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Dynamics of Political Discussion of Voters in 2013 General Election in Pakistan

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ABSTRACT

Mass Media is among the major source to disseminate the political information in South Asia. Political news informs citizens regarding policies of political parties. Public and voters rely on political news on television, radio, social media and newspapers to know about the political world. This study examines the effects of mass media on the voters' participation in political discussion in general election 2013 in Pakistan. This study explores the process by which voters' behavior regarding political discussion is affected by political news exposure. For data collection, cross sectional survey method was used. The survey participants / respondents are primary school teacher voters in Lahore Division. Multistage purposive sampling technique was used for taking the sample of voters.

Key Words: Mass Media, Political News, Political Discussion, Political News Exposure, Cross Sectional Survey, Political interest, Multistage purposive sampling.

Introduction

Dominant elites of Pakistan were not in favor of liberal democracy. Jan (2010) argues that since 1947 the country has made three constitutions in 1956, 1962 and 1973.Weak democracy, martial law, rigged election, weak political structure and lack of rule of law did not let the democracy to thrive in Pakistan (Rizvi, 2002; Junejo, 2010).

Unfortunately in Pakistan, people witnessed only 10 General Elections since 1947 to 2013, with no distinction of being fair or unfair. Martial laws and military intervention ruled for long time in political history of Pakistan. Debacle of East Pakistan occurred as a result of 1970's transparent election. Government established as a result of 2002 election completed its tenure but election results were accused political.

2013 elections preparations were started during to ensure free and fair elections. After the previous elected government completed its tenure the transition of power to the other elected government was seen as the next target to strengthen democracy in Pakistan.

Media is an agent of socialization acted as a bridge between the masses and the government. Media when free and independent of outside interventions can induce significant change that can alter the whole course of future. Media can generate support or opposition among public over some issue of some policy, it can mobilize the masses for any cause by propagating its importance and developing a general consensus.

Pakistan is the 5th largest democracy of the world and yet the electoral process initiated as late as 23 years of its formation. The number of General Elections held in the history of Pakistan is counted as 10 (Askari & Shafi, 2013). The very first General Election, perceived fair as well, was held in 1970's in both East and West wings of Pakistan. Unfortunately power struggle between leaders and selfish interests of those atop didn't let the winning party materialize their victory and assume control. The tussle ended with the dismemberment of Pakistan and the emergence of Bangladesh. Another important factor was the lack of awareness among the general public regarding happenings on other side that caused the masses to depend on information coming from stakeholders. This absence of firsthand knowledge was exploited and aggravated by leaders inducing anger among public.

The second General Elections were held in 1977 in which PPP attained lead and National Alliances stood second. The situation was deteriorated due to the protests and civil disobedience carried out by the loosing alliance. This turmoil ultimately brought the two, ruling party and opposition, on the negotiation table. However military in no mood to extend anymore concession barged in, assuming control and toppling down the government.

The third General Elections took place in 1985 as Zia-ul-Haq planned to establish a local body government. These elections are not counted by many as General Elections because no political party was allowed to contest. By the virtue of these elections a technocrat rule headed by Zia's chosen Prime Minister M. Khan Junejo was installed (Afzal, 2013).

After the death of Zia in an air crash, seeking a new government the fourth General Elections took place 3 years later in 1988. The public participated well with 43 07. of turnout. Contested between Benazir Bhutto leading Peoples Party and Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) headed by Nawaz Sharif the elections resulted in the victory of former with 94 from 207 seats. The government was formed by making alliance with small parties and independent candidates.

All the key institutes such as Supreme Court, NADRA,HEC, Election Commission, government as well as army played an encouraging role to ensure fair elections but still the results revealed that more could have done.

The 9thGeneral Elections were held in 2008 however in a positively different scenario from the past i.e. it was the first time that a previously elected government completed its tenure and a peaceful transfer of power was anticipated.

Secondly near election days witnessed the loss of a big leader and then the consequent turmoil. The third and most unique development during these elections was the heavy influx of free and private Media which changed the entire state of affairs. In these elections many parties such as MMA, PMLN, PPP, PMLO, and MOM contested. Whereas PTI and JI decided to boycott the elections. The seats of National Assembly had already been increased, under the conduct of General Election Order 2002, from 207 general seats to 342 total seats by reserving 60 seats for women and 10 seats for minority's representation. This time turn out increased to 44%. PPP got lead by securing 124 seats while PMLN could get hold of 91 seats only. However no party get absolute majority in the elections which resulted in a hung parliament. The two major parties took a unique step by moving forward to make a coalition government. This was an admirable approach chosen by conventional competitors though it couldn't be sustained for long. The elections happened to benefit People's Party as it got the sympathy vote due to fierce media campaigning on Benazir assassination. Another important point to notice is that although PPP completed its 2008 tenure but the government, like ever, had been alleged for high levels of corruption which enlisted Pakistan with the status of second most corrupt state of the world.

Unlike the previous ones the 2013 General Elections were welcomed with favorable conditions as it not only involved the consent of all the political parties to contest but also conducted on time. On 11th May 2013 the 10th General Elections were held in which all the major parties PTI, PMLQ, MQM, PPP, JUL JI, ANP and PMLN took part as well as their due seats. The poll results established a hung parliament initially which after days of negotiation and inclusion of independent members in PMLN formed a government. It was a transition of power from one democratic government to another as well the one which completed its tenure i.e. it's the very first time in the history of Pakistan that a democratic government completed its full period as the previous governments were either not democratically elected or the period they survive was not more than 3 years. Moreover it was peacefully handed over to another democratically elected government which certainly marks a big step towards achieving political stability. Finally this was the first time when the 'Media'' mass as well social both served eminently and thoroughly across the country.

The recent tenth general elections held on 11th May 2013 established the government with ever receptive and mature environment. In the beginning the poll results brought forward a hung parliament which was quite predicted unlike the previous one.

The elections resulted in, though not an overall but, a clear majority of PML(N) which after a coalition talk till 19th May brought 19 independently won candidates that enabling PML(N) to form government and Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif became the 18th prime minister of Pakistan. These elections were

unique in nature as unlike the two conventional parties contesting each other, a new party emerged posing a great deal of threat to both and captured the position of third political power. For examining the role of news media including television, radio, newspapers and social media, this dissertation aims to explain the effects of political news exposure on voting behavior in election 2013 in Pakistan (Semetko, 1996)

The hallmark of General Elections of 2013 is peaceful and historic transfer of power from one democratic government, which completed its five years tenure, to another and the elections also witnessed a turnout rate of 55.02 which is the highest since 1970 and 1977. The results of elections are highly charged with allegation of rigging an absence of transparency but still one agreed success is the highest turnout. Among the many factors like demography, social problems, partisanship, ideology etc. which can be held responsible for voter mobilization stands distinct the enormous level of political awareness among the voters which is mainly due to independent and competitive media. Political campaign employs various channels like rallies, member meetings, press releases, pamphlets etc. to reach citizens, convince and mobilize them but currently the most convenient and used source is mass media. Mass media with its quick means of communication appeared to be the leading tool for parties' political campaign in the recent election. Many private channels advertised the paid political contents of multiple political parties and some parties owned channels were totally for the sole purpose of their party's publicity.

Some critics of Pakistani media are of the view that these channels are not meeting expectations to mobilize people to support democracy at the grassroots level. So, this media background also provides a context to check the level and effects of political news exposure on voting behavior in Pakistan.

In the light of both democratic context and media context in Pakistan, this research provides a baseline from a less developed democratic region to verify its results with that of the developed world for the better understanding of media and democracy. This study explores the political news exposure and its relationship with voter's behavior. Political news exposure has been explored on different mediums i.e. television, radio, social media and newspapers. On the other hand, voting behavior has been conceptualized as voter's motivation for political interest, political participation, political awareness and vote casting awareness. The study also reveals the effects of demographics (age, education) and predispositions (family political orientation, past political affiliation, political interest and ethnic values) on political news exposure and voters' voting behavior. In the Pakistani culture, these factors play a significant role for determining voting behavior of voters (Ahmed, 2008; Saleem, Hanan& Tariq, 2013; Hashmi&Majeed, 2015). For conceptual clarity present study gives a mediation model, which includes the factors of demographics, predispositions, political news exposure, political discussion and voting behavior regarding political motivation, political participation and vote casting. Political news may not have the direct effects on behavior, it affects the behavior indirectly through the mediation of discussion.

Literature review

Everett Rogers also revealed in his work "Media effects; advances in theory and research" employs a research methodology used by Paul Lazarsfeld, in which he gathers data about an important media event and analyses the impact of it over the evident behavior of voters. By means of data gathered effects are evaluated rather than after the immediate occurrence of event which is the focal point of his hypothesis that the minimal impact of media measured earlier might be due to the methodology employed. He conducted four investigations and suggested that "News media has a strong impact when its message stirs interpersonal discussion among masses about a topic through inter media processes". This illustrated that if political news let people talk about a specific topic or make it discussed in public circles then the news media will exhibit strong influence (Rogers, Jenning&Zillman, 2002). This study represented the inter-Media processes as the definite reason of strong impacts casted by news media and believed that the two channels work side by side to ensure effects.

In democratic states elections are considered the central to democracy. In political system of a country electoral politics holds the central place. The importance of political news and voting behavior has constantly driven the attention of political philosophers and scholars. It is essential here to discuss the literature and researches in area of effects of political news exposure on voting behavior in a democratic system.

Book on topic "Effects of Mass Communication" (1960) noted that political news affect the voting behavior but in specific situations it also has indirect impacts (Klapper, 1960). Klapper in his article "brink of hope" brought up a new direction in the research over effects of news media and worked on a shift of approach from hypodermic' to 'situational' or phenomenistic. This approach regarded news media as one of influences, working among other influences, in an overall situation instead of essential and adequate source of audience effect.Klapper also established the indirect impact of news media by citing the researches which focused on how some of the factors which effect people.

William Lockleys Miller in his book "Media and voters" noted news media effects on voting behavior (Miller, 1991). "The Media Effect: How the News Influences Politics and Government" described 1968 US presidential elections(Jim Willis,2007). "The Psychology of Media and politics" suggested that news media penetration changed the voting decisions of voters(Scherer&Comstock, 2005).

Political news motivates the interpersonal conversation among voters for decision to vote cast. Researches which were conducted in USA to figure out the decrease in voters' turnout noted, masses who keep away from casting their vote are politically well aware and noted that attention to hard news has effects on voting behavior (Macleod ,1981).Elections represent decision of voters and the effect of media on voters' preferences regarding vote casting. Effects of news media on voting behavior was identified as in 1940's and 1950's(Barelson et

al.,1954; Lazarsfaldet. al., 1948;). Role of news media continued to claim its impact on voting behavior (Bennett et, al., 1990;Mcquial .,1961).

Study of "Information and Public Choice; From Media Markets to Policy Making" revealed the contents of news media has impact on voters' choice.(RoumeenIslam.,2008). Her work suggested that news coverage and promotion by media can affect the behavior in political sphere as it strives to update voters with the leader's vision, actions and the outcomes of their actions, support or oppose political, economic or social issues which ultimately influence voting behavior.

James Simon and Bruce D. Merrill (1993) in "Revisiting Media choice and Election Turnout" exposed a strong relationship between voting behavior and daily news exposure for Arizona and ANES samples. Data were gathered on the frequency of news exposure by Arizona voters in 1990-1991 governors' campaign and compared to same queries of NES database of 1988. The result displayed 60 percent of the ANES confirmed voters and 78 percent of Arizona voters confessed that they use news media on daily basis throughout the week. While 18 percent ANES and 8 percent of Arizona voters were those who watched television news less than three times a week. The research also witnessed high rates of turnout in the voters who had either showed political interest, had closely followed the campaign, were educated or had relied on newspaper for political information and knowledge.

Mass communication role and interpersonal discussions was witnessed in four western democracies like Britain, Spain, United States and West Germany was examined by Schmitt-Beck (2004) through survey study. This study finds 'filter hypothesis' of Lazarsfeld's that interpersonal discussion mediates the effects of political news exposure on voting behavior.

The effects of political news over the voting pattern established the research scope, is further narrowed down to the group targeted media influence by Joel waldfogel (2008).She explained in 'Minority Targeted Local Media and Voter Turnout'. For this purpose data over the blacks' turnout in 1994 and 1998 elections collected from both areas with and without the presence of black targeted radio stations. The results revealed that in areas where blacks were exposed to black targeted media the turnout showed a noticeable rate from 49 to 53 percent while in the areas without a black targeted news media the turnout was low as 41 to 34 percent. It showed that presence of this targeted local news media increases those groups turnout in local elections by large and statistically significant amounts.

In their study it was found that during a campaign collective shifts are likely to be observed at individual level changes can take place in a politically related variable, such as granting more attention to news media. The study insisted that news media could have both mobilizing and demobilizing effect depending on its channels. Where serious news channels and newspapers papers happened to promote political system support at the same time certain television advertisements and TV3 of New Zealand did the opposite. But other than television and radio, if

there is any impact of news media than its most of times positive, increasing trust level of voters and efficiency towards political system. The study concluded though news media campaign induces change in voters' behavior but these changes are usually short lived.

Political parties and their leadership

Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz)

PML (N) won majority seats in 1990, 1997 and 2013 general elections in Pakistan. PML (N) formed the government and Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, president of PML (N) became the Prime Minister of Pakistan thrice. Since foundation of PML (N), the Pakistan Muslim League, Nawaz together with the People's Party, has dominated two party political systems. In 2008 election party was elected as the main opposition party. After the 2013 elections, Nawaz Sharif elected the Prime Minister to obtain an unprecedented third power. Since elections held from 1985 to 2013 party formed the government five times in Punjab province. Party objectives oppose military power and advocates free market capitalism, democratic ideals and anti censorship etc. This party is mostly popular and famous in the province of Punjab.

Pakistan People's Party (PPP)

After its foundation by Z.A.Bhutto, the party gained prominence at an immediate, gravitating the poor masses, peasants, workers and students. Pakistan People Party won 1970, 1977, 1988, 1993, and 2008's election in Pakistan and formed the government. In July 1977, Bhutto was arrested and the military government filed some criminal charges against him. He was executed on 4 April 1979. Benazir Bhutto, the daughter of Bhutto became president of party and became the twice Prime Minister of Pakistan as a result of winning 1998 and 1993 general election. Ms. Bhutto returned back to Pakistan in October 2007. Ms. Bhutto was murdered shortly after the rally on December 27, 2007.Party was led by Asif Ali Zardari after the assassination of Benazir Bhutto and took part in general elections in 2008 and won the elections and made government.PPP lost the general elections 2013 in Pakistan, and sit on opposition benches.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI)

PTI is founded in 1996 by Imran Khan. By creating a tripartite system in Pakistan PTI became fastest growing political party. It promoted the freedom of thought of Pakistan, and the removal of religious discrimination. After the establishment in 1996, the party did not succeed in the early days and failed to win a single seat. In 2002 election party won only one seat and boycotted the 2008 general election in Pakistan. In 2013 general election in Pakistan 7.5 million votes were polled in

favor of PTI and PTI was successful to make Government in KPK province while in National Assembly emerged a major opposition party.

Awami National Party (ANP)

ANP is left-wing Pashtun and liberal political party in Pakistan. ANP's political stance was considered a leftist that advocates secularism, democratic socialism. During the 2008-13 period, ANP formed government in KPK province and coalition with PPP-led Cabinet.

Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI)

Jamiat Ulema-e Islam (JUI) was founded in 1945.In 1988 it was named JUI (F) as result of party internal factional split. JUI-F is the fifth largest party in Pakistan. In 2013 general election JUI (F), won 3.2 per cent of the vote and 15 National Assembly seats. It is mostly popular in the south of the KPK and the northern part of Balochistan.

Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM)

Altaf Hussain founded MQM in 1984.Initially it represents only Muhajir community, later on the Muhajir Qaumi Movement was converted to MQM. Since the late 1980s i.e. (in general elections of 1988, 1990, 1993, 1997, 2002, 2008 - 2013), the party has been a key player of the Pakistani federal government as a coalition partner.

Pakistan Muslim League (PML Q)

PML (Q) is a nationalist political party in Pakistan. In 2013 Parliamentary election, it has a representation of 2 seats. Its leadership and members were once part of the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) presided by former prime minister Nawaz Sharif. After the 1997 general elections, political differences arose that led to the creation of a faction inside the party. The dissidents, led by Shujaat Hussain, called for strong and vocal support for the 1999 General Parvez Musharaff military coup. In 2002, dissident leaders launched the party and won majority seat in 2002 general election and formed the government in Pakistan.

Jamat-e-Islami (JI)

JI, is a socially conservative and Islamic political party in Pakistan. Ambition of JI is to make Pakistan an Islamic state by following the political process under Islamic law jurisdiction. JI capitalism, liberalism, socialism, communism, secularism and bank interest. Jamaat-e-Islami was founded by Muslim theologian and socio political philosopher Abul Ala Maududi in Lahore, 1941. In Pakistan's political history Jamaat-e-Islami came under severe government oppression in

1948, 1953, and 1963. However, during the regime of General Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq,JI members hold cabinet portfolios in military led coalition government. JI opposed the independence of Bangladesh (Debacle of East Pakistan)during liberation war in 1971. In early 1980s, JI has also developed close links with Jamaat-e-Islami Kashmir. The party is influential and regarded major Islamic movement in Pakistan.

Awami Muslim League (AML)

Shaikh Rasheed Ahmad formed AML in 2008.He is famous for his rhetoric and appearance in mainstream media. Shaikh Rasheed Ahmad won 6 consecutive elections but lost 2008 general election.

All Pakistan Muslim League (APML)

APML is a political party established by Pervez Musharraf in 2010. Central secretariat of APML is located in Islamabad, Pakistan. The General Elections of Pakistan were held in 2013. APML won 1 National Assembly seat and 1 Provincial Assembly seat from Chitral in 2013 general election in Pakistan. Due to cases registered against Party chairman Pervez Musharraf he was barred from contesting Elections in 2013.

Theoretical foundation

In study "Effects of Exposure to Electronic Media Political Content on Voters' Voting Behavior" revealed a positive correlation. Findings proved the hypotheses "the more the voter spends time on the type of Mass Media political content, then the more the likelihood of acquiring political information" that means political news has effect on voting behaviors of voters in Pakistan.(Yaser, Mahsud& Chaudry:2011)

Katz and Lazarsfeld (1955) presented idea of "Filter Hypothesis". Interpersonal discussion gets power by indirect route through which media news and information could be assessed through filters. This hypotheses states that interpersonal political discussion and conversation mediates the influence of news media on voting behavior (Schmitt-Beck, 2004). These researches show that before political decisions, media content passes through interpersonal networks, social norms, and social networking. Therefore in present research, this development is viewed as start of deliberative thoughts.

Habermas(1992) discussed in "Communicative Action" and "Public Sphere" that interpersonal political discussions is considered an important element of society. He suggested that through interpersonal political discussions masses get mutual understanding and communication reasoning. It can be observed that media, interpersonal discussion and public opinion are linked with each other. For large percentage of citizens, this type of conversation needs certain means of

influence. Today's news media like TV, newspapers and radio are considered medium of the public sphere.

He stressed that a group of voters become a public after discussing its reasons (Habermas,1989) which is a process of making use of the reason. Voters get cues from the analysis provided by media experts. These cues become talking points among the voters (Page, 1996; p.4). Page and other researchers suggested for voters to avoid muddy elements. (Shapiro& Page, 1992; Habermas, 2006). According to this concept discussing process of voters based upon the discussion of the media professionals. For rational thinking of voters, media discussions quality should fulfill features of mediated deliberations (Gastil, 2008,) and it paved the way for the right decisions of voters (Habermas, 2006). Citizen journalism has emerged in world especially in USA and Europe. Gastil (2008) found that "A more public-oriented journalism, coupled with a diverse proliferation of bloggers and micro journalists, would likely improve the deliberative quality of the larger media system".

Gamson (1992) studied that political issues that news media provides, voters construct meanings of their social world by discussing those issues. Political discussions and conversation in everyday life produce the concept of collectiveness which Gamson named "collective action frame". These conceptualizations pave the way for dialogic to ordinary citizens in their daily lives. They provide different perspectives to the citizens on political issues through deliberation. So, media is taken as main player of indirect mediation. Gamson(2001) has also offered recommended for news coverage to promote citizens engagement in politics. His recommendation centers on the use of what he calls collective action frames. These frames highlight positive aspects of social movement and would "offer ways of understanding that imply the need for and desirability of some form of action". To be effective, these frames should offer three components: injustice, identity and agency. They need to reveal an existing harm or injustice, identify especially who is doing harm and who is being harmed (identity), and finally, explain the possibility of collective action to address the injustice. News media typically focus on framing injustice but don't do as well with agency and identity. Gamson stresses the necessity of including agency in news frames. Gamson argues that most Americans are discouraged about their ability to take collective action against injustice. Centralized, hierarchical, national corporations and a national state dominate public policy. American political culture operates to produce quiescence and passivity. Injustice is often committed by government or corporations, institutions that most people find unassailable.

In Pakistani society, it has been noticed that because of social media in Pakistan the deliberative quality of media has increased. Pakistani mainstream media is analyzing and discussing on different political issues. Keeping in view above mediated discussion of deliberation, it may be expected that for strengthening the democracy in Pakistan media professionals should move forward towards deliberation. This dissertation provides a platform to gauge whether Pakistani media is deliberative or not. So, the deliberative democratic theory may

be observed by placing the news media in middle of public and media professionals.

Research Questions:

RQ. What is the relationship between political news exposure and voter's political discussion?

Method and measures

The research is conducted by using Survey Research Method and is a Quantitative study. The universe or population of the present study was comprised of Lahore city and sample population consisted of City Lahore. Well constructed questionnaire was formulated to gauge relationship between respondent political news exposure and their participation in political discussion.

Sample of primary school teachers was chosen by multistage, purposive sampling in selected schools of Lahore, Sheikhupura, Nankana Sahib and Kasur.

Frequency Distribution of Political Discussion

Frequency Distribution of Political Discussion						
Table : Frequency Distribution of Political Discussion						
Statement	Levels	Frequency	Percent			
	Never DK	64	10.0			
	Little	140	21.8			
At what level you discuss political issues with your	Somewhat	204	31.7			
family and peers?	Often	134	20.8			
	Very often	101	15.7			
	Total	643	100.0			
	Never DK	124	19.3			
	Little	135	21.0			
At what level you discuss political issues with your colleagues?	Somewhat	198	30.8			
	Often	122	19.0			
	Very often	64	10.0			
	Total	643	100.0			
At what level you discuss political issues with your relatives?	Never DK	170	26.4			
	Little	249	38.7			
	Somewhat	145	22.6			
	Often	63	9.8			
	Very often	16	2.5			
	Total	643	100.0			
	Never DK	289	44.9			
	Little	183	28.5			

Data analysis

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Statement	Levels	Frequency	Percent
At what level you discuss political issues with local	Somewhat	63	9.8
leaders ?	Often	58	9.0
	Very often	50	7.8
	Total	643	100.0

Table : Correlation Analysis of Relationship of Political News Exposure and Political Discussion

		At what	At what	At what	At what level you
		level	level you	level you	discuss political
		you	discuss	discuss	issues with local
		discuss	political	political	leaders ?
		political	issues with	issues	
		issues	your	with	
		with	colleagues?	your	
		your		relatives?	
		family			
		and			
		peers?			
At what level you	Pearson	1	.027	.114**	.032
discuss political issues	Correlation	-			
with your family and	Sig. (2-		.501	.004	.414
peers?	tailed)				
	N	<mark>643</mark>	643	643	643
At what level you	Pearson	.027	1	.288**	.383**
discuss political issues	Correlation				
with your colleagues?	Sig. (2-	.501		.000	.000
	tailed)				
	N	643	<mark>643</mark>	643	643
	Pearson	.114**	.288**	1	.260**
	Correlation				
At what level you	Sig. (2-	.004	.000		.000
discuss political issues	tailed)				
with your relatives?	N	643	643	<mark>643</mark>	643
	Pearson	.032	.383**	.260**	1
	Correlation				
At what level you	Sig. (2-	.414	.000	.000	
discuss political issues	tailed)				
with local leaders ?	N	643	643	643	<mark>643</mark>
	1 0 01		•		

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

This study explores the frequency distribution of extent political discussion and its issues with friends, and family members. The results showed that large percentage (31.7%) of total respondents reported up to somewhat level they discussed political issues with their family and peers. The analysis revealed that maximum (21.8%) of total respondents reported that at little level they discussed political issues with their family members. Furthermore, it was evident that most of the respondents reported that they discussed politics with family and peers (31.7%), family (33.7%) and colleagues (30.8%). Majority (38.7%) expressed they discussed little on politics with their relatives. The analysis also showed that maximum respondents reported that they never discussed political with local community leader and politics parties members. As regard to political discussion with relatives, maximum (38.7%) respondents reported that they discuss political they discuss political discussion with relatives.

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