**Abstract:** This study helps further identifying the factors involved in academic dishonesty with the perspective of agents, companies, and industries which have become the source to provide services to give ways to students living abroad towards academic dishonesty. How this business is growing in developing countries like Pakistan.

**Key Words:** academic dishonesty, academic writer, ghostwriter, developing countries.

**Introduction and Background:** Cheating has become an issue of the world, various authors have mentioned it as the way of success until anyone can go with it but it seems unreal to the real world, many corporate firms have institutionalized the program related to corporate ethics so that an employee gets its reward honestly (Paine, 1994) The continuous pervasiveness of academic dishonesty in students for, various researches have been established, these studies, however, focuses US College campuses (McCabe, 1993).

The definition may vary while talking about academic dishonesty, different collages define it in their ways of standards and procedures they follow (Fass, 1990), according to him, it includes examination ethics, the source used in project paper, writing assistance, the data collection, computer ethics, others assistance, and the academic regulation adherence.

(Morgan, 2001) has found evidence that has directed that the instructors ignore academic dishonesty as unethical. Lawsuits have been failed when students were found guilty of academic dishonesty (Keith-Spiegel, 1998). In this world of unethical researches, even individual minds have been drained. There are various websites and channels which offer thesis writings, Article writings, and content writings. Most of the literature found for academic dishonesty was either from the perspective of students or teachers however this paper signifies the importance of academic dishonesty via paying for thesis, articles, and other published documents which are the requirements of the students but done by the people who have nothing to do with them. An increasing trend of research has emerged many problems and their solutions together (Lombardi, 2019), Millions of jobs are available on the internet for academic writing. These jobs are creating a vast amount of money for the private sector. Yet remained an unethical practice to the world of science and technology and raise the question does the research in any part of the world belongs to the same person who is submitting it in the university, journal, or any other outlook. Among many scholars (Maramark, 1993) name these agents as a ghostwriter.

An increasing trend of academic dishonesty seek attention at the national level and considered as a serious problem among college student. Among various factors involved in the promotion of academic dishonesty such as age, sex, class, paid work is even used in studies however studies show these factors as negatively correlated to academic performance (Pino, 2003). Most of the literature in this regard either found from the student perspective or the instructor's point of view (McCabe, 1993; Fass, 1990). This paper tries to analyze the perspective of those agents, small companies, and offices that are involved in the creation of jobs for under developing countries however the finances generated from this informal industry remain secret it is because these agents or companies never disclose the true source of income.

Another reason to acknowledge this study is the factor of developing countries which are facing many problems related to their foreign reserves thus government leverage the private sector to use as many as possible ways to increase their incomes which may help the government to increase their foreign reserves. Let’s take an example of an amnesty scheme issued by the Prime minister of Pakistan that directed the legalization of the wealth of riches by simply paying 4% taxes on previously admitted assets (Dawn, 2019). Another issue to work for these companies is the unemployment rate in Pakistan that keeps on rising (Qayyum, 2007). Whereas crimes and unethical practices become a part of society when increasing trend of unemployment incurred (Gillani, 2009), that further create a disturbance in people (Gillani S. K., 2011) (Lev‐Wiesel, 2004), (Platt, 1984). Those who do not involve in crimes do color crimes (Gordon, 1988; Ahmed, 2013). This gives way to qualified people to work for academic dishonesty – via agents and companies pay for them against the academic writing.

On a random search at Google, by the name **“Academic Writers”**, results show a score of 93, from other job providing websites like indeed and Rozee. pk around 33 companies mostly IT-based software houses were found to place jobs covering mainly the big cities like Karachi, Lahore, and Rawalpindi. With average pay starts from PKR 25,000 to PKR 60,000. These advertisements are rechecked to assure that the positions were for the same academic writers who write and do thesis of students living within and outside the country. Basic criteria that share a commonality and remain the basis of justifying these jobs is a Job description that is included in this study as Writing skills with no grammar mistake, Harvard referencing style, client dealing, task orientation, etc.

**Table 1: generated based on random searches on the internet**

It is still a very small contribution of research in IT yet these practices are creating huge impacts in making brain-drain for the country. On the side, this study tried to see the searches over social media I.e. Face-book, which tells the story of these ghostwriters.

**Methodology:** This study contains solely qualitative assessments – it is due to the informal industry that never exists on real grounds but has an impact on the overall society, so as the limited impact on any industry.

**Results:** Researchers, independent bodies, and the authorities in Pakistan and at globe have to take actions against this informal brain-drain of the economy, that surly help researchers to grow with sustainable requirements.

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