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### A SOCIOLINGUISTIC STUDY OF NICKNAMES AND ITS APPLICATION AMONG THE STUDENTS OF BACHA KHAN UNIVERSITY CHARSADDA

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The research study focuses on finding the practised area for nicknames among the students of Bacha Khan University Charsadda. It aims at finding the differences and the ratio between the male and female students with reference to nicknames. The study is interesting since the culture of nicknames is exercised and rehearsed among the students of the aforementioned university. The research is both qualitative and quantitative. The survey and analysis reveal that female students are more concerned about each other whereas male are incautious. Moreover, female are more cooperative than male when filling or answering the questionnaire. The study analyzes the answers acquired and concludes that the female practice nicknames more than male. The ratio of nickname users is more in female. The researchers have limited the study to merely four departments at Bacha Khan University Charsadda. They are: Department of English, Department of Computer Science, Department of Management Science, and Department of Botany. Taking four departments as a sample represented the university. The paper also shows that both genders tend to give nicknames covering the physical area. The nicknames female give are often positive. Contrary to that, nicknames of male cover physical area were often found negative.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Name is almost the first identity parents consider and decide for a child. They consider it essential to give meaningful names to the new-borns. In religions like Islam and Christianity, it is believed that the meaning of the name defines the life of a person. It affects the person's persona. After birth names, with the passage of time, comes nicknames. Nicknames are the names given to an individual by friends, parents, siblings, or family members. They are often based on physical characteristics such as hair colour, height, weight, or habits and traits. (de Klerk & Bosch, 1996). Differences in culture exist, and therefore, the positive and negative effects of nicknames vary from culture to culture. Different studies show that nicknames application is mainly associated with language use. Users give different nicknames as they possess different traits and practice different cultures. Areas have been researched. Regions where languages are used or considered on a minor scale have almost been left untouched. The untouched parts include the *Bacha Khan University Charsadda*. As the institution has never been researched for the nicknames application, therefore, it has been looked forward by the researchers.

### ***Research Problem***

The researchers have tried to investigate the practice of nicknames among the students of *Bacha Khan University Charsadda*. Though some names boost the confidence of people, but some may disappoint them. Therefore, the study might help prevent the students from giving their fellows the names that hurt them both physically and mentally. Moreover, the paper will be helpful and stress-relieving for the parents and targeted individuals.

### ***Research Objective***

To find out the differences between the ratio of nicknames based on physical appearance and emotional situation To find out gender contrast in nicknames application

### ***Research Questions***

What are the differences between the ratio of nicknames based on physical appearance and emotional situation?

Does gender of male and female show any contrast in the application of nicknames?

### ***Significance of the Study***

Apart from the moral reformation of the young generation, the research study is even more important to the future researchers who go for the same problem of nicknames. The findings and results of the research will pave the way for future researchers who plan to study the same issue in their local areas. They might be able to take an idea from the study and use it for the purpose of references. Also, the data collection method may be the same, and hence it may help them in data collection and analysis.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Behrouz et al. (2016) researched the application of nicknames among Ilami Kurdish students and finds that most of the nicknames that students give to each other are in their mother tongue. Furthermore, they find that gender do not play any role in the application of names. Male and female, both are equal in the case. Moreover, the nicknames are neutral, followed by positive and then negative.

Kennedy (2015) stated nicknames to be different from hypocorisms. He observed that nicknames are the derived names from the original name with the creative process. According to him, nicknames reflect the power of the name-giver over the receiver and those male and female nicknames do not have the same phonemic structure and patterns but are somewhat different.

Filani et al. (2014) carried out a *Socio-semiotic Study of Nicknames* and found that some individuals change their names or adopt nicknames to reflect their sense of dignity. He found that the students of the Nigerian University use irony in names to belittle students or damage the personality and identity of another individual. The irony was used as a tool of destruction and label.

Crozier et al. (2002) took a sample of 220 adults and made them answer the questionnaire on the recollection of name-calling and nicknames when they were young and were in school. About 141 participants reported unpleasant names. The participants stated that they do not used to complaint against those who used nicknames because the teachers do not take any sort of action against them.

Adams (2009) concluded that nicknames give power to the bearer of a name. With the attribution of nicknames, an agreement sparks between the name-giver and the name taker. The agreement is a political act, and it hatches from social negotiation. In agreement types, nicknames are used as a token. The agreement also comes under the term of politeness, and hence nicknames depend on the pragmatics of politeness.

### *Data Collection Procedure*

The researchers provided around 230 questionnaires to the participants of the study. Only 60 questionnaires were returned. The questionnaire was made convenient and accessible because the researchers explained it to targeted students of the aforementioned departments. The researchers managed to pursue their study with the present resources of only 60 questionnaires.

### DATA ANALYSIS

The questionnaire had seven questions in total. The first six were close-ended with four options; *Yes, No, Not sure, Doesn't matter*, while the last question was open-ended as each participant was requested to write as many nicknames they have given to someone. From the male part, around 61 nicknames have come, and from female, about 81. There was already an optional blank present in the questionnaire for the participants to write whether their name to the bearer covers physical, mental, emotional, or any other area. The researchers

then wrote all the names in IPA and phonetically transcribed them to make the typical nicknames easier for the readers to pronounce. The first six questions, which had four options to select, the frequency was calculated to analyse how many people favour any option. The answers were quite interesting.

*Analysis of Q.No.1*

*Frequency and Percentage*

<b>In your opinion, are nicknames a positive culture to be practised?</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>Doesn't matter</b>
Male			
10 (33.33%)	15 (50%)	1 (3.33%)	4 (13.33%)
Female			
13 (43.33%)	5 (16.66%)	8 (26.66%)	4 (13.34%)
Total			
23 (38.33%)	20 (33.33%)	9 (15%)	8 (13.34%)

*Analysis of Q.No.2*

<b>Do you think nicknames define someone's life/personality?</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>Doesn't matter</b>
Male			
15 (50%)	9 (30%)	3 (10%)	3 (10%)
Female			
13 (43.33%)	8 (26.67%)	7 (23.33%)	2 (6.66%)
Total			
28 (46.67%)	17 (28.33%)	10 (16.66%)	5 (8.33%)

*Analysis of Q.No.3*

<b>Have you given nicknames based on someone's dressing?</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>Doesn't matter</b>
Male			
16 (53.33%)	12 (40%)	2 (6.67%)	0
Female			
10 (33.33%)	16 (53.33%)	3 (10%)	1 (3.34%)
Total			
26 (43.33%)	28 (46.67%)	5 (8.33%)	1 (1.67%)

*Analysis of Q.No.4*

<b>Have you given nicknames based on someone's complexion or physical characteristics?</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>Doesn't matter</b>
<b>Male</b>			
16 (53.33%)	11 (36.66%)	3 (10%)	0
<b>Female</b>			
21 (70%)	7 (23.34%)	1 (3.33%)	1 (3.33%)
<b>Total</b>			
37 (61.66%)	18 (30%)	4 (6.66%)	1 (1.67%)

*Analysis of Q.No.5*

<b>In your family, you have been addressed by original name or nickname?</b>			
<b>Birth Name</b>	<b>Nickname</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Male</b>			
18 (60%)	1 (3.33%)	11 (36.67%)	0
<b>Female</b>			
5 (16.66%)	7 (23.34%)	18 (60%)	0
<b>Total</b>			
23 (38.33%)	8 (13.33%)	29 (48.34%)	0

*Analysis of Q.No.6*

<b>What do you think is the most practiced area of nicknames among emotional, physical, mental or any other?</b>			
<b>Emotional</b>	<b>Physical</b>	<b>Mental</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Male</b>			
9 (30%)	14 (46.67%)	5 (16.66%)	2 (6.67%)
<b>Female</b>			
13 (43.33%)	12 (40%)	2 (6.67%)	3 (10%)
<b>Total</b>			
22 (36.66%)	26 (43.33%)	7 (11.67%)	5 (8.34%)

*Nicknames Given by Female Students*

**Table 1.** Nicknames used by female students of Bacha Khan University Charsadda

Nicknames (Meaning)	IPA	Its referent	Aspect/Characteristics	Evaluation
Gopi (Cauliflower)	gu:pi:	Round big head	Phys. <sup>1</sup>	Neg. <sup>2</sup>
Zakoota (Character)	zʌku:tʰɑ	Ugly and scary	Phys.	Neg.
Chwengum (Gum)	tʃwɛŋəm	Not still	Othe. <sup>3</sup>	Neu.
Kheerana (Dirty)	xi:rənɑ	Cleanlessness	Phys.	Neg.
Juraba (Sock)	dʒʊrɑbə	Always lost	Othe.	Neg.
Darhay (5kg)	ðɑrʰei	Big Headed	Phys.	Neg.
Chara (Pellet)	tʃʌrɑ	Small size	Phys.	Neu. <sup>4</sup>
Khra (Donkey)	xrɑ	Fool	Ment. <sup>5</sup>	Neg.
Kachaaloo (Taro)	kʌtʃʰɑlu:	Oval faced	Phys.	Neg.
Daang (Stick)	dɑ:ŋ	Very tall	Phys.	Neu.
Saanp (Snake)	sɑ:mp	Backstabber	Othe.	Neg.
Peshary (Plant)	pɪʃθəri	Short sized	Phys.	Neu.
Tabah (Destroyed)	θʌbɑh	Falling in love	Othe.	Neu.
Daarhu (Teeth)	ðɑrʰu:	Long front teeth	Phys.	Neg.
Lewanay (Crazy)	lewənɛi	Fool	Ment.	Neu.
Gul (Rose)	lewənæ	Flower	Othe.	Pos. <sup>6</sup>
Chanci (Opportunist)	tʃɑnsi:	Flirty person	Othe.	Pos.
Marchak (Chili)	mɑrtʃʌk	Angry	Othe.	Neu.
Ding Dong (Gum)	dɪŋ dŋ	With glasses	Othe.	Pos.
Botal (Bottle)	bʊθʌl	Too thin	Phys.	Neu.
Tora Gurha (Jaggery)	θurə gʊrʰɑ	Black and sweet	Phys.	Neu.
Peshogay (Cat)	pɪ:ʃʊgei	Cute like a kitten	Phys.	Pos.
Zarhgy (Heart)	zərʰge	Heart (Loved one)	Emo. <sup>7</sup>	Pos.
Mashrota (Sharp)	mʌʃrʊtʰɑ	Bold person	Othe.	Pos.
Badrang (Ugly)	bʌðrʌŋ	Bad looking	Phys.	Pos.
Chipso (Food)	tʃɪpsu	Glutton	Othe.	Pos.
Ookha (Camel)	u:xɑ	Camel (eats much)	Othe.	Neu.
Thoothi (Parrot)	θu:θi:	Parrot like nose	Phys.	Neu.
Gujjar (Family)	gʊdʒɜ	Dark skinned	Phys.	Neg.
Kauntara (Pigeon)	kɑ:nθərə	White skinned	Phys.	Pos.
Khan (Family)	xɑn	A girl like boy	Othe.	Neu.

Masta (Active)	mʌstə	An active person	Othe.	Pos.
Khwaara (Broke)	xwərə	Unhappy	Emo.	Neu.
Motay (Fat)	moteɪ	Fat person	Phys.	Neu.
Gainda (Rhinoceros)	geɪndə	Gigantic body	Phys.	Neg.
Choonā (Limet)	tʃu:nə	White skinned	Phys.	Pos.
Meergaaty (Ball)	mi:rgatɪ	Small sized	Phys.	Neu.
Shunday (Lips)	ʃʊndeɪ	thick lips	Phys.	Neu.
Podari (Drug user)	pɒdʒi:	Lazy	Othe.	Neu.
Megy (Ant)	mɪege	Short person	Phys.	Neu.
Jinn (Ghost)	dʒɪn'	Thick eyebrows	Phys.	Neu.
Cheenay (Chinese)	tʃi:neɪ	Small eyes	Phys.	Neu.
Sarhy (Man)	sər'e	Man like girl	Othe.	Pos.
Tommy	tɒmi:	A girl like man	Othe.	Pos.
Hero	hi:rɒ	A girl like man	Othe.	Pos.
Kupaatoo (Fat)	ku:patu:	Too fat	Phys.	Pos.
Sarkari kamaqal	sərkəri: kʌmqɑl	A foolish person	Ment.	Neg.
Qabila hasti	qabilə həsti:	Intelligent person	Ment.	Pos.
Zulfo (Hair)	zɒlfɒ	Long hair lover	Emo.	Pos.
Dramy baaz	dramɪ bɑ:z	Dramatic	Emo.	Pos.
Makaar	mək'ar	Dramatic	Emo.	Pos.
Maano	mɑ:nɒ	Cute	Phys.	Pos.
Bunny	bəni:	Rabbit like teeth	Phys.	Pos.
Ghamgeena (Sad)	ɣʌmgi:nə	Sad thoughts	Emo.	Pos.
Wajee (Wajeeha)	wədʒi:	Wajeeha, name	Phon. <sup>8</sup>	Pos.
Barbie (Doll)	bɑ:rbɪ:	Beautiful	Phys.	Pos.
Cartoon	kɑr'tu:n	Good mood	Emo.	Pos.
Rapunzel (Character)	rə'pʌnzəl	Long hair	Phys.	Pos.
Smiley Face (emoji)	smaɪli: feɪs	Always smiling	Emo.	Pos.
Angry bird	'æŋgri: bɜ:d	Always angry	Emo.	Pos.
Cheloky (Goat)	tʃilɒki	Goat like beard	Phys.	Neu.
Pathloo (Character)	pəθlu:	Too skinny	Phys.	Neu.
Psycho (Mad)	sɑɪkɒ	Mental	Ment.	Neg.
Pehlawan (Wrestler)	peh'ɫəwʌn	Strong body	Phys.	Pos.
Thora (Black)	θɒrə	Dark skinned	Phys.	Neg.
Speen Sarhak (Road)	spi:n sər'ʌk	White hair	Phys.	Neu.
Qolangi (Rooster)	qɒlʌŋgi:	Long neck	Phys.	Neu.
Lion king (Charac.)	laɪən kɪŋ	Beautiful hair	Phys.	Pos.
Chargoty (Chicken)	tʃərgu:te	Small person	Phys.	Pos.
Mashi (Mosquito)	mɑ:ʃe	Big eyes	Phys.	Neu.

Jaadhoo (Character)	dʒɑ:ðu:	Big face	Phys.	Neu.
Ganji (Bald)	gəndʒe	Short hair	Phys.	Neu.
Chocolate	'tʃɒklət	Brown and sweet	Phys.	Pos.
Falsafi (Philosopher)	fəlsəfi:	Witty and Wise	Ment.	Pos.
Smart	sma:t	Clever	Ment.	Pos.
King	kɪŋ	Careless	Emo.	Neu.
Zombie	zambi:	Dull	Ment.	Neu.
Maaro	ma:ru	Maria, birth name	Phon.	Pos.
Emoji	i'məʊdʒi	Very emotional	Emo.	Pos.

**Note:** Physical<sup>1</sup>, Negative<sup>2</sup>, Other Aspects<sup>3</sup>, Neutral<sup>4</sup>, Mental<sup>5</sup>, Positive<sup>6</sup>, Emotional<sup>7</sup>, Phonological Change in name<sup>8</sup>

Names collected through questionnaire from female students were 81 in total. These names featured nicknames covering aspects and areas, including physical, emotional, mental, and others. After the collection of the names, a separate table was made for its analysis. The table comprises different sections, including frequency, percentage, and elevation of the nicknames: *Positive, Negative, and Neutral.*

**Table 2.** Analysis of Nicknames used by female of Bacha Khan University, Charsadda

Nicknames Aspect	Frequency	Percentage	Positive %	Negative %	Neutral%	Total %
Physical	41	50.62	13 (31.71%)	9 (21.95%)	19 (46.34%)	100%
Emotional	11	13.58	9 (81.82%)	-----	2 (18.18)	100
Mental	8	9.88	3 (37.50%)	3 (37.50%)	2 (25%)	100
Other Aspects	17	20.99	9 (52.94%)	2(11.76%)	6 (35.30%)	100
Phonological change	4	4.93	4 (100%)	-----	-----	100
Total	81	100%				

**Nicknames Given by Male Students**

**Table 3.** Nicknames used by male students of Bacha Khan University, Charsadda

Nicknames (Meaning)	IPA	Its referent	Aspect/ Characteristics	Evaluation
Baazoo (Wood)	ba:zu:	Thin and Tall	Phys. <sup>1</sup>	Neu. <sup>4</sup>
Aalam Channa	ɑ:lɑm tʃʌnɑ:	Excessively tall	Phys.	Pos. <sup>6</sup>
Aashiq (Lover)	ɑ:ʃiq	Always unhappy	Emo. <sup>7</sup>	Pos.
Cheenjy (Worm)	tʃɪndʒe	Skinny	Phys.	Neg. <sup>2</sup>



Tere (Character)	Naam	θæri nam	Hairstyle	Phys.	Pos.
Qahar (Wrath)		qɑhʌɜ	Short-tempered	Emo.	Pos.
Billo		bɪl'u:	Bilal, birth name	Phon.	Pos.
Sataky (Hammer)		sʌtʌkeɪ	Talkative	Othe. <sup>3</sup>	Neu.
Bretha (Moustache)		briθɑ:	Long moustache	Phys.	Neg.
Palishi (Polisher)		pɑ:li:ʃi:	Bootlicker	Othe.	Neg.
Budha (Aged)		bu:dɑ:	Old looking	Phys.	Neg.
Shkurnh (Porcupine)		ʃ'kɔŋ'r'	Spikey hair	Phys.	Neg.
Zaibi		zæbi:	Zohaib, first name	Phon. <sup>8</sup>	Pos.
King (Character)	Kong	kɪŋ kɔŋ	Back and ugly	Phys.	Neg.
Pashpasha		pʌʃpʌʃɑ:	Stuttering person	Ment. <sup>5</sup>	Neg.
Lurhaa (Tall)		l'ʊr'ɑ:	Very tall	Phys.	Neu.
Dakter saib (Doctor)		dɑ:ktɜ seb	Intelligent	Ment.	Pos.
Sanda (Buffalo)		sən,d'ɑ:	Hulky body	Phys.	Neg.
Raidoo (Radio)		ræd'u:	Fond of talking	Othe.	Neu.
Patray Jaz (Grass blade)		pəθræ dʒ'ʌz	Skinny and light	Phys.	Neg.
Thoriya (Blackish)		θu:riə	Of black skin color	Phys.	Neg.
SRK (Shahrukh)		æs'ɑ:r keɪ	Modified name	Phon.	Pos.
Motu (Fatty)		mətu:	A chubby person	Phys.	Pos.
Seelay (wind)		si:l'eɪ	Weak bodied	Phys.	Neg.
Spey (Dog)		spɪ	One who eats much	Othe.	Neg.
Chooha (Mouse)		tʃ'u:h'ɑ:	Long frontal teeth	Phys.	Neu.
Beezo (Monkey)		bi:z'ʊ	Climbing everything	Othe.	Neg.
Khatta (Mud)		xat'ə	Extremely lazy	Othe.	Neu.
Mian Saib		mɪə seb	Family name	Phon.	Pos.
Saady		sɑ:ði:	Saadan, first name	Phon.	Pos.
Lewany (Mad)		lewəneɪ	Strange behaviour	Othe.	Neu.
Mojo		mʊdʒʊ	Mujahid, birth name	Phon.	Pos.
Lambu (Tall)		l'əmbu:	A very tall person	Phys.	Neu.
Trump		trʌmp <sup>h</sup>	Copying president	Othe.	Pos.
Mattuq (Active)		mət'ʊq	Sharp and active	Ment.	Neu.
Dabbang (fearless)		ðəb'ŋ	Very brave	Othe.	Pos.
Billgates		bɪl geɪts	Expert in	Ment.	Pos.

		computers		
Genie (Character)	dʒeni:	A humorous person	Ment.	Pos.
Qrathu (Talkative)	qrʰəθu:	One who talks much	Othe.	Neu.
Shan (Majesty)	ʃɑ:n	Shadman, real name	Phon.	Pos.
Gunda (Ruffian)	gʰunda:	A violent person	Othe.	Neu.
Abu (Aladdin character)	abu:	Monkey like face	Phys.	Neg.
Robot (Droid)	rəbət	Feelings less	Emo.	Pos.
Nomi (Dream)	nəmi:	Nouman, real name	Phon.	Pos.
Hijrha (Ladyboy)	hɪdʒ' rʰɑ:	A boy like girl	Othe.	Neg.
Ghwagu (Pointy ears)	ɣwəgu:	Elf like ears	Phys.	Neu.
Geedharh (Jackal)	gi:ðərʰ	Coward, spiritless	Othe.	Neg.
Bichwa	bɪtʃ' wɑ	A dear friend	Othe.	Pos.
Shiekh (Bearded)	ʃex	Person with beard	Phys.	Pos.
Baaz (Eagle)	bɑ:z	Fast runner	Othe.	Pos.
Khanjar (Dagger)	xəndʒɜ	Backstabber	Othe.	Neg.
Parasite	pərə, sɑɪt	One who interrupts	Othe.	Neu.
P.K (Character)	pi: keɪ	Prominent ears	Phys.	Neu.
Largy	lɑr' ɟeɪ	Thin and hard body	Phys.	Neu.
Beegal (Stupid)	bi: ɡɑl	Witless and slow	Ment.	Neu.
Mailoo (Panda)	meɪlu:	Bulky person	Phys.	Neg.
Bebe (Old Woman)	beb, e	Drag lady	Phys.	Neg.
Bunja	bʊndʒɑ	Little nosed	Phys.	Neg.
Choocha	tʃu:tʃɑ	Small eyes	Phys.	Neu.
Gudh (lame)	ɡʊdʰ	Limping person	Phys.	Neg.
Anteena (Antenna)	anti:nɑ	Nose poking person	Othe.	Neu.
Mattuq (Active)	mət' uq	Sharp and active	Ment.	Neu.
Dabbang (fearless)	ðəb' ŋ	Very brave	Othe.	Pos.
Billgates	bɪl ɡeɪts	Expert in computers	Ment.	Pos.
Genie (Character)	dʒeni:	A humorous person	Ment.	Pos.
Qrathu (Talkative)	qrʰəθu:	One who talks much	Othe.	Neu.
Shan (Majesty)	ʃɑ:n	Shadman, real name	Phon.	Pos.

Gunda (Ruffian)	g <sup>h</sup> unda:	A violent person	Othe.	Neu.
Abu (Aladdin character)	abu:	Monkey like face	Phys.	Neg.
Robot (Droid)	rɔbɔt	Feelings less	Emo.	Pos.
Nomi (Dream)	nɔmi:	Nouman, real name	Phon.	Pos.
Hijrha (Ladyboy)	hɪdʒ' r'ɑ:	A boy like girl	Othe.	Neg.
Ghwagu (Pointy ears)	ɣwəgu:	Elf like ears	Phys.	Neu.
Geedharh (Jackal)	gi:ðər <sup>t</sup>	Coward, spiritless	Othe.	Neg.
Bichwa	bɪtʃ' wɑ	A dear friend	Othe.	Pos.
Shiekh (Bearded)	ʃex	Person with beard	Phys.	Pos.
Baaz (Eagle)	bɑ:z	Fast runner	Othe.	Pos.
Khanjar (Dagger)	xəndʒɜ	Backstabber	Othe.	Neg.
Parasite	pərə, sɑt	One who interrupts	Othe.	Neu.
P.K (Character)	pi: keɪ	Prominent ears	Phys.	Neu.
Largy	lɑr'ɣeɪ	Thin and hard body	Phys.	Neu.
Beegal (Stupid)	bi: gəl	Witless and slow	Ment.	Neu.
Mailoo (Panda)	meɪlu:	Bulky person	Phys.	Neg.
Bebe (Old Woman)	beb, e	Drag lady	Phys.	Neg.
Bunja	bʊndʒɑ	Little nosed	Phys.	Neg.
Choocha	tʃu:tʃɑ	Small eyes	Phys.	Neu.
Gudh (lame)	gʊd <sup>h</sup>	Limping person	Phys.	Neg.
Anteena (Antenna)	anti: nɑ	Nose poking person	Othe.	Neu.

**Note:** Physical<sup>1</sup>, Negative<sup>2</sup>, Other Aspects<sup>3</sup>, Neutral<sup>4</sup>, Mental<sup>5</sup>, Positive<sup>6</sup>, Emotional<sup>7</sup>, Phonological Change in name<sup>8</sup>

**Table 4.** Analysis of Nicknames Used by Male Students of Bacha Khan University, Charsadda

Nicknames Aspect	Frequency	Percentage	Positive %	Negative %	Neutral%	Total %
Physical	26	42.62	4 (15.38%)	14 (53.85%)	8 (30.77%)	100%
Emotional	3	4.92	3 (100%)	-----	-----	100
Mental	6	9.84	3 (50%)	1 (16.67%)	2 (33.33%)	100

Other Aspects	18	29.51	4 (22.22%)	6 (33.33%)	8 (44.45%)	100
Phonological change	8	13.11	8 (100%)	-----	-----	100
Total	61					

**FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The researchers aimed to conduct a study on the students of *Bacha Khan University, Charsadda* to find out whether they are exposed to the couture of nicknames or not. The data has shown that the students of the aforementioned university have been exposed to nicknames. Therefore, a questionnaire of seven questions was given to the participating students.

Both participating genders favoured physical aspects for nicknames. The chosen options in the first closed-ended questions that they chose were different, but the nicknames they provided revealed all. The nicknames from their data displaced contrasting results as compared to their selected option. Both male and female went for naming in the physical area, but male gave negative physical names while female gave positive physical names. Both genders practised the physical area for about 50%.

Positive nicknames are a sign of a good relationship between individuals or a group. By positive nicknames the researchers mean the nicknames that do not hurt a person to whom the nickname is given. Some nicknames will earn a good friend, while other nicknames might even get one in trouble sometimes. The researcher examined the population of four departments from the *Bacha Khan University, Charsadda*, and concluded that male students are careless in this regard. They give negative physical nicknames to their friends and class fellows without thinking about the consequences.

The researchers have laid a pattern for other researchers and surveyors. The researchers can follow the same design and method if the need for the research is felt. The analysis can also be used as a reference in other research studies.

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