

**EXPLORING THE ROLE OF AGA KHAN AND  
FATIMIYAH HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION AT KARACHI,  
PAKISTAN**

**Shams Suria\***

**Dr. Javeed Ahmed Siddiqui\*\***

**ABSTRACT**

The Aga Khan and Fatimiyah Higher Secondary Schools have a great role for the development of Education in the developing countries, especially in Pakistan. The purpose of this study was to explore the role played by Aga Khan higher secondary and Fatimiyah higher secondary schools for the development of education in Karachi, Pakistan. . In order to explore how this role is played, the study was conducted to find out the answer of the question, what is the role of Aga Khan and Fatimiyah higher secondary schools in enhancing Educational development in Karachi, Pakistan?' The research was conducted in the quantitative research, the researcher has chosen survey research, the researcher has selected two self reporting procedures questionnaire and interview are specially designed and used. Data collection was done over a period of two weeks, through questionnaire and in-depth interviews with the Principal and selected research participants. My findings shows that Aga Khan and Fatimiyah schools are playing a great role for the development of education, their schools provide different educational training to teachers to enhance their teaching skills and they are actively participated in these training. Fatimiyah schools provide better facilities and opportunities in education to all the members. The Aga Khan higher secondary schools were established in 1995 and 200 schools were established during 20th century in 19905 in Zanjibar and Gwader. There are 190 schools were established in Pakistan

\* Research Scholar, Hamdard Institute of Education and Social Sciences, Hamdard University Karachi, Pakistan

\*\* Research Supervisor

and the Aga Khan Higher Secondary Schools are calling as a distinctive institution in the world. The Aga Khan Higher secondary school (AKHSS) has received award of best college for four consecutive years since 1999. The board of Intermediate education, Karachi is yet to be announced the awards for 2003 onwards. Fatimiyah Education plays an important role for the development of education, it is a nonprofit organization. It is working for the process of continuous improvement within the organization which is the result of better performance at all level. The main conclusion of the study could be that Aga Khan and Fatimiyah Education Network have a great role in the development of education.

**Keywords:** Aga Khan, Fatimiyah Education, Role, Development, Exploring, Secondary Education,

## INTRODUCTION

Education makes a man right thinker. Without education a man cannot be happy and it is very difficult to spend the whole life. Education is the source of knowledge that provide better facilities to human and make to understand them how to live well and properly, through education an individual so develops that he/she can make an original contribution to the human life, according to his best capacity, it is a comprehensive socialization that tell people to develop their personality as well as moral, physical, social and mental. Education is continues process it starts from cradle to grave. In the world it gives the proper and right path and gives the right direction.

Karachi is the largest city in the country near 6,000 people per square kilometer. There are different people live in Karachi and getting education. Different communities play their role in educational sector, but due to limited time the researcher has selected the role of Aga Khan and Fatimiyah higher secondary schools for the development of education at Karachi, Pakistan. Aga Khan has many contributions for primary and secondary education. Aga Khan Education Service for Pakistan (AKES, P) introduced new techniques for teacher and student development. There are 300 schools are running by Aga Khan Education Network with the management of programs. These schools are working for the creative and effective learning in the world, those children who are studying in these schools are so talented and they will easy spend their life well and

solve their problems their self. There are no prejudices in these institutions. The purpose of this school is to give learning environment for students. The Aga Khan Education Network appreciates community embers to take responsibilities for the betterment of society and for the development of their children's; it provides modern facilities to students and teachers. Aga Khan Education Network provides different trainings workshops and certificates for teacher to enhance their teaching skills and to develop their professional life, it also support of deserving students. It provides different methodologies for teacher and makes teaching to them as a joy in their life. Aga Khan Education Network is working for future challenges and problems and students are encourage to participated freely, the teachers of these institutions makes friendly environment and create learning environment during teaching and this polishes the students inner personality, the students are ready to study deeply with full of joy. The Aga Khan Higher secondary school (AKHSS) has received award of best college for four consecutive years since 1999. The board of Intermediate education, Karachi is yet to be announced the awards for 2003 onwards.

In 1996 Fatimiyah Education Network run its journey with a small school in Kharader for girls and now it has been transferred into a network which operates four school in Karachi Pakistan and one college established by FEN. In 1992 Fatimiyah Girls School was established, and it has 40,000 square feet covered area. More than 800 students are studying in this institution. It is the requirement that's after the establishment of Fatimiyah Girls School there was also a boy's school established in 1996. In 2006 Fatimiyah School of Early childhood program was established and fully operation from April 2007. It is the future strategy of Fatimiyah Education Network that plans are also underway. Professional development is the source of success; everyone wants to develop his skills and professional. It opens new door and provide opportunities to improve the ambitions of people, the world cannot be denied one's professional development, to keep continuous learning professional development is very necessary, on the basis of this the FEN held events annually such as student weeks, clean lines, drive, youm-e-Hussain (A.S) sports and achievements of FEN's student at the interschool competition and sports event which is held by Board of Intermediate Examination Karachi.

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

No one can deny from the importance of university education as ‘it is place of teaching universal knowledge, (Newman, 1959: 7).

‘This very fact cannot be rectified that education has had been the only foundation of progress, prosperity and pedantry, it is undoubtedly the corridor of education which has enhanced the status of man on earth, and amidst all creatures’ (Rahman, 2001: ix). through education an individual so develops that he/she can make an original contribution to the human life, according to his best capacity, it is a comprehensive socialization that tell people to develop their personality as well as moral, physical, social and mental. Education is a continues process it starts from cradle to grave. In the world it gives the proper and right path and gives the right direction. The Aga Khan higher secondary schools were established in 1995, and it is situated in a 26-acre campus next to the Sultan Mohammad Shah Aga Khan School and the Aga Khan university-Institute of educational development (AKU-IED). AKES, P has played an important part in education development of females up to secondary school level in Northern Areas, education for boys is provided by government since 1980, the Aga Khan education service has started to build up a network of primary, middle and secondary schools for girls and training for females to the metric level

(Mark Bray 1997). in Aga Khan Education Service for Pakistan has a great role for the development of education, most of the schools are running by Aga Khan Education Network without partnership of the communities, but the relation between home and school is very closely with each other they solve the problems with the help os student’s parent (Ali Murad Khan, 2007).

The Aga Khan Education Service, Pakistan (AKES, P) has initiated the shifting of power from its central offices to schools which has made the head teacher's role more challenging and demanding. some of the crucial challenges such as, increasing responsibilities and the role demands of the head teachers, enhancing parents and teachers' motivation, lack of resources (human, financial and material), coping with harsh weather conditions, and maintaining quality learning with crowded classes. It also informs that the AKES, P system to prepare their head teachers in ways best suited to face the contextual challenges (Sardar Khan, 2009).

AKES, P is providing and supporting education in Chitral since 1980, and 51 schools are running in this area by AKES, P at present. AKES, P runs a number of context specific teacher development programs supported by donor funding agencies, it provides fund for deserving

family and starts free secondary education giving by those students who stopped the secondary education (Mirajuddin Feb 7, 2008).

It is very honor for Shahnaz Wazir Ali to sharing the AKU-IED's history and it can recall the formal inauguration in January, 1994, it was a time full of promise, hope and highly expectations because the challenge that lay before Institute of Educational Development (IED) was formidable. Today ten years the promise has been fulfilled and hope has been translated into active commitments and visible change in the classrooms that IED has impacted the IED's leadership provide have borne fruit, it stands as the premier institution for teacher education not only in Pakistan but in the regions. The improvement of quality, valuable effectiveness out reach of educational system in Pakistan is the basic aim of AKU-IED and to contribute the social development, improving the performance of teacher through professional development leading to overall school improvement (Shahnaz Wazir Ali Aug, 2003).

Aga Khan has many contributions for primary and secondary education. AKES, P introduced new techniques for teacher development and school support system. Different kinds of training in content and methodologies provided by teachers of AKES, P, for the joy of inquiry of Aga Khan Schools, after student center of teaching and learning environments designed to stimulate for future challenges and problems. Students are encourage to freely participating in co-curricular activities and also encourage asking questions to develop their self esteem, teamwork, confidence, discipline and sociability. Aga Khan School is emphasizing on early childhood development while offering schooling for middle and senior years. It focuses on students with holistic educational experiences that will polish their personalities and build their skills (Sufiana K. Malik and Nadia Bibi, 8 April 2011). AKES, P has played an important part in education development of females up to secondary school level in Northern Areas, education for boys is provided by government since 1980, the Aga Khan education service has started to build up a network of primary, middle and secondary schools for girls and training for females to the metric level. These schools are called Diamond Jubilee schools, apart from these schools AKES, P also runs two modern institutions for girls by the name of Aga Khan Academy Karimabad Hunza and Aga Khan School Sherqilla at Punial, AKES, P also provides trainings for the up liftmen of female education at secondary in the Northern Areas. (Masood Shahina Aug, 2001) In 1996 Fatimiyah Education Network run its journey with a small school in Kharader for girls and now it has been transferred into a network which operates four schools in Karachi Pakistan and one

college established by FEN. In 1992 Fatimiyah Girls School was established, and it has 40,000 square feet covered area. More than 800 students are studying in this institution. It is the requirement that's after the establishment of Fatimiyah Girls School there was also a boy's school established in 1996. In 2006 Fatimiyah School of Early childhood program was established and fully operation from April 2007. (Academic conference 16 Jun, 2007). "The school where I love to go after learning it I knew how much my school (Fatimiyah Boys School) is meant my view in my thought it made me such type of great person could be, the teacher of the FBS were thought very nicely and in a better way, school is the way where all the joys we get" (Farhan Raza, 2007).

The first day of Fatimiyah Girls School( FGS) where I felt good because we had a new uniform, bags copies, shoes, books and a new class. Teachers are good and kind hearted I like all of them. I liked the FGS system, uniform and also enjoyed with all the class fellows. When I saw my first day at FGS I felt that I am studying in a foreign school because the system was just like foreign school. (Firdous Fatima V11-C, FGS). Professional development is the source of success; everyone wants to develop his skills and professional.

It opens new door and provide opportunities to improve the ambitions of people, the world cannot be denied one's professional development, to keep continuous learning professional development is very necessary, on the basis of this the FEN held events annually such as student weeks, clean lines, drive, youm-e-Hussain (A.S) sports and achievements of FEN's student at the interschool competition and sports event which is held by Board of Intermediate Examination Karachi. (Sakina Nanji June 2011)

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The researcher has chosen survey research. The overall strategy for this study is survey research in order to find out the effect and role of Aga khan and Fatimiyah higher secondary schools in the development of education. The researcher has selected two self reporting procedures, questionnaire and interview is specially designed and used; the questionnaire consists of 20 items are prepared from the relevant literature, consultant with the supervisor and personal experiences. Two questionnaires were developed, to measure role and effective learning of both schools in the development of education. On questionnaire contained 20 items that focused on the relevance of the role and effect of both Aga Khan and Fatimiyah higher secondary schools,

second questionnaire contained 10 items for interview which conducted interview from the teachers of both schools. The questionnaires are used as a tool of research and comprised of structured form. It seems more appropriate, because it is very easy to response. It took a bit of time to answer, but it kept the respondents solely enshrouded on the subject. It was entirely objective and fairly easy to tabulate and analyze. The population of this research work comprises of all principals, teachers and students of Aga Khan and Fatimiyah Higher Secondary Schools. The specific sample for the study is random sampling technique was used. School at Karimabad at secondary level and Fatimiyah School at Numaish Chowrangi at secondary level and filled questionnaire to the secondary students of these institutions. The study comprises of 120 respondents i.e. 50 students of Aga khan higher secondary school Karimabad and 50 students of Fatimiyah School Numaish Chowrangi and 10 teachers of Aga khan and 10 teachers of Fatimiyah School.

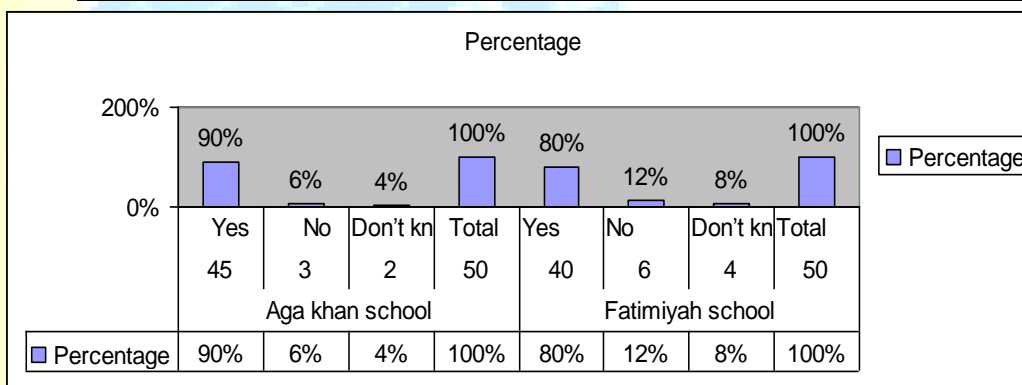
## FINDINGS

The overall finding shows that there is a great role rendering by both schools Aga Khan and Fatimiyah in the development of education, different trainings are provided for the enhancement of teaching skills the objectives of these schools are to provide knowledge, skill and experience to students and to enhance their inner potentials by different teaching methodologies, students are encourage to participate in classroom as well as different educational activities and there are better relationship between teachers and students and they held parent teacher meeting to discuss the overall performance of students; parental involvement is highly appreciated by these institutions, both schools are working continuously for achieving their goals, different educational programs are arranged to develop student as well as teachers abilities and skills, the future plans of both schools are as learning, developing and growing institution they always think of improvement. As part of both school's future strategy they are establishing a Careers and Scholarship department at the Network and for the establishment of the Sports centre, Early Childhood Development Centre along with vocational training centre for mothers and a centre for e-learning activities plans are also underway. 95% students have the opinion that financial support is also provide to deserve students, they have the opinion that education for practical living is also providing by these schools and 90% students are satisfied with the overall performance of these institutions. Teachers are using different modern techniques during

teaching and the finding also shows that these schools are giving admission on the basis of merits.

**Q.** Does Aga Khan and Fatimiyah Higher Secondary Schools play great role for the development of education?

Name of Schools	Answers	Numbers	Percentage
Aga Khan School	Yes	45	90%
	No	03	6%
	Don't Know	02	4%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>
Fatimiyah School	Yes	40	80%
	No	06	12%
	Don't Know	04	8%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>



In Aga Khan School 90% said yes, 6% said no and 2% said don't know and in Fatimiyah School 80% said yes, 12% said no and 8% said don't know.

**Result:** According to the above percentage values the majority of students of both schools have the opinion that both schools are rendering a great role for the development of education.



## CONCLUSION

There is a great role rendering by both schools Aga Khan and Fatimiyah in the development of secondary education, different trainings are provided for the enhancement of teaching skills the objectives of these schools are to provide knowledge, skill and experience to students and to enhance their inner potentials by different teaching methodologies, students are encourage to participate in classroom as well as different educational activities and there are better relationship between teachers and students and they held parent teacher meeting to discuss the overall performance of students; parental involvement is highly appreciated by these institutions, both schools are working continuously for achieving their goals, different educational programs are arranged to develop student as well as teachers abilities and skills ,the future plans of both schools are as learning, developing and growing institution they always think of improvement. 90% students are satisfied with the overall performance of these institutions. Teachers are satisfied their salaries provided by their schools according to their education. According to the majority of teachers have opinion that their schools provide different educational training to enhance their teaching skills and they are actively participated in these training .They said that students participation is highly encourage and they are fully satisfied their students overall performance.

## REFERENCES

- Abraham, A. (2011). Exploring students and teachers beliefs about student leadership and how educational processes foster or hinder the development of student leadership skills in two private secondary schools of Karachi, Pakistan. Aga Khan University Karachi, Pakistan.
- Ali, S, W (2003). AKU-IED: A leader in education change, impact making a difference, Pakistan centre for philanthropy, Islamabad, Pakistan, 27-30.
- Ali, S. (2009). Exploring the role of school leadership in transforming the school into a learning community. Aga Khan University Karachi, Pakistan.
- Academic conference (2007). School improvement through teacher leadership, Fatimiyah education network
- Baig, S. (2007). Role of school leadership in enhancing home-school relationships in a community school in Karachi, Pakistan. Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan.
- Damani, F. (2011). Role of teacher's professional capacity building in enhancing school as a learning community. Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan.
- Farhan Raza, (2007), Magazines, my school, VIII-B Fatimiyah boy's school.
- Karim, A. (2008). High achieving schools of AKU-EB: Leadership roles and practices. Aga Khan University Karachi, Pakistan.
- Khan, S. (2009). Understanding how AKES, P head teachers respond to the increasing demands of their role in the context of Northern Areas of Pakistan). Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan
- L, R, Gay, (1992). Educational Research Macmillan publishing company united states of America, pg-18-20
- Masood, Shahina, (2001). The role of the Aga Khan education services, Pakistan in the uplift female education up to secondary school level in northern area of Pakistan (AIOU).
- Mirajuddin, (2008). Community involvement a sustainable approach to quality education in high mountainous area, Head of ministry evaluation and research section. Aga Khan Education service Pakistan, education Chitral, pg-2-3
- Sakina Nanji edition, (2011), magazine published by Fatimiyah education network 274, britto road, near Numaish, Karachi-27800 Pakistan.
- Sufiana K.Malik and Nadia Bibi, (2011). A study of contribution of Aga Khan Education, National University of Modern Languages (NUML) Islamabad Pakistan. P-133.