

# Criminal Justice System and Reforms in Pakistan

Sufi Imdad Ali Soomro<sup>1</sup> and Mansoor Mumtaz Soomro<sup>2</sup>

## Abstract

*The current legal system in Pakistan was brought about by British colonization and is extremely difficult for locals to understand. Several problems and difficulties have tainted it for a long time. Despite significant legislative and judicial reforms, the system has failed to provide victims of crimes with prompt and equitable justice, and severe inadequacies continue to damage Pakistani citizens' lives. Despite significant legislative and judicial reforms, the system has not been able to provide speedy and equitable justice to the victims of crime, and serious shortcomings continue to affect the lives of the people of Pakistan. The criminal justice system in Pakistan has a long history of poor governance, inflexibility, maladministration, corruption, lack of resources, and misuse of power. Accountability issues and a lack of cooperation between the investigation and prosecution wings in Pakistan's criminal justice system allow accused persons to flee. The government and the legal profession are responsible for CRPC, PPC, and Qanoon-i-Shahadat reforms to improve efficiency and deliver justice. It is the need of the hour to bring about sweeping reforms in criminal laws and an administrative system to ensure justice is available to all segments of society and assure the people that all rank and file are equal in the eyes of the law.*

**Keywords:** Colonization, Judicial Reforms, Accountability, Prosecution, Public Perception.

## Introduction

The Indian Subcontinent was under the yoke of British imperialism for more than one hundred fifty years, and to govern vast territories including princely states and having different populaces and religious sanctity prevailed, the lawmakers of the Colonial Empire had codified a criminal justice system made out of three tiers namely, the Police, the prosecution, and the Judiciary in order to strengthen their rule and safeguards the interests of their officers as well as local cronies who were working as an agent for them. Constitutional reforms, along with the criminal justice system, had not only aided in establishing their writ in the vanquished territory (Franklin, 2023) but also provided a feasible opportunity for local influential who were adhering to and supporting the colonial policies to form a nexus with law enforcement agencies to achieve their goals (Jones et al., 2022). The cornerstone of the criminal justice system is to safeguard and support the rule of law (Elsuwege & Gremmelprez, 2020), which denotes enforcing the writ of law, speedy and fair trial, sentence to the offenders, and rehabilitation through teaching and counseling (Bozhinovski, 2015). In its spirit, it was good, but practically, it was nefarious design; by implementing this criminal justice system (Arajärvi, 2018), the colonial empire had not only succeeded in protecting and serving its officers whom the Crown directly appointed but generally, it provided an anchor sheet to the native loyalists who were rendering their valuable services to strengthen their power in the subcontinent (Riggs, 2019).

---

<sup>1</sup> School of Law, Dadabhoy Institute of Higher Education, Karachi, Pakistan, Email: [imdachnoor@gmail.com](mailto:imdachnoor@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup> School of Management Sciences, Harbin Institute of Technology, China, Email: [Mansoorsoomro@gmail.com](mailto:Mansoorsoomro@gmail.com)

When the subcontinent was partitioned, without delay and keeping its exigency to run the affairs of the state, the inherited criminal justice system of the Colonial Empire was implemented by Pakistan with an optimistic view that after framing the Constitution of the country, overhauling reforms in the criminal justice system would be carried out following letter and spirit of the Constitution (Spano, 2021). After the lapse of seventy-five years, the same laws with minor modifications are still in place. The Judiciary is bearing the burden of such laws as legislatures are incapable of revamping the criminal justice system besides not showing any interest in bringing about drastic changes in the wake of the digital era, where modes of crimes and evidence are altogether changed.

Since the country's inception, no significant changes have been made in the PPC (Pakistan Penal Code), CRPC (Criminal Procedure Code), or Civil Procedure Code, except in the law of evidence (Hamza Ali, 2015). All provisions of the Quran and Sunnah were incorporated in Qanoon Shahadat 1984 (Ali, 2000). However, parliament passed statutory laws to meet the people's challenges (Sadiq, 2020). FIA, NAB, and Anti-Corruption laws were enacted to control color crime and check the activities of governmental officials indulging in corrupt practices (Sadiq, 2020). Anti-Terrorism Act was enacted designed to curtail terrorists' activities, and trials are being conducted at jail premises (Malik, 2018). The Control of Substance Act was enacted to hold an inquiry, investigate, and prosecute all offenses related to or connected with intoxicants, narcotics, and precursors (Hamza Ali, 2015). Cybercrime law is enacted to control and curb cybercrime. There is a growing demand that all existing laws be revamped and all stakeholders be invited to create consensus regarding suggestions and seminars. The bar, bench, civil members, and lawmakers should be invited to present their viewpoints to bring conformity.

### **The Object of the Criminal Justice System**

It is a cardinal principle set by jurists that law remains blind within and of self. Justice is a virtue, indispensable, and principal contributor or value-added aspect to the society or nation, and it assures that its impartiality and enforceability will guarantee humanity's prosperity and dignity (Hamza Ali, 2015). The countries still reluctant to implement the rule of law are far behind compared to those who are determined and make no compromise on delivering justice (Beatty, 2010). Such nations provide access to justice, and all actions, including rulers and government officials, are accountable (Stromseth, 2007). None is above the law, but in third world countries, especially Pakistan, where dictatorship pseudo-democracy prevails, politicians in power seem above the law, and institutions, including the Judiciary, adopt a lenient and soft approach rather than taking decisions based on fact and law.

### **Essential Function of the Criminal Justice System**

- The indispensable aspect of the criminal justice system is to address the grievances of the people living in the society, and the primary object of this system is to protect and safeguard the people's rights about the safety, security, and fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution.
- It is an essential ingredient of criminal justice that a trial should be concluded within the stipulated time or before the witness's memory is depleted. It is common parlance that a delay in justice is a denial of justice. Hence, it is incumbent upon investigation and prosecution as well as the Judiciary to realize to the society that nobody is beyond the law. Anyone who infringes laws will be punished per existing laws to ensure that the writ of the state is invincible.

It is indispensable for the state to ensure law and order, which is essential for social and economic justice.

- A criminal justice system also requires that people always look forward to the Judiciary. Generally, it is considered the last hope for weak and oppressed people. There are many expectations that no injustice against the innocent be done, and reasonable efforts with cautious care are adopted so that people should have faith and trust in the Judiciary. A mainstay of the criminal justice system is to deliver justice for all and sundry by awarding conviction and punishment to the accused and ensuring the necessary steps to stop them from offending. At the same time, assure the innocent that their lives, property, and honor will be protected at any cost. It is a continuous process where the state apparatus must ensure adequate and efficient accountability and fair justice are given to all without discrimination. There are various states in the world where the judiciary system is impeccable and free from the clutch of the executive, and their competency and professional dexterity are not called into question. Justice is not the name of books. It is a delicate plant. It must be nurtured, protected, and cared for.

### **Why is the Criminal Justice System a Failure?**

- At present, the criminal justice system is not performing well. All segments of society, including bench and bar, are in unison that without taking drastic reforms (Mawby & Worrall, 2013), this system will further be heading towards collapse because all organs of the criminal justice system are miserly failed to perform their duties as prescribed by law.
- People have the least trust in the Police and Prosecution departments. They prefer to approach the Judiciary as a last resort, and the public generally believes it is better to make a court settlement than seek justice because it is cumbersome, lengthy, and expensive (Peerenboom, 2005).
- No remedy against a person is filing frivolous complaints and lodging false FIR. After a cumbersome trial, the court concluded by passing an order that a false FIR was lodged, but there is no law or mechanism to award compensation to the affected parties.
- The trial length is cumbersome and expensive, and ordinary citizens need more money and time to afford it (Siddiqua, 1994).
- Time is consumed in administrative activities such as filing the statement, non-availability of witnesses on the day of the hearing, frequent bar calls for a strike, prolonged court hearing dates, and transfer of police officers who are the witnesses in the cases. Once transferred, they lose interest in pursuing the case, providing a valuable opportunity for the defense side to convince the court to dispose of it for the stated reasons.
- The attitude of the Police towards citizens is not favorable. Primarily, people are avoiding visiting Police stations due to Thana Culture (Ranjha et al., 2019). In Thana culture, the role of the Police is to discourage people from lodging FIRs or complaints.
- Most citizens avoid visiting Police Station to lodge FIRs or register their complaints for apparent reasons (Salman et al., 2023). Generally, it is not a place where citizens can lodge FIRs or complaints, where neither the Police are cooperative nor the environment is hassle-free. Hence, people fear Thana Culture (Kok et al., 2018).

### **Role of Police in Criminal Justice System**

It is an admitted fact that despite having a crucial role in protecting and saving the lives and properties of the people, people have the least faith in Police departments due to rampant corruption, weak investigation, unfriendly and reticent attitude of Police officers toward citizens,

and inefficiency to collect evidence which is the requisite condition to prove the guilt of an accused in the court beyond reasonable doubt.

In the criminal justice system, the Police plays a sheet anchor role in protecting society from criminals and those doing wrong because it is the department that individuals first encounter when people go against the law. The crucial role of the Police is indispensable because the Police, in parallel with the medical health care unit, are the first to reach out on the spot where a crime is committed, and they have to cordon off the area to preserve evidence that will help the trial, according to the book of Bureau (2021). Police are the bedrock of the criminal justice system because all activities are germinated from hereupon to control the crime and criminal activities by taking swift and effective measures to gather facts, provide details of evidence, examine witnesses, and all other ancillary material collected through investigations (Perito & Parvez, 2013).

There is a trust deficit issue, and people who are critical components of a democratic society believe that the Police are not performing their duties following the law. Government officials are giving verbal directions to Police officers or influencing them to follow instructions not to conduct investigations against people with political backgrounds or close to the government or its collation partners, including known notorious criminals, and to harass political workers and register false and fabricated charges against political opponents (Said et al., 2020). There is an unbridgeable gap in the trust, and every Pakistani is avoiding contact with the Police of fear. Once the case is registered, investigation officers harass the complainant in the name of investigation. Considering the trends, many interested parties hesitate to visit the Police Station. Thus, crimes go unreported and go unpunished. Officers need to get the public cooperation they need to prevent and resolve crimes.

The police department is not up to the task, and investigation relies solely on traditional techniques, which in the age of technology are patently inadequate to prove beyond a reasonable doubt the accused's guilt (Salman et al., 2023). From lodging the FIR to submitting the challan, if loopholes are left or required actions following the law are not taken, then the prosecution cannot play the decisive role because learned courts can only be convinced by presenting concrete evidence to prove the guilt of the accused.

### **Role of Prosecution in Criminal Justice System**

It is part of a judicial system, and in the criminal system, the state has to participate in criminal trials. When the crime is committed publicly or against an innocent, the state sometimes takes responsibility by lodging the FIR (Sadiq, 2020). Prosecutors represent the state in criminal cases, and they have to appear in a court of law to proceed with the case based on evidence provided or collected by an investigation officer to prove the guilt of the accused beyond a reasonable doubt (Lari, 2011).

It is the convention that no person should be left unheard. In the criminal justice system, the state must appoint to assist the basic principle of natural justice (Albanese, 2014). It is a fact that public prosecutors are representing the state in order to proceed with the trial against the accused and to present evidence that the investigation officer collects during the investigation (Baber et al., 2006). The right to a fair trial is enshrined in the Constitution. All states that believe in the rule of law are making the best possible efforts to hold impartial, accessible, inexpensive, and fair trials so justice can be seen and should be observed by the independent jurists that the right of fairness is exercised following the law.

The prosecution has to play a critical role in the administration of the criminal justice system. The prosecutor is representing the state and desired results, which the state is seeking to safeguard the

rights of society and get control over criminals. Crime cannot be yielded unless he performs acts to assist the Judiciary in proving the accused's guilt beyond reasonable doubt. According to the research study conducted by Tansif et al. (2021), it is admitted that the prosecution's role commences once the case is registered and the investigation is started until the criminal court's final decision is pronounced. The most crucial document is the First Information Report, which sets the entire machinery of lead into motion; if loopholes are lodged on weak grounds, then it will disturb the entire administration of criminal justice because the prosecutor has to depend and rely on the contents of FIRs (Shabbir, 2022). As courts always doubt the benefit to the accused, the weak content of the FIR and poor investigation make it extremely difficult for the prosecutor to defend it (Khan, 2020). The prosecution has the burden of proving the accused guilty according to the standard of proof prescribed by law. The prosecutor has several challenges in proving the accused guilty. Some challenges are outside of the prosecutor's purview and responsibilities. Legal framework, law enforcement infrastructure, and quality of law enforcement personnel play a significant role in the conviction rate, among other factors (R. Munir et al., 2021a).

The trial process is at a snail's pace; in the prevailing justice system, proving the guilt of the accused is challenging because there is no synchronization between investigation and prosecution (Afridi, 2021). The prosecution has to bear the burden in the court, and the accused has a better opportunity to engage legal counsel committed to exploiting flaws and finding loopholes, ultimately favoring the accused (R. Munir et al., 2021b). The classic case of the recent past is of Mr. Uzair Baloch, where learned courts have acquitted him in nineteen cases due to lack of evidence, and the prosecution badly failed to prove his guilt in the court because the evidence was insufficient (Azeem, 2017). First, they were registered in haste or lodged for political vendetta. The factual position is that despite having dismal conditions and all yardsticks upon which the performance of the Judiciary (Shahzad et al., 2022), as well as justice, are weighed, people have no more faith and trust in the prevailing justice system and it is not a priority of the government to bring about reforms in order to improve the image of the Judiciary; hence perception against justice system is fragile and feeble (Shabbir, 2022). Investigation and prosecution are dilapidated, ravaged by massive corruption, sluggish attitude, incompetence, outside interference, and habitual manipulation. Learned court in (1995) SCMR, 1377, has explicitly stated that the burden of proof to prove the plea in defense of the accused comes into play once the prosecution has proved the case against the accused. The prosecution must prove the case and the accused's guilt beyond reasonable doubt, regardless of whether the accused pleads not guilty.

### **Role of the Judiciary in Criminal Justice System**

The Judiciary is a crucial pillar of the state, and it has a tremendous responsibility to apply legal mind by referring relevant laws to announce judgments and provide relief to the concerned parties. The Judiciary has vast powers to interpret the Constitution and define the law's essence and the lawmaker's actual intent while enacting the laws. The law's true effectiveness is determined by the judgments delivered by the judges in various matters. From the citizen's point of view, the Judiciary is the highest organ of the state because it protects the people from the excesses of the legislative and executive bodies. The role of the Judiciary as the custodian of the Constitution and the people's fundamental rights makes it more honorable than the other two organs.

An independent, impartial, and efficient judicial system is essential for preserving the rule of law. It implies that courts, judges, and judicial personnel must be able to carry out their duties without being influenced, influenced, or restricted by any external force; any hindrance to the performance of their duties would impede the implementation of the law and the preservation of a harmonious

and just society. One element of justice is that the accused should be given a fair trial. Another element of justice is not only that justice should be done but that it should be done visibly and unquestionably.

All state institutions, per enshrined articles of the Constitution, are bound to support the Judiciary when needed. The apex court in Pakistan acts as the guardian and custodian of the Constitution. If any conflict or issues arise regarding jurisdiction between the center and the federating unit or between legislature and executive, the Supreme Court of Pakistan will decide. Suppose any law is enacted or assemblies pass the amendment (Nauman et al., 2020). In that case, the apex court has the power to declare unconstitutional or null and void if such law violates any articles of the Constitution (Siddiqi, 2019). One of the paramount roles of the Judiciary is to ensure that people's rights, enshrined in the Constitution, are not to be trampled by anyone or any organ of the state. Furthermore, higher courts also perform the function of supervising the subordinate courts in Pakistan.

The primary and fundamental purpose of the justice system is to provide justice to the people at any time they choose to approach it. The justice system sentences those guilty after trial for violating the state's laws or the people's rights. The state's laws give the person who has been wronged a chance to approach the justice system for redress and compensation. The right of fair trial clause is effectively invoked, punishment is awarded to the accused after due course of all, and the prosecution has to prove the guilt of the accused beyond reasonable doubt. In a democratic society, the judicial system always plays a dynamic role in formulating legislation. The law is determined by the judgments and decisions given by the courts. These judgments and decisions define the meaning, the context, the nature, and the broader scope of the legislation passed by the legislature. The interpretation of the legislation given by the judicial system constitutes lawmaking.

The critical function of the Judiciary is to provide justice to every rank and file and justice be done to the wrongdoer. It is also incumbent upon the Judiciary to follow the due course of law, and the right to a fair trial should be adopted. It punishes the person who, after, is seen as liable for transgressing or violating the laws of the land or inherent rights of the people.

The court's inherent power is deciphering and applying law to specific cases. Judges must interpret the Constitution article whenever the federal government or the President sends a reference. Sometimes, courts give lawmakers directions to make changes per the law. It is an acknowledged fact that the verdicts given by the courts accurately determine the significance, nature, and scope of the laws made by the lawmaking body. These interpretations are not controlled by parliament but rather define the law, making it one of the critical functions of the justice system. One of the fundamental duties of the justice system to interpret the law is to apply it to all cases that arise in society, whether it is between individual corporate companies or according to the separation of powers doctrine concerning the state and other branches of government.

Where enacted law or promulgated ordinance is quiet or vague or gives off an impression of conflicting with some other law that everyone must follow, the judges must rely on judicial wisdom and reasoning faculty to ascertain the true nature of lawmaking while enacting such laws.

The Judiciary is the guardian of the constitutions, and it is stated that the rule of law cannot be achieved or maintained without an independent, impartial, and effective Judiciary. The Judiciary has to act following the law and courts, and judges and judicial staff should do their work without any shadow of fear, influence, or pressure. They can restrict and not compromise on the dispense of justice. The Constitution is the supreme law of the land, and it is the massive responsibility of the Judiciary to interpret and protect it. For this purpose, the Judiciary can review any law to

determine whether it follows the Constitution's letter and spirit. If any law is found ultra vires (unconstitutional), it is rejected by the Judiciary and becomes invalid in the future. This power of the court is called the power of judicial review.

The powers of the Supreme Court are laid down in the Constitution, and the Judiciary has the inherent power to pass judgments, settle disputes, and enforce them. The Constitution gives the Judiciary the power to direct the executive to execute its decisions.

### **Reforms Needed in the Criminal Justice System**

We live in the digital era, and constant changes are necessary as the nature of crime and even the mode of the evidence has changed. However, we still follow colonial inherited laws, and such enacted laws favor the accused because of want of evidence and poor investigation. In the global index, Pakistan is ranked lowest in dispensing justice because the prevailing criminal justice system relieves influential and powerful persons, and the vulnerable segment of society suffers the worst (Baqir, 2023). Fair trial is treated as a fundamental right. It is incumbent upon the government and Judiciary, the guarantor of fundamental rights, to ensure they are fully implemented, and whoever infringes shall face the consequences as per law (S. Khan, 2023). Lack of accountability, lack of effective law enforcement, delays in disposal of cases, shortage of trained police officers, overloaded courts, especially trial courts, and poor prison conditions are some of the main reasons for the poor performance of the criminal justice system. Ironically, we are still in the same position as the Fraser Commission stated in 1902 that the Indian Police is "taken for granted and widely regarded as corrupt, oppressive and incapable of winning the trust and cooperation of the population." It is the picture that many present-day Indians have of the Police.

### **Reforms in Police**

All lawmakers and jurists agree that so many sections of the Pakistan Penal Code and CRPC are outdated and archaic, and the apex court has highlighted through observations and court orders and shown severe concerns. However, there needs to be seriousness from lawmakers to bring about reforms in order to make this law effective and make all Police officers accountable. The sad truth is that the image of the Police today is not one of protecting the innocent but providing relief to the people. It is becoming increasingly clear that the reform of the Police will only be possible if there is a strong partnership and coalition between the state, private sector, and civil society (Ranjah & Cheema, 2014). Without lasting partnerships and coalition building between the leading players, there is no chance of meaningful police reform (Levy et al., 2023). An educated and committed political leadership, strong public support, and an energized and well-informed civil society that demands higher standards of police performance are essential for real change.

The first and foremost responsibility of the government is to ensure that all organs of the state are functioning and performing their duties following the law. It is a vital role of the agencies responsible for enforcing the law in the country, maintaining peace and harmony to ensure that every rank and file who is aggrieved or suffers any injury or loss at the hands of others can present his case and seek justice.

Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), Criminal Code (CRPC), and Police Act have various outdated sections that are against the principles of democracy. Section 124-A, commonly known as the sedition law, should be deleted immediately in the PPC. There are around twenty-six sections in the PPC --- sections 268 to 294 --- which are directly linked to offenses that affect health, safety, convenience, decency, and morals. However, these sections do not provide the necessary punishment to match the gravity of the crime. It is necessary to update these sections. Section 182 of PPC (False

information to influence a public official to use his power to harm another person) provides imprisonment for a maximum of six months or a fine of Rs 1,000 or both. Section 4 of the Fisheries Act of 1897 provides that any person who uses dynamite or any explosive substance in water intending to catch or destroy fish shall be imprisoned for two months or to a fine of Rs 200. For example, under section 292, which deals with the sale of obscenities, etc., the penalty is imprisonment for six months or a fine of Rs1,000 or both.

The committee should be constituted, and all stakeholders should be effectively represented to share proposed changes. The exact details should be placed in the parliament for extensive discussion to create consensus among all stakeholders; such amended laws will minimize state suppression, which every government is doing against their political opponents.

The primary job of the Police is to keep the law and order in society and to prevent crime. It is not enough for the police officers or the echelon to administer justice but also to be fully responsible for all law-and-order-related activities. In a democratic society, no law upholds or protects police encounters, tortures in police custody, and the registration of false FIRs on political grounds. We must take concrete steps to ensure that the police force is professionally, operationally, functionally integrated, and organizationally responsible for all its activities.

Many people have real problems with the Police, such as unlawful arrest, illegal search, custodial killing, torturing in custody, corruption issues, and abuse of law to gain personal or political benefit. Efforts should be made to address these problems, and policy should be formulated to get the people's support and cooperation.

As technology advances, various models that work worldwide can be studied, and structural reforms need to be implemented to achieve positive outcomes and provide a basis for them. Providing technical assistance with high-quality policing systems is essential. There must be a national consensus on the plan for future reforms. Police reform cannot be achieved without considering the criminal justice system and society's political and social fabric.

The antagonistic attitude and the corruption activities should be weeded out, and human and professional training should be conducted to improve their image and respect in society (Mumtaz et al., 2020).

After the 18th amendment, law and order are the provinces' responsibility. However, The federal government appoints the federal government does police officers, transfers, and posts (Larson, 2019). So, Police officers are facing severe problems because of a lack of coordination between the people serving at the provincial and federal levels. The disconnection has adversely affected the coordination security problems. The lack of coordination still exists at the institutional level, where intelligence agencies negatively influence counterterrorism operations (Ranjha et al., 2019).

It is the exigency of the time to introduce incentive policy, and sufficient resources should be at their disposal to keep a vigilant eye and take action if necessary and within the legal jurisdiction.

### **Reforms in Prosecution**

The Independent Public Prosecutor department also plays a vital role in the criminal justice system. The prosecutor department should be established and maintained by the induction of well-trained lawyers with a clear mandate to play an active role in prosecution and investigation. Review of arrest procedures and laws to increase transparency and minimize the abuse of powers concerning PPC CRPC to contain Police excess.

Undoubtedly, the public prosecutor is the lynchpin of the criminal justice system. In criminal cases, after lodging an FIR case, the investigation is conducted to investigate the case collect evidence



and preserve facts presented in the court of law. As soon as the investigation is complete, the role of the public prosecutor starts as he has to appear on behalf of the state. In the era of technology where electronic gadgets and white and gold collars are involved and to track such culprits, investigations agencies need devices to enhance the skill of investigation officers and prosecutors. In the judgment of the learned court in the case of the State of Gujarat vs. Zaira Habibullah, the public prosecutor appeared before the court and behaved more like a defense lawyer rather than a public prosecutor who must present the truth before the court.

Still, there is much political interference in the posting and appointments of Prosecutors and advocate generals. They mainly represent the government rather than the state to prove the accused's guilt beyond reasonable doubt. In high-profile cases, offices are frequently changed during investigations, which badly affects the case's progress, and in myriad cases, the evidence is buried. FIR is lodged, but delay tactics are adopted to frame the charge sheet. Even final reports are sometimes not submitted in mandatory time, which always benefits the accused as the accused is a favorite child of the law (Beck & Mohamed, 2021). Until prosecutors are not well versed with laws and investigation is standing behind the prosecutor, the conviction ratio will be drastically low, as evident from NAB cases and other white-collar criminal cases.

It is admitted that the prosecution also plays a significant role in witnesses' identification during the trial, so the prosecution must perform his duties regarding exploring the truth and towards justice. However, due to rampant corruption, intrigues of politics and influence play a vital role in weakening the case by restricting the prosecutor's role or creating conditions that favor the accused (Sadiq, 2020; von Holdt, 2019). Sometimes, witnesses are turned hostile due to pressure, which weakens the case's position, and then the blame is leveled against prosecutors.

Public Prosecutors appear and serve the state, but their role is to substantiate evidence that a conviction is awarded to the accused, and they must prove the guilt of the accused beyond reasonable doubt. Training and guidance should be provided to the prosecutor so that he is not bound by law to support defective investigation and to defend the Police whereas facts otherwise. To focus on responsibilities to act impartial, truthful, fair manner, and adherent to the facts and law. The state is responsible for arranging training and focusing on the investigation and tools requisite for carrying on an investigation by adopting modern techniques and devices. Expectations must be weighed by keeping the ground realities: lack of independence, poor services, and lack of monitoring. Police are not cooperating and putting more burden on the prosecution to carry it because weak evidence and low convictions always go into the account of the prosecution. However, people need to take a more severe view of how the Investigation department is spoiling the crime scene and data, which is essential for the prosecution to present in a court of law to prove the guilt of the accused.

Prosecutors should determine and assess the evidence brought to them by the Investigation officer to decide whether to allege or drop the case. More than merely pursuing the case is required. Prosecutors represent the state, not an individual, so it is a massive responsibility of the prosecutor to assist the court in providing justice to the aggrieved person rather than incriminate the accused without having substantial evidence necessary to prove the guilt of the accused.

It is a massive responsibility of the prosecutor to convince or convey their viewpoint that in politically motivated cases, or where neutral investigation shows that fault to be unfounded, such case should be prosecuted because it tarnishes the image of the criminal justice system and provides an opportunity to the legal expert to raise their concerns regarding dispense of the justice.

All judges and prosecutors are appointed based on competitive exams with similar educational and legal backgrounds, with differences in their perks and privileges generating a feeling of professional inequality among prosecutors.

There is no lack of infrastructure to arrange training for prosecutors to get updated information about laws and technologies that are being used by other countries to trace crime and criminals and to protect crime scenes, which is an essential tool to find clues that are helpful for investigation. Prosecutors are reluctant to proceed with terrorist cases or white-collar criminals because of severe life threats, and the state has so far failed to provide adequate security to the prosecutors, so until and unless security is not provided, prosecutors will not perform their duties effectively.

The prosecutor's offices need more basic infrastructure facilities such as computers, printers, stationery, and other working facilities, which are prerequisites for prosecutors to focus on the cases. The lower staff is not incompetent and untrained and is always found in corrupt practices and receiving challans without the knowledge of concerned prosecutors.

It is also necessary that the role of the Police needs to be defined. Usually, it is observed that the Police are not cooperating with prosecutors, and even they are not bothered to visit the prosecutor's office to scrutinize their challan. Even when prosecutors return challan to the investigation officer for the removal of defects in the investigation, they do not remove them properly because either Investigation officers are under the influence to act what they are being told or their investigation could be better due to lack of expertise. Courts have repeatedly pointed out that investigation officers are not keen to conduct an investigation seriously and refrain from collecting valuable evidence at the place of occurrence. During the trial, the prosecutor has to rely on the given documents, and mainly, prosecutors fail to prove the accused's guilt beyond reasonable doubt. The duration of the trial should be fixed. In such a period, the prosecutor should not be changed to allow the prosecutor to prove the accused's guilt beyond reasonable doubt.

### **Reforms in Judiciary**

It is incumbent upon all political parties to create a consensus to bring about institutional reforms in order to strengthen democracy; otherwise, a fragile political system, shattering economy, poor governance, and absence of the rule of law will create political chaos, economic mess, and political instability resultantly country will be the brink of collapse (Wu & Ali, 2020). So it is exigency and need of time to take drastic efforts. All political parties shun their differences for the time being and sit around the table to bring about judicial and legal reforms and, in this regard guides, lines of the apex court, suggestions of the legal fraternity and civil be included to make it more comprehensive and provide an opportunity to the sitting government to implement it with the letter and spirit (Rendak & Eastman, 2006). The legal community and Judiciary cannot be held responsible for the poor administration of justice. All stakeholders should pay much attention and focus on playing an effective and decisive role to not only improve the image of the Judiciary but also to strengthen the system to dispense justice and focus their synergies on addressing issues creating hurdles in the dispense of the criminal justice system.

The implementation of the criminal justice system rests with three institutions, i.e., the Police, the courts, and the prison. Unfortunately, all three tiers are not adequately functioning, and people are quickly losing faith in the Judiciary and finding alternatives to seek redress (Kaplan, 2023). The role of the Police is very crucial as it is its primary duty to maintain law and order besides the safety and security of every rank and file (Harig, 2020). Police have to perform their activities to render justice in the Judiciary, which has acute and backlog crises as cases are piled up regularly (Sirokha et al., 2020). The Judiciary also bears the burden of other departments that need to be

fixed. It is a pity to quote that transfer and posting cases are being filed because neither the Service Tribunal nor department offices function accordingly. Mostly in criminal cases, people have the least faith in the Police, and it is generally observed that the Police are not well equipped with modern investigation tools to carry out investigations (Harig, 2020; Sirokha et al., 2020).

Furthermore, the Police department is saturated with corrupt, inefficient, and politically motivated appointees. It is also observed that Police usually send cases for trial without proper investigation (Asghar et al., 2022). The court acquitted more than 70 % of the accused because the Police and Prosecution failed to establish cases against the accused (Gayer & Russo, 2022). There is a significant failure of Prosecutors in highly lime lighted cases such as the June 2008 embassy bombing, the bombing at Merit Hotel Islamabad 2008 (Asghar et al., 2022; Mangi et al., 2020), the attack on the Police academy in Lahore 2009, and dawn (2021) quoted that the Daniel Pearl case and confidence of all and sundry in state institutions exclusively Police and Prosecution is weakened because public believe they have no efficiency and capability to gather concrete details or evidence to establish their guilt in the court beyond reasonable doubt (Ahmed et al., 2022). The Delhi High Court has rightly pointed out that the justice delivery system needs to be overhauled as people with low incomes do not receive timely justice in the higher courts, which are occupied with cases related to money or power (Jindal, 2021). Therefore, drastic reforms in the criminal justice system need to be implemented by involving all stakeholders and making changes per the articles of the Constitution (Rattan & Rattan, 2023).

It is a stark reality that an abysmally low conviction rate, which is not above 10 percent, reflects that investigation officers must be more efficient, capable, or reticent to perform their duties with due diligence. Furthermore, they are deprived of modern technology tools and lack access to essential data and digital gadgets to preserve data via electronic means (Salman et al., 2023). Prosecutors' professional efficiency and efficacy are not up to the mark, and on the other side, they are not involved in the investigation. Hence, they bear the heavy burden of Police to run the trials in the court. Reforms are not focused on judicial rights like independence and acquiescence but ensure quality service of social justice for Pakistani citizens.

- Now is the time to pay attention to the judges and the monitoring team to monitor what is happening in the lower court in the morning routine. The first hour of the morning is spent simply granting adjournments for most of the cases listed, most of which are criminal (Ghai, 2001). Police officers are absent from the court, reviewing the attached documents along with the petition, checking to see if copies have been served or served to the parties, and checking to see if affidavits or counter affidavits have been filed. It is a day-to-day administrative task that can be done by a young registrar or other trained court staff quickly. Judicial officers must bring fresh ideas when dealing with judicial matters to lighten the workload, and administrative tasks can be carried out after the break.
- Institutions should be made functional, and if need be, orders be passed by the apex court to reduce unnecessary litigation burden from the Judiciary. All departments should be urged to strengthen their accountability, and redresser grievances committees should be made to resolve staff-related issues (Robinson, 2011). Such matters should not be refereed unless necessary or there is a fundamental law violation.
- With the constellation of the High Courts, the Supreme Court should appoint effective, vigilant, focused, time-lime guidance to reduce an acute backlog of cases to restore the public confidence who are hesitant to approach speedy and inexpensive justice. Unnecessary delay, frequent strikes, and absence of legal counsel on the day of case hearing should be discouraged,

and unity between bar and bench should be created to resolve pending issues facing the Judiciary.

- It is admitted that delays in Pakistan's judicial system are not confined to the courts; pendency and backlog of cases are severe and endemic problems in Pakistan, and no guidelines or frantic efforts are being taken to emphasize tribunals to expedite and meet Statutory tribunals are functioning across the country (Ramzan & Mahmood, 2016). However, with the consultation of the Judiciary, the government prefers to appoint retired judges or senior advocates to exert their influence and influence, which can be seen in the decisions and pending high-profile cases or award sentences that sharply notwithstanding in the superior courts (M. Munir et al., 2022).
- Pending cases are clogging the courts, and many cases are present, such as cheating, cheque bouncing cases, land-related matters, landlord tenants, and illegal dispossession cases (Shah et al., 2014). Generally, it is common practice that defendants take advantage of the delay in the courts and create a situation that discourages the plaintiff/petitioner from pursuing the case due to frequent court hearing dates (Sifarish et al., 2023). There is a dire need to create harmony and a positive environment where all parties agree to create a consensus that there should be no delay in the cases and further strict fines be imposed if the petitioner fails to prove his case in court. It should be discretionary of the court to set a limit of fine.
- It is much concern that more cases are being filed compared to the disposal of the cases. Prime factors such as rapid industrialization and socio-economic changes lead to more financial and property disputes, and the government is filing more cases. Financial institutions and the tax department are facing severe concerns because the other side is relying more on interim orders and finding out the best ways to resolve issues that are tilted in their favor. Government officials are reluctant to appear in court or are not fully prepared to defend such cases (Shah et al., 2014), and they rely on government-appointed advocates; consequently, the state is on the defense side.
- Jurisdiction of High Courts was once the driving force behind Pakistan's legal system. However, that power has shifted with the advent of tribunals under specific enactments and the establishment of appellate bodies (Cheema, 2016). The Company Law Tribunal now governs company disputes, the Intellectual Property Board governs intellectual property, the Environmental Tribunal governs environmental disputes, and so on.
- It is important to note that the court hours must be followed, and all competent judges must be punctual. Lawyers appearing before the trial or the high court should request an adjournment unless necessary (Strasser, 2014). The grant of adjournment must be made, directed, or observed per order 17 of the Civil Procedure Code.
- It is a fact that thousands of cases are filed for similar reasons, and these cases are combined with the help of information technology and then processed on a priority basis to deliver one verdict/judgment to resolve many cases (Greenstein, 2022).
- The need to legislate or commit to deliver a judgment within a reasonable time is rising. In that regard, the Supreme Court guidelines must be strictly adhered to in civil and criminal matters. The judgments should be clear, unambiguous, accessible from ambiguities, and not lead to further litigation. The legal community should play its proper role and not resort to strike action under challenging circumstances and in the face of high pendency cases. They should come forward and play a vital role in imbibing spirit and make sure that the bench and bar are united in their efforts to get rid of the office within the given time and abide by the guidelines set by the Supreme Court in various cases.

- It is not only the High Court that suffers, but it is the litigant as well. A court operates with a certain degree of legal rigor, with an attachment to the rule of law and with time-tested traditions and procedures. A retired Judge runs a Tribunal, assisted or often hindered by members of the administration origin who have little knowledge of the law or the proper functioning of the legal adjudicative body. An observer must visit the court and then the Tribunal to see the difference between a court and a Tribunal. One is the legal body, and the other is not. The ethos, the functioning, the environment, the staffing, the judges, and the arguments are all different. Sometimes, the lawyers argue the case, and sometimes they do not. These tribunals are not forums to decide questions of law or legal application. The sooner they stop, the better! The High Courts will return to life.

## Conclusion

It is also consistently stated that there is an immediate desire to reform the criminal justice framework, particularly the detection of offenses by the Police and the court process. Consequently, the rate of conviction is falling at a breakneck pace. It was partly associated with a need for more consistent and efficient coordination among law enforcement authorities, termed the administration, the courts, and the Judiciary in particular, as well as the police and prosecutor departments. The position of the Police is essential to the nation and the planet. It is a very critical part of society. It is a mirror picture of the beliefs of culture. A job is successful if modified according to individual attitudes, actions, and dignity.

The conclusion of the research paper highlights the failure of the criminal justice system in Pakistan. It emphasizes that without drastic reforms, the system will continue to collapse. The paper identifies several reasons for the system's failure, including the lack of trust in the police and prosecution departments, lengthy and expensive trials, frivolous complaints and false FIRs, administrative inefficiencies, and the unfavorable attitude of the Police towards citizens. The role of the Police in the criminal justice system is also discussed, highlighting their crucial role in protecting society and acknowledging the trust deficit and allegations of corruption and political influence. The conclusion calls for significant reforms to address these issues and restore faith in the criminal justice system.

## References

- Afridi, N. (2021). The Current Status of Forensic Science and its Impact on Administration of Criminal Justice System in Pakistan: An Analytical Study. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3781586>
- Ahmed, T., Moulabuksh, M., International, M. M.-P. J. of, & 2022, U. (2022). Causes of terrorism: A case study of Karachi. *Pjia.Com.Pk*, 5(2). <http://pjia.com.pk/index.php/pjia/article/view/490>
- Albanese, J. (2014). *Organized Crime in Our Times*. In *Organized Crime in Our Times*. Routledge publishers. New York. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315721460>
- Ali, S. S. (2000). *Law, Islam and the Women's Movement in Pakistan*. *International Perspectives on Gender and Democratisation*, Women's Studies at York Series. Palgrave Macmillan, London. 41–63. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-349-62879-7\\_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-349-62879-7_3).
- Arajärvi, N. (2018). The Rule of Law in the 2030 Agenda. *Hague Journal on the Rule of Law*, 10(1), 187–217. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40803-017-0068-8>
- Asghar, U., Bhatti, S. H., & Adnan, S. M. (2022). The Criminal Justice System in Pakistan: A Critical Study. *Global Legal Studies Review*, 7(1), 1–9. [https://doi.org/10.31703/glsr.2022\(vii-](https://doi.org/10.31703/glsr.2022(vii-)

i).01

- Azeem, M. (2017). *Law, State and Inequality in Pakistan*. <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-981-10-3845-7.pdf>
- Baber, C., Smith, P., Cross, J., Hunter, J. E., & McMaster, R. (2006). Crime scene investigation as distributed cognition. *Pragmatics & Cognition*, 14(2), 357–385. <https://doi.org/10.1075/pc.14.2.14bab>
- Baqir, F. (2023). *Civil Society and Pakistan's Economy: Robber Barons and Meritocracy*. In *Civil Society and Pakistan's Economy: Robber Barons and Meritocracy*. Routledge publishers. London. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003302896>
- Beatty, D. M. (2010). *The Ultimate Rule of Law*. In *The Ultimate Rule of Law*. Oxford online edition. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199269808.001.0001>
- Beck, E., & Mohamed, A. (2021). A Body Speaks: State, Media, and Public Responses to Femicide in Guatemala. *Laws*, 10(3). <https://doi.org/10.3390/laws10030073>
- Bozhinovski, A. (2015). The Influence Of Magna Carta Libertatum In The Development Of The Principle Of Rule Of Law. *SEEU Review*, 11(1), 175–182. <https://doi.org/10.1515/seur-2015-0021>
- Cheema, S. A. (2016). Trial of DNA Evidence in Pakistani Courts: An Analysis. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2704211>
- Faith, K. (2011). *Unruly Women: The Politics of Confinement & Resistance*. <https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=mztYEksuvrkC&oi=fnd&pg=PT9&dq=%22In+Pakistan%22+In+the+criminal+justice+system,+the+Police+plays+a+sheet+anchor+role+in+protecting+society+from+criminals+and+those+doing+wrong+because+it+is+the+department+that+i>
- Franklin, C. N. K. (2023). *A Legal Cultural "Take" on the Legal System of England and Wales*. *Handbook on Legal Cultures*. Routledge publishers. London. 327–388. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-27745-0\\_10](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-27745-0_10)
- Gayer, L., & Russo, S. (2022). Lets beat crime together: Corporate Mobilizations for Security in Karachi. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 46(4), 594–613. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-2427.13084>
- Ghai, Y. (2001). *Human Rights and Social Development Toward Democratization and Social Justice* (Issue 5). [https://www.ucl.ac.uk/dpu-projects/drivers\\_urb\\_change/urb\\_governance/pdf\\_democ\\_empower/UNRISD\\_Ghai\\_HR\\_and\\_Social\\_Development.pdf](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/dpu-projects/drivers_urb_change/urb_governance/pdf_democ_empower/UNRISD_Ghai_HR_and_Social_Development.pdf)
- Greenstein, S. (2022). Preserving the rule of law in the era of artificial intelligence (AI). *Artificial Intelligence and Law*, 30(3), 291–323. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10506-021-09294-4>
- Hamza Ali, S. (2015). An Analytical Study of Criminal Justice System of Pakistan (with special reference to the Province of Punjab). *Journal of Political Studies*, 22(1), 42. [http://pu.edu.pk/images/journal/pols/pdf-files/2 - SARDAR ALI HAMZA\\_22\\_2015.pdf](http://pu.edu.pk/images/journal/pols/pdf-files/2 - SARDAR ALI HAMZA_22_2015.pdf)
- Harig, C. (2020). Soldiers in police roles. *Policing and Society*, 30(9), 1097–1114. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10439463.2019.1650745>
- Jindal, R. (2021). Delays and pendency of court's cases in India - An analysis. *PalArch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt / Egyptology*, 18(08), 1763–1774. <https://archives.palarch.nl/index.php/jae/article/view/9013>
- Jones, R., & Wyn Jones, R. (2022). *The Welsh Criminal Justice System*. <https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=iPGcEAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PT9&dq=C>

onstitutional+reforms,+along+with+the+criminal+justice+system,+had+not+only+aided+in+establishing+their+writ+in+the+vanquished+territory+&ots=2EvJwTL65h&sig=1EQItFlvIjfl71f8RG0hl4T

- Kaplan, E. (2023). *Mediation and the Criminal Justice System: a growing need for a viable alternative to court litigation*. <https://open.uct.ac.za/handle/11427/37431>
- Kazmi, S. R. A. S. (n.d.). Democratic policing and policing in practice: A comparative study of principles and policing in practices at Police Station Shehzad Town, Islamabad. *Academia.Edu*. Retrieved October 11, 2023, from [https://www.academia.edu/download/34269070/Rashid\\_Kazmi\\_Thesis\\_M.\\_Phil\\_Anthropology\\_QAU\\_\\_2013-\\_Democratic\\_policing\\_and\\_policing\\_in\\_practice\\_A\\_comparative\\_study\\_of\\_princ.pdf](https://www.academia.edu/download/34269070/Rashid_Kazmi_Thesis_M._Phil_Anthropology_QAU__2013-_Democratic_policing_and_policing_in_practice_A_comparative_study_of_princ.pdf)
- Khan, M. P. (2020). Theoretical Framework for Reforming the Criminal Justice System in Pakistan. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3622927>
- Khan, S. (2023). Insecure Guardians: Enforcement, Encounters, and Everyday Policing in Post-Colonial Karachi. In *Policing and Society*, 33(5). <https://doi.org/10.1080/10439463.2023.2185616>
- Kok, J. K., Pheh, K. S., & Hor, G. L. (2018). Psychological and social factors of depression recovery: A narrative review. *Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 26(1), 41–58. [http://psasir.upm.edu.my/id/eprint/60250/1/JSSH Vol. 26 %281%29 Mar. 2018 %28View Full Journal%29.pdf#page=57](http://psasir.upm.edu.my/id/eprint/60250/1/JSSH%20Vol.%2026%281%29%20Mar.%202018%28View%20Full%20Journal%29.pdf#page=57)
- Lari, M. Z. (2011). “Honour Killings” in Pakistan and Compliance of Law. *Aurat Foundation*, 1–84. [https://www.af.org.pk/pub\\_files/1366345831.pdf](https://www.af.org.pk/pub_files/1366345831.pdf)
- Larson, S. J. (2019). Essentials of public service: An introduction to contemporary public administration. *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 25(3), 423–425. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15236803.2018.1511103>
- Levy, B. L. M., Busey, C. L., Cuenca, A., Evans, R. W., Halvorsen, A. L., Ho, L. C., Kahne, J., Kissling, M. T., Lo, J. C., McAvoy, P., & McGrew, S. (2023). Social studies education research for sustainable democratic societies: Addressing persistent civic challenges. *Theory and Research in Social Education*, 51(1), 1–46. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00933104.2022.2158149>
- Mangi, D., Khan, R., & Jatoi, S. (2020). *The Importance of Forensic Protocols with the Role of. Global Social Science Review*. 5(2). 504-515. <https://www.humapub.com/admin/alljournals/gssr/papers/ePrTrD8T5S.pdf>
- Mawby, R. C., & Worrall, A. (2013). *Doing probation work: Identity in a criminal justice occupation*. In *Doing Probation Work: Identity in a Criminal Justice Occupation*. Routledge Publishers, London. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203107409>
- Mumtaz, M., Khan, A., & Alam, I. (2020). Good Governance in Pakistan: Parameters, Causes and Measures. *Pakistan Vision*, 21(1), 319–336. [http://pu.edu.pk/images/journal/studies/PDF-FILES/23\\_v21\\_1\\_20.pdf](http://pu.edu.pk/images/journal/studies/PDF-FILES/23_v21_1_20.pdf)
- Munir, M. (2022). The Role of Shari‘a in the Legal System of Pakistan. In *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4010134>
- Munir, R., Abbas, R. Z., & Arshed, N. (2021a). DNA profiling and databasing: An analysis of issues and challenges in the criminal justice system of Pakistan. *Medicine, Science and the Law*, 61(1), 27–33. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0025802420964318>
- Munir, R., Abbas, R. Z., & Arshed, N. (2021b). DNA profiling and databasing: An analysis of issues and challenges in the criminal justice system of Pakistan. *Medicine, Science and the*

- Law*, 61(1), 27–33. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0025802420964318>
- Reayat, N., Shah, A., M., Kaleem, M. & Shah, S. A. (2020). the Supreme Court of Pakistan and Institutionalization: the Case Study of National Reconciliation Ordinance. *International Journal of Management Research and Emerging Sciences*, 10(2), 129–141. <https://doi.org/10.56536/ijmres.v10i2.89>
  - Peerenboom, R. (2005). Asian Discourses of Rule of Law. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.445820>
  - Perito, R., & Parvez, T. (2013). *Empowering the Pakistan police*. <https://www.academia.edu/download/52661898/SR332-Empowering-the-Pakistan-Police-2.pdf>
  - Ramzan, M., & Mahmood, K. (2016). Rationalizing Alternate Dispute Resolution in Pakistan. *International IJRSS* 6(1). [https://www.pips.gov.pk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Rationalizing\\_Alternate\\_Dispute\\_Resolution\\_IJRSS\\_V6\\_I1\\_Jan\\_2016.pdf](https://www.pips.gov.pk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Rationalizing_Alternate_Dispute_Resolution_IJRSS_V6_I1_Jan_2016.pdf)
  - Ranjah, Z. U., & Cheema, S. A. (2014). Protection of legal status of women in Pakistan: An analysis of the role of Supreme Court. *International Journal of Physical and Social Sciences*, 4(4), 615–627. [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2422496](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2422496)
  - Ranjha, A. N., Gill, A. R., & Mahmood, A. (2019). Enhancing Police Response to Community: A Study of Victim Response Officers in Bahawalpur Region. *Pakistan Journal of Criminology*, 11(3), 61–78. <https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=i3h&AN=142017387&site=ehost-live>
  - Rattan, J., & Rattan, V. (2023). Role of Information and Communication Technologies in the Metamorphosis of Justice Administration in India: A Legal Study. *Indian Journal of Public Administration*, 69(1), 72–86. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00195561221109048>
  - Rendak, N., & Eastman, D. (2006). Chapter 9. *Legal and Judicial Reform: Recent Developments and Prospects* (p. 118). International Monetary Fund. <https://www.elibrary.imf.org/display/book/9781589064447/ch009.xml>
  - Riggs, F. W. (2019). *Bureaucratic links between administration and politics. Handbook of Comparative and Development Public Administration, Second Edition, Revised and Expanded*, 933–960. <https://doi.org/10.1201/noe0824723699-c5>
  - Robinson, N. (2011). Expanding Judiciaries: India and the Rise of the Good Governance Court. *SSRN Electronic Journal*, 8. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.1126364>
  - Sadiq, E. (2020). Anti-Corruption Investigation Agencies in Pakistan: an Appraisal. *Ndu.Edu.Pk*, 47–73. <https://ndu.edu.pk/issra-papers/articles/issrapapers2020/04.ANTI-CORRUPTION-INVESTIGATION.pdf>
  - Said, M. H., Shahid, M., Afridi, J., Phil, M., Khan, A., Pakhtunkhwa, K., Ahmad, M., Muhammad, M., Khan, A., Khan, R. A., Hayat, M., Phil, K. M., & Feroz, S. (2020). Role Of Kp Police In The Establishment Of Peace And Prosperity, What Is The Relationship Of Civilian With Police. *Ilkogretim-Online.Org*, 19(3), 4247–4257. <https://doi.org/10.17051/ilkonline.2020.03.735577>
  - Malik, S. (2018). Security Sector Reforms in Pakistan: Significance, Challenges and Impediments. *Strategic Studies*, 38(3), 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.53532/ss.038.03.00141>
  - Salman, V., Nazuk, A., & Taimur, E. (2023). Technology adoption in Islamabad Police. *Rasta.Pide.Org.Pk*. [https://rasta.pide.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/Verda\\_Salman\\_Research\\_Paper.pdf](https://rasta.pide.org.pk/wp-content/uploads/Verda_Salman_Research_Paper.pdf)



- Shabbir, S. S. (2022). Delay Defeats Criminal Justice in Pakistan. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4097930>
- Shah, R. U., Khan, S. U., & Farid, S. (2014). Causes for Delay in Civil Justice in Lower Courts of Pakistan: A Review. *Pakistan Journal of Criminology*, 6(1), 47. <http://www.pjcriminology.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/4-15.pdf>
- Shahzad, D. J. A., Ahmad, P. D. M., & Qasim, M. (2022). Effectiveness of Criminal Trial in Pakistan. *International Research Journal of Management and Social Sciences*, 3(1), 58–66. [https://doi.org/10.53575/irjmss.v3.1\(22\)7.58-66](https://doi.org/10.53575/irjmss.v3.1(22)7.58-66)
- Siddiqi, F. (2019). Application Of The Principles Of Fair Play, Natural Justice And Due Process, In Guardianship / Child Custody Proceedings. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3445382>
- Siddiqua, B. A. (1994). *Development of the Law of Evidence in Pakistan and Bangladesh With Special Reference to Witness Testimony*. <https://search.proquest.com/openview/928133663aac88e0146952016239cd5f/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=2026366&diss=y>
- Sifarish, S., & Liaquat, M. (2023). Examining the impact of criminal laws in Pakistan: A case study of crime rates and punitive measures. *Russianlawjournal.Org*, 11(5), 11. <https://russianlawjournal.org/index.php/journal/article/view/2736>
- Sirokha, D., Felyk, V., Podorozhnii, Y., & Podorozhnii, A. (2020). Basic aspects of the compliance with discipline and legitimacy within the official activities of police. *Amazonia Investiga*, 9(25), 487–492. <https://www.amazoniainvestiga.info/index.php/amazonia/article/view/1098>
- Spano, R. (2021). The rule of law as the lodestar of the European Convention on Human Rights: The Strasbourg Court and the Independence of the judiciary. *Revista de Derecho Politico*, 112, 265–296. <https://doi.org/10.5944/RDP.112.2021.32222>
- Strasser, P. G. (2014). The Evolving Pakistani Criminal Justice System: A Study of the Raymond Davis Matter. *Tulane Journal of International & Comparative Law*, 23, 107–149. [http://www.chaffe.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/The-Evolving-Pakistani-Criminal-Justice-System\\_A-Study-of-the-Raymond-Davis-Matter.pdf](http://www.chaffe.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/The-Evolving-Pakistani-Criminal-Justice-System_A-Study-of-the-Raymond-Davis-Matter.pdf)
- Stromseth, B. E. (2007). Pursuing Accountability for Atrocities After Conflict: What Impact on Building the Rule of Law? *Georgetown Journal of International Law*, 38(2), 251–322. <https://heinonline.org/HOL/License>
- Elsuwege, V. P., & Gremmelprez, F. (2020). Protecting the Rule of Law in the EU Legal Order: A Constitutional Role for the Court of Justice. *European Constitutional Law Review*, 16(1), 8–32. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1574019620000085>
- Holdt, V. K. (2019). The Political Economy of Corruption: Elite-formation, factions and violence. *Researchgate.Net*, February, 32. [https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/de7bea\\_0590611beee14069a0e98f83dd26e9ae.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/de7bea_0590611beee14069a0e98f83dd26e9ae.pdf)
- Wu, X., & Ali, S. (2020). The Novel Changes in Pakistan's Party Politics: Analysis of Causes and Impacts. *Chinese Political Science Review*, 5(4), 513–533. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41111-020-00156-z>