

LAWRENCE J. WHITE

# Industrial Concentration and Economic Power in Pakistan



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This book is dedicated to  
*Shelley*,  
whose idea it all was in the first place



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## Preface

THE ideas behind this book originated in 1969, when my wife and I were working as economists for the Harvard Development Advisory Service in Pakistan. The old government of Ayub Khan had been deposed, and the new government of Yahya Khan was in power. Criticisms of the former regime were widespread, and reformist ideas and proposals were being encouraged by the new government. One of the major issues under discussion was the problem of "the twenty-two families" or the "monopolies" problem. My wife suggested that, since my training was in industrial organization, I could probably make a productive contribution to the discussion. Unfortunately, the press of other work at the time and an unexpected transfer to Indonesia prevented very much immediate work on the problem. My interest in the problem remained, however, and after our return to the United States I began seriously to pursue research on the topic. This book is the final product of that research.

I owe a debt of gratitude to a number of institutions and individuals: the American Council of Learned Societies, for providing the main financial support of the research; the Research Program in Economic Development of the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton, for providing general facilities support and summer support during the actual writing of the manuscript; the Harvard

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Development Advisory Service, in whose employ I was when these ideas originated, and at whose conference in Torremolinos, Spain, in September 1972 I presented many of the ideas in this book and received many valuable comments; Lester Gordon, Edward S. Mason, Stephen R. Lewis, Jr., Gordon Winston, Shane Hunt, and Sherman Robinson, all of whom carefully read the manuscript at earlier stages and offered valuable suggestions and encouragement; Priscilla Read and Douglas Noll, who assisted in data collection and computations; and Mrs. Dorothy Rieger, who superintended the typing of the various drafts of the manuscripts.

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