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# Role of Motivation in Learning Second Language in Pakistan

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**Abstract:** This research paper aims to explore the function of motivation in studying English language for Pakistani rookies. Motivation is appeared as an influential element within the achievement of any hobby. It performs a vital function in accomplishing the favored dreams. This article is basically based upon qualitative study comprising of interviews of certain related personnel. In this article, the main focus is going to be at how motivation plays its role in understanding and learning of a second language in Pakistan. The role of Parents, Teachers, scholars from different sects and the role of Government will also be discussed. We will try to find out how motivation plays a positive role in learning a second Language in Pakistan and what factors can motivate or even demotivate someone who is trying to learn a second language. This article will try to cover about the need of motivation to learn a second language in Pakistan. Studies of Past will also be discussed and results that were obtained from those studies will also be discussed in Pakistani context. We will discuss how motivation actually plays the role of its own in learning a second language and also we will try to find out the research gap with the help of Research Questions.

**Keyword:** China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Second Language Acquisition, Motivation

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## 1. Introduction

To learn something new or something that does not come naturally to you, you need a lot of motivation to learn it and get better at it. Hence, the role of Motivation can never be undermined or subdued. Motivation actually means the force that drives you forward. It is the force that helps you to keep on going. It gives you the strength and the power to keep fighting for your goals and ultimately achieve them. Motivation can really improve and completely change someone's life. Motivation is considered as a vital part within the achievement of any aim. It's far a critical element that has a high quality influence in any academic learning manner especially in mastering second language. In Pakistan the difficulty of the language in schooling desires an overhauling, the relationship between attitudes and motivation is especially complicated when it comes to English language Studying and teaching. Almost all the university and school college students are supposed to be strongly inspired to study English to succeed within the university front examinations and Input a prestigious college, to get a better activity or a rich destiny. Motivation can be defined as a few kind of stimulus, desire or impulse that

directs the behavior of a person. In phrases of foreign language acquisition, motivation involves four elements: a purpose, effortful behavior, a desire to attain the intention and favorable attitudes to the activity in question. It's also motivational depth which may be assessed by using determining the amount of attempt the individual expends or might be inclined to dissipate to analyze the second/overseas language.

We see hundreds of story of motivation in which a person who was in rages was motivated by something or some person and the guy's complete life just was totally changed and he became a better person in general. Especially, in a country like Pakistan, role of motivation is even more enhanced as compared to other developed countries. We as a country are full of negativity at so many spheres, that it is hard to get positivity and motivation to move forward in life. In such cases, we surely need the motivation to play its role in Pakistan. Just like most of the things in Pakistan, we are quite inclined towards learning a second foreign language and we have to learn them in order to get good grades as well as some respect in our society as in most parts "These foreign languages" are considered to be the scale of judgment of someone's brilliance. If you are good at certain languages in

Pakistan, then you are considered an intelligent person. This is one of the major reasons that a lot of people try to learn these languages and their popularity is increasing by each passing day.

The famous Second languages in Pakistan to learn are English, Arabic, Chinese. English language is still considered to be the baseline for intelligence in Pakistan. It is considered to be the language that defines and explains you as a person. If you are someone who can speak good English and have complete command over the language with a good accent, then most probably you will be considered a superior human being Altogether.

This is what really motivates people to learn English language. They are also motivated by their parents, family members and Teachers to learn English language. Lingua Franca of the world is still English language and they feel that if they will learn English language, then they will be a totally different human being altogether. Most of people are also reluctant to learn English Language. They feel shy when they have to speak it in front of people. A lot of people are very good at writing English but when they have to speak it out, they stutter a lot due to lack of confidence and motivation. There are so many learners out there who try to copy someone's accent and as a result, their own accent turns into a fake.

To get rid of all these problems, you need to have an idea about motivation. In all of these cases, the role of motivation significantly rises. The motivation given by teachers, tutors, family members, fellow students and general public can really help someone who is having issues regarding the Learning of second language in Pakistan. This learning is not only limited to school, college or university life, it is about learning any second language in general and how people can be motivate and how great a role does motivation play in such cases.

Another foreign language that is learned by a lot of people in Pakistan is Arabic language. However, the motivation behind the learning of this language is mostly religious. Pakistan is a country that has 98% Muslims and as we know that most of religious scriptures of Muslims are written in Arabic language. So, it becomes absolutely necessary to understand that language. However, for a very long time, this has been a great problem for Pakistan and there doesn't seem to be a solution for that any time soon and the problem is that out of 1000 people who can speak Arabic only one would actually understand what is the meaning of what he is reading from any holy scripture.

For this purpose, Motivation can really play a positive role here. The parents need to try to lighten up the spirit of love of Islam in Kids and try to motivate them towards learning and actually understanding Quran. This can be a great motivation and in this way, they can also learn a 2nd language. Similarly, the students who are taught at Madrassa level should also be taught the basics of Arabic language and hence they can learn and understand what they are speaking. This is going to help them learn a new language as well as learn Islam in a better way. This can surely be a great motivation and Parents & Teachers surely need to play their role in this case to improve

the children's minds and help them grow.

It is also being said that there are going to be Two sides of Pakistan. One before the CPEC and one after the CPEC. It has surely been termed as the Game changer and something that is going to have much greater impact on Pakistan that won't just be the impact on our economy or monetary matters. So, one such impact is going to be the growth of Chinese language in Pakistan. This is really going to need a lot of motivation as we will be the first generation to learn Chinese language and for learning it then we really need to be motivated. This motivation should be provided mainly by the government and it should motivate students and teachers alike to learn the Chinese language so that we keep up with the pace of things in CPEC.

#### *Need of the Project*

Pakistan as a nation is an under developed country and we really are relying on other countries for our survival and growth in the world market and for that purpose we are almost bound to learn foreign languages. Our religious obligations also motivate us to learn foreign language. So, we can say that surely we need to try to understand and discuss the different factors that play their role in learning of a second language.

Out of many such factors, one of the very important and less talked about factors is the factor of Motivation. So, here we will discuss about the role of motivation to learn a second language in Pakistan. It will also help us understand that how motivation can help someone to grow generally in life and not only in case of learning a new language. All we need to do is to motivate others at whatever level we can. It can help someone to grow in life and it can really prove helpful to the other person as well.

So, this is why this project was needed to shower some light on importance of motivation and its role in learning of a second language and how it can come up with points that can help Pakistani students in the process of SLA.

## **2. Literature Review**

Minklen, [6] had tried their best to find out the effects of motivation on how words were learnt by kids in school of a second language. For this purpose, they used a social robot that had the built in capacity and capability to teach kids with intrinsic motivation. The robot taught kids and motivated them in the classroom and there was a clear increase in their capacity and the urge to learn new words of the foreign language. This proved that if humans are motivated by a robot, they can surely motivated by human beings as well and it could result into much positive results rather. [6]

McIntyre, [3] believed that when we are studying about SLA, we often ignore the importance of emotions. Even In his article, McIntyre tries to give importance to the emotions related to SLA. McIntyre believes that there are positive as well as negative emotions out there that can have an impact on SLA of students and we need to give them proper importance. McIntyre also believes that, these positive emotions like love, passion etc. are motivation related

emotions and they can really motivate a human being in SLA and which can result in faster and much better SLA. [3]

Rebecca, [4] talks about the importance of motivation and how it can have positive impact on students who want to learn a second language. Rebecca believes that motivation increases their self-confidence. It instills in them a lot of confidence and a huge amount of trust in their abilities to come in contact with speakers of that foreign language as well. The motivation behind learning a specific language also can play an important role as well. The motivation can either be to contact with other cultures or it can also be about business and trying to get earning opportunities or even studying or traveling abroad as well. Whatever the case maybe, motivation surely plays a great role in the development of SLA. [4]

Zoltan,[1] believed that however there is a lot of debate over the literal meaning of the word motivation, but still however way you take it into consideration, motivation plays an important role in our SLA. Zoltan believes that it gives the initial energy and strength to start with the SLA process and then also gives the power and strength to sustain it for longer periods of time. For this purpose, the role of motivation is really very important for everyone as it gives us the energy and the desire to move forward. It helps us to move forward in life in general and especially when we are learning a second language. [1]

According to Ema, [5] motivation is one of the variables of success and most important key factors in SLA. Ema believes that the acquisition of mother tongue is exempted from motivation. The child might be motivated to learn the mother tongue or he might not be motivated to learn it but still he is going to learn this language for sure. However, if you want to learn second language then surely motivation plays an important role in this process as well. Ema believes that without motivation, it is almost impossible to learn a second language and it is perhaps the most important factor in learning of the second language for a child or even for someone who is a grown up person. Ema terms it as a special case and believes that motivation is absolutely essential to the success of SLA. [5]

Ying Dai,[7] believes that motivation can play a very positive role with regards to SLA. Ying Dai feels that if someone is motivated enough to learn a new language then it becomes obvious that he is going to enjoy that language as well. Ying Dai is going to learn that language with enjoyment and hence he is going to learn it in a much better way than usual. [7]

### 3. Result of Past Studies

When we have a look at the past studies we come to know that motivation surely works as a key factor in the learning of a second or third language. Most of the past studies emphasize on the point that Motivation is still one of the most researched about topics in the field of pedagogy as well as research field and more research also needs to be done about it. However, there is one common thing that can be

taken as a result from most of the studies of the past and that is that motivation surely plays its great role in SLA and it should never be ignored. It is the fuel to the vehicle of SLA. It is very necessary for the process of SLA and its importance cannot be undermined by any means or stretches of imagination.

Hu, X. and S. McGeown [2] also talks about role of motivation and how it can help learning foreign language. So according to him motivation plays an important role in learning any language. [2]

Zhang, H. et al. [8] has paid attention to the learning of third language. The results identify that the participants' instrumental and integrative motivations positively influence their second foreign language proficiency and motivation plays greatest role in acquiring second language. [8]

Rehman, A. et al. [9] aims to explore the role of motivation in learning English language for Pakistani learners. Motivation is regarded as an influential element in the success of any activity. It plays a crucial role in achieving the desired goals. He took 50 students to collect data a 25 female and 25 male and the final result showed that motivation surely plays big role in SLA. [9]

Khan, T. J [10] focus on English as a compulsory subject and how its facing a lot of problems in Pakistan. But motivation also plays major role in learning English in Pakistan so we cannot ignore the importance of motivation..

#### 3.1. Research Gap

However, a lot of study has been done on the topic of the importance of motivation while learning the second language but still in a 3rd world country like Pakistan, a lot more research is still left to be desired about and it is absolutely necessary to be done. This is the research gap and in this article we are going to try and cover that gap. In this article, we are going to see the role that motivation can play with regards to SLA in Pakistan and how it can improve that process.

#### 3.2. Research Questions

This paper tries to explore the answer to the following questions:

1. Does motivation really play positive a role in learning a second language?
2. What are negative impacts of lack of motivation in second language learning?
3. How that obstruction can be eliminated by most of the novices of English as a second language among Pakistani?

#### 3.3. Methodology

The methodology that was followed in this research is qualitative method that consists of interviews of several people concerned with learning a second language. In this research several different interviews were carried out which helped to pan out the results that what is actually the role of motivation in learning a second language. The interviews

were done by people of different age groups and also people who belonged to several different social groups and classes as well. It included people from age groups of 18 to 50 and how they believe that motivation plays a role in learning a second language.

#### 4. Final Discussion

First of all, we interviewed a student from second year of college and asked him how does he think that motivation has helped him or how he thinks the motivation can actually play a role in his learning of second language.

Mukhtar Hassan is actually a student of 2nd year and he feels that he could not really speak English very well and was always ridiculed at start and he felt inferior to other people and he thought that he was less of a human being. He then shares that after being properly motivated by family, friends and teachers, he now feels that he is in a space of mind where he can actually speak English with full confidence and he also believes that motivation is one of the major factors that can help him grow and learn English language easily.

We then interviewed a M.PHIL Applied Linguistics scholar Sumrah Nawaz and asked her about how she feels that motivation can actually play a role in learning a second language. She felt that motivation can really have a positive impact on her skills for learning a second language just like de motivation can literally destroy all the confidence that she has in her abilities.

We also interacted with a 40 years old teacher who has been teaching English language for almost 15 years. He also believes that more than anything and apart from all the techniques that are used to teach English language or a foreign language the one that can be most helpful is motivation of the students and it can surely play a very positive role.

So, to sum up the discussion we can say that motivation plays vital role in learning any language even we can't learn any language without motivation. Motivation is the similar thing in above discussion and we can't ignore it. It is generally said that motivation has an important place in our lives. Without motivation we can't achieve our goals. The term motivation build confidence in people's learning. A learner must be motivated so that he/she will be able to do the desired task. Motivation of learning activities helps the students to concentrate on his working, and to get satisfaction in every field of life. Motivation needs to help learners so that they concentrate on their goals. In my opinion motivation is the most vital principle in learning something.

In short motivation is the key towards success without motivation we can't move in any society, if we talk about above interviews we came to know that Mukhtar Hassan who was student of second year could not even speak due to lack of confidence and over shyness but after being motivated he was able to learn second language.

Same is the case with M. PHIL student Sumrah Nawaz and she said that due to motivation I was able to speak and learn second language.

A 40 years old teacher also has same experience and said that motivation play very positive role in his learning.

So, we can't ignore the importance of motivation in our lives.

#### 5. Conclusion

No language in this world should be set up as a measure of someone's intelligence or skills in this world. No matter even if a language has the status of Lingua Franca BUT it still is a language. If someone wants to be multilingual and learn several languages whether it is because of personal, professional or academic needs everyone should try to admire and motivate the person and we can be rest assured that it is surely going to have a positive impact rather than anything.

Researcher proved that motivation is the main thing for better performance to learn something. Teachers are the main source behind someone motivation. A teacher should be motivated and encouraging only in this case he/she can motivate their pupils. In relation to the earlier research the present study indicates that an enormous courting has been observed between motivation and English talent.

Self-regulation is also very important to learn a second language. A lot of study has been done in the era of motivation.

So to sum up we can say that motivation has vital role in learning language.

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