



A Survey of Bamyan Artisans' Experience with Monthly Income

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the income essentials of artisans in Bamyan, Afghanistan, centering on two essential purposes: distinguishing contrasts in monthly income among different artisans and analyzing the correlation between artisans' years of experience and their monthly income. Utilizing a quantitative survey method, the data were collected from 63 artisans over three bazaars in Bamyan City. The findings reveal that most artisans gain less than 5,000 AFN monthly, showing considerable financial challenges within the segment. Furthermore, whereas no statistical differences in income were found among the different artisan types, a positive correlation was identified between years of experience and monthly income, proposing that expanded experience contributes to higher profit. These findings emphasize the necessity for targeted interventions to upgrade artisans' financial stability.

1. INTRODUCTION

Artisans play a significant role in protecting cultural heritage and contributing to local economies through their craftsmanship. In any case, the financial realities confronted by artisans, especially in regions like South Asia, reveal significant challenges, including income instability, flimsiness, and incongruities in profit based on different variables such as type of craft and experience

(Ariffin et al., 2023; Kathuria, 2024). In addition, this study aims to address two essential targets: first, to distinguish the contrasts in monthly income among different sorts of artisans, and second, to investigate the relationship between artisans' experience levels and their monthly income (Irmeilyana et al., 2018a). Furthermore, Artisans are talented specialists who make high-quality handmade goods utilizing traditional strategies and locally sourced materials. They are crucial for supporting social practices and providing unique products that regularly carry significant social esteem. Despite their contributions, numerous artisans experience extreme income instability, characterized by fluctuating profits that can lead to financial hardship (Gupta, 2011).

Finally, in South Asia, as it were 34% of artisans gain steady compensations, with numerous depending on unpredictable deals to make ends meet¹³. This instability is exacerbated by constrained access to e-commerce, dependence on tourism markets, and high production costs¹³. Understanding the salary elements among artisan categories can shed light on the broader suggestions for financial stability and poverty improvement in artisan communities (Sethi et al., 2022).

1.1. RESEARCH GAP

Whereas existing literature highlights the challenges confronted by artisans concerning income instability and showcases changes, there's a notable lack of comprehensive investigations that systematically analyze the contrasts in monthly income over different artisan types. Most research tends to focus on main issues without diving into particular artisan categories or connecting these contrasts with experience levels. For illustration, whereas a few studies demonstrate that artisan incomes can be comparable to unskilled laborers, they don't differentiate between crafts or consider how years of experience might influence profit. Furthermore, the relationship between an artisan's experience and

their income remains underexplored; understanding this relationship may provide insights into how aptitude improvement impacts financial results for artisans. The study aims to fill these gaps by giving a point-by-point investigation of artisan income variability and the impact of experience on profit.

1.2. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To identify differences in the types of Artisans and their monthly incomes.
- ❖ To determine the correlation between artisans' experiences and monthly incomes.

1.1. RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

H₁: Types of Artisans have significant differences in their monthly income.

H₂: Artisans' experiences have a positive correlation with their monthly income.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Social business enterprises and modified income help programs can improve financial conditions and quality of life for low-income people, including artisans and cancer patients, while highlighting the need for targeted interventions to address unintended results and support financial cooperation, especially for women in Afghanistan (Najafizada & Cohen, 2017). For instance, It focuses on women business people in Bamyán province, looking at components influencing their financial activities and the contrasts between enlisted and unregistered business people (Rasuli, 2024). These studies suggest that there are no specific conclusions regarding differences in the types of artisans and their monthly incomes.

However, Designer-artisan collaboration can make sustainable esteem, including commerce development, regional advancement, and autonomic capability advancement, but faces challenges in esteem coordination and understanding diverse roles (Hu et al., 2024). Furthermore, Artisanal fishers in Ondo State, Nigeria, require regulation and appropriations for fishing inputs to improve their living standards and expand fish production (Ogunremi, 2016). Moreover, economic assessment strategies vary over low-income, middle-income, and high-income countries, with a few driven by relevant heterogeneity and others due to contrasts in government health segment capacity, health financial matters investigate capacity, and peer survey desires (Griffiths et al., 2016). In

conclusion, these studies suggest a significant correlation between artisans' experiences and their monthly incomes, with factors such as fishing inputs and working conditions influencing productivity and income levels.

Additionally, Capital, labor, work experience, and education altogether affect the income of palm woven craftsmen in Aeramo Town, Aesesa Area, Nagekeo Regency (Marques et al., 2024). Moreover, Blacksmiths in Desa Limbang Jaya earn essentially from product costs, with high age, experience, and working hours, but low efficiency and income (Irmeilyana et al., 2018b). Although, Capital, working hours, and length of commerce altogether impact the income of basket craftsmen in Nagori Sigodang, Simalungun Regency, and Indonesia (Purba et al., 2023).

In addition, numerous artisans need formal education, which limits their capacity to advertise their items successfully (Mandal & Mondal, 2015).

3. METHODOLOGY

Quantitative data were collected utilizing the survey method. There were 63 members from three bazaars, such as Bazarche Honar, Chok Alikan Bazar, and Bazarche Sark of Bamyam city. The data was collected from these bazaars in three days. In addition, the data was analyzed by SPSS version 26. Participants deliberately with a convincing sampling technique. The participants were given 20 minutes to reply, and they could take off the survey at any time. Fortunately, all took part and answered the questionnaire. Besides, the survey was planned with four Likert scale levels to measure monthly income levels. The data was analyzed with one-way ANOVA and Pearson correlation.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The result of the study is divided into two sections:

4.1. DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS:

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics of Age and Experience of Handicraft

| Variable Name | N | Mean | Minimum | Maximum |
|----------------------------|----|-------|---------|---------|
| Age of Handicrafts | 63 | 30.49 | 12 | 58 |
| Handicraft Year Experience | 63 | 4.56 | 1 | 15 |

(Source: Field data)

Table 1 presents the data and descriptive statistics for 63 handicraft artisans, revealing an average age of approximately 30.5 years, with ages ranging from 12 to 58. Additionally, these artisans have an average experience of 4.56 years in handicrafts, with experience levels varying between 1 and 15 years. This indicates a relatively young group with moderate experience in their craft.

Table 2: Education level of Handicrafts in Bamyan City

| Name | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------------|-----------|---------|
| No formal education | 16 | 25.4 |
| Primary education | 17 | 27.0 |
| Secondary education | 18 | 28.6 |
| Higher education | 12 | 19.0 |
| Total | 63 | 100.0 |

(Source: Field data)

Table 2 shows that the education level of the data for handicraft artisans in Bamyan City indicates that 28.6% have completed secondary education, making it the most common educational attainment among the group. Primary education follows closely at 27%, while 25.4% have no formal education, and 19% hold higher education qualifications. This distribution highlights a significant portion of artisans with at least basic education, contributing to their skills in handicrafts.

Table 3: Gender of Handicrafts in Bamyan City

| Name | Frequency | Percent |
|--------|-----------|---------|
| Male | 4 | 6.3 |
| Female | 59 | 93.7 |
| Total | 63 | 100.0 |

(Source: Field data)

Table 3 shows the gender distribution of handicraft artisans in Bamyan City revealing a significant female majority, with 93.7% (59 artisans) being women, while only 6.3% (4 artisans) are men. This stark contrast highlights the prominent role of women in the handicraft sector, which is crucial for their economic empowerment and social status in

the region. The data underscores the importance of handicrafts as a means for women to achieve independence and contribute to their families and communities. Table 4: The Occupation of Handicrafts in Bamyan City

| Name | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Handicraft Producer | 34 | 54.0 |
| Shopkeeper | 17 | 27.0 |
| The employee in a handicraft business | 12 | 19.0 |
| Total | 63 | 100.0 |

(Source:Field data)

Table 4 shows occupational data for handicraft artisans in Bamyan City showing that 54% are handicraft producers, indicating their primary role in creating goods. Shopkeepers make up 27%, while 19% are employed in handicraft businesses, reflecting a diverse engagement within the industry. This distribution underscores the significance of handicrafts as a vital source of livelihood and economic activity in the region. Table 5: Monthly income of handicrafts

| Name | Frequency | Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|
| Less than 5,000 AFN | 39 | 61.9 |
| 5,000 – 10,000 AN | 19 | 30.2 |
| 10,001 – 15,000 AFN | 2 | 3.2 |
| More than 15,000 AFN | 3 | 4.8 |
| Total | 63 | 100.0 |

(Source: Field data)

Table 5 shows the monthly income data for handicraft artisans indicating that a substantial 61.9% earn less than 5,000 AFN, highlighting financial challenges within the sector. Additionally, 30.2% earn between 5,000 and 10,000 AFN, while only a small percentage (8%) earn above this range. This income distribution suggests that many artisans may struggle to achieve financial stability despite their contributions to the handicraft industry. Table 6: Selling of Handicraft Products

| Name | Frequency | Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------|
| Daily | 39 | 61.9 |
| Weekly | 11 | 17.5 |
| Monthly | 13 | 20.6 |
| Total | 63 | 100.0 |

(Source: Field data)

Table 6 shows the selling frequency of handicraft products revealing that 61.9% of artisans sell their goods daily, indicating a strong market presence and demand for their crafts. In contrast, 17.5% sell every week, while 20.6% sell monthly. This data suggests that most artisans actively engage in regular sales, contributing to their income and the sustainability of their businesses.

4.2. INFERENTIAL ANALYSIS:

Table 7: Descriptive statistics of monthly income

| Type of Artesian | N | Mean | SD | Lower Bound | Upper Bound |
|------------------------------------|----|------|------|-------------|-------------|
| Handicraft producer | 34 | 1.59 | .701 | 1.34 | 1.83 |
| Shopkeeper | 17 | 1.41 | .795 | 1.00 | 1.82 |
| Employees in a handicraft business | 12 | 1.42 | .996 | .78 | 2.05 |
| Total | 63 | 1.51 | .780 | 1.31 | 1.70 |

(Source: Field data)

Table 7 presents descriptive statistics of monthly income for different types of artisans, showing that handicraft producers have the highest average income (1.59) with a standard deviation of 0.701. Shopkeepers and employees in handicraft businesses have mean incomes of 1.41 and 1.42, respectively, indicating relatively similar earnings among these groups. Overall, the total average monthly income across all artisans is 1.51, suggesting moderate financial stability within the handicraft sector. Table 8: One-way ANOVA of Artisan types with monthly income

| | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|----------------|----------------|----|-------------|------|------|
| Between Groups | .476 | 2 | .238 | .383 | .683 |
| Within Groups | 37.270 | 60 | .621 | | |
| Total | 37.746 | 62 | | | |

(Source: Field data)

Table 8 presents the results of a one-way ANOVA analysis comparing monthly income across different artisan types. The F-value of 0.383 and a significance level (Sig.) of 0.683 indicate that there are no statistically significant differences in monthly income among the artisan groups. This suggests that the income levels of handicraft producers, shopkeepers, and employees in handicraft businesses are relatively similar.

Consequently, our H₁, the Types of Artisans have significant differences in their monthly income. This hypothesis was rejected because there is no significant difference among Artisans with their monthly income.

Means Plots

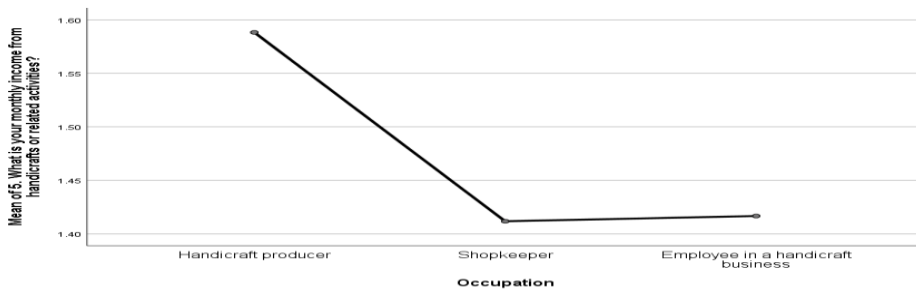


Figure 1: Artisans types with their monthly income

Figure 1 shows the mean plot of the Artisans' types and shows the differences among handicraft producers, shopkeepers, and Employees in the handicraft business

Table 9: Correlation of Artisans' Monthly income and Years of experience

| Variable name | Mean | Std. Deviation | N | Monthly income | Years Experience |
|------------------|------|----------------|----|----------------|------------------|
| Monthly income | 1.51 | .780 | 63 | — | |
| Years Experience | 4.56 | 3.500 | 63 | .362** | — |

P=.004, **. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). Table 9 shows a correlation analysis between artisans' monthly income and years of experience, revealing a positive correlation coefficient of 0.362. This suggests that as the years of experience increase, monthly income tends to rise as well. The significance level (P = 0.004) indicates that this correlation is statistically significant at the 0.01 level, meaning there is a strong likelihood that the relationship observed is not due to random chance. With a mean monthly income of 1.51 and an average experience of 4.56 years, this data highlights the potential benefits of experience in enhancing financial outcomes for artisans. Overall, the findings emphasize the importance of experience in contributing to artisans' income levels in the handicraft sector.

In a nutshell, our H₂, Artisans' experiences have a positive correlation with their monthly income. This hypothesis was accepted which means that the Artisans' year experience had a positive strong correlation with one another. In other words, increasing one variable affects the other variable to increase.

However, the lack of significant differences in monthly income across various artisan types suggests that factors such as market access, production costs, and sales strategies may play a more crucial role. The investigation of artisan incomes in Bamyan shows a basic understanding of the financial conditions confronted by this community. The study's findings show that most artisans win less than 5,000 AFN monthly, highlighting noteworthy financial-related challenges in this segment. This result adjusts to existing literature that focuses on income instability as an unavoidable issue among artisans in low-income regions. The lack of significant contrasts in monthly income over different artisan types proposes that components such as market access, production costs, and

deals methodologies may play a more significant part in determining income than the sort of craft itself. This challenges the suspicion that certain craft inherently surrenders higher financial returns and calls for a more intense investigation of market elements and buyer preferences.

Additionally, the positive relationship distinguished between years of experience and monthly income underscores the significance of expertise advancement and proficient development in improving artisans' financial results. As artisans gather experience, they likely refine their abilities, make product quality, and create superior marketing procedures, which can lead to expanded profit. This finding strengthens the hypothesis that experience may be a basic figure affecting income levels among artisans. It moreover emphasizes the requirement for activities that advance capability improvement and mentorship within artisan communities, empowering less experienced artisans to memorize from their more prepared partners.

Furthermore, the majority of female artisans in Bamyan is another noteworthy angle highlighted by the research. With 93.7% of participants being women, this statistic representation underscores the authoritative role of female artisans in financial activities inside the region. In any case, it also raises concerns about gender discrepancies in access to resources, preparing opportunities, and market access. Attention to these gender-specific challenges is basic for cultivating a comprehensive financial environment that empowers all artisans.

Despite these experiences, the research recognizes a few obstacles. The sample size of 63 artisans may not completely represent the different artisan communities in Bamyan, possibly constraining the generalizability of the results. Furthermore, whereas quantitative data provide important experiences into income levels and relationships, qualitative studies seem to encourage improved understanding by investigating artisans' individual experiences and challenges more noteworthy understanding.

Consequently, this study contributes to the understanding of artisan income elements in Bamyan by recognizing basic components impacting profit and highlighting regions for intervention. Future investigations ought to goal to extend these results by joining bigger tests and qualitative methodologies to capture the nuanced experience of artisans. By

doing so, partners can create targeted techniques that upgrade financial-related stability and advance sustainable livelihoods for artisans in Bamyan and similar settings.

5. CONCLUSION

The study highlights the basic role of artisans in protecting social legacy whereas moreover addressing their financial battles. The overview conducted among 63 artisans identified that most win less than 5,000 AFN per month, reflecting a concerning trend of income instability. The investigation presented no significant contrasts in income over distinctive artisan categories; in any case, a positive relationship was built between experience and income levels. This demonstrates that as artisans pick up more experience, their gaining potential increases. The study emphasizes the significance of understanding these dynamics to inform policy and back activities pointed at promoting the occupations of artisans in Bamyan.

6. SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To improve the financial steadiness of artisans in Bamyan, a few suggestions can be made:

Ability Improvement Programs: Actualize preparing activities that center on making advances in craftsmanship and commerce administration aptitudes to assist artisans expand their efficiency and attractiveness. In addition, **Access to Markets:** Encourage getting to broader markets through e-commerce stages and neighborhood shows to empower artisans to reach more clients and expand their income sources. Furthermore, **Financial Support Mechanisms:** Set up microfinance programs or awards specifically tailored for artisans to assist them contribute in their businesses and decrease dependence on conflicting deals. Moreover, **Policy Promotion:** Empower nearby government approaches that back artisan businesses, counting appropriations for raw materials and help with promoting endeavors. Finally, **Study Extension:** Conduct advanced studies to explain the effect of education on artisan income and examine other variables impacting financial results inside this segment.

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