

{ Honour Killing in Pakistan } Causes and Consequences

Outline

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Honour Killing in Pakistan
- 3) Causes of honour killing

a) Illiteracy is the major factor which leads to honour killing

b) Poor social conditions often perpetuates honour killing

c) Women are suppressed and treated as objects rather than human beings which often leads to honour killing

d) False accusation or character assassination often leads to honour killing

e) Weak enforcement of law paves way for honour killing

f) It is often done in the name of religion even though religion

condemns it

g) Honour killing has become a source of revenge in society

4) Consequences of honour Killing

a) Honour Killing perpetuates fear in society

b) It results in suppression of women

c) It promotes a false sense of male superiority and respect

d) It undermines fundamental human right of life

e) It portrays religion in a wrong way, often leading to Islamophobia

f) It is often done under a monumental spell of rage which undermines the process of investigation and rule of law

5) Case study

Honour Killing in Balochistan

DATE: ___/___/___

6) Conclusion

←————→

Somewhere in a rural desert a woman was standing under the scorching sun. She was looking towards a black shiny barrel pointed at her. Surrounded by a crowd, she knew she was having her final breaths. Suddenly there was a loud bang. Her body fell on the ground and everything was silent. That crowd stood her family members. Their hearts were filled with grief yet they forced a smile as their honour or mere illusion of honour had been restored. Honour killing is a sin committed by the whole society. It is caused by illiteracy, poor social conditions, and false accusation or character assassination. Women are treated as objects rather than human beings which leads to honour killing. Weak law enforcement often paves way for it. Honour killing is mostly done in the name of religion even though religion has nothing to do with it. Fear perpetuates in the society as a result of honour killing. It results in suppression

DATE: _/ _/ _

of women and promotes a false sense of male superiority and respect. It undermines the fundamental human right of life. It portrays religion in a wrong way, often leading to Islamophobia. It also undermines the process of investigation and rule of law.

Honour killing is a crime which is celebrated in Pakistan especially in rural areas. Every year numerous individuals are killed in the name of honour however, only a few cases are reported or brought to light. Most of these cases occur in rural areas. The orthodox Molvis promote a wrong sense of honour and even support such actions. Sometimes honour killing is done on mere suspicion and false accusation without proper evidence or investigation.

There are numerous causes of honour killing. To begin with, honour killing is the result of illiteracy. According to Moeed Yousaf "rural areas in Pakistan have 90% illiteracy rate". Lack of education

DATE: ___/___/___

paves way for numerous evils in the society. Honour killing is predominant in rural areas with low literacy rate.

In addition to that, poor social conditions often perpetuates honour killing. Underdeveloped areas often have high percentage of such crimes. Poor social conditions undermines human development both socially and mentally. In the absence of proper institutes Badi system dominates. Biased laws are created and enforced by Badi system. It legalizes honour killing and promotes such heinous crime.

Furthermore, women are suppressed. They are treated as objects rather than human beings. Their fundamental rights are violated. It leads to honour killing. In the pre-Islamic Arab society, if a girl was born she was buried alive in the name of honour. After 1400 years the only progress we have made is that we bury women instead of a girl in the name of honour. In a civilized era such acts are not

tolerable under any circumstance.

Along with that, false accusations and character assassination also leads to honour killing. Investigation and rule of law is completely ignored. Often times innocent people are killed as a result of false accusation. Most of the honour killing cases are neither reported nor brought to light. As a result such crime prevails in the society.

Moreover, weak enforcement of law paves way for honour killing. Despite numerous cases being reported, no efforts have been made in order to prevent honour killing. The victims often lose their lives before being able to contact law enforcing agencies. Poor law enforcement and security conditions also leads to the continuity of this crime. Rural areas of Balochistan have a higher rate of honour killing due to poor security conditions.

Honour killing is often done in the name of religion. The criminals feel no guilt as they

DATE: ___/___/___

believe that it is a Holy act. The bigotry molvis also play an important role in portraying religion in such a manner. People are often praised by these molvis which further promotes this crime. Honour Killing cases also promote hatred towards Islam in Western Society.

In addition to that, honour Killing has also taken a form of revenge Killing. Under the tribal laws honour Killing is done to avenge someone. It is totally against the law of nature as well as laws of the state. Islam has also forbidden against such an action. However, it continues in the name of false pride and honour.

Honour Killing also has numerous consequences. To begin with, it spreads fear in the society. People feel unsafe in the wake of such crimes. Women feel more vulnerable due to such crimes. In rural areas it perpetuates a sense of fear among women. It also hinders them to reach their full potential or even contribute

progressively in the society.

In addition to that, it leads to suppression of women. It promotes a false sense of superiority and respect in the society. Women are often falsely accused. They are unable to defend themselves and often lose their life. It hinders their progress in life. It increases gender disparity in society and women are further suppressed.

Along with that, it undermines fundamental human right which is right to life. The state and religion has given much importance to right of life. The state acts as a protect of individual rights. Honour killing undermines the writ of state. It often portrays that the state is neglecting the rights of individuals.

Furthermore, it portrays the religion in a wrong manner. Honour killing often portrays as religion being the main cause. However it is not

true. Honour killing is the result of socio-ecological factors. Islam condemns such acts. In the light of honour killing, Western media often portrays Islam as an evil force which promotes Islamophobia.

Last but not least, honour killing is often done under a monumental spell of rage. It undermines the process of investigation and rule of law. There is no mechanism for the victims to approach law enforcing agencies. No proper investigation is done and due process of law is undermined. The law enforcing agencies realize too late and by that time the victim is already dead.

The recent ~~Event~~^{event} of honour killing shocked the entire country. A video surfaced on the internet showing a woman being shot in front of a crowd. The video was also being recorded. Despite so many people, no one came forward to help her. The statements of her

DATE: ___/___/___

parents were also a shock because they claimed that the woman was rightly punished and she deserves such ending.

To sum it all, honour killing is a crime in which the whole society takes part. Major causes of honour killing include illiteracy, poor social and economic conditions and weak enforcement of law. Women are falsely accused and suppressed. Often times religion is portrayed as the main cause behind honour killing even though the religion condemns it. Honour killing leads to fear and suppression of women in society. It promotes a false sense of male superiority and respect. It also undermines the due process of law and investigation. The recent event of honour killing in Balochistan was a shock for the whole country. More shocking was the way in which the victim's parents defended honour killing. Such an event was a wakeup call for the society for devising

DATE: ___/___/___

a mechanism to prevent such further
crimes.