

Editorial: Policing Political Protest: Problematizing the Limits of Law and the Notion of Administrative Neutrality

The growing incidents of civil and political protests in Pakistan since the Lawyers' Movement, a decade and a half ago, call into question the role and ethics of policing. The trend raises various issues that I will highlight here for future research into the matter. Foremost, as Stott and Radburn (2021) in their study "Understanding crowd conflict: social context, psychology and policing" in their recent article in the *Current Opinion in Psychology* point out that police forces have to be cognizant of the psychology of mob in reining in political and civil protests. However, more importantly, the authors suggest that police officials should show willingness to understand and accommodate social identity and anxieties of various social groups. There is a need to develop policing practices informed by local knowledge that work in the context of Pakistan and the type of protest that law enforcement faces.

The second issue to ponder for future research, both for practitioners as well as for academicians, is what Della Porta, Donatella, and Olivier Fillieule (2004) describe as the confusion where political elite justify calling police into action in the name of 'law and order' and the protestors calling the police action repression. In a democratic system that allows for expression of discontent with the government's actions and policies, civil and political protest is usually understood as the manifestation of fundamental rights. However, there are also limits to how groups can express such discontent. How should a group of people protest legally is not always clear and therefore this confusion often results in misconceptions about police action. In Pakistan, we need practical approaches to ensuring that law enforcement maintains law and order and the normal functioning of the society without appearing to be the tool of the powerful.

Third, the recent protests by various political parties that are vying for power at the provincial and federal levels also call into question the idea of the administrative neutrality of police forces. It has been seen in the past that police officials have been penalized by succeeding governments in various

ways for carrying out the directives of the incumbent government. There is a need for a discussion around how can such treatment of law enforcement officials creates ground for long term politicization of law enforcement and how the same can be avoided.

Keeping with the tradition, this issue of the Journal casts a broad focus and includes a number of topical as well as theoretical perspectives. Tareq Al-Billeh writes about the Jordanian legal controls of the crime of publishing a program on the internet to cancel or delete others to access data or information system or canceling in the Jordanian legislation. The study concluded that it does not require availability of the specific intent of the specific motive for perpetrating the crime of publishing programs on the Internet. Dr. Noor IssaAlhindi and Asembani explore the subjective properties of Arabic speech in the criminal legal proof. The authors point out that this sophisticated legal mechanism, adopted by many developed countries such as America and the Britain. The authors concluded that the verbal image is a means through which the relation of speech to the speaker can be reached since it stems from the structure of the speaker and his circumstances.

Ahmad Mohammad El-refaie and Ahmad Hussein Alsharqawi examine the legal provisions set for environmental pollution of crime in Jordan as stated by the Environmental Protection Law No. 6 of 2017 and its amendments. By using analytical method to analyze the provisions of the legal articles related to the study in Jordan legal and judicial trends, the authors concluded that from Jordanian legislative point of view environment is composed of two elements i.e. one natural and the other artificial. Muhammad Ifzal Mehmoodet. al, juxtapose corporal punishment in Pakistan education system and law with that of Islamic law. The scholar note that the use of corporal punishment to discipline children remains one of the last holdouts of old-fashioned childrearing in most of the countries. The study concludes that Islamic law permits corporal punishment of children but under certain conditions, however first it instructs to focus on educating children in an environment of love and affection.

Another article focusing on child protection is written by Ganna Sobko, et. al. The article studies theoretical and practical aspects related to criminal liability for failure to perform child protection responsibilities by persons entrusted with these responsibilities. The study analyzes the case law and identifies gaps in the criminal liability legislation that affect the lack of social responsibility of persons in charge of a child care. Noor Issa Alhendi and Muamar Hassan Salameh explore the role of forensic medicine in the criminal investigation. The author's point out that besides forensic medicines, forensic experts occupy a high place in conducting the investigation. They highlighted that forensic doctor performs a dual function i.e. the medical advisor to the administrative and judicial authorities.

An interesting article by Noor Sanauddin et. al, explores the rising suicide trends among youth in district *Chitral* of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. The author analyzed case histories and official statistics of the victims by using Durkheim's theory of suicide and existing literature. They highlighted that the culture, traditions and festivals which once used to give socio-cultural identity to the individuals turn weak and so do the bonds and the meanings necessary for keeping individuals into a cohesive whole. The study of Hamza Abu Issa and Muhammad Shibli analyses the importance of motive element in committing crimes, principally the homicide crimes. The article sought to address the avenge motive and considered as one of the most important motivational models. The authors adopted various approaches for data collection and analysis. The author concluded from a number of data sources that premeditated avenge crimes is on the decline in Jordan.

In the paper of Nazirullah et. al, they undertake a qualitative study by using thematic analysis technique to explore the honor killing and penalties in criminal law for accusers with the narrative of Islamic lawyers and victims. The study concluded that honor killing accusers should be punished in society, and it is recommended that legislative acts should be considered mandatory in the constitution for the honor killing accuser. The study of Kamran Shahzad focuses on security challenges faced by Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in humanitarian works in Sindh, Pakistan. The author adopted a cross

sectional approach in highlighting the importance and effectiveness of humanitarian aid work in Sindh, Pakistan.

Two short essays written by Kamran Adil (PSP) are also included in the issue. The first essay of Kamran Adil about is adjudicating to reform the criminal justice system of Pakistan in the line of Nelson Mandela rules. The author argues for reforming the criminal justice system of Pakistan as in line with the international criminal justice system. The second essay of Kamran Adil analyzes the US Supreme Court judgment of the *ROE v. WADE TO DOBBS v. JACKSON*. In the end of the essay, the author conclude that the West needs to understand that all societies and civilizations have their own dynamics, which must be respected. Inclusive global practices will foster an order that will help the humanity to prosper and progress.

As always, we encourage the readers to reach out to us with comments and suggestions. We try our best to avoid errors. However, we appreciate it when our readers point out errors and omissions.

FarhatUllah, PhD
Guest Editor
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