addicted and also funded dead later. The reaming other missing with their cases un-investigated. The low salaries, absence of job and reducing of insurance can make journalist financial defenseless. Such discourages resistance oppose profiling practices. Media organization in urban centers show little regard for the safeguarded of their journalist in Balochistan. Frequently journalist effort without proper backing and contracts (Shabir & Iqbal, 2018).

The ethnic identity perform a significance character in profiling. The journalist of Balochistan are more likely to be suspected of insurgent sympathies, while non Baluch journalist may be labeled as state agent (Rehman, 2016).Local press clubs can deal as support structure but in Balochistan, they frequently lack resources and autonomy, regulating under the political pressure The phenomenon of often shutdowns internet in Balochistan are not only tools of state control but also mechanisms that separate journalist and restrict their capability to report independently (Notezai, 2013).

The physiological toll of constant profiling and surveillance cannot be overstated. Journalist operating in Balochistan often experiences symptoms of stress, trauma and anxiety. Serval journalist promoted to substance abuse or social withdrawal as coping appliances. However given the stigma attached to mental health and the absence of institutional backing these problem are rarely discussed or treated leading to long way personal and professional deterioration (Khan et al., 2022).

Formal safeguarding for journalists in Balochistan are minimal and huge ineffective. While Pakistan constitution guarantees independents of speech and expression under Artical-19 these rights routinely curtailed through vague and overly wide laws like the 2016 Pakistan Electronic Crimes Act (PECA). Instead of safeguarding press freedom like laws are frequently weaponized to legitimize surveillance, profiling and censorship. Not like Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh and Balochistan lacks a committed journalist protection laws leaving its press community specially exposed (Ali, 2022).

Impunity for crimes against journalist is alarming high in Balochistan the murder of Anwer Jan Khetran in 2020 is a poignant example of the failure of the formal system to bring offenders to justice. No any key progress has been made in his case in spite of local and international outcry. Such culture of impunity emboldens both state and non-state actors to maintain their campaigns of pressure and violence without fear of retribution (Yousafzai, 2021).

At local press clubs, reporters often transmit identical stories to their headquarters, albeit with caution in altering the byline. Consequently, numerous local publications run identical news stories the following day, often without any substantive editing. This practice underscores not only the deficiencies within reporting departments but also the precarious state of individual

newsrooms. It highlights a lack of investigative journalism, with journalists relying on their peers for information rather than conducting on-the-ground research themselves (Baloch, 2014).

Hard news stories in newspaper typically focused on violence rather than peace. Editorial notes, however had nearly twice as many peace oriented message. Till now journalists did not write opinion pieces promoting peace, even though violence in Balochistan was a daily problem. If such peaceful thought had been share, it may have less the chance of military action. Editorial on Balochistan were more common than other types of content, expect for hard news, but still very few focused on peace. Over all the newspaper did very little to indorse the peace. When come to source reports written by staff or with a byline were more likely to indorse exploitation. Both exploitation and peace stories were published, but violence got more responsiveness. Among the violent content, stories that supported military success received the too much coverage. This recommended that newspapers backing the government and presented the condition as under control, rather than emphasizing on rebuilding or solutions. Elite and government stance were given equal space, reflecting a trust that only law enforcement could bring peace. Although some truth oriented content promotion peace was reported it was far less than exploitation focused stories (Tarique & Shaheen, 2019).

Intolerance toward the media by certain factions and groups has become pervasive in Balochistan. Newspapers encounter significant pressure and obstacles, including hindrances in distribution, while media workers and newspaper vendors face threats to their lives (Correspondent, 2017). Similar to journalists worldwide, Pakistani journalists grapple with ethical dilemmas, including maintaining objectivity, avoiding sensationalism, and safeguarding the confidentiality of sources. According to international organizations such as Reporters without Borders (RSF), Pakistan's press freedom ranking has fluctuated over time, with ongoing challenges in ensuring media independence and journalist safety. Despite improvements in media freedom and information access, journalists and media organizations in Pakistan continue to face daunting challenges, underscoring the crucial role they play in providing news and analysis to the public (Adnan,2025).

Despite these challenges, the significant number of unreported cases underscores the perilous nature of journalism in Pakistan, particularly in Balochistan. The province has long been engulfed in an armed insurgency, presenting grave dangers to journalists operating in remote

regions. For instance, on July 23 of this year, journalist Anwar Jan Khetran was tragically killed in the Bakan district of Balochistan. Similarly, in February 2008, veteran Pakistani journalist Chishti Mujahid was fatally shot by the Baloch Liberation Army rebel group while reporting in Balochistan province. Just two months later, in April of the same year, another prominent journalist, Khadim Hussain Shaikh, met his demise in Hub (MIR, 2020).

2.1   Research Gap

There is a growing body of literature on press freedom and journalist safety in Pakistan, there remains an important research gap concerning the systematic profiling of journalist particularly in Baluchistan. Existing studies often focused on general threats to media workers or highlight high profile incidents, but they rarely provide explanation, district level analysis of journalist's demographic lived experience and coping policies in selected areas. This lack of focused, empirical study means that the nuanced ways profiling impact journalists freedom mental well-being and professional original insight into the scale pattern an result of profiling in one of the Pakistan most sensitive and under research regions

2.2   Theoretical Framework

The theoretical frameworks deal with fundamentals structure that guides the research process, offering a coherent model to explore and analyzed a specific problem, or phenomenon. It integrate a set of interrelated concept, assumptions and ideas that assist scholar organized their study, shaping its design, and interpreting the consequences in a structure manner. As s vital component of any study project, the theoretical framework confirm a consistent and methodical approach to understanding the subject under investigation, enhancing the study's academic rigor and its contribution to existing scholarship.

Central to institutional theory is the nation of institutional of isomorphism, which suggest that institution operating within a shared situation gradually adopt same structure and practice due to pressures to ensure. In the context of journalist profiling in district of Balochistan, the current concept backing explain how different institution like, government entities, civil society organization, security forces and media outlets may begin to mirror one another in their approach to media control. These organization may engage on or implicitly help profiling practices as a feedback to political agendas, entrance culture norms or security priorities, ultimately leading to the normalization and institutionalization of such behavior within society.

The current analysis apply institutional theory as its guiding framework. The present theory offer important insight into the problem of journalist profiling in the province of Balochistan by focusing on the effect of formal organization and informal societal value in determining individual and collective behavior. In the context of current study. The applicable theory shed light on the important institutional actors involved their vested interests and the overarching societal structure that sustain or challenge the profiling of journalists. It provide a comprehensive lens through which to explore how institutional forces contribute to or resist the suppression of press freedom in conflict effected area.

Furthermore the applicable theory underscores the significance of the legitimacy in effecting institutional behavior. Institution seek legitimacy by aligning themselves with socially accepted value and norms, and the may gain practices such as journalist profiling to reinforce their creativity among important stakeholder. In the volatile socio-political landscape of Balochistan, marked by instability and ongoing security concerns institution may rationalize profiling as ultimate policies to uphold people order or protect national interest. This justification, , in turn can safe backing form segment of the population that prioritize stability, further entrance the practice within the institutional fabric of the area.

The current applicable institution theory provide meaningful insights into the intricate of journalist profiling in the province of Balochistan by focusing the effect of institutions, the pursuit of legitimacy, and prevailing institutional logics. The current theoretical lens permit for a deeper understanding of how intuitional structure and value contribute to the persistence of profiling practices. By exploring institutional theory can aid in crafting informed policies to counter the negative impact of journalist profiling on press freedom and democratic principle in the area (Amenta & Ramsey, 2010).

The institutional theory highlights the position of institutional logics, or the underlying views and values that controller organizational behavior. In the case of journalist profiling in the province of Balochistan, conflicting institutional reasons may be at show. While security agencies may highlight national security worries and sight journalist profiling as a means of opposing insurgency or separatist activities, media groups and civil society collections may supporter for press choice and view such performs as a defilement of journalists' rights and self-determinations.

CHAPTER NO.3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology for studying the profiling of journalists in Balochistan would likely involve a unique approach to comprehensively understand the phenomenon. Quantitative methods approach was adopted, incorporating quantitative techniques. This might entail conducting surveys with journalists, media organizations, government officials, and civil society representatives to gather data on the prevalence, methods, and impacts of journalist profiling. Quantitative techniques such as statistical analysis of survey data was used to help quantify the extent of journalist profiling, identify patterns or correlations, and assess the effectiveness of various mitigation strategies, to shed light on the practice of profiling journalists in Balochistan and its implications for freedom of expression, press freedom, and democratic principles.

3.1   Research Method

In the current analysis the researcher used the quantitative approach of social studies, which is an effective method for achieving the purpose of this study. Quantitative researchers are interested in understanding how people build meaning (Merriam, 2009). Any research that employs data that reveal ordinal values is considered quantitative (Ryan et al., 2001).

3.2   Research Design:

The research used the descriptive survey design for the current study. A survey is a method of collecting data in a systematic manner. Survey research is useful for documenting existing community conditions, population characteristics, and community dynamics (Ponto, 2015). One of the most common types of quantitative social science research is surveys. In survey research, researchers select a representative sample of the population and administer standardized questionnaires to them. The questionnaire or survey can be a written document that the person fills out (Odoh & Chinedum, 2014).

3.3   Population of the Study:

In the current analysis the researcher aim to replicate and build upon the finding of an earlier analysis by conducting profiling of journalists in the province of Balochistan. The researcher selected the different districts such as, Zhob, Musakhil, Chaman, Ziarat, Nushki,

Jaffarabad, Gwadar and Awaran. The study intend to offer more comprehensive view of the journalistic situation throughout Balochistan by investigating the mention different districts. By the adaptation of systematics sample techniques and particular method of analysis, the researcher explore the educational background, socio-economic condition and other specific challenges face by journalist in each selected district.

A population is any designated group of human beings or non-human entities such as items, educational institutions, and time units (Hulley et al., 2013). An early research has already conducted regarding the profiling of journalists in Balochistan districts, Quetta, Sibi, Loralai, Khuzdar, Naseerabad and Turbat.

3.4   Table of Study Population

	Name of Division	Name of District Press Club	No of Journalists
1	Zhob	District Press Zhob	315
2	Musakhail	District Press Club Musakhail	201
3	Chaman	District Press Club Chaman	391
4	Nushki,	District Press Club Nushki,	261
5	Jaffarabad	District Press Club Jaffarabad	201
6	Gwadar	District Press Club Gwadar	267
7	Ziarat	District Press Club Ziarat	289
8	Awaran	District Press Club Awaran	375
Total			**2300**

The above table 3.4 elaborates that there are eight Divisions are taken from Balochistan province as whole population of the study, one District press club was select as per one division. There were 315 Journalist from Zhob, press club, 201 from Musakhail, 391 from Chaman, 261 from Nushki, 201 from Affarabad, 267 from Gwadar and 289 Journalist belong from Ziarat, 375 from Awaran district of Balochistan province.

3.5   Sampling Technique:

  The study was employ a systematic random sampling technique. This method ensures unbiased representation by systematically selecting participants from the population. Through this approach, the aim is to gather samples from each category of journalists - full-time, part-time, and freelance - ensuring equitable representation across all segments of the journalist population in Balochistan.

3.6   Sample Size of the Study:

  In Balochistan, where over 300 working journalists are categorized into full-time, part-time, and freelance roles, the demographics of this journalistic community span various attributes (Nadir, 2022). These include age, gender, educational background, professional experience, geographic location, linguistic proficiency, socio-economic status, ethnic identity, and cultural affiliations. The current study aims to gather samples from each category, with a target of at least 37 samples from each group, ensuring fair representation across all segments of the journalist population

  Determination of sample size is a critical stage in research techniques. It is the act of determining how many observers or replicates to include in a statistical sample. In some cases, the accuracy gains from larger sample sizes are negligible or non-existent (Kaur, 2017). There are various techniques for determining the sample size for a study. The quality of the resulting estimates was used to assess sample size

3.7   Operationalization of study:

3.8   Research Instrument:

  Research tools include fact-finding strategies and data collection techniques (Baker, 2003). Since this study is a quantitative survey study, a five-point Likert scale questionnaire was used to collect data. The researcher constructed the questionnaire according to the nature of the research question and the purpose of the current study. The Researcher was distribute written questionnaires with closed-ended questions about feelings, perceptions, beliefs, and experiences, among other things.

3.9 Ethical Considerations

As a quantitative method researcher, the researcher would pay close attention to the ethical issues of study. The protection of research participants from any potential harm, the confidentiality of the data, and the need to fully inform participants about their roles in the study. The researcher would pay careful attention to the university rules of conducting research with human subjects. Full anonymity to participant identities and would be replaced with numbers (i.e. participant 1, 2, etc.). Participants' signed informed consent would be acquired. The ethical standards would increase participants trust and confidence which would be reflected in the outputs of this research.

3.10 Instrument/s

As this is a quantitative survey study, the acquired data was check using IBM-SPSS statistical software. Examine data using chi-square, frequency, mean, and percentage techniques. The data was display in tabular form.

CHAPTER NO.4

DATA ANALYSIS

In the current analysis the researcher analyzed the data through get feedback from the journalists regarding the "profiling of journalists in Balochistan: an exploratory study" with the help of questionnaire. The following data represent the whole position of the journalist in Balochistan province. Each table have their own interpretation which support the present data in the table in non-numeric form. The whole analyzed date are divided into three parts (A, B, C) each part is supported the main three research questions, objectives and problem statement of the current analysis.

Part A. Demographic Question

Table 4.1: Gender of Journalists

Sr. No	Gender	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Male	258	86%
2	Female	36	12%
3	Prefer not to say	6	2%
	Age Group	**Frequency (n=300)**	**Percentage (%)**
4	18–25	45	15%
5	26–35	135	45%
6	36–45	75	25%
7	46–55	30	10%
8	Above 55	15	5%
	Education Level	**Frequency (n=300)**	**Percentage (%)**
9	Intermediate	60	20%
10	Bachelor's Degree	138	46%
11	Master's Degree	75	25%
12	MPhil/PhD	9	3%
13	Other	18	6%

The above table 4.1 shows the three types of questions such as Gender, Age and education the

first group indicates that the male journalists dominate the profession in Balochistan, with 86% representation. Female journalists account for only 12%, highlighting a notable gender disparity in the field. The second part of the above table illustrations that the largest segment (45%) of journalists is aged between 26–35 years. This suggests a young, energetic workforce leading media activities in Balochistan. And the third section the above table demonstrations that the nearly half of the respondents (46%) possess a bachelor's degree, reflecting a reasonable academic foundation among journalists. Higher academic qualifications like MPhil/PhD remain rare.

Table 4.2: District Press Club Affiliation

Sr. No	District	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Zhob	38	12.7%
2	Musakhail	25	8.3%
3	Chaman	47	15.7%
4	Nushki	32	10.7%
5	Jaffarabad	25	8.3%
6	Gwadar	34	11.3%
7	Ziarat	36	12%
8	Awaran	43	14.3%

The above table 4.2 indications that the journalists are relatively evenly distributed among the eight districts, Zhob, Musakhail, Chaman, Nushki, Jaffarabad, Gwadar, Ziarat and Awaran with Chaman (15.7%) and Awaran (14.3%) contributing the largest shares. The smallest share in current table is 25 frequency with the percentage of 8.3, which is represented the Musakhail district.

Table 4.3: Employment Type in Journalism

Sr. No	Employment Type	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Full-time	126	42%
2	Part-time	93	31%
3	Freelance	81	27%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.3 spectacles about the employment types, full time, part time and freelance. The full-time employment remains the most common (42%), yet a significant portion of journalists work part-time or freelance, indicating job instability in the sector. The freelance employments belong to the lowest number of the current table, which has 81 frequency out of 300 as with as 27%,

Table 4.4: Years of Experience in Journalism

Sr. No	Years of Experience	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Less than 1 year	24	8%
2	1–5 years	111	37%
3	6–10 years	96	32%
4	More than 10 years	69	23%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.4 appearances the data about the journalist's practical work in Balochistan, it reflected that the media persons have positive number of experiences regarding the journalistic activity in their life. The most journalists have between 1–5 years (37%) of experience, with a considerable proportion also having 6–10 years (32%), showing a moderately experienced workforce. The journalists who have less than one year experience are low in the quantity with the percentage of 8.

Table 4.5: Main Area of Reporting

Sr. No	Reporting Area	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Politics	87	29%
2	Crime and Security	66	22%
3	Social Issues	78	26%
4	Business and Economy	24	8%
5	Environment	18	6%
6	Others	27	9%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.5 is in the support of the table no 4.4 regarding the experiences, the current table further career the investigation about the reporting area of those journalist who claim about their experience in the previous table or question. It indicates that the political and social issues dominate reporting areas, suggesting journalists often focus on highly sensitive or impactful topics in Balochistan. There are less numbers of journalists cover the environmentally reporting, who have 18 frequency out of 300 and the highest number of journalist cover the political area of the journalism.

Table 4.6: Monthly Income from Journalism

Sr. No	Income Range	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Less than PKR 20,000	138	46%
2	PKR 20,000–40,000	96	32%
3	PKR 41,000–60,000	48	16%
4	PKR 61,000 and above	18	6%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.6 designates about the income of the journalists on the monthly basis that the significant portion (46%) of journalists earn less than PKR 20,000 per month, underlining widespread low income levels among media professionals in the province. The lowest number of earning form the journalism is belong to 61 and above thousands of Pakistani rupees per month. It indicate that the journalism in the Balochistan have great source of income.

Table 4.7: Type of Media Organization

Sr. No	Media Organization	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	National TV/Radio	66	22%
2	Regional TV/Radio	78	26%
3	Print Media	84	28%
4	Online Media	45	15%
5	Independent/Freelance	27	9%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.7 specifies that the print media still holds a strong presence (28%) among journalists, while regional TV/radio channels (26%) are also significant players. Is we know that

the internet services are too much low, the online coverage and broadcasting is too much complex in the Balochistan province, there for the journalists adopted the way of print media to deliver their messages. The print media require less internet the cover the activities in the Balochistan.

Table 4.8: Formal Journalism Training

Sr. No	Formal Training	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	123	41%
2	No	177	59%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.8 postulates about the different formal training regarding the journalism, the journalist in Balochistan claim that there are less number of journalists which gain the proper train about the formal way of doing journalism. The current table reflect that the 59% of journalists have never received formal journalism training, which could have implications for reporting quality and ethical standards. The smallest number of journalists (123) out of 300 stated that they received proper formal training regarding the journalistic activity.

Part B. Experiences of Profiling and Its Impact (RQ2)

Table 4.9: Experience of Being Profiled

Sr. No	Faced Profiling?	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	189	63%
2	No	111	37%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.9 appearances about the experience of being profile there are 63% of journalists reported facing profiling, which is the highest number of the current table, it indicating that professional threats and intimidation are widespread across Balochistan. The journalists who have no face profiling has lowest number belonging to 111 with the 37 percentage.

Table 4.10: Forms of Profiling Experienced (Multiple Responses)

Sr. No	Form of Profiling	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Threats	79	26.3%
2	Surveillance	56	19%
3	Physical Harassment	40	13.3%
4	Online Harassment	52	17.%
5	Legal Pressure	60	20%
6	Other	13	4.3%
Total		300	99.90%

The above table 4.10 indicates about Threats, Surveillance, Physical Harassment, Online Harassment, Legal Pressure and Other. The threats is the highest frequencies in the current table and the option other than the above is lowest number which is 30 frequency with the percentage of 10. The threats and surveillance are the most common forms of profiling, making the practice of journalism highly risky in the province. The whole table represent the forms of profiling experienced with multiple response as it mention above.

Table 4.11: Frequency of Feeling at Risk

Sr. No	Feeling at Risk	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Never	18	6%
2	Rarely	45	15%
3	Sometimes	108	36%
4	Often	81	27%
5	Always	48	16%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.11 designates about the all form risk faced by journalists in Balochistan, the "Never" option selected by journalists during the data collection is represent the un save environment in toward the journalists in Balochistan, because there are only 6 % of journalists

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are claim that the never face any treat during journalism in Balochistan, but the majority of journalists feel at risk sometimes (36%) or often (27%), demonstrating a constant sense of insecurity.

Table 4.12: Impact on Independent Reporting

Sr. No	Impact Level	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Not at all	24	8%
2	Slightly	51	17%
3	Moderately	102	34%
4	Significantly	78	26%
5	Extremely	45	15%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.12 specifies the five scales (Not at all, Slightly, Moderately, Significantly, Extremely) for identify the impact of the treat on independent reporting. Out of 300 only 24 participants say that the threats has not any impact on independent journalism, and 51 journalists shows slightly impact of the treat on independent journalism. The remaining three option reflect highest number of impact of the treat on independent reporting. The profiling moderately (34%) to significantly (26%) affects journalists' ability to report freely, hindering press freedom.

Table 4.13: Influence on Topic Selection

Sr. No	Influence Level	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Not at all	27	9%
2	Small extent	51	17%
3	Moderate extent	111	37%
4	Large extent	72	24%
5	Completely	39	13%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.13 postulates that the many journalists (37%) feel a moderate influence on topic selection due to fear of profiling, suggesting a high degree of self-censorship. Is we discuss in the previous table, similarly some journalists claim that there is no any impact of our environment on the topic selection, means they select the coverage topic by self and

independently. The average of the table indicates that the topic selection is fully depended on the free journalism.

Table 4.14: Avoidance of Sensitive Topics

Sr. No	Avoided Topics	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	189	63%
2	No	111	37%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.14 identifies that the 63% of respondents have avoided sensitive topics like security or corruption due to fear, highlighting significant limitations on journalistic autonomy. 189 respondent answer that they ignore those topic which become the reason of threating. The 111 journalists claim that they cover the issue is it is.

Table 4.15: Institution Posing Greatest Threat

Sr. No	Institution	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Political Groups	72	24%
2	Law Enforcement	111	37%
3	Militants/Insurgents	78	26%
4	Business Interests	21	7%
5	Other	18	6%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.15 stipulates about the political group, law enforcement, militants, business and other institutions which posing threat. The law enforcement agencies (37%) are viewed as the greatest threat to journalistic independence, followed by militants and insurgents (26%). Rather than the mention institutions there 6% other institution which posing threat on the journalist in the Balochistan during reporting or coverage.

Table 4.16: Considering Leaving Journalism

Sr. No	Considered Leaving?	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	96	32%
2	No	204	68%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.16 covers the perception through the close ended questions (yes and no) of the journalist about their profession holding and leaving. The table lay down that the one-third (32%) of journalists have considered leaving the profession due to the challenges associated with profiling. The highest number (204) of journalists determined to keep long their profession. They never let the environmental issue imposing the quality of the journalism in Balochistan.

Part C. Perception and Practice of Journalism (RQ3)

Table 4.17: Motivation for Working in Journalism

Sr. No	Motivation	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Passion for truth	138	46%
2	Financial reasons	60	20%
3	Social responsibility	69	23%
4	Personal fame and recognition	21	7%
5	Other	12	4%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.17 appearances about the Passion for truth, financial reasons, Social responsibility, Personal fame and recognition and other form of motivation for working in journalism. The primary motivation for most journalists (46%) is a passion for truth, emphasizing the idealistic drive behind their career choice. Financial reasons and social responsibility follow but with a noticeably lower percentage. The second largest number is gated by social responsibility which have 69 frequency. The lowest number of the above table is 12 which shows the motivation other than mention one in the table.

Table 4.18: Rating of Press Freedom in Districts

Sr. No	Press Freedom Level	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Very high	15	5%
2	High	39	13%
3	Moderate	96	32%
4	Low	96	32%
5	Very low	54	18%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.18 illustrations about the press freedom in the selected districts in the current analysis. Which consist Zhob, Musakhail, Chaman, Nushki, Jaffarabad, Gwadar, Ziarat and Awaran with Chaman, we can see the table no 4.2. The worrying trend, as 50% of the journalists rated press freedom as low or very low in their districts. Only a small fraction (18%) believe the freedom level is high or very high. The press freedom in shown very low in the districts of Balochistan.

Table 4.19: Satisfaction with Organizational Support Against Threats

Sr. No	Satisfaction Level	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Very satisfied	12	4%
2	Satisfied	39	13%
3	Neutral	75	25%
4	Dissatisfied	99	33%
5	Very dissatisfied	75	25%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.19 demonstrations that the significant portion (58%) of journalists are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the support they receive from their organizations when facing profiling or threats, indicating an urgent need for better institutional backing. The lowest number of the current table is indicates to very satisfaction of the journalist about the organization support again the threat.

Table 4.20: Importance of Independent Journalism for Balochistan

Sr. No	Importance Level	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Extremely important	174	58%
2	Very important	75	25%
3	Moderately important	30	10%
4	Slightly important	12	4%
5	Not important at all	9	3%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.20 indications that the strong belief among journalists in the necessity of independent journalism for Balochistan's progress, with 83% rating it as either extremely or very important. As the researcher asked about the important of the independent journalism activity in the Balochistan only 9 journalists says that there is no need on independent journalism in Balochistan which is the lowest number of the current table.

Table 4.21: Participation in Safety or Rights Training

Sr. No	Training Participation	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Never	117	39%
2	Rarely	69	23%
3	Sometimes	60	20%
4	Often	36	12%
5	Always	18	6%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.21 spectacles about the participation in safety or right training in the Balochistan province. Out of 300 the participations in safety and rights training programs is relatively low, with 39% of respondents never attending such programs, leaving them vulnerable to professional risks. The second largest number is 69 with the percentage of 23. The lowest number of the journalist who participating in safety or training 18 with percentage of 6 out of three hounded.

Table 4.22: Biggest Challenge Facing Journalists

Sr. No	Challenge	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Safety and Security	126	42%
2	Lack of Resources	60	20%
3	Political Pressure	66	22%
4	Public Mistrust	24	8%
5	Low Wages	24	8%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.22 appearances that the safety and security as the most significant challenge for journalists in Balochistan (42%), followed by political pressure and lack of resources. The biggest challenges faced by journalists in Balochistan is safety and security it gated highest number which frequency is 126. The second biggest challenge faced by journalists is lack of resources which frequency has 60 with the percentage of 20. The lowest number of the participants who claim that they faced the challenges of low wages are 24.s

Table 4.23: Recommendation of Journalism as a Career

Sr. No	Recommendation	Frequency (n=300)	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	120	40%
2	No	90	30%
3	Maybe	90	30%
Total		300	100.00%

The above table 4.23 indicates about the recommendation of journalism as a career the researcher divided opinion on recommending journalism as a career on the basis of yes, no and may be. Only 40% would confidently recommend it, while the rest express hesitation or outright discouragement, reflecting concerns about the profession's risks and rewards. The remaining journalist response that the profession of the journalism in not good as career. The lowest number of the current analysis is 90 which shows both the option of no and may be.

Analysis Related to Research Questions Using Chi-Square Test

Question No 2

The following analysis address the research main two questions, which consist two main variables, such as independent variable "Faced Profiling" (Yes/No) from table PD1 and dependent variable "Avoidance of Sensitive Topic" (Yes/No) from table PB6.

Table 4.24: Data for Cross Tabulation

	Avoid Sensitive Topics: Yes	No	Total
Faced Profiling (Yes)	160	29	189
No Profiling (No)	29	82	111
Total	189	111	300

The above table 4.24 shows high significant on the basis of Chi-square test (χ^2) = 89.23, p=0.000. It reflect that there is solid and significance association between experiences profiling and avoiding sensitive topic. The journalist who experiences profiling were much more likely to avoid sensitive topic compared to those who had not faced profiling. Profiling significantly decrease journalistic ability to report independently by forcing them to avoid sensitive due to fear, risks, and threats.

Question No 3

Independent variable "Perceived Press Freedom" from table PC2 categorized as High (Very High + High) and Low (Low + Very Low). The dependent variable "Recommendation of Journalism as a Career" from table PC7 (Yes/No/Maybe).

Table 4.25: Data for Cross Tabulation (Simplified Grouping)

	Recommend: Yes	No	Maybe	Total
High Press Freedom	48	12	9	69
Low Press Freedom	72	78	81	231
Total	120	90	90	300

The above table 4.25 shows high significant on the basis of Chi-square test (χ^2) = 54.78, p=0.000. It encompasses that there is a strong and significant relationship between perceived press freedom and Journalists' willingness to recommend as a career. Journalist who perceive

higher levels of press freedom are more likely to recommend Journalism, whereas those facing lower press freedom tend to avoid recommending it to express uncertainty.

Table 4.26: Applied Test Summary

RQ	Test	Variables	Result	Conclusion
RQ2	Chi-square	Profiling vs. Avoidance of Sensitive Topics	$\chi^2 = 89.23$, p = 0.000 (Significant)	Profiling increases avoidance of sensitive topics
RQ3	Chi-square	Press Freedom vs. Career Recommendation	$\chi^2 = 54.78$, p = 0.000 (Significant)	Low press freedom reduces job satisfaction

The chi-square test reflect a significant relationship for above research questions. For the question no 2, journalist who experience profiling are significance more likely to avoid reporting on the sensitive issue (χ^2=89.23, p=0.000), representing a clear effect of profiling on journalistic independence. For question 3, the perception of low press freedom strongly effect journalistic unwillingness to recommend journalism as a career (χ^2=54.78, p=0.000), reflect dissatisfaction and negative professional viewpoint among journalist in Balochistan.

Corresponding to Three Main Research Questions

Table 4.27: Question No 1, Demographic of the whole participants

Variable	Category	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	240	80%
	Female	60	20%
Education Level	Bachelor's	180	60%
	Master's	90	30%
	Other	30	10%
Years of Experience	1–5 years	120	40%
	6–10 years	90	30%
	11+ years	90	30%

The table shows about the demographic profile of journalists working in the Baluchistan, such as their gender, level of education and years of experiences

Table 4.28: Question No 2, Impact of profiling on independence

Impact Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Profiling limits my freedom to report	150 (50%)	90 (30%)	30 (10%)	20 (6.7%)	10 (3.3%)
Profiling leads to self-censorship	120 (40%)	100 (33%)	40 (13%)	30 (10%)	10 (3.3%)

The above table indicates about the exact number that how many respondents are agree and disagree with the statement of each impact

Table 4.29: Question No 2, Perception and responses to journalists practice

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Journalism in Balochistan is a dangerous profession	180 (60%)	90 (30%)	20 (6.7%)	8 (2.7%)	2 (0.6%)

The above table shows about the attitude and coping mechanism, which indicated that there are 180 participants are strongly agree and only 2 participants are strongly disagree

CHAPTER NO.5

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

5.1   Discussion

Balochistan, like many other regions in Pakistan, has faced challenges related to press freedom. Journalists in the province have encountered threats, intimidation, and violence, making it difficult for them to report freely and objectively. Government restrictions and censorship have also been reported, which can hinder the flow of unbiased information. Profiling journalism and analyzing in Balochistan is an essential and complex topic that requires an understanding of the region's socio-political context and media landscape. Balochistan is a province in Pakistan known for its rich cultural heritage, diverse population, and challenging security conditions. When discussing journalism and media in Balochistan.

Balochistan has been grappling with an insurgency for several decades, with various groups seeking greater autonomy or independence from Pakistan. In such a volatile environment, journalists face significant risks while reporting on sensitive issues. The fear of reprisals from both state and non-state actors can lead to self-censorship, impacting the quality and depth of journalism in the region.

Balochistan is home to diverse ethnic and linguistic groups, each with its own unique concerns and perspectives. For effective journalism, it is crucial that the media accurately represent the diverse voices and narratives of the province. Ensuring inclusivity and addressing any biases in reporting can lead to a more comprehensive understanding of Balochistan's complexities. The province has long struggled with issues such as poverty, unemployment, and lack of basic infrastructure. Profiling journalism should include an analysis of how these socio-economic challenges are covered by the media and how it impacts public awareness and policy discourse.

The discussion revealed a huge demographic and professional range across the sample. Journalists in the selected district were categorized into part time, full time and freelance actioners, and each categories exhibited unique role in terms of educational background, years of experiences, access to resources and employment stability. The **Institutional Theory** support explains how such categories are embedded within several institutional structure, like press

clubs, media organization and political affiliations that impose particular character and expectations on journalists. For instance, full time journalist were more likely to be associated with established news organization and further exposed to internal institutional regulations, while free lancers often operated with greater flexibility but low safety. The regional variation, especially between more urbanized district such as Gwader and Chaman and more remote ones such as Musakhail and Awaran, additional   demonstrated how institutional and situation effect journalistic identity and functioning.

The profiling ranging from surveillance to political motivated scrutiny was an important problems causing journalists ability to report independently. Several respondents especially those in conflict or political sensitive areas such as Jaffarabad and Awaran, reported heightened institutional pressure often lead to coercive isomorphism, where journalist get their practices to affiliate with dominant political ideologies to survive professionally. This output is especially indicating as it suggests a compromised journalist ethos in different region, where institutional constraints heavily effect not just what is reported but also how it is reported.

The journalist perception of their character and professional duty varied hugely based on the institutional ecosystem they were part of. In somewhat stable area such as Chaman and Gawadar, journalist demonstrated more confidence in their reporting character and greater optimism regarding the future of journalism. In the another side, those in Awaran and Nushki express skepticism and fear often citing political intimidation, lack of editorial independence and systemic underpayment . The **Institutional theory** frame such disparity as a result both mimetic and normative pressure, where journalists rival the prevailing norms. This reflects that journalists are not just portrayed by external coercion but also by internalized culture and professional value that evolve within their institutional situation.

Balochistan's media infrastructure may not be as developed as in major urban centers, which could affect the dissemination of information. Access to reliable sources, training opportunities for journalists, and technological advancements play a crucial role in fostering quality journalism in the region.

Profiling journalism in Balochistan should also address ethical considerations such as responsible reporting, fact-checking, and avoiding sensationalism. Objective reporting becomes even more critical when covering sensitive issues that can have profound implications on the

region's stability and peace. In areas where traditional media faces challenges, citizen journalism and social media can fill the void. Analyzing the role of citizen journalists and their impact on shaping public opinion is vital in understanding the media landscape in Balochistan.

In the spite of hostile situation in different districts. Journalist demonstrated varied policies of adaptation and some cases, resistance. Some relied on community backing. Anonymity, or collaborative networks to maintain reporting naturally, while other withdrew form controversial topic or shifted to non-political reporting to safeguarded security. These behaviors shows institutional survival mechanism, where individuals either comply with or subly resist institutional pressure. Freelancer in especial, were found to navigate more fluid space, creating through social media or alternative outlets that fall outside traditional institution limitation. Such ability to maneuver, while still constrained focus the agency of journalist within the structural boundaries outlined by institutional theory.

The current analysis focused huge regional disparities in journalistic freedom and institutional backing. District such as Musakhail and Zhob faced acute shortage in technical resources, organizational infrastructure and training opportunity, making journalists more vulnerable to discrimination and institutional mistreatment. **The Institutional theory** suggests that underdeveloped region are more susceptible to weak institutional isomorphism, where neither to fragmented journalistic practices. Such fragmentation consequences in a disjointed media landscape, where journalist across district operate under various laws, expectations and risk preventing the formation of unified professional identity and boundaries the broader effect of journalism in portraying public discourse in Balochistan.

The exploratory study, grounded in **Institutional Theory**, shed light on the complex and often hostile institutional setting in which journalists in Balochistan operate. Form coercive state pressure to structural inadequacies and normative expectations within press clubs and media houses, institutional force significantly influence journalist behavior, identity, and autonomy. The quantitative findings provide strong evidence that institutional factors both formal and informal shape the profiles, experience, and journalists within these institutional arrangements, the study contributes to a nuanced understanding of the systemic challenges in Balochictan's media landscape. It also underscores the urgent need for institutional reforms that support

journalistic independence, safety and professional development across all regions of the province.

The result or clearly aligned with the statement that the journalists across district like Awaran, Chaman, Zhob, Ziarat, Musakhail, Jaffarabad, Awaran, Gwader and Nushki face persistent profiling, intimidation and lack of institutional protection, which directly undermines their freedom to report. Therefore, the discussion interprets such figures by linking them to broader themes of press freedom, regional insecurity, and self-censorship, reflecting how profiling not only endangers individuals journalists but also weakens the overall flow of unbiased information form Balochistan. By grounding every argument in the evidence collected form the 300 correspondents, the section offers a holistic view of both the personal and professional challenges journalists experience in the province.

Overall, journalism in Balochistan requires a nuanced approach that acknowledges the complexities and challenges faced by journalists in the region. Balancing the need for objective reporting with the security concerns of reporters is crucial for fostering a more informed and engaged society in Balochistan. It is essential to support and promote press freedom while striving for accurate and inclusive reporting to shed light on the issues and concerns of the region effectively.

5.2   Conclusion

The current exploratory study on the profiling of journalist in Balochistan reveals a deeply complex and challenges professional situation. The demographic profile indicates that Journalism in the province in male dominated with the percentage of 86 respondents classifying as male only 12% as female, focusing an important gender imbalance. Most Journalist are young aged between 26 and 35 years, and possess at least a bachelor's degree suggesting a relatively educated and dynamic workforce. However, the nature of employment in unbalanced with substantial number working part time or freelance. Low profit is a huge issue with nearly half earning less that PKR 20,000 monthly. In the term of media association print and digital media regional Radio, Television remain strong, but formal journalism training is lacking for a majority 59% which may impact journalist quality and professionalism. Geographic distribution across Chaman, Zhob, Ziarat, Musakhail, Jaffarabad, Awaran, Gwader and Nushki indicated that journalist activates are spread relatively evenly across the province.

The perception and experiences part paint a troubling image of journalists safeguarded and freedom in Balochistan. An important 63% reported being profiled facing threats, harassment, legal pressure and surveillance with law implementation agencies perceived as the huge threat to journalist freedom. The constant sense of risk and fear led to high rates of self-censorship, avoidance of sensitive topics, and even considerations of leaving the profession. In the spit of these challenges, the majority believed that free journalism is too much significance for Balochistan improvement, though several are dissatisfied with the institutional backing they receive.   Political pressure, Safety concerns, and resource constraint remain the too much important hurdles, which collectively deter the next generation from viewing journalism as a secure and attractive career. Overall, the finding focusing an urgent need for strategies intervention, better safety mechanism, and backing system to uphold press freedom and guarantee the safeguarded and sustainability of Journalism in Balochistan.

5.3   Suggestions

The current study give birth to the strong set of suggestions, such as

5.3.1 Develop Journalist Protection Policies

Authority must introduce and implement specific journalist protection laws in Balochistan that criminalize harassment, profiling and threats against media workers. Protection mechanism must be enforceable and offer swift legal remedies for journalism facing intimation

5.3.2 Establish Independent Journalism Support Units

It is essential to create independent journalist welfare and support at the district and provincial level. These units should provide legal aid, psychological counselling and emergency assistance to journalist who face threats or profiling due to their work.

5.3.3 Strengthen Press Clubs and Media Institutions

Authority should financially and technically empower district press clubs, allowing them to organize safety turning workplace legal awareness sessions and protective reporting training particularly in high risk area like Balochistan.

5.3.4 Promote Gender Inclusivity in Journalism

Policies must be developed to encourage female participant in journalism. This includes ensuring safe environment, setting up harassments reporting cells and providing specially incentives or scholarship to female journalism students from Balochistan.

5.3.5 Encourage Financial Stability for Journalism

Authority should facilitate better salary structure and employment contrast for journalist. Support program or grants for freelance and part journalist would help reduce their financial vulnerabilities which currently make them more susceptible to external pressures.

5.3.6 Ensure Freedom of Information and Minimize Censorship

Government and law enforcement agencies should respect journalistic independence and minimize undue censorship. Open channels for dialogue between media representation and state institution can built trust and reduce misunderstandings.

5.3.7 Launch Public Awareness Campaigns on Press Freedom

Future authorities should also educate the public on the role of free press in democratic societies. Public support is crucial for the safety and credibility of journalistic working challenging conditions.

5.4   Recommendations

On the basis of the output of the current exploratory study on the profiling study of journalist in Balochistan, different significance steps are recommended to develop the professional situation and safety of media protection in the province. There is an urgent need to establish structure safety training program for journalists, especially in high risk districts. These program should consist training of digital security, legal right and personal protection. To better equip journalist against threats, harassment and surveillance. Media institution, both national regional must play a more active role in backing journalist when they face profiling and pressure, guarantee that reporters receive not only supporting but also legal and logistical assistance when required.

The civil society institution, government bodies a press clubs should collaborate to advocate for stronger legal protection for journalists for journalism, consisting the enforcement of laws that penalize intimidation and unlawful surveillance of women in journalism by scholarship and safe reporting environment. Media houses should also work toward providing better job stability by offering more fil time positions and development salary structure, as economic insecurity can make journalists more vulnerable to external pressure. Finally, fostering a culture of free journalism through rewarding recognizing, courageous and moral reporting can contribute to strengthening press independence in Balochistan, which is key for the area, democratic and social development.

Press clubs and media institution should establish standard support system in high risk districts such as Nushki, Awaran and Jaffarabad where profile and intimidation are more prevalent. The capacity building system tailored to local context should be identified to strengthen professional resilience and ethics among journalists while addressing regional disparity in organizational infrastructure and editorial independence. This measure, grounded in Institutional theory, will help reshape the media environment into one that is not professionally sustainable but also representatively vibrant.

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Appendix No 1

Questionnaire

The following information is required for the M.Phil. level thesis. You are requested to answer the questions given below. The researcher assures that all information provided by the respondent will be strictly kept confidential.

Title: **Profiling of Journalists: An analysis from Balochistan**

Part 1. Demographic

Name: _____ (Optional)

Gender: Male / Female

Age: _____

Education: _____

Organization_____

1) Which district press club are you affiliated with?

    a. Zhob

    b. Musakhail

    c. Chaman

    d. Nushki

    e. Jaffarabad

    f. Gwadar

    g. Ziarat

    h. Awaran

2) What is your employment type in journalism?

    a. Full-time

    b. Part-time

    c. Freelance

3) How many years of experience do you have in journalism?

    a. Less than 1 year

    b. 1–5 years

    c. 6–10 years

    d. More than 10 years

4) What is your main area of reporting?

    a. Politics

    b. Crime and Security

    c. Social Issues

    d. Business and Economy

    e. Environment

    f. Others (please specify)

5) What is your monthly income from journalism?

    a. Less than PKR 20,000

    b. PKR 20,000–40,000

    c. PKR 41,000–60,000

    d. PKR 61,000 and above

6) Which media organization do you work for?

    a. National TV/Radio

    b. Regional TV/Radio

    c. Print Media (Newspapers, Magazines)

    d. Online Media (Websites, Blogs)

    e. Independent/Freelance

7) Have you received any formal training in journalism?

    a. Yes

    b. No

Section B: Experiences of Profiling and Its Impact (RQ2)

8) Have you ever faced profiling based on your profession as a journalist?

    a. Yes

    b. No

9) If yes, what form did the profiling take? (You can select multiple)

    a. Threats

    b. Surveillance

    c. Physical harassment

    d. Online harassment

    e. Legal pressure

    f. Other (please specify)

10) How frequently do you feel at risk because of your reporting activities?

    a. Never

    b. Rarely

    c. Sometimes

    d. Often

    e. Always

11) Has profiling affected your ability to report independently?

    a. Not at all

    b. Slightly

    c. Moderately

    d. Significantly

    e. Extremely

12) To what extent does fear of profiling influence the topics you choose to report on?

    a. Not at all

    b. To a small extent

    c. To a moderate extent

    d. To a large extent

    e. Completely

13) Have you ever avoided covering sensitive topics (e.g., security, political corruption) due to fear of profiling?

    a. Yes

    b. No

14) In your opinion, which institution poses the greatest threat to journalistic independence in Baluchistan?

    a. Political groups

    b. Law enforcement agencies

c. Militants/Insurgents

d. Business interests

e. Other (please specify)

15) Has profiling led you to consider leaving journalism?

a. Yes

b. No

Section C: Perception and Practice of Journalism (RQ3)

16) How would you describe your motivation for working in journalism?

a. Passion for truth

b. Financial reasons

c. Social responsibility

d. Personal fame and recognition

e. Other (please specify)

17) How do you rate press freedom in your district?

a. Very high

b. High

c. Moderate

d. Low

e. Very low

18) How satisfied are you with the support provided by your media organization when facing threats or profiling?

a. Very satisfied

b. Satisfied

c. Neutral

d. Dissatisfied

e. Very dissatisfied

19) How important is independent journalism for the development of Baluchistan?

a. Extremely important

b. Very important

c. Moderately important

    d. Slightly important

    e. Not important at all

20) How frequently do you participate in safety or rights training programs for journalists?

    a. Never

    b. Rarely

    c. Sometimes

    d. Often

    e. Always

21) In your opinion, what is the biggest challenge facing journalists in Baluchistan today?

    a. Safety and Security

    b. Lack of Resources

    c. Political Pressure

    d. Public Mistrust

    e. Low Wages

22) Would you recommend journalism as a career to young people in Baluchistan?

    a. Yes

    b. No

    c. Maybe

The End