

Delays in Justice: The Role of Police and Courts

1. Introduction

Thesis Statement: Delays in Justice caused by police and courts reduce public trust in law enforcement. This disturbs law and order in society and causes chaos.

2. Role of Police and Courts in Administering Justice

2.1 Rule of Law

2.2 Protection of Rights and Freedom

2.3 Public Trust in Institutions

2.4 Crime Deterrence

2.5 Social and Economic Stability

3. Delays in Justice caused by Police

3.1 Inefficient Investigation Process

3.2 Moral and Ethical Crisis

3.3 Resource Constraints

3.4 Poor Coordination with Prosecution

4. Delays in Justice caused by Courts

4.1 Overburdened Judicial System

4.2 Corruption and Political Interference

4.3 Ineffective use of technology

4.4 Complex procedures and staff shortage

5. Combined Impact of delay in Justice

5.1 Violation of human rights and freedom (Honor Killing)

5.2 Lawlessness (Forced Disappearances)

5.3 Distrust in Authorities (Mob crimes)

5.4 Rise in Crime rate

6. Conclusion

"Justice delayed is Justice denied".

The quotation resonates beyond courts - it reflects the chain of disruption extending courts to victims. Justice is the fair or impartial treatment towards everyone equally so that it guarantees basic human rights. It has been a central idea in philosophies from ancient to contemporary philosophers. Plato held his idea of 'just state'. Aristotle described justice as giving each person their due and classified justice as distributive and corrective. John Locke said, "Justice protects natural rights; governments exist to secure these". This justice, even though, should be an integral part of every human's life, is most oftenly attributed to institutions like Police and Court. People rely on them to enforce rule of law and protect them from its violations. Not only this, but when a law is broken people turn to courts for just treatment. Delays in justice by police and courts reduce public trust in law enforcement. This disturbs law and order in society and causes chaos.

Police and courts have an important duty towards ensuring prevalence of justice in a society. Rule of law is the founding stone of a just society and guaranteeing that no citizen or institution is above law is the responsibility of police and courts. Police serve as frontline law enforcers, preventing lawlessness and ensuring all laws passed are applied equally. Their role is to register reports, gather evidence after investigation and arrest suspects. A strong judiciary ensures fair treatment once the case is in court.

Another one of the functions of police and court are protection of rights and freedom. Police makes sure that when an individual walks on the street, their life and valuables are secure. It is through their strict actions and fines that harassers and bullies can be kept away but if for some reason, someone gets harassed for instance, the primary responsibility rests with the police and court to look into the matter and provide justice to the complainant.

Through their jobs being done properly, police and courts also ensure that the public trusts these institutions. This only happens when a victim goes to them with ample proof and they are served with justice. When more and more people get justice through legal system, it strengthens the masses' trust in public institutions. This trust is essential for a functioning democracy. When citizens can trust their police to protect them and not exploit them, and courts to deliver justice impartially, only then a ^{government} ~~democracy~~ or state can prosper.

Crime deterrence is the ability to swiftly end the crime at its root. One of the primary goals of justice system are to ensure that criminal behaviour is swiftly and fairly punished. Effective policing sends a clear message that unlawful acts will not go unpunished. If the steps are followed sequentially, they can help deter crimes. In Pakistan, crime rates in major cities like Lahore and Peshawar, have risen by over 200% in recent years. The percentage represents a serious gap in the system.

Strong police and judiciary directly link to social and economic stability.

Police plays a vital role in creating a safe and secure environment for individuals and businesses to thrive and prosper. Courts are responsible for settling residential and trade disputes. With settlements on time, foreign investments start coming in leading to economic cooperation. Safe and peaceful environment in countries attracts other countries to develop friendly ties, sign agreements for trade and cooperation boosting countries' GDP.

Delays in delivering this justice becomes a root cause for many problems. Delays in justice by police stem from different reasons. One of the primary reasons is inefficient investigation process. From the very beginning of process, inefficiency is evident. It takes days and weeks to collect evidence.

This further worsened by lack of forensic resources. Documentation is subpar, with data still being hand written and files being physically managed. This mismanagement results in delay in the trial.

This inefficiency is further worsened by moral and ethical decay of Police. Unfortunately, bribery, corruption and similar social evils are prevalent in Police. Influence from powerful groups and misuse of authority is also fairly common. This leads to distorted evidence, and intentionally slow investigations. Karachi traffic accident in Karachi, Pakistan and brutal murder of Noor Mukadam in Islamabad, Pakistan are prominent examples where the influential were able to delay and distort investigations.

Another reason for police inefficiency in being able to provide justice is ~~are~~ the ^{lack} of resources. Police stations in Pakistan still represent the picture of colonial-era policing, marked by outdated infrastructure, excessive paperwork, lack of digital systems and manual record keeping. This is further worsened by underqualified staff due to lack of transparency and proper merit system in hiring process. Infact, even the hiring staff is not qualified enough to hire at times or are forced to hire someone due to influence and power.

I was not able to start exam on time due to some personal issues. I am sorry about that, and this is also why I am unable to finish writing.