

# Feudal and Cultural Convergence and Divergence in 'Pirani' by Jamal Abro

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## ABSTRACT

**Aim of the Study:** The aim of this research is to highlight the different cultures of the society especially Sindh. The research claims that multiculturalism is the beauty of the society and every individual is important and unique. The rituals, customs, traditions of Sindh province have been highlighted in the society. The issues which the author has raised in all the short stories are true depiction of real culture. He tried to make people realize that every culture has its own importance. The social issues like discrimination, poverty and hunger, class and status, inequality and injustice, gender discrimination are significant in Pirani.

**Methodology:** This critique adopted exploratory research framework. The data collected and analyzed for this study was qualitative in its nature and scope. 10 stories from Pirani were taken as the sample of the study by applying typical and critical case sampling strategy.

**Findings:** The findings of the study revealed that the traces of the cultural diversity are present and evident in text Pirani. Multivariate traces of cultural diversity are substantially explored and beautifully discussed in the kaleidoscopic by Abro (2017).

**Conclusion:** The summative discussions in the light of the findings obtained in this study indicate that Abro illustrates multifaceted cultural disparity and radicalization in his stories with specific viewpoint of Sindhi culture.

**Keywords:** Cultural Diversity; Convergence and divergence; Class distinction; Feudalism.

## Introduction

The stories mentioned in the fiction of Pirani by Jamal Abro targets to portray the culture of Sindh and its diversity. For clear and better understanding the meaning of culture must be clear. Culture is a broader term which cannot be described only in few terms and words. It means norms, social behavior, tradition and custom etc. Any society is important because of its culture and all these important things define society.

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Jamal Abro “was a legend of contemporary Sindhi literature and born in May 1924 at Sangi, a small village in Mehar Taluka Sindh Pakistan. He was a pioneer of Sindhi Short Stories and Literature. The stories of Jamal Abro capture the essence of the land and the people of rural Sindh. These short stories are informative introduction and background of the Sindhi people. Jamal Abro in his book Pirani discussed the elements of feudal system, Sindhi women status, class distinction and social problems in Sindhi society. This research shows the Sindhi cultural diversity in the fiction of Pirani by Jamal Abro. Any society can be considered important or highlighted because of the behavior of people, norms tradition. There are some common things which are present in every society like arts, music, dance, religion, ritual etc. Some Marxists are of the view that the culture is used by rich and elite to create the false consciousness.

It is an important and interesting term. It is defined as the acceptance or tolerance of difference. Every person or individual has its own importance and we must tolerate this difference with patience and calmness. A person must accept the individuals free from prejudice, these includes gender, class, ethnicity, physical abilities and qualities, sexual orientation, educational background and religious status. After the concept of culture and diversity, the meaning of cultural diversity is explained now. It is an open ended and debatable term which tells us about the difference of the knowledge, arts, music, sexual orientation beliefs, nationalities, ethnicities, nationalities, genders, of human beings. It includes the way people behave towards this uniqueness and difference, and how people live with this reality (Anwar, 2013; Bhatti, 2011; Siddiq, 2014; Syed, 2013).

### ***Background to the Study***

Hodgetts is of the view that the culture is generated by the social behaviors of the people. This attained information, awareness and knowledge further form values, creates attitude and influence behavior” Hodgetts et al. (2006).

Jamal din Abro was a Sindhi writer and his first story was published in 1949. He has portrayed many issues related to culture and social issues also. He has described the basic issue of women in our society, slavery, poverty in Sindh, Feudal system of our society, gender discrimination etc. All these issues are explained in all the short stories which are the representation of Sindh culture and somehow culture of our society also. The stories reflect the Sindhi culture, feudal system, Sindhi women status, childhood marriages and social problems.

Pakistan is the Federation of four provinces named Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan and KPK. The word Sindh derives from Sanskrit. The word Sindh means river or ocean in Sanskrit. Sindhi nationalist Ghulam Murtaza Shah (a.k.a. , G M Syed), in his 1943 welcome address to the thirty first session of the All-India Muslim League states that the nation of Pakistan is, historically, nothing else than Sindh (Shah 1943). Sir John Marshall in his study entitled Mahenjo Daro and the Indus civilization, in 1931. He argues that urban life in Sindh stretch back to third Millennium BCE. Sindh has historically important region of South Asia.

Abro in his book Pirani discussed Sindh Feudal System (SFS) Social Problems and women status. Feudal system in Pakistan has worst impacts on the country and society. This is the reason of not changing the mentality of the middle class. In Pakistan, women burnt due to the feudalism, she bears lots of things. Siddiq says that, “In Pakistan, feudalism is identified via the usage of its positive aspects starting from the oppression of women to the oppression of the peasantry. Girls bear the brunt of feudalism while girls from the feudal sphere are denied no longer most effective the rights of inheritance of belongings however also the rights of getting married. As an alternative they may be pressured to marry with Quran, and on this manner, her part of percentage within the land does now not flow anywhere; it remains with the male members of a family (Siddiq, 2014).

Actually, the Sultan’s the Mughals and the British ruled over the Sub-continent, they introduced feudalism. In Pakistan, the Zamindar’s are promoted feudal system. Abro discuss the Feudalism in his

stories named “Gratitude” Hair “Parting” and “Flame”. In Gratitude is a slap on the face of the hypocritical middle class feudal urban educated youth. Abro actually tells us about the system of Sindh in his stories and he has told us that feudal system spread all over the Sindh. It has many challenges both individually and collectively. In the past, feudalism could be a reality but now in future it becomes a myth. Historic records speak a lot about girls having no rights. Ladies has no rights over their children, inheritance, belongings, desire of marriage and so on (Pakeeza 2015).

Jamal Abro in his book Pirani write different Short Stories. In the short story “Pirani” describes about a little girl whose name is Pirani, a nomadic girl just sold by her poor parents for their livestock. Abro shows that discrimination towards women is the inbuilt characteristics of male dominated societies where women are only denied the freedom to choose their spouse but also sold and exchanged the ordinary commodities. Abro shows in the story “Brat of a Shah” that the discrimination on the basis of race and ethnicity is still life in Sindh. In this story Abro portray the social, cultural and racial taboos. In the strings of Flame, he shows the backward feudal societies. In every story there is a depiction of our society and how people suffer psychologically. All these things are discussed in Pirani.

### ***Rational of the Study***

The primary objective of this study is the cultural diversity in the Fiction of Pirani by Jamal Abro. Cultural variety in Jamal Abro’s Pirani presents the most comprehensive base of knowledge yet assembled on the topic of cultural variety. It arrests the enormous complexity of the topic via inspecting range in Jamal Abro’s Pirani. The study has explored the issues related to the diversity in the fiction of Jamal Abro. Due to the cultural diversity people face issues like gender discrimination, class distinction, feudal system patriarchal society, social issues like, injustice poverty, hunger etc in our society. Further it has highlighted the unique patterns of the society, representation and misrepresentation of the norms, culture and traditions of Sindh. Cultural diversity has a great relationship with the literature and fiction. The work explores the relationship of literature and the cultural diversity with the support of Pirani by Jamal Abro. The researcher has studied and highlighted the role of cultural tradition often used against ethics of the society. This study enables readers to understand the cultural diversity in the light of Pirani by Jamal Abro.

### ***Research Questions***

1. How Sindh Feudal System (SFS) has been portrayed right and wrong in the Fiction of Pirani by Jamal Abro?
2. How females are emancipated and subjugated in the stories mentioned in *Pirani*?
3. In what ways Jamal abro has exposed social problems in the Fiction *Pirani*?
4. How has Abro portrayed Sindhi culture in Pirani?

### ***Review of Related Literature***

Culture is basically a broader term which cannot define in simple words. It covers many things like social behavior of the human and society and it describes the traditions, customs, arts, and philosophy of a society. To understand the culture of any place it is important to understand the tradition, ideas, beliefs, custom, arts, behavior, and norms of that society. Some critics are of the view that the culture is so important that it really shapes the personality of an individual and features of the members (Ramlan et al., 2018; Shafiq & Qureshi, 2014; Zaman, Qureshi, & Bhatti, 2011).

Diversity means the state of being diverse. It means to accept and respect the difference of an individual. The respect for this difference is mandatory because every individual is unique in its own sense; every Individual is important having some qualities. People face lots of issues due to the cultural diversity because the society never accepts these differences and the people with different backgrounds suffer. They face many problems at different places. At working place, in schools, job opportunities etc. A man

should be judged by the skills he is having. He must not be judged on the basis of race, ethnicity, backgrounds etc. It can be easily said that the diversity and differences can be interpreted like, it is a way of being, our existence.

Pakistan has four provinces and each province is dominated because of its different culture and beliefs, traditions and customs etc. Every province is unique its own sense. Each culture is dominated because of its different culture, belief and customs. To portray the diversity, Literature is a platform for presenting ideas and thoughts. It is a beautiful way of presenting ones ideas. People always use this medium for expressing the things that they cannot express in the simple words. In Pirani, Abrohas shown the culture of the society and the basic problems of people with diverse backgrounds.

The patriarchal society is comprised of the hold of men. It is a society where only there is an importance of man. According to the Chesney, patriarchal society is a system of male dominant society over women (Chesney-Lind, 2006; Gosselin, 2010). Women is facing a lot of identity issues .Men has a successful career and women is busy with the household tasks. Men are given priority and women are considered less and inferior to men.

Gosselin says that, patriarchal society gets supported due to the belief of people of the society. People should discourage this behavior or at least raise his voice against violence, in equality etc. It is strengthened due to the customs, laws that are built in the society (Gosselin, 2010). Hunnicutt of the view that there are so many types of violence and we can see maximum in the society. AS we all are living in the patriarchal society so child abuse, domestic violence, violence against women, rape etc (Hunnicutt, 2009).Women in our society is facing a lot of trouble in our society.

Many scholars have written about the gender and sex. It is believed that the gender discrimination is the result of the difference in sex only. Many writers claim that the violence against women is based upon the sex only. Education is another important thought which needs attention. It can be observed that women in our society are less educated hen men. It is because of the fact that men have all the powers and she cannot take a proper education without the permission of man. If we say that it is also the result of the patriarchal society and it clearly shows the gender discrimination. Here also the superiority of men can be seen clearly. Studies has found that decrease ranges of education are associated with increased endorsement of patriarchal thoughts and ideals as well as extra traditional gender position beliefs and ideologies (Ahmad et al., 2004).

Race and Ethnicity are two different concepts. In cultural diversity, where all the elements are important, race and ethnicity also needs our attention because it is also the cause of the negativity in our society. Many researchers found that the groups in minority face more negative views. Research has determined or stipulated that individuals of minority companies are more likely to have negative attitudes toward girls for example, African American towards whites (Cowan, 2000). Considering the reality that patriarchy can be considered within the broader social and hierarchical context of society, it is essential to look at that inside American society; racial minorities have prolonged held less electricity and been a whole lot less privileged in comparison to whites (Hunnicutt, 2009; Sampson & Wilson, 1995; Wilson, 1987).

Race and ethnicity in organizations, in society are also need attention because the impact is so strong that it can destroy or manage the things and environment in an effective way. Ospina is of the view that, Further to “race,” we additionally recollect “ethnicity” in this assessment. Both race and ethnicity constitute crucial components in the charter of collective identities and in the work of management (Ospina & Su, 2009). Many researchers have found that these differences have a great impact on the organizations also. People do not have much knowledge about all these things and that is also the reason they behave in weird way.

Another important factor of the downfall of the society is the feudalism. Feudalism is a historical term and used for the description of the combination of the customs, traditions, military, economic and cultural

customs and traditions that succeeded in the medieval Europe between the nineteenth and fifteenth century. It is derived from the Latin word *feodum* or *feudum* (fief), which was popular in the medieval period. The Britishers, Mughals have promoted this system in the subcontinent so that they can take the authority and hold of it. Anwar shares his opinion that in Pakistan Chaudharies, Warraich, Piris, Arbabs, Mizaris, Khars, Legharis, Nawabzadas etc are called feudal (Anwar, 2013). Jalal is of the opinion that today feudalism is facing a lot of challenge in the society. The first challenge comes from the capitalization mixed with the industrialization (Jalal, 1990).

So, Feudal system is not a right system as it never gives the rights of a person, there is a class distinction in it and our society is getting down day by day. Literature is filled with thousands of examples of a feudal system, there is no class in the world; in fact every individual has a right to live freely. There is a great relationship between the literature and the depiction of all these concerning areas.

Due to the diversity people face problems like identity crisis also. In Lacanian terms it can be said that how others impose or portrays them in front of the society and in front of us. So, identity is very important for the individual because this individuality makes the societies. We can see the depiction of the identity and identity crisis in our society. Oxford dictionary defines the identity crisis as; it is time period of improbability and confusion wherein someone's feel of identification will become insecure, typically because of an alternate in their predicted goals or role in society. According to this definition, we can see the condition and identity crisis of a home boy when he says that, I don't know who am I? Who I was? He was considered himself as other which is the prominent figure of the identity crisis.

Barreto is of the opinion that, it is a saying that women are from Venus and men are from Mars. This phrase is usually used to show the difference in the personalities of both man and woman. The observed differences are the ways in which both genders think, act and behave. They are naturally different from each other (Baretto and Ellemers 2005, Ellemers 2018). It is observed that our surrounding, even books are designed in such a way that it shows the male superiority. Durrani conducted a survey and she realized that our books are also designed in such a way that when they are leaders they are superior, when we talk about the power; we considered and highlight a man in a superior way whereas women are in the limits of subjugation (Durrani. 2008). Societies in our world are diverse. The change in our society is because of the diversity. This research shows that the diversity and differences is a positive thing if one can understand in a positive way. One must promote this positivity to enhance the relationships among the societies. If society take this diversity as the beauty of the world then this approach is positive and can create a beautiful society (ibid). If a person will not understand and violate the rights of a person then this approach is negative and these types of approaches create the negative societies which are a threat for them. This negativity is the cause of many other problems. Generations destroyed, becomes psycho, they face identity problems etc. Instead of showing a criminal attitude towards these entire people one must need to understand the diversity in a very right direction.

## **Methodology**

Methodology is a way to collect the data. It is used for the interpretation and analysis of the data. In this study, the researcher will use the qualitative research method of data interrogation and interpretation. Some critics are of the view that there is no specific definition of the qualitative research (Long & Godfrey 2004: 182). The data collected and analyzed for this study was qualitative in its nature and scope. 10 stories out of the full book was determined as the sample of the study by applying typical and critical case sampling strategy. Qualitative research is the strategy or a method to collect and analyze the data. The text is used for the observation and analysis of the data. The short stories from Pirani were given importance and first priority. Out of all the works of Jamal Abro, 10 short stories have been selected for the analysis. Opinions of other researchers are also included to make the point of view clear and strong. Population parameter adopted for the current study is given in table 1.

Table 1: *Population of the Study*

| Book   | Writer     | Publisher               | Publishing Date |
|--------|------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Pirani | Jamal Abro | Oxford University Press | 2007            |

Sample means a little portion of the data from the population which the researcher has taken for the analysis. To ensure the validity of the research, it is very important to take the sample from the whole population. In the present study, 10 short stories from the book Pirani has taken.

Table 2: *Sample of the Study*

| NO | Names of Stories | Pg. no |
|----|------------------|--------|
| 1  | Black Water      | 1      |
| 2  | Brigand          | 7      |
| 3  | Discourteous     | 13     |
| 4  | Flame            | 17     |
| 5  | Hair Parting     | 22     |
| 6  | Barat of Shah    | 33     |
| 7  | Macho Man        | 37     |
| 8  | Lorry            | 45     |
| 9  | Pirani           | 52     |
| 10 | Gratitude        | 77     |

### *Framework of Analysis*

It is also a very important and significant part of the research. The technique of content analysis has been used after a careful reading and evaluation of the text. In these short stories of Pirani, we can clearly see the cultural divergence, gender discrimination, social issues like poverty m hunger and feudal system. All these things are clear in the short stories of Jamal Abro which are true depiction of the darker side of Sindh and Sindhi culture. The framework of analysis is given as follows:

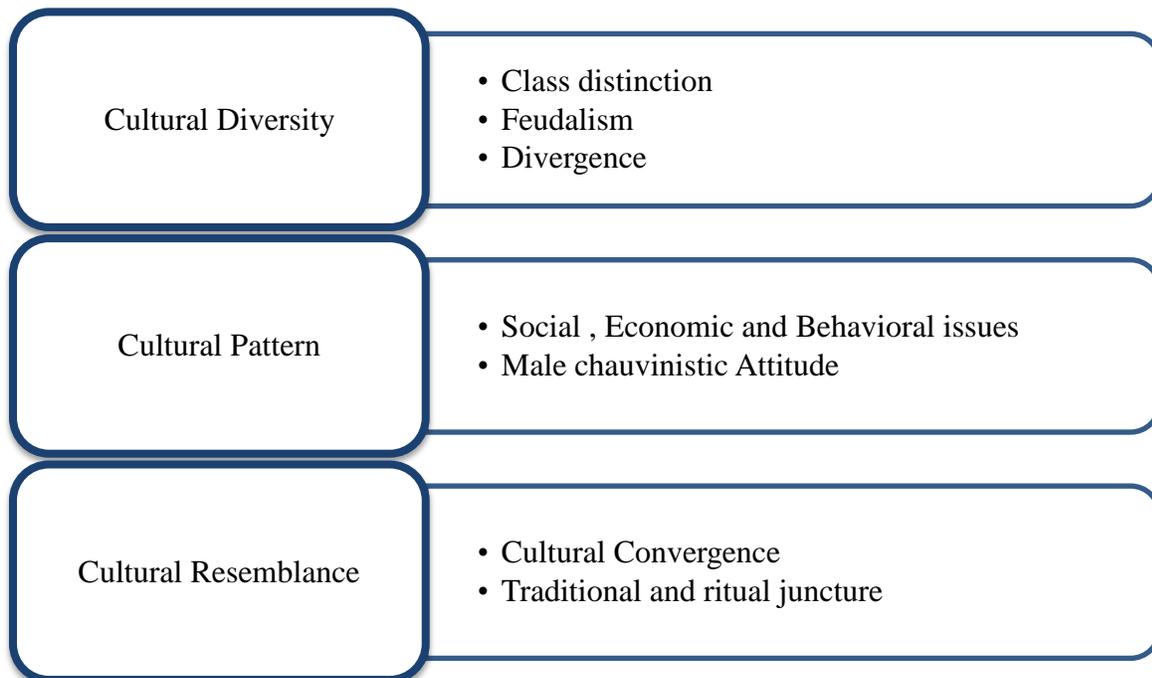


Figure 1: *Framework of Analysis*

## Analysis and Discussion

Table 3: *Plot and Setting of the Novel*

| No | Stories      | Characters                 | Setting                   | Plot   |
|----|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1  | Black Water  | Franz Kafkas, Soomar, Urs  | Kashmore                  | Exposition: A man telling story to the kids<br>Climax: Flood in the village<br>Resolution: Death of a man due to hunger  |
| 2  | Brigand      | Police, Brigand            | Brigand (Imaginary Place) | Exposition; Father slapped her son badly<br>Climax: He decided to take revenge from the society and became brigand<br>Resolution; Police arrested him because he robbed many families and killed many innocent people.   |
| 3  | Discourteous | Magistrate , Patient, Wife | Clinic                    | Exposition; A poor couple came to the clinic and wife is holding her husband because he was ill<br>Climax: Doctor saw the status of acouple and treated them badly<br>Resolution; the doctor refused to take his fee when he visited a rich couple and said that is he so discourteous, class distinction is prominent here. |
| 4  | Flame        | Sherro, Sarran             | Imaginary Place           | Exposition; Sherro is a driver, driving a lorry to earn handsome amount<br>Climax: He worked hard and become a peasant but feudal lords did not pay him well.<br>Resolution; He decided to stay quiet because of the status and class difference.  |
| 5  | Hair Parting | Mehar                      | Khirporo Town             | Exposition ;Dead body in the Khirporo village<br>Climax: Brother killed her sister because she chooses her spouse<br>Resolution; All were satisfied to follow the customs and traditions of the society  |
| 6  | Gratitude    | Female beggar, kid Boys    | Market                    | Exposition; A female beggar is standing and observing the boys in the market.<br>Climax: Boys of elite class were asking about the little baby she was holding.<br>Resolution; Her answer made them embarrassed and it was a slap on the face  |

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|    |               |                                 |                            |  |
|----|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|    |               |                                 |                            | of society   |
| 7  | Barat of Shah | Mariam , Father,<br>Peeral Shah | Village,<br>Reception Area | Exposition ;A little girl Mariam is demanding money from her father<br><br>Climax: She asked money from Peeral Shah and in result he hits her badly.<br><br>Resolution; Her father was annoyed and Mariam was complaining about the worst attitude of Peeral Shah. |
| 8  | Macho Man     | A young man                     | Central Africa             | Exposition ;A young man is travelling to South Africa<br><br>Climax: A young lady purchased him<br><br>Resolution; He helped his kids to run away from all the customs of South Africa so that they can live a happy life  |
| 9  | Lorry         | Police,<br>parents              | boy, Sindh                 | Exposition ; A driver is driving a lorry full of passengers<br><br>Climax: A boy got an accident<br><br>Resolution; Parents refused to take him to the hospital and police station   |
| 10 | Pirani        | Lalu, Pirani                    | Brohi                      | Exposition; Pirani playing with her parents.<br><br>Climax: They had nothing to eat due to poverty.<br><br>Resolution; They sell their daughter to a poor peasant.   |

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## Discussion

Pirani by Abro is a beautiful painting of Sindhi culture. Abro has pointed minor and major things that affect the society. He has shown mirror to the society by showing the behaviors, dress code, attitudes, language (both verbal and nonverbal), standards etc. People live in different societies and different parts of the world and that is why every society has unique traditions, customs, Living styles and thoughts. Pakistan is a multicultural country and this diversity is the beauty of the society and country. To create the cultural awareness among people, one has to be aware of all the traditions and norms of one's society.

In Hofstede point of view, the elements of the cultural diversity need understanding because it's the only way to measure the diversity Hofstede (1980). According to Tayeb, a culture is the relationship between two or three human beings over duration of time, which can be their own precise lifestyle Tayeb (2001). Every short story is the depiction of all the representations of custom, thoughts, living standards, attitudes etc. There is a discrimination, gender discrimination, feudalism, chauvinistic attitude in Abro's stories. All these stories are a real culture of Sindh as well as of the world. People of Sindh suffered a lot due to poverty and hunger. They were hardworking because they wanted to raise their life standard. According to Leevan and Levinson, The human condition of a man has itself emerge as multicultural and interactive. For instance, over 500 organizations which the group population is more than 100,000 are generally identified as ethnic organizations across the world, let alone those companies which the institution

populace is less than one hundred (Evans & Levinson, 2009). Nearly approximately 5000 to 8000 awesome languages are spoken in recent times.

It is visible in the society that man always gives respect to a wealthy person, no matter if he is using wrong means to earn that wealth. Injustice and inequality is visible everywhere in Sindh also. There is a class system in the society and of Sindh also. People of our society are a victim of superiority and inferiority complex. It is significant in the story **Barat of Shah** where people touch the feet of Peeral Shah because he belongs to a Syed family. In other story, **Lorry**, police is threatening the parents of a boy who is badly injured in an accident because they have power. Parents are also not willing to take their son to the hospital and police station because they are of the view that judges and police are not fair people and that is why they do not want to go to the police station because these are powerful and strong people. The same concept is reflected in a story **Black water** where the younger brother is not willing to give proper food to his elder brother. This attitude shows his superiority.

There are some psychological issues which Abro has painted in almost all the stories. The story **Flame** reflects the injustice and inequality of the society. Lower class is always working for the elite class, feudal lords etc. Husband of Sarran is a peasant, he is working a lot for the lords but they have not given him a proper right which he deserves. This attitude shows the inequality and injustice. The same thing is prominent in the story **Brat of Shah**, when Peeral Shah hits a little girl on calling him Mama. Injustice and inequality is also significant in the story **Discourteous**, where doctor is treating harshly and rudely to the poor patient and giving his smile to the wealthy patient.

The chauvinistic attitude is also prominent in Abro's writing because it is also the sad reality and the dark picture of the society. The subjugation of a woman is crystal clear in Sindhi society. The poverty and hunger made him to do so. The story **Hair Parting** also reflects the misery of a woman where a brother killed her sister by following the tradition *Karo Kari*. Her sister chose her spouse and that is why her brother killed her with axe. Gneezy is of the opinion that, that ga which is found in man and man on the basis of gender is due to the chauvinistic attitude of a man. This is like similar to the Western societies Gneezy et al. (2009). The story **Gratitude** presents the chauvinistic attitude, when some boys asked from a young beggar about the child which she was carrying in her arms. The girl told them that it is a gift of the feudal lords like you. She told them that she is unmarried and the guy exploits her.

So, diversity is not a cruel thing, one must show the respect to the individuality. A person must not be judged because of race and ethnicity, class system, wealth etc. Rather, it must be shown verbally and non-verbally. The world is consisting of the multiculturalism. Abro has shown it in his writings. The culture of Sindh is also prominent in his writings.

## **Cultural Diversity**

In all the short stories of Pirani by Jamal Abro, the real picture of the society is prominent and significant. The reflection of the discrimination on the basis of wealth and power, the picture of traditions like Karo Kari, feudalism, gender discrimination, which are popular everywhere in the world are present in Abro's Pirani. The society is divided into different classes and due to this discrimination a man is facing criminal attitude of the upper class of the society just on the basis of the race and ethnicity, wealth and power, strong background and cast etc. A culture is a representation of any society. So, diversity must be acceptable in a very positive way. Every tradition must be given importance in a true and right way. There must be a proper respect, respect for different language, and respect for cultural Diversity etc.

## ***Class Distinction***

Elements of Class distinction have randomly been discussed in various stories of Abro (2017). Class distinction can also be seen in Short story, **Black Water**. When a flood came, all the wealthy people moved towards the city leaving poor people behind. They were those people who served them a lot in the time of difficulty. The feudal lords ordered the labor to work in the village, feudal lords with their families left the village and villagers without taking care of the fact that they have to show unity at the

time of difficulty. The labor class was helpless at that time. The poor social status of labor class can be found in Abro (2017).”The poor people stayed their day and night, hungry, lacking sleeping, and worrying about their children .They exhausted themselves working with shovels for long hours ( pg.4)”. It is further discussed by the writer in his own descriptive words as,

The feudal lords had already shifted, along with their families to safer towns. The poor villagers, who had not been paid their wages rushed to rescue their wives.....or the banks of Canals. (ibid, pg.4)

Class distinction is also prominent in Abro’s story *Discourteous*, when doctor treated a poor couple in a very bad way and asked them, whether they can afford seven day treatment or not. Wife felt helpless and she was stuck at that time. “The doctor started.....seven day treatment?” (pg. 14, 15).It is also prominent in Abro’s Lorry when a boy gets hurt and his parents are worried because they know that judge and police officers will not take care of them and they can afford the charges of a hospital so they refused to visit the hospital and police station.” The judges were also very cruel....ruined” (pg. 48)

It is further highlighted in the story **Barat of Shah** when a little girl of seven years asked about the money and said, give me peso mama He gets annoyed at this attitude and hits a girl badly. He thought that he is a Syed and God has made him superior so no one has a right to call him Mama. No one has a right to call him in a very casual way because of his superior class and status. This attitude can be found in Abro (2017), “He rushed at her, howling like a wolf. He felt insulted that a little girl is calling him mama despite his being a Syed. The Shah kicked the girl and she went rolling on the ground (pg. 35)”It can be clearly observed that how people are misusing their power and designation and victims are only the poor and weak people, those who are not having any power. This is the class distinction which is visible everywhere in the society.

### ***Feudalism***

Abro has painted the feudalism society in Pirani. It is depicted in Abro’s Flame. Feudal lords never give the rights of poor people. Poor Peasants work day and night for the better future of their family and as a result they never give them proper salary. “But ignoring the contribution.....he gives them a fair share” (Pg. 20). The behavior of the feudal lord’s with the poor people is also evident in Abro’s gratitude when feudal lords misbehaved with the girl and then they asked about the baby. The answer of girl was a slap on the face of the society. “This is a gift of you lords”. (pg76).The discrimination and the selfish attitude of feudal lords can be found in Abro (2017), “But ignoring the contribution of the earth.....Sarran urged him to talk to the landlord and request that he gives them affair share( pg. 20)”.

In the story **Barat of Shah**, the superiority complex is visible when Peeral Shah hits a girl badly on calling him Mama. He felt insulted because he belongs to a Syed family and Syed’s are superior. Peeral Shah is enjoying his status on the basis of the feudalism. This superiority complex can be found in Abro (2017), “Shah Felt insulted, lost his temper and start drooling. You daughter of a bitch.....The shah kicked the little girl and she went rolling on the ground (pg. 35)”. The stories are woven in such a way that it shows the clear and true picture of all the social taboos. It can be observed that the feudal lords are misusing their powers, poor are remain in the control of these lords and again here power wins and weak remain weak.

### **Cultural Patterns**

To understand the cultural pattern it is important to understand the meaning of culture and pattern. The activities, norms of society, the living standards of, living styles, traditions customs all these things makes a pattern of the society. Pakistan has four provinces and every province has a different and unique culture, norms, traditions and values. . Jamal Abro has shown different culture pattern of Sindh. How people of Sindh behave, what are the traditions, norms, values people of Sindh are practicing. Every short story in

Pirani discusses the cultural Pattern in a very detailed way. The things which he has highlighted are present everywhere in the society.

### ***Social, Economic and Behavioral Issues***

There are some social and economic issues which Jamal Abro has highlighted in Pirani. It seems that only diplomacy, power exists in the world and nothing else. People who are wealthy only they are considered as human. The people who have strong background only they have feelings, Poor people and those who are dependent on others are not humans.

Jamal Abro has pointed out some common issues which a common man is facing in the society. In his short story **Discourteous**, It can be seen that, a poor couple came to a clinic for a checkup. The lady was having a less amount in her pocket and her husband was crying due to stomach ache. The doctor checked the patient in a rude way; he asked about the money and gave treatment according the money the lady was having at that time. Not only in terms of money, he has even refused to inject him a painkiller because he thought that, they cannot pay a huge amount for the treatment. The lady was also embarrassed at that time and definitely there was no other way accepts this that he has to be in pain because he is not having enough money for the proper medication. This shows that the courtesy is made only for the rich and wealthy people. When she asked about her diet, the doctor behaved in a rude way. This rude and harsh behavior can be found in Abro's (2017), "The doctor was infuriated. Give him whatever you like. You cannot desist..... You still prefer Bhatt (pg.15)." It is further expressed by the writer in his descriptive writing as, "The doctor expressed his anger and the lady went out and squeezed her wet shirt (ibid, pg.14)."

The social issues raised in the society are just because of the inequality, injustice and the harsh attitudes of people surrounding in the society. Sometimes people become rebellious because of all these issues. People in the society are now getting psychotic, psychological issues have been raised and Abro has shown the picture of all these things in his story, **Brigand**. A father used to hit his son badly. His mother was died and a child faced a lot of harsh behaviors from the society. Every one hits him a lot and especially father never trusts him. No matter whatever he was doing well for the society and himself, no one appreciated him. Even sometimes his father hits him without any reason. Due to this criminal attitude of the society and his father, he became a rebellious personality and at the end of the story he became a very harmful person. These are the results of the social behavior of the society which needs correction. These painful attitudes are reflected in Abro's (2017), "Sometimes he would even be punished for a crime he did not commit" (Pg. 8). It is further addressed by a writer in his descriptive writing as, "One day he touched the shining cloth of a Hindu trader to feel it and the trader slapped him across the face (ibid, pg.8)."

In Pirani, Jamal Abro has shown the darker aspect of the society, which needs to be highlighted and must be understood by the society and especially parents. The social behavior and attitudes are important as they leave a strong impact on the personality. Sometimes because of all these issues, a person is creating the negativity in the society. People face psychological issues as it can be observed in Abro's Pirani. Abro has shown a mirror to the society through all these stories.

### ***Male Chauvinistic Attitude***

An attitude of a man towards a woman is the same, authoritative, bossy etc. A man is ruling over the woman. Woman always fights for her rights. The patriarchal pressure can be observed in male dominant society, it is not only in Pakistan or it can be said that only a Pakistani woman is not bearing all these things, the pressure can be observed in almost every society. A chauvinistic attitude towards the opposite sex is a normal thing in the society. . From day one she is struggling for her individuality, for her rights and basic needs.

The male chauvinistic attitude and concerns can be observed in his story **Pirani**, where father sold her daughter to earn the money. He sold his daughter to a poor peasant as it was difficult to have a wife in the

culture of Sindh; especially peasants have to do a lot of effort for getting married. The little girl and her mother were crying in pain but it is of no use. Her father needs money and for this purpose he finds a solution of selling her daughter to a poor peasant. This pain can be felt in Abro's (2017),

As they drew nearer Pirani's mother twitched convulsively and clasped her daughter lifting her high, she pressed Pirani to her bosom. The mother and daughter were panting, their hearts pounding fast, their eyes panic stricken.....The mother broke down her heart crushed, her very vitals cut into pieces (pg.54). It is further discussed by the writer in his own descriptive words as, "Now will you shut up before I carve you into pieces (ibid, pg.55).

It can be seen that how the women is bearing the pressure of male dominant society. The male chauvinistic attitudes are sometimes unbearable like Abro has painted the picture of this attitude in the story **Hair Parting**. Due to these discriminations and attitudes, it is a common observation that a woman sometimes faces psychological issues also. When a girl in the story chooses her spouse, she was terrified to expose this reality in front of her brother. She thought to tell her mother about her love and emotions. But unfortunately, her mother did not understand the emotions, and slapped her badly. Such type of psychological torture is portrayed by Abro in his Pirani. She must be having liberty to discuss her thoughts with her brother and father. But she is facing a pressure from a male dominant society and this psychological pressure is reflected in **Hair Parting**.

Chauvinistic attitude can be observed in Abro's story, **Barat of Shah**. It can be seen that how a little girl bears the bad behavior of Peeral Shah because she called her Mama. She was a little girl and she does not know how to call the elders. Peeral Shah is a Syed and when he listen this name, he gets furious and hits her a lot. This attitude can be found in Abro's (2017), "He rushed at her, howling like a wolf, He felt insulted that a little girl was calling him Mama.....Shah kicked the little girl and she went rolling on the ground (pg.35)."

All these male chauvinistic attitude portrayed by Abro is a true picture of the society and especially of Sindh. The work of Abro portrays the sufferings of a woman in the male dominant society. The oppression of women was common in Sindhi culture which Abro has told through his short stories but it seems that it is common in every society and culture of Pakistan.

### **Cultural Convergence**

Pakistan has four provinces and every province has its own culture, traditions, norms, values etc. A person must not consider it a very casual thing. To understand the cultural Resemblance it is important to understand the meaning of the resemblance. Resemblance means the sameness, the same the equal thing. In cultural diversity, it means that the social trends, traditions which are present in more than one culture are the cultural resemblance. This thing needs understanding that every individual is important; he / she should not be judged or compared on the basis of the race and ethnicity, wealth and power. People in the world are having different backgrounds and every culture is representing the different society. Here, one needs to give importance to every culture. Jamal Abro in his short stories has pointed out the culture resemblances in almost all the stories. While reading all the stories, a person get stunned because it seems like it is not the representation of only Sindh; these things are present in every society. It is the representation of whole Pakistani culture.

### **Cultural Representation and Misrepresentation**

To understand the representation and misrepresentation of the culture one needs to understand the real and ideal culture. Real culture means that a person moving in the society is behaving in a normal way without pretending. An ideal culture includes the values and norms a culture needs while actual way of life includes the values and norms being practiced.

Jamal Abro has portrayed an ideal and areal culture in all the stories. An ideal culture is observed in almost in every story of Pirani, an ideal culture says that a woman is happy with what she is having in her

life and society is giving her a lot. She is secure, no one scolds her, she is safe at her home, there is no discrimination on the basis of sexuality etc. This is the depiction of an ideal culture, which is not truly demonstrated. A woman is portrayed in an ideal way but actually it is not the real picture. The real picture is reflected in the short story Pirani; the parents had sold their little daughter to earn some money. Poverty and hunger is the biggest truth of life and it can be observed in Abro's **Pirani**. It can be seen that because of poverty and hunger, he can do anything for the sake of his comfort. He sold her daughter to a peasant to earn money. A glimpse of a real culture can be found in Abro's **Brat of Shah**, when a little girl gets injured because he calls a pious person of the village a mama. He hits her badly, kicks her in a very bad way because he gets insulted by a girl. This culture can be seen in Abro's (2017) "Shah felt insulted, lost his temper and started drooling .....her little fist and shouted Mama ( pg. 35)"

The wrong things which are happening in the society are actually a real culture. Now this is the real culture that an individual is important on the basis of the power, wealth, and strong background. Discrimination, inequality, injustice, class distinction, this is the common practice which are observed in the society and this behavior is prominent in the daily life also.

Another evidence of the discrimination is in the story of the **Flame**, where poor people and Labor had served the feudal lords. But in the time of difficulty, these landlords did nothing for them, this again discrimination and the class distinction which is present in every culture and a true picture of the society. This reality can be found in Abro's (2017), 'But ignoring the contribution of the earth, the sun and the husband of Saran, there was one another person..... Sarran urged him to talk him to the landlord and requested that he gives them affair share.' (pg.20) It is a common observation that in the villages that people who always work hard for the society, for the feudal lords, at the end they never give them their proper right which they truly deserves in return. It is happening not only in the villages, at the working place also. Sometimes the most hardworking employ never gets the ideal salary which he deserves truly in return of his hard work.

An ideal culture is also depicted in the story **Pirani** that her parents are taking care of her but when they saw that they are not having food they planned to sell their daughter for earning money. Taking care of Pirani is representing an ideal culture. The representation of an ideal culture is presented in Abro's (2017), "Her father took off his cap and scratched his head full of lice." (pg. 53)

### ***Traditional and Ritual Juncture***

Rituals are a presentation of any society, it's like a culture and it means that, it's a sequence of those activities which includes gesture, words, moves, or objects, completed in sequestered vicinity and in keeping with a hard and fast series, rituals may be prescribed by using the traditions of a network, which includes a spiritual community. Rituals are a function of all recognized human societies.

There are different rituals in every society and Abro has shown the unique and impressive rituals in his stories. It can be seen in Pirani that nomadic girl sold to a peasant. Buying and selling of a woman is a ritual in some cultures and people never consider it as a shameful act. On the other hand, an African culture is significant in the story Macho man where a woman buy her life partner according to her choice. This is the diversity which Abro has shown in Pirani. A different ritual presents different cultures of the society. It is a ritual of almost every society that a woman has to be confined at home and she is not allowed to perform the activities according to her choice. This ritual can be observed in Hair Parting .Honor killing of a woman in some cultures is a prominent ritual. Similarly, it is a mindset of the feudal society that a woman should be considered as a commodity that is why she has limited rights. Discrimination, gender discrimination, depravedness is considered a ritual of many cultures

Karo Kari is another prominent ritual of many societies and culture. It is especially present in the villages, Sindh. It can be seen in **Hair Parting** that a woman is killed by his brother on choosing his life partner independently. This is another ritual which is observed at the side of village's. This ritual is common in Sindhi culture, people of that society prefer honor of killing a woman. Buying and selling of a woman is

also present frequently in Abro's Pirani. Many stories reflect this ritual. **Pirani, Macho** man are the stories that reflect the buying and selling of the ritual.

### **Justification of Research Questions**

#### **How Sindh Feudal System (SFS) has been portrayed right in the Fiction of Pirani by Jamal Abro?**

Abro has painted the true and real picture of the society and especially Sindhi culture. Feudalism is a system which is generated in the nineteenth century. A feudal lord is a person who possesses many lands. On the basis of this superiority he tries to oppress a woman and the people of the society. In a system of superiority, feudalism is reflected in almost every story of Abro. According to Kosambi, Feudalism is likewise defined by way of a device of landownership by advanced instructions in special relation to the royal or state power (Kosambi, 1956). Griffin points out that, Land reforms is a way to rearrange rights to distribute land greater equitably (Griffin et al., 2002).

The story **Flame** is a true depiction of this system, husband of Sarraan was a driver and after a lot of hard work he became a peasant. He wanted to improve the life style of his family. He worked day and night for the land but the feudal lord refused to give him a proper share of all the things. That was his right but he was quiet for the reason that if he will demand for the thing that he deserves, the feudal lord will hurt his family so better to stay quiet. It is significant in the story, **Brat of Shah** where Peeral Shah, a feudal lord belongs to a Syed family; the villagers were habitual of touching his feet because of the superiority. Syed is of the view that feudal lords never give chance to the common people and they always try to empower the feudal lords. No matter to which class they belong. The authority is of the politicians, industrialists etc. (Syed, 2013).

Siddiq (2014) is of the opinion that, Women endure the brunt of feudalism while girls from the feudal sphere are denied now not handiest the rights of inheritance of assets but also the rights of getting married. Rather, they may be pressured to marry with Koran and in this way, her part of percentage in the land does now not cross anywhere; it remains with the male participants of a family (ibid). The story **Hair Parting** also reflects the feudalism. A girl bears a psychological threat from her family especially from her brother. She was in love and chooses her spouse; his brother felt insulted at this act and thought to kill her. It was against the rules of the village and society.

The German philosophers and thinkers Karl Marx and Engels wrote the communist manifesto and distinct political quantities approximately the evils of capitalism, discussing its inevitable downfall and the evolution of a better financial tool in the form of socialism resulting from a revolution thru the decrease class. Feudalism end up changed through capitalism in England within the 15th century, "by means of using the 15th century, peasant corporations in England had successfully positioned and stop to the lords' potential to extract an monetary surplus in the form of feudal rents"(Katz, 1993). Thus, Abro has shown feudalism in every story and portrays the pain of the society through her characters. The stories are the gloomy picture of the Oppression of women, power, misuse of power, inequality because of the feudalism. All these things are significant in Abro's writing.

#### **What is the representation of women status in the text Pirani?**

The status of a woman, miseries, struggle, efforts and pain which Abro has shown in Pirani are admirable. From day one a woman is struggling for her identity, importance and place. She is tolerating the chauvinistic attitudes, psychological pain, physical exploitation etc. All the stories reflect the pain of a woman. Wollstonecraft is of the view that the idea of gender as socially constructed is seen as early as 1792 in Mary Wollstonecraft's a vindication of the rights of women (Wollstonecraft, 1792/2004).

The story **Gratitude** reflects the pain of an unmarried girl who was exploited by the feudal lords of the society. She was unmarried and was having a baby in her hand. She was worried and helpless when some boys were making fun of her in the market. The status of a woman is also significant in Abro's **Hair Parting**. The brother had killed her sister by following the custom Karo Kari. It was a common practice

in the village. The girl was not allowed to choose her spouse. According to Tjaden and Thoennes (2000), Patriarchy has regularly been used as an cause for violence closer to women—violence, which includes domestic/intimate accomplice violence's, rape and sexual assault, infant abuse, and stalking that is patterned along “gendered lines” (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000)

Chesney and Gosselin are of the view that, patriarchal society is actually wants the authority of a woman; they create the system in which a woman is bound to obey a man (Chesney, 2006; Gosselin, 2010). The authority of a man over a woman is evident in our society, due to this status of a woman; she is struggling a lot for her rights from day one. She cannot do anything according to her choice and this hurts a lot as described in **Brat of Shah**. The little girl was upset and crying because Peeral Shah hits and kicked her a lot. He was annoyed because a little girl called her Mama; it was just because of the reason that he was authoritative. Because of this reason, feminist started advocating the rights of a woman. The inequality on the basis of gender, women subjugation, discrimination, inequality and injustice, all these things are just because of the superiority of a man. Proper education for a women, basic needs for her like a man need, awareness to a man for the rights of a woman is necessary in today’s world . Batool is of the opinion that, traditionally, in maximum cultures the organization of own family has been patriarchal and male ruled. Male manipulate and husband’s strength of chastisement in their wives is typically sanctioned by using non-secular and cultural norms (Batool, 2002). According to Shaheen (1991), Physical violence exists in the society and a woman is a victim of this violence. So, the status and position of a woman in our society is miserable and is significant in Abro’s Pirani. Her status is also clear from the above mentioned examples .Abro has shown a true status of a woman, behaviors of our society in his writing.

### **How has Jamal Abro exposed social problems in the Fiction Pirani?**

Jamal Abro has shown some issues which a man is facing in our society. There are so many cultures in our society so his diversity is a beauty of the world and present in today’s world. The basic is the acceptance of the diversity and giving respect to others. A man should not be judged on the basis of race and ethnicity. This thing needs understanding that every individual is important and unique. Society must show respect to every individual. It must be shown through our body language also.

According to Fabian, equality means the distribution of things in an equal manner, means every person must get equal thing at equal time at the same place (Fabian, 2002, p. 32).The issues like discrimination, inequality and injustice, gender discrimination, behavioral problems, psychological issues all the things are significant in the Abro’s writing. The story **Discourteous** shows that how the elite class creates the difference in the society. It is reflected in the behavior of a doctor when a poor couple went fort the medication he behaved rudely because he knew that they are not having enough money for the medication. Now, it is a job of doctor to take care of every patient without discrimination but it’s a harsh reality that man always prefer class, status etc.Alesina and Rodrik are of the opinion that, inequality reduces the economic growth Alesina and Rodrik (1994).

Inequality and injustice is also prominent in the story, **Lorry**. The boy was badly injured in an accident and no one took him to the hospital even police was standing there. The police threat the parents and then the parents were not willing to take him to the hospital. They said that it will be our luck if our son will survive. Leave him to his fate. This discrimination on the basis of the social status is a true picture of the society which Abro has painted in the story lorry.

Waldman is of the view that inequality, discrimination and injustice is a crime Waldmann (1992). So, another story **Brigand** is also a proof of a psychological problem. It is a story of father and son. He never trusts his son and used to kick and slap him every time when he was a child. Once he touched the silky shine cloth of Hindu, he slapped him badly. All these attitudes leads him to the negativity and he thought to take revenge from the society. He became rebellious personality and this is true that sometimes, due to these behaviors society creates such personalities which are harmful for the humanity.

The behavioral problem is also evident in the story **Black Water** where behavior of a brother is a true picture of the society. Urs elder brother died due to hunger and poverty. He even hid the dry bread from his brother. This behavior is common in our society that man is suffering from the harsh and selfish attitudes of the society. All these behavioral problems exist because of the discrimination. Abro has exposed these issues in a right direction. Every story is a glimpse of the psychological, behavioral and economic issues of the society.

### **How has Abro portrayed Sindhi Culture in Pirani?**

There are so many things which highlight the Sindhi Culture in Abro's Pirani. The dress code, physical appearance and language, attitudes and behaviors of Sindhi people are evident in all the stories. Different class systems are portrayed by Abro in Pirani. Bennett is of the view that, magnificence remains an imperative factor within the structuring of modern-day cultural exercise in Britain: magnificence subjects. Some aspect social benefit could possibly rise up from heavy engagement in cultural activities will accrue to those who are incredibly knowledgeable, who occupy higher occupational beauty positions, and who have backgrounds inside higher social instructions. Better social elegance is related to normal attendance at the theatre, museums, artwork galleries, stately houses, opera, cinema, musicals and rock live shows. It is also strongly related to proudly owning paintings and reading books. Belonging to the lowest social commands has a bent to be associated with by no means doing these items. Like this, in Sindh different class systems were there (Bennett et al 2009:52). Hard work is the quality of Sindhi people. There is no substitute for hard work as it is evident in the story **Flame**. The hard work of a peasant is a proof of Sindhi culture. People put a lot of hard work for improving their life style. Husband of Sarran was a poor driver but he was doing a lot for his family. His face become somber, when his cheeks sank in, when he felt weak, he thought about his family and the future of the kids. He always felt excited and glad when he thinks about the future.

Culture of Sindh is also prominent in the story **Pirani**. It was a culture of Sindh that people buy and sell a woman. It is significant in Abro's Pirani when her father thought to sell her to a poor peasant. It was a culture of Sindh and people never felt shame on this act. It was difficult for Sindhi peasant to get a wife so needy people used to sell their daughters to a peasant. The status of a woman in Abro's Pirani is miserable who I struggling for her individuality and identity. She cannot get better education, cannot work individually in the society and when it comes to the entrepreneurship, women is not allowed to do so. Bradley is of the opinion that, a woman is not allowed to enter in the entrepreneurship because they cannot control and handle the circumstances (Bradley, 2007).

The soul less and greedy society is also one of the darker aspect of Sindh. It is also significant in the story that the relationship breaks under the weight of poverty. It reflects in the story **Black water** where a brother showed a careless attitude and did not give him a proper food. As a result, the brother had died. Sindhi people had suffered a lot in this aspect. Due to poverty and hunger, people suffered a lot. It shows the inequality in the society also. Lamont is of the view that, inequality must be taken on the priority and this issue needs to be addressed seriously Lamont et al (2014).

Sindhi Feudal lords were strict and their way of talking, behavior was authoritative. The story Brat of Shah is a clear example of this attitude. Peeral Shah was a superior man; he always wants to be in limelight. That is why he was an arrogant person. There are classes in the culture which Abro has painted beautifully. Superior were the feudal lords, hardworking were the lower class. Sindhi culture represents the true aspects of the society. Every character is important, emotional and beautiful.

### **Conclusion**

The purpose of this research is to highlight those areas which are ignored by the society. The social and behavioral issues are generated due to non-acceptance of the diversity in the society. Cultural diversity needs understanding that every culture is unique in its own way. Every individual is important because of his individuality. The problems and social issues which a man is facing now days are due to the

negativities which a man is having in his mind. There are some psychological issues due to the evil behavior of the society. Diversity is important and exists in the world. There are different, communities, groups in the world. Everyone is living accruing to the norms that particular area has created for it. One must show full and complete respect to that diversity. Sometimes, it is shown verbally but it must be shown through our body language.

In this study, it is justifiably concluded that the social and behavioral issues like gender discrimination, discrimination, class distinction, feudalism, rituals, and chauvinistic attitudes are present in the society and one must consider it on a very serious note. A woman in our society is still struggling for her rights, feudal lords; patriarchal society is not giving her the rights which she deserves. Same is the case with the people who are having the powers and strong back ground. People are misusing their power and that is why, new generation is getting negative, moving towards the wrong directions to fulfill their needs. Jamal Abro has exposed the social problems, behavior of the society towards a woman in Pirani. By highlighting all these areas he has tried to give awareness of all these areas so that one must try to improve the condition of the society.

The rituals, represented in Pirani are interesting. He has told us about the rituals of the central Africa, Pakistani culture and then culture of the Society. The purpose of telling and highlighting all these things is to give respect to every culture, people of the society. The main concern is that, every individual is important and unique in the society and a person must not judge on the basis of the race and ethnicity. A woman has a very prominent place in the society, and society must alternatively accept her individuality without criticizing her. No matter if she is a daughter, wife or a sister. She is respectable and must be given a high place in the society. Abro (2017) has depicted all these things to make people realize that these false behaviors must be controlled and we should change our mindset for the change and for the creation of the new society.

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