

Short Note

Honour Killing

(10)

## Introduction:

Honour killing is a cultural practice of killing women for their behaviour. It is based upon various socio-cultural patterns of society. It adversely affects women rights. Some positive interventions may eradicate the problem of honour killing from a society.

## Deconstructing the Concept of Honour Killing.

The killing of a relative especially a girl or a woman who is perceived to have

brought dishonour on the family."

- UN Economic and Social Commission on Western Asia (UNESCWA)

## Status of Honour Killing.

Honour killing is prevalent in almost every part of the globe. According to a report by UN Office on Drugs and Crime,

"A total number of **87000** women were intentionally killed in **2017** in the world."

"The annual world wide number of honour killings is as high as **5000** women

and girls" - UN Population  
Fund (UNFPA)

Honour Killing in Pakistan.

Honour Killing is a  
grave social concern in  
Pakistan.

"Over 470 cases of  
honour killing were reported  
in 2021" - Human Rights  
Commission of Pakistan

Causes of Honour Killing

Honour Killing is caused  
by multiple factors which  
are deeply rooted in a  
society. These may be -

1- Patriarchy - Around the  
world superior position of  
man still exists.

"Honour killings are primarily found in highly patriarchal cultures"

(Honour killing: A gift of Castiest Patriarchy by Ibratiku)

2. Violation of Social Norms.

When a woman goes against her social and cultural norms, her life is threatened by her own family.

As Gandel Baloch was killed by her own brother on her violation of cultural norms.

3. Tribal Laws.

In tribes, honour killings is mostly considered

legal.  
In 2017, a tribal council in Khyber Agency ordered the honour killing of a 13 year old girl. She was accused of 'running away' with a boy.

## Solution: Addressing Honour Killing

Through education: Provision of education to both men and women is required. Men must learn about women rights and to implement them in his life. While woman should also know her rights and legal provisions of her protection.

Understanding religious teachings. There must be

a rightful interpretations of religious injunctions to counter honour killing.

"A better understanding of religion can help stop honour killings."  
(How can we stop honour killings an article by Rieda Akjol)

Implementation of laws:

There is no dearth of legal provisions protecting women from honour killing. However, their effective implementation is absent in a society.

Despite passing Honour Killing Act in 2004, Pakistan is still experiencing rising honour killing cases.

Thus, an effective implementation of available

Law is necessary to root-out honour killings.

## Conclusion.

Honour killing is a grave concern for a society. It is against women's basic rights. By taking effective measures, the problem can also be minimized.