Socioeconomic Behaviour of the Micro Urban Areas: A Comprehensive Study of Sachal Goth, Sindh, Pakistan

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Socioeconomic Behaviour of Micro Urban Areas: A Comprehensive Study of Sachal Goth, Sindh, Pakistan

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Abstract

The socioeconomic profile of the sub-urban areas in Pakistan is a matter of concern for the presumable developments in the future. The micro urban areas are the indicators of the prospective developments in the city. The role of the prevailing socioeconomic patterns in the city is important for the future developmental opportunities to be identified. These socioeconomic behaviours are depicted through several factors which indicate the behaviours of the inhabitants and the opportunities and discrepancies the particular area is facing. The objective of this research is to explore the socioeconomic behaviour of the inhabitants of the selected area in order to analyze the comprehensive socioeconomic profile of the area. It adopts the mixed methods approach to conduct the research surveys and necessary documentation. It also signifies the understanding of the socioeconomic profiles of the inhabitants in the area by analyzing their historic background, work profiles, expenditure distribution, educational aspects, commercial activities, transport facilities, and the provision of amenities. The findings are detailed out in a quantitative mode and further summarized in the SWOT analysis which also indicates the potential areas for the future developments. The current study takes into account the collective socioeconomic profiles and concludes the organic growth. Moreover, the findings are also helpful to establish that the socioeconomic profiles of the area which can be useful for suggesting the developmental patterns for the betterment of the area.

Keywords: demographic transition, micro-urban, socioeconomic, urban growth

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Introduction

The city of Karachi was recognized as a metropolis in 1976. Further, according to Sindh’s local government ordinance (1976) Karachi was divided into 18 towns for administrative cooperation in August 2001, Gulshan Town being one of them. The town is also called Gulshan-e-Iqbal which translates to “Garden of Iqbal” and was established on 14th August 2001 in honour of Pakistan’s national poet Allama Muhammad Iqbal. The town is bordered by Gadap Town to the North, the Faisal and Malir cantonments to the East, Jamshed town to the Southwest, and Gulberg and Liaqatabad to the West. Its population was estimated about 650,000 at the 1998 census, now nearing one million, of which 99% are Muslims. There are several ethnic groups in Gulshan Town including Muhajirs, Sindhis, Punjabis, Kashmiris, Seraikis, Pakhtuns and Balochis. Sachal Goth is out of the 18 autonomous towns of Gulshan-e-Iqbal. It lies towards East Karachi, Pakistan and is located at the end of University Road, cantonment area of Malir, Karachi airport. Sachal Goth is surrounded by Ayub Goth, Bilawal Shah Noorani Goth, MarorahGoth, Seeta Nagar and PCSIR laboratories (The Local Government System, 2001).

Literature Review

Micro-urban spaces are the sandwich spaces between buildings, rooftops, walls, curbs, sidewalk cracks, and other small-scale urban spaces that exist in the fissures between linear infrastructure (e.g. roads, bridges, tunnels, rail lines) and our three dimensional gridded cities (Macphearson & Marshall, 2015). Micro-urban - spaces are areas that are not fully developed as proper urban areas and hold similar facilities at a smaller scale and are seen in many major cities of the country and around the world. These micro-urban areas exhibit an integrating character within a city by virtue of their basic nomenclature. Their settings may vary in different cities around the world; however, the basic characteristics are common. These characteristics help these areas to indicate some of the potential features that have not been surfaced. Scholars have researched about micro-urban areas in the cities and found that they contribute to the economy, environment\ and up gradation in several ways. These micro-urban areas are considered as connectors in the big metropolitan cities as well as are part of the ecological process. Macphearson and Marshall, (2015) have also identified an important factor in this connection by indicating the neglected micro-urban areas and their ecological and social potential of these areas. They have described this gap by highlighting that what if the micro-urban areas were the missing piece to solve the connectivity puzzle of our fragmented urban ecologies? This raises an important question about what socioeconomic factors are significant in order to study the behaviour of such micro-
urban areas. Scholars have assumed that the residents of micro-urban areas are the core and basic unit as the users of the facilities provided and also the main contributor in the socioeconomic behaviour.

Hasan and Mohib, (2003) have described some household indicators that contribute to the socioeconomic behaviour of the areas in a metropolitan that are not categorized as fully urban areas. These include; household types, income, average household size, types of ownership, literacy, occupancy ratio and settlement type. These indicators have been tested through a study of a small area in Karachi to draw the basic attributes of human settlements that are not the usual fully developed urban areas. Since the small neighborhoods developed in any metropolitan city have the tendency to develop themselves, the phenomena of micro-urban areas have well-established grounds as they are the intermediate link between the urban areas and neighborhood in a metropolitan.

Dunarintu and Dociu (2012) have described that change in the numerical population of the world and the major share of global urban population is surpassing the rural population. They have referred to the global population specialists describing that 60% of the global population will live in urban areas until 2030 which is an increase from 30% that existed in 1930. Moreover, according to World Bank 60 million people in developing countries move annually into urban spaces. The growing population of the city is giving rise to micro-urban areas which have the tendency to affect the socioeconomic behaviour of the city as a whole. In a study, the determinants of migration in a large third world city were discussed. Taking the example of the metropolitan Karachi, it was revealed that the migrants who come to Karachi mostly settle in micro-urban areas. This caused the city to expand outward resulting in serious policy implications for a city that is growing continuously (Sadaqat, 1992).

Population division of United Nations describes World Urbanization (2018) as the average annual rate of change of urban population being a signified prospect. It is defined as the average exponential rate of growth of the population of urban agglomerations over a given period. It is calculated as in \( \frac{PUAt}{PUAo} \) where \( n \) is length of the period and PUA the population of urban agglomerations. It is expressed as a percent. The data as shown in Table-1 depicts the expected and predicted decline in the average annual rate of change of the urban population in Pakistan. One of the probable reasons for this may be described as an increasing rate of growth of urban areas in the country. This increasing rate has been discussed by researchers focusing since 1950 in less developed countries of the world.
including Pakistan. This factor is integrated with the emergence and development of the micro-urban areas.

**Table 1**

*Average Annual Rate of Change of Population in Pakistan (Percentage) with Timeline*

| Timeline       | 2000-2005 | 2005-2010 | 2010-2015 | 2015-2020 | 2020-2025 | 2025-2030 | 2030-2035 | 2035-2040 | 2040-2045 | 2045-2050 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Rate (Percentage) | 2.38      | 2.25      | 2.11      | 2.04      | 1.84      | 1.64      | 1.46      | 1.32      | 1.20      | 1.05      |

*Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019). World Population Prospects 2019, Custom data acquired via website.

A report by United Nations (2018) also indicates a relatively stagnant behaviour of urban growth in North Africa and South-Central Asia. This analysis shows that full urbanized areas have grown their extensions as micro-urban areas while keeping the original ones as they were. The development of micro-urban areas in the metropolitan cities in the world is therefore, originated from the very fact of urban growth and the emergence of a self-oriented solution. This development is also relevant to the demographic transition, wherein the people in pure rural areas move towards urban areas and their socioeconomic profiles restrict them to be a part of the society in all respects, thus generating a micro-urban area with more or less similar facilities at a lower scale. Dayson (2010) has discussed this demographic transition in relation to the population development and has indicated it as an effectively universal and one-way process. He has described this process as a core to most of the major social, spatial, economic and political developments that have occurred in the modern world. Moreover, this process is also found var at different stages and paces and with varied manifestations. The emergence of micro-urban areas is, hence, one of the manifestations of the process of demographic transition.

The discussion above signifies that the emergence of micro-urban areas has some core reasons that are related to two major determinants, firstly; urban growth that may be rapid, slow or stagnant and secondly; demographic transitions that may show variance in different cities. Researchers have highlighted that these two factors have originated from several factors such as the socioeconomic conditions, educational systems and commercial grounds that revolve around the phenomena.
Therefore, it is established that there is a need of scientific investigation of such micro-urban areas that studies their socioeconomic behaviours in order to understand the role of such areas in the future. This research focuses on the behaviour of micro-urban areas by selecting some indicators and then studying these in sub-segments to draw the detailed findings.

Considering the facts through literature review, keeping in view the peculiar nature of the area, three main indicators are established. These indicators are selected to develop a theoretical framework that was applied to the study in a quantitative manner in order to draw the findings. This approach is helpful for analyzing the integrated data through qualitative and quantitative method.

**Theoretical Framework**

While understanding the socioeconomic behavior of micro-urban areas in the city of Karachi, some of the significant studies as discussed in literature review have provided an insight to the development of the micro-urban areas.

**Table 2**

*Selected Indicators for the Study*

| Sr. No | Indicator                                      | Methodology   |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1.     | Socioeconomic Perspective                      |               |
| 1 (a)  | Income Generation                              | Quantitative  |
| 1 (b)  | Nature of work / Profession                    | Quantitative  |
| 1 (c)  | Earners per family                             | Quantitative  |
| 1 (d)  | Family Income Profile                          | Quantitative  |
| 1 (e)  | Expenditure                                    | Quantitative  |
| 2.     | Educational Perspective                        |               |
| 2 (a)  | Literacy Rate                                  | Quantitative  |
| 2 (b)  | Level of Education                             | Quantitative  |
| 2 (c)  | Type of Educational facility                   | Quantitative  |
| 2 (d)  | Student education inside and outside area      | Quantitative  |
| 3.     | Commercial Perspective                         |               |
| 3 (a)  | Percentage of commercial plots                 | Quantitative  |
| 3 (b)  | Transit Modes                                  | Qualitative   |
| 3 (d)  | Amenities                                      | Qualitative   |
| 3 (e)  | Types of workers                               | Qualitative   |
The literature review signifies some of the salient indicators that are set for developing the theoretical framework for this study. This framework is based on three main indicators that are considered important while studying the effective behaviour of a micro-urban area. These include; socioeconomic, educational and commercial perspectives. These three main indicators are sub-divided into some sub-indicators as mentioned in Table-2. Moreover, according to the mixed methodology approach, this framework establishes the integrating ground for qualitative and quantitative data against same selected indicators.

**Location of Case Study Area, Sachal Goth in Karachi**

Karachi is a metropolitan city in Pakistan, the provincial capital of Sindh, and also the biggest city of Pakistan covering an area of 3,527 km square. It is located at 24º45” to 25º15” north and 66º37” to 67º37” east. It is bordered by Dadu District to the northeast, Thatta District in the South-East, the Arabian Sea to the South and the Lasbela District of Baluchistan Province to the West. Hasan and Mohib (2003) have highlighted the socioeconomic profile by mentioning settlements in addition to kacchiabadis, which are referred to as “slums”. They describe two types of such settlements a): pre-independence (in 1947) working class areas which were traditional and have increased resulting in collapsed infrastructure and b): Goths or old villages which have become a part of the urban sprawl and formal development schemes. Sacahal Goth is one of such settlements located in Gulshan-e-Iqbal Town, Karachi. The town division of the city of Karachi involves eighteen constituent towns of which Sachal Goth is one.

**Figure 1**

*Karachi Division Map*

Source: Yousuf. A., 2015, Karachi Division Map, Dawn GIS, Mohallas and Markets Karachi’s local government Matrix.
The socioeconomic conditions of these settlements in metropolitan Karachi hold pivotal role in the defining the socioeconomic relationships with the country and with the rest of the world as a whole. After conducting a detailed study in eight metropolitan cities of the world including Karachi, Sivaramakrishnan and Green (1986) explained that the rapid expansion of the public sector in recent decades and the emergence of fiscal crises in most of the developing countries during the 1980s have made public finance the focus of development and thus adjustment, a challenge in these countries. This further entails to the relationship of the slum and low economic profile settlements in the city with different economic areas.

Figure 2

Gulshan-e-Iqbal Town Map

Source: Map of Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi, Wikipedia.

Figure 3

Map of Gulzar-e-Hijri

Source: Author’s interpretation from Google
Socioeconomic Behaviour of Micro Urban…

**Figure 4**

*Road Connectivity Map of Sachal Goth*

![Road Connectivity Map of Sachal Goth](image)

*Source: Author’s interpretation from Google Map*

Sachal Gothliese the East of Karachi, at one end of University Road, cantonment area of Malir, Karachi Airport and Gulistan-e-Johar. It is located nearby Dow University of Health Sciences on main Suparco Road that is connected to University Road and from other side it connects to the main Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway M9. Rare side of Sachal Goth this connected to Main Kiran Hospital that connects to University Road. At the time of its establishment the Goth was very thinly populated. It was in 1950’s that Jakhrani and Gabol families of Sindh were settled in this area for establishing their livelihoods through business of dairy farming and cattle breeding at a small scale. At that time, it constituted of merely a small number of houses. Later in early 80’s proper zoning with sub-division plan of Sachal Goth set with geographical boundaries was developed with the help of social activists who were assisted by the local people.

There are more than 1800 houses in the area. There are two categories of plots of 120 and 200 yards with the provision of basic educational facilities of school and college in the area. Other basic facilities like electricity, gas and carpeted roads are available in the area. Sachal Goth is a model village with most of the structures built in RCC construction. Although the construction style and the facilities provided in the area are well established, yet the village is still called Sachal Goth to maintain the continuity of the historical connection with its present development. The sub-registrar office of Karachi shows that the area has already been regularized with the same name in the record.

As evident from Map-5, the historical development of SachalGoth shows a rapid scale of urbanization. The ever-increasing need of low-cost housing has led
to the rapid transformation of the city into a concrete jungle however the open spaces also remain the same.

**Figure 5**

*Historical Development of Sachal Goth Over Time*

| Year | 2004 | 2008 | 2012 | 2016 | 2018 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Map 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Map 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Map 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Map 4 |  |  |  |  |  |

**Objectives of Research**

Griffin and Ragin (1994) have described that the objective of research about social life is to identify order in complexity; by doing so, it also shows the differences in a society to become a well-being one. Another objective of this research is to know about the conditions of that area and what contribution could make the society healthy. It aims to understand the social needs in order to understand the living patterns of the inhabitants of Sachal Goth, by identifying the true data which would help to develop a hypothesis. These would help in developing the proposals which can be used in future for the betterment of the society.

**Research Design Approach**

According to Bhattacherjee (2012a), seven possible research designs can be used for conducting a social research; experimental, field surveys, secondary data analysis, case research, focus group research, action research, and ethnography. Many researchers have suggested that regardless of any specific research design chosen, the research design selected can deal and strive to collect both types of quantitative and qualitative data using a combination of techniques such as questionnaires, interviews, observations, documents, or secondary data. Therefore,
this research adopts ethnography as an interpretive research design emphasizing the research phenomena studied within the context of its culture. The advantages of selecting the ethnographic approach include the sensitiveness to the context, helping to develop a clear understanding and a minimal respondent bias. These attributes enable the research to provide a context rich data, specific of ethnography. Bhattacherjee (2012b) also suggests four basic generic type of scales named as, nominal, ordinal, interval and ratio. This follows the use and type of four different commonly used data measurement scales that are commonly used for social researches, as binary, likert, semantic differential and Guttman scales, selected here for scaling the collected data through structured questionnaires.

**Research Methodology**

O’Reilly (2009) explains ethnography as a useful sociological research method by describing its goal to gain the perspective of the insider and to raise special issues for ethnographers who are also members of the group they study. As a matter of fact, sociological research has been growing in the past few decades in many parts of the world which allows for more and more experimentation with new methods to follow. This research poses ethnographic typology in nature and therefore adopts relevant ethnographic methods. Using epistemological notions of research, this research selects inductive method to collect the data. DeCalrlo (2018) defines inductive method in social research as an approach where the collection of data begins with the topic of interest. It gathers the data with a specific level of focus and looks into the patterns to analyze and develop a theory for a general level of focus. This generalization established may or may not be true. Streefkerk (2019) explains the limitations of the inductive approach in social research that a conclusion drawn on the basis of an inductive method can never be proven, but it can be invalidated.

The conduct of this research involved a review of related studies. While this sociological research encompasses mixed methodology, some of the data extracted from the already existing work of other researchers, texts written by historians and economists adds up in the primary data source. This also includes resources from library, archives and a thorough online search from news articles and magazines which are the secondary data. Data was collected primarily via observational techniques, formal and informal interaction with participants of the selected area, and personal field notes. Adopting the social research methodology through a mixed method approach that can be classified as quantitative and qualitative, the research focuses on the real time context. This included observations, surveys, field research, and contextual analysis.
The collection of structured questionnaires was used as a research tool inquiring questions about problems and recognizing the specific area of interest. For this purpose, questions were prepared according to the specified area for collecting the required information from respondents. Sachal Goth this divided into seven zones therefore the survey was conducted according to them. Data was collected after taking interviews from residents and a series of questions were asked about behavior problems, facilities and thoughts. The standard survey form allowed individuals a level of anonymity in which they expressed their personal ideas.

The analysis of the data was done according to the assumptions about how variables of data are related. Field research in which gathering of primary data was from a natural environment was conducted where the data was collected by directly interacting with the environments by observing, participating or experiencing the surrounding. The interaction and observations from people and collection of data was done simultaneously, observing specific behaviors in that setting to set the collected data as qualitative. It took place in the subject’s natural environments such as shops, residences, mall, and streets. Secondary data, also known as qualitative or textual analysis does not result from primary sources but was drawn from the previously collected data from other sources such as the study of texts written by historians, economists, teachers, or sociologists. Analysis through books, information from archives, newspapers, or magazines articles from any period in history on Sachal Goth were also consulted. The study of this information has added depth to contextual analysis.

**Ethical Concerns**

Practicing like sociologists and sociology there was a lot of things to be considered. Especially when the subjects were human, proper and skillful conversations were performed. Conducting a sociological study comes with a tremendous amount of responsibility. While discussing the sociological research Little and McGivern (2014) have described that like any researchers, sociologists must consider their ethical obligation to avoid harming subjects or groups while conducting their research. Therefore, these considerations were taken into account. Before they agreed to participate, participants were properly informed of the purpose of this research along with the information related to our study. During the study, the safety of participants was ensured and the work was immediately stopped if a subject became difficult on any level. The personal information acquired was used in a non-descriptive manner and the individuals were kept anonymous. The privacy of research participants was protected whenever possible.
**Socioeconomic Perspective**

In sociology, occupations and professions both have always been thought of as forms of social organization and as the locus for other social processes and dynamics. Social control and cohesion, differentiation and inequality, collective action, power and influence, and identity formation are just a few of the factors linked with this profession. Albert and Weeden (2011) have described four main factors, which compose the sociology of occupations and professions. The first tackles the division of labor. The next examines the occupational communities. A third focuses on the social activity of work itself, including the labor process, employer control, alienation/job satisfaction, unionization, and the rise and fall of skills. The last considers how occupations become associated with rewards (e.g., pay, prestige, authority, etc.) The findings through the questionnaire and surveys conducted during research are depicted here.

**Income Generation in Sachal Goth and Context**

In Sachal Goth there are some dominant professions, which support and are linked to the economic activities of the larger surrounding context. Also, unlike the rest of the city, here everyone pitches in their part towards the house hold income. Hence, apart from men, children and women also work with in their own capacities and restrictions.

**Figure 6**

*Work Profile Strength*

| Percentage | Working people strength |
|------------|-------------------------|
| 80%        | Male 75%                |
| 60%        | Females 10%             |
| 40%        | Children 15%            |
Nature of Work

Some of the residents are involved in running local shops and businesses on major commercial streets of this area, either their family members or nearby residents also work as employees, in these shops or small setups. Some people work as a teacher in this area to fulfill the needs of their families. Most women work as a teacher in their neighborhood school. Some women work as tailors, running stitching centers, home tutors or run small scale home grocers. Some people are also employed elsewhere, in areas like Clifton or DHA, (high economic areas of the city) as maids, guards, or rickshaw drivers. In this area some people work as a government officer and some people work for political parties.

Primary data collected, also points towards this pattern of professions. The following charts highlight the ratio of major occupations. The primary occupation shows is shop keeping, either small scale shops or employed somewhere else. The data reveals that factory employments are also very commonly with the occupants of the Goth.

Figure 7

Profession of Inhabitants

| Professions         | Percentage |
|---------------------|------------|
| Sales Men           | 12%        |
| Shop Keepers        | 25%        |
| Teachers            | 17%        |
| Labourers           | 13%        |
| Government Officers | 15%        |
| Factory Workers     | 18%        |

Socioeconomic Profile

The following map is made using the data collected from questionnaires and interviews. It shows how the different types of professions are distributed throughout the study area. It also indicates, in detail, how in some areas the nature of occupation caters to the economic activities. In other cases, the nature of occupation is related
to the commercial magnets present nearby, either directly or indirectly (owner and employees). After, engaging in hard work, the income generated gains importance.

**Figure 8**

*Total Earners Per Family*

![Figure 8: Total Earners Per Family](image)

**Figure 9**

*Family Income Profile*

![Figure 9: Family Income Profile](image)
Earned money (income) holds value. This money is then spent to purchase goods, and avail services. In Sachal Goth, the primary and secondary data collected, helps in illustrating patterns of income, and socio economic. The study area consists majorly of monthly based workers. On average, the total income (mostly after doing different jobs) per person is different with respect to the block wise. In this area a number of people work for a family block wise making the total income of each block different. This area is not so much low according to economy and income.

**Expenditure**

The way people choose to spend money, tells a lot about the character of the society in which they live. Analyzing expenditure can tell us about the preferences, priorities, habits, identity and the quality of any society. Decisions to support organizations financially, to spend discretionary income on entertainment and casual interests, or to purchase nonessential goods and services reveal considerable information about preferences and habits. Simultaneously, expenditure, in urban context, also reflects structural position, preferences, and identity. Mostly sociological attention focusing on spending behavior shows the symbolic meanings associated with consumption behavior and implications of the sections for creating and maintaining group boundaries. The following chart has been made using the data obtained through questionnaires, interviews and observations.

**Figure 10**

*Expenditure Distribution*

From the above charts, it is evident that this society prioritizes the necessities (food-23% and water-14%). LineWater is available in the whole area but Block F and Block G has a water problem. In these blocks, water is not clean so they can buy
water for daily use; therefore the residents are fully dependent on expensive water tanks and people help their neighbors when need be.

After that, according to most of the people being interviewed, quite a lot of their income is spent on sending their kids to private schools. Therefore, expenditure on education is 18%. This indicates that the society knows the importance of education, and how it will help their future generations compete in the market place. People also send their children to schools in other areas schools and also go to work in other areas for which they have to use public transport. Therefore, expenditure on transport is 10%.

The other quite significant expenditure is on electricity (12%). The residents pay their bills regularly, indicating they have a good sense of responsibility and citizenship. Apart from this, a chunk of income goes towards healthcare (14%), since illness is common due to poor cleanliness of the area and carelessness in hygiene. Thus, a major chunk of income goes towards medicines and hospital bills. Affordability to the basic health care facility however is a challenge for the below income group. Privation is both a cause and a consequence of poor health because it leads to limited access to primary healthcare requisites. The survey shows (refer chart-5) that health care is the least focused department which is further consolidated with the lack of health insurance services provided on the government level.

**Education**

From the moment a child is born, his or her education begins. At first, education is an informal process in which an infant watches others and imitates them. As the infant grows into a young child, the process of education becomes more formal in the form of school and college. But even then, education is about much more than the simple learning of facts. Education is a social institution through which a society’s children are taught basic academic knowledge, learning skills, and cultural norms. Every nation in the world is equipped with some form of education system, though those systems vary greatly. The major factors affecting education systems are there sources and money that are utilized to support those systems indifferent nations. As you might expect, a country’s wealth has much to do with the amount of money spent on education. Countries that do not have such basic amenities as running water are unable to support robust education systems or, in many cases, any formal schooling at all. This is the case with Pakistan and Karachi. Female education is also important for Pakistan’s future because mothers are primary socialization agents: an educated mother is more likely to instill a thirst for education in her children, setting up a positive cycle for generations to come.
The sociology of education is the study of how social institutions and forces affect educational processes and outcomes, and vice versa. By many, education is understood to be a means of overcoming handicaps, achieving greater equality and acquiring wealth and status for all (Sargent, 1994). Learners may be motivated by aspirations for progress and betterment. Education is perceived to develop children according to their unique needs and potentialities. The purpose of education is to develop every individual to their full potential.

In terms of socialization, the modern system of mass education promotes two main socializing tasks; Homogenization and social sorting. Students from diverse backgrounds learn a standardized curriculum that effectively transforms diversity into homogeneity. Those who have access to better are set on trajectories to high-status positions in society. Those who do less well are gradually confined to lower, subordinate positions in society. Within the norms established by school curriculum and teaching methods, students learn about the class differentiation at a very early age.

As already mentioned, education is not solely concerned with the basic academic concepts that a student learns in the classroom. Societies also educate their children, outside of the school system, about matters of everyday practical living. These two types of learning are referred to as formal and informal education.

**Figure 11**

*Literacy Rate*

| Literacy Rate | Percentage of Literacy |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Educated      | 45%                    |
| Uneducated    | 55%                    |
Formal and Informal Education

Formal education describes the learning of academic facts and concepts through a curriculum. The Pakistani educational system is derived from this system, although it hasn’t been updated for many years. The official system, for the city is the Sindh Matriculation Board. However, since this system is no longer adequate, people who can afford have shifted towards other options. These include multiple foreign (IGCSEO and A Levels, IB) and some federal level boards of education. There are also religious educational systems available in the form of madrasahs.

Whereas, informal education describes learning about cultural values, norms, and expected behavior by participating in a society. This type of learning occurs both through the formal education system and at home. Our earliest learning experiences generally happen via parents, relatives, and others in our community. Through informal education, we learn how to dress for different occasions, how to perform regular life routines like shopping for and preparing food, and how to keep our bodies clean.

Figure 12

Level of Education

Chart-8 shows the types of educational institutes in the area and the percentage of students who go there. Majority are private institutes as compared to government and NGO’s. Children attending madrasahs are few.
**Figure 13**

*Type of Educational Facility*

![Bar chart showing the percentage of students going to different types of educational facilities.](chart13)

| Type of Facility | Percentage |
|------------------|------------|
| Private          | 48%        |
| Government School| 32%        |
| NGO              | 5%         |
| Madrassah        | 15%        |

**Figure 14**

*Student Education Inside and Outside area*

![Bar chart showing the percentage of students education inside versus outside the area.](chart14)

| Education Location | Percentage |
|--------------------|------------|
| Inside the area    | 80%        |
| Outside the area   | 20%        |

Chart-9 shows the ratio of students who get education in the area or outside the area, majority of the children get education inside the area.
Figure 15

*Literacy Rate, Block-Wise*

The second major stakeholder of the area is the commercial interests. The commercial area of Sachal Goth is categorized into markets and restaurants. Mostly the main road of Sachal Goth is the major commercial active zones with a high influx of buyers. On the other hand, secondary road retail shops are also present near the residential area. The markets are further categorized into wholesale, retail and hawkers/vendors. The major stakeholders are the owners, suppliers, shopkeepers,
laborers and buyers. Small scale restaurants and dhabas have also opened the stakeholders are their workers, chef, visitors, owner and management team.

**Figure 17**

*Literacy Rate*

| Drawing Title- Literacy Rates | High Literacy Rate | Middle Literacy Rate | Low Literacy Rate |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Scale-1” = 1/128’             |                   |                      |                  |
| Orientation: N                |                   |                      |                  |
Figure 18

Number of Shops-Block Wise

Drawing Title:
Commercial Plots
Scale-1” = 1/128’
Orientation: N

Schedule of Legends

| Block | Colour |
|-------|--------|
| Block-A | Block-E |
| Block-B | Block-F |
| Block-C | Block-G |
| Block-D | Commercial |
Figure 19
Modes of Economy

| Drawing Title-Mode of Economy | Schedule of Legends |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Real Estate Shops           | Barber Shop         |
| Grocery Shops               | Pan Shop            |
| Fun land                    | Carpenter           |
| Hotel                       | Mechanic            |
| Meat Shop                   | Medical Store       |
| Milk Shop                   | Tailor Shop          |
| Beauty Salon                | Petrol Pump          |

Scale-1” = 1/128’
Orientation: N
Figure 20

*Plot Ratios*

| Drawing Title- Plot Ratios |
|-----------------------------|
| Scale-1” = 1/128’ Orientation: N |

| Plot Ratio |   |
|------------|--|
| Residential | Education |
| Commercial | Empty Spaces |
| Amenity Area | Mosques |
Figure 21

Locations of Mosques and Madrassas
Figure 22

Recreational Areas

| Drawing Title-   | Types of Recreations                                                                                     |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Recreational Area| Monday market, Wedding Ceremonies, Political party events                                               |
| Scale-1" = 1/128’| According to survey information, this empty plot is used as a recreational area for multipurpose activities. These include Monday Market, play area, political events, & social events. |
| Orientation: N   |                                                                                                         |
Figure 23

Location of Hawkers

[Diagram showing the location of Hawkers]
Figure 24

Street Activities

| Street Activities                  |
|------------------------------------|
| Primary activities (main road)     |
| Secondary activities              |
| Tertiary activities               |

Primary: Eating Food, Playing Cricket
Secondary: Purchasing vegetables and groceries, children riding bicycle, and walk on the road.
Tertiary: Children play games, women gathering space.
Transit Modes

The third major stakeholders are associated with transit modes, like rickshaw/taxi drivers.

Amenities

The fourth major stakeholder is associated with amenities. The amenities are further categorized into educational institutions, mosques and hospitals. In Sachal Goth some of the institutions are run by NGOs and some private and government schools are currently working in our context providing education and other facilities to children in Sachal Goth. It is then categorized into teachers/trainers, sweepers, management team, students and guards. Mosques and Madrasa have been providing religious education contributing as a major stakeholder in the area. The major stakeholders of the mosque are categorized into visitors, sweepers, workers, students and teachers. Clinics and small-scale hospitals have also been observed in Sachal Goth. Doctors, compounder, patients, sweepers, management team and guards have been emerging as major stakeholders of the area.

Types of Workers

Government Employees

There are some government employees present in SachalGoth including teachers (headmaster) of the government schools, peons, workers of political parties and government officers.

Teachers

There are also private schools present in Sachal Goth. Most of the teachers are highly qualified but teachers some have only passed matriculation. The private school teachers’ salary starts from Rs7000-20,000 and depends on the classes they are teaching as well as the education they have received. There are many registered private educational institutes present along Sachal Goth. Student’s belonging to Sachal Goth also come to study there.

Rikshaw Drivers

There are rickshaw drivers present in Sachal Goth. Residents of Sachal Goth use rickshaws mostly to go to the safari park, hospitals schools. Rickshaws are also hired to drop students to schools that are outside Sachal Goth.

Laborers

There are not very specific kinds of laborers in Sachal Goth. They include several different types, including masons, carpenters and plumbers.
Dhaba Workers

Dhaba is a roadside restaurant which generally serves local food items and is especially famous for having tea and parathas. They are present in Sachal Goth and act as a place of interaction for the male residents. Dhaba owners were usually Sindhis. They open their dhabba’s in the morning and close at night and earn good amount of money, but people of Sachal Goth have close ties with them, so they avail this facility on credit sometimes. Important discussions regarding real estate, politics and other house hold issues are also discussed here. People like to watch cricket matches and news together at these Dhabba’s.

Shop Keepers

Sachal Goth has a variety of shops in its locality from vegetable and fruit shops to hardware stores; the local business is managed through these.

Table 3
Development of Sachal Goth Over Time W.R.T Land Use

| Date   | Residential | Commercial                  | Amenity         | Infrastructure                  |
|--------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1996-2006 | Residential development just started, a couple of Sindh is started dwelling. | The residents here were mainly Sindhis and Pashtuns no shops were present. The residents used this opportunity to create their own business. | No planned spaces were present. | No roads were present. Water, sewerage, electricity and telephone connection were also not available. In 2009 this area was leased by Chief Minister Syed Qaim Ali Shah. |
| 2006-2016 | Land value increased and a major growth in urbanization was observed due to migration from interior Sindh. | Rapid increase in commercialization due and to boom in construction. Appearance of thallas, dhabbas, hawkers and small shops. | Education and religious spaces started to develop. | Streets became wide, traffic flow increased smoke and air pollution. |
| 2016-2019 | Residential quality | Due to increased urbanization, the Open spaces | Streets became narrow and |
date     Residential     Commercial     Amenity     Infrastructure  
---  ------------------  ------------------  --------------  ------------------  
  deteriorated.       residential plots were used by residents and for commercial sector. Variety in shops was seen.  converted into garbage dumps, no health care facilities and recreational facilities.  congested due to irregular residential planning. No proper water and sewerage facilities.  
  Further densification was observed, and land was encroached for residential purpose.  Appearance of pathan hotels, deras and hawkers. Increase in land value. (Rs 1 lakh investment in residential to 5 lakh) in commercial activities has become complicated, affecting other sectors like residential, amenities and infrastructure.  

**Table 4**

**Swot Analysis of Socioeconomic Conditions in Sachal Goth**

| Strength | Weakness | Opportunity | Threat |
|----------|----------|-------------|--------|
| There is a culture of bigger families wherein the ration of males is higher than females. According to the same social norm and culture more males means more bread winners. This | - Density of Sachal Goth is very high which causes failure of sewerage system, lack of amenity and recreational facilities. In addition to this it also causes shortage of electricity, gas and water. - The birth ratio is double to the death ratio causing early | A large number of people are migrating from Interior Sindh. Moving from Interior Sindh to Sachal Goth appears to be an upgradation of the living systems. This may cause more density in the area. | • Big family systems and the urge to have male children is causing serious threats to maternal health. • Due to majority of Sindhi Community in the area (80%), the rest of other communities remain at threat |
| Strength                          | Weakness                                                      | Opportunity                                                                 | Threat                                      |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| helps them to make the families economically stable. | increase in population in an unplanned way. • Due to cultural and social norms women activities are restricted and recreational facilities for women and children is not there. | whenever ethnic turbulence occurs. |                                                                                  |

The shopkeepers are of mixed ethnicity and have close ties with the locals, often lending them products on credit. They have the most stable income due to which most residents are inclined towards opening their own shops. Many of the residents have opened small shops inside their homes. Some of the shopkeepers also come from other areas (Safoora, Saadi Townetc) of Karachi to earn money.

**Conclusion**

The comprehensive study of the micro urban areas of Sachal Goth leads to the conclusion that it is a place which developed on an organic pattern and not on the formal planning principles. It originally was developed as a satellite town on the fringes of city center to ease the population pressure within the city and as a better residential facility for the people who were employed in that particular neighborhood specially the employees of Karachi University, SUPARCO and Dow Medical University. It was planned to be developed as an intellectual district unlike its present state.

The squatter settlements appeared soon after its establishment as wealthier and influential families opted for more connected and improved areas. In most cases they were accommodated by the residential staff colonies of the companies (such as those mentioned above). This eventually left Sachal Goth to be colonized. Mostly the people coming as result of economic and urban-rural migration from various parts of the country throughout the year is what contributed to the multi-ethnic profile of Sachal Goth. The fine eminence of the place is that these multiethnic groups coexist at the same time with no resentments for each other which is not like other settlements of the city, that’s is why it is much appreciated. Since there is no law enforcement in terms of planning strategies, the plots started to appear with unauthorized shacks and thus have been encroached.
This zone cannot be refereed as a major income/revenue generation agent but the nature of work prevailing makes it a self-sufficient area. The entire household including male, female and children participates equally in this process. It is observed that generally the work stations are within the area of Sachal Goth. This can be because of a lack of economical and well-connected network of public transportation or can be because of the reason to cut on the increasing expenditures of travelling to and from work. Jobs such as local shop keepers/ owners, tailors, teachers and laborers are all working with minimum distance from their residences so are able to save some. Only the government officials travel far (if required). On the other hand, it is also observed that much of the savings are consumed immediately at once if a family member falls sick. Approach to proper healthcare remains a liability at the end. There exists no district hospital within the area however clinical facilities are there. Due to non-availability of enough public transportation, very limited people have easy access to health care facilities. Another reason is the low income of the average households which makes majority of Goth fall under the lower middle-income group in other words poor income groups. Thus, poverty increases the chances of poor health. Poor health, in turn, traps communities in poverty.

The literacy rate is not very impressive with only 45% of educated population however the area contains enough academic facilities such as schools on both private and government levels, madrassas and also a public library. The survey shows major influence towards religious education than formal ones.

Implications
This research implies to highlight the neglected developmental patterns in the micro-urban areas that have contributed actively in the socioeconomic setup of the city. Such neglected developmental patterns have the tendency to dis-orientate and disturb the futuristic requirements of the urban areas. Therefore, it is important to take into account such deliberations in order to strengthen the role of micro-urban areas effectively. This research signifies the currently prevalent characteristics of the selected micro-urban area population, their activities, and socioeconomic behaviour. Implications of this research also include the identification of socioeconomic indicators specifically for the selected area and generally for the micro-urban settlements.

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