NOTICE OF RETRACTION

Retraction: "President Xi's Soft Power 'She Power' Initiative's Impact on Women's Maternal Health and Schoolgirls in Balochistan, Pakistan"

DOI: 10.29063/ajrh2026/v30i22.11

Original article: *Saddique K, Lu Z, Ramish SM, Yonghong D, Rao MS. President Xi's Soft Power 'She Power' Initiative's Impact on Women's Maternal Health and Schoolgirls in Balochistan, Pakistan. African Journal of Reproductive Health. August 2026;30(16):104–111.*
https://doi.org/10.29063/ajrh2026/v30i16.9.

The Editorial Board of the *African Journal of Reproductive Health* hereby retracts the above-mentioned article.

The retraction follows an editorial investigation initiated after concerns were raised regarding inconsistencies in the research methodology, questionnaire administration, reported data and findings presented in the article.

The concerns centred on inconsistencies in the article's description of the questionnaire-based research. In some sections, the questionnaire study was presented as proposed or yet to be undertaken, while other sections reported completed data collection involving 1,500 respondents across three districts in Balochistan, Pakistan, between September and November 2025. The article also reported a 100% response rate and uniformly positive responses across the reported questionnaire items.

In response to the concerns raised, the journal reviewed the authors' explanations and the supporting materials they submitted, including the questionnaire, spreadsheet containing the reported responses, and research approval documentation. Further questions arose regarding the provenance and timing of the submitted materials, the availability of original research records, and the verification of the research and approval documentation.

The authors were given an opportunity to address the concerns and provide supporting evidence. However, following its review of the available correspondence and documentation, the Editorial Board concluded that the concerns regarding the research methodology, underlying data and verifiability of the reported findings had not been satisfactorily resolved.

Consequently, the Editorial Board has decided to retract the article to protect the integrity of the scholarly record. This decision is based on the unresolved concerns about the reliability and verifiability of the published research and should not, in itself, be interpreted as a finding of deliberate misconduct by any individual author.

The authors have been formally notified of the journal's decision.

The original article will remain accessible as part of the scholarly record but will be clearly marked as **RETRACTED**. This notice will be permanently linked to the original publication, and the relevant indexing and abstracting services will be notified of the retraction.

The Editorial Board
African Journal of Reproductive Health
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