SAMPLE OF SYNOPSIS FOR M/PHIL, PhD ADMISSION

The purpose of this write-up is to introduce a uniform and consistent methodology for submitting the contents of synopsis for M. Phil/PhD admissions submitted to Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASR), University of Karachi. While reviewing the synopsis of cases for M. Phil/PhD research, the sub-committee of BASR on social sciences is of the view that in most cases, the applicants have not followed the uniform and consistent approach while writing the contents of their synopsis. Therefore, the committee members are presenting the following sample of synopsis to the BASR for consideration and approval.

Synopsis will be divided into following items.

1. **Topic of research.** The applicant is supposed to come up with a clear, logical and coherent topic of research.
2. **Abstract** of one page, double space.
3. **Outline** composed of the titles of chapters and the categorization of chapters into points.
4. **Research design.** This is the most important component of synopsis where the applicant will include the following items:
   A. **Introduction, scope, rationale and significance of topic.**
   B. **Conceptual/theoretical framework (if required).**
   C. **Research questions.**
   D. **Hypothesis/hypotheses.**
   E. **Objectives of research.**
   F. **Literature review.**
   G. **Methodology.**
   H. **Time framework.** It means the applicant will mention the timeline of his/her topic of research.

5. **Bibliography.** This item needs to follow the style of writing bibliography and must have a list of minimum 10 and maximum 15 books. Bibliography may also include the list of articles published in research journals, names of newspapers to be consulted.

Additional requirements:-
1. Font shape: Times Roman
2. Font size: 14 for the main heading and 12 for sub-headings.
3. Font of text: 12

Research supervisors are requested to make sure that the synopsis submitted by their research students follows the format of writing the synopsis approved by the BASR.