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**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PSYCHOPATHY AND PERSONALITY TYPES AMONG PAKISTANI INDIVIDUALS**

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**Abstract**

The assessment of Psychopathic personality and its impact has been widely studied forensic concept. Psychopathy has been studied with other concepts such as crimes, aggression, violence, personality. Current study aimed to assess the relationship between psychopathy and personality traits. It also aimed to assess these variables with reference to demographic characteristics (age, gender). Two instruments were used Urdu Psychopathy Scale (Dil & Kazmi, 2016), NEO-FFI Urdu (Khan et al., 2013). A sample of 954 individuals were approached. Results revealed that psychopathy is positively related to neuroticism and extroversion and negatively related to agreeableness and conscientiousness. Age is negatively related to psychopathy. Significant gender differences exist with respect to psychopathy, neuroticism, agreeableness, extroversion and conscientiousness.

**Keywords:** Psychopathy, Personality, Pakistani, Age, Neuroticism, Extroversion, conscientiousness.

**Introduction**

The understanding of human personality both on darker side such a psychopathy and normal side as defined by Five Factor Model is really important. Psychopath is conceptualized by coldness, carelessness, arrogance, grandiosity, ability to manipulate, irresponsible, impulsive and dangerous behaviors, selfishness, lacking remorse, and guilt (Babiak et al., 2010). Wynn et al. (2012) pointed out that psychopaths are disrespectful to norms and rules of society. Psychopaths are found among criminal recidivists, drug dealers, sex offenders, tricksters, armed forces, political leaders, lawyers, con artist, corrupt sellers, and religious leaders.

Male show higher levels of psychopathy as compared to females (Carroll et al., 2010; Harris et al., 2007).

The FFM or Big Five acronym as OCEAN or CANOE (Openness, Conscientiousness, Extroversion, Agreeableness, and Neuroticism) are best description of personality as compared to two, three, sixteen or forty factor model (John and Srivasta, 1999). Big Five covers clusters of more specific traits (Fayombo, 2010).

Neuroticism is characterized by difficulty in regulating emotion and poor social skills (Hettema et al., 2006). Neuroticism is opposite to emotional stability. Neurotic may lack fear and anxiety, and may appear emotionally flat in stressful situations (Miller & Pilkonis, 2006).

Extroversion is characterized by sociability, assertiveness, agility (Fayombo, 2010; Judge & Bono, 2000). Extroversion is also characterized by excitement seeking (Poropat, 2009). Extroverts are assertive, friendly, active, and pleasure seekers (Roccas et al., 2002). There is positive association among extreme levels of extroversion, risk taking and sensation-seeking behavior (Malouff et al., 2005).

Openness to Experience is defined as tendency for innovative thoughts and experiences (Hall et al., 2004). Individuals scoring high on openness tend to tolerate diversity, and are politically liberal. Openness is expressed in terms of creativity, sensitivity, consideration and open-mindedness as well as adjustment to new ideas and activities (Poropat, 2009). Individuals scoring low on openness tend to be conservative and practical, and value tradition. Openness is related to intellect, enthusiasm and creativity (Herzhoff & Tackett, 2012).

Agreeableness is characterized by benevolence, traditional attitude, and conformity. High levels of agreeableness are associated with avoiding achievement, power, and selfish pleasures as important. Individuals with high agreeableness fulfill responsibilities and follow societal norms and rules and are kind, having friendly nature and gentle (Roccas et al., 2002). Researchers have reported the relationship between low agreeableness, conduct disorder, substance abuse and delinquency (Anderson et al., 2007). Shiner (2009) reported relationship between low agreeableness and manipulation, pessimism and at extreme low it is associated with aggressive, vengeful, callous, and mistrusting.

Conscientiousness is related to rigidity, compulsivity, and perfectionism, person having low scores on conscientiousness tends to be irresponsible, risk takers impulsive and careless (Prinzie et al., 2003). Fayombo (2010) reported that conscientiousness personality was related with being organized, thorough, planning as well as having impulse control.

Lynam and Derefinko (2006) in a meta-analysis revealed positive relationship between psychopathy and neuroticism, negative relationship of psychopathy with extroversion, openness, agreeableness and conscientiousness (see also, Decyper et al., 2009).

## **Method**

### **Objectives**

1. The study aimed to assess levels of psychopathy and personality traits of participants.
2. The study focused to assess the relationship between psychopathy and personality traits.
3. The study also focused on assessing demographic differences (age, gender) with respect to psychopathy and personality traits.

### **Hypotheses**

To fulfil the objectives of the current study following hypotheses were formulated.

1. Psychopathy is negatively related to agreeableness and conscientiousness.
2. Psychopathy has positive relationship with openness, neuroticism and extroversion.
3. Demographic differences (age, gender) exists with respect to psychopathy, and personality traits of individuals.

### **Sample**

For the current study a sample 954 individuals, having age range of 13-42, males and females, who volunteered for the participation, was taken from different institutions and organizations of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The sample comprised of individuals who could read Urdu.

**Table 2***Distribution of Sample on the Basis of Demographic from Main Study (N = 956)*

Characteristic	f	%
<b>Age</b>		
Min	13	
Max	42	
Did not Specify	10	
<b>Family Income</b>		
Min	10000	
Max	600000	
Did not Specify	10	
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	493	51.7
Female	454	47.9
Did not Specify	7	.7
<b>Family System</b>		
Nuclear	37	37
Joint	48	48
Did not Specify	15	15
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Pathan	266	27.9
Awan	106	11.1
Swati	79	8.3
Syed	62	6.5
Rajpot	35	3.7
Tanoli	34	3.6
Afghan	21	2.2
Mughal	21	2.2
Sardar	19	2.0
Gujjar	18	1.9
Qureshi	17	1.8
Jadoon	14	1.5
Malik	10	1.0
Abbasi	9	.9
Khokhar	6	.6
Kohistani	3	.3
Bhatti	3	.3
Araen	3	.3
Jatt	3	.3
Others	63	6.6
Did not Specify	162	17.0
<b>Education</b>		
Matric	155	16.2
FA/FSc	74	7.8
BA/BSc	77	8.1

BS/MSc	482	50.5
MPhil/PhD	13	1.4
MBBS	63	6.6
Others	8	.8
Did not specify	82	8.6

### Definition of Variables

**Psychopathy.** Psychopathy is characterized by pathological lying, mercilessness, apathy, ability to manipulate others, poor anger management, irresponsibility, unstable interpersonal relationship, criminal behavior. Psychopathy is operationally defined on the scores obtained on psychopathy scale (Dil & Kazmi, 2016).

**Personality Type.** Personality is defined as inner dynamic organization of psychophysical systems within the person that generate the person's distinctive patterns of behavior, thoughts, and feelings (Allport, 1961). In current study, personality type was defined on the basis of scores obtained on following sub-facets of NEO-FFI Urdu (Khan et al., 2013).

**Neuroticism.** Neuroticism is a broad domain of negative affect. Neuroticism includes tendencies to experience negative emotional states such as anger, anxiety, depression etc (Costa Jr et al., 2001).

**Extroversion.** Extroversion is defined as tendency to enjoy and interact generally with talkative and self-assured company. Individuals with high levels of extroversion are involved actively in a wide variety of activities (Khan et al., 2013).

**Openness to experience.** Openness to Experience is defined as individual's ability to be imaginative, aesthetic sense, behavioral flexibility, and intellectual curiosity (Khan et al., 2013).

**Agreeableness.** Agreeableness is related to kindness, cooperativeness, sensitivity to and concerned about others (Khan et al., 2013).

**Conscientiousness.** Individual with high conscientiousness desire orderliness, are organized, and efficient in their responsibilities and duties. They make considerable effort to become dependable, through and achievement-oriented (Khan et al., 2013).

### Instruments

**Urdu Psychopathy Scale.** A 70 items Urdu Psychopathy Scale (Dil & Kazmi, 2016) is used to assess psychopathy. The response ranges from strongly agree to strongly disagree. The reported alpha reliability of the scale is .901.

**NEO-PI FFI Urdu.** NEO-PI FFI is translated by Khan et al. (2013). It consists of 120 items. Items are scored on a five point Likert scale consisting of five subscales namely: Neuroticism; Extroversion; Openness to Experience; Agreeableness and Conscientiousness.

### Research Design

In current study, correlational research design was used to collect data through cross-sectional survey.

### Procedure

A sample of 954 individuals were approached in group setting from institutions and organizations in Khyber Pakthoonkhaw and AJK. After brief introduction about the nature and purpose of the research, they were asked for their voluntary participation. They were ensured about the confidentiality and privacy of the data as well as secured communication of the results. They were also asked to fill the form carefully while answering all question. The participants were thanked for their participation. data were entered in SPSS-20 for final analysis.

### Results

Results were calculated using SPSS-20. Descriptive and inferential statistics were calculated. Alpha reliability, t-test, and correlation analysis were performed.

**Table 2**

Alpha reliability of the Psychopathy Scale and NEO-FFI (N = 954)

Scale	No of Items	M	SD	α	Range		Skewness
					Potential	Actual	
PS	70	194.81	32.78	.904	70-350	94-308	.057
N	24	72.09	10.82	.700	24-120	35-103	-.121
O	24	74.42	7.43	.520	24-120	49-100	.210
A	24	84.81	10.88	.737	24-120	41-112	-.371
E	20	82.35	8.19	.602	24-120	54-122	-.029
C	24	80.03	11.75	.772	24-120	44-119	.199

Note. PS = Psychopathy Scale; N = Neuroticism; O = Openness to Experience; A = Agreeableness; E = Extroversion; C = Conscientiousness.

The results in above table indicate the alpha reliability of the psychopathy and NEO-FFI subscales. Alpha values for psychopathy is .904, whereas alpha values for neuroticism, openness, agreeableness, extroversion and conscientiousness ranges from .520 to .772, that indicate the NEO-FFI subscales have above average reliability for openness and extroversion and high reliability for neuroticism, agreeableness, and conscientiousness.

**Table 3**

Summary of Intercorrelation among Psychopathy Scale, Extremism Scale and NEO-FFI subscales (N=954)

Measure	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	M	SD
1. PS	-	.29***	-.04	-.57***	.09**	-.39***	-.08*	194.81	32.78
3. N		-	.11***	-.19***	-.16***	.54***	.03	72.09	10.82
4. O			-	.11***	.14***	.01	-.05	74.42	7.43
5. A				-	-.01	.36***	.05	84.81	10.88
6. E					-	.28***	.02	82.35	8.19
7. C						-	-.05	80.03	11.75
8. Age							-	20.90	3.28

Note. PS = Psychopathy Scale; ES = Extremism Scale; N = Neuroticism; O = Openness to Experience; A = Agreeableness; E = Extroversion; C = Conscientiousness.

p > .05. \*p < .05. \*\*\*p < .001.

The results of intercorrelation among study variables revealed that there is significant positive correlation among psychopathy and neuroticism and extroversion. Psychopathy has negative correlation with agreeableness and conscientiousness. Age is negatively related to psychopathy.

**Table 4**

Gender differences in Psychopathy, Extremism and NEO-FFI (N = 947)

Variable	Male (n=493)		Female (n=454)		t(945)	P	95% CI		Cohen's d
	M	SD	M	SD			LL	UL	
PS	197.74	35.08	191.53	29.99	2.92	.004	-2.91	2.95	.19

<b>ES</b>	351.34	51.78	336.59	53.16	4.32	<.001	-4.29	5.17	.28
<b>N</b>	70.92	10.51	73.28	11.01	3.38	.001	-1.15	.79	.23
<b>O</b>	74.37	7.42	74.36	7.36	.007	.995	-.65	.68	.00
<b>A</b>	83.93	11.45	85.76	10.12	2.59	.01	-1.18	.76	.17
<b>E</b>	83.82	7.89	80.73	8.16	5.92	<.001	-.31	1.14	.39
<b>C</b>	81.88	12.43	78.00	10.67	5.13	<.001	-.76	1.32	.33

Note. PS = Psychopathy Scale; ES = Extremism Scale; N = Neuroticism; O = Openness to Experience; A = Agreeableness; E = Extroversion; C = Conscientiousness.

The results in table 4 indicate that there are significant gender differences in psychopathy, neuroticism, agreeableness, extroversion and conscientiousness. Whereas no significant differences were observed for the openness.

### Discussion

Current research is a step towards bridging the gap of assessing the relationship among psychopathy and personality type of Pakistani individuals. The concept that is gaining much attention in social scientists from different domains.

It was hypothesized that psychopathy and neuroticism are positively correlated. The results in table 3 indicated a positive relationship between psychopathy and neuroticism ( $r = .29, p < .001$ ). Douglas et al. (2012) found that there was positive relationship between psychopathy and neuroticism (see also Baess, 2016).

The results in table 3 revealed a negative relationship between psychopathy and agreeableness. Current results are in line with previous researches such as Kajonius et al. (2015) and Plousffe et al. (2017) reported agreeableness was negatively related to psychopathy.

The results in table 3 revealed negative relationship between conscientiousness and psychopathy. Previous researcher such as Kajonius et al. (2015) and Baess (2016) reported negative relationship between psychopaths and conscientiousness.

The results of study also indicated positive relationship between psychopathy and extroversion. The results are in line with literature as Douglas et al. (2012) reported that psychopathy is positively related to extroversion.

Present study did not reveal any relationship between psychopathy and openness. The results are contrary to most literature available about the relationship between psychopathy and openness. As Douglas et al. (2012) observed that psychopathy related negatively to the openness to experience (see also Kajonius et al., 2015; Lee & Ashton, 2013).

Gender differences emerged with reference to psychopathy ( $t = 2.92, p < .01$ ) with male scoring higher compared to females. Previous researchers such as Dotterer (2014) and Borroni et al. also reported higher psychopathy scores among males as compared to females

Gender difference emerged with reference to neuroticism ( $t = 3.38, p < .001$ ) with female having higher levels of neuroticism. Vianello et al. (2013) and Borroni et al. (2014) reported that females score higher on neuroticism.

The results in table 14 revealed that females scored higher on agreeableness as compared to males ( $t = 2.59, p < .01$ ). The results are in line with previous literature on agreeableness. Schmitt et al. (2008), Rahmani and Lavasani (2012) and Vianello et al. (2013) reported higher levels of agreeableness among females.

The results revealed that males scored higher on conscientiousness as compared to females ( $t = 5.13, p < .001$ ; see table 4). However, the results regarding gender differences with respect to

conscientiousness are different. Schmitt et al. (2008) reported that females tend to more conscientious as compared to males. In another study Shokri et al. (2007) found that males score higher on conscientiousness as compared to females.

The results in Table 4 revealed that males scored higher on extroversion as compared to females ( $t = 5.92$ ;  $p < .001$ ). The results are in line with previous researches. Shokri et al. (2007) reported that males score significantly higher on extroversion as compared to females. According to Vianello et al. (2013) male tends to score lower on extroversion. Whereas Borroni et al. (2014) found no differences between males and females with respect to extroversion.

The results in table 4 revealed that there are no significant gender differences with respect to openness. Contrary to the findings, Vecchione et al. (2012) found that females scored higher on openness to experience compared to males. Similar findings were also reported by Borroni et al. (2014).

### Conclusion

Present study investigated the relationship between psychopathy and personality type. Psychopathy is positively related to neuroticism and extroversion, whereas it is negatively related agreeableness and conscientiousness. Male differed from females with respect to psychopathy, neuroticism, agreeableness, extroversion and conscientiousness.

### Limitation and Suggestions

As in the case of social science researches, present study has following limitations

1. Self-report measures were used in current study, that may have effect on social desirability. Other techniques such as criminal records, projective techniques should be used to assess the variables.
2. The present study accessed only literate population who can read and write *Urdu*. For further studies it is recommended that illiterate population be included to get more diversity in population thus increasing its generalizability.
3. Due to financial limitations and time limits, population was taken from Kyber Pakhtunkhwa only. Including other areas will have more insight into the factors.
4. Due to limited access to criminal population, the criminals were not studied. Future study should be conducted on normal as well as incarcerated individuals to compare both.

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