

# Development of Holistic Scale of Wellbeing-Preliminary (HSW-P) for Young Adults in Pakistan

Zehra Keshf<sup>1</sup>, Arif Nadeem<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PhD Scholar, Department of Applied Psychology, Government College University Faisalabad, Pakistan.

<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Applied Psychology, Government College University Faisalabad, Pakistan.

Correspondence: [zehrakeshf@gmail.com](mailto:zehrakeshf@gmail.com)<sup>1</sup>

## ABSTRACT

**Aim of the Study:** Wellbeing has undoubted value for all. However, an indigenously developed comprehensive scale for general wellbeing was needed in Pakistan. This study aimed to develop a wellbeing scale for indigenous youth of the country.

**Methodology:** After qualitative exploration of wellbeing among local young adults, a bilingual wellbeing scale was developed. Item pool was generated based on interviews conducted in a prior study exploring wellbeing of young Pakistani adults. Transcribed interviews were read and all possible items were written down. The first draft contained 111 items which resulted in a 52-item second draft after removing ambiguous and repetitive items. Items in the scale were written in two languages, i.e. English and Urdu. Urdu, the national language, is spoken and written across Pakistan.

**Findings:** A 29-item Holistic Scale of Wellbeing-Preliminary (HSW-P) emerged after EFA on proportionate sample of 402 young adults. Alpha reliability (0.90), split half reliability (0.87;  $p < 0.001$ ), divergent validity with DASS-21 and convergent validity with PERMA Profiler was assessed.

**Conclusion:** HSW-P is a scientifically sound bilingual measure of wellbeing which opens pathways for indigenous research on wellbeing.

**Keywords:** Scale Development; General Wellbeing; Youth; Adults; Psychometrics

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Wellbeing is significantly important for all people. People attempt to achieve wellbeing as it is the ideal state of existence (Knight & McNaught, 2011). Yet the concept is not concrete and many ways are used to define and assess it. A single all-encompassing definition of wellbeing is hard to find (Simons & Baldwin, 2021). Recent developments consider wellbeing to be an all-encompassing macro construct which includes family, society and community as a whole (Placa et al., 2013).

### 1.1 Existing Measures of Wellbeing

Different definitions and different theoretical underpinnings have resulted in diverse assessment measures for wellbeing, however, many a times it is unclear what is being measured in the name of wellbeing

(Linton et al., 2016). Given the excessive number of wellbeing related scales, it might be a miracle to gather and analyze them all. A systematic review by Linton et al. (2016) covered 99 wellbeing scales for adults from 1993 to 2014. They identified 196 dimensions grouped into six major categories including mental, social, physical and spiritual well-being, activities and functioning, and personal circumstances.

An oft-used wellbeing tool is PERMA profiler (Butler & Kern, 2016) based on Seligman's (2018) PERMA model. Simple language, large sample for scale development, free availability of scale and ease of scoring contribute to its popularity. Comprehensive inventory of thriving has 18 subscales like meaning, optimism, relationship. Brief version containing only 10 subscales is also available (Su et al., 2014). Flourishing Index (VanderWeele, 2017) has 12 items and 6 subscales namely happiness and life satisfaction, mental and physical health, meaning and purpose, character and virtue, and close social relationships.

Some historically popular wellbeing scales include Psychological Wellbeing Scale (Ryff, 1989) having six domains: autonomy, personal growth, positive relations, environmental mastery, purpose and self-acceptance. Flourishing Scale (Diener et al., 2010) measures psychological wellbeing as it covers positive relationships, feelings of competence and meaning in life. 14-item Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (WEMWBS) (Tennant et al., 2007) and its subsequent 7-item version (Stewart-Brown et al., 2009) for mental wellbeing are also common. WHO-5 is often used to assess quality of life or overall wellbeing with only five items (Topp et al., 2015).

## ***1.2 Need for Indigenous Measure of Wellbeing***

The authors aimed to assess general wellbeing of young adults in Pakistan. For this purpose, we scrutinized the available scales and considered PERMA profiler as a suitable comprehensive tool. We pilot tested its English version on 25 university students from 5<sup>th</sup> semester of undergraduate program in a social sciences department. Many apparently simple English words like 'worthwhile' and 'extent' were not understandable for some students. Therefore, we discarded the idea of using English language scale.

Four wellbeing scales were found to be translated and validated in Urdu, the local language of Pakistan, including flourishing scale (Choudhry et al., 2018), WHO-5 (Shahzad et al., 2023), Ryff's psychological wellbeing scale (Jibeen & Khalid, 2012), and PERMA profiler (Faran & Malik, 2021). The former two scales have no subscales whereas later two have multiple subscales but they might lack important indigenous wellbeing indicators. Most of the wellbeing scales originate from developed English speaking countries having white populations in majority. Cultural variations cannot be downplayed when wellbeing assessment is considered for a country like Pakistan. Sources of wellbeing can vary greatly in different contexts (Exenberger et al., 2019). Therefore, while considering a translated version of a scale, it is important to consider whether it encompasses all elements pertaining to the wellbeing of indigenous Pakistani population.

Hence, a phenomenological exploration of factors contributing to wellbeing of young adults in Pakistan was conducted by presenting 10 respondents with APA definition of wellbeing "a state of happiness and contentment, with low levels of distress, overall good physical and mental health and outlook, or good quality of life" (American Psychological Association, 2018). Financial stability, fulfillment of basic needs, external pressure, and familial support were oft-repeated factors. These factors particularly financial stability is not covered in any Urdu version.

This led us to explore indigenously developed scales for wellbeing. To the best of our knowledge, only one wellbeing scale titled ICP Subjective Wellbeing Scale was developed in Karachi, Pakistan (Moghal, 2013). It was based on Diener's (1994) idea of positive and negative emotions, hence, items focus on emotions only, making it unfit for assessing general wellbeing. In light of above details about wellbeing measures, developing an indigenous wellbeing scale was inevitable.

### ***1.3 Theoretical Framework***

Wellbeing has been explained by two major theoretical approaches. Objective list theories claim that anything which is objectively valuable will have a positive impact of wellbeing. Contrarily, desire theories postulate that anything desired by an individual is important for their wellbeing. A hybrid of these two approaches is presented by William Lauinger (2021). Desire-perfectionism theory (Lauinger, 2021) merges these two by stating that the objectively good things when desired by an individual become influential for his/her wellbeing. So, for example, health, money, mental peace, relationships etc. are objectively good; if a person desires them, then these will contribute to that person's wellbeing. This research aims to assess wellbeing of young adults keeping this theory in context.

### ***1.4 Study Objective***

The objective of current study is to develop an indigenous general wellbeing scale for young adults.

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

### ***2.1 Step 1: Generating Item Pool***

Item pool was generated based on interviews conducted in a prior study exploring wellbeing of young Pakistani adults as part of doctoral research of author (article in process). Transcribed interviews were read and all possible items were written down. The first draft contained 111 items resulted in a 52-item second draft after removing ambiguous and repetitive items. Items in the scale were written in two languages, i.e. English and Urdu. Urdu, the national language, is spoken and written across Pakistan. Most higher education studies are in English and students possess basic to expert English language skills. Moreover, some terms like 'wellbeing' do not have a true equivalent in Urdu language. It has also been experienced that mere forward/backward translation sometimes loses the essence of the scale items. Therefore we intended to develop the scale in both languages to overcome such problems.

### ***2.2 Step 2: Expert Validation***

For language validation, the 52-item scale was sent to three English language experts. They had a degree in English language and 10+ years of teaching English. They belonged to Pakistan so they understood the cultural context and possessed reading writing prowess in Urdu as well. They were instructed to suggest changes and rate each item from 0 (not at all agree) to 4 (completely agree) based on how much they agreed with the Urdu and English version of the item. All three raters mostly rated the items on 4 or 5; a few suggestions about language modifications were received and incorporated.

For content validity, 16 experts were contacted who belonged to field of Psychology. They were given the 52-item scale. Likert scale from 0 (not at all relevant) to 4 (completely relevant) was given for rating. 10 experts reviewed and returned the scale; it is enough for content validity (Zamanzadeh et al., 2015). Their qualitative feedback was incorporated and 5 items were discarded due to consistent low rating from majority experts. The remaining 47 items were compiled into scale titled Holistic Scale of Wellbeing-Preliminary (HSW-P).

### ***2.3 Step 3: Piloting***

To assure the comprehension of items and instructions, HSW-P was pilot tested on 1<sup>st</sup> semester psychology students from under-graduation. Convenient sampling strategy was utilized and 40 students ranging between 18 to 19 years were selected for piloting. They were given hard copies of HSW-P to respond on scale of 0 (not at all relevant) to 4 (completely relevant) and to point out difficult or unclear items. Feedback showed that all items were clear so no changes were made.

## 2.4 Step 4: Establishing Factor Structure and Psychometric Properties

### 2.4.1 Participants

Study sample consisted of 402 young adults (Table 1) in the age range of 18 to 25 years (The Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine, 2017). Sample was selected using per indicator criterion (Hair et al., 2010) of at least 8 respondents per item. 374 was minimum required sample for 47 items. Participants were selected from five major cities of Punjab province of Pakistan namely Lahore, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala and Multan as per 2023 census (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2023) <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/content/announcement-results-7th-population-and-housing-census-2023-digital-census> . For representative sample of 400 young adults, population wise proportionate samples were targeted i.e. Faisalabad 92 (23%); Lahore 136 (34%); Rawalpindi 64 (16%); Gujranwala 60 (15%); Multan 52 (13%).

**Table 1: Descriptive Characteristics of EFA Sample (N = 402)**

Variable	Range	Mean	SD	f	%
<b>Age</b>	18-26	21.04	1.73		
<b>Gender</b>					
Male				189	47
Female				193	48
Not disclosed				20	5
<b>Current Semester</b>					
1st				28	7
2 <sup>nd</sup>				75	18.7
3 <sup>rd</sup>				4	1
4 <sup>th</sup>				109	27.1
5 <sup>th</sup>				1	0.2
6 <sup>th</sup>				121	30.1
7 <sup>th</sup>				4	1
8 <sup>th</sup>				60	14.9
<b>Degree Program</b>					
Computer Sciences/IT/AI				204	50.75
Psychology				60	14.93
Business				9	2.24
Accounting/Finance				2	0.5
English				3	0.75
Engineering (environmental, electrical, biomedical)				78	19.4
Medical Imaging Technology				20	4.98
<b>City</b>					
Lahore				133	33.1
Faisalabad				92	22.9
Rawalpindi				70	17.4
Gujranwala				56	13.9
Multan				51	12.7
<b>Family System</b>					
Nuclear				246	61.2
Joint				87	21.6
Not disclosed				69	17.2
<b>Current Living</b>					
Family House				224	55.7
Hostel				109	27.1
Relatives House				9	2.2

Other	5	1.2
Not disclosed	55	13.7
<b>Monthly Household Income (PKR)</b>		
<50,000	33	8.2
50,000-100,000	117	29.1
100,000-150,000	71	17.7
150,000-200,000	47	11.7
200,000-250,000	25	6.2
>250,000	80	19.9
Not disclosed	29	7.2
<b>Father's Education</b>		
None	9	2.2
5 years or less	7	1.74
10 years or less	82	20.40
12 years	88	21.89
14 years	99	24.63
16 years	70	17.41
18 years	5	1.2
Above 18	5	1.2
<b>Father's Occupation (<math>f &gt; 10</math>)</b>		
Retired	21	5.22
Business	109	27.11
Farming/Landlord	34	8.46
Government Job	41	10.2
<b>Personal Job</b>		
Yes	83	20.6
No	286	71.1
Not disclosed	33	8.2
<b>Relationship Status</b>		
Single	342	85.1
Engaged	35	8.7
Married	8	2
Not disclosed	17	4.2

## 2.4.2 Measures

**2.4.2.1 Demographic Information Sheet.** This sheet was developed by authors to understand demographic distribution of the sample (Table 1).

**2.4.2.2 Depression, Anxiety, Stress Scale (DASS-21).** It is a self-report measure for people 17 years and older. It has sound psychometric properties with reliability of 0.99 for depression, .0.82 for anxiety and 0.90 for stress subscale (Henry & Crawford, 2005). Construct validity is moderate to strong (Brown et al., 1997). Test-retest reliability was satisfactory ranging from .71 to .81 for depression, .74 to .81 for anxiety, .81 to .89 for stress (Antony et al., 1998).

**2.4.2.3 PERMA Profiler.** It is a 23 item scale to assess wellbeing (Butler & Kern, 2016). Scale items show good model fit, good internal consistency (0.92 to 0.95 across several samples), strong content validity, convergent validity and divergent validity. Test retest reliability ranged from 0.69 to 0.88 (Butler & Kern, 2016).

**2.4.2.4 Holistic Scale of Wellbeing-Preliminary (HSW-P).** The under-development HSW-P was used to identify its factor structure. Scale had 47 items with response ranging from ‘not at all relevant’ or 0 to ‘completely relevant’ or 4.

### **2.4.3 Ethical Considerations**

All ethical guidelines of APA were followed including purpose of research, informed consent, voluntary participation, right to withdraw, privacy and confidentiality.

### **2.4.4 Procedure**

This research is part of a doctoral dissertation. The doctoral dissertation topic was approved by Advanced Studies and Research Review Board of the authors’ university. Informed consent form and above mentioned measures were taken to three universities from Faisalabad and one university each from other four cities for data collection. Data was gathered from different universities based on multiple factors like no exams during data collection days, convenience of researcher, permission from university administration etc.

Classroom approach was mostly employed where teacher was requested to allow 15 minutes from their class time. Following teacher’s consent, researcher introduced the purpose of research and ethical considerations and proceeded to distribute questionnaires among willing students. Most respondents returned the filled questionnaires within 5 to 14 minutes. Afterwards, students and teachers were thanked for their time and cooperation.

### **2.4.5 Data Entry and Data Cleaning**

Gathered data was manually entered into Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 25. Two blank items were included in HSW-P questionnaire to control for random responses. If any of the blank item was responded, that particular questionnaire form was discarded during data entry. Blank or partially filled forms and forms with same response or same response pattern on all items were also discarded.

Checking minimum and maximum values ensured that no out of range values were present. There was 0.3% missing data which was replaced with respective mean values as missing data was <5% (Schafer, 1999). Normal distribution was checked by skewness, kurtosis and by plotting curves over histograms for each item. All items had normal curves. Skewness <2 and kurtosis <3 is generally acceptable (Hair et al., 2022). Our data only had one item (item 26; “I feel blessed by God”) with skewness value -3.19 and kurtosis value of 11.54. Given the nature of item, most responses were clustered towards the positive end which explains the high skewness and kurtosis. But the item was retained owing to the nature of item and the religious inclination of Pakistani culture.

To check for outliers, z-scores beyond 3 were checked (Pituch & Stevens, 2016). Data cleaning showed that 6 items (1, 5, 26, 50, 51, 52) had outliers but they were retained owing to nature of items and cultural context. After following the above mentioned steps, data was considered fit for exploratory factor analysis.

## **3. RESULTS**

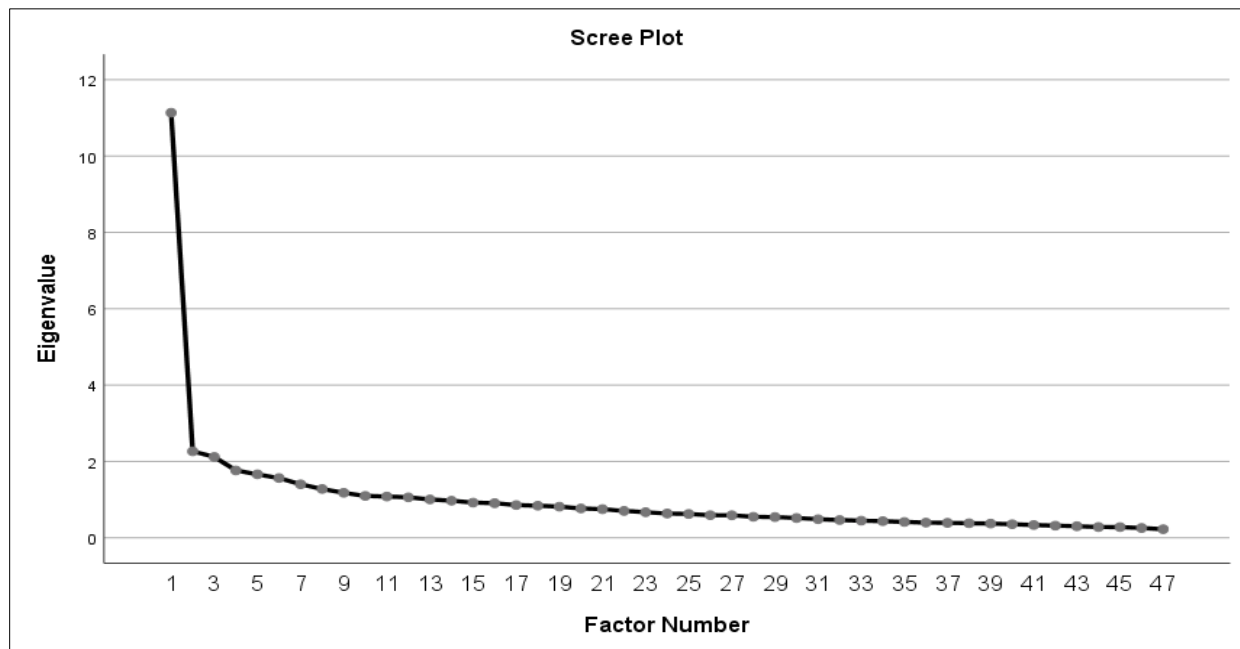
### **3.1 Exploratory Factor Analysis**

In order to find the best factor structure, first decision was about the most suitable extraction method. We opted for Maximum Likelihood as it is best suited for data that is nearly normally distributed (Costello & Osborne, 2005). We aimed for the clearest and most meaningful factor structure with minimum dubious items, minimum three factors per factor (Costello & Osborne, 2005) and factor loadings of 0.4 (Pituch & Stevens, 2016)

Next decision was about the number of factors to retain. Scree plot (Figure 1) indicated three factors which were explaining only 33% of cumulative percentage. As cumulative percentage explained through

the factors should be around 50% (Williams et al., 2010), therefore, three factors were not enough for HSW-P.

**Figure 1:** Scree plot displaying extraction of factors of HSW-P (N=402)



Velicer's MAP test was carried out using SPSS syntax file provided by O'Connor (2000) following the tutorial by Mike Crowson (2023). 3 components were suggested based on original (1976) MAP test and 5 components were suggested based on revised (2000) MAP test. As 3 or 5 factors did not provide meaningful solution which is the primary goal for EFA (Osborne, 2015), hence, further exploration was needed.

Parallel analysis was conducted by using syntax file provided by O'Connor (2000) and the tutorial by Mike Crowson (2022b). Comparing the raw data eigenvalues with the mean values of random data eigenvalues given in Table 2 showed that 6 factors could be clearly retained as their raw data eigenvalues were greater than the means of random eigenvalues. For factor 7, there was an extremely minute difference between raw (1.40) and mean eigenvalue (1.43). Hence, further exploration was deemed necessary.

**Table 2:** Parallel Analysis Showing Factors (Root), Raw Data Eigenvalues, Mean and Percentile of Random Data Eigenvalues

Root	Raw Data Eigenvalue	Mean of Random Data Eigenvalue	Percentile of Random Data Eigenvalue
1	11.13	1.73	1.80
2	2.26	1.65	1.70
3	2.12	1.60	1.64
4	1.76	1.55	1.59
5	1.66	1.50	1.54
6	1.56	1.46	1.50
7	1.40	1.43	1.46
8	1.28	1.39	1.42

Next, goodness of fit test from EFA output was added to excel sheet given at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QjFr7ogdeawvsatPBoDL0L1xVUo5ItLD/edit> by Mike Crowson (2022a)

to calculate RMSEA and change in RMSEA values for 3 to 13 factors. 3-factors were considered as scree plot suggested it whereas 13 factors explained the highest cumulative percentage. For factors 4 to 13, all RMSEA values (<0.05) implied a close fit whereas 3-factor RMSEA value implied an acceptable fit. All values for change in RMSEA were <.01 hence they were less than marginal (Fabrigar & Wegener, 2012).

The most suitable number of factors was therefore chosen by considering the most appropriate, well-meaning and cleanest factor structure by scrutinizing 3 to 13 factor solutions. 8 to 13 factor solutions were discarded as they had <3 items in at least one factor. Factor 7 had 3 or more items in all factors with highly meaningful clustering of items. 6-factor solution also had <3 items in a factor. 3 to 5 factor solutions did not yield meaningful clustering of items on their factors. Hence, 7-factor solution was considered the most suitable solution for EFA.

For choosing method of rotation, latest guideline by Osborne (2015) suggests that oblique rotations are more suitable. Promax and Direct Oblimin both were attempted; Promax led to the most logical and cleanest factor structure. Hence, EFA with Maximum Likelihood and Promax rotation was used for development of HSW-P.

The 7-factor HSW-P had 29 items. No cross-loading or reverse scored items were present. Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) value 0.91 with  $p < .001$  for Bartlett's Test of Sphericity was achieved indicating adequate sample size for development of HSW-P. Initial eigenvalues were achieved for 7 factors: 11.13, 2.27, 2.12, 1.77, 1.66, 1.57 and 1.40; % of variance were 23.69, 4.82, 4.50, 3.76, 3.54, 3.33, and 2.98; cumulative % were 23.69, 28.51, 33.10, 36.77, 40.30, 43.63 and 46.61 respectively. All factor loadings are given in Table 3.

**Table 3:** Factor Structure of HSW-P (N = 402) with Maximum Likelihood and Promax Rotation

No	Items	Factor Loading						
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
Factor I: Purpose								
30.	I focus on my priorities and fulfill my goals	.66	.12	.05	.00	.02	-.04	.02
28.	I have a sense of purpose	.57	.19	-.04	-.00	.06	.00	-.01
8.	I actively try to improve myself	.55	-.16	-.06	-.02	-.05	.07	.12
44.	What I am doing in my life is valuable and important	.48	.05	.29	-.10	.07	-.03	-.10
34.	I fulfill my responsibilities	.48	-.04	-.03	.14	-.07	.08	.09
Factor II: Psychological Health								
49.	I try to solve problems instead of crying over them	.14	.77	-.22	-.03	-.02	-.04	-.02
48.	I can easily cope with the difficulties	.08	.70	-.08	-.04	.17	.12	.01
17.	I can quickly recover from failures	.03	.70	-.02	-.05	-.01	-.05	.11
16.	I have good mental health	-.10	.58	.05	.09	-.02	.18	.16
20.	I feel mental peace	-.23	.46	.34	.14	.03	.05	.09
Factor III: Vitality and Satisfaction								
39.	I live my life fully	-.05	.02	.82	.02	.03	.02	-.18
46.	Overall I feel satisfied with my life	.03	-.03	.77	-.11	.06	.05	.07
38.	I am satisfied with what I have achieved so far	.10	-.18	.71	-.03	.00	-.14	.15
10.	I am satisfied with my self	.09	.09	.58	.08	-.18	-.03	.10
45.	I live my life the way I want to	.08	.01	.57	-.16	.11	.17	-.15
40.	I am full of energy	.27	.15	.55	.01	.02	-.08	-.21
Factor IV: Physical Health								
25.	I follow a healthy routine	.12	-.03	-.10	.89	.01	-.08	-.05
24.	I eat healthy foods	.04	-.03	-.11	.85	.06	-.08	-.06
23.	I am satisfied with my sleep	-.14	.01	.13	.51	-.05	.10	.03
22.	Overall I spend a fair share of my time in moving, walking, exercising or staying active	.11	-.02	.00	.40	.08	.12	-.14
Factor V: Finances								
50.	My family and I can easily meet our basic needs	.06	.03	-.09	.00	.74	-.05	.06
14.	My family and I have enough savings to face an	-.03	-.16	.08	.06	.70	.04	.01



emergency situation								
13.	I am satisfied with my and my family's financial situation	-.14	-.13	.17	.02	<b>.58</b>	-.02	.27
<b>Factor VI: Relationships</b>								
7.	I feel that I am loved by the people who are important to me	.11	.01	.00	-.06	-.05	<b>.72</b>	-.10
2.	My close relations are there to support and help me whenever I need it	.02	-.07	-.08	.02	.05	<b>.68</b>	-.12
1.	I have a strong bond with my family, friends and other people who are important to me	-.08	.02	.08	.00	-.04	<b>.62</b>	.00
<b>Factor VII: Religiosity and Spirituality</b>								
26.	I feel blessed by God	.08	.05	.05	-.07	.13	-.05	<b>.56</b>
27.	I feel satisfied with my religious and spiritual practices	.22	-.24	.08	.17	-.09	-.01	<b>.51</b>
52.	I have a strong bond with God	.10	.13	-.18	-.05	.11	-.02	<b>.48</b>

*Note.* Only the items having .40 or above factor loadings are shown in the table in the respective factor.

### **3.2 Factor Description of HSW-P**

As a result of EFA items formed seven different factors which are explained further.

#### **3.2.1 Factor I: Purpose**

This subscale includes a person's priorities, goals, responsibilities and meaningful activities in life. There are 5 items and score can range from 0 to 20. High score can show high sense of purpose in one's life. Contrarily, low scores can indicate an aimless life.

#### **3.2.2 Factor II: Psychological Health**

Multiple facets of psychological health are covered in this subscale including resilience, coping, problem solving, sound mental health and mental peace. There are 5 items and score can range from 0 to 20. High score can show overall good psychological health of the respondent whereas low score can show psychological and mental health concerns.

#### **3.2.3 Factor III: Vitality and Satisfaction**

This subscale encompasses overall satisfaction in life along with zest for life. Items are wider in their range as they are about self-satisfaction, life satisfaction, contentment, living life on own terms and an enthusiasm for life. Total 6 items of this subscale have potential score range of 0 to 24. High scores can show greater satisfaction and vitality for life. Closer scrutiny of items can further show whether vitality or satisfaction or both need improvement.

#### **3.2.4 Factor IV: Physical Health**

Physical health subscale encompasses healthy eating, quality sleep, good routine and an active lifestyle. All items can work as doorways to important domains in the physical health umbrella. This subscale has 4 items and score can range from 0 to 16. High score on this scale implies overall sound physical health of the respondent.

#### **3.2.5 Factor V: Finances**

This subscale covers a domain that holds significant value for many people in Pakistan and other similar developing countries. It covers satisfaction with current financial situation, fulfillment of basic needs and some finances to fall back on. There are 3 items in it and score can range from 0 to 12. High score can show financial stability and access to better resources.

#### **3.2.6 Factor VI: Relationships**

Close relationships like the ones with family and friends are covered in this subscale. Love, support and attachment with important relationships can be explained by it. It has 3 items and scores can vary from 0 to 12. High score represents that person enjoys good relations and has the care and love of others.

### 3.2.7 Factor VII: Religiosity and Spirituality

This factor is about religious and spiritual inclination of the respondent. It can shed light on the connection between man and the higher power. This contains 3 items and potential score range of 0 to 12. A high score on this subscale can indicate strong religious and/or spiritual orientation.

EFA led to finalization of factor structure and full-scale score and sub-scale scores. Inter-factor correlations showed strong to low associations among subscales (Table 4).

**Table 4:** Inter-Correlations, Means, and Standard Deviations of HSW-P and its Factors (N = 402)

Factors	M	SD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Purpose	13.76	3.95	-	.44***	.58***	.45***	.29***	.31***	.34***	.74***
2. Psych_H	12.07	4.67	-	-	.60***	.40***	.30***	.33***	.27***	.76***
3. Vit_Sat	15.28	5.72	-	-	-	.45***	.40***	.40***	.34***	.85***
4. Phy_H	8.29	4.06	-	-	-	-	.26***	.27***	.28***	.67***
5. Finance	8.89	2.78	-	-	-	-	-	.28***	.28***	.55***
6. Relation	8.88	2.84	-	-	-	-	-	-	.19***	.56***
7. Relig_Spi	9.85	2.22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.51***
8. HSW-P	77.00	18.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note. Psych\_H= Psychological health; Vit\_Sat= Vitality and Satisfaction; Phy\_H= Physical Health; Relation= Relationships (Subscale of HSW-P); Relig\_Spi= Religiosity and Spirituality; HSW-P= Holistic Scale of Wellbeing-Preliminary; \*\*\* $p < 0.001$

## 3.3 Reliability

### 3.3.1 Internal Consistency

For internal consistency of HSW-P, Cronbach alpha coefficients for full scale and all of its seven subscales were calculated. Alpha reliability ranged from moderate to very strong (Table 5).

**Table 5:** Cronbach Alpha of HSW-P and its Subscales (N = 402)

Factors	No of items	Alpha Coefficients ( $\alpha$ )
1. Purpose	5	0.74
2. Psychological Health	5	0.81
3. Vitality and Satisfaction	6	0.85
4. Physical Health	4	0.73
5. Finances	3	0.74
6. Relationships	3	0.68
7. Religiosity and Spirituality	3	0.57
HSW-P	29	0.90

### 3.3.2 Split-Half Reliability

Odd-even split was used for split half reliability. Correlation between sum of odd items and sum of even items showed very strong split half reliability ( $r = 0.87, p < 0.001$ ).

### 3.3.3 Convergent Validity

PERMA Profiler (Butler & Kern, 2016) was used with approximately 52% of the sample (N=211). Missing values (<5%) were replaced with mean values. Data was normally distributed but 4 cases having outliers were discarded. Total and subscale scores were calculated for PERMA Profiler and HSW-P. Strong correlation between PERMA wellbeing and HSW-P wellbeing ( $r = 0.63, p < 0.001$ ) indicated good convergent validity (Table 6).

**Table 6: Correlations among HSW-P and PERMA Profiler (N = 211)**

	<b>Purpose (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Psych_H (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Vit_Sat (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Phy_H (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Finance (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Relation (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Relig_Spi (HSW-P)</b>	<b>HSW-P</b>
Pos_Emo (PERMA)	.50***	.54***	.57***	.41***	.29***	.36***	.31***	.60***
Engagement (PERMA)	.31***	.24***	.29***	.25***	.21**	.35***	.18*	.35***
Relation (PERMA)	.48***	.42***	.44***	.32***	.27***	.40***	.29***	.51***
Meaning (PERMA)	.62***	.53***	.59***	.40***	.39***	.44***	.38***	.66***
Accomp (PERMA)	.52***	.42***	.43***	.37***	.23**	.35***	.21**	.50***
PERMA	.58***	.52***	.56***	.41***	.33***	.45***	.33***	.63***

*Note.* Pos\_Emo= Positive Emotion; Relation= Relationships (subscale of PERMA Profiler); Accomp= Accomplishment; PERMA= PERMA Profiler; Psych\_H= Psychological health; Vit\_Sat= Vitality and Satisfaction; Phy\_H= Physical Health; Relation= Relationships (Subscale of HSW-P); Relig\_Spi= Religiosity and Spirituality; HSW-P= Holistic Scale of Wellbeing-Preliminary; \* $p < .05$ ; \*\* $p < .01$ ; \*\*\* $p < .001$

### 3.3.4 Divergent Validity

For divergent validity DASS-21 (Lovibond & Lovibond, 1995) was used with 46% of the sample (N=186). Missing value (<5%) were replaced with mean values. Data was normally distributed. All wellbeing subscales and total score had significant negative correlation with depression, and stress. Anxiety had significant negative relation with all subscales except Finances (Table 7). Moderate divergent validity was established between wellbeing and depression ( $r = -0.52$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ).

**Table 7: Correlations among HSW-P and DASS-21 (N = 186)**

	<b>Purpose (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Psych_H (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Vit_Sat (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Phy_H (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Finance (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Relation (HSW-P)</b>	<b>Relig_Spi (HSW-P)</b>	<b>HSW-P</b>
Depression	-.39***	-.55***	-.49***	-.33***	-.22**	-.27***	-.35***	-.52***
Anxiety	-.24**	-.41***	-.30***	-.28***	-.13	-.23**	-.22**	-.36***
Stress	-.26***	-.48***	-.34***	-.26***	-.24**	-.15*	-.25**	-.39***

*Note.* Psych\_H= Psychological health; Vit\_Sat= Vitality and Satisfaction; Phy\_H= Physical Health; Relation= Relationships (Subscale of HSW-P); Relig\_Spi= Religiosity and Spirituality; HSW-P= Holistic Scale of Wellbeing-Preliminary; \* $p < .05$ ; \*\* $p < .01$ ; \*\*\* $p < .001$

## 4. DISCUSSION

Wellbeing, a multifaceted construct, has many scales for its measurement. Despite the variety, none of the scales was a perfect fit for general wellbeing assessment of young adults in Pakistan. Scales developed in other countries were not suitable because of language and cultural differences in perception of wellbeing. Indigenous people perceived general wellbeing to encompass many dimensions like emphasis on close family attachments, need for financial and monetary resources, a deep rooted relationship with God, etc. which are rarely present in existing wellbeing scales imported from other countries. The sole locally developed scale was found to lack all these domains. Therefore, this article covered indigenous scale development of general wellbeing measure.

HSW-P, developed in this study, has 29 items as established after EFA. It is bilingual as all items are in Urdu and English to ensure better comprehension for respondents. Suitable language is critical to ensure comprehension of the scale. HSW-P contains seven subscales and yields subscale scores along with total wellbeing score. General wellbeing scales, though many in number, do not cover all the seven subscales included in HSW-P. All seven of them are crucial for assessing wellbeing as they are based on the qualitative interviews covered in another indigenous study (article under process). An overview of some multi-faceted wellbeing scales solidifies it further: BBC Wellbeing Scale (Kinderman et al., 2011) has 3

subscales of psychological wellbeing, physical wellbeing and relations; PERMA Profiler (Butler & Kern, 2016) has 5 subscales of positive emotions, engagement, relationships, meaning and accomplishment; Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Behavior and Characteristic Inventory (Hey et al., 2006) has three subscales of body, mind and spirit; Gallup-Healthways Wellbeing Index has 5 subscales of purpose (lately labeled as career), social, financial, community and physical (Gallup, 2014; Gurley, 2008); General Wellbeing Schedule developed by Dupuy in 1977 has six subscales of anxiety, depression, general health, positive well-being, self-control and vitality (McDowell, 2006); Perceived Wellness Survey has six subscales of physical, spiritual, intellectual, psychological, social, and emotional (Adams et al., 1997).

Strong wellbeing is linked to lower depression as evident from divergent validity of HSW-P ( $r = -.52$ ;  $p < 0.001$ ). High wellbeing implies that person is doing better in at least some of the seven domains. Strong relations, good physical and psychological health, higher vitality and greater satisfaction have their fair share in lowering depressive symptoms. Psychological health ( $r = -.55$ ;  $p < 0.001$ ) obviously had the greatest role in lowering depression, anxiety and stress. Contrarily, poor finances are related to anxiety as seen from the correlation values ( $r = -.13$ ) among them.

## 5. CONCLUSION

HSW-P is a bilingual, comprehensive yet precise scale for general wellbeing in young adults. It offers seven wide ranging subscales including purpose, psychological health, vitality and satisfaction, physical health, finances, relationships, religiosity and spirituality which can be used for further probing. Young adults of developing countries like Pakistan can benefit from this scale.

### 5.1 Limitations

EFA sample was gathered from different cities of Punjab province but rural youth and non-student youth was not a part of our sample. Practical limitations of time and resources were the major reason for including only university based youth.

### 5.2 Implications and Suggestions

This research offers a scientifically sound bilingual instrument for wellbeing assessment. Educational institutions, youth based organizations and counselors can use HSW-P to assess wellbeing of youth. Further research can be done to confirm its factor structure.

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## Conflict of Interest

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## ORCID iDs

Zehra Keshf<sup>1</sup>  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8805-115X>

Arif Nadeem<sup>2</sup>  <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0004-0224>

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