

# ASSESSMENT OF SUPERVISION PROBLEMS FACED BY POSTGRADUATE GIRLS STUDENTS DURING RESEARCH: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF JAMSHORO UNIVERSITIES

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**ABSTRACT**--Jamshoro is fundamentally an educational city located near Hyderabad, Jamshoro district. It is renowned for three universities. Students come to study here across the country. There are many problems dealt by the students at various educational stages such as “insufficient support of administration”, “data collection problems” and “male dominance problems”. This study focuses on supervision problems faced by postgraduate girls students. The data was compiled from three universities namely University of Sindh (UoS), Mehran University of Engineering Technology (MUET) and Liaquat University of Medical and Health Science (LUMHS). The sample size of this study is 300 post graduate girls students from each university. The data of this paper was collected through self-administrated questionnaires. The data was analyzed using various tools in the SPSS; the tools are cluster bar charts and pie charts. The result of this study reveals that postgraduate girl students have been facing lack of assistance by supervisor, lack experience in supervisory responsibility and provision of little support in finding the relevant literature and methodologies by the supervisor. Conclusion of paper shows that the Sindh university postgraduate girl students face more problems in terms of supervisors as compared to MUET and then LUMHS.

**Keywords**-- Supervision problems, comparative analysis, Jamshoro universities

## I. INTRODUCTION

Education is a fundamental tool for advancement and is considered a key for the survival in the world of information and technology. It is a standout phenomenon amongst the most effective instruments for decreasing differences in the society (Mahmood and Shafique, 2010). Research and advanced education in Pakistan leaves much to be desired in terms of capacity to create individuals prepared for research and coherent reasoning. There are hardly any motivators and motives for staff to actively take part in research in Pakistani institutions; in

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consequence to this, research has little effect on their professions due to poor research culture. The university framework does not substantially compensate regarding act or personnel with higher research qualifications. Employees' pay structures are settled which don't rely upon performance (Mahmood and Shafique, 2010). In the domain of higher education, universities of Pakistan have just produced 2,000 PhDs in 60 years (HEC, 2005-10). Supervisor is the primary key for the exploration and no researcher is conceived with important research skills. The research scholars take those abilities from others for the most part from their supervisors; yet nobody willingly monitors them. Scholars particularly female ones keep running all over, yet they need to do their work with no proper direction of their supervisors (Taskeen et al. 2014). The aim of this study is to identify the supervision problems and comparative analysis of the universities. This research tries to answer this question

### ***Research Question and Objective***

What are the supervision related problems faced by Post Graduate girls students of Jamshoro universities in their research?

## **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Taskeen with other colleagues, (2014) identified that supervision is a core element of the research, and students faced lot of difficulties in research only for supervision problems. The author with his colleagues elaborates the supervision problems in various categories listed below.

### ***Less experienced supervisor***

Supervisors lack basic knowledge of research methodology. They, in the course of research, misguide /mislead researchers because they themselves are not much trained. Supervisors are found with ambiguous concepts. They are unable to guide them in a real manner.

### ***Unavailability of supervisors***

Researchers work under the supervision of their supervisors. Supervisors are responsible and are bound to provide proper assistance and guidance to researchers as researchers themselves cannot work well. Supervisors on the other hand take it easy. Instead of helping and guiding students, they impose the responsibility on researchers. No guidance or help is provided by them. As the research study starts they usually disappear, their attitude changes, researchers are entangled between research study and supervisor's attitude and finally when research study is accomplished and a researcher has conducted the whole research, his/her research work is finally rejected by supervisor because it appears as below standard (Taskeen et al; 2014).

Clark (2006) recognized that researcher confronted issues in acquiring interviews with people and conditions have the most extreme effect upon fieldwork in the locale. Culture shows itself most extreme in issues identified with associated to gender.

Concentrated on supervision as a strategy for enhancing doctoral supervision, five factors noticeably occurred as necessities for 'supervision on supervision' as an instructive technique in post graduation study, to be specific confide in, hypotheses, apparatuses, time and trainings Emilsson and Johnson (2007), suggested that supervisors

additionally require formal supervision trainings. They need an opportunity to up-skill through formal trainings may create research quality and stimulate well-timed student accomplishment. In a nutshell, postgraduate research supervision happens inside a quickly evolving condition. It is essential that supervision comprehends the importance of outer changes and discovers elective approaches to address change those additional impacts on the research supervision process (McCallin & Nayar, 2012). Fast track “supervisors were capable to prove mutual respect, understand their difficulties and afford supportive evaluation during the supervision processes (Abdullah and Evans, 2011). Main problems faced by postgraduate females during research were lacking information technology tools, financial supports, personal relations, students supervisors relationship, supervisions, and supportive supervisors (Channar et al; 2017).

Aslam et al. (2016), reported that lack of research expertise and comprehension was reported as the core obstacle towards conducting research and shortage of supervision and mentoring was declared as the most important barrier to accomplish research. Naeem & Dahar, (2016) identified that females have to look different troubles based on gender roles and it was due to the men governing society and also they face the cultural block girl’s motivation level for higher education, family’s anger, relatives’ vexation and disconnection (Arabac, Alpay and Ersozlu , 2010). Supervisors’ gender and their ages, educational status and rank and whether they obtained their doctoral degrees in a foreign country create remarkable variation on the students. Supervisors most of the time are preoccupied with teaching or administrative duties. There are less regular meetings of supervisor with researchers so more faculty should be employed to handle research students and reduce the number of research students to supervisors in order to reduce workload (Ekpoh, 2016).

### **III. METHODOLOGY**

This study is exploratory and quantitative in nature. Quantitative techniques were utilized to assemble and analyze the data. This research study mainly focuses on supervision problems faced by postgraduate girls students at Jamshoro universities of Sindh province namely University of Sindh UoS, Mehran University of Engineering and Technology MUET, and Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences LUMHS. In order to suffice the study, questionnaire was used as a data collecting tool. Non-probability and purposive technique was used to collect the data from these three universities through self- administrative questionnaire. Total 500 questionnaires were distributed and we received total 345 questionnaires within the time span of six weeks. After going through the data entry phase, it was found that the usable responses were total 300. The response rate was 60 % which is very good response rate. The data was analyzed using various tools in the SPSS; the tools are cluster bar charts and pie charts.

### **IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS**

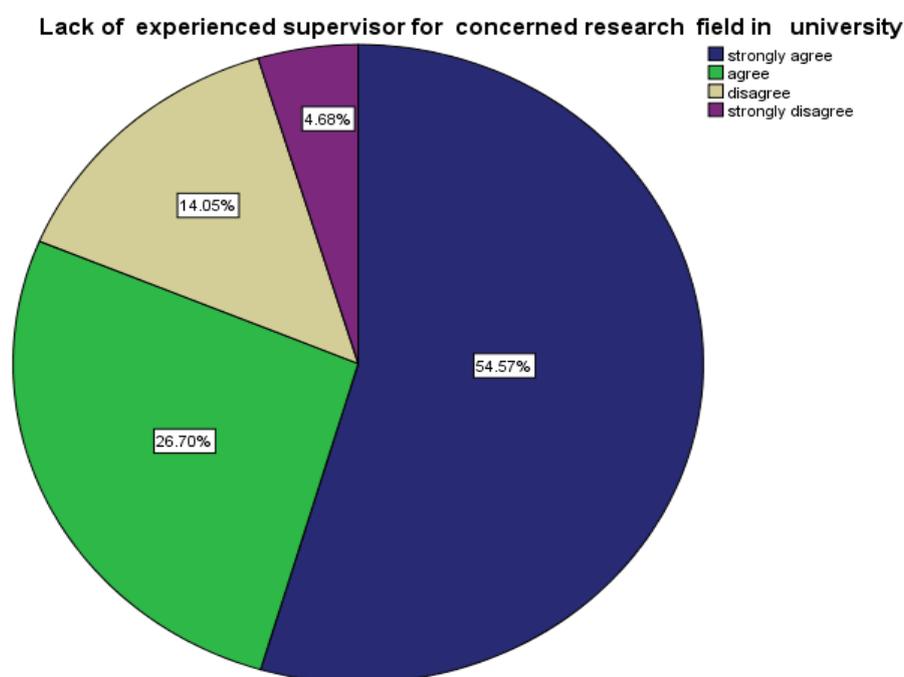
In this part, the authors examined the findings and results. Table 1 shows the Demographic profile of the respondents. There were 67% responses under the age group of 20-30, followed by age groups of 31-40 and 41-50 with response rate of 31.3% and 1.6%. There were total 100 students from each university. The respondents under the group of research settings were distributed as 41 % under category of lab-based, 21% under the category of primarily followed by field-based and library-based with the response rate of 20.3% and 17.6%. Apart from the

demographic questions, second part of questionnaire consisted of questions related to supervisory problems. These questions were evaluated using the pie chart and bar charts.

**Table 1:** Demographic profile

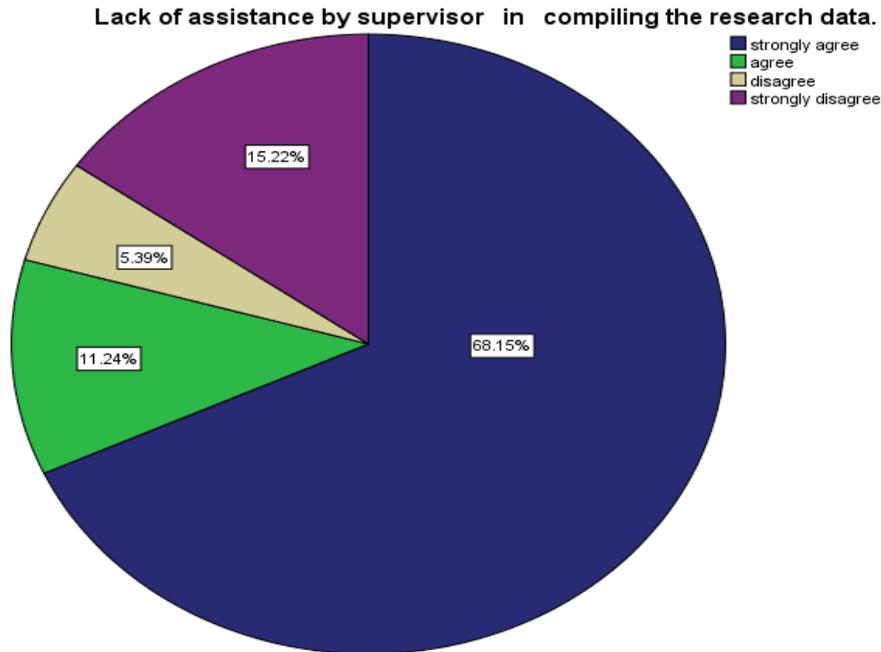
variables	Category	Frequency	%
Age	20-30	201	67.0
	31-40	94	31.3
	41-50	5	1.66
University	SINDH	100	33.3
	LUHMS	100	33.3
	MUET	100	33.3
Research setting	Primarily	63	21
	Lab-Based	123	41
	Library-based	53	17.6
	Field-based	61	20.3

Figure 1. Pie graph represents the lack of experienced supervisor for concerned research field in university. This pie chart shows that 54.57% of postgraduate girls strongly agree in this statement, 26.70% postgraduate girls students agree in this variable, 14.5% disagree on this statement and 4% postgraduate girls students strongly disagree so this pie graph shows that postgraduate girls students face this problem.



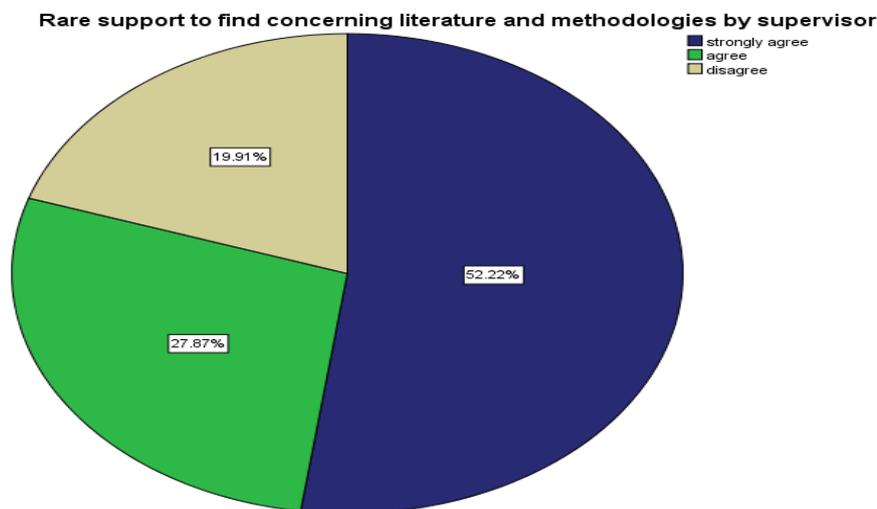
**Figure 1:** Lack of experienced supervisor for concerned research

Figure 2.pie graph represents the lack of assistance by supervisor in compiling the research data. Supervisor assistance is very necessary for female students in compiling the research data. This pie graph shows that 68.15% postgraduate girls respondents strongly agree on this statement,15.22% postgraduate girls respondents strongly disagree with statement,11.24% postgraduate girls respondents agree and only 5.39% respondents disagree with statement.



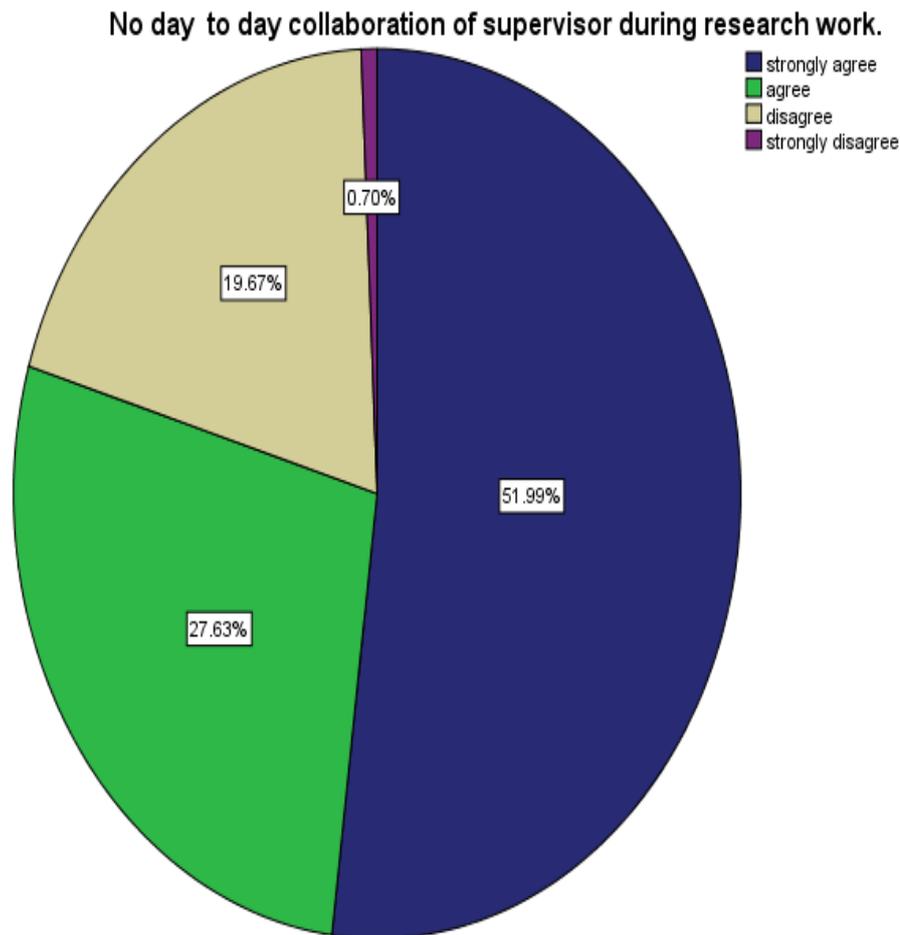
**Figure 2:** Lack of assistance by supervisor in compiling the research data

Figure 3 pie graph represents the rare support to find concerning literature and methodologies by supervisor. To choose relevant literature and methodology without help of supervisor is very difficult for the postgraduate girls students because they are in early stage of research and they do not know how to find literature and methodology relevant their topic.52.22% respondents strongly agree,27.87% disagree.



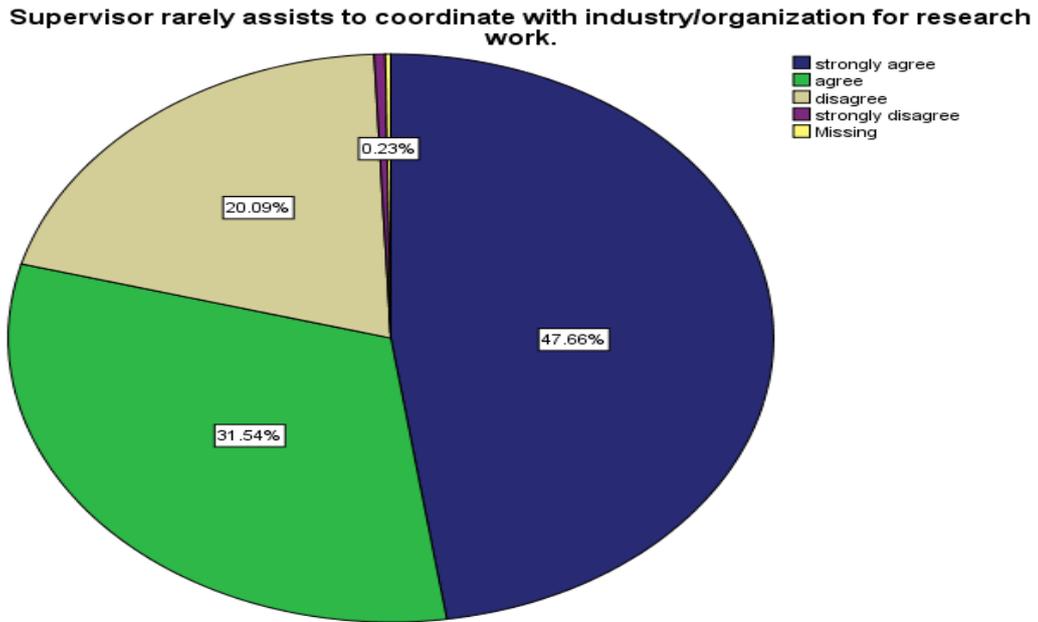
**Figure 3:** Rare support to find concerning literature and methodologies by supervisor

Figure 4. pie graph represents no day to day collaboration of supervisor during a research work. Supervisor cooperation is most important in a research, but the result shows that supervisors do not cooperate with girls students during research. 51.99% girls respondents strongly agree, 27.63% girls respondents are agree, 19% girls respondents are disagree with statement and 0.7% respondents strongly disagree with statement.



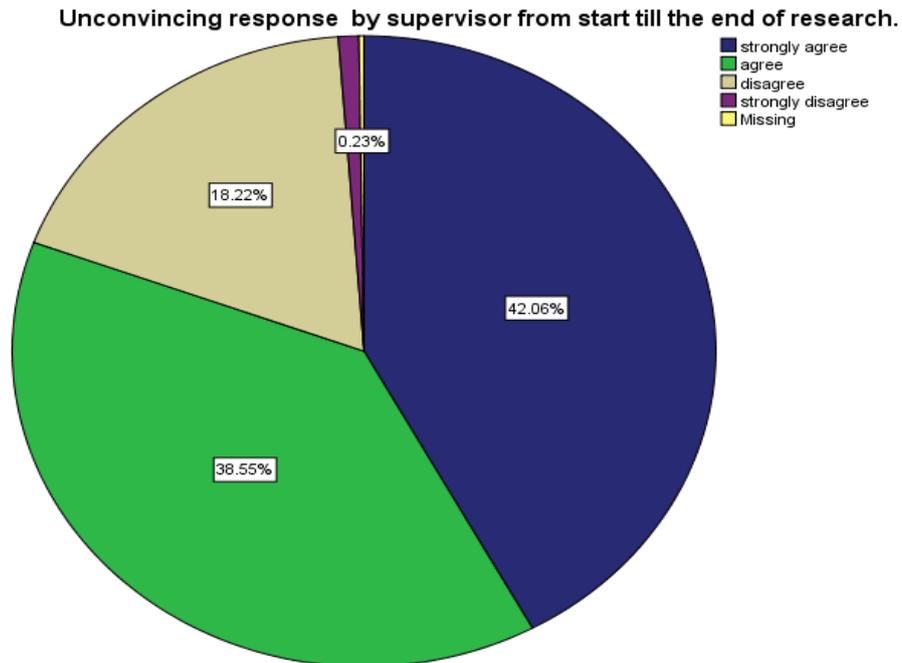
**Figure 4:** No day to day collaboration of supervisor during research work.

Figure 5. pie graph represents that supervisors rarely assist to coordinate with industry/organization for research work. The supervisors are not assisting the postgraduate girl students in collecting the records from organization. 47.67% respondents strongly agree with statement, 31% respondents agree, 20% respondents are disagree and 0.23% strongly disagree with statements.



**Figure 5 :** Supervisors rarely assist to coordinate with industry/organization for research work

Figure 6. Pie graph represents the unconvincing response by the supervisor from start till the end of research. Supervisors are capable to give a legitimate help and direction to students as researchers themselves can't work admirably. But result shows that no direction or help is given by supervisors. 42% respondents strongly agree with statement, 38.55% respondents agree, 18% respondents disagree and 0.23% respondents strongly agree with statement.

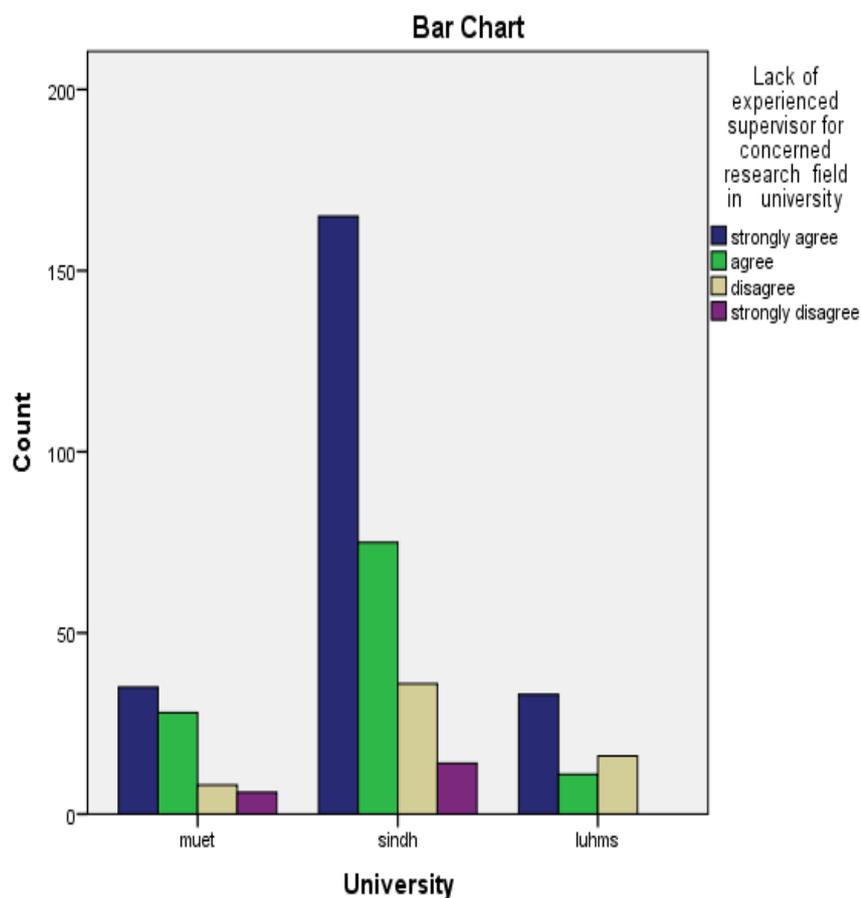


**Figure 6:** Unconvincing response by the supervisor

### Comparative analysis

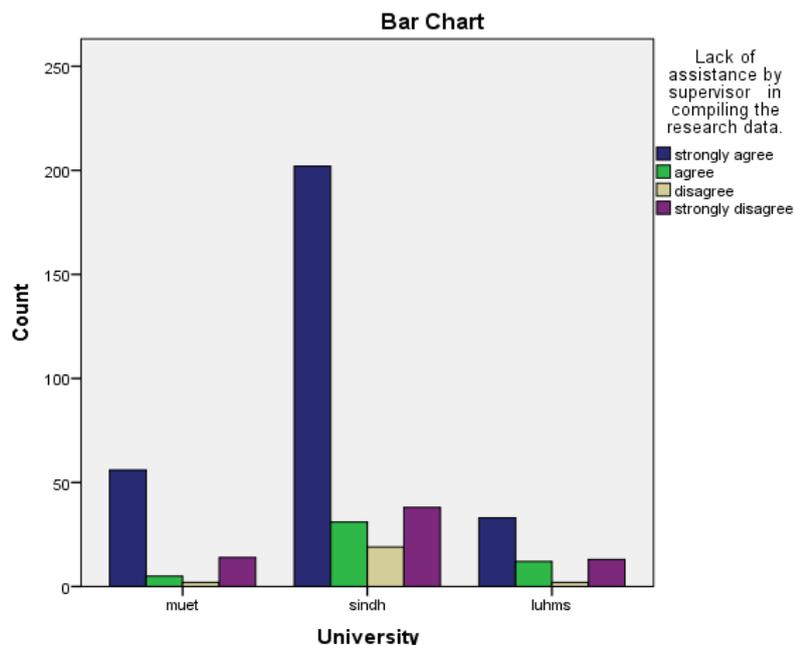
This study contains comparative analysis of three universities which are analyzed as given below:

Figure 7. Cluster bar graph represents the lack of experienced supervisor for relevant research field in university. In this graph, I have discussed the comparative analysis of three universities through clusters bar chart. This fig shows that the “lack of experienced supervisor for concerned research field” is most occurring problem in the University of Sindh as compare to the other two universities. Apart from that, most of respondents in University of Sindh rate on the strongly agree scale that shows that university does not possess good supervision in research so university must provide trainings to supervisors in their relevant field.



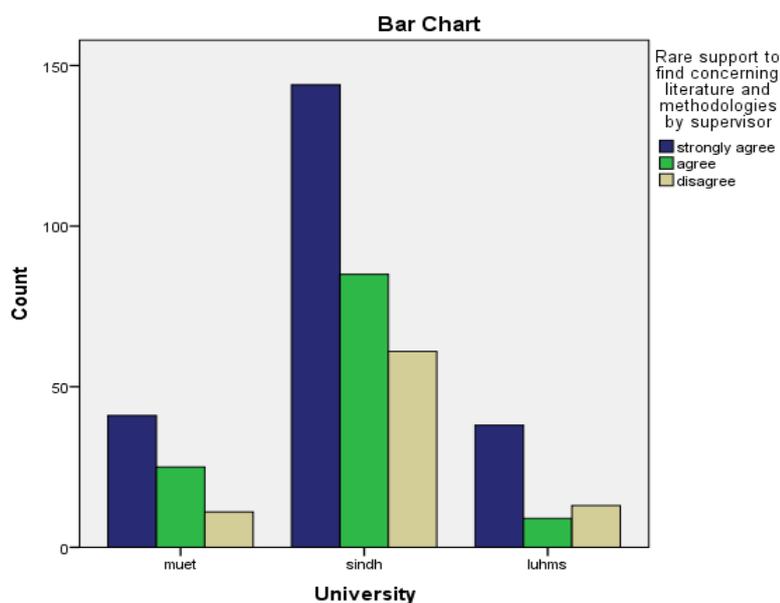
**Figure 7:** Lack of experienced supervisor for concerned research

Figure 8. Cluster bar graph represents the lack of assistance by supervisor in compiling the research data. In this graph, I have discussed the comparative analysis of three universities through clusters bar chart. This fig shows that “the lack of assistance by supervisor in compiling the research data” is the most frequently occurring problem in the University of Sindh as compared to the other two universities. Apart from that, most of the respondents in University of Sindh rate on the strongly agree scale that, secondly some respondents of MUET also rate on strongly agree scale and thirdly very few respondents of LUHMS rate on strongly agree that shows supervisors of the universities do not possess good assistance in compiling the research data.



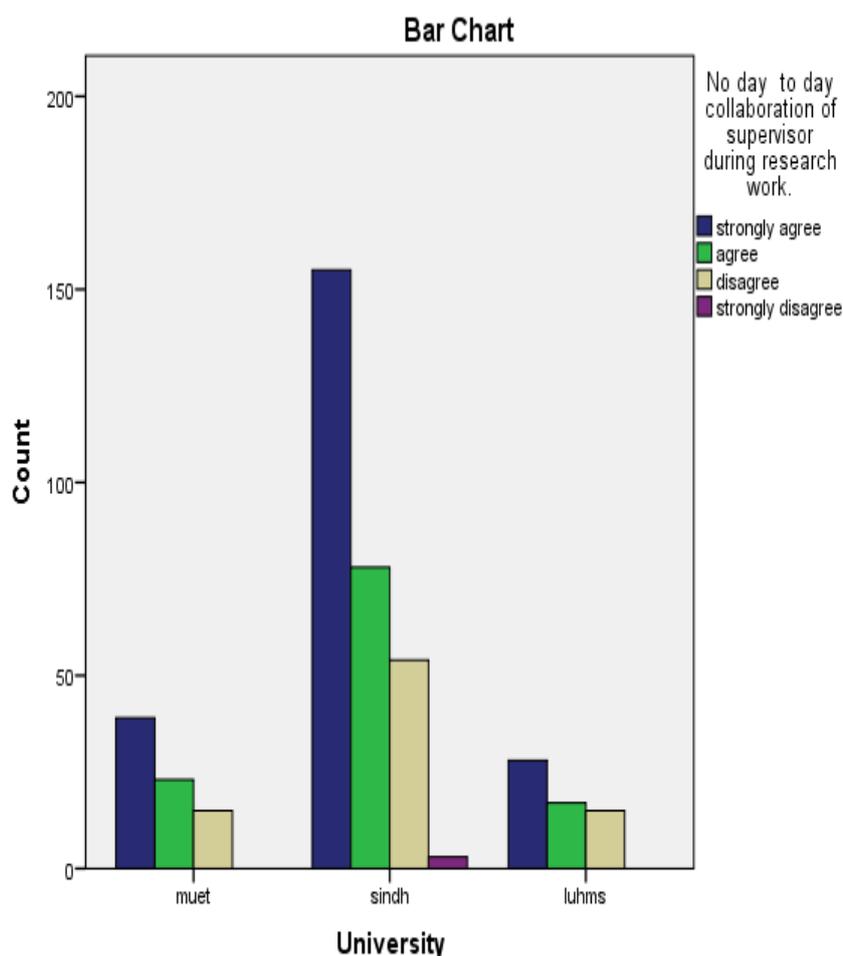
**Figure 8:** Lack of assistance by supervisor in compiling the research data

Figure 9. Cluster bar graph represents the rare support to find the relevant literature and methodologies by supervisor. In this graph discussed the comparative analysis of three universities through clusters bar chart. This fig shows that “the rare support to find the relevant literature and methodologies by supervisor” is most occurring problem in the University of Sindh as compared to the other two universities. Apart from that, most of the respondents in University of Sindh rate on the strongly agree scale that, secondly some respondents of MUET also rate on strongly agree scale and thirdly very few respondents of LUHMS rate on strongly agree that shows supervisors of the universities, specially university of Sindh supervisors do not provide good support the students in concerning the literature and methodologies.



**Figure 9:** Rare support concerning literature and methodologies by supervisor

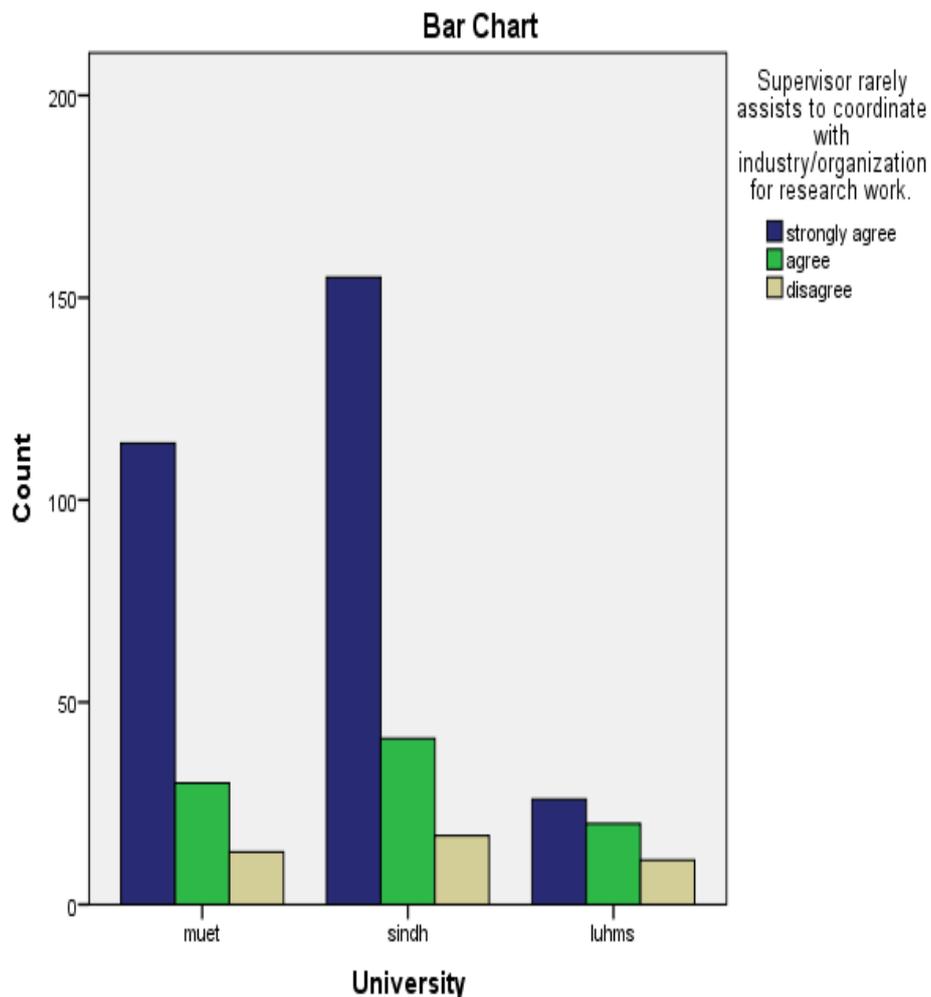
Figure 10. Cluster bar graph represents no day to day collaboration of supervisor during a research work. In this graph discussed the comparative analysis of three universities through clusters bar chart. This fig shows that no day to day collaboration of supervisor during a research work” is most occurring problem in the University of Sindh as compared to the other two universities. Apart from that most of respondents in University of Sindh rate on the strongly agree scale that, secondly few respondents of MUET also rate on strongly agree scale and thirdly very few respondents of LUHMS rate on strongly agree that shows supervisors of the universities ,specially university of Sindh supervisors do not collaborate with the students during research work.



**Figure 10:**No day to day collaboration of supervisor during a research work

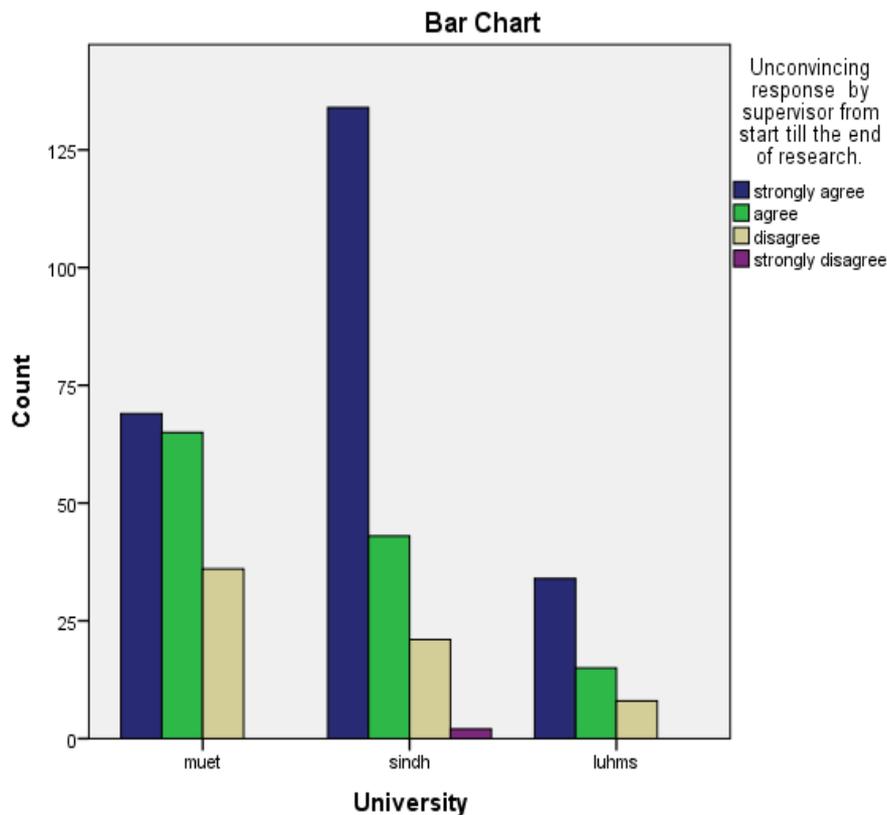
Figure 11. Cluster bar graph represents the supervisors rarely assist to coordinate with industry/organization for research work. In this graph, I have discussed the comparative analysis of three universities through clusters bar chart. This fig shows that “the supervisors rarely assist to coordinate with industry/organization for research work” is most occurring problem in the University of Sindh as compare to the other two universities. Apart from that, most of respondents in University of Sindh rate on the strongly agree scale that ,secondly respondents of MUET also rate on strongly agree scale and thirdly very less respondents of LUHMS rate on strongly agree

that shows supervisors of the universities, specially university of Sindh and MUET supervisors do not assist the students to coordinate with industry/organization in a research work.



**Figure 11:** Rarely assist to coordinate with industry/organization for research work

Figure 12. Cluster bar graph represents the unconvincing response by the supervisor from start till the end of research. In this graph, I have discussed the comparative analysis of three universities through clusters bar chart. This fig shows that the “unconvincing response by the supervisor from start till the end of research.” is most occurring problem in the University of Sindh as compare to the other two universities. Apart from that, most of respondents in University of Sindh rate on the strongly agree scale that, secondly respondents of MUET also rate on strongly agree scale and thirdly very less respondents of LUHMS rate on strongly agree that shows supervisors of the universities, specially university of Sindh and MUET supervisors do not give response to the students from start to the end of research.



**Figure 12:** Unconvincing response by the supervisor from start till the end of research

## V. CONCLUSION

In this paper, the author has evaluated the problems related to supervision problems and researcher at individual university level. Afterwards, they perform the comparative study among the three universities. It was observed that the postgraduate girls students at University of Sindh faced more problems as compared to MUET and LUMHS University. Postgraduate girl students have main problems such as rare support by supervisor in compiling the research data, lack of experienced supervisors for concerned research field at the university, rare support to find the relevant literature and methodology by supervisor and no day to day collaboration of supervisors during research. University administration as well as Higher Education Commission of Pakistan must establish the strict policies for supervisors so that postgraduate girl students may complete their research work duly on time.

## VI. FUTURE WORK AND LIMITATION

Due to limited time and funding issue, this study was limited to only one city. In future, this research can be extended to include different cities of Sindh provinces or Pakistan.

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