

Economic Functioning of Secondary Cities of Pakistan and its Integration with the Physical Land-use: Case of Larkana and Mansehra

**Masooma Mohib Shakir
Suneela Ahmed**

Abstract

Secondary/ intermediary cities are important urban centers in their physical and economic contexts. They play a vital role in the linkage of the rural economy to the larger network of cities/primate cities. A UN HABITAT and NED University collaborated project was initiated at the Department of Architecture and Planning, NED University in 2011. This project was based upon case study documentation, analysis and urban design alternatives formulation of 08 secondary cities of Pakistan. Drawing from the above mentioned research and study the following paper aims to highlight the economic role of secondary cities as urban centers in Pakistan. Looking at the economic role of two cities of varying provincial contexts from Pakistan; namely Larkana and Mansehra, located in Sindh and Khyber Pakhtoon Khawa (KPK) the prevalent land uses with respect to the economic functioning of the cities are outlined, their potential as intermediate urban centers is highlighted and the key issues in the economic functioning of the city are looked at in terms of physical development and land use planning of the cities. Cross analysis between the cities highlighting the contextual differences, political setups, role of the informal sector and resultant morphology of the cities has been presented.

International and national literature review has been conducted to understand the relationship of economic status of an urban area and impact upon urban morphology and approach of developing countries in proposing policy recommendations to create equitable cities that cater to balance land uses.