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<b>Article:</b>	<b>Superstitions, Belief System and Marriage Preferences of Women in Islamabad</b>
<b>Author(s):</b>	Anum Shahid M.Sc. Sociology, Department of Sociology, International Islamic University Islamabad
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<b>Author(s) Note:</b>	Anum Shahid has completed her M.Sc. Sociology from the Department of Sociology, International Islamic University Islamabad. Email: <a href="mailto:anums7691@gmail.com">anums7691@gmail.com</a>

**ABSTRACT**

It is believed that today's civilizations are less superstitious than the primitive ones. However, there are still some parts of the world where it is believed that superstitions play important role in decision making. Particularly, it is believed that women are more superstitious than men. This study is based on the empirical data. Convenient sampling technique was used to know the 101 respondents' responses on the superstitions and marital choices. A questionnaire was developed in order to know the people understanding. The data was analyzed by applying statistical tools and Chi-square. This study revealed that there were respondents who believed on superstitions, particularly women. Majority of the respondents agreed that lack of awareness; illiteracy and old customs are the main reasons of superstitions among women. Majority of the respondents do not have such beliefs. Slowly and gradually, situation is becoming modernized and superstitious beliefs are replaced by rationality and wisdom. However, it is quite difficult to escape the culture of superstitions because there is always the thought that there might be something in it.

**Key Words:** Superstitions, Illiteracy, Marriages, Women, Superstitious Beliefs

**Introduction:**

As humans are driven by curiosity, it is only natural for them to seek answers to the mysteries of the world. In the past, when science could not provide a satisfactory answer, people developed their own explanations based on superstition (Kokko and Hanna, 2009). However, today, with the ability to study and understand the world scientifically, superstition has been replaced by logical explanations. This is especially true for women, who are generally more superstitious than men (Ruska, 2004).

**1.1 Historical Background**

Superstitions arise from beliefs people hold, in the olden times. Fear about the unseen, less knowledge about the forces of nature and lack of general awareness laid the foundation of certain beliefs in society. These beliefs might have lacked logic, but there was nothing that could convince people otherwise (Keinan, 2002). There was nothing to prove how baseless the beliefs were. They were passed from one generation to another until there were some who put their foot down to disapprove them. Some superstitious beliefs even became social norms. With passing of time, some superstitions were rendered false, while others were true. In 15th century, the word superstition is first used in English. It was modeled after an earlier French superstition. Afterwards it was used in Italian then Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan and continues to Latin. The term superstition is permanent used which means 'The fear of gods, the opposition of religion and any reasonable religious belief (Wiseman & Watt, 2004). Some common superstitions among Pakistani women are the following:

**1.2 Diseases**

There is a belief in some parts of Islamabad that diseases are caused by certain crafts, and women often turn to local spiritual healers in an attempt to cure themselves or their loved ones. Some believe that the bad energy from the rival party is causing the problems, and so they go to the healer in hope of reversing the situation (Whitson & Galinsky, 2008).

**1.3 Infant Mortality**

There are certain cases where the children of a woman don't survive, particularly if they are male. In some cases, the women may be superstitious and believe that the child is cursed, so they name him "Deraney" - a term for a stock of dirt and garbage. In this way, they hope that the child will survive (Zebb and Moore, 2002).

**1.4 Peryan (Fits)**

In some cases of mental illness, women may believe that peryan, meaning "invisible creatures," are responsible for the problem. This superstition is often widespread and has a variety of applications, including going down a deep well. This may be because of the high concentration of carbon dioxide gas in wells. Women may attribute their problems to the peryan because they believe they are powerful and can do harm (Novara and Sanavio, 2002).

**1.5 Prediction of future**

There are many ways that women try to predict their future, some of which are more popular than others. One common method is to close your eyes and finger-pick a letter of the alphabet, from A to Z. Then, you look for a book about the future that has been written by experts. Another way is to ask a parrot to pick up a card with a prediction on it. Finally, you may consult with a professional person who will give you a forecast for your future (Albas & Albas, 1989).

**1.6 Crowing Crow**

When a crow is seen on the roof of a house in Islamabad, it is generally believed that guests are arriving. Similarly, if a woman is seen kneeling in a flour pot, dropping flour out and making a mess, this is considered a sign that someone is coming to ask for a marriage proposal (Sica, Novara, and Sanavio, 2002). Most likely, the person is coming to propose marriage to someone nearby, or the woman's family is preparing to offer a rishta (marriage proposal).

### **1.7 Killing a Snake**

There is a common belief among the rural people that killing a snake is considered to be a sign that the partner of the snake will come back and take revenge on the party who killed it. Although this may seem like a reasonable assumption, the partner snake never forgets the person who killed it. The snake will always be looking for that person to take revenge. The smell of the enemy that the partner snake detects is thought to be the cause of this craving for revenge (Sica, Novara, and Sanavio, 2002).

### **1.8 Keeping Knife under the pillow of a child to survive from *peryan***

In Islamabad, some women believe that *peryan* (fairies) are scaring their children, and that if you place a knife under their pillow, the child will be safe. Another interpretation is that the *peryan* are light creatures and are afraid of iron made knives. The iron is considered a heavy weight for *peryan*.

### **1.9 Eating butter milk with fish**

There is a widespread belief among women that eating fish with butter milk will result in the development of vitiligo (discoloration of the skin). Drinking milk after eating fish is also believed to be harmful to the skin, turning it into a white, unsightly scar.

### **1.10 The influence of *Taweez* (amulet)**

*Taweez* is a paper with inks that is folded in a specific way by specific people, who are specialized in this type of writing. It is used as a superstition among women, and if something goes wrong against their wishes, they may accuse other people of being jealous of them and trying to harm them. They may then go to other people who practice black magic and pay them money to counteract the effects of the evil deeds, and to cause damage to the opposite party (Gilovich, 1991).

### **1.11 Eyes Twitching**

There are many superstitions surrounding left and right eye twitches. Left eye twitches are generally seen as a bad omen, while right eye twitches are seen as a lucky one. However, it is not known scientifically how much weight these superstitions carry for women in Islamabad. Further, it is unknown how women try to use superstitions to change their marital decisions.

### **Research question**

Islamabad is one of the most developed cities of Pakistan. It has best educational institutions of the country. It has high level of literacy. The city is the mixture of the different ethnicities, religious orientation and regional diversity. The presence of the international community is also visible in Islamabad. It depicts a city of the scientific orientation to an outsider. However, it has a large rural population. The rural folk are getting education but still they are rooted in the tradition and superstitions. Their traditional belief is strong among rural people, especially among women. To what extent and nature the rural women of Islamabad are prone towards the superstitions is the basic research question. To what degree they believe and

construct the meaning of life and how they try to influence their decisions with the help of the superstitions? Most importantly, to what degree they use the superstitious belief in the marriage preference, the ultimate reality of the rural people, is used.

### **Hypothesis**

H0 Superstitious beliefs decrease endogamy.

H1 Superstitious beliefs increase endogamy.

### **Significance of the study**

The study attempted to gain several objectives, a clarification of the meaning of superstition. This study will give understanding of a list of superstitious beliefs that are related to marriage and to solve the different problems that are faced by women due to superstitions. This research is relevant and useful to see the perception of married and unmarried women regarding superstitious belief as a cause of conflict and violent behavior among families through practicing these beliefs in routine. It will help us to understand how exposure to various types of these beliefs among women affects their married and unmarried life.

This research would help to identify the behavior of middle class married/unmarried women after practicing these beliefs. It would also explore the effects of these beliefs taken by women. This study will be helpful to find the way that how superstitious beliefs affect the social and academic achievement of women. Pakistan has more than 60% population comprised of women and so, it is necessary to find out the perception of women regarding this phenomenon if there are any negative effects in behavior then, suitable steps and precautionary measure would be taken to get rid of future consequences.

### **Literature Review**

Many women in Pakistan believe in superstitions completely, but they don't want to admit it. This often causes conflicts between families because their superstitions are often based on false assumptions. It can also be a major cause of high divorce rates, as documented fact. At the same time, women are the main agents who propagate superstitions most. For women, following superstitions seems to be a form of mental slavery (Jahoda, 1969).

Women are more likely to become superstitious than men because they are more likely to experience helplessness and insecurity in society. This is compounded by the patriarchal society in which a woman's only hope for success is to become a wife and mother. Women also embrace outmoded traditions, customs, and rituals without question, because they have few other options. This combined with their lack of education and employment opportunities leads women to become even more superstitious (Crusius & Mussweiler, 2010).

### **Global Situation**

Superstitions exist everywhere, and each country has its own local superstitions. Some of the most common superstitions have to do with cats, alcohol, and death. Cats have been domesticated for a longer time than any other animal, and humans have even worshiped them; this is why there are innumerable superstitions worldwide involving them. In the United States, there is a superstition that if a black cat crosses your path, you will have bad luck. In Germany, whoever harms or kills a cat shall meet with great misfortune. In France, it is bad luck to cross a stream carrying a cat. It is believed that if you give a cat gin before sundown you will have much misfortune. In Ukraine, it is bad luck to step on a cat's tail (Shah, 2003).

Alcohol has a long and varied history, with many superstitions attached to it. In the Czech Republic, it is considered bad luck to serve alcohol on Christmas Day. In the US, it is

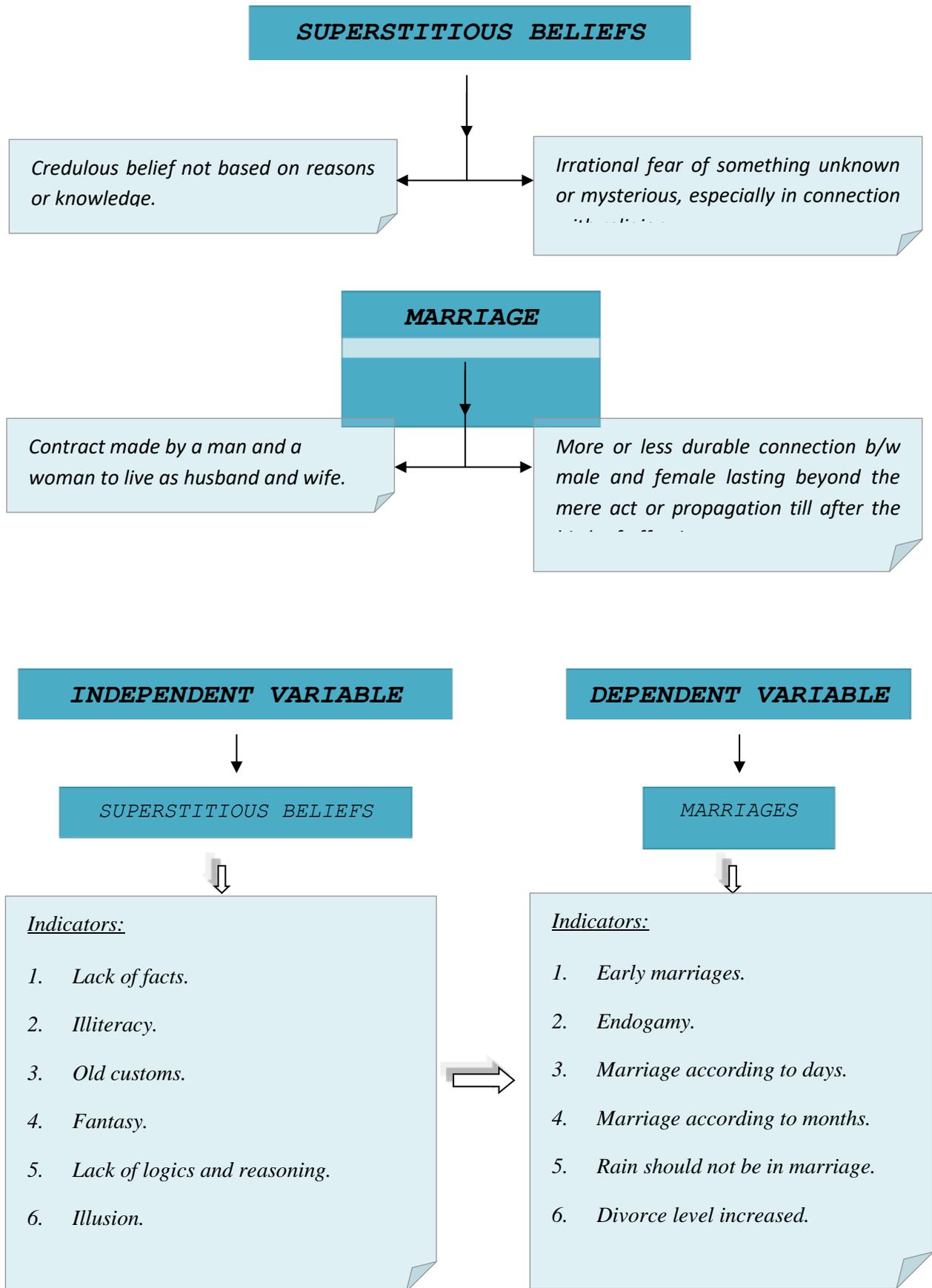
considered bad luck to not serve alcohol on Christmas. In Germany, it is believed to be good luck to drink three or more drinks with the groom immediately before the wedding. In Poland, they believe that if one consumes alcohol before noon, one will die young (Chance, 2009).

Many people fear death, partly because they believe in superstitions that have to do with agriculture. In China, people believe that a farmer's child who dies during a harvest moon will have a good crop the next year. In Brazil, it is believed that a farmer's death during harvest will have no effect on the value of his crop. Around the world, there are many other superstitions that people believe in. Some of these include cats, alcohol, and death (Barnard et al., 2008).

• If someone does not get married in Russia	• He will be rich.
• If the money disappears in Brazil	• It brings good fortune.
• If the crown of England is lost	• You will have seven years of bad luck.
• If someone sees spider in house in Turkey	• One must wash hair on the day of test
• If someone's house number is thirteen in Italy	• He has special power
• If it rains when someone moves house in Ice Land	• (Ravens leave) the Tower of London.
• In China if someone has an eight in his/her date of birth	• (He/she sit) at the corner of a table.
• If someone breaks a mirror in Europe	• He will have visitor
• In Ireland if someone is the seventh son of a seventh son	• (Someone put) wallet on the floor.

Science believes that beyond the laws of nature, they are in charge of people's lives. Particularly, marriages in developing countries like Pakistan are not exception from the superstitions. We developed the below conceptual framework for the superstitions and marriage choices in rural Islamabad.

**2.2 CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK**



### Methodology and Research Design

Sociological research work varies with respect to methodologies method provide guideline in selecting particular techniques in the field to collect data in specific settings. The method of the present study was survey. A survey method is the method of collecting information about a human population. In a survey or indirect contact is made with the units of the study individuals by using systematic methods of measurement such as questionnaire (Barnett 1998).

Area of research	Islamabad
Universe	Middle class married/unmarried women
Sampling method	Non-Probability convenient sampling
Population	Middle class married/ unmarried women
Sample size	101 females
Tools of data collection	Questionnaire
Method of data collection	Qualitative/ quantitative data
Qualitative data	Observation
Quantitative data	Survey
Statistical presentation of data analysis	Tables
Pretesting	10 Questionnaires
Hypothesis testing	Chi-square

Pretesting is a tool in which researcher tests his or her research before collection of data for the verifying work ability of questionnaire. Researcher used 10 questionnaires for pre-testing.

After pretesting, the researcher went to the field for data collection. Researcher spent more than two weeks to collect the data from respondents. The researcher faced some difficulties in the field as some of his respondents were not willing to share their experiences. Tabulation process includes tables based on the quantitative data. Tabulation process used in research analysis the result of questionnaires. In this study, tables, pie charts and bar diagram to analyze the data were used.

This is a principal tool for making a conclusion of research. After conducting research the data were analyzed through Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) data entry software. The hypothesis was tested through Chi-Square. This is commonly used in sociological researches.

Following ethical concerns were observed during the research.

- Researcher visited respondents and presented brief introduction of research topic and the reason why she is conducting this research.
- The researcher kept all the information and respondent's identities confidential therefore respondents gave an accurate information regarding topic.
- All the data is unbiased.
- The researcher was polite with the respondents and took care of their respect.

## Results

Researcher analyzed the data as uni-variate analysis. Univariate analysis is a kind of quantitative analysis that uses a single variable to study a set of data. This type of analysis is carried out with the help of tools that depend on the type of variable being studied - for example, age or gender. Univariate analysis looks at each variable in a data set separately.

The purpose of research is to see the effects of problems. This is important because without knowing the effects, it is impossible to come up with a solution. When researchers see the effects of problems, they can then begin to make scientific interpretations about them (Moser, 1989).

**Table No 1 Early marriages and superstitions**

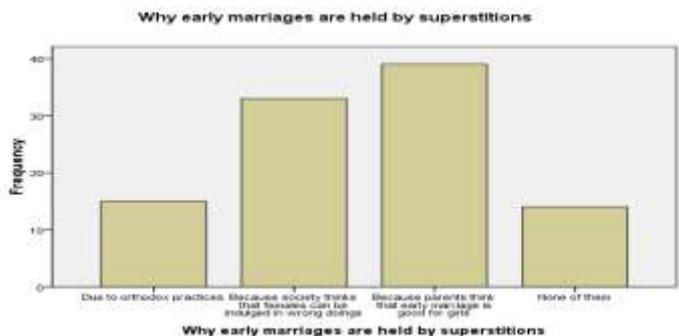
<b>Early marriages</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Agree	35	34.7
Disagree	26	25.7
Strongly agree	19	18.8
Strongly disagree	8	7.9
Neutral	13	12.9
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 18.8 percent of the respondents are strongly agreed that superstitious beliefs cause early marriages and 34.7 percent are agreed. 25.7 percent are disagreed with the statement, 7.9 percent are strongly disagreed and 12.9 percent are neutral about the argument.

Majority of the respondents agree that superstitious beliefs cause early marriages because some religious teachings are so deep rooted that women now believe in all this. If a person doesn't have any education or jobs, they may be more likely to become a victim of sexual atrocities. This means they will receive less money for the same work, and they may not be able to own property. People may also use them as objects of pleasure in ads, which can make them feel uncomfortable and powerless. As a result, some people may turn to superstition to help them cope with their situation and accept their lot without complaining (Jahoda, 1969).

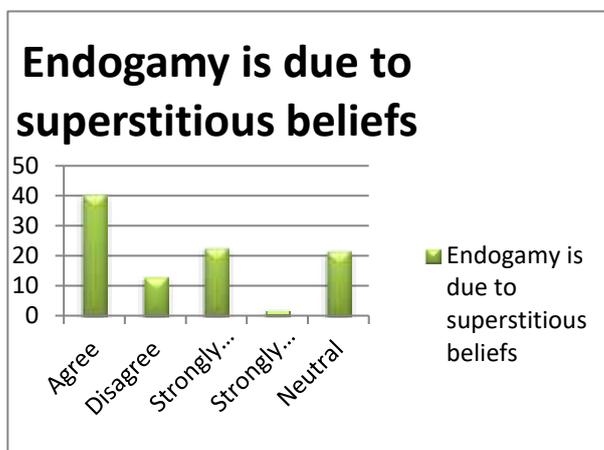
**Table No 2 Reasons of early marriages held by superstitions**

According to the data, 14.9 percent of the respondents said that due to orthodox practices early marriages are held. 32.7 thought that early marriages are held because society thinks that females can indulge in wrong doings. However, another 38.6 percent respondents said early marriages held because parents think that early marriage is good for girls and 13.9 percent said that none of above is the reason of early marriages.



Majority of the respondents thinks that early marriages happen because parents think early marriage is good for girls because our society is our male dominated society. A husband and a son is the sole achievement that a woman can aspire to in life.

**Table No 3 Endogamy is due to superstitious beliefs**



According to the data, 22.8 percent of the respondents are strongly agreed that endogamy is due to superstitious beliefs and 40.6 percent are agreed. 12.9 percent are disagreed with the statement, 22.8 percent are strongly disagreed and 21.8 percent are neutral about the argument. Majority of the respondents is agreeing that endogamy is due to superstitious beliefs because many families have belief that exogamy may bring bad fortune for their daughters.

**Table No 4 Superstitious Beliefs among Women are the Reasons of Increase in Divorce**

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Increased divorce level		
Agree	41	40.6
Disagree	21	20.8
Strongly agree	18	17.8
Strongly disagree	4	4.0
Neutral	17	16.8
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 17.8 percent of the respondents are strongly agreed that superstitious beliefs among women are the reason of increase in divorce level and 40.6 percent

are agreed. A 20.8 percent are disagreed with the statement, 4.0 percent are strongly disagreed and 18.8 percent are neutral about the argument.

Majority of the respondents is agree that superstitious beliefs among women become the cause of increased divorced level because there is no denying the fact that women are the worst victims of superstition in Pakistan. Superstitions are deeply rooted in the psyche of women, due to the many difficulties and obstructions they face compared to men. This helplessness often leads to increased superstition in women. Superstitions can also cause conflicts in families and societies, as well as increasing the divorce rate. Women are both the main propagators and victims of superstitions. Society as a whole should acknowledge and understand this fact, so that ways can be found to rid women of this mental slavery. ANS is circulating this draft declaration to help develop a constructive programme of eradication of superstition. Acknowledging and understanding this problem is the first step towards solving it. ANS is committed to helping develop a programme of eradication of superstition that will benefit both women and society as a whole (Jahoda, 1969).

**Table No 5 Reasons of early marriages caused due to superstitious beliefs**

<b>Reasons</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Because parents think that after a particular age their daughters won't get married	34	33.7
Because of fear of societal pressure	39	38.6
Some people want to see their daughter getting married in their life time	22	21.8
Don't know	6	5.9
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 33.7 percent of the respondents think that early marriages are caused due to superstitious beliefs because parents think that after a particular age their daughters will not get married. 38.6 percent said that it happens because of fear of societal pressure. In 21.8 percent of respondent's opinion some people want to see their daughter getting married in their life time that is why they believe in early marriages and 5.9 percent do not know the reason. Majority of the respondents thinks that parents are under the societal pressure that is why they believe in early marriages because society pressurizes the parents to marry their daughters.

**Table No 6 Respondents facing problems due to superstitious beliefs**

<b>Responses</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	25	24.8
No	76	75.2
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 75.2 percent of the respondents are not facing any problem that is caused by superstitious beliefs and 24.8 percent of the respondents are facing problems. Majority of the respondents is not facing any problem caused by superstitious beliefs because they do not have such beliefs.

**Table No 7 Problems faced by respondents**

<b>Problems faced by respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Having bad attitude	1	1.0
Fear of conflict	7	6.9
Fear of dreams	3	3.0
Misconception	2	2.0
Force to marriage	2	2.0
Frustration	6	5.9
Family conflict	7	6.9
No problem	73	72.3
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 72.3 percent of the respondents are not facing problems that are caused by superstitious beliefs while 6.9 percent are having family conflicts due to these beliefs. 5.9 percent are frustrated. 6.9 percent have fear of conflict. 3.0 percent have fear of dream. 2.0 percent are the victims of misconception. 2.0 percent are forced to marriage and 1.0 percent is having the problem of bad attitude. Majority of the respondents is not facing any problem caused by superstitious beliefs because they do not have such beliefs.

**Table No 8 in many families conflict arises due to superstitions**

<b>Responses</b>	<b>frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Agree	44	43.6
Disagree	10	9.9
Strongly agree	44	43.6
Neutral	3	3.0
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 43.6 percent of the respondents are strongly agreed that in many families conflict arises due to superstitious beliefs among women and 43.6 percent are agreed. 9.9 percent are disagreed with the statement and 3.0 percent are neutral about the argument.

Majority of the respondents is agree that in many families conflict arises due to superstitious beliefs because Most women are controlled by superstitions, but they don't want to admit it. Superstitions affect millions of women, and it can even get to the point where their lives are affected. This can stop them from living their healthy and normal lives, and make their lives a misery in the extreme. Many of the conflicts that women experience arise from superstitions in their families or societies. This can also be the cause of high divorce rates.

**Table No 9 Type of conflict**

Type of conflict	Frequency	Percentage
Endogamy	15	14.9
Exogamy	24	23.8
Having different beliefs	56	55.4
Breakups in families	2	2.0
No conflict arises	4	4.0
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 14.9 percent of the respondents are having the conflict of endogamy in their families. 23.8 percent are facing the problem of exogamy. 55.4 percent said that conflict arises when they have different beliefs. 2.0 percent think that breakup in families due to superstitious beliefs is a problem and 4.0 percent are not having any conflict.

Majority of the respondents says that having different believes from others becomes the problem for the females because Superstitions affect millions of women, and in some cases, they can actually hinder their lives. Females often blindly follow traditions, even if they don't believe in them, and this often has negative consequences for them. Superstitions can interfere with a woman's ability to lead a healthy and normal life, and in extreme cases, they can even cause death. Females need to be more aware of the harmful effects of superstitions, and they should start breaking free from them.

**Table No 10 Females select wrong life partner due to superstitious beliefs**

Selection of wrong life partner	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	32	31.7
Disagree	21	20.8
Strongly agree	24	23.8
Strongly disagree	2	2.0
Neutral	22	21.8
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 23.8 percent of the respondents are strongly agreed that females select wrong life partner due to superstitious beliefs and 31.7 percent are agreed. 20.8 percent are disagreed with the statement, 2.0 percent are strongly disagreed and 21.8 percent are neutral about the argument. Majority of the respondents is agree that females select wrong life partner due to superstitious beliefs because People love and have relationships because they are important to them, and choosing a mate for marriage is a very important decision. Studies on mate selection have been based on different perspectives, but no one has studied the more mysterious aspects of it yet. (Crusius & Mussweiler, 2010).

**Table No 11 Distribution of respondents regarding relations become sensitive due to believe in superstitions**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	42	41.6
Disagree	9	8.9
Strongly agree	36	35.6
Strongly disagree	3	3.0
Neutral	11	10.9
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 35.6 percent of the respondents are strongly agreed that relation becomes sensitive due to superstitious beliefs and 35.6 percent are agreed. 8.9 percent are disagreed with the statement, 3.0 percent are strongly disagreed and 10.9 percent are neutral about the argument. Majority of the respondents is agree that relation become sensitive due to superstitious beliefs because females are more superstitious than men and they cannot manage their relations because of these beliefs.

**Table No 12 Reasons of becoming sensitive relations**

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
People cannot trust their relatives	24	23.8
Divorce level increases	27	26.7
Lack of confidence	25	24.8
They cannot understand each other in better way	15	14.9
Conflict arises	5	5.0
Neutral	5	5.0
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 23.8 percent of the respondents said that relations become sensitive because people don't trust each other. 26.7 percent said that divorces level increases due to superstitious beliefs and relations become weak. 24.8 percent said lack of confidence is the reason. 14.9 percent said that people cannot understand each other in a better way. 5.0 percent said that conflict arises and 5.0 percent are neutral.

Majority of the respondents thinks that relation divorce level increases due to superstitious beliefs because Women are more superstitious than men and this is not a secret. Women are also the worst victims of superstition in our society. At the same time, women are the main propagators of superstition. The whole society should understand this and work together to find ways to eliminate superstition from women's lives. ANS is working on a declaration to help with this goal (Jahoda, 1969).

Women face many more challenges than men, which can lead to superstitions developing. These superstitions often stem from the difficulties women face and the obstacles they often have to overcome. This can be especially true in families and societies, where conflict often arises from superstitions. This is why the rate of superstitions among women is higher than among men (Jahoda, 1969).

**Table No 13 Reason of becoming weak relations due to superstitious beliefs**

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Lack of trust	26	25.7
Weak life style practices	20	19.8
Lack of awareness	36	35.6
Because some people have strong beliefs and some don't have	17	16.8
Neutral	2	2.0
Total	101	100.0

According to the data, 25.7 percent of the respondents think that lack of trust is the reason of becoming weak relations. 19.8 percent said that weak life style is the reason. 35.6 percent said lack of awareness is the reason. 16.8 percent said that relations become weak because some people have strong beliefs and some don't have and 2.0 percent did not give an answer.

Majority of the respondents think that lack of awareness becomes the cause of weak relations because People who don't have much awareness of their health risks are like people who are cursed. They think that having more children will make them rich, and they can't afford to educate their children, so the children end up working very young and having little chance to have a good childhood. Instead of taking medication to cure diseases, these people go to people who pretend to have special powers and tell them they can cure diseases with magic (Vyse, 1997). Bi-variate analysis is a way to study how two different things – like, for example, a person's height and weight – are related. It can help us to test whether one thing (like weight) causes another (like height) or whether they're just different aspects of the same person.

The bi-variate analysis of the data has been carried out to test the hypothesis of the current research and to investigate the in detail analysis. The Chi-square test is used in bi-variate analysis to conclude whether an association or relationship between different definite variables in the selected samples of the data reflects a real association between these variables in the population. Generally following hypothesis have been tested for analysis of the results of current research.

#### **Hypothesis testing: Superstitious beliefs increase endogamy**

superstitious beliefs increase endogamy	Frequency	Percentage	Level of significance
Agree	41	40.6	.002
Disagree	13	12.9	.366
Strongly agree	23	22.8	.004
Strongly disagree	2	2.0	.157
Neutral	22	21.8	.618
Total	101	100.0	

The table explains the bi-variate analysis of an independent variable (Superstitious beliefs) and its effect on dependent variable (Endogamy) by applying Chi-Square technique. Table shows that 22.8 percent of the respondents are strongly agreed that endogamy increases

due to superstitious beliefs and 40.6 percent are agreed. 12.9 percent are disagreed with the statement, 22.8 percent are strongly disagreed and 21.8 percent are neutral about the argument.

Majority of the respondents is agreeing that endogamy increases due to superstitious beliefs because many families have belief that exogamy may bring bad fortune for their daughters. The value of Chi-Square is significant which shows that due to superstitious beliefs endogamy happens in families. Endogamy is a common practice in many cultures and ethnic groups. This means that people from the same group or family can marry each other. In some cases, this is because the group or family believes it is unlucky to marry outside of their group or family. In other cases, it is because the group or family has specific rules about who can and can't marry. Some groups, such as Orthodox Jews, have practiced endogamy as part of their religious beliefs and traditions (Rosenfeld, 2008).

### **Conclusion**

This research was on “The Superstitious Belief among Women and its Effect on Endogamy Marriages”. The hypothesis (H1) was accepted which states that “Superstitious beliefs increase endogamy”. In this research mostly women belonged to an urban area, they are literate and qualified to the level of Masters.

After conducting a research and collecting data from 101 respondents of Islamabad, the researcher has come to conclude that As time goes on, modernity and social change often occur in the sphere of research, which leads to changes in ideas about female worshipers visiting shrines and pirs. With the advent of mass media, education, and fast communication systems, the liberal class has come to the forefront in the form of religious scholars who preach that such visits are unlawful in Islam. The conflict caused by the decline of traditional superstitions and the growth of rationalism and wisdom led to a situation where people were gradually accepting a real spirit of shrines and Pirs. This was helped by the spread of education, which helped people see the world more broadly and open their minds to the possibility of other religious traditions. However, it is still difficult to break free from the culture of superstitions because people are often reluctant to give up their beliefs.

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