

# **Socio-Political Role of Civil Society in State Soft Power: The Case Study of Edhi Foundation of Pakistan**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*The contemporary world is striving to overcome multifaceted challenges posed to its survival. The factor of globalization comprehends these challenges common to the nations across the globe. Due to limited resources and increased population, it is difficult for the governments of nation-states to counter challenges without taking assistance from civil society. Among these challenges illiteracy and poverty are more dangerous to state power as both not only breed so many problems but also directly affect the state and society throughout the world. In order to combat these challenges, enhanced 'state power' is mandatory for the nation-states, and for it the assistance of civil society is sought to carry out fundamental responsibilities in a befitting manner. This research paper establishes the approach that a vibrant civil society is a complimentary and compatible force to enhance state power. This approach is very helpful for the third-world countries like Pakistan where population*

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factor is dominant over the resources and facing severe problems of low literacy rate and shortage of food and shelter. Therefore, the present research paper focuses the civil society and state power with particular reference to Pakistan. For the last few decades, Pakistan has faced a lot of challenges as a state and a society; like earthquakes, floods, casualties in blasts, lack of medical facilities, shortage of food and residences for destitute etc. In these critical circumstances, the role and contribution of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have been significantly increased in Pakistan. In this context, a socially well-recognized and deeply entrenched type of civil society is non-governmental organization. This paper focuses the Edhi Foundation, and its socio-political relevance to enhance state power with particular reference to Pakistan.

### Introduction

It is an established verity that out of prevalent governmental systems, democracy is the most effective form of government to manage the issues of humanity in this world.<sup>1</sup> The democratic structure of states enhances state power in order to manage socio-political and economic crises.<sup>2</sup> The essence of democracy entrenched within a 'peaceful and vibrant civil society' — indeed is the ultimate source to enhance state power. Hence, in the contemporary age the 'state power' is mainly vested within the domain of civil society. Therefore, states with strong participatory civic culture in terms of partnership between state and civil society (private sector) have more state power. Among civil society, NGOs have been the most important entities because of having

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1 William Casebeer, *Violent Systems: Defeating Terrorists, Insurgents, and Other Non-State Adversaries* (Colorado Springs, CO: United States Air Force Academy, 2004); William Casebeer and Troy Thomas, "Deterring Violent Non-State Actors in the New Millennium," *Strategic Insight* 2, no. 12 (2003).

2 Jason Bartolomei, William Casebeer, Troy Thomas, "Modelling Violent Non-State Actors: A Summary of Concepts and Methods," IITA Research Publication, *Information Series* (Colorado: Institute for Information Technology Applications, United States Air Force Academy, 2004).

contacts and roots within society<sup>3</sup>. Here, this research will analyze the character of a major NGO in Pakistan—the Edhi Foundation. It discusses Edhi Foundation as a NGO represents and symbolizes non-state actors.

### **Underpinning the Concepts**

**i) State power:** State power is the capacity of institutions of a state to exercise its authority within certain conditions to maintain 'peace' and acquire 'prosperity' for its citizens. The concept of a welfare state has been further enhanced by the importance of peace, socio-political prosperity and relief work within democratic societies. Consequently, the primary obligation of all the institutions of state is to reach 'peace and prosperity' in order to survive within the civilized world. The expanded structure and cultural polarization across the globe has made the states to seek some assistance from civil society to attain peace and prosperity as it is hard for states to fulfil the needs of civil society independently.<sup>4</sup>

**ii) Non-Governmental Organisations:** The Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) basically are functioning oriented organizations and driven by private sector having specific socio-political and economic objectives. These Inter-Governmental Organisations (IGOs) or NGOs, help the states to manage crises, and fulfil socio-political and economic needs and aspirations of the people in order to reach the concept of welfare state. Thus, they share some power of the state to exercise some authority to resolve certain issues. This power and authority sharing enhances state power to deal with uneven circumstances, natural disaster or socio political and economic crunch. The citizens of third-world countries depend more upon the social organizations than governmental bodies because they are

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<sup>3</sup> Troy S. Thomas, Stephen D Kiser and William D. Casebeer, *Warlords Rising: Confronting Violent Non-State Actors* (Lanham MD.: Lexington Books, 2005).

<sup>4</sup> Ernesto Garilao, "Indigenous NGOs as Strategic Institutions: Managing the Relationship with Government and Resource Agencies," *World Development* 15 (Supplement 1987): 113-120.

getting economic aid, shelter and education more from NGOs than state institutions.<sup>5</sup>

### **Rationale behind the Case Study**

According to an applied theoretical model, Edhi Foundation is a national agenda driven organization; that's why it is compatible with state power and successfully transforms itself into a soft power of Pakistan. Abdul Sattar Edhi had been a known and recognized philanthropist. Serving the humanity regardless of caste, creed, colour, and religion was his sole motive in life. No doubt, his selfless social work has painted a soft image of Pakistan across the globe.

The scarcity of resources and the rapid increase in population create socio-economic problems for underdeveloped states. Therefore, these states seek assistance from civil society in providing the citizens with essential social needs. These social needs can broadly be categorized in terms of goods and services. These two categories are further divided into a number of subcomponents like; provision of food, shelter, education, health, burn care centres, child care services and rescue services etc.

In line with an idealist approach, Edhi Foundation provides goods and services throughout the country to enable Pakistan to cope with the socio-political problems. These services of the Edhi Foundation include: baby cradles (homes), cancer boarding house, penniless home, services for lost people, wellbeing hub, Edhi dwelling for safe haven of natural world, highways development, graveyard services, ware accommodations, Edhi disaster points, Edhi ambulances, detainee assistance, air ambulance, exile backing, aquatic and coastal functions, worldwide community axis and blood and remedy reservoir etc.<sup>6</sup> The Edhi Foundation has been extending its support to the

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5 David Lewis, *Non-Governmental Organizations, Management, and Development*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (London: Routledge, 2014), 91-93.

6 U.S. Department of State, *Foreign Relations of the United States: Diplomatic Papers, 1943* (Washington, DC: GPO, 1965), 562.

people of Pakistan in order to manage issues in socio-political and economic sectors by enhancing its state power and capability for the years, therefore it will be a useful study to monitor its mechanism as how this system works and continues to serve the masses over a great period of time.

### **Edhi Foundation: Genesis, Gestalt and Vision**

Initially, Abdul Sattar Edhi opened a welfare centre in 1947 at Karachi and then in 1951 he established the Edhi Trust. Started with limited resources and operating from an apartment of single room in Karachi, has now become the Edhi Foundation. The Foundation has 350 operating units across the country working from big to small cities and remote regions supplying food, shelter, education and health to needy citizens. The Edhi Foundation has been a non-profit organization carrying social welfare programmes in the country and abroad. Edhi was declared head of the organization along with his wife, who supervises maternity in addition to espousal services of the Foundation. Main administrative centre owned by the Edhi Foundation is situated at Karachi.<sup>7</sup>

The Edhi Foundation provides rescue work around the clock to people within and out of the country. It is striving for the provision of food and shelter, free sickbays and remedial care, treatment psychotherapy, schooling and countrywide relief work. Its major focus is on disaster services, orphans, handicapped people, shelter, schooling, healthcare, worldwide community hubs, blood banks, drug stores, air-ambulance, maritime and coastal services. In only Karachi, it is running eight hospitals to provide poor people free medical, eye and diabetic treatment, operation theatres and cancer hostel with four beds and dispensaries.<sup>8</sup>

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7 Edhi Foundation Pakistan Service, last modified December 9, 2013, <http://http://www.edhi.org/.htm>.

8 M. Imran Ashraf, *Interviews taken from Mr. Zamir Muhammad and Ms. Shagufta*. Circle officer & Care Taker Edhi Foundation, Lahore, April 20, 2016.

Apart from these services, the Foundation is also managing two blood stores in Karachi. All the contributions are carried out by the professionals and volunteers of the Foundation. The Foundation supplies food and other necessities of life to inmates. There are 15 destitute homes for children and psychotics. It also makes plans to initiate mass campaigns to handle narcotics, population control, illiteracy and hygiene. Bilquis Edhi works in fields of maternity management. She looks after six training schools for nurses in Karachi. These institutes, so far, have trained more than 40,000 nurses. About 20,000 babies have been rescued. About one million newly born children have been kept in maternity hubs. Bilquis Edhi also supervises food supplies to hospitals. Fifty thousand orphans have been kept in Edhi housing. Two daughters of Edhi and a son also help out in caring of orphanages and automation of institutions.<sup>9</sup>

### **Donations and Fund Raising of Edhi Foundation**

The vision of Edhi Foundation is to build an institution to carry out welfare work to make Pakistan a progressive welfare state, which can provide security, health, education and vocational expertise and skills to the needy.

The charitable contributions from persons, ranging from five to several hundreds of thousands of rupees, provide support to Foundation's plans for social welfare. Donations are made in the form of food, medicine, clothing, and animal hides. The emphasis is always on commitments made to public for social wellbeing. Medical facilities and scientific support is received from some other non-governmental organizations. A good number of contributions come from precedent recipients of Edhi Foundation. However, the Foundation also raises funds from citizens of Pakistan living out of the country.<sup>10</sup>

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9 Edhi Foundation Pakistan, *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947* (Karachi: Edhi Information Bureau Publishing, 2008), 1-24.

10 Edhi Foundation Pakistan Service, last modified December 9, 2013, <http://http://www.edhi.org/.htm>

### Relationship between State and NGOs: Idealism vs. Realism

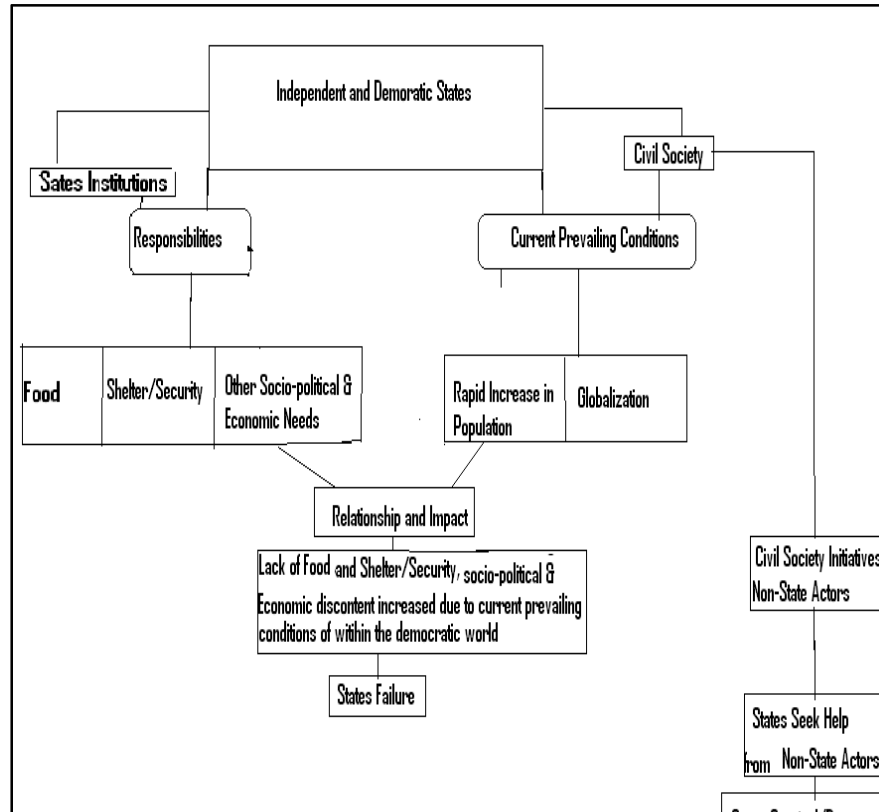
The two schools of thought Idealism and Realism perceive contrarily the functioning of non-governmental organizations.

The insight of both schools of thought is given below:

Idealist View	Realist View
<b>Spokesmen:</b> Steve Charnovitz, Laura Nyro, John Clark	<b>Spokesmen:</b> Booker T. Washington, Gonzaga, Alex Marcinkowski, Hamlin Garland
NGOs are an agent of social change consequently compatible and complementary to state power	NGOs are incompatible to state power
NGOs help states to be transformed and modernized	NGOs pose threat to modern state system
NGOs have played a positive role, growing out of citizenry values of participation, engagement, and responsibility	NGOs have played a negative role to weaken the socio-political and economic institutions of nation state

This study follows the Idealists' views because it supports the soft power as the most influential way of shaping the preferences of others through appeal and attraction.

### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK: John Clarks' Theoretical Model (Description)



### Socio-Political Relevance of Edhi Foundation Pakistan as an NGO Compatible with State Power

The ideology of Edhi Foundation is based on Edhi's concept of 'Pakistan as a welfare state'. William Temple defines the welfare state as 'the organism to successfully fulfil commitments made to its elements by providing and protecting wide range of supplies, both tangible and intangible.'<sup>11</sup>

11 Archbishop William Temple, *Christianity and Social Order* (London: Shephard-Walwyn, 1976), 106.



This allows people an opportunity to have civic shelter in which they can enjoy the pleasures and fruits of their labor. But, all this pleasure comes true when the institutions of state are capable to discharge their obligations effectively. In political terms, the state institutions can exercise only the amount of power and authority which are delegated to them by the respective state. The state power is enhanced when the functioning of institutions will be better to deliver due comfort and pleasure to citizens across the board. However, literature suggests that the strength of institutions of a state largely depends upon the collaboration of NGOs. Thus, it is very difficult for institutions of a state to function in a better and appropriate way without seeking help from NGOs.

According to William and many other political scientists, the basic objective of creation of states was social protection of its citizens. In the modern age, social protection extends its scope and encompasses provision of the following essentials to citizens:

- i. **Food and Shelter:** According to Derek Brown, shelter may be taken in terms of securing the lives of citizens by providing them roof (cover), dress and services for their social protection.
- ii. **Education and Health:** It covers institutional and human capital building through establishing the educational and health institutions and through launching training programs to support the process of provision of education and health to the citizens of state.<sup>12</sup>

Hence, essentials of the welfare state that are focused in this study are 'social protection in food and shelter' and 'social protection in education and health' while examining the role of Edhi Foundation to enhance the capability of Pakistan to meet its challenges. Robert Paxton argues that any organisation which assists the state in protecting the citizens socially is compatible to state power subject to the social values and ideology by foreign NGOs compatible to the state. Social protection; as per the definition of the UN

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<sup>12</sup>Temple, *Christianity and Social Order*, 81.

Research Institute for Social Development, is concerned with preventing, managing and overcoming situations that adversely affect people's physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing. According to this definition, Edhi Foundation is assisting Pakistan over the years in preventing, managing and overcoming situations that adversely affect people's wellbeing. The Edhi centres are mainly assisting Pakistan for social protection of citizens in the fields of 'food and shelter' and 'education and health'. Further in the light of above given definition of social protection which was the core objective of creation of state, the Edhi foundation is assisting Pakistan since 1947. Thus, the Edhi Foundation as an NGO enhanced state power by assisting government in carrying out its fundamental responsibilities as under:

### **Social Protection in Food and Shelter**

The Edhi Foundation is sharing responsibilities of Pakistani state providing 'food and shelter' related facilities to its citizens:

- i) Edhi Destitute Homes
- ii) Edhi Baby Cradles
- iii) Edhi Welfare Centres
- iv) Edhi Grave Yard Services
- v) Edhi Refugees Homes
- vi) Edhi Rehabilitation in Earthquake and floods
- vii) Edhi Ware Houses for Destitute
- viii) Prisoners Aid in food
- ix) Missing Persons Service
- x) International Community Centres
- xi) Edhi Homes for Shelter of Animals

The Edhi homes were established for mentally distorted persons, and 13 homes for this purpose are working in the country. Seven are located at Karachi, and around 60,000 people reside all over the country inside these homes. The needy and homeless becomes a member of Edhi's family once they get into its premises. At these homes, all clothing, boarding, lodging and logistic arrangements are provided

completely free of cost. In case of death of somebody, the burial arrangements are also made by the Foundation according to religious rites of the deceased.<sup>13</sup>

In most of the cities, Edhi centres are working for the care and protection of newly born children. This service is given the name of 'Jhoolas' [Urdu: cradles] service. This service has been established where undesired and out of wedlock born children can easily be dropped. These babies are taken into the care of Edhi Foundation and provided roof and affection. Its welfare hubs are situated in all the metropolis and townships of Pakistan. The primary justification of these hubs is to make the services of the Foundation more effective throughout the country. They are occupied in various activities of social welfare in order to bring comfort in the lives of deprived lot.

Apart from many other welfare activities, the Edhi Foundation has been taking care of funeral and burial of untaken dead bodies in Pakistan. Separate graveyards have been established in cities like Karachi, Rawalpindi and Lahore to receive the bodies. Edhi himself has given bath to about 20,000 untaken deceased persons and has also arranged for their burial.<sup>14</sup>

Edhi foundation has also been providing different services to refugees coming from different countries to get shelter in Pakistan. The Foundation also assisted in the rehabilitation work after the morning of October 8, 2005 witnessed an earthquake of high intensity of 7.6 on Richter scale which struck the whole country, specifically the northern districts of NWFP, the federal capital and Azad Kashmir. Destruction was heavy on other side of the border in the Indian Kashmir valley. The most affected districts were Abbottabad, Mansehra, Batgram in Hazara division and Shangla in Swat. Despite the aforementioned difficulties Edhi Foundation

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13 Ashraf, *Interviews taken from Mr. Zamir Muhammad and Ms. Shagufta.*

14 Pakistan, *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 01.

helped the state in the rehabilitation work for refugees as under:

- a. Edhi synchronized plan to competently distribute needed cash of Rs. 50 million for people of earthquake affected areas.
- b. EID gifts distribution was made by Edhi Foundation in November 2005 at the districts of Bagh and Rawlakot.
- c. The Edhi Foundation furnished 2800 houses to rehabilitate 500 families of quake affected areas.
- d. The Edhi Foundation provided food to almost 900 families on daily basis to earthquake affected population.<sup>15</sup>

Frequently donations consisting of nutrition, clothing and medicines have been acknowledged at Edhi centres. The Foundation collects charity from Pakistan and abroad through charity campaigns. By the help of collected charity warehouses have been established in large cities like Karachi, Multan, Lahore and Islamabad. In times of urgent situations five of these warehouses have been held in reserve and ready all the time to provide tents, bedding, blankets, baby milk powder and utensils etc. without delay.

For reason of acute social trouble a great number of children and adults leave their homes for good. The Edhi centres get them under care and then make arrangements to send those runaway people back to their families. In the same way the Foundation helps those psychologically handicapped people who cannot get back to their homes.<sup>16</sup>

The Edhi Foundation has extended its humanitarian work to other countries like UK, and has established centres abroad for funeral parade of dead bodies, monetary, ethical, and medical treatment to deprived people, and also providing assistance to lost and runaway children.<sup>17</sup>

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15 Pakistan, *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 01.

16 Pakistan, *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 01.

17 Pakistan, *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 03.

**Social Protection in Food and Shelter****Table1: WORKING UNITS OF EDHI FOUNDATION**

S.No	Name of Zone	Number of Centres Under Zonal Office
1	Karachi	49
2	Hyderabad	48
3	Larkana	9
4	Sukkar	8
5	Multan	35
6	Faisalabad	18
7	Rawalpindi/Islamabad, Lahore and Peshawar	125
8	Quetta	8
9	Other Edhi Centres in KPK and Balochistan	60
<b>Total</b>		<b>350</b>

SOURCE: Edhi Foundation Pakistan, *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947* (Karachi: Edhi Information Bureau Publishing, 2008), 01.

**Table2: NUMBER OF DESTITUTE PERSONS, ORPHAN CHILDREN AND WOMEN SHELTERED IN EDHI HOMES IN PAKISTAN**

S.No	Name of Edhi Home	Mentally Retorted Persons	Mentally Retorted Children	Orphan Destitute Children	Old Age Persons	Women
1.	Edhi Village Super Highway Karachi A-Destitute Mentally Retorted Male B-Edhi Children Home for Male	1210	241	355	40	9
2.	Edhi North Karachi Centre (Home for Mentally Retorted women)	1330	165	-	65	87
3.	Edhi Homes Sorab Goth Karachi (A Home for women with family and Girls)	-	-	67	39	128
4.	Edhi Female Child Home Clifton Karachi	-	7	180	18	30

S.No	Name of Edhi Home	Mentally Retorted Persons	Mentally Retorted Children	Orphan Destitute Children	Old Age Persons	Women
5.	Edhi Home Korangi for Male (Lost and Runaway Children)	5	-	130	-	6
6.	Edhi Old Age Home Qasba Karachi	-	-	-	190	-
7.	Edhi Home Multan (at National Highway for Male and Female)	190 Male and 176 Female	46	29	19	35
8.	Edhi Home Lahore for Female	-	-	18	22	59
9.	Edhi Home Lahore for mentally retorted persons	5	3	10	-	5
10.	Edhi Home Islamabad G-10 (Home for Female and Children)	-	-	45	9	62
11.	Edhi Home Hayatabad Peshawar (Home for Female and Children)	-	-	31	14	49
12.	Edhi Home Patel Bagh Quetta (Home for Female and Children)	-	-	18	8	36
<b>Total</b>		<b>2916</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>883</b>	424	<b>506</b>

SOURCE: Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947, 03.

**Table3: SERVICES PROVIDED BY EDHI FOUNDATION TO THE PATIENTS, DEAD BODIES IN ACCIDENTS, EMERGENCIES, FOR DESTITUTE, MISSING CHILD (FREE OF COST) ALL OVER PAKISTAN**

S.No	Name of Zone	Patient/Dead bodies			Services provided in Emergencies to Destitute, Unclaimed Dead bodies and Missing Children		
		Average Daily	Average Monthly	Average Yearly	Average Daily	Average Monthly	Average Yearly
1.	Karachi	680	20400	248200	45	1350	16200
2.	Hyderabad	220	6600	86300	18	540	6480
3.	Larkana	46	1380	16790	6	180	2160
4.	Sukkar	40	1200	14600	5	150	1800
5.	Multan	180	5400	65700	18	540	6480
6.	Faisalabad	127	180	60500	12	360	4320
7.	Lahore	135	4050	49275	15	450	5400
8.	Rawalpindi/Islamabad	310	9300	113150	36	1080	12960
9.	Peshawar	125	3750	45625	8	240	2880
10.	Quetta	140	4200	51100	11	330	3960
11.	Other Edhi Centres in KPK and Baluchistan	180	5400	65700	18	540	6480
<b>Total</b>		<b>2183</b>	<b>65490</b>	<b>806940</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>5760</b>	<b>69120</b>

SOURCE: *Abdul SattarEdhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947, 02.*

**Table4: DESTITUTE/ UNCLAIMED DEAD BODIES BURIEDAFTER COFFIN AND BATH BY EDHI FOUNDATION**

S.No	Name of Edhi Zonal Centre and Other Edhi Centres	Daily Average	Monthly Average	Per-Year Average
1.	Karachi Edhi Graveyard Machgoth	18	240	2920
2.	Hyderabad Zone	2	60	780
3.	Larkana	-	18	228
4.	Sukkar	-	7	84
5.	Multan	01	30	360
6.	Lahore	02	60	780
7.	Rwalpindi/Islamabad	01	30	360
8.	Peshawar	02	60	780
9.	Quetta	01	30	360
10.	Other Edhi Welfare Centres in Small Cities and Towns	02	60	780
<b>Total</b>		<b>29</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>6722</b>

SOURCE: *Abdul SattarEdhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 05.

**Table5: EDHI FREE TWO TIME LANGER (KITCHEN)**

Name of Centre	Daily Average	Per Month	Per Year
Edhi Khidmat Gha, M.A Jinnah Road Karachi	400	12000	144000
Edhi Khidmat Gha, Allamah Iqbal, Town, Lahore	300	9000	108000

SOURCE: *Abdul SattarEdhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 08.

**Table-6: EDHI FOUNDATION PROVISION OF FOOD AND SHELTER TO CITIZENS IN 70 YEARS (SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT, 1947)**

Total No of Destitute Men and Women provided food and Shelter by Edhi Foundation since 1947	Total No of Orphan and Missing Children provided food and Shelter by Edhi Foundation since 1947	Total Beneficiaries in 70 years
55857564	24097447	79955011

SOURCE: *Abdul SattarEdhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 1-24.

### **Social Protection in Education and Health**

Edhi Foundation is sharing responsibilities of Pakistani state in-terms of providing the following 'education and health' related facilities to its citizens:

- i) EdhiEmergencyCentres
- ii) EdhiField-AmbulanceService
- iii) EdhiAir-AmbulanceService
- iv) Edhi Drug Stores andBlood-Banks
- v) EdhiDispensaries
- vi) PrisonersAid in Health
- vii) EdhiCancerResearchHostelandHospital
- viii) EdhiSchoolSystem
- ix) Edhi Nurses' Training Schools
- x) Edhi Highways projects
- xi) Edhi Marineservices

i)EdhiEmergency stations have been created in capitals at national and provincial level. These stations are working now



at Multan, Karachi, Islamabad, Lahore, Peshawar and Rawalpindi. The stations strive to:

- Arrive at site of disaster in minutes
- Support mass movement against social evils like narcotics, aids and in favour of family planning etc.
- Supply regular emergency treatment to public congregation and motorcade
- Take action as a focal agent for social protection at time of emergency

ii) It is quite unfortunate that every year hundreds of people are died in road accidents. Lots of lives can be saved if injured are rushed to the hospital in time, but lack of concern and resources are the major hurdles in this respect. Again, Edhi Foundation has taken up this challenge and has started ambulance service to save the lives of people by shifting them to hospitals.

**Table 7: AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDED BY EDHI FOUNDATION**

S.No	Name of Zone	Number of Ambulances for Local Services	Number of Ambulances for Out Side City Services	Total Number of Ambulances
1.	Karachi	195	40	235
2.	Hyderabad	55	22	77
3.	Larkana	10	6	16
4.	Sukkar	30	6	36
5.	Multan	42	13	55
6.	Faisalabad	31	11	42
7.	Rawalpindi/Islamabad Lahore and Peshawar	160	30	190
8.	Quetta	28	5	33
9.	Other Edhi Centres in KPK and Baluchistan	70	8	78
<b>Total</b>		<b>621</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>762</b>

SOURCE: *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 01.

iii) The Foundation has arranged helicopter and a fixed wing aircraft as air-ambulance in case of emergency. These airambulances are stationed at Karachi to provide field

services. It is also trying to acquire two more airplanes and one helicopter for air ambulance service.<sup>18</sup>

**Table 8: EDHI AIR-AMBULANCE SERVICE**

Edhi Air Ambulance Services Based at Karachi Airport	Number of Aircrafts	Number of Helicopters
	4	1

SOURCE: *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 01.

iv) The provision of blood to save human lives has always been an indispensable feature of emergency services. In major road accidents and natural disasters, such as bomb blasts etc., blood is always needed to injured persons on an urgent basis. The Foundation not only provides the blood but also keeps an updated and rationalized list of donors of all blood groups. The volunteers of Foundation are frequently enlisting additional donors for compilation of blood collection.

**Table 9: AVERAGE PATIENTS TREATED AT FREE DISPENSARIES, CONSULTANT, DIAGNOSTIC CENTRES, LABORATORIES, MATERNITY HOMES AND IN EDHI CANCER HOSTEL**

Average No of Patients Daily	Average No of Patients Monthly	Average No of Patients Yearly
1796	43242	463144

SOURCE: *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 02.

v) The Edhi Foundation extends free medical services to the tens of thousands of needy people on annual basis by operating 250 dispensaries. Here, family planning counselling and maternity services are also provided.

vi) The subsequent services along with legal aid are being provided to prisoners in jails and remand centres:

- Medical Facilities. (Karachi Central Jail)
- Ambulance-services.
- Legal bonds and personal securities are given to the prisoners held for petty crimes.

18 Ashraf, *Interviews taken from Mr. Zamir Muhammad and Ms. Shagufta*.

**vii)** In 1980, the Foundation became conscious of the needs of poor cancer patients in the towns and villages who were scattered in different parts of the country. It has developed a split plan for organization of a cancer hospital close to the Agha Khan Hospital, Karachi. An appropriate building has been obtained to hospitalize 50 cancer patients for treatment.

**Table 10: EDHI CANCER HOSTEL MAIN TARIQ ROAD KARACHI**

Yearly Average No of Outdoor Patients	Yearly Average No of Admitted Patients
1080	360

SOURCE: Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947, 06.

**viii)** The total number of schools working under Edhi Foundation directly or working with its support fund is 89 in Pakistan. In Edhi school system 16143 students are getting free education per year. These schools are providing education to children at primary and secondary levels.

**Table 11: EDHI SCHOOL SYSTEM**

Total No Of Edhi School	Average No of Students per year
89	16143

SOURCE: Usama Muhammad, "Few hours with Abdul Sattar Edhi the founder of Edhi Foundation Pakistan." (Dawn: February 5, 2013), 89.

**ix)** Bilquis Edhi has been supervising six training schools for nurses in order to equip them with modern knowledge and techniques in the field of health care. The average number of nurses getting trained from these training schools is 630 per year.<sup>19</sup>

**Table 12: EDHI TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR NURSES**

Total No Of Edhi Training Schools for Nurses	Average No of Nurses getting Training per year
06	630

SOURCE: Usama Muhammad, "Few hours with Abdul Sattar Edhi the founder of Edhi Foundation Pakistan." (Dawn: February 5, 2013), 93.

**x)** In line with highway projects, Edhi Foundation plans to build 500 emergency centres on all the highways and key link

<sup>19</sup> Pakistan, Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947, 03.

roads across the country. The proposed centres will be available to provide first-aid to accident-hit people. The injured people will be shifted to nearby hospitals by the Edhi ambulance service. All midpoints will be connected by means of wireless communication. The completion of every centre will cost Rs. one million. Attainment of supplementary ambulance aircrafts has also been made available to shift serious patients to better hospital for proper treatment.<sup>20</sup>

xi) Edhi Foundation has also decided to utilize marine and coastal services for social welfare, so it has developed set of connections all around Pakistan by means of marine and coastal services. It has established a split organization to make bigger its services within coastal regions as well.<sup>21</sup>

**Table 13: EDHI FOUNDATION PROVISION OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH FACILITIES TO CITIZENS SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT, 1947**

Total No Destitute Persons (Men, Women and Children) provided Health facilities by Edhi Foundation since 1947	Total No of Children provided Education facilities by Edhi Foundation since 1947	Total Beneficiaries in 66 years
29178072	378000	29556072

SOURCE: Usama Muhammad, "Few hours with Abdul Sattar Edhi the founder of Edhi Foundation Pakistan." (Dawn: February 5, 2013), 107.

## Conclusion

Being the socially most recognized civil society organization, there are two types of NGOs; one is national agenda driven organizations and the other is international agenda driven organizations. International agenda driven NGOs may or may not pose threat to the local state system but the national agenda driven NGOs are contributing to state soft power. Therefore, the current Pakistani government is

20 Pakistan, *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 01; Edhi Foundation Pakistan Service, last modified December 9, 2013, <http://www.edhi.org/.htm>.

21 Pakistan, *Abdul Sattar Edhi's Services to Humanity in Pakistan since 1947*, 01.

serious to develop a mechanism under holistic national policy framework over foreign NGOs.

Although it is the responsibility of state to provide food, shelter, health and education to citizens but lack of resources, corruption and rapid increase in population pose challenges to state institutions in the third world to provide these basic facilities to citizens. In this backdrop, NGOs help the states to provide basic facilities of life to the citizens.

Creating Pakistan a welfare state is only the way to overcome its intensified social issues. But it requires public-private collaboration and partnership, as the concept of public-private joint venture has become vital in modern state system which has made the role of NGOs crucial in democracies like Pakistan. However, it is expected that a day has to come when Pakistan will definitely be a model country for rest of developing nations if the NGOs like Edhi Foundation have been working shoulder to shoulder with the governmental institutions of Pakistan. The increased population, less resources and international exposure of life prove deterrents for a state while providing essentials of life to its citizens without taking assistance from non-state actors particularly NGOs.

It is very important to clarify here that Edhi Foundation becomes socially relevant when it provides the citizens food and shelter or education and health and the provision of such facilities to the citizens is primary responsibility of state institutions. Therefore, when Edhi Foundation shares this responsibility of state it becomes politically relevant. The presented data in this research paper has proved that Edhi Foundation has been supporting government institutions in multidimensional ways to make Pakistan a welfare state.