



## An Investigation of Tendency Status on Boys' School Students to use Drugs: A case Study of Ghazi Khan High School in Kunduz Province

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### Abstract

Adolescence is a sensitive, decisive and risk full period, and the tendency of people to use drugs and addiction is at the top of the risk pyramid. The main purpose of this research is to find out the tendency of drug usage among the students, which was carried out with a descriptive survey method. The data collection tool was Mohsen Golparvar's questionnaire. Validity and reliability have been measured using survey and calculation of Alpha-Cronbach equal to (0.73), which was reliable. The statistical population of this research consists of the students of the secondary course of Ghazi Khan High School in 2023, the sample size was determined using Cochran's formula with a confidence level of 95% and an error of 5%, and the desired sample was determined by stratified sampling method and a simple random selection. The data obtained from the questionnaire were analyzed through Excel and 24 IMB-SPSS software. The findings showed that the level of tendency to use drugs among secondary school students of Ustad Ghazi Khan School is higher than the average value of  $\mu=17.92\pm 5.653$  and  $P=0.004<0.05$ . Drug use among the secondary course students, and its levels in the 10th grade are higher than in the 12th and 11th grades. The result is that the increase in the desire to use drugs is considered a suitable basis for the addiction of teenagers and young people, and this can cause their physical, economic, family, educational and social future to face serious risks.

**Keywords:** Drugs, Students, Secondary Course, Tendency, Ustad Ghazi Khan High School.

### Introduction

Currently, drug abuse is recognized as a serious problem in the world today. Although drug addiction seems to be a dangerous individual phenomenon; But it can show itself as a social problem. The above problem is associated with social damages, serious health and medical injuries, family disintegration, lowering the efficiency of individual ability and dozens of other problems (Sajad & Akbari, 2015). From the perspective of the World Health Organization (WHO), any substance that can adversely affect one or more body functions after entering the body system is a drug (Sajad and Akbari, 2015, p. 21). Drug abuse is the

use of alcohol, cigarettes, and drugs, such as cocaine, marijuana, and heroin. High drug use is related to studying, dropping out of school and early marriages (Sadri, 2019). Drug addiction, as the most serious social problem in Afghanistan, has various sociological, psychological, legal and political aspects. Addiction as a social and abnormal problem is a phenomenon that destroys the ability of the society to organize and maintain the existing order, causing structural changes in the economic, social, political and cultural system in a society. In our society today, drug usage is a problem. This social harm has affected a large number of people and is increasingly interacting with other social harms and becoming a serious and destructive threat (Sediqi et al. 2009, p. 43 as cited in Sarwri, 2021). The disorder of husband and wife in the eyes of their children, divorce, and the absence of one of the parents can lead to family members becoming addicted to drugs, as each of these people aspires to escape this miserable life (Ahmad al-Tayar, 2014). Drug abuse and drug dependence, due to the complexity of complications and health problems among people, is one of the major problems in societies. (Zia Al-Dini, 2006). Experts and specialists in the field of addiction fully believe that drug addiction and dependence is one of the most obvious biopsychosocial problems (Valipoor, 2009). Adolescents and adults are more at risk of drug addiction, which can also threaten families, friends, colleagues, and all members of society. (Siam, 2007). Community being influenced by the direct and indirect harms of drug addiction. As it can be seen, among several individual, social and family factors, socializing with drug addict friends had the largest role in the tendency to abuse drugs by 78% (Haidari, 2013). The available information shows that drug usage among teenagers and young adults has increased significantly worldwide (Serajzadeh et al., 2014). Scientists believe that the reason for the increase in drug addiction among teenagers are due to today's life situations, which have changed a lot. Since these different situations in life expose most teenagers to pressure and because they do not have the ability to deal with it adequately, they resort to drugs. The most important of these situations include being a single parent (Akbari et al., 2013), feelings of alienation and academic failure, psychopathy and receptive personality (Valadbigi et al., 2017), low self-confidence, feeling alone, unawareness of losses. Drug use or a positive attitude towards it (Khwaja Daloui, 2013), feelings of insecurity, pressure, conflict with parents, etc. (White 2004).

According to the statistics of the Ministry of public Health in Afghanistan, the number of drug addicts in this country reaches 2.5 million people, of which nearly 850 thousand are women. Officials of this ministry say that there is no district in the country where women are not drug addicts (BBC, 2021). By publishing the results of a new survey, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reports an 8% increase in drug production in Afghanistan. According to this survey, the average drug production in Afghanistan in 2021 was 68 thousand tons, while this figure reached 63 thousand tons in 2020. According to the aforementioned survey, which was published on Tuesday, 2nd of September, an average of 38.5 kilograms of opium was obtained from each hectare of land in 2021. While this figure was 28 kilograms per hectare in 2020 (Tasnim News, 2022). The phenomenon of addiction is a multi-faceted issue and suffering from it is influenced by many factors in categories such as individual factors, social factors, cultural factors, educational factors, economic factors, biological factors, etc. The most obvious of which are such as the level of resilience of people (Poor sardar et al., 2013), easy consumption, availability and abundance of substances, lack of support and counseling facilities, lack of life skills and social communication, living in a polluted environment, the existence of crime and deviations, not

having a suitable moral model, family problems and disputes. The presence of an addict in the family, especially the addiction of parents, unhealthy friendships, unhealthy upbringing of parents, weakness in educational supervision and proper control of children, weakness in providing awareness programs to teenagers and young people and meeting their needs, lack of recreational places and programs in order to spend free time, compatibility with friends and peers, despair about the future, the presence of personality disorders, the presence of deviant students in school, parental divorce, academic failure, parental illiteracy, lack of suitable space for cultural growth in poor neighborhoods. Positive attitude towards addiction, improper treatment of adolescents in the family and school, lack of a proper mental atmosphere in the family, low interest in sports or lack of sports facilities, weakness in religious beliefs, belief in the therapeutic value of drugs, satellite media advertisements, immigration, unemployment, poverty, lack of job skills and dozens of other cases (Mirbaqir and Khademian, 2017).

Research findings at the world level show that the teenage period, especially the school period, is one of the most sensitive periods in the tendency to use drugs. The use of drugs is increasing day by day in this age period (Valadbigi, Nik Bakht, Lashkari, 2016). Nawbakht (2015) in a research entitled students' attitudes towards drug abuse and factors affecting it, which he conducted with a survey method on 375 students of Allameh Tabatabai University, showed that 50.4% of students have a positive attitude towards drug abuse. and completely positive and 37.2% have an average attitude towards addictive substances. In the research of Rahimi Moqer and Saheimi Izedian (2005), which was conducted under the title of drug use among students in Iran, and the content analysis method was used on the research conducted in this field, it shows that drug use among students of all schools in Iran is average and above average. Hayati et al. (2015) conducted a study on the prevalence of substance abuse and its relationship with academic achievement in nursing students of Abadan city in Iran. This study, which was conducted with a sample of 302 nursing students of Aban Faculty of Health Sciences, Islamic Azad University, aimed to determine the prevalence of substance abuse and its relationship with academic progress, showed that the consumption of certain substances such as Hookah and Cigarettes are more common among male students than female students ( $p=0.001$ ). The research carried out by Ahmadi, Tolabi and Ilanlou under the title of predicting the tendency to misuse drugs in middle school second grade male students of district 12 of Tehran based on the level of resilience and academic procrastination in the academic year of 2017-2018 shows the publication of the year (2019), the average percentage of drug use among students are 13.18 with a standard deviation of 8.3. The research that was conducted under the title of tendency to use drugs among high school students of high schools in Marivan city by Valadbigi, Nik Bakht and Lashkari in (2017) shows that 21.8% of students had a moderate and strong tendency towards drugs. In general, it can be said that adolescence is a sensitive, fateful and risky period, and the tendency of people to use drugs and addiction is at the top of the pyramid of this risk. Therefore, it is necessary to accept this principle that modifying people's attitudes towards drugs as an effective method in preventing addiction can be very useful and cost-effective (Jazairi et al., 2003). Due to the fact that prevention is better than treatment, today most policy makers, health and educational professionals, families and institutions providing mental health services and social institutions are trying to deal with the phenomenon of addiction by launching preventive programs. This attention may be due to the fact that over the years, it has been proven that the treatment of drug abuse is difficult,

expensive and time consuming. The effects of substance abuse are irreversible in many cases, and even the most effective treatments have a high rate of relapse. In such a situation, the importance of prevention is to logically replace treatment, and it is assumed that preventing people from becoming addicted to drugs is more effective than treating this disorder (Jamali and Qorbani, 2008). But in order to realize this, it is necessary to first know the level of tendency and state of desire to use drugs among school students. For this purpose, the present study was launched to investigate the tendency of the students of Ustad Ghazi Khan High School in Kunduz to use drugs in order to find out how much their tendency is to use drugs.

## Material and Method

The current research is descriptive in nature, and in terms of practical purpose, in terms of cross-sectional field data collection, and in terms of data analysis method, it is causal-comparative. In descriptive research, the researcher looks for what and how the subject is and wants to know what and how is the nature of the phenomenon, variable, object or matter.

### Study Area

The statistical population of this research is formed by the secondary school students of Ustad Ghazi Khan Boys' High School in Kunduz city, whose number reached 921 in 1402. Ustad Ghazi Khan Boys' School is one of the oldest schools in Kunduz city, which was first established in 1367 in the Kunduz air field area to train the children of officers and soldiers, but due to political changes in the country, its activity was stopped after three years. But after 1381, it started working again and it operates in the fifth district of Kunduz city, located in Sare Dawra town. This school has a good reputation and a good position in this province and has won the first place in the evaluations of the education department of the city several times.

### Sampling

The sample size was determined using Cochran's formula with a confidence level of (95%) with a percentage error of (5%) with an increase of 15% in order to reduce the sampling error in the number of (312) and sampling was selected using stratified and random sampling and questionnaires were distributed to them.

### Information about the Questioner

Mohsen Golparwar's substance abuse questionnaire was used in the present research. This questionnaire consists of 54 questions, which were prepared and adjusted and validated by Mohsen Golparwar (Golparwar, 2001). Answering the questions of the questionnaire is yes and no and has 54 questions. in the positive questions, one point is given to the yes option and zero points to the no option, and in the negative questions, the yes option is given zero points and the No, one point is awarded. The closer a person's score is to 54, indicates higher

tendency towards drugs. The validity of this questionnaire is reported as 0.76 and 0.89 based on Cronbach's alpha.

### Statistical Analysis

After reviewing the incomplete questionnaires, the collected data were entered into the IBM-SPSS-24 program and analyzed using this program. Although the questionnaire had the necessary standards, but in order to localize its items with understandable terms, it was adapted to the level of understanding of the country's school students. Therefore, in order to check validity, the questionnaire has been used with 5 senior professors in the field of partner psychology and after surveying and applying their opinions. Cronbach's alpha test was also used to check the reliability of the questionnaire, and the test results showed that the obtained alpha value is 0.73, which is reliable. The statistical calculations performed in this research are descriptive by using descriptive parameters such as frequency, average, percentages, and in the inferential aspect, tests such as chi-square coefficient, one-sample t-test are used.

## Results

Table1 shows that 37.5% of the students participated in the research, including the 10th grade, 35.6% including the 11th grade, and 26.9% in the 12th grade were engaged in learning their lessons.

**Table 1.** Distribution of participants in the research based on class

Classes	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
10 <sup>th</sup>	117	37.5	37.5	37.5
11 <sup>th</sup>	111	35.6	35.6	73.1
12 <sup>th</sup>	84	26.9	26.9	100.0
Total	312	100.0	100.0	

The statistics of Table 2 show that the youngest age of the secondary students of Ustad Ghazi Khan High School is 14 years and the oldest age among them is 25 years. The average age among them is 17.19 years, the standard deviation of which is 1.518 years. Also, the average score among them is 79.04 with a standard deviation of 9.292. However, their highest score is 98 and their lowest score is 53.

**Table 2.** Average ages and average scores of secondary school students of Ghazi Khan

Variable	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Age	312	14	25	17.19	1.518
Average scores	312	53	98	79.04	9.292

According to the findings of Table 3, the marital status of students of the secondary school of Ghazi Khan in Kunduz is divided into three groups: single, engaged and married. Among them, 94.9% of the students of this school were single, 3.5% of them were engaged and 1.6% of them were married.

**Table 3.** The frequency of marital status of the students participated in this research

Marital state	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Single	296	94.9	94.9	94.9
Engaged	11	3.5	3.5	98.4
Married	5	1.6	1.6	100.0
Total	312	100.0	100.0	

By using Table 4, it can be stated that the secondary students of Ustad Ghazi Khan Boys' High School who participated in this research, 164 (52.6%) had no tendency to use drugs, 144 (46.2%) they are at the level of moderate tendency, and 4 people (1.3%) are at the level of strong tendency to use drugs. According to the cumulative percentage, 47.4% of the students are at the level of moderate and strong tendency towards using drugs.

**Table 4.** The percentage of levels of tendency to use drugs of the participants in the research

Drug use tendency levels	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No tendency	164	52.6	52.6	52.6
Mid tendency	144	46.2	46.2	98.7
Strong tendency	4	1.3	1.3	100.0
Total	312	100.0	100.0	

The sample T-Test statistics in Table 5 show that the average tendency to use drugs among the students of the secondary school of Ghazi Khan is  $17.92 \pm 5.653$ , which has a normal value of 0.92, which is calculated to be significant at  $P=0.004 < 0.05$ . conforms that.

**Table 5.** Sample T-Test statistics of the tendency to use drugs among students of the secondary school of Ghazi Khan Boys' High School.

Variable	Average	St. Deviation	Q3	T	df	Sig	$\alpha$
Tendency to use drugs	17.92	5.653	17	2.874	312	0.004	0.5

Table 6 shows that the level of tendency to use drugs according to the class classification among the secondary students of Ustad Ghazi Khan Boys' High School is different, because the level of tendency to use drugs among the 10<sup>th</sup> grade is higher than the 12<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade. According to the percentages in Table 6, in twelve classes, 37 people with 22.6% have lack of tendency to use drugs, 47 people with 32.6% have a moderate tendency to use drugs, and

no one has a strong tendency to use drugs. While in the 11<sup>th</sup> grades, 74 people with 45.1% have no tendency to use drugs, 35 people with 24.3% have a moderate tendency to use drugs, and 2 people with 50.0% have a strong tendency to use drugs. While this amount in the 10<sup>th</sup> grades, 53 people with 32.3% have no tendency to use drugs, 62 people with 43.1% have a moderate tendency to use drugs, and 2 people with 50.0% have a strong tendency to use drugs. The calculation of chi-square coefficient showed that  $0.05 > 0.003 = a > sig$ , which shows the significance of this difference. Also, the Pearson Chi-Square coefficient = 16.086 has calculated the difference between classrooms in the degree of tendency to use drugs.

**Table 6.** Two-dimensional table to calculate the level of tendency to use drugs according to the division of the classes.

Variable	Amount	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	Total
Non-Tendency	Number	53	74	37	164
	Percentage	32.3 %	45.1 %	22.6 %	100.0 %
Mid-Tendency	Number	62	35	47	144
	Percentage	43.1 %	24.3 %	32.6 %	100.0 %
Strong-Tendency	Number	2	2	0	0
	Percentage	50.0 %	50.0 %	0	100.0 %
Total	Number	117	111	84	312
	Percentage	37.5 %	35.6 %	26.9 %	100.0 %
Chi-Square=16.086			Sig=0.003		

The findings of Table 7 show that the level of tendency to use drugs among the secondary students of Ustad Ghazi Khan Boys' High School according to the separation of educational progress is significantly different, so that the level of tendency to use drugs by the grades of educational progress is the lowest share in group "D" than group A, group B and group C and they are visible. According to the percentages in Table 7, the students who are in the groups "B" and "C" have more tendency to use drugs (61.8% and 27.1% moderate tendency and 50% strong tendency) while the students in group "A" and group "D", have the least tendency to use drugs (6.9% and 4.2% moderate tendency). The calculation of chi-square coefficient showed that  $sig = 0.05 > 0.004$ , Indicating the significance of this difference. Also, Pearson Chi-Square = 18.913 has calculated the difference of academic achievements in the degree of tendency to use drugs.

**Table 7.** Two-dimensional table calculating the level of tendency to use drugs according to the breakdown of educational achievement

Variable	Amount	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Total
No-Tendency	Number	36	88	39	1	164
	Percentage	22.0 %	53.7 %	23.8 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
Mid-Tendency	Number	10	89	39	6	144
	Percentage	6.9 %	61.8 %	27.1 %	4.2 %	100.0 %
Strong- Tendency	Number	0	2	2	0	4

	Percentage	0.0 %	50.0 %	50.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Total	Number	46	179	80	7	312
	Percentage	14.7 %	57.4 %	25.6 %	2.2 %	100.0 %
Chi-Square=18.913				Sig=0.004		

Table 8. shows that a mother's literacy is considered an essential factor in preventing the tendency to use drugs. The Students with illiterate mothers have more tendency to use drugs in terms of their mother's literacy level than students whose mothers have different degrees of literacy. Based on the percentages in Table 8, whose mothers are illiterate, 68 people 41.5% do not tend to use drugs, 81 people 56.3% have a moderate tendency to use drugs, and 3 people 75.0% have a strong tendency to use drugs. have. At the primary education level, the mothers of 43 people with 26.2% had no tendency to use drugs, 37 people with 25.7% had a moderate tendency to use drugs, and 1 person with 25.1% had a strong tendency to use drugs. At the twelve-pass level of mothers, 26 people 15.9% had no tendency to use drugs, 18 people 12.5% had a moderate tendency to use drugs, and no one had a strong tendency to use drugs at the twelve-pass level of mothers. At the 14th pass level, mothers of 13 people with 7.9% no tendency to use drugs, 3 people with 2.1% moderate tendency to use drugs, and no one at the 14th pass level of the mother has a strong tendency to use drugs. At the bachelor's level, 13 mothers 7.9% did not tend to use drugs, 1 person with 0.7% moderate tendency to use drugs, and at the bachelor's level, no one's mother had a strong tendency to use drugs. At the master's level, the mother of 1 person with 0.6% no tendency to use drugs, 4 people with 2.8% moderate tendency to use drugs, and at the master's level, no one's mother has a strong tendency to use drugs. The calculation of the chi-square coefficient showed that  $\alpha > \text{sig} = 0.015$  shows the significance of this difference. Also, Pearson Chi-Square = 21.955 has calculated the difference of mother's literacy in the amount of substance use. Although the comparison of the father's literacy is considered one of the important factors in children's desire or unwillingness to use substances, and its calculation also showed the above differences with different degrees, but the calculation of the chi-square coefficient was not significant.  $.005 > 0.105 = \alpha > \text{sig}$ .

**Table 8.** Two-dimensional table for calculating the levels of tendency to use drugs according to the separation of mother's literacy level

Variable	Amount	Illiterate	Elementary Education	12 <sup>th</sup> pass	14 <sup>th</sup> pass	Bachelor's	Master	Total
No-Tendency	Number	68	43	26	13	13	1	164
	Percentage	41.5 %	26.2 %	15.9 %	7.9 %	7.9 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
Relatively strong Tendency	Number	81	37	18	3	1	4	144
	Percentage	56.3 %	25.7 %	12.5 %	2.1 %	0.7 %	2.8 %	100.0 %
Strong Tendency	Number	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
	Percentage	75.0 %	25.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Total	Number	152	81	44	16	14	5	312



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Percentage	48.7 %	26.0 %	14.1 %	5.1 %	4.5 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
Chi-Square=21.955							Sig=0.015

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## Discussion

Drug use and dependence is a chronic and persistent phenomenon that is associated with serious physical, financial, family, and social damages (White, 2004. P 5). Research findings at the world level shows that the adolescent period, especially the school period, is one of the most sensitive periods in the tendency to use drugs, and drug use is growing more and more in this age period (Waladbigi, Nik Bakht, Lashkari, 2016). Due to the importance of this issue, researchers in different countries of the world have conducted epidemiological research on drug use among students. For example, a longitudinal and national epidemiology study called Monitoring the Future was started in 1976 by Johnston et al. in the United States of America on high school students and its results are publishing every year. According to the latest report, the consumption of illegal substances among eighth, tenth and twelfth grade students in one year was 15%, 31% and 39%, respectively. Furthermore, research conducted in 30 European countries on the epidemiology of drug use in a longitudinal and national form under the title of The European School Project on alcohol and other drugs since 1995 and conducted every four years shows that the use of illegal drugs has increased by about 40% in 15–16-year-old students from 1995 to 1999 (Hibell et al, 2000:160). The results of this study also show that the level of tendency to use drugs among the secondary students of Utad Ghazi Khan Boys' High School is above average, which is consistent with the above results. In another study, Nobakht (2014) in research titled "Students' attitude towards drug abuse and the factors affecting it" which he conducted with a survey method on 375 students of Allameh Tabatabai University, showed that 50.4% of the students were against drug abuse. Drugs have a positive and completely positive attitude, and 37.2% adolescents have an average attitude towards addictive substances. The results of this research also showed that the rate of tendency to use drugs among secondary school students of Ustad Ghazi Khan School is 46.2%, which is consistent with the results of Nobakht's research (2014). In the study of Rahimi and Izadian (2005), which was conducted under the title of the situation of drug use among students in Iran, and the method of content analysis focused on the research conducted in this field, it shows that drug use among students of all schools in Iran It is average and above average. The findings of Table 5 in this research also show that the level of willingness to use drugs among the students participating in the research is higher than the average level  $\mu=5.653\pm 17.92$  and  $P=0.004<0.05$  which is consistent with the above finding. Hayati et al. (2015) examined the relationship between drug abuse and academic achievement among nursing students in Abadan, Iran. This study, which examined the prevalence of drug abuse and its connection to academic achievement using a sample of 302 nursing students from Islamic Azad University's Aban Faculty of Health Sciences, revealed that male students used cigarettes and hookah more

frequently than female students ( $p=0.001$ ). The average percentage of drug use among students is 13.18 with a standard deviation of 8.3, according to research by Ahmadi, Tolabi, and Ilanlou published in 2020 under the title of "Predicting the tendency to abuse drugs in secondary school male students of District 12 of Tehran based on the level of resilience and academic procrastination in the academic year of 2017-2018." According to a 2017 study by Valadebigi, Nik Bakht, and Lashkari titled "Trend to use drugs among high school students of high schools in Marivan city," 21.8% of students reported a moderate to strong propensity to use drugs. Consistent with the findings of the previous research, the results of this study also demonstrated a strong and moderate tendency to use drugs, with the sample T-test indicating that this tendency is higher than the average level.

## Conclusion

Since drug addiction is a social problem, in addition to social unhealthy, economic, political, and cultural factors, personality, psychological, and educational factors are also very important in how to develop it. There are various theories about this phenomenon, and they have presented different viewpoints such as interactionism viewpoint, conflict viewpoint, psychological viewpoint, and biological viewpoint. According to research in this area, personality weaknesses, psychological disorders, unstable and unbalanced economic conditions, cultural poverty, unloving friends, parents' illiteracy, and finally a busy life brought on by industry and civilization and the absence of appropriate human relations, peace abandonment, and forgetting of acceptable cultural and Islamic traditions, all gradually expose a person to problems and troubles. When this happens, the person feels helpless and alone and tries to escape reality by turning to various mechanisms, such as drug addiction. Family issues are a significant contributing element to addiction, as the drug addiction of family members is often influenced by variables such as divorce, the disorder of the husband and wife in the eyes of their children, and the absence of one of the parents. The four areas of physiological (brain and body), psychological, behavioral, and social issues are all impacted by drug use.

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## Data Availability Statement:

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

## Conflicts of Interest:

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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