

# Resilience and Agency: A Feminist Analysis of *Beyond The Fields* by Ayesha Baqir

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## **Abstract**

The present research study aims to analyze Ayesha Baqir's Beyond the Fields through providing a feminist perspective in light of Marxist Feminism. This conveys the idea that women have been the victim of gender stereotyping and gender discrimination for decades. They are fighting to have the recognition of their worthy identity under the movement of feminism across the globe. The present study has the motive to highlight this issue through the feminist analysis of Ayesha Baqir's Beyond The Fields. The analysis reveals that gender stereotyping is present in typical mindset of rural community. The study opens the minds towards certain enlightenment to break the manacles of gender stereotyping and gender discrimination through the mode of education to lit the dark minds. In Pakistani society, the unconventional role of women is still not an acceptable option. The issue has been raised by different literary figures to fight against the marginalization. Baqir also raises the voice against female oppression. The findings delineate that the selected fiction is the moving account of Zara's struggle to get her twin sister Tara back. Zara has to go through a hard journey to accomplish her goal. But her sufferings bring the worthy results. The tragedy commences when one afternoon, Tara is raped in the fields. The horrible reality of the village gets surfaced where home is the best choice for a woman while fields are meant for men. When a woman enters into the world of man, she is robbed of her honor. The novel addresses other gender biased issues like marriage, education, divorce as well.

## **Keywords:**

Feminism, Disparity, Marginalization, Capitalism, Exploitation

## 1. Introduction

Class and gender inequality are seen by Marxist feminists as two separate but equally oppressive systems. Class and gender disparities, according to Marxist feminists, reinforce one



other and produce doubly disadvantaged people. One possible explanation for the difficulty of raising working-class awareness is the traditional role of women in the household. Underlying these ostensibly equal trading ties are power dynamics, as is the case with all transaction interactions in capitalism. Many interpersonal connections, including those between sexes and within families, may mask significant power differences by giving the impression of equality. The term "feminist literary criticism" is often used to refer to the critical examination of works of literature from a feminist viewpoint. Feminist literary criticism, in other words, is a subgenre of literary criticism grounded on feminist theory or, more accurately, the politics of feminism. "This theoretical approach examines the economic, social, political, and psychological dynamics at work within literature in order to define and evaluate the manner in which literature depicts the story of male dominance with relation to female bodies.

Beyond The Fields (2019) by Ayesha Baqir will be analyzed from femina point of view in this study.it will explore the concepts of feminism such as rape, honor, Marxism, social inclusion and social exclusion, prostitution, violence and subjugation. Through a feminist perspective, the study will deal with the representation of feminal factors in Beyond The Fields (2019). There is insightful inequality and tradition that disempower women, against the backdrop of material law and social turmoil in the selected novel.

# 1.1 Research Objectives

The study aims to determine:

- 1. To explore the social inclusion and exclusion in the selected text.
- 2. To highlight the violence and subjugation in the selected fiction.

Ramzan et al. (2023) have claimed that overlooked potentials of social media are as instruments for boosting ESL students' engagement and performance. Ramzan et al. (2023) have also suggested that influence of social media use can be helpful to educators and policy makers.



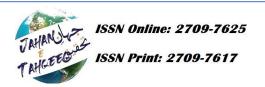
## 2. Literature Review

Feminism refers to a set of philosophies and social movements that promote and defend gender parity in all spheres of society, including politics, economics, and interpersonal relationships. Feminism is the belief that women are unfairly treated because of society's emphasis on the masculine perspective. Combating gender stereotypes and advancing women in the workplace are two strategies for changing this.

Simone de Beauvoir, Alice Walker, Margaret Atwood, Sylvia Plath, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Kate Millett, Angela Carter, and many more are among the most influential women in history. Feminist writing encompasses a wide variety of genres and styles, but they share a central concern for women's rights and recognition that these issues are dynamic and always developing.

Federici (2011) presents a wholly different viewpoint on social feminism, contending that the gender gap is primarily caused by economic inequality. She explains that the problem has been made worse by the economic differences between the sexes. It has generated a number of social issues. Essentially, it is a presumption that financial. One of the biggest obstacles to achieving gender equality for women is imbalance. Her justification that this imbalance causes societal issues for women, and to some extent, this is definitely true. Today, though women have made an effort to support males in the modern world, equality has not yet been achieved. The reason for this is that men dominate both the domestic financial system and the economic framework of society. Therefore, it follows that the obvious reason for the oppression of women is the economic disparity between the sexes.

Gilman's treatment by her spouse is shown in *The Yellow Wallpaper* (1892) shows Gilman's ability to overcome her "experience with mental illness" (248) provides insight into what it was like to be a helpless, unsure, and socially isolated woman in the early 20th century. Such an empowering event for another lady would have made it impossible for anything to eclipse this brief narrative. Specifically, "the narrative has been regarded as a protest against the rest cure and a criticism of patriarchal medicine," and it has been "widely read and taught as a feminist allegory" (Bittel). This implies there are others who disagree with the notion that women should be treated like children and denied the care they need to recover. It is



unacceptable for men like the narrator's husband John to have the last say on a woman's health and wellbeing. As a result of her husband's patriarchal fixation on her, Jane learns the value of seclusion, she displays her capacity for self-expression, and Charlotte Perkins Gilman paints a picture of a society where women have more agency.

Ehrenreich (1976) is one of the famous authors who believes in complete socialist feminist approach. She advocates for greater woman empowerment. She states in her works, with sheer emphasis, that the values established by men have been the sole foundations of our social system. She regards the social values ingrained in patriarchal mindset have been causing much disturbance to women population all over the world. She stated in her various works the fact that if women want greater empowerment, freedom, equality with men in all walks of life, the social value system needs to revolutionized. The previous researches that work on the feminist analysis focus on the women rights include promoting gender difference, Access to education, Reproductive rights, The right to vote, The right to own property, bounded in four walls, marriage rights Challenging hetero normative gender roles, Reproductive rights, Identifying the sexual objectification of women. Ramzan and Khan (2019) have scrutinized the veiled ideological stance to explore the power issues in print media headlines. Ramzan et al. (2021) have described the manipulation of the public in the hands of politicians in print media statements. Bhutto and Ramzan (2021) have expressed that there is a collusive and pacifier stance in print media headlines which is wrapped in the powerful agenda. Nawaz et al. (2021) have said that there is an internal bias between the government and opposition wrapped in the current affairs statements in Pakistan. Ramzan et al. (2023) have claimed that omission and errors are the most common types of errors in ESL writing. Further, Ramzan et al. (2023) have also expressed the overlooked potential of social media are an instrument to boost ESL students' engagement and performance. Moreover, Ramzan et al. (2023) have suggested can the influence of social media is helpful for educators and policymakers. Furthermore, Ramzan et al. (2023) have confirmed that teachers are able to incorporate various helpful technical collaborative strategies.

# 3. Research Methodology



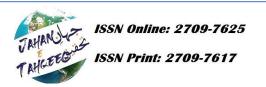
Feminist theory examines gender politics, power dynamics, and sexuality in an effort to comprehend gender inequalities. While discussing Feminist Theory with a small 't' does not indicate that it is not a Theory or cannot be utilized as one, it does admit that it may be a subgenre of Critical Theory for some and a separate body of work for others. Some academics, as stated by Egbert and Sanden (2020), consider critical paradigms to be extensions of the interpretive; yet, subjectivist epistemology underpins the focus on oppression and first-hand experience.

#### 3.1 Theoretical framework

Feminist theory is the application of feminism to higher levels of analysis, such as in literature or philosophy. Its focus is on delving into the causes of discrimination against women. Discrimination, objectification (particularly sexual objectification), oppression, patriarchy, stereotyping, canonical and cannibalized art, aesthetics, and art history are all fundamental to feminist thought. A fundamental tenet of Marxist feminism is a reluctance to see "women" as a homogenous demographic.

## 4. Data Analysis

In *Beyond the Fields* (2019), the rape of a fifteen-year-old girl in a small town in Pakistan sends her twin sister on a perilous mission to seek vengeance. The dreams and worries of Pakistani women are vividly depicted in this work. Two young sisters, Zara and Tara, tell their experience from the perspective of a tiny Pakistani town. Because they come from a low-income background, they are denied basic human rights like those enjoyed by men in the United States, including freedom of expression, the vote, the right to own property, access to higher education, protection from sexual harassment and assault, and the ability to bear children. Zara wanted to further her education but was prevented from doing so by her family. She aspired to follow in the footsteps of those female relatives who had continued their education and gone on to successful careers. She came from a poor family and now she lives in a village where a girl's education is not valued, therefore she wishes her family would help her pursue her dreams. Although her mother had said that wearing a burka provided her independence, she had observed other women



and decided that she did not want this kind of freedom. She wanted to get an education just like the other girls in the community. However, she does not enjoy such liberty.

She had shown me off to aunties wanting 'good girls' for their nephews and to wrinkled men seeking second wives......i didn't have much of a dowry.(*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p.10)

Analysis: Tara reveals that her mother intended to marry her when she was just 16 years old, sharing that she, too, was married at that age. However, Tara really wanted to finish her education despite her family's opposition. When her mother requested her aunts for a marriage proposal, they brought her the proposals of their nephews and elderly men looking for a second wife, all of whom rejected her on the grounds that she was not white and had sufficient experience in the home. She is from a low-income family that cannot afford a sizable dowry, which is another factor in their decision to reject the proposal. The desire for a dowry perpetuates patriarchal norms by reducing women to mere property to be bartered away. Because the bride's family traditionally pays the groom's family for the expense of caring for the bride, the system reinforces the idea that women are a liability rather than an asset to be handed on. Many people attribute sexism and discrimination against women and girls—such as dowry—to behaviors including selective abortion, infanticide of female infants, lower levels of education for females, child marriage, and even domestic violence and homicide. Because the dowry is so variable, the amount is reduced if the bride works for pay, as seen above.

Omer was going to start boarding school and I was going to start work as maid. (*Beyond the Fields*, 2019, p.12)

Analysis: Two sisters and a brother from a poor household who are forbidden to pursue an education by their parents are the focus of this tale. Zara wanted to further her education but was prevented from doing so by her family. Zara and her brother Omer went to the same school, but the family only paid for Omer's education and not Zara's since, according to their beliefs, females shouldn't have to make sacrifices. Omer was leaving for school and Zara was beginning her maid duties in these lines. While both girls were taken to Lahore by their families, Zara was employed as a maid to help pay for her dowry. Zara, however, wished to follow in the footsteps of the other successful women and further her studies.



You are too young and outspoken. How can your parents risk sending you to work in the city? seeing me protest, she held up her hand.....help you.(*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p. 13)

Analysis: Zara's family sent her to the countryside to find a suitable husband, but while suitors expressed interest, her modest background meant that they could not afford a large dowry. This passage is a representation of a feminist interpretation. Zara wanted to further her education, but her family discouraged her since, in their opinion, females should not be sent to school. Due to a lack of dowry funds, Zara's family has rejected her marriage proposal. It represented that nowadays poverty is as a crime for the family of young girls, so her family took a risk and sent her to the city to earn the money for dowry. Along the way, she met a professor who said, "You are so young and outspoken; how can your family take risk by sending you here?" It was symbolic of the society's emphasis on material goods.

I had dreamt to going to school once, I had dreamt to becoming the scientist once. (*Beyond the Fields*, 2019, p.18)

**Analysis:** The novel follows the lives of a brother and two young sisters: Zara, who wants an education but is denied it by her family; and her brother, who also wants to educate his sister but whose parents remain unmoved by the fact that his sister is smarter and works harder than he is. In these words, Zara expresses her disappointment that her family and society have not supported her desire to get an education and pursue her dreams of becoming a scientist, as they have done for her brother.

Good stay clear of the male servants and always take the chador over your head......i will back for you. (*Beyond the Fields*, 2019, p. 25)

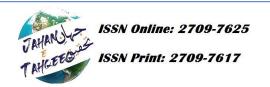
**Analysis**: In the researchers' interpretation of these lines, the benefits of wearing a chador are highlighted: when Zara, a young girl of fifteen, went to the city to work as a maid, she met a colleague who warned her about the male servants, because while her colleague was in her forties, Zara was still a child and unaware of the cruelty of society.

No one moved to help Abba or any other farmer. We watched still and silent it was the law.....leaving the women to comfort my aunt and scurry back inside the walls. (*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p. 33)



Analysis: Zara said that everyone in her community was under intense pressure to obey the regulations established by their landlord since the village belonged to him. She said, "They have the right to take our lands whenever they please, and no one can raise a voice against them. Abba and other formers stay silent, and we farmers watched still and silent as their wives and women were raped in front of all the villagers." She then told the story of how her landlord had come and caught her aunt, saying, "Hearing her screams, I had wet my pants."Her aunt's husband subsequently beat his wife. Amma was not at home, Bari masi had frowned where is your Mother, has she left alone? Why is not your chador on your head cover your devils' tails for shame......but the night eyes watch you they will always watch you.(*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p. 37)

**Analysis**: Zara and Tara, now adolescents, were raised by their strict family in a small Pakistani hamlet amid the wheat and cotton fields. The twins' lives is far from perfect; instead of playing outside all day, their mother has them clean the home. In this society, only males are permitted to attend to school, aunties make a living off of spreading rumors about potential husbands for their nieces, and adolescent girls spend their days waiting to be transformed from obedient daughters into obedient wives. These sentences highlight the feminist analysis present in Zara's narrative, in which she describes how she and her sister were left to care for themselves at home while their mother was away. Before I could even tell her that Amaa wasn't at home, Zara questioned me with a scowl, "Where is your mother?" Is she now alone? Bari masi warned me that if I stayed at home alone, demons would inevitably come and rape me. In today's world, even the house is not a secure place for women to be. It saddens us much that despite the various ways in which girls must adapt to the contemporary society, they continue to be targets of violence. We need to do our share to end men's hegemony so that more women may have fulfilling lives. The perspective of parents must first be altered before a female kid may be saved. They need to ensure that a girl's basic needs, such as food, education, and shelter, are no longer overlooked. She predicted that you would die from the bite of a thousand snakes and rot in the flames of hell.

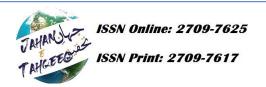


Listening to Bari Masi voice warning us that all girls were born stinking of shame. It was up to us to cover ourselves and protect ourselves from temptation or we would burn in hell forever. (*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p. 38)

Analysis: The protagonist of *Beyond the Fields* (2019) is a young woman who refuses to be held back by outdated standards of propriety. The daughter of a farmer who refuses to allow a hypocritical society determines her and her adored sister's destiny is told in exquisitely written language and vivid pictures. Zara is more than simply the protagonist; she is the book's heart and spirit. The plot is driven by the effects of the rape on Zara's life, despite the fact that it is a turning point and has financial ramifications for the family. There is no other 'character' in the book save her; the other individuals there serve merely as flat backdrops to her quest for equality and independence. Another prominent problem that forces females to drop out of school prematurely is child marriage. Bari Masi urged the women of her community to remain hidden from public view with these words, writing that "all girls are born stinking of shame" and that "society rejects them."

Last year when Omer had passed his exams, Amma had spent hours preparing his favourite dessert......i needed to learn to make softer chapattis. (*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p. 52)

Analysis: Zara and Tara, two girls from a traditional family in a small hamlet in Pakistan, have spent their whole lives amid the fields of wheat and cotton. The twins' life is far from perfect; instead of playing outside all day, their mother has them clean the home. In this society, only males are permitted to attend to school, aunties make a living off of spreading rumors about potential husbands for their nieces, and adolescent girls spend their days waiting to be transformed from obedient daughters into obedient wives. This tale of injustice is tied together by the theme of women's helplessness in a fundamentally patriarchal culture. The topic of gender inequality has grown more prevalent in recent works from Pakistan. Another refreshing change from the norm in tales about women being oppressed is the characterization of the rural men in this story. The downfall of these traditions is their blind devotion to sexist norms. Surprisingly, it's the female characters that drive the plot. She needs to be a feminist activist. Understanding how internalized patriarchy contributes to the enslavement of women in Pakistan is crucial.



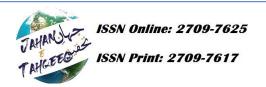
Researchers analyzed these statements from a feminist point of view; in them, Zara reveals that her family opposed her pursuit of higher education despite her desire to further her education. Zara says, "My mother spent more hours preparing his favorite dishes, especially milky kheer, that was liked by Omer, when he passed his exams last year." Some communities believe that females should stay at home and take care of the housework while their male counterparts go to school. The researcher is immersed in this setting via the eyes of Zara, who sets out on a quest to return her twin sister to their family. Zara, unlike other girls her age, has no desire to follow the customs and standards of the society in which she finds herself. She has been sneaking around and getting an education when her father isn't looking; she smokes shisha when no one is there to see; and she is always in trouble for challenging the norms that adults have set for her. Zara's quest begins when she realizes that her sister's rape and forced marriage isn't "just the way it's meant to be," and she must brave the hazards of a foreign city to find a way to stop them. Here, she battles for the release not just of her sister, but of all women who have been forced to take on the responsibility of "protecting a family's honor."

I shook my head 'where will I go? There's no girls' school in our village' I had dreamt of studying in a classroom with proper desk, chair, and a blackboard. But it was a dangerous dream, an impossible dream. (*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p.59)

Analysis: Today, millions of female students are absent from class. Discrimination, extreme poverty, unexpected events, and cultural norms all contribute to their exclusion from formal schooling. These women are just as ambitious as any guy. They have aspirations of education, personal development, career advancement, and community service. However, this kind of treatment is all too common. In many nations, they are subject to exploitation, abuse, and general disrespect.

Once you are married you have to keep your husband and in laws happy and gave them no reason to complain........... Amma carried on with her favourite topics marriage duty and responsibility. (Beyond The Fields p.86)

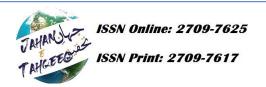
**Analysis:** These phrases suggest that women should make every effort to ensure the happiness of their husbands and in-laws, since the burden of responsibility falls squarely on their shoulders. Throughout the novel, Zara is reminded by her mother that she has a responsibility to



make her husband and his family happy. Zara is told that she must always put her husband and his family's happiness before her own, and that she must always follow her in-laws' instructions without question or complaint, all while maintaining a cheerful demeanor. In Islam, wives have a duty to follow their husbands in all matters, even matters of personal choice such as whether or not to engage in sexual activity. They must keep their husbands' enemies out of the home at all costs. It is the woman's responsibility to provide for her family and make her home a safe and nurturing haven, making her the de facto head of the household. In Islam, husband and wife have equal responsibilities and rights in the home. This book shows the feminism that all the obligations and duties are solely for the women, which is contrary to the duty of a decent husband, which is to respect his wife, speak honestly with her, fulfill your commitments, and be there for her.

He had promised marriage but abandoned her when his parents had tracked them down Chiragh's family had disowned her and moved away......Bari masi declared that Chiragh should drown herself if she had any shame. (*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p. 87-88)

Analysis: When it comes to illuminating the realities of inequality and the societal practices that serve to oppress women, *Beyond the Fields* (2019) is an exceptional piece of storytelling. Tara's forced marriage to restore her "honor" after the rape forces readers to confront a number of taboo topics in today's patriarchal societies, including: poverty, honor murders, child marriage, rape, sexual violence, and the position of women in a patriarchal culture. Zara sets out on a journey to fetch her twin sister home from a faraway place. Zara, unlike other girls her age, has no desire to follow the customs and standards of the society in which she finds herself. Zara's quest begins when she realizes that her sister's rape and forced marriage isn't "just the way it's meant to be," and she must brave the hazards of a foreign city to find a way to stop them. Here, she battles for the release not just of her sister, but of all women who have been forced to take on the responsibility of "protecting a family's honor." These words encapsulated the Marxist feminist critique. Tara's family disowned her after the landlord raped her; they feared she would bring trouble upon themselves and her siblings, so they sent her to the city to work as a maid or get married to an old man. When Tara's brother and sister decided to fight for justice on her behalf, however, their family forbade them to do so. Their mother told



them that Tara isn't strong enough to stand up for herself, so the best thing they could do would be to remain silent about the incident. However, Zara and her brother insisted on doing something to help their sister, so they suggested they seek the assistance of the police, who they assumed were looking for the old and corrupt man she was married too.

I'll make an announcement tomorrow every man and boy over twelve years old must come to the mosque to take an oath on the Quran that he knows nothing.......we will make sure our daughter gets justice.(*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p. 126)

Analysis: Zara and Tara, now adolescents, were raised by their strict family in a small Pakistani hamlet amid the wheat and cotton fields. In this society, only males are permitted to attend to school, aunties make a living off of spreading rumors about potential husbands for their nieces, and adolescent girls spend their days waiting to be transformed from obedient daughters into obedient wives. Tara's family wanted to seek justice for her after the landlord raped her, but they were unable to do so because they themselves were poor and lacked the means to do so. They claimed, "There is no eyewitness, and we can't prove that it was the rape." If they couldn't prove that Tara was the victim of a rape, the perpetrator could simply accuse her of a crime. It is possible to find her guilty. Even if Tara testifies that she was raped, it will not be enough since zina is a crime and against the state and there are separate new rules regarding this. It demonstrated the disparity between rich and poor by demonstrating the plight of the poor and the inability of the latter to protect their families from their landlords.

We would have buried her body with honor but now you risk dishonoring your family name.....our women uphold our family honor. (*Beyond The Fields*, 2019, p. 128)

Analysis: Zara, a girl of around fifteen or sixteen years old, narrates the tale. She lives in a rural area where people adhere to religious and political customs that she doesn't agree with. Ayesha Baqir builds tension by jumping right into the center of the tale, making the reader wonder where Zara is trying to go. As the narrative flashes back to the dirt roads of Zara and Tara's hometown, you are immersed in a world and culture totally different from your own. *In Beyond the Fields* (2019), the rape of a fifteen-year-old girl in a small town in Pakistan sends her twin sister on a perilous mission to seek vengeance.

# 5. Findings, Conclusion and Recommendations



# 5.1 Findings

Baqir's *Beyond the Fields* (2019) is a powerful and impactful novel that tackles the sensitive issue of violence against women and their remarkable resilience in the face of such oppression. The story unfolds amidst the backdrop of Pakistan's martial law, providing a stark portrayal of its impact on one segment of the population. While the novel delves into themes of oppression, it also shines a light on hope and courage. At its core, Baqir's selected novel is a gripping narrative of resilience and the pursuit of justice.

Zara and Tara were born to a poor, landless farmer during the monsoon rains and grew up in a remote Pakistani village amidst fields of wheat and cotton. One fateful afternoon, while playing games, Tara was abducted from the fields and subjected to a harrowing rape. Her parents tried to resolve the situation by accepting an unexpected marriage proposal to restore their daughter's honor. However, the nightmare resurfaced when a newspaper clipping raised doubts about the marriage's legitimacy. Driven by determination, Zara, the other twin, embarked on a courageous quest for justice, challenging a culture that prioritizes propriety above all else and facing the dangers of an unfamiliar urban center. The novel captivates readers with its middle-tobeginning storytelling approach, creating suspense and a burning desire to uncover Zara's motivation. As the story rewinds, readers are transported to the dusty roads of Zara and Tara's village, immersing them in a culture and society vastly different from their own. Zara and Tara, two identical twins, face challenges of self-identity and dignity in a harsh society that has little compassion for the victims of heinous crimes like rape and prostitution. Zara and Tara are already starting out at a disadvantage due to their rural upbringing. They are not permitted the freedom of thought or action that might result from an education or the pursuit of their aspirations. Zara and Tara's destiny is decided by their overprotective parents, who are more concerned with the honors tied to their daughters than they are with the girls themselves, as is typical of characters centered in villages.

When the twins turn twelve, they will be subject to certain limits. They are restricted in their leisure activities. However, one pleasant day, the three siblings—Omar, the golden kid; Tara, the ambitious one; and Zara, the middle child—decide to play hide-and-seek in the wheat fields. What seems like a delightful way to spend the day quickly becomes the stuff of



nightmares. Tara suffers a rape. Several major themes, previously explored in literature, are addressed throughout the narrative. Ayesha's debut is notable for its exploration of serious topics including rape, honor, social exclusion/inclusion, and prostitution. However, these topics have only been touched on superficially, and none of them have been examined in detail.

## 5.2 Conclusion

The researcher is immersed in this setting via the eyes of Zara, who sets out on a quest to return her twin sister to their family. Zara, unlike other girls her age, has no desire to follow the customs and standards of the society in which she finds herself. She has been sneaking about and getting an education under her father's nose, smoking shisha when no one is looking, and continually getting into trouble for challenging the authority figures' interpretations of the norms governing her conduct. That her sister was raped and married off against her will isn't "just the way it's meant to be," she concludes. Zara faces the perils of an unknown city on her voyage. Here, she battles for the release not just of her sister, but of all women who have been forced to take on the responsibility of "protecting a family's honor." Zara is a well-crafted heroine; her character is so well developed that I was able to fill in any blanks on my own. It's hard not to want to cheer her on and tell her inner strength to keep going. While the events in Zara and Tara's narrative are obviously fictional, the difficulties they face are not. The book's credibility was surely bolstered by the author's years spent working with women and girls in rural Pakistan. There were points in the tale when it was hard to tell truth from fantasy. This research has the potential to provide light on the ways in which feminist Marxist writers have interpreted racial and gendered inequality in Pakistani literature.

### 5.3 Recommendation

• Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) can be used to investigate gender discrimination and injustice.

It is necessary to publish additional works of literature in order to investigate the existence of gender discrimination and raise people's awareness of the issue.

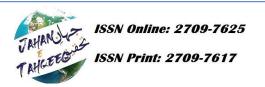
• Both microscopic and macroscopic studies may be conducted concurrently since each theory has its own distinct set of dimensions.



- Social injustice can result in distrust, it is important that it must be brought under control; meanwhile, social values can be idealized in order to reduce the amount of discrimination.
- This novel can be investigated using a wide variety of other theoretical frameworks such as Marxism.
- Experiencing, emotion, and the subjective are at the heart of feminism's study. It acknowledges patriarchy and the inequality it creates.
- Administrative reform, raised awareness in healthcare institutions, and gender-neutral instruction in classrooms would all contribute to less gender bias in Pakistani society.

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