

Poverty and Ways for its Reduction: Case Study of Afghanistan

¹Mohammad Bashir Bahrami, ²Mir Abdul Hasib Hashimee

¹ Assistant Professor, Faculty of Physiology, Kabul University, Kabul, Afghanistan. MPPA 2014, UMASS and Kabul University. ; E-mail: bahrami.bashir@gmail.com

² Adjunct Lecturer for Master in Education and Law Enforcement (MAELE) Program, American University in Afghanistan (AUAF). MPhil/Ph.D. 2019, Faculty of Legal Studies, South Asian University, New Delhi; MPPA 2014, UMASS and Kabul University.
E-mail: ahhashimee@auaf.edu.af

Abstract: Poverty is counted as one of the main problems that has led Afghan society to face challenges and other insufficiencies. Poverty has caused migration, crime and various types of corruption for youth to meet the living needs.

Assessing the poverty factors and proposing solutions to ensure public welfare is counted as one of the key topics. The main purpose of this article is to identify existing poverty in Afghanistan and ways to reduce it. The key topics that has been discussed in this article include poverty, unemployment, war as well as ways to reduce poverty including mine extraction, proper use of water resources, establishment of factories and some other points. The library method has been used in this research article to gather data and information and then has been analyzed.

Key Words: poverty, unemployment, corruption, economy, war.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Poverty is one of the key challenges that have brought in various social problems and insufficiencies. In fact, most of the existing problems including bribery, corruption, unemployment, robbery, begging, immorality, war and many more of these types are due to economic poverty. Also, war and insecurity in our county which are counted as the main problems have direct link with economic poverty. We can observe its negative effects on various dimensions of our life such as reduction in quality of education, housing conditions, agriculture, health, murder, hostility etc. Poverty may have various factors, but some may have more effect and some less. One of the key factors leads to poverty is war. However, other factors such as corruption, misuse of power, low quality education, lack of law enforcement and some others can cause poverty, but war effects poverty greater than any other factors and can change a country to the poorest in the world. Therefore, to have a stable, developed and self-sufficient country; the poverty factors should be identified in an academic way and take serious steps in order to eliminate it.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW:

To start discussion on the poverty in Afghanistan, it is better to have a clear definition of poverty so that we could have a clear perception regarding the concept of poverty. The International Human Rights Law defines poverty as “a status in which a person is chronic privation from resources, capabilities, selection of choices, security and power that enables a person to utilize living standards and other rights including civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights and have need for that” (Human Rights in Afghanistan, 2010, Page 3). However, Muhsinsi describes poverty as that “poverty is a status in which a person is not meeting a minimum living standard and cannot address the minimum needs of living” (Muhsini, 2012, page 86). Furthermore, Anthony Gidenz refers to a quote of Charles Bout and defines poverty as “lack of basic needs to continue for sound physical living- enough food and housing for enabling environment to have physical function of the body” (Gidenz, 1997, page 270). Although, Noël Merino describes that “poverty is the state of having a deficiency of basic necessities such as food, water, shelter, health care, and clothing” (Merino, 2012, page 14). Alvarez added that poverty is “a condition characterized by severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. It depends not only on income but also on access to social services” (Alvarez, 2007, page 7).

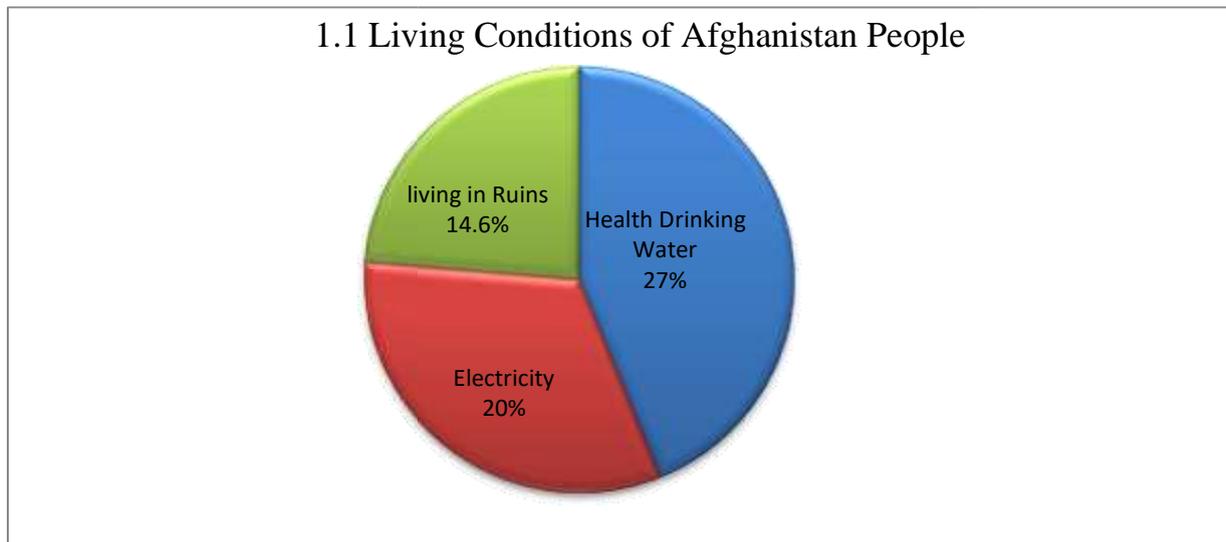
3. POVERTY CAUSE ANALYSIS:

Today Afghanistan is counted as one of the poorest countries in the world and a large number of its people cannot address their basic needs. Based on National Risks and Vulnerability Survey of Afghanistan (NRVA) also called Afghanistan Living Conditions Survey; one of each three persons is living in absolute poverty which means that around nine million persons or 36 percent of total population is living absolute poverty and cannot address their basic living needs. Adding to that 37 percent of people are living over the absolute poverty line which means that one

in each three persons live over the absolute poverty line and struggle for providing tea and bread for their families (Abdullah, 2007, Page 1).

3.1 EFFECT OF POVERTY ON HOUSING

Housing is one of the requirements of living and it is counted as one of the basic elements of the living. Unfortunately, people in Afghanistan suffer the most in this aspect of living. Poverty has the most effect on housing, as result most of the people in Afghanistan do not have access for a proper housing. Majority of the city's residents are not able to own a house, so they are living in a rental houses and apartments, which they can't afford, because a huge amount of their income goes to the rent, which affect them the most on their economic status and cause poverty in Afghanistan. The housing status shows the economic situation of the Afghanistan people. The housing and living situation in Afghanistan is poor and people are confronting various types of problems in the field of access to healthy drinking water, electricity, and housing. The lack of permanent housing poses far-reaching effects on family relationships and dynamics. For example, women attempting to cope with the physical, psychological, and social stress of living in unstable housing may find themselves unintentionally neglectful of their children. Many of these women also screen positive for major depression, schizophrenia, substance abuse and/or high levels of distress. Unstable living arrangements pose a variety of challenges and problems for homeless families in accessing services for themselves and their children (Thomson, 2011, page4).

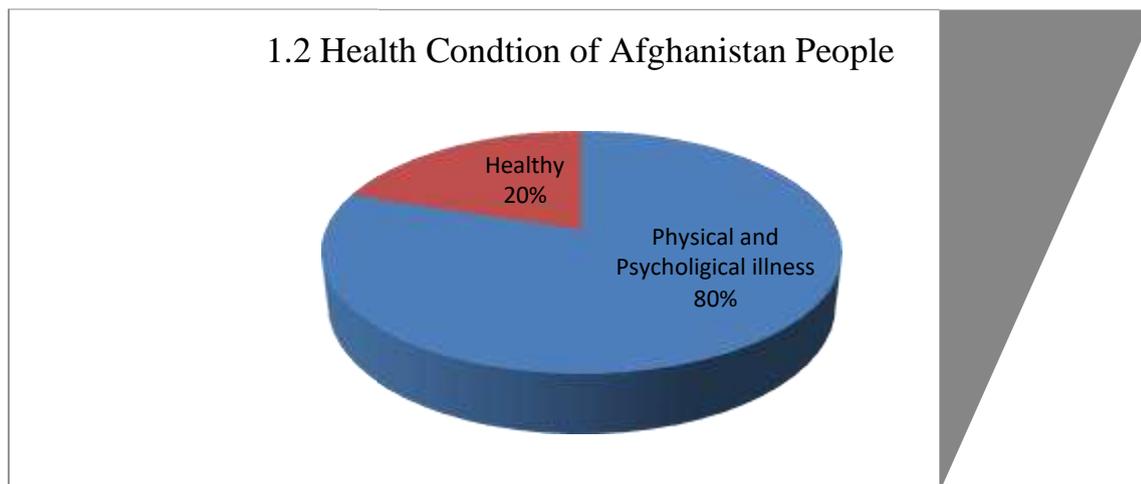


According to the NRVA 93 percent of people have unsuitable living and housing conditions in Afghanistan. Only 27 percent of the total populations have access to healthy drinking water. Only 20 percent of total population is benefiting from electric lighting. It could be mentioned that around 4.4 million persons are living in housing units that don't have proper living conditions in physical and environmental point of view (Abdullah, 2007, page 17).

3.2 EFFECTS OF POVERTY ON HEALTH CONDITIONS:

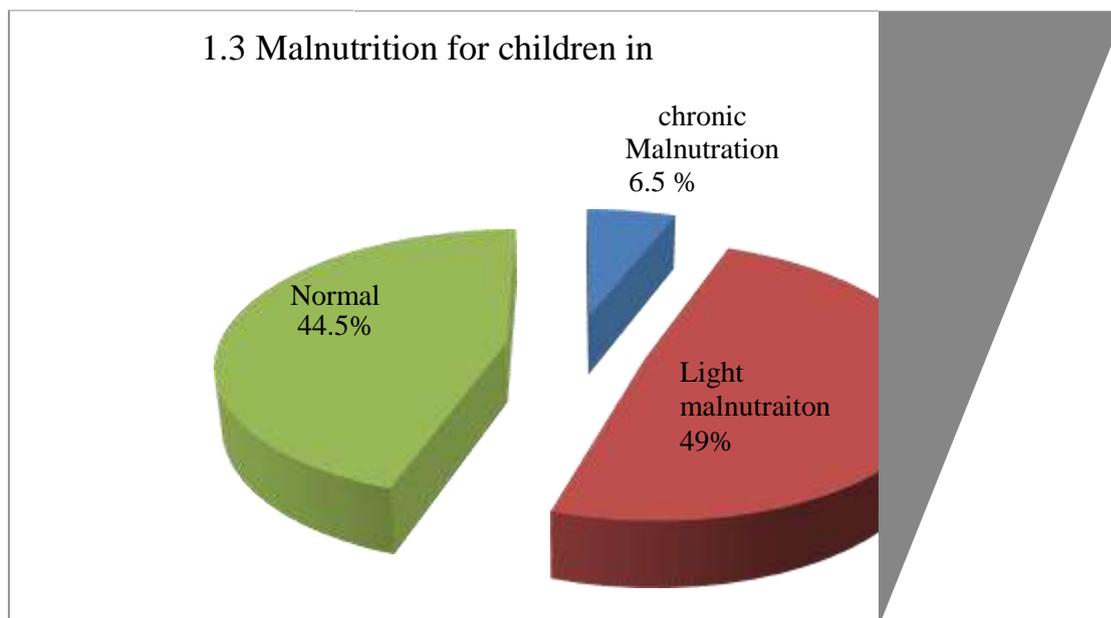
One of the human basic needs is to ensure physical and psychological health. Unfortunately, in poor countries like Afghanistan people are facing many problems in the health sector. A book titled Afghanistan Country and its People mentions that "This country is poor in the field of health facilities including medical doctors, medicine, lotion and pesticides. The access for basic sanitation is maximum 17 percent in rural areas and in some urban areas like Kabul this percentage increases to 70. One in every five children is dying before reaching adult age and 80 percent of people are facing chronic physical problems. The average life expectancy age is 40. Also, women death during giving birth is one of the main factors of death due to unfavorable health facilities" (Asadi, 2006, page 120). Similarly, Afghanistan is having a high figure for death of mothers in the world and is ranked second. In the year 2009, death of mothers in 100000 women were 1600 has been reported based on giving birth (Human Rights, 2010, page 1). Lack of medical clinics in rural areas, shortage and lack of access to transportation, low quality of medicines are the factors that puts the health conditions of Afghan people in danger and a large number dies due to curable diseases annually. As per Alexis Lieberman "poverty is not a disease process, is well-known to have far-reaching effects on the health of children and adolescents. In developing countries, poverty is associated with inadequate shelter, unsafe water and inadequate nutrition, leading to increased rates of infectious disease. Including malaria and diarrheal illnesses, as well as increased rates of infant and maternal mortality"

(Lieberman 2009, page 2).



3.3 EFFECTS OF POVERTY ON CHILDREN:

It is well documented that poverty has detrimental impact on children, who have greater vulnerabilities due to their age, special development needs and dependency (Nandi, 2012, page 527). As well as the State of the World’s Children in 2005 report claims that “children living in poverty experience deprivation of the material, spiritual and emotional resource needed to survive, develop and thrive, leaving them unable to enjoy their rights, achieve their full potential or participate as full and equal member of society” (UNICEF, 2005). In Afghanistan widespread poverty and inadequate educational opportunities force households to send their children to work. Based on Human Development Report of Afghanistan; around one million children ages 7-14 years are working and 60000, among them are working on the streets. More than 3700 children are engaged in begging only in Kabul streets. The report also shows that among children under age of 5 around 6.5 percent are suffering chronic malnutrition and 54 percent are facing light malnutrition (Wardak, 2007, page 2007).



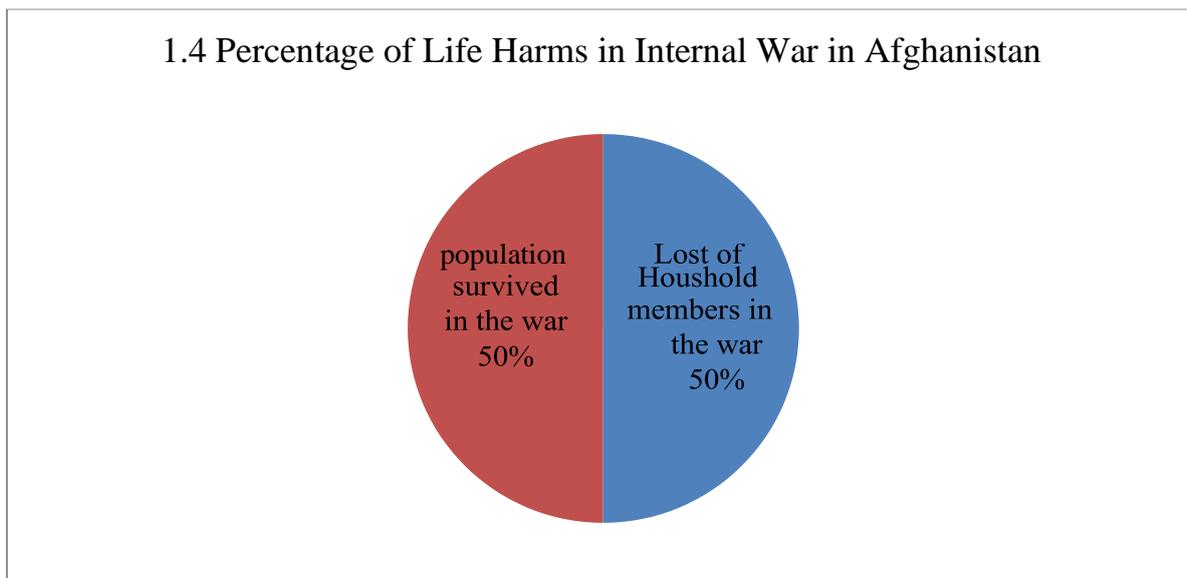
4. POVERTY FACTORS ANALYSIS:

Poverty is due to various factors in different societies and following can be mentioned as key factors of poverty in Afghanistan.

4.1 WAR AND LACK OF SECURITY FACTOR:

Internal war and conflicts can be named as one of the key factors of poverty in Afghanistan. More than three

decades of successive arm conflicts has affected the life of all Afghans and caused death, injury, disability, devastation of homes, schools, manufacturing factories, power dams, investments and tools of livelihood. Armed conflicts have deepened the poverty and slow down and even stopped the development programs. Moreover, one of the main obstacles for and investment of national and international businessmen has been internal war and lack of security that has negatively affected the economic conditions of the country. Based on the Human Rights Report; around have of the Afghan population has reported losing a family member during the war (Human Rights, 2010, page 5). Women and children are suffering due to losing their breadwinner of their families and remain as orphans and widows. The other effect of armed conflicts and war is rise of poverty and adversity in the poor families. Currently various tactics such as air and ground strikes, suicide bombings, night searches, explosions are used in war that caused terror among the population and affects livelihood tools, gain of subsistence and access to basic services. To summarize this, we can say that war has caused an elimination of physical and moral resources and infrastructure in the country and is the main factor of poverty.



4.2 MISUSE OF POWER FACTOR:

The other factor that has role to create poverty is misuse of power. In most of the cases a few Afghan leaders in all levels and in each sector of government is deciding country level issues, based on their personal or group interest rather than national interest. Most of these leaders are trying to increase their personal assets and never consider the situations of poor people. Political leaders and corrupt officials who have been in power and in government positions due to discrimination, ethnicity, spying and some other ways are only thinking of their personal interest and don't have attention to the nation and this has caused poverty in the society. As a result, the assets are in the hand of a limited number of vigorous people, and the population are unemployed which also causes their poverty in the society.

4.3 CORRUPTION FACTOR:

The existence of corruption in Afghanistan administrations can be counted as a factor of poverty. Afghanistan has been ranked second after Somalia in the world as the most corrupt country and the corruption results in preventing the implementation of development and economic strategies of the government. The Afghan government designed the economic capacity development strategies but unfortunately these strategies are not implemented due to corruption. On the other hand, more than half of the foreign aids for the development of Afghanistan aren't spent. Also, transparency and accountability in the contracts between the Afghan government and foreign countries with local or international institutions for strengthening the development programs are not considered and a large amount of funds are lost and misused annually. The report of the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) states that "during the past year the bribery has reached to around 2.5 billion US dollars" (Human Rights, 2010, page 6). The corruption in Afghanistan has reached to a level that even most of the government positions are sold and bought and the appointees are not hired based on merit. Bribe, tribal and ethnic discrimination, personal and party relations are usual in all affairs of public institutions in Afghanistan. Particularly in the hiring and dismissal process, attention is not paid to capability and merit in hiring process of a person. All these points have negatively affected the growth and development of Afghanistan in various dimensions and have main role in repulse and being poor of the country.

4.4 UNEMPLOYMENT FACTOR:

One of the other factors for poverty is unemployment. Internal conflicts and war caused the devastation of manufacturing factories as well as shutting down of many government and nongovernment institutions in various parts of the country, these could be counted as one of the main factors of unemployment in the country. However, according to the permanent income hypothesis, individual households should be able to smooth their consumption by saving in normal times and dissaving during periods of adverse economic shocks. Many empirical studies find evidence to support the permanent income hypothesis in several developing economies (Li, 2006, page 98).

Today many Afghanistan people are engaged in the agriculture sector and continue their livelihood through this. Since Afghan farmers are not supported by the government and facing lack of agriculture facilities such as fertilizers, machinery, water etc. thus cannot produce enough to have a tranquil life. The farmers can only meet proportionally their very basic needs through agriculture. Also based on weak commerce and industries, lack of manufacturing factories, lack of enough technical institutions, lack of macro investment; many people face unemployment and this in turns demonstrates high disbursement rate compare to their income. This situation has caused people to live in the shadow of poverty and impoverishment.

4.5 LACK OF WOMEN ENOUGH PARTICIPATION IN ECONOMY FACTOR

Lack of women participation in outside home activities to gain wages can be counted as one of the factors of poverty in Afghan society. More than three decades of war adversely affected security and culture of Afghan society, currently the Afghan households don't perceive the ground suitable for employment of women outside their homes and thus don't allow them to work outside. This is the reality that Afghanistan is a backward country and employment conditions are not suitable for women so that they could work while observing religious values. Therefore, a limited number of women are involved in economic activities and this situation adversely affects the economic status of a household and the country. Based on Human Resources Development report of Afghanistan more than 47 percent of population are female (Wardak, 2007, page 122), and only 12 percent are engaged in employment and other economic activities in Afghanistan market.

5. POVERTY OUTCOMES ANALYSIS

Poverty can have negative outcomes on social life in a society. Poverty eliminates protection and moral safety and forces the society to misfortune and destruction. Most of the political, cultural, social and economic problems and unemployment has been generated due to poverty. Internal war and conflict in Afghanistan are one of the main problems of the country and has direct link with poverty. As per the Oxfam organization report, around 70 percent of Afghans surveyed has indicated poverty and unemployment as the core factor of war in the country (Human Rights, 2010, page 22). Some of the people of Afghanistan have joined anti-government elements and fights with government to address their living needs and gain income. The Oxfam research report shows that "In Khost province located in west- east part of Afghanistan; a number of Kochi youth get 1000 to 5000 Rupees (500-2500 Afghanis) to place a land mine" (HOMAN). While the daily wage of a worker is around 4 USD if finds work. The other problems of the society which has been due to poverty are:

- Robbery
- Banditry
- Cultivation and smuggling of narcotics
- Addiction of Afghans to narcotics
- Perversion
- Mental and psychological illnesses
- To sell girls based on marriage customs
- Bribe
- War

6. FINDINGS & APPROACHES FOR REDUCTION OF POVERTY

Beside on the above-mentioned problem there are hundreds of other problems exist which are due to poverty in the country. To eliminate most of these insufficiencies and problems relating to political, economic, social, cultural and others; it is important to combat poverty and find ways to reduce it. Some of the approaches that can have a role in poverty reduction are listed briefly as follows:

- **Agriculture extension and development:**

Agriculture extension and development is one of the key factors for improvement of the economic situation and the reduction of poverty and unemployment in a country. Whenever a country is self-sufficient for food, hence can address the basic needs of food which is the fundamental need of human being. An increase in agricultural

productivity directly increases the family incomes of small cultivator (Banerjee, 2006, page 111). Agriculture has been the backbone of the Afghanistan economy in the past as well as present. Various surveys on economic situation of the Afghanistan implemented by governmental and non-governmental institutions shows that 85 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture sector and continue their livelihood through agriculture. Furthermore, more than 70 percent of domestic products are agricultural (Farzam, 2010, page 93). The main exports of Afghanistan are agricultural products which includes cotton, beetroot, sugarcane, sesame, linseed and various fruit. Despite all this, Afghanistan is not self-sufficient and depended on neighboring countries and imports grain such as wheat, rice, beans. While in the solar year 1358 (2006), Afghanistan was almost self-sufficient for grains and dry fruits reached 60 percent of the global market. Today, the agricultural products of Afghanistan have declined and are not even meeting the need of its own people due to lack of regulated water supply system, lack of access to fertilizers and lack of modern machinery. Therefore, the government of Afghanistan is forced to import grain with high prices to meet the basic needs of its people and as a result affected the economy of the country. This is counted as one of the factors in increasing the poverty line in the country. Hence, the agricultural extension and development can be one of the approaches to reduce poverty in the country.

To extend and develop the agriculture sector in Afghanistan, the following points should be considered to increase the agricultural products and change the country to a self-sufficient country in terms of agricultural products:

- a) The government should allocate enough budget to agriculture extension and development
- b) Use of agricultural technology and distribution of fertilizers, reformed seeds, variation in cultivation of grain and properly use of water.
- c) Usage of modern agricultural equipment and technics such as tractors and other relevant modern machinery.
- d) Land reform: as per the report titled Factors of Afghanistan remain to be backward shows that, the cultivatable land in Afghanistan is 14 Million Hectares but only 7807000 Hectare is under cultivation and the rest is remained is not used (Rahmani, 2008, page 125). While more than 50 percent of farmers don't have access to enough land and some of them are holding small portion of lands which cannot meet their life needs and thus facing poverty. Therefore, to reduce poverty and unemployment as well as increase the agricultural products, the government should distribute land to farmers and people of the country and provide necessary assistance to them in order to cultivate grains and fruit in those lands.

- **Proper Utilization of Water Resources:**

One of the other approaches to reduce poverty and strengthen the economy is the proper utilization of huge water resources of Afghanistan. The proper utilization of these resources requires the establishment of a useful management mechanism to manage investment for proper use of the water. The poverty reduction increases in per capita income in agriculture as well as economic growth has a direct link with proper utilization of water resources. However, the impact of irrigation on employment was even stronger than the adoption of higher yielding varieties. There was a tendency for higher yields to suppress food prices and reduce earnings for farmers. Though, this effect was smaller than the gains from irrigation and was also offset to some extent by lower food costs for landless laborers (Dowling, 2009, page 203).

Afghanistan is not counted in the list of countries with having the lack of water problems. Assessments of the Ministry of Power and Energy shows that "Water resources of Afghanistan reaches 75 Billion cubic meter and 70 percent of these resources are used by neighboring countries particularly Iran and Pakistan and only 30 percent is used for internal purposes" (Wardak, 2007, page 120).

Weakness in management of huge water resources, lack of professional human resources in the lead of water management in the country, incomplete information on water resources, lack of strategic vision for water resources as one of the main source of economic growth. Low awareness on proper use of water and lack of modern infrastructure have been the main factor that despite having huge water resources we still face lack of water and food crises in the country. Proper management of water resources of the country particularly using the water resources internally in the field of agriculture, as well as in generation of energy can be a main element for poverty reduction and improving the economic situation of the county.

Moreover, the water resources can be one of the strong sources to produce power energy, besides the agriculture development in the world. Afghanistan is spending millions of dollars each year on purchasing electric energy from the neighboring countries. While the country has rivers, which are suitable to establish dams in order to generate electric energy. However, today some of the rivers are used for electric energy generation purposes, but with proper management and macro investment in the establishment of dams can increase this capacity to ten folds and the need for energy import could be reduced significantly. Besides, Afghanistan could export millions of cubic meter water to neighboring countries, so this could be a good source of income for the country. Sells of water to neighboring countries can also establish trade and transit opportunities and can play a vital role in economic growth of the country. This is possible when the government of Afghanistan as a water exporter country could reach to an

agreement with the neighboring countries on a proper water resources mechanism. This mechanism could elaborate on the internal use of water resources as well as end free of charge exports of water to neighboring countries. Reaching such agreements seems difficult, but it is counted as one of the key priorities for growth of the country. Therefore, it could be mentioned that the proper utilization of Afghanistan water resources can play a major role in reduction of poverty and economic growth of the country.

- **Natural Resources and Mine Extraction:**

The other main approach for poverty reduction and economic growth in Afghanistan is mine extraction. Afghanistan is a country with rich mines which is not utilized appropriately. As per the report under the book "Factors of Afghanistan being backward" based on the information from Afghanistan Ministry of Mines and Industries, Afghanistan has various types of mines in different parts of the country such as barite, chromite, coal, copper, gold, iron ore, lead, natural gas, petroleum, precious and semi-precious stones, salt, sulfur, talc, and zinc, sulphur and some other mines such as azure, ruby, emerald, gold, uranium, quartz, marble, lime" (Rahmani, 2008, page 122). Unfortunately, due to internal war and insecurity, lack of raw material, modern machinery, professional experts, enough budget and other issues have been the key obstacles for efficient mine extraction in the country while the unemployment rate has increased. Extraction and utilization of the above mine can be one of the main sources of economic growth in the country. For example, as per the contract of Ainak copper mine which has been signed with a Chinese company provides more than 300 million USD income for the government (Farzam and others, 2010, page 105). Moreover, the government can extract each of the above mines which provide millions of dollars that can be used as one of the efficient tools for poverty reduction.

- **Rehabilitation of Manufacturing Factories:**

Manufacturing factories can be a good source for poverty reduction and economic growth in the country. Manufacturing factories provide employment opportunities for an unemployed population and on the other hand plays a vital role in economic development and both results poverty reduction in the country. Before the devastating war, Afghanistan had good manufacturing factories that many Afghans were working there and meeting their basic needs through working in these factories. For example, in the year 1371/1992, the Jangalk factory products valued 180.57 Million Afghanis (approximately four million dollars) and 1143 workers were employed, but now it doesn't have any type of production activities. Also, in the year 1371/1992, the Marble factory products valued three million Afghanis (Approximately 0.5 Million dollars) and 179 workers were employed. Unfortunately, now it doesn't have any type of production activities. The Polekhomyr Textile factory had 24-million-meter piece product in its inaugural year 1321/1942 and 2634 workers were employed in the year 1335/1956. Unfortunately, this factory was damaged in the war and is still not functional. Bagrami Textile Factory had 16-million-meter product in a year and many workers were employed and now it is inactive (Farzam and others, 2010, page 103). Similarly, many other factories such as Balkh Textile Factory, Kunduz oil and soup production, Baghlan Sugar Factory and many more have been devastated due to war and have stopped its activities. Therefore, the rehabilitation of factories or establishing new factories can play a major role in poverty reduction and economic development of the country. The government with the assistance of foreign aids should take serious steps towards the rehabilitation of factories and pave the ground for poverty reduction and economic development in the country.

To summarize, for the purpose of eliminating poverty, we can develop various policies and programs such as industrial development, strengthening trade, encouraging investors, elimination of corruption, ensuring security, so that the poverty is reduced in Afghanistan and people have comfortable life.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following recommendations can be considered as solutions for decreasing poverty in Afghanistan.

- **Regional Economic Integration:** Afghanistan can take initiative to revive its geo- strategic, geo-economic, geo-political roles as a hub for the connectivity and integration of South Asia and Central Asia; not only through building roads, rails, air links or ports but also sharing of ideas, knowledge, information technology, culture and unified activities in order to tackle with the common inter- regional and intra-regional concerns which are critically dependent on peace, political stability, economy of scales, security imperatives, resource mobilization and human resource development. Further, the Afghan government should build public institutional capacity for drafting and reforming supportive legislatives and increase coordination and cooperation between the public and private sectors. (Chemonics Final Report, 2013, Pages 1,5, 8, 14)
- **Export and Import Policies Reform:** Policies should prioritize development of irrigated wheat, horticultural crops and livestock production as the highest potential value chains for development and enhance productivity and promote investment to expand the quantity and quality of agricultural production in Afghanistan in order to meet domestic demand, substitute imports and potentially increase exports.

- **Agricultural Production Growth:** Agriculture production growth is required to have adequate facilities, sufficient access to high-quality inputs, and utilize of research and technology. Irrigated land can be potentially increased via investing to improve irrigation water management system and establishing strong institutions and policies in order to create an effective regulatory system and strengthening the capacity of Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock of Afghanistan.
- **Private Sector Businesses Improvement:** Private sector businesses can be improved via supporting their infant industry operations and new investments and reforming the regulatory framework for reducing the time and cost of their exporting commodities, expanding their domestic agro-processing industry and providing serviced land facilities with greater access to electricity in industrial parks. (Nadia Rocha, 2017)

8. CONCLUSION:

Poverty is counted as one of the major problems in Afghanistan which has unpleasant social outcomes. It is worth mentioning that poverty is one of the main causes of crime and other social raucousness in the country. Poverty can have so many factors such as war and insecurity, misuse of power, corruption, unemployment and many more. Leaders and top government official should try their best to eliminate poverty and provide the path for a peaceful and prosperous life for the people away from the shadow of poverty. Beside other key measures to eliminate poverty; measures including increasing the education level, agricultural development, utilization of water and mine resources, rehabilitation of manufacturing factories can play a vital and efficient role in this regard.

REFERENCES:

1. Mohsini, Manocher. (2012). Social deviation Sociology: Tahori Publication.
2. Gaidenz, Anthony. (1997). Sociology. Manocher Translation. Tehran: Tahori Publication. 3- Merino, N. (Ed.), Global Viewpoints. Poverty (pp. 14-17). Detroit, MI: Greenhaven Press.
3. Álvarez Leguizamón, S. Gordon, D. Spicker, P. Comparative Research Program on Poverty, & International Social Science Council. (2007). Poverty: An International Glossary. London: Zed Books.
4. Abdullah, Mohammad Ashraf. (2007). National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Survey. European Union Newsletter.
5. Asadi, Murtaza. (2006). Land and people of Afghanistan. Tehran: Qum publication.
6. Lieberman, A., & Merrick, J. (2009). Poverty and Children: A Public Health Concern. Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science Publishers, Inc.
7. Nandy, S., & Minujin Z., A. (2012). Global Child Poverty and Well-being: Measurement, Concepts, Policy and Action. Bristol: Policy Press.
8. Wardak, Ali and others. (2007). Human Resource Development in Afghanistan. Kabul: Policy and Human Development Center.
9. Li, S., & Satō, H. (2006). Unemployment, Inequality and Poverty in Urban China. London: Routledge.
10. Banerjee, A. V., Benabou, R., & Mookherjee, D. (2006). Understanding Poverty. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
11. Farzam, Reza, Aslami, Amir Hamza. (2010). Achievements and challenges in the economic sector in Afghanistan. Kabul: Noori Press.
12. Rahmani, Ali jan. (2008). Factors of Afghanistan being backward. Qum: Ahmadi Publication.
13. Dowling, J. M., & Yap, C.-F. (2009). Chronic Poverty in Asia: Causes, Consequences and Policies. Singapore: World Scientific.
14. Chemonics, Trade Accession and Facilitation for Afghanistan (TAFAs). (2013). Final Report: USAID.
15. Nadia, Rocha. (2017). Trade as a Vehicle for Growth in Afghanistan: Challenges and Opportunities. World Bank Report.- <http://worldbank.org/en/country/afghanistan/publication/trade-as-a-vehicle-for-growth-in-afghanistan> Accessed 10 March 2019.