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#### **EDITORIAL NOTE**

Premier Law Journal (PLJ) is a research Journal published by Premier Research Center, Premier Law College Gujranwala in English Language. This is a 3<sup>rd</sup> volume, issue 11, which is going to be published in Sep, 2023. It is a quarterly Journal dedicated to provide original research articles in Legal Studies as well as analysis and commentary on issues related to Legal & Social Issues. This Journal brings together many of today's distinguished scholars and thinkers, practicing lawyers, teachers and students making their research available on Current Issues need to be legislated in Pakistan.

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Wajid Ali's paper analyzes the fundamental rights frameworks under the original Indian and Pakistani constitutions from the perspective of conformity with international human rights standards articulated in the International Bill of Rights. This research suggests that further structural reform is imperative in both countries to fully integrate international human rights principles into constitutional frameworks, limit arbitrary derogation of rights and expand state obligations towards vulnerable sections.

**Shabnum Amanat's** article presents briefly the opportunities that were restricted to access to the court system before Pakistan's independence. This article lays down principally two significant implications: "governmental sovereign legitimacy" and "guaranteeing of fundamental rights." This paper eventually affects how well fundamental rights are protected, which was the PIL's goal.

Hafiza Madiha Shehzadi analysis the maxim "Nemo moriturus praesumiturmentire" that is basis for "dying declaration" "This study will look at the value of the deathbed statement as evidence in various nations, which is one of the most important pieces of evidence. This study will also examine the proper format for a declaration of intent to die. Which documents should be utilized to declare one's impending death?

Rana Zaheer-ud-Din Ahmad's article leads a careful assessment of the laid out security gave to strict minorities in India and Pakistan. The attention is on contrasting the established arrangements of the two countries and distinguishing positive components for minority security. This article dives into the sacred shields proposed to strict minorities in the two countries, with an essential spotlight on their separate established provisions.

Omar Mahmood Wattoo's article explores the impact of international human rights treaties on Pakistan's criminal justice system. It highlights the historical context of Pakistan's commitment to these treaties and their influence on legislation and legal reforms.

Dr. Muhammad Amin The Editor

# EXAMINING FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS REGIMES: A COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL BILL OF RIGHTS AND THE INDIAN AND

#### WAJID ALI\* DR. SHAHID RIZWAN BAIG\*\*

**Abstract**; This paper analyzes the fundamental rights frameworks under the original Indian and Pakistani constitutions from the perspective of conformity with international human rights standards articulated in the International Bill of Rights. Doctrinal legal research and comparative analysis are employed to study the two national charters relative to the global rights paradigm. The study is limited to the constitutional text available online. Significant commonality is observed between the civil and political rights under the constitutions and rights enshrined in major UN human rights treaties. However, gaps are identified on socio-economic entitlements and rights of vulnerable sections. Another finding is the broader limitations allowed on exercise of certain freedoms in Pakistan compared to India. progressive in adopting certain economic rights, the Indian constitution also permits expansive restrictions indicating a balanced approach between liberties and regulation. The research suggests that further structural reform is imperative in both countries to fully integrate international human rights principles into constitutional frameworks, limit arbitrary derogation of rights and expand state obligations towards vulnerable sections.

**Keywords:** Fundamental Rights, International Bill of Rights, Indian Constitution, Pakistan Constitution

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#### Introduction;

With the formation of independent India and Pakistan in 1947, the constitutional framers were presented with the opportunity to break from colonial governance models and enshrine an indigenous rights reflective of national identity paradigm developmental needs. The traumatic partition shaped the divergent trajectories pursued by both nations, though they shared the common challenge of designing constitutional schemes to uphold civil liberties within a post-colonial context. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)<sup>1</sup> adopted in 1948 provided the earliest universal benchmark, further strengthened by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) in 1966.<sup>2</sup> Together they comprise the International Bill of Rights setting global standards on the rights that all human beings are entitled to by virtue of their innate dignity. This paper undertakes a structured doctrinal analysis of the fundamental rights frameworks under the Indian Constitution of 1950 and the 1973 Constitution of Pakistan. It employs qualitative comparative techniques to evaluate conformity with international bill of rights on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR): United Nations. (1948). Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR):United Nations General Assembly. (1966). International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

key parameters of civil-political rights, socio-economic entitlements and protection of vulnerable groups. The study holds contemporary policy relevance amidst global criticism of human rights compliance and domestic debates on constitutional reform.<sup>3</sup>

#### 1.1 The International Bill of Rights Paradigm

The UDHR, ICCPR and ICESCR articulate an extensive charter of human rights encompassing civilpolitical freedoms, social welfare entitlements, equality, non-discrimination and dignity. Key civil and political rights under these treaties include right to life, liberty and due process, equality before law, freedoms of opinion, expression, assembly, association, movement, residence, and rights of accused. The ICESCR guarantees crucial socio-economic rights including right to work, social security, adequate standard of living including food, clothing and housing, health, education and culture. Rights of vulnerable sections like women, children, minorities, migrant workers are addressed across various provisions. Certain rights are made non-derogable even during public emergencies. Thus, the International Bill of Rights establishes threshold global standards on the fundamental rights and freedoms accorded to all human beings regardless of nationality or jurisdiction.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Baruah, Sanjib. "Nationalizing space: Cosmetic federalism and the politics of development in Northeast India." *Development and Change* 34, no. 5 (2003): 915-939.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Lord, Janet E., and Rebecca Brown. "The role of reasonable accommodation in securing substantive equality for persons with disabilities: The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities." In *Critical perspectives on human rights and disability law*, pp. 273-307. Brill Nijhoff, 2010.

#### 1.2 Constitution of Pakistan

The Constitution of Pakistan was promulgated in 1973 and is the supreme law of the land. It established Pakistan as an Islamic republic and provides for a parliamentary system of government.

Chapter 1 of Part II of the Constitution deals with fundamental rights of citizens. This Chapter of the constitution strengthened many of the rights provided in earlier 1956 and 1962 constitutions. Some key additions were right to fair trial, inviolability of dignity of man, right to information, and right to education. There are still certain aspects like full gender equality that can be further strengthened. As Pakistan's supreme law, the constitution guides protection of fundamental rights, though additional legislative and judicial reforms are needed for full realization of these rights.

In summary, these fundamental rights aim to ensure security, equality and dignity for all citizens while allowing reasonable restrictions in certain cases in the public interest.<sup>5</sup>

#### 1.3 Constitution of India

The Indian Constitution is the supreme law of India and lays out the framework defining fundamental political principles, structure, procedures, powers, and duties of government institutions. It also sets out fundamental rights, directive principles, and duties of citizens.

Fundamental Rights are enshrined in Part III of the Constitution of India. The Fundamental Rights are a set

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Nelson, Matthew J. "Indian basic structure jurisprudence in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan: Reconfiguring the constitutional politics of religion." *Asian Journal of Comparative Law* 13, no. 2 (2018): 333-357.

of civil liberties guaranteed to all citizens of India regardless of race, religion, status or gender. They act as limitations on state power and ensure no law passed by the state can infringe on these rights.<sup>6</sup>

#### 2. OVERVIEW OF RIGHTS

#### 2.1 Civil and Political Rights

#### **Right to Equality and Non-Discrimination**

Articles 14-18 under the Indian charter guarantee equality before law, prohibit discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth and abolish untouchability. In Pakistan, Articles 25-27 similarly assure equality of citizens and non-discrimination in public access based on religion, race, caste, sex etc. Thus, both frameworks comply with ICCPR and UDHR provisions on equality and non-discrimination. However, by explicitly abolishing untouchability, India's constitution indicates sensitivity to egregious discrimination faced by marginalized castes. Pakistan's text does not address this issue even though UN treaties uphold equality for disadvantaged groups.<sup>7</sup>

#### Right to Life and Liberty

The right to life and personal liberty is recognized under Article 21 of the Indian constitution and Article 9 of Pakistan's constitution. However, preventive detention

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Sahoo, Abhijit, and Tusarkanta Pattanaik. "Making of the constitution of India: A critical analysis." *Odisha Review* 7 (2015).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Parashar, Sakshi. "Affirmative Action and Social Discrimination: A Functional Comparative Study of India, USA and South Africa." In *Comparative Approaches in Law and Policy*, pp. 171-187. Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore, 2023.

legislation is subject to stricter requirements in India compared to more permissive standards under Pakistan's original constitutional text. Only 3 months detention without charges is permitted in Pakistan versus elaborate procedural checks in India, bringing the latter closer to ICCPR safeguards.<sup>8</sup>

#### Fair Trial

Articles 10 and 10A of Pakistan's constitution guarantee due process rights of the accused including access to counsel, speedy trial, presumption of innocence etc. identical to Article 22 under Indian constitution. Both adhere to fair trial norms under ICCPR and UDHR. However, India also constitutionally abolished retroactive criminalization and self-incrimination under Article 20 which is absent in Pakistan.<sup>9</sup>

#### Freedom of Expression and Religion

Freedoms of speech, assembly, association, movement, residence and profession are guaranteed under Articles 15-19 in Pakistan and Articles 19-22 in India subject to reasonable restrictions, indicating conformity with ICCPR. However, Pakistan's text omits explicit p Rahman, Muhammad Mahbubur. "Right to Life as a Fundamental Right in the Constitutional Framework of India, Bangladesh and Pakistan: An Appraisal." *Dhaka Univ. Stud. Part F* 17 (2006): 143.rotection for press freedom which is guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) in India. Further, grounds for limiting rights in India are specified as public order,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Rahman, Muhammad Mahbubur. "Right to Life as a Fundamental Right in the Constitutional Framework of India, Bangladesh and Pakistan: An Appraisal." *Dhaka Univ. Stud. Part F* 17 (2006): 143.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Ahmed, N., B. Munir, and A. N. Khan. "An Assessment of Right to Fair Trial Under the." (2020).

morality etc. whereas Pakistan has an open-ended limitations clause potentially enabling overreach. Both constitutions ensure freedom of religion and rights of religious minorities broadly in line with UN treaties.<sup>10</sup>

#### 2.2 Socio-Economic Rights

A key point of divergence is the inclusion of directive principles of state policy under Articles 38-51 in the Indian constitution and Articles 29-40 in the constitution Pakistan which mandate the state to strive for securing socio-economic welfare including adequate livelihood, equitable distribution of material resources, public health, just legal order etc. These provide the constitutional basis for subsequent legislation on positive entitlements though not directly enforceable. Thus, both nations fall short of fully complying with welfare rights under ICESCR. <sup>11</sup>

## 2.3 Rights of Minorities, Women and Children Protections for Minorities

Beyond formal non-discrimination rights, additional safeguards for religious and cultural rights of minorities are addressed in Articles 29-30 in the Indian constitution. Pakistan's constitution lacks similar elaborations of minority rights. India's protections for minority institutions are argued to be a response to apprehensions of marginalization and assimilation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>Eley, Geoffrey. "Nations, publics, and political cultures: Placing Habermas in the nineteenth century." (1990).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1111</sup>Merlan, Francesca. "Indigeneity: Global and local." *Current anthropology* 50, no. 3 (2009): 303-333.

expressed by minority communities during the constitution drafting.<sup>12</sup>

#### **Rights of Women**

Both constitutions originally permitted only limited non-discrimination rights for women such as equal access to public spaces under Article 26 in Pakistan and special state provisions favoring women under Article 15 in India. Explicit rights to gender equality and non-discrimination on grounds of sex were incorporated decades later through amendments in Pakistan and judicial interpretation in India. This indicates that gender equality was not prioritized at the outset by both nations, falling short of standards under CEDAW. Malik, Iftikhar H. *Religious minorities in Pakistan*. Vol. 6. London: Minority rights group international, 2002.<sup>13</sup>

#### **Rights of Children**

While prohibiting child labor under the age of 14 years, the Indian charter goes further in advancing rights of children by mandating free and compulsory education as a fundamental right under Article 45. Under article 25A Pakistan's constitution has similar provisions for education entitlements and child welfare. Thus, both constitutions are closer to rights of the child under the CRC though extensive lacunae remain in fully adopting global standards.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Sodani, Priyanshi, and Ashwarya Sharma. "The Principle of Non Discrimination as a Vehicle for the Protection of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights." *Issue 5 Int'l JL Mgmt. & Human.* 5 (2022): 480.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>Malik, Iftikhar H. *Religious minorities in Pakistan*. Vol. 6. London: Minority rights group international, 2002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>Weiner, Myron. *The child and the state in India: Child labor and education policy in comparative perspective*. Princeton University Press, 1991.

#### 3. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

The comparison of the human rights in the International Bill of Rights and the fundamental rights in the Constitutions of Pakistan and India:

#### 3.1 Similarities

- Right to equality and non-discrimination
- Right to life and liberty
- Prohibition of slavery, forced labor, human trafficking
- Freedom of speech, expression, assembly, association
- Freedom of movement and residence
- Right to fair trial and due process
- Right to religion and conscience
- Rights of minorities and vulnerable groups
- Right to participate in cultural life and education
- Right to own property
- Equality of opportunity in public employment
- Explicit right to education
- Directive Principles enunciate additional rights and duties<sup>15</sup>

#### 3.2 Differences

#### • International Bill of Rights:

- ➤ Broadly covers civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights
- Emphasizes individual duties to community and human rights of others
- Allows limitations to prevent discrimination or protect public order, health, morals

#### Pakistan Constitution:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>Lester, Anthony. "The Overseas Trade in the American Bill of Rights." *Columbia Law Review* 88, no. 3 (1988): 537-561.

- Relatively narrower range of fundamental rights
- ➤ Islam declared as state religion impacting certain rights
- Preventive detention allowed controversially up to 3 months without trial

#### Indian Constitution:

- ➤ Wider range of fundamental rights covering more areas
- Fundamental duties of citizens added in 1976
  In summary, the international human rights framework is more comprehensive while Pakistan and India adapt it to their national contexts, with India's Constitution covering more areas explicitly than Pakistan's. But both constitutions incorporate key civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights with reasonable restrictions allowed.<sup>16</sup>

### 5. WHICH CONSTITUTION BETTER ENSHRINES FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS?

Based on the overview and comparison, some analysis on which constitution better enshrines fundamental rights in line with the International Bill of Human Rights:

- The Indian Constitution provides for a wider range of fundamental rights covering more areas explicitly than the Pakistan Constitution.
- The Indian Constitution incorporates additional rights such as fundamental duties of citizens.
- India's constitution prohibits discrimination on a wider set of grounds including race, place of birth, and expressly prohibits untouchability.
- Pakistan's lacks explicit protection for some vulnerable groups.

 $<sup>^{16}</sup>$ Merry, Sally Engle. "Human rights law and the demonization of culture (and anthropology along the way)." PoLAR~26~(2003): 55.

- Pakistan's constitution allows for preventive detention without trial for up to 3 months, which is controversial and can be misused to curb civil liberties.
- The broad directive principles in India's constitution direct the state to uphold additional rights related to work, livelihood, health, environment etc. which align with economic and social rights in the IBHR.
- The fundamental rights in India's constitution only allow for reasonable restrictions on the grounds expressly specified, following the IBHR approach more closely. Pakistan imposes some restrictions.
- India's constitution gives more autonomy to minorities in establishing and administering educational institutions of their choice as envisaged in IBHR. In conclusion, while both constitutions have incorporated key rights from the IBHR, India's constitution seems to enshrine fundamental rights in a more comprehensive manner, covering more areas explicitly while restricting grounds for limitation of rights closer to the IBHR framework.<sup>17</sup>

#### 6. LIMITATIONS ON RIGHTS

An important aspect is examining the latitude available to the State in restricting exercise of fundamental freedoms. The Pakistani constitution permits vague limitations "subject to law" on key rights like free speech, assembly, movement and association whereas the Indian charter spells out tailored grounds like public order, morality for limiting each right. Preventive detention legislation also imposes fewer constraints in Pakistan compared to India. The Indian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>Okere, B. Obinna. "The protection of human rights in Africa and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights: a comparative analysis with the European and American systems." *Hum. Rts. Q.* 6 (1984): 141.

constitution subjects the right to property comprehensive regulation and acquisition by the State to achieve land reforms and socialist goals. In contrast, Pakistan's constitution adopts a more classical liberal approach to property rights. Thus, while the Indian charter permits broader legal limitations on exercise of liberties in the interest of public welfare and state the Pakistani constitution intervention. envisages derogations aligned with libertarian minimal orientation. However, wide clawback clauses also raise risks of abuse and overreach unless constitutionally guarded.<sup>18</sup>

#### 7. CONCLUSION

Through a structured comparative analysis, this paper attempts to shed light on the fundamental rights regimes adopted by India and Pakistan at independence from the lens of conformity with evolving international human rights law. On key civil and political liberties, significant commonality exists between the two national charters and major UN human rights treaties affirming a shared post-colonial developing world perspective. However, there are notable variations in the expansiveness and limitations of these first generation rights. Serious lacunae exist in relation to second generation socioeconomic entitlements which find no explicit recognition in Pakistan's constitution and only limited articulation in India. The Indian constitution does adopt a broader reformist vision by addressing rights of minorities, children and incorporating certain welfare rights. But both countries fell short of fully aligning with global

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>Gerards, Janneke, and Hanneke Senden. "The structure of fundamental rights and the European Court of Human Rights." *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 7, no. 4 (2009): 619-653.

standards on social, cultural and vulnerable group's rights at the outset. Incremental evolution of rights jurisprudence through legislation and judicial interpretation has bridged many gaps over subsequent decades. However, further structural reform to harmonize constitutional principles with the Universal Declaration and International Covenants continues to remain an imperative for both nations. Embedding justiciable socioeconomic guarantees and wider state obligations within constitutional frameworks offers a potential pathway.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>Sezgin, Yüksel. "Legal unification and nation building in the post-colonial world: a comparison of Israel and India." *The Journal of Comparative Asian Development* 8, no. 2 (2009): 273-297.

#### GENESIS OF PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

#### SHABNUM AMANAT\* DR. MIRZA SHAHID RIZWAN BAIG \*\*

Abstract; This Before Pakistan's independence, the opportunities were restricted to access to the court system. However, it was quite simple for Pakistanis to write their own constitution without any outside help. Excessive lag time and to accomplish the goals of independence, one of which was to provide quick and affordable access to justice. The Pakistani common man could not access justice through the old British courts. In 1973, Article 184(3) was added to the Pakistani Constitution to give the Supreme Court jurisdiction in cases involving the violation of fundamental rights that are significant to the public. At first, the Supreme Court was unaware of its authority and how crucial a role it could play in delivering immediate justice to Pakistan's poor. The apex Court and the High Court's began to hear cases involving violations of fundamental rights immediately, removing any restrictions imposed by a writ or procedural limitations. a system of justice access that is adversarial. Through Public Interest Litigation, the Objectives Resolution's increased legal standing also significantly contributed to enabling the lower classes of society to access the constitutional courts in search of justice. The Islamic Republic of Pakistan's Constitution of 1973 (Constitution, 1973), which is based on the notion of the "social contract," principally has two "governmental significant implications: sovereign legitimacy" and "guaranteeing of fundamental rights." However, due to socioeconomic and lego-political

factors, these rights may not have been well preserved over the years. In this way, the "sovereign legitimacy" of the government has continually been impacted. Since the judiciary is bound as a "sovereign delegate," it is right that it created the technique of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) to preserve these rights in order to avoid such a dire situation. This tactic actually results from constitutional interpretation, which employs judicial review as a method of operation. However, 'judicial restraint' and 'judicial activity' both suffer from 'pro-majoritarian' or 'counter-majoritarian' difficulties in their interpretations, which have an impact on constitutional democracy and supremacy, respectively. All of this could be attributed to the absence of a sensible standard for interpretation. This circumstance eventually affects how well fundamental rights are protected, which was the PIL's goal.

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#### **Introduction:**

In plain English, "Legal action taken to protect "Public Interest"—such as the avertance of pollution, terrorism, traffic accidents, risks at construction sites, etc.—is referred to as "Public Interest Litigation." There is no single exact manifestation of public concern litigation in any law or act. Judges have construed it, nonetheless, to take into account and determine the general public's intent. Social action litigation is well known for strengthening the rule of law, advancing the causes of justice, assisting in the protection of civil freedoms, and quickening the process of constitutional goal realisation.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>Brown Jr, Ralph S. "Advertising and the public interest: legal protection of trade symbols." *Yale LJ* 57 (1947): 1165.

The term "PIL" initially appeared in the US in the middle of the 1980s. Since the seventeenth century, several initiatives had resulted in the development of public interest law, a branch of the legal aid movement. In New York, the first legal assistance agency was founded in 1876. In the 1960s, the PIL movement began to receive funding from the Office of Economic Opportunity, which inspired lawyers and civic-minded people to take on cases for the underprivileged and fight against threats to the environment and public health as well as consumer exploitation and oppression of the weaker segments of society. In Pakistan, the court has started to play a constructive role in redressing injustice done to the populace in response to demands from the society, particularly the weaker and underprivileged segments of the society. This has been accomplished via public centric litigation strategies. The goal of this kind of litigation is to eliminate societal ills using the "law". This attempt is being made fully within the bounds of the Pakistani Constitution and in accordance with its requirements. The ultimate Court is empowered to issue any suitable order under Article 184(3) to correct a legal mistake. According to Article 187 (1) of the Constitution, which gives the Supreme Court the right to issue any orders necessary for carrying out complete justice in any case or matters before it, the Apex Court has the necessary powers and authority to carry out its role effectively in the administration of justice, particularly distributive justice.

For the country's constitutional interpretation, stability, and administration of justice, the final Court of Pakistan's advisory jurisdiction is extremely important. The honorable apex Court has the unusual authority, established by Article 186 of the Constitution, to offer

non-binding opinions and recommendations on legal issues of public importance that are presented to it by the President or the Government.

The chief Court's advising function, which it performs in its capacity as the custodian of the constitution, is an essential mechanism for resolving legal ambiguities and upholding the fundamental values of justice and fairness in the Pakistani legal system. Additionally, Article 189 specifies that the lower courts must follow the Judicial apex Court's rulings. In addition, Article 190 of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan's 1973 Constitution mandates that all governmental and judicial bodies support the topmost Court in its decisions. The Highest Court has loosened the rules of procedure while deciding such cases. Numerous instances saw exceptions made to the regulations governing court fees, the filing of affidavits, hiring lawyers, etc.

#### GENESIS OF PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

When Benazir Bhutto challenged the Political Parties Act of 1962 before the Supreme Court in 1988, her case served as a trigger for the beginning of public interest litigation in Pakistan. She requested the court's attention by filing a constitutional petition pursuant to article 184 (3), arguing, among other things, that as a result of some registration-related provisions therein violating the fundamental right to form a political party as stipulated in article 17 (2), they were invalid. According to the aforementioned constitutional clause, "every citizen shall have the right to form and be a member of a political party, subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by law." She had also criticized the Freedom of Association Order of 1978, claiming that it violated some constitutional rights. Invoking the court's

authority under Article 184 (3), Ms. Bhutto asked for a ruling that the limitations imposed by the aforementioned Act were null and unconstitutional from the beginning in order to register her party and run in the elections that were to take place in the latter half of that year.<sup>21</sup> The Political Parties Act of 1962 was found to have violated the petitioner's constitutional right to form and register a political party, and the Highest judicial Court upheld this finding.

The Court of last resort awarded her locus stand on the grounds that the case addressed the protection of all citizens' fundamental rights, which was in the public interest. In this case, there was a clear departure from the prior, constraining views on locus standi and the rules of procedure. The Federation made a preliminary objection, arguing that her petition could not be upheld because she lacked locus standi to speak on behalf of a political party and there was no infringement of her ultimate rights. Similar legitimate representation would not be permitted under the older, more restricted interpretation of the judiciary. In Pakistan, the Benazir Bhutto case planted the germ for public interest litigation and resulted in a revered decision that completely altered the earlier limited interpretation of the enforcement of fundamental rights. Haleem CJ and his eleven fellow judges on the Bench upheld Miss Bhutto's claim of bona fide representation in a prestigious ruling. The aforementioned judgement had to inescapably eliminate the "locus standi" restricting mechanism by pointing out flaws in Pakistan's judicial system.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>Khan, Maryam S. "Genesis and evolution of public interest litigation in the supreme court of Pakistan: toward a dynamic theory of judicialization." *Temp. Int'l & Comp. LJ* 28 (2014): 285.

### UNDERSTANDING THE PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

The modern industrial society that is characterised by mass production and consumption and the resulting "massification" of society is the origin of people's interest litigation. This sparked issues that had previously been virtually hidden and resulted in the socialisation of formerly individual rights. This demonstrates that while "individuality" was emphasised in the past, "collectivity" is a concept that is more prevalent today and contributes to the growth or improvement of the concept of public interest litigation. Collective rights litigation is described as non-formal remedial litigation that is undertaken to benefit a class of individuals who are being exploited or oppressed and who are being denied their constitutional rights rather than one specific person. This type of litigation enables these people to access the court for the enforcement of their fundamental rights.<sup>22</sup>

Citizen interest litigation is described by the court as "not a means to satisfy the people's curiosity but a litigation which is instituted with a desire that the court would be able to give effective relief to the whole section of the society" The fundamental premise of this idea is that populist interest litigation should be capable of overcoming the flaws and limitations of the adversarial judicial system, which prevents vulnerable groups in society from taking advantage of the rule of law and justice. (Public Interest Litigation in Pakistan Dr Faqir Hussain). A idea that is still developing in the area of adjudication is social action interest pleadings. Legal action taken in the public interest is referred to as public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>Cummings, Scott L., and Deborah L. Rhode. "Public interest litigation: Insights from theory and practice." *Fordham Urb. LJ* 36 (2009): 603.

cause litigation. The term "public" refers to the general public, which includes all social classes and divisions of society without regard to a person's gender, social standing, financial situation, ethnicity, religious beliefs, or cultural orientation. Public favoured litigation's main goal is to overcome the current legal, technical, and procedural barriers in order to deliver justice, particularly social justice, to a specific person, group of people, or community that is barred from seeking redress in a court of law due to some personal shortcoming, economic or social hardship, or state oppression.

In this context, this type of lawsuit is in fact a novel legal prescription for addressing the formal flaws in the legal system in order to ensure that the general public, in especially the underprivileged and destitute, receives real and substantive justice. In a way, public interest litigation gives the underprivileged the ability to access justice while also helping to address their issues. It is a tactic to meet the needs of changing reality and the demands of the present. It is the same development as the evolution of the law of equity and is as important. It is a situation that has never happened before in the history of the judiciary and may have just as much, if not more, significance than the Marbury v. Madison judgement, which gave rise to the theory of judicial review. A technique for releasing the legal system from its formalistic and technical connotations and releasing justice from the shackles of wealth and social pressures is public interest litigation. Aftermath, allowing the downtrodden and underprivileged to invoke the temple and get the bountious grace.

# WIDE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION PROTECTION OF NATIONAL RESOURCES:

It is well known that when limited resources are wasted, work is duplicated without a need, those in charge of carrying out public works renounce their responsibilities, and it would be very difficult to hold anyone accountable as a result of implementing and carrying out projects and schemes through a body or Board that the law did not authorise, citizens' fundamental rights are jeopardised.<sup>23</sup> Regardless of whether they are controlled by a board or autonomous semi-autonomous entities. Article 9 Constitution requires that national wealth and resources be effectively secured. An illegal or unconstitutional act cannot be made constitutional over time or give anyone the right to benefit from it. This is another important point to remember. The Constitution's mission is, in reality, supreme, thus it goes without saying that any legislative document or Order that is found to be in contravention of a provision of the Constitution will not be allowed to be in effect. When assessing the validity of a legislative act or an order under its judicial review authority, this Court may consider both the authority's competence and the legal requirements themselves. Laws that infringe upon fundamental rights are, in accordance with Article 8 of the Constitution, declared unlawful "to the extent of such inconsistency" and are subsequently made ineffective or inoperative to the same extent. Following the swearing-in to support and defend the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>Manning, Robert. "Visitor experience and resource protection: A framework for managing the carrying capacity of National Parks." *Journal of Park & Recreation Administration* 19, no. 1 (2001).

Constitution, it is the bound duty of this individual to do so when an Act or Order is unconstitutional or violates fundamental or constitutional rights.

# RIGHT TO CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT: DOCTRINE OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Dramatic changes to our planet's climate system have resulted from climate change, which is a key issue of our day. These climate changes in Pakistan have mostly led to severe floods and droughts, which has led to considerable worries about the security of food and water. On the basis of legality and constitutionalism, this is a resounding cry for the safeguard of fundamental rights of Pakistani citizens, especially those from weak and vulnerable groups who cannot access the High Court. Fundamental rights, such as the right to have life, which involves the right to a healthful environment and the right human self-esteem, along with constitutional principles of democracy, parity, public justice, and political and economic justice, encompass and commit to environmental regulations of everlasting development, the precautionary principle, environmental impact assessments, and intergenerational equity and social trust doctrine. In the system of our constitutional rights, the environment and its protection have assumed a central role. Existing environmental law must be modified to address the needs of something more pressing and powerful, namely climate change. The High Court established the Climate Change Commission because the Government has not made any significant progress towards implementing the Framework, and since it is now clear that doing so effectively and immediately away is essential to protecting

preserving peoples' basic rights. Word life demands much more from the state than just breathing; this includes taking action to eliminate any threats that could compromise this guarantee. The term "life" as employed in Article 9 of the Constitution also mandates that the State assist its citizens in refraining from using any impure foods or other health-harming or hazardous substances items if same are otherwise at permitted.

## ADVANCED AGE EDUCATION AS RIGHTTO LIFE: PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIBILITY

The responsibility principle, It is legal to prevent a Pakistani citizen of advanced age from pursuing education of his choosing and to obstruct his ability to select the academic discipline he wants to pursue and the time in his life when he wants to do so. A citizen's fundamental right to have secure life, protected by article 9th of the Constitution, would undoubtedly be violated if such a restriction were to be placed on him or her. Depriving a person of the opportunity to raise his level of living by working towards a higher professional education, even later in life, would surely violate that person's fundamental right to life.<sup>24</sup>

#### **RIGHT TO GO ABROAD:**

Pakistan's political culture has been permeated with retaliation and corruption for the past 20 years. The successive administrations were forced to enact accountability legislation in response to the vociferous popular demand for the accountability of dishonest politicians, bureaucrats, industrialists, and feudal lords. Even though these laws were upheld, organisations were

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>Ward, Michael J. "Coming of age in the age of self-determination." *Self-determination across the life span* (1996): 3-16.

founded, and Special Accountability Courts were established to address the corruption problem, it seemed like it was all just a public relations stunt to appease the public and the media. Due to the incompetence or political motivations of the ruling regimes, such laws were largely misused and innocent or irresponsible individuals suffered. Again, the victims' only chance in that environment came through the judiciary.

The courts correctly granted the petitioners' remedy under the right to life, as well as other constitutional provisions, when the limits on travelling abroad were primarily challenged under article 9 of the Constitution. The High Court of Sindh refused to acknowledge that the right to travel abroad did extend to the right to life in Nahid Khan v. Govt. of Pakistan, stating that it might be curtailed in the public interest. And that it was a subjective act, disregarding all already established legal precedent that stated that the public interest was not a subjective concept. Primarily, the Lahore High Court ruled that orders to list the petitioner, another central PPP leader, on the ECL were unlawful and without legal authority, essentially on the same grounds as Nahid Khan." The right of the citizen to travel abroad, which is a fundamental right protected by Articles 2A, 4, 9, 15, and 25, was curtailed due to a lack classification of reasonable guidelines incommunicado, admitting that such right of the State through legislative measures had to be tested on the basis of the Constitutional provisions. In the case of Federation of Pakistan v. Mirza Muhammad Iqbal Baig, the court also reaffirmed it.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>Parker, Reginald. "The Right to Go Abroad: To Have and to Hold a Passport." *Va. L. Rev.* 40 (1954): 853.

Similar to how the Peshawar High Court expanded the application of Article in Sikandar Hayat Khan, by adopting the same line of reasoning, an order was thrown aside. In a another instance, the Sindh High Court adopted the same strategy to deem the petitioners' names being added to the ECL as illegal if the reasons were not disclosed, overruling its own decision of Nahid Khan. When the same type of incommunicado order was contested, the court ruled that Articles 4, 9, 14, and 15 of the Constitution protected and guaranteed the rights of all citizens, and that as a result, those rights had to be jealously guarded. Any action that denied or restricted a citizen's freedom without a valid reason was illegal and could be overturned. The Sindh High Court reaffirmed its stance. Along with other fundamental rights, the Supreme Court declared that the right to life was an inalienable right of a citizen in a well-known case involving a former prime minister. Therefore, it could not be contracted out of or waived. Additionally, the right to travel internationally has been recognised as a right to life or liberty, which is guaranteed under Article 9 of the Constitution. It was also reiterated in the case of Farooq Saleh Chauhan v Government of Pakistan. Any trial conducted in absentia violates the terms of Article 9 of the Constitution since the freedom to travel is equivalent to the right to life. In the instance of a bail, it was determined in Riaz Hussain v. State that even the lack of counsel would constitute absentia.

#### PREVENTION OF WASTAGE OF FOOD

Public interest litigation is brought before the court to advance and defend the public interest, not to enforce one person's rights against another. It mandates that a great number of persons who are underprivileged, illiterate, or in a position of social or economic disadvantage should not have their legal or constitutional rights violated without anyone seeing and doing anything about it. Both the presence of a food crisis and the lack of measures to redirect food waste in Pakistan were confirmed by the High Court."Even though Pakistan is mostly an agricultural nation.One in six Pakistanis lack access to food. Seven nations, including Pakistan, collectively account for two-thirds of the world's undernourished people.<sup>26</sup>

The Court also considered best practises from other countries for preventing food waste, including Italy's decriminalisation of food theft committed "to satisfy one's hunger," the Philippine government's programme for food redistribution, and France's penalization of supply chain food waste, which is enforced by fines of up to €75,000 per violation. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) also commanded the redistribution of food in Fatawa al-Lajnah al-Daa'imah to prevent food waste. "If there are no needy people, leftover food should be given to animals, even after it has dried out, for the person who is able to do that. Leftover food must be kept for the next time. The petition for a writ of mandamus was granted by the High Court, ordering various government agencies to "do whatever is required of them by law in order to preserve, conserve, and manage excess of food and waste of food. In order to accomplish the aforementioned goals, specific directives included finalising and strictly implementing draught regulations related to food waste, taking actions to "preserve, manage, and conserve the food wastage," raising public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>Schneider, Felicitas. "Review of food waste prevention on an international level." In *Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers-Waste and Resource Management*, vol. 166, no. 4, pp. 187-203. ICE Publishing, 2013.

awareness, establishing a system to redistribute food to those in need, and passing new laws or amending existing laws.

#### REJECTION OF PUBLIC INTEREST PETITION

The petitioner, a lawyer who regularly represents clients in this Court, submitted this constitutional petition in the form of a public interest lawsuit to contest his appointment. He asserts that only the Advocate General, who is eligible to serve as a judge of the High Court, may be appointed by the Governor under Article 140 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973 (the "Constitution"). A High Court judge must retire at age 62, per Article 195. Respondent No. 2 is not qualified for the job because he is 73 years old. The current petition is a Public Interest Litigation. 27

"Lexically, the expression public interest litigation means a legal action initiated in a court of law for the enforcement of public or general interest," according to Law Halsbury of India. "The public or a class of the community have a pecuniary interest or some interest by which their legal rights or liability are affected." "The purpose of public interest litigation is to overcome the existing legal, technical, and procedural limitations and provide justice, specifically social justice, to a significant individual, class, or community who are prevented from bringing a claim before a court of law due to any personal deficiency, economic or social deprivation, or state oppression," claims Dr. Faqir Hussain. The courts view PIL as a "part of the participatory justice process" and a very significant jurisdiction. It must, however, be used with extreme caution and discretion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup>Zaret, David. "Petitions and the" invention" of public opinion in the English Revolution." *American Journal of Sociology* 101, no. 6 (1996): 1497-1555.

In Javed Ibrahim Paracha v. Federation of Pakistan and others, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Pakistan held that under the pro bono publico doctrine, a person could assert the constitutional jurisdiction of the superior courts, but he would first need to show that he is defending in the public interest and then for the public good, or the concern of the common public. The courts should dismiss nefarious PIL applications that challenge legitimate government measures in an effort to advance ulterior purposes or buy popularity. Additionally, they waste their valuable time and impede the resolution of other cases, thus this is important. The Indian Supreme Court dismissed the PIL case filed by a lawyer between Sanjeev Bhatnagar and Union of India &others with costs of Rs. 10,000/- because it was meaningless and a "publicity interest litigation." Meanwhile, the Supreme Court determined that the PIL petition was an attempt to air personal complaints in DattarajNathujiThaware v. State of Maharashtra & others. As a result, it upheld the High Court's judgement to charge a member of the bar with 25,000 rupees in costs for submitting a pointless and vexatious plea. The problem brought forth in the current petition is not one of res integra. It has long been resolved. This petition, in my opinion, has without merit. Consequently, it is dismissed with costs of Rs.25,000.

## PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION:MISUSED JURISPRUDENCE

The Honourable court described social interest litigation as "not a means to satisfy the people's curiosity but a litigation which is instituted with a desire that the court would be able to give effective relief to the whole section of the society". The fundamental premise of this idea is that citizen interest litigation should be capable of

overcoming the flaws and limitations of the adversarial judicial system, which prevents vulnerable groups in society from taking advantage of the rule of law and justice. In the well-known case between Charn Lal Sahu v. Union of India, the petitioner claimed in a collective rights Litigation application that the Supreme Court's judges were very ambivalent in their work, that the Court had become liable under the Constitution without being able to stop the illegal acts of the government, and that the Court was dozing off on the issues. The Court took the attempt to tarnish the Court seriously and employed the Public concern Litigation process to defeat it. The High Court reaffirmed in the most recent case involving the Government of Punjab that there is no "right to indulge in frivolous litigation without any genuine cause of action and the necessity of seeking redress of some grievance," warning that "certain minimum conditions must be satisfied before the courts shall lend assistance to such litigant asking for relief."<sup>28</sup>

#### **CONCLUSION**

All around the nation, collective interest pleaders have not been pleased with such court outcomes. They do worry that this may spell the end for the PIL concept's emphasis on community. Genuine Indian litigants, however, need not worry. Only PIL advocates who want to submit baseless complaints would be required to compensate the opposing parties. It is actually a positive step since no one in the nation can argue that even PIL advocates need to be accountable and responsible. It is also noteworthy that the Customers Protection Act of 1986 has been modified to pay compensation to opposing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup>Pomerance, Michla. "The Badinter Commission: The Use and Misuse of the International Court of Justice's Jurisprudence." *Mich. J. Int'l L.* 20 (1998): 31.

parties in situations where customers make unfounded complaints. In any case, PIL needs to be completely reorganised and rethought. In any case, PIL may only become stale and ineffective through misuse and abuse. Given that it is an exceptional remedy that is accessible to all citizens of the country, it shouldn't be used by all litigants as a replacement for conventional remedies or as a means of making unfounded complaints.

#### A CRITICAL ANALYSIS ANDEVIDENTIARY VALUE OF DYINGDECLARATION

#### HAFIZA MADIHA SHEHZADI\* DR. MIRZA SHAHID RIZWAN BAIG \*\*

Abstract; The maxim "Nemo morituruspraesumiturmentire" is basis for "dying declaration", which means essentially saying that "a man will not face his maker with a falsehood in his mouth." Leterm Mortem is the name for a pronouncement of death. Leterm Mortem translates to "words spoken before death."

"This study will look at the value of the deathbed statement as evidence in various nations, which is one of the most important pieces of evidence. Whether an unsupported deathbed pronouncement may be used to penalise someone, it will be further analysed using examples from previous case law studies. If they are shown to be reliable and sincere, there would be no need for more evidence; rather, it would only become necessary if a court's conscience was not pleased with the legitimacy of a deathbed pronouncement.

This study will examine the proper format for a declaration of intent to die. Which documents should be utilized to declare one's impending death? What should the aim of this proclamation be? Who is qualified to make a dying declaration on record? Which information has to be remembered before making a final statement? What last thoughts and suggestions do you have in regards to the admissibility of dying statement evidentiary values?

#### Introduction;

"Truth always sits on the lips of a person who is about to die"<sup>29</sup>

"A person, who is about to die, would not lie"<sup>30</sup> In every legal procedure, hearsay testimony has no significance, but dying declarations are an exception. A dying declaration is a crucial piece of hearsay documentation. It is admissible as evidence in judicial proceedings.

Death announcements are very reliable. Because no one would dare face God's vengeance by dying with a falsehood on her lips, the conventional argument relates to believing the evidential value of deathbed declarations. The recording of a person's declaration of death is a crucial step. If a deathbed pronouncement is properly documented while keeping in mind the necessary components, it keeps all of its meaning. If even one component of the deathbed proclamation is absent, it raises suspicions and criminals may profit from its flaws. If it is confirmed to be sincere and accurate, it can serve as a solid foundation for belief.

According to established legal precedent, it is risky to prosecute an accused person based only on a deathbed claim that lacks supporting documentation. A deathbed declaration must satisfy a reliability test before it can be used as evidence in court. As a result, the court has an obligation to carefully consider it.

A dying pronouncement is seen as a powerful piece of evidence, but it also has to be supported.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup>Matthew Arnold, 1884.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup>Raghuvanshi, Raghvendra Singh, Dying Declaration - 'A Man Will Not Meet His Maker with a Lie in His Mouth' (February 25, 2010).

The court has the option to convict the accused on the basis of the deathbed declaration if it determines after closely reviewing it that it is truthful without any further evidence. The established view on the admissibility of a deathbed declaration as evidence is that it must be authentic, factual, and carefully written by someone who was in the deceased's right mind and anticipating his demise.

## Weight age of Hearsay Evidence in the judicial proceeding:

Hearing-only evidence is disregarded because it is not seen to be reliable enough. Hearsay evidence is rejected because it does not pass the oath and cross-examination standards that must be met for evidence to be admitted. Hearsay evidence has no significance in court proceedings since the witness who provides it does not share his own experiences but rather those of a third party who cannot be cross-examined to confirm the facts of the case. The hearsay rule does not apply in cases of death declarations.<sup>31</sup>

Since it is seen to be insufficiently reliable, hearsay evidence is disregarded. Due to the fact that the witness is not sharing his experiences but rather those of a third party and cannot be cross-examined to confirm the truth, these evidence types have more weight in court. When a witness's hearsay statement is not protected by subsection (1) of section 46 of the Evidence Act, it is not admissible as evidence. The hearsay rule is based on the idea that the test of cross-examination is the best way to uncover and reveal any potential sources of inaccuracy and reliability that may be hiding beneath a witness's naked, untested declaration, if any such sources are there.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Ranger 4. (2010). Ranger's crimes

The hearsarule has two considerations: I a situation (i) a circumstance probability of trustworthiness, (ii) a necessity for the evidence may be examined more closely.<sup>32</sup>

#### History of the Dying Declaration:

Non morituruspraesumiturmentiri, which literally means "a dying person is not presumed to lie," was first established by English courts in the Medieval Ages. In a 1202 case, it was discovered that a dying declaration had been submitted as evidence. The term "death statement" refers to testimony that, while ordinarily prohibited as hearsay, may nevertheless be admissible as evidence in specific circumstances because it represented the final words of a dying person.<sup>33</sup>

That was first firmly stated in the 1789 decision in the matter of Woodcock. This case makes reference to a 1720 ruling as well as the 1722 ruling in R v. Reason and Tranter. Nevertheless, nothing in that situation indicates that the rule has any limitations. A sequence of instances from 1678 to 1765 demonstrate that, throughout that time, declarations of deceased people' causes of death were accepted even when the declarant had reasonable expectations of recovering at the time of the declaration.<sup>34</sup>

Nonetheless, occasionally courts will infer the declarant's awareness of impending death from terrible medical circumstances. Modern courts particularly enjoy

<sup>32</sup> HP Gupta (2006). Allahabad: Dwivedi & Company, Desai's Law

Pertaining to Confession and Dying Statement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> M. N. Howard, "Phipson on Evidence," October 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup>Benites, E. (1915).

it when a declarant demands last rites, proclaims that she/he is about to die, or is notified of this by a medical practitioner.<sup>35</sup>

Yet, courts typically reject deathbed pronouncements today if the declarant was unaware that death was approaching.

#### **Legal Maxim relating to Dying Declaration:**

"Nemo MoriturusPraesumiturMentiri" is a legal rule that governs when a deathbed declaration can be used as evidence. It implies that a man won't go to his grave telling lies. To put it another way, a person who is close to death or who is dying never tells a falsehood; instead, they always speak the truth. The adage "Nemo MoriturusPraesumiturMentiri" serves as the foundation for the admissibility of the Dying Declaration. This adage serves as a foundation for the acceptance of a dying declaration's probative validity. 36

The adage "Nemo morituruspraesumiturmentire" serves as the foundation for death declarations. The hearsay rule is broken in cases of death announcement.<sup>37</sup>

According to the legal theory surrounding the legitimacy of dying declarations, such declarations are made under duress when the party is close to passing away, when all traces of this world are gone, when all motivations for lying are silenced, and when the man is moved by the strongest consideration to speak only the truth.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup>Orenstein A. Her Last Words: Dying Declarations and Modern Confrontation Jurisprudence. U. Ill. L. Rev.. 2010:1411.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup>Ranger 4. (2010). Ranger's crimes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup>Giriraj Shah 8. (2002). Anmol publications: New Delhi, crime and criminal investigation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup>Thakur Naveen 3. (1998). Criminal Law Journal, Vol. II, Jan.-March, pp. 77-80, "Dying Declaration-its Admissibility in law."

In the **Rashid Ahmed v. State case**, the dead filed an F.I.R. before passing away while still aware. The deceased passed away in a hospital the day after the incident. The dead was well aware of the accused. In his statement, the deceased not only disclosed all relevant information on the accused in advance of his passing, but he also accurately detailed the incident. The deceased narrated his statement regarding the occurrence, how it transpired, and the accused's role in it. The deceased also provided explanations for what happened.

According to Article 46 of the Qanun-e-Shahadat Order, 1984, the statement made by the dead before his death was not only pertinent, but it was also free from outside prodding. There was no history of animosity between the dead and the accused, and there was no justification for the deceased to have intentionally and unjustly implicated the accused. Eye witnesses who were undeniably there at the scene had no motivation to testify falsely against the accused in an effort to seriously hurt him. Crime was perpetrated by the accused after careful forethought and for a specific reason; as a result, it could not be characterized as a random act of violence.

Under the circumstances, the prosecution provided exceptionally reliable evidence that firmly backed the accusations levelled against the defendant. It was determined that the defendant had received a death sentence and that the murder case had been dropped.<sup>39</sup>

Relevant Provisions of Dying Declaration:
Article 46 of the Qanun-e-Shahadat Order is an exception to the general rule of exclusion of the hearsay evidence.

Under the conditions outlined in clause (1) to,8 a person's written or verbal statement of relevant facts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup>2003 (PCr. LJ 480 Lahore)

made by a person who is deceased, cannot be located, has become incapable of giving evidence, or whose attendance cannot be obtained without a certain amount of delay or expense, is considered to be relevant facts.

**Article 46 clause (1)**, states that any written or oral declaration of pertinent facts made by a person about the reason for or any circumstances surrounding his death may be used as evidence. They are usually referred to as "death declarations." Such claims are accepted as evidence under the necessity principle.<sup>40</sup>

Statement of Need and Values Regarding Dying The declaration of a dying person is admissible into evidence under the rule of necessity because it cannot be refuted by the accused's cross-examination.<sup>41</sup>

If deemed trustworthy, a deathbed declaration may serve as the foundation for a conviction. A deathbed declaration is considered to be valid evidence just like any other piece of evidence. The victim is typically the sole key eyewitness to the crime, therefore excluding the statement might interfere with the course of justice. The second reason for admittance is the victim's awareness of approaching death, which imposes a consequence equivalent to the need of an oath.

The general principle on which this species of evidence is admitted is that they are declaration made in extremity, when the party is at the point of death and when every hope of this world is gone, when every motive to falsehood is silenced, and the mind is induced by the most powerful considerations to speak the truth; a situation so solemn and so lawful is considered by the law as creating an obligation equal to that which is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Ibid Naveen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup>Friedman RD. Confrontation Clause Re-Rooted and Transformed. Cato Sup. Ct. Rev., 2003:439.

imposed by a positive oath administered in a Court of justice.<sup>42</sup>

In this instance, the accused's deathbed declaration served as the foundation for the conviction. When a person is dying, the circumstance in which they are lying on their deathbed is so serious and peaceful that the grave position in which they are put is the cause in law to recognise the authenticity of their testimony. Because of this, the requirements for an oath and a cross-examination are waived.<sup>43</sup>

Acceptance of the Dying Statement under Section 46(1) of the 1984 Qanun-e-Shahadat Order: There is a crucial issue that must be shown in order for the statement of a deceased person to be admissible under Article 46(1) of the Qanun-e-Shahadat Ordinance, 1984

- (i) The individual who made the statement is dead;
- (ii) He was cognizant when he said it; and
- (iii) He said it knowing he would die.

In a case the Medical Officer at the Civil Hospital in Tandlinwala sent Rqqa to the S. H. O. at the Tandlianwala Police Station to let them know that Nur Ahmad son of Nijabat was in a serious condition but was still capable of giving a statement. As a result, Jafar Hussain Shah, A. S. I., arrived at the hospital. In the presence of the doctor, Nur Ahmad, who was then in the operating room, described the incident to him and included the pertinent details. A formal F. I. R. was filed at the police station in Tandlianwala based on this

Law House, New Delhi.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup>Ibid Naveen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup>Gopal Chaturvedi (2008). Filed's Commentary on the Law of Evidence, Delhi

statement. It was decided that there was enough evidence on file to confirm the veracity of the deathbed declaration.<sup>44</sup>

### > Necessity and principles regarding Dying Declaration

The general rule under which this type of evidence is accepted is that it must be a declaration made under duress, when the party is on the verge of death, when all hope for the world has been lost, when every motive for lying has been silenced, and when the mind has been persuaded to speak the truth by the strongest considerations. The law views such a solemn and legal circumstance as imposing an obligation equivalent to that imposed by a positive oath administered.<sup>45</sup>

In this instance, the accused's deathbed declaration served as the foundation for the conviction. When a person is dying, the circumstance in which they are lying on their deathbed is so serious and peaceful that the grave position in which they are put is the cause in law to recognise the authenticity of their testimony. Because of this, the requirements for an oath and a cross-examination are waived.<sup>46</sup>

The rule that hearsay evidence is not admissible is an exception for dying declarations. It is now a settled principle of law that the dying declaration is substantive evidence, and an order of conviction can be safely recorded even on the basis of a dying declaration if the court is fully satisfied that the so-called dying declaration made by the deceiver was true. The dying declaration is

 $<sup>^{44}\</sup>mathrm{Muhammad}$  alias Mammi and others vs. the state P C r .LJ 1183 Lahore, 1983.  $^{45}\mathrm{Ibid}$  Naveen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup>Gopal Chaturvedi (2008). Filed's Commentary on the Law of Evidence, Delhi Law House, New Delhi.

substantive evidence only because a person in acute agony is not expected to tell a lie and in all likelihood it is expected from such a person to disclose the truth.<sup>47</sup>

The hearsay rule has long been exempted under the dying declaration exemption. It accepts out-of-court declarations as true where the declarant is unavailable, the declaration involves the cause of the declarant's impending death, and the declaration is made while the declarant feels his death is close at hand.<sup>48</sup>

#### **Objects of Dying Declaration:**

Objects of a statement by a dying person may be of following:

- 1. It is assumed that a person who is going to pass away wouldn't lie.
- 2. It is also claimed that a person who is ready to pass away has the truth on their lips.
- 3. Because the victim is the only eyewitness, such evidence should not be disregarded.<sup>49</sup>

#### **Competency of Person:**

A deathbed pronouncement needs to come from a witness who is qualified to provide testimony. Hence, the final testaments of insane people or young children who are unable to give a testimony are not accepted.<sup>50</sup>

In a situation where the statement of a child—who at the age of four was too young to comprehend the theory of a future state—was not accepted In another instance, a boy's ten-year-old declaration was deemed valid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup>Ibid Naveen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup>Gopal Chaturvedi (2008). Filed's Commentary on the Law of Evidence, Delhi Law House, New Delhi.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup>Hackmann J. Defending the "good name" of the Polish nation: politics of history as a battlefield in Poland, 2015–18. Journal of Genocide Research. 2018 Oct 2;20(4):587-606.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup>Ibid Naveen.

### > Evidentiary Value of Dying Declaration made in Presence of Relatives of Declarant:

Most of the time, a deathbed statement is suspicious if the declarant's family were there when he made his final declaration before passing away. In some circumstances, the presence of the declarant's family does not raise suspicions about the deathbed statement. Thus, in.

Most of the time, when the declarant's family are present when the dying statement is being recorded, this raises questions about the validity of the document.<sup>51</sup> In the case of Waheeduddin vs. Allah Ditta and 5 others, it was held by the Court, dying statement which is recorded at police station in presence of deceased's relatives always becomes suspicious and less worthy of credence than one recorded by a Magistrate after excluding relatives.<sup>52</sup>

In the case of Nazim Khan and 2 others vs. The State, it was held by the Court that dying declaration which is recorded at Police Station in presence of relatives of deceased is not worthy of credence.<sup>53</sup>

### > Evidentiary Value of Dying Declaration which is Recorded by a Magistrate:

According to the legislation, a Magistrate is not required to record a dying declaration. That will always rely on a number of different things. A police officer's recorded deathbed declaration is likewise admissible, and a conviction may be based on it. A dying statement that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup>Mehmood Ethsam (2008). Order of Qanun-e-Shahadat, Lahore: Mansoor Book House. 1984

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup>PLD 1977SC 72

<sup>531984</sup> SCMR 1092

is correctly recorded after satisfying many requirements that must be kept in mind at the time of recording a dying declaration keeps its complete admissibility as evidence and can be used to support an accused person's conviction.<sup>54</sup>

A dying declaration that the magistrate has recorded after concluding that the declarant is expecting to die and is both mentally and physically fit to make the declaration is admissible in court as evidence. As a result, a Magistrate's recording of a deathbed declaration has great probative significance.

# ➤ Evidentiary Value of Dying Declaration which is Recorded by a Police Officer:

There is no legal necessity that police officer record a pronouncement of someone's impending death. That will always rely on a number of different things. A police officer's recorded deathbed declaration is likewise admissible, and a conviction may be based on it. A dying statement that is correctly recorded after satisfying many requirements that must be kept in mind at the time of recording a dying declaration keeps its complete admissibility as evidence and can be used to support an accused person's conviction.<sup>55</sup>

# > Evidentiary Value of a Dying Declaration Recorded by a Private Person:

There is no legal necessity that police officer record a pronouncement of someone's impending death. That will always rely on a number of different things. If a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup>Cheema SA, Khan SU. Dying Declarations in Pakistan and India: A Case Law Study of their Evidentiary Value. Pakistan Journal of Social Sciences (PJSS) Vol. 2013 Dec 31;33:97-108.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup>Gopal Chaturvedi (2008). Filed's Commentary on the Law of Evidence, Delhi Law House, New Delhi.

judge or police officer are unable to be there, a private individual may record the dying pronouncement. A private officer's recorded deathbed declaration is likewise admissible, and a conviction may be based on it. A dying statement that is correctly recorded after satisfying many requirements that must be kept in mind at the time of recording a dying declaration keeps its complete admissibility as evidence and can be used to support an accused person's conviction.<sup>56</sup>

A deathbed declaration made before a private person that is free from any outside influence qualifies as a substantial piece of evidence and is accepted.<sup>57</sup>

#### Conclusion:

The majority of judicial rulings now consider a deathbed declaration to be reasonably unambiguous as evidence. With an increase in cases where a dying statement served as the basis for a prosecution, the significance of a dying declaration as a piece of strong evidence is growing. Even while there might not be any obvious physical proof of a crime, a deathbed declaration can speak for itself and demonstrate far more than might be shown by eyewitness testimony. Men may lie, but circumstances do not, it is said in truth. It is sacred and equally reliable as any other piece of evidence.

#### Recommendations and Suggestions:

There are some suggestions that a deathbed declaration is a significant piece of evidence that can be utilized to support an accused person's conviction. A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup>Orenstein A. Her Last Words: Dying Declarations and Modern Confrontation Jurisprudence. U. Ill. L. Rev.. 2010:1411.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup>Article 46 of the Qanun-e-Shahadat of 1984

deathbed declaration's importance as evidence cannot thus be discounted.

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# OPPRESSION STRICT MINORITIES IN PAKISTAN AND INDIA: A PROTECTED UNDER CONSTITUTIONAL COMPARISON

#### RANA ZAHEER-UD-DIN AHMAD\* DR. SHAHID RIZWAN BAIG \*\*

**Abstract:** This article leads a careful assessment of the laid out security gave to strict minorities in India and Pakistan. The attention is on contrasting the established arrangements of the two countries and distinguishing components for minority security. discoveries uncover that while the Indian constitution offers better shields for strict minorities contrasted with Pakistan, it is significant to recognize that victimization minorities actually exists in India. The article proposes three ways to deal with address this issue: political split the difference, protected assurances, and adherence to worldwide principles. Underscoring the meaning of constitutionalism, the article features that a composed constitution alone has restricted effect, and it is the obligation to maintain protected values by overseeing that really bodies and people guarantees acknowledgment of freedoms. The segment of English India in 1947 prompted the foundation of two separate countries, India and Pakistan, in light of strict lines. Regardless of the goal to make nations where strict minorities could openly rehearse their convictions and protect their societies, the truth has been perplexing. This article dives into the sacred shields proposed to strict minorities in the two countries, with an essential spotlight on their separate established provisions. Pakistan was proclaimed an Islamic state, and its pioneer, Muhammad Jinnah, guaranteed strict minorities the opportunity to

rehearse their religions and safeguard their social legacy. As needs be, the Constitution of Pakistan included central privileges and opportunities for minorities. Nonetheless, these sacred certifications were not enough carried out, prompting what is going on for minorities. At present, Pakistan is broadly perceived as one of the most antagonistic states for strict minorities around the world. In later years, Pakistan moved towards a more safe methodology, stressing Islamization, and political contentions based on strict hostilities. In contrast, India embraced a mainstream personality, meaning to give equivalent freedoms and potential open doors to every strict local area. While India's constitution offers better security for strict minorities contrasted with Pakistan, the truth actually misses the mark regarding the ideal. Oppression minorities endures in different forms. The article highlights the meaning of constitutionalism in maintaining the genuine soul of a country and carrying out rules that advance reasonableness and equity. Just having a composed constitution isn't adequate; it is the responsibility of ideological groups and pioneers overseeing the state to maintain established values that genuinely guarantee the acknowledgment and insurance of minority opportunities.

**Keyword;** MinorityRight, constitutionalism, Human right, Constitutional Assembly Debate

#### INTRODUCTION;

According to a humanistic viewpoint, social variations frequently arise in social orders because of different factors like orientation jobs, monetary contrasts, racial qualifications, and strict affiliations. These qualifications can prompt the act of 'othering,' where one

prevailing gathering sees and treats different gatherings as untouchables or sub-par. Such 'othering' can make strains and clashes between various gatherings. Resolving this issue includes three essential methodologies:

Acknowledgment and Affirmation: Settling social inconsistencies can start with perceiving and esteeming the different encounters, characters, and commitments of all gatherings inside a general public. It is fundamental for regard and value the social, racial, ethnic, and strict variety present, it is minimized or barred to guarantee that no gathering.

Compassion and Understanding: Cultivating sympathy and understanding between various gatherings is another fundamental methodology. This can be accomplished through advancing discourse, instruction, and attention to challenge generalizations, inclinations, and biases. By empowering people to draw in with and understand the encounters of others, the holes between gatherings can be spanned, and strains decreased.

Equivalent Open doors and Social liberties: Addressing hidden imbalances and giving equivalent chances to all gatherings is a significant part of settling social variations. This includes pushing for approaches and practices that guarantee impartial admittance to training, work, medical services, and different assets. By handling financial differences, social treacheries, and biased rehearses, an all the more and comprehensive society can be constructed.

<sup>58</sup>It is important to note that resolving the issue of 'othering' and reducing tensions between different groups

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 58}$  BIPAN CHANDRA and MRIDULA MUKERJEE et al., INDIA'S Battle FOR Independency

Freedom of Religion and Religious Minorities in Pakistan:

requires a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach. It involves challenging and transforming social structures, promoting inclusivity, and fostering a sense of belonging and shared humanity among all members of society.

In 1947, the English government settled on the choice to segment India in light of strict lines, bringing about the making of two separate countries, India and Pakistan. This parcel was a political choice that coming up short on help of the overall population. There was no mandate or boundless general assessment of public sentiment directed before the arrangement of Pakistan. Preceding 1947, the Hindu and Muslim people group, the two biggest strict networks, coincided in brought together India with relative agreement. This strict amicability and resilience during the were apparent development, otherwise called the Parcel of Bengal in 1905.

During this period, the two significant strict networks, Hindus and Muslims, combined efforts to challenge the English strategy of segment. The Parcel of Bengal was proposed by the Morley Minto Changes Demonstration of 1905. In any case, because of boundless public opposition and agitation, the English government in the long run renounced the choice to parcel Bengal in 1913.

It is imperative that these two critical strict networks, who had recently battled together contrary to English rule, at last moved their position and supported for the making of two separate countries following 40 years. This shift can to a great extent be credited to the impact of one individual, Muhammad Ali Jinnah (1876-1948). Jinnah, an English-taught legal counselor, at first enlisted in the Indian Public Congress in 1913 when the

political places of the Muslim Association and the Hindu people group were adjusted and helpful.

Nonetheless, after Jinnah was chosen as the head of the Muslim Association in 1916, the interest for a different Muslim state bit by bit acquired unmistakable quality inside the party's plan. Albeit the Hindu and Muslim people group had recently battled together for autonomy, they started to veer on the issue of discrete statehood for Muslims. In October 1916, the Muslim Association introduced a goal upholding for isolated electorates for Hindus and Muslims, alongside an interest for 33% portrayal of Muslims in the Focal Government. This interest for corresponding portrayal of minority networks was acknowledged by the Indian Public Congress at the Lucknow Agreement in 1916.

Be that as it may, toward the finish of 1927, the Indian Public Congress changed its situation and requested total freedom from English rule. On August 28, 1928, Motilal Nehru, as the head of the Congress Party, introduced the Nehru Report at the All-Gatherings Meeting.

Moreover, the Muslim Association declared that leftover powers would be designated to the territories on the grounds that the Muslim people group perceived that they would be a larger part in the North-East and North-West locales of India. They accepted that by controlling their common states, they could defend their minority advantages. Talking before an enormous crowd at the Lahore Goal in Walk 1940, Jinnah expressed, "Muslims not a minority as normally known comprehended... Muslims are a country as per any meaning of a country, and they should have their countries, their domains, and their state."59As a result of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup>A Study of Judicial Practice' (1995) 19 Fordham Int'l L.J. 40

persistent demands for a separate Muslim state led by Jinnah, the British Parliament decided to create two separate entities, India and Pakistan. On July 18, 1947, the British Parliament passed the Indian Independence Act, 1947, which laid the groundwork for the establishment of Pakistan and India as two separate dominions of the British Raj. Thus, due to the religious agitation and based on the principles of the two-nation theory, the new country of Pakistan came into existence. However, the demographics of the newly formed Pakistan were not entirely homogeneous, and there were significant numbers of non-Muslim communities residing in Pakistan at that time. Jinnah and his fellow Muslim leaders believed that they would be able to improve the socio-economic conditions of both Muslims and non-Muslims equally without establishing a secular state.

On August 11, 1947, in his speech to the first Constituent Assembly of Pakistan, Jinnah addressed the minority communities, stating, "...you are free; you are free to go to your temples, you are free to go to your mosques or to any other places of worship in the state of Pakistan. You may belong to any religion or caste or creed—that has nothing to do with the business of the state."

# Treatment of Non-Muslim Minorities by the Essential Wellsprings of Islam under a Muslim Nation

Islam, as a religion, maintains upsides of love, love, empathy, and kindness, which structure the epistemological groundwork of its lessons. These qualities are thought about in Islam's position strict opportunity and its accentuation on common regard and understanding. The Qur'an expressly expresses that there

ought to be no impulse in religion, asserting the right of people to uninhibitedly pick their confidence (Qur'an 2:256).

Islam urges its supporters to take part in objective assessment and decisive reasoning in regards to their convictions. The Qur'an over and over calls upon individuals to consider, reflect, contemplate, and notice the indications of God's creation (Qur'an 2:164; 5:58; 13:4). This accentuation on scholarly request infers that Islam esteems an insightful and individual conviction of confidence, instead of impulse or visually impaired adherence.

Islam doesn't advocate the utilization of power or participate in fights to change individuals' strict convictions. The fights battled by Prophet Muhammad were basically legitimate or with regards to the mistreated. Islam advances serene concurrence and exhorts against clashes in view of strict contrasts. The Prophet Muhammad stressed the significance of regarding the privileges of strict minorities and cautioned against abusing them (Hadith No: 3052, Hadith No: 3166).

<sup>60</sup>During the early time of Islam, non-Muslims living under Muslim rule, like Christians, Jews, and other strict networks, were conceded the situation with dhimmis. Dhimmis were qualified for the opportunity to rehearse their religion, gave they recognized the power of the Muslim state and settled the Jizya charge. This duty, a long way from being expected to debase or embarrass non-Muslims, filled in as a way to communicate reliability to the political power and added to the security

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup>Ispahani, Farahnaz. Purifying the Land of the Pure: A History of Pakistan's Religious Minorities. Oxford University Press, 2017.

and security of the strict minority networks (Ahmed and Ahmad 1975).

Islam maintains the standard of equivalent privileges for the two Muslims and non-Muslims in the state and thinks of them as equivalent in societal position. Spots of love having a place with strict minorities are to be regarded and protected. The activities of the subsequent caliph, Umar ibn al-Khattab, in safeguarding the spots of love of strict minorities, exemplify the significance Islam puts on saving the privileges of every strict local area (El-Wakil 2016).

All through the caliphate period, the strict opportunity conceded during the hour of Prophet Muhammad kept on being maintained. Strict minorities were permitted to uninhibitedly practice their confidence, and their freedoms and ceremonies were regarded.

Generally, Islam advances strict opportunity, common regard, and non-separation. It energizes objective request, sympathy, and understanding among people of various strict convictions. These standards are gotten from Islamic lessons found in the Qur'an and the acts of the Prophet Muhammad.

### Prelude and Starting Arrangement in the Constitution of Pakistan

The Introduction of the Pakistani Constitution, normally known as the 'Objective resolution ' was consolidated as a critical part, Article 2A, through the eighth Amendment in 1985 by the then President, Zia-ul-Haq. While this arrangement is frequently perceived for integrating Islamic standards or reasoning into the Pakistani Constitution for administering the country, it likewise addresses strict minorities. The Goals Goal proposes ways to deal with be taken on by the state to

empower strict minorities to "pronounce and rehearse their religions uninhibitedly." Notwithstanding, when it was incorporated as a vital piece of the Pakistani Constitution as Article 2A, the word 'openly' was excluded. It very well may be contended that this exclusion didn't have a huge effect as Article 2A likewise discusses shielding the "genuine interests of minorities." By the by, the term 'real' requires evaluation as it permits the public authority to limit specific strict acts of minorities.

For instance, Segments 298B and 298C of the Pakistan Punitive Code, 1860 (the 'PPC'), censure the demonstration of straightforwardly examining or rehearsing the Ahmadi confidence. This result can be ascribed to the unclear phrasing of the Targets Goal. It was exclusively under the eighteenth Sacred Alteration, passed in 2010, that the term 'openly' was once again introduced into Article 2A.

<sup>61</sup>With respect to effect of the past prohibition of 'openly' from Article 2A, one could contend that since it was anything but a supra-protected arrangement, it didn't have an expansive effect. Before its consideration in the Pakistani Constitution as Article 2A, the Goals Goal was a non-justiciable piece of the Constitution and just held an overall obligation to make an Islamic culture. Researchers have battled that through legal understanding during the 1990s, the High Court decided that Article 2A didn't work as a general arrangement overriding different arrangements of the Constitution. Be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup>Waheed, Sarah Fatima. *Hidden Histories of Pakistan*. Cambridge University Press, 2022.

that as it may, milestone cases like the Zaheeruddin Case keep on testing this standard.

Consequently, the impact of Article 2A was to such an extent that regulations should be as per Islam, and Article 2A was given general impact with regards to strict minorities in Pakistan. Albeit the eighteenth Amendment once again introduced the 'uninhibitedly' into Article 2A, meaning to address a verifiable off-base, none of the other unfair arrangements of the Pakistani Constitution were canceled, revised, or tended to. This proposes that the pre-alteration regulation, as well as the ongoing inclinations and separation, actually endure. It is additionally vital to take note of that Article 2 of the Pakistani Constitution proclaims Islam as the 'state religion.' While this arrangement isn't harsh in itself, it might act as the establishment for a few other challenged articles, which will be examined thusly.

### Hakim Khan v Administration of Pakistan PLD 1992 SC 595

Because of Hakim Khan v Council of Pakistan (PLD 1992 SC 595), various appellants brought the contention against the Public power of Pakistan as respondents. The High Court of Pakistan, including Judges Nasim Hasan Shah, Shafiur Rahman, Saad Saood Jan, Abdul Shakurul Salam, and Muhammad Afzal Singular, heard the case and conveyed the judgment on July 19, 1992.

During the techniques, the court made references to genuine guidelines and laid out game plans. It inspected the interpretation of the saying "extensive," describing it as an essential part or constituent, and relied upon Dull's Guideline Word reference for clarification.

The court's consideration centered around Article 2A of the Constitution of Pakistan, which is generally called the Objectives Objective. The court focused on that ensuing to being incorporated as a significant piece of the Constitution, the Objectives Objective achieved comparative weight and status as various articles of the Constitution.

In its assessment, the court dissected the point and significance of Article 2A and its relationship with the ongoing Constitution. It questioned whether another Constitution was key then again in case the ongoing plans could fulfill the objectives outlined in the Objectives Objective. The court zeroed in on the meaning of unraveling the Constitution with everything taken into account and organizing any conspicuous abnormalities between its courses of action.

<sup>62</sup>The court imparted stresses over considering Article 2A as a supra-laid out game plan, as it could really challenge the consistency of existing safeguarded game plans with the Objectives Objective. Such a comprehension was seen as negative to the Constitution, as it could provoke legitimate hardships against various game plans.

In addition,<sup>63</sup> the court highlighted the regulatory point behind adding Article 2A to the Constitution. It communicated that the executives didn't intend to permit the repeal of existing laid out plans. The court alluded to legitimate perspectives and rehashed that the courts, being creatures of the Constitution, missing the mark on ability to ruin courses of action inside it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup>AMES WYNBRANDT, A BRIEF HISTORY OF PAKISTAN, 183-185, (Infobase Publishing House, New York, 2009

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Hamid khan , Constitutional and political history of Pakistan.

The judgment in like manner alluded to Islamic regulation and referred to the three pieces of the express: the boss, regulatory, and lawful leader.

#### **Basic Right**

Under the particular constitutions of Pakistan and India, the two nations give arrangements to the ability to speak freely in Article 19. Be that as it may, there are prominent contrasts between the two. The Pakistani Constitution permits discourse limitations "in light of a legitimate concern for the brilliance of Islam" (Article 19), which is missing from the Indian Constitution's arrangement on free discourse.

Article 19 of the Pakistani Constitution has been utilized to legitimize irreverence regulations in Pakistan, which were altered by Broad Zia-ul-Haq during the 1980s. These regulations have been censured for encroaching upon strict opportunity and opportunity of articulation. Furthermore, the corrected regulations were found to disregard the opportunity of religion by the Assembled Countries Sub-Commission on the Counteraction of Segregation and Security of Minorities.

Both the Pakistani Constitution (Articles 20-27) and the Indian Constitution (Articles 25-30) contain principal privileges straightforwardly connected with religion. For example, Article 20 of the Pakistani Constitution manages the opportunity to proclaim and rehearse religion "dependent upon regulation, public request, and ethical quality." The expression "dependent regulation" is questionable, upon with potential translations including references different to arrangements of the Pakistani Constitution, regulations established by the assembly, or both. Notwithstanding, sacred arrangements ought to for the most part beat different regulations. Notwithstanding this, there are prejudicial arrangements inside the Pakistani Constitution that could be utilized to legitimize limitations on Article 20.

Interestingly, Article 25 of the Indian Constitution doesn't utilize such rigid language, as it expressly expresses the grounds on which the opportunity to maintain and rehearse religion might be confined. While proviso (1) of the arrangement subjects the opportunity to "public request, ethical quality, and wellbeing," condition (2) gives a few intriguing special cases. While proviso (2)(a) avoids monetary, political, and mainstream exercises related with strict practices from the ambit of statement (1), condition (2)(b) guarantees that provision (1) can't be utilized to prevent "social g<sup>64</sup>overnment assistance" and the launch of "Hindu strict foundations" for "all classes and areas of Hindus." This shows that while condition (2)(a) concedes wide powers to the public authority to confine the opportunity conceded in provision (1), statement (2)(b) of Article 25 explicitly centers around tending to divisions in light of rank inside the Hindu greater part. Hence, while this arrangement might be utilized to control strict minorities in India somewhat, it additionally seems to target reinforcing the Hindu people group.

Luckily, neither one of the constitutions forces religion-based charges. Article 21 of the Pakistani Constitution unequivocally disallows the burden of any unique expenses "for the spread or support of any religion other than his own."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Hamid khan, Constitutional and political history of Pakistan

#### Policy GuidelinesState policy directive principles

In spite of the fact that dissecting the Orders referenced in the two constitutions might be viewed as an activity with restricted enforceability in courts, the state actually has a commitment to work as per these Goals. Also, they can assist with deciding the expectations of the designers or the general responsibility level of the constitution in regards to different issues, including the freedoms and status of strict minorities. In the wake of breaking down the standards figured out in the two constitutions, it is clear that they need accentuation on the particular necessities of strict minorities.

For example, Article 32 of the Pakistani Constitution expresses that unique portrayal ought to be given to "laborers, workers, and ladies" in neighborhood bodies, yet strict minorities are not referenced as a different weak gathering. Additionally, Article 33 of the Pakistani Constitution intends to forestall "parochial, racial, ancestral, partisan, and commonplace biases" by the state, yet there is no notice of predispositions against religions other than Islam. This oversight is a critical issue in current Pakistan.

One more risky Goals in the Pakistani Constitution is the one that arrangements with the "real" interests of minorities (Article 36), as examined To some degree I of the paper. Moreover, as per Article 38(d), the state should give fundamental necessities of life to residents who can't accomplish them all alone, paying little mind doctrine, to orientation, standing, or race. Notwithstanding, religion and consequently strict minorities have been rejected from the rundown of classes, in spite of the expansion in religion-based clashes in Pakistan.

While it tends to be contended that "all such residents" may incorporate strict minorities too, the reason for these Goals is to explicitly feature specific gatherings while resolving important issues. Also, when the Targets distinguish explicit gatherings while recognizing issues, it demonstrates that the state ought to zero in additional on such gatherings while settling those specific issues. Despite the fact that there is no bar that disallows strict gatherings, the way that a particular gathering has not been referenced doesn't reveal direct insight into their necessities or social remaining in the country.

For example, it is generally recognized that Pakistani ladies face orientation based separation in different regions, which is the reason this perspective has been tended to in a few Targets by expressly referencing orientation. Nonetheless, a similar consideration has not been given to strict minorities in spite of their deteriorating financial circumstances in Pakistan.

### The Assurance of Minorities in Indian Lawful Structure

<sup>65</sup>India stands apart among South Asian nations because of its assorted strict scene. Significant religions and their particular minorities call India home. The Hindu people group includes the greater part, representing 79.8% of the absolute populace, while any remaining strict networks consolidated make up 20% and are viewed as minorities. Among these minorities, Islam is the biggest with roughly 14% of the populace, trailed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> MADIHA AFZAL, PAKISTAN UNDER SIEGE EXTREMISM, SOCIETY AND THE STATE, (Brookings Institution Press, 2018)

by Christianity (2.3%), Sikhism (1.72%), Buddhism (0.70%), Jainism (0.37%), and others (0.9%). Islam is spread all through the country.

India has a long history of strict resistance and pluralism. Perceiving this, the composers of the Indian constitution presented the idea of secularism in the Constitution of India in 1950. The constitution broadcasts that there will be no state religion and underscores strict opportunity and equivalent treatment for every single strict local area. Secularism in India doesn't mean being hostile to religion; it regards all religions and convictions without sticking to a particular religion. There is no state religion, and all strict gatherings partake in a similar established security with negligible predisposition or separation.

Article 25(1) of the Indian Constitution ensures each individual the opportunity of heart and the option to unreservedly affirm, practice, and spread religion. It ought to be noticed that this right isn't confined to residents alone; any individual, including outsiders, is qualified for it. Article 30(1) awards two rights explicitly to semantic or strict minorities: the option to lay out and the option to control instructive foundations. These opportunities are restrictive to phonetic or strict minorities and not reached out to different segments of the populace. This is the tremendous distinction between Article 29(1) and Article 30(1).

In any case, the expressions "minority" and "minorities" are not unequivocally characterized in the Indian Constitution. The expression "minorities" in Article 30 additionally stays questionable. In the Re Kerala Training Bill Case, the High Court saw that while the term isn't characterized in the Constitution, it by and large alludes to any local area that is mathematically

under half of the number of inhabitants in a specific state. Consequently, when a guideline that connects with minority privileges is a state guideline, the "minorities" are resolved in view of the number of inhabitants in that state. In D.A.V School v. Province of Punjab, the High Court dismissed the contention by the Territory of Punjab that a strict or semantic minority ought still up in the air as per the whole populace of India.

On account of Territory of Bombay v. Bombay Instruction Society, the High Court perceived that Parsi Indians, who are both a strict and phonetic minority, reserve the privilege to protect their language, content, and culture under Article 30(1). The Theosophical Society, then again, isn't viewed as a strict minority.

### 2.1 State of Bombay v. Bombay Educational Societyair 1954 SC 561 (india)

<sup>66</sup>On account of The Region of Bombay versus Bombay Educational Society and Others (1954 AIR 561, 1955 SCR 568), a seat comprising of Judges Sudhi Ranjan Das, Mehar Chand (CJ), Ghulam Hasan, Natwarlal H. Bhagwati, and B. Jagannadhadas heard the matter. The judgment was followed through on May 26, 1954.

The case included the Bombay Guidance Society, which worked a notable English medium school called Barnes Optional School. The school got help from the Territory of Bombay and led its schooling in the English language. The Territory of Bombay gave a round request that denied the confirmation of understudies who were not of Early English Indian drop or of non-Asiatic beginning to schools where English was the vehicle of guidance.

<sup>66 (1954</sup> AIR 561, 1955 SCR 568)

A few residents, including an individual from the Indian Christian people group and one more from the Gujarati Hindu people group, tested this request as it denied admission to their particular kids in view of their native languages. The Guidance Society and its chiefs documented an application in the Bombay High Court looking for a writ of mandamus to limit the State from upholding the request and to permit the confirmation of non-Early English Indian understudies to the school.

The Bombay High Court acknowledged the application and conceded the writ as mentioned. The Region of Bombay pursued against the choice of the Great Court.

The High Court held that the round request, which denied admission to understudies who were not Early English Indians or of Asiatic drop to the Early English Indian school, was void and unenforceable. The court decided that it disregarded the principal right ensured to all residents under Article 29(2) of the Constitution, which protects the right to induction into instructive foundations kept up with or supported by the State.

The Court deciphered the language of Article 29(2) to cover all residents, independent of whether they had a place with the larger part or minority bunch, and stressed that the security reached out against the State or anybody denying the gave right.

Besides, the Court noticed that the Early English Indian schools reserved the privilege to concede non-Early English Indian understudies as a condition point of reference for getting awards from the Public authority. The condemned request kept the schools from satisfying their sacred commitment and presented them to the gamble of relinquishing their unavoidably safeguarded right to the extraordinary award.

The Court likewise perceived the principal freedoms of minorities, like the Early English Indian people group, to save their own language, content, and culture. It declared that the State, through its police power, can't direct the vehicle of guidance that conflicts with such key opportunities.

All in all, the High Court pronounced the decried request as unlawful and maintained the choice of the Bombay High Court. The decision certified the significance of safeguarding the privileges of all residents and regarding the freedoms of semantic and social minorities in India.

# 2.2Occurrences of mutual brutality influencing India's strict minorities, 1964 – 2013

• In January 1964, broad mobs emitted in Calcutta (presently Kolkata), West Bengal, and later spread to Jamshedpur (presently in Jharkhand) and Rourkela (presently in Odisha, then known as Orissa). These mobs brought about an authority loss of life of 134, however the assessed number of passings was a lot higher, arriving at a few thousand. <sup>67</sup>The savagery was purportedly set off by the burglary of a holy remnant from the Hazratbal Mosque in Srinagar, Kashmir, in 1963. This occurrence ignited shock and prompted public strains in different pieces of India, including the referenced urban communities.

During the mobs, there were conflicts between various strict and ethnic networks, bringing about death toll, property harm, and removal of individuals. The particular causes and conditions of the brutality shifted in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup>ADIL HUSSAIN KHAN, FROM SUFISM TO AHMADIYYA: A MUSLIM MINORITY MOVEMENT IN SOUTH ASIA, 91-93, Indiana University Press, (2015)

every locale, except strict and public strains assumed a huge part.

Experts in the impacted areas put forth attempts to contain the viciousness and reestablish request. Nonetheless, the mobs significantly affected the impacted networks, causing dread, injury, and enduring social divisions.

It is essential to take note of that demonstrations of viciousness and collective pressures are profoundly deplorable and don't mirror the serene lessons of any religion, including Islam. The standards of adoration, empathy, and resilience are crucial to the Islamic confidence, and demonstrations of viciousness or mistreatment conflict with the genuine soul of Islam.

Endeavors to advance harmony, understanding, and concordance among various strict and ethnic networks stay fundamental in forestalling such episodes and cultivating a unified society in light of common regard and acknowledgment. It is fundamental for people and networks to participate in discourse, encourage compassion, and embrace variety to construct a general public where quiet conjunction is focused on. By regarding each other's convictions and societies, we can pursue a world that celebrates solidarity in the midst of variety and rules out brutality and contempt.

• In September 2013, the locales of Muzaffarnagar and Shamli in Uttar Pradesh, India, saw annihilating mutual mobs that prevalently designated Muslims. The brutality brought about the disastrous demise of no less than 65 individuals, and around 50,000 people had to escape from their homes. The uproars were likewise set apart by upsetting degrees of sexual savagery against minority women. The turmoil was set off by charges of a Muslim man purportedly irritating a Hindu lady from the

Jat people group. These claims raised pressures and spiraled into enormous scope viciousness between various strict and ethnic gatherings in the region. Local specialists confronted huge analysis for their inability to successfully mediate and subdue the spread of savagery. Their apparent failure to maintain law and order additionally exacerbated the circumstance and permitted the strife to continue.

The common uproars in Muzaffarnagar and Shamli devastatingly affected the impacted networks. Lives were lost, families were dislodged, and dread and question saturated the region. The episodes of sexual savagery against minority ladies added an extra layer of misfortune to a generally critical situation. It is pivotal to underline that demonstrations of brutality and segregation have no bearing in an equitable and comprehensive society. No matter what their strict or ethnic foundation, all people reserve the privilege to live in security and amicability. <sup>68</sup>The standards of harmony, congruity, and regard for basic liberties are fundamental for the texture of a different and pluralistic country.

Endeavors to address the hidden reasons for shared pressures, advance discourse, and reinforce interfaith connections are imperative in forestalling the repeat of such heartbreaking occasions. Building extensions of grasping, encouraging compassion, and seeking after equity and compromise are fundamental stages towards recuperating and making a more comprehensive society for all. By encouraging a climate of shared regard and understanding, India can endeavor towards a future where mutual congruity wins and variety is praised as a wellspring of solidarity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup>BIPAN CHANDRA and MRIDULA MUKERJEE et al., INDIA'S Battle FOR Independency Freedom of Religion and Religious Minorities in Pakistan

## 2.3 Impediments to equity for designated minorities in India

Notwithstanding the current arrangements, a few difficulties impede endeavors to accomplish equity for minority networks who have been casualties of common brutality in India. These difficulties remember postpones by the police for enrolling First Data Reports (FIRs), FIRs with blunders, tension on casualties to pull out their cases prior to arriving at a goal, and delayed preliminaries. Institutional inclination inside the policing framework further compounds these hardships.

One more critical variable that hampers the quest for equity is the idea of public viciousness in India, frequently entwined with political cycles like races. Those associated with such demonstrations of viciousness frequently use political impact, making it especially testing to consider them responsible for their activities.

Endeavors by common society gatherings and NGOs to look for equity have likewise confronted impediments, especially through prohibitive guidelines forced on associations getting unfamiliar subsidizing. The Unfamiliar Commitment (Guideline) Act (FCRA) has gone through prohibitive revisions that don't line up with global principles. These activities have seriously obstructed crafted by associations endeavoring to advance and safeguard the freedoms of minority networks in India. A few associations, including the Sabrang Trust and Residents for Equity and Harmony, which have been at the very front of chasing after equity for basic freedoms infringement during the 2002 Gujarat riots, have had their licenses to get unfamiliar financing denied.

These activities have made critical obstructions for associations attempting to guarantee responsibility for public viciousness and protect the freedoms of minority networks. They have smothered the fundamental work of these associations in looking for equity and considering culprits responsible for denials of basic freedoms.

establish an empowering climate that maintains the standards of equity, correspondence, and basic freedoms for all. This requires extensive changes in policing to address institutional predisposition and guarantee quick and unprejudiced examinations. Moreover, the public authority ought to reexamine and upgrade guidelines that confine the exercises of common society associations and hinder their endeavors to advance and defend minority privileges. By making these strides, India can move towards a more comprehensive society, where all people, no matter what their strict or ethnic foundation, are treated with pride and get equivalent insurance under the law.

#### The Comparative Examination

The abberations in the conditions of minorities in India and Pakistan can be ascribed to a few explicit reasons. The established frameworks of the two nations, first and foremost, contrast altogether. The Constitution of Pakistan pronounces it as an Islamic state with Islam as the state religion. Conversely, the Constitution of India broadcasts India as a common country where power lies with individuals. While the Constitution of Pakistan safeguards the privileges of minorities, the Constitution of India gives more unequivocal and extensive

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup>Jaffrelot, Christophe. *Dr Ambedkar and Untouchability: Analysing and Fighting Caste*. C. HURST & CO. PUBLISHERS, 2005

assurances for strict opportunity and the privileges of minorities, including the opportunity of heart, the option to rehearse and spread religion, and the option to oversee strict issues and organizations.

Moreover, the circumstance of minorities in India and Pakistan is affected by the particular arrangements and ensures gave in their separate constitutions. The Constitution of India explicitly defends the social and instructive freedoms of minority networks through arrangements like Article 29 and Article 30. These arrangements guarantee the safeguarding of their language, content, and culture, as well as the option to lay out and control instructive foundations. Interestingly, the Constitution of Pakistan doesn't give explicit privileges and assurances to strict minorities with respect to their social opportunities.

<sup>70</sup>Thirdly, the various methodologies of the state legislatures in India and Pakistan assume a huge part in the treatment of minorities. Pakistan has been reprimanded for its absence of thorough drives to remember minorities for the standard of society, bringing about separation and abuse of strict minorities. The public authority of Pakistan, especially during Zia-ul-Hag's system, carried out strategies that upheld Islamic philosophies and disregarded the freedoms of strict minorities. Conversely, India has carried out common training in its school educational program and doesn't force strict guidelines or love in instructive foundations. The Indian government has likewise acquainted approaches and commissions with address the social and

 $<sup>^{70}</sup>$ RADHAKRISHNAN, EAST AND WEST: SOME REFLECTIONS 40-41 (George Allen and Unwin Ltd, London, 19551954 SC 561 (india).

financial backwardness of strict and etymological minorities.

Generally speaking, the particular conditions of minorities in India and Pakistan can be ascribed to the distinctions in their established designs, the particular assurances gave to minorities, and the methodologies of their separate states towards inclusivity and minority government assistance strategies. While India has done whatever it may take to guarantee the privileges and prosperity of minorities through its common and comprehensive methodology, Pakistan's difficulties lie in tending to the worries of strict minorities and advancing a more comprehensive and equivalent society for all.

#### Conclusion

Since the beginning of time, India has been known for its strict resilience and congruity. In any event, during the Mughal period, a few Muslim rulers showed resistance and regard towards their non-Muslim subjects. Head Akbar, specifically, took on a strategy of strict resistance and secularism during his rule. Be that as it may, after India's freedom, the nation was parceled, prompting the making of Pakistan as a different country for the sake of Islam. Tragically, Pakistan has seen a portion of the most exceedingly terrible maltreatment and persecution of strict minorities, in spite of the underlying confirmation by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the organizer behind Pakistan, with respect to the opportunity of minorities. For a critical piece of its set of experiences, Pakistan has been under the immediate rule of its tactical elites. During their standard, religion has been taken advantage of for political interests, giving open doors to fanatic powers to instigate scorn against minorities and other non-Muslim people group, subverting the nation's

pluralistic and moderate qualities. The forceful Islamic plan sought after by revolutionary outfits in Pakistan has brought about viciousness, badgering, constrained transformations, and abuse of minorities.

The ongoing circumstance in Pakistan mirrors this reality. In 1947, minorities comprised around 23% of the complete populace, yet presently they make up just 3-4% as of roughly 2012. A few noticeable political researchers have scrutinized progressive Pakistani states for their inability to protect strict minorities, alluding to it as a "quiet slaughter." Curiously, the two India and Pakistan have revered specific central privileges for minorities in Notwithstanding, particular constitutions. Pakistan, these freedoms have frequently remained unimplemented by and by. Under military systems and the impact of fanatic philosophies, minority freedoms have been dismissed, becoming simple manner of speaking.

Thusly, when the soul of constitutionalism is deficient with regards to, the privileges and opportunities of minorities likewise endure. As Dr. Ambedkar properly noticed, regardless of how great a constitution might be, it will undoubtedly be undermined by those liable for its execution. Thus, the soul of the country and obligation to constitutionalism are urgent elements in guaranteeing the security of minority freedoms. The two India and Pakistan should truly maintain the standards of strict opportunity, resistance, and equivalent open doors for all residents, no matter what their strict foundation. State-run foundations ought to find substantial ways to maintain and protect the freedoms of minorities, making a comprehensive society where variety is praised and This requires a veritable obligation regarded. secularism, pluralism, and law and order. By encouraging a climate of resilience and acknowledgment, the two nations can pursue a future where the privileges and pride, all things considered, no matter what their strict convictions, are safeguarded and maintained.

## THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES IN SHAPING PAKISTAN'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTE

## OMAR MAHMOOD WATTOO\*\* MUHAMMAD ISLAM\*\*

This Abstract; article explores the impact international human rights treaties on Pakistan's criminal justice system. It highlights the historical context of Pakistan's commitment to these treaties and their influence on legislation and legal reforms. The role of civil society, challenges in implementation, and future prospects for alignment with international standards are discussed. Pakistan's evolving role in promoting human rights on the global stage is also addressed. The article concludes by emphasizing the significance of Pakistan's experience for other nations grappling with human rights and justice challenges.

**Keywords:** human rights, justice, Pakistan, international treaties, legislation, legal reforms, civil society, challenges, future prospects

#### Introduction;

The concept of human rights stands as the cornerstone of a just and equitable society. When it comes to criminal justice systems, the importance of human rights cannot be overstated. Fundamental rights, such as the right to a fair trial, protection against torture, and the presumption of innocence until proven guilty, underpin the principles of justice and ensure that

individuals are treated with dignity and respect throughout the legal process. These rights serve as safeguards against potential abuses and miscarriages of justice, and they form the bedrock upon which criminal justice systems worldwide are built.

Pakistan, with its rich cultural heritage and intricate socio-political landscape, presents a unique backdrop for its criminal justice system. This system encompasses various components, including law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, and correctional facilities, all working cohesively to maintain law and order, prosecute criminal offenders, and guarantee the equitable administration of justice. Yet, similar to many global counterparts, Pakistan's criminal justice system faces ongoing challenges that necessitate continuous adaptation to adhere to the evolving principles of human rights.

International human rights treaties have played a pivotal role in guiding and shaping Pakistan's criminal justice system. These treaties provide a framework for legal and practical reforms, aiming to ensure that Pakistan complies with global standards for human rights and justice. This article seeks to explore the multifaceted impact of these international treaties on Pakistan's criminal justice system, examining their influence on legislation, legal reforms, practical implementation, challenges, and controversies. By doing so, we gain valuable insights into the complex relationship between international treaty obligations and the domestic criminal justice system, as well as the broader implications of this interaction for both Pakistan and the international community(Tanguay-Renaud, F., 2002).

#### **Historical Context**

To grasp the international human rights treaties role in shaping Pakistan's criminal justice system, it's crucial to explore the historical progression of human rights within the country. Pakistan's journey toward embracing human rights principles is closely interwoven with its historical development. Since its inception in 1947, Pakistan's dedication to human rights has undergone significant changes, influenced by a complex interplay of domestic and global factors. These shifts have laid the groundwork for the nation's engagement with international human rights treaties.

One pivotal milestone in Pakistan's endeavor to align its legal and justice systems with global standards was the formal endorsement of key international human rights treaties. The nation took a substantial step by becoming a signatory to various conventions and agreements aimed at upholding and safeguarding human rights(Reilly, N., 2007). This act signifies Pakistan's acknowledgment of the importance of adhering to worldwide human rights principles and its commitment to fulfilling the obligations outlined in these international treaties.

Within the realm of criminal justice, there exist several international human rights treaties that bear special relevance to Pakistan. These treaties establish benchmarks and directives for the treatment of individuals within the criminal justice system. Notable agreements include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which ensures rights; right of fair trial and freedom from torture, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT). These treaties directly

influence the configuration of the legal landscape and the practices embedded within Pakistan's criminal justice system, reflecting the nation's dedication to international human rights standards.

## Impact of International Human Rights Treaties on Legislation

Examining the legislative landscape in Pakistan reveals instances where international human rights treaties have significantly influenced the shaping of local laws and regulations. Notable examples include the Protection against Harassment of Women Workplace Act of 2010, which derives inspiration from treaty obligations to safeguard women's rights in the workplace. Additionally, the National Commission for Human Rights Act of 2012 reflects Pakistan's commitment to the principles outlined international treaties, facilitating the establishment of an body tasked with independent overseeing and safeguarding human rights.

However, it's essential to acknowledge that Pakistan's legal framework does not consistently adhere to international human rights standards. Discernible gaps within the legislation highlight instances where the country falls short of meeting these global standards. A telling example of such a deficiency is the absence of comprehensive anti-torture legislation, despite Pakistan's formal endorsement of the Convention against Torture. This legislative gap underscores a significant disparity between the country's legal framework and its obligations under the treaty. To attain full compliance with these treaty commitments, it is imperative for Pakistan to address this specific legislative deficiency and take concrete steps towards enacting comprehensive anti-

torture laws. This action would not only rectify the incongruity between national laws and international obligations but also serve as a tangible demonstration of Pakistan's dedication to upholding human rights standards on a global scale.

The Constitution of Pakistan plays an instrumental role in integrating international human rights principles into the nation's legal framework. As the supreme law of the land, its provisions often echo the core values enshrined in international human rights treaties. The Constitution, notably through its fundamental rights chapter, reinforces principles such as the right to life, liberty, and security of person, along with guarantees for freedom of expression, association, and religion. These rights, enshrined in the Constitution, not only embody international human rights ideals but also provide a foundation for the integration of treaty obligations into Pakistan's legal framework. The Constitution acts as a bridge, connecting Pakistan's domestic legal structure with the broader sphere of international human rights standards, ensuring a harmonious coexistence between the two.

## **Challenges and Controversies**

Integrating treaty obligations into Pakistan's justice system presents a multitude of intricate challenges that demand meticulous examination and resolution.

Pakistan, like numerous other nations, grapples with resource limitations that can significantly impede the full implementation of international treaty obligations. The scarcity of funding and limited institutional capacity presents substantial hurdles when aligning domestic laws and practices with global standards. To ensure comprehensive compliance with human rights treaties,

addressing these resource constraints is not only crucial but also demanding. It requires strategic resource allocation and the development of effective mechanisms to overcome financial and capacity challenges.

Pakistan's remarkably diverse cultural landscape adds a layer of complexity when applying international human rights standards. Striking a harmonious balance between these global norms and deeply ingrained cultural practices and beliefs is a multifaceted and continuous undertaking. The challenge lies in reconciling the universal nature of human rights with the imperative to respect local cultural values. Achieving this harmony necessitates ongoing efforts to understand, accommodate, and harmonize these elements(Wotipka, C. M., &Tsutsui, K., 2008. It often requires educational initiatives, intercultural dialogue, and the development of culturally sensitive approaches to justice.

Ensuring equitable access to justice for all citizens, with particular attention to marginalized groups, remains an enduring and pressing challenge in Pakistan. Disparities in legal representation, accessibility to the justice system, and the effective enforcement of rights continue to be significant impediments. To address these issues comprehensively, it is imperative to implement targeted reforms that guarantee equal access and legal protection for all citizens. This may encompass measures such as improved legal aid services, community outreach programs, and initiatives to address socio-economic disparities that hinder access to justice. Ultimately, the objective is to fulfill treaty obligations while promoting fairness and equity within the justice system(Jamshed, J., 2018).

Interpreting and applying international human rights treaties can be challenging in a cultural context as

diverse as Pakistan's. Controversies often emerge when certain international human rights norms appear to clash with deeply ingrained cultural and religious beliefs. Balancing universal human rights principles with the imperative to respect cultural sensitivities is a complex undertaking. This dynamic raises intricate questions, particularly concerning personal freedom and identity. Striking a balance between respecting the values and beliefs of a diverse population while adhering to international standards is a nuanced endeavor, requiring ongoing dialogue, education, and cultural sensitivity in legal and policy considerations.

Controversies frequently arise due to the selective application of international treaties in Pakistan. The inconsistent enforcement of certain provisions, often influenced by political or social factors, can result in disparities in rights protection. Such disparities underscore concerns about the equitable application of justice and fairness. The selective application of international treaties can lead to perceptions of injustice and inequality within the legal system, necessitating a commitment consistent, non-discriminatory to enforcement of human rights standards. Ensuring that rights are protected uniformly for all individuals is a fundamental aspect of upholding the rule of law and international obligations.

The interpretation and application of international human rights treaties become more complex when viewed in the context of counterterrorism and national security. Controversies may arise over the degree to which international human rights standards should be applicable in these situations. Debates surrounding the need to safeguard individual rights and privacy versus the necessity of ensuring national security give rise to

intricate moral and legal dilemmas. Effectively managing this balancing act remains a substantial challenge, necessitating a thoughtful examination of the legal and ethical boundaries that can be established to safeguard both security and individual rights. Achieving this equilibrium is crucial to ensure that human rights are upheld, even in the presence of national security concerns.

Interpreting and applying international human rights treaties can give rise to controversies and intricate debates within Pakistan's legal landscape.

Pakistan, as a sovereign nation, staunchly upholds its right to formulate laws and policies based on domestic priorities and cultural values. This commitment occasionally leads to tensions when international obligations appear to encroach upon this autonomy. Striking balance between preserving national sovereignty and fulfilling international obligations demands adept negotiation and diplomacy. It involves creating legal frameworks and policies that respect both Pakistan's unique cultural and political context and its international commitments.

International obligations demand accountability and transparency, but ensuring accountability within the context of established power structures and practices in Pakistan can sometimes challenge established norms. Achieving the delicate equilibrium between national autonomy and international accountability is of vital importance(Ali, S. H., 2015). This often requires reinforcing institutions responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with international standards. It also necessitates robust mechanisms for addressing grievances and human rights violations while respecting the principles of justice and fairness.

Achieving full compliance with international standards while respecting Pakistan's sovereignty calls for skilled negotiation and diplomacy. Striking this intricate balance is crucial for upholding international obligations while respecting the distinct cultural and political landscape of the nation. It involves continuous dialogue and cooperation with international bodies and stakeholders to create an environment where Pakistan can meet its commitments without compromising its sovereignty. This process demands careful negotiation and a commitment to upholding human rights, even as the country asserts its autonomy in shaping its laws and policies.

Effectively navigating these challenges and controversies is an ongoing and multifaceted endeavor as Pakistan continues to uphold its commitment to international human rights treaties while respecting its unique cultural and political context. Balancing national sovereignty and international obligations necessitates a delicate and adaptable approach that ensures human rights are both protected and upheld in a manner consistent with the values and identity of the nation.

## The Role of NGOs and Civil Society Contributions of non-governmental organizations and civil society in promoting human rights

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society play a pivotal role in promoting human rights in Pakistan, contributing in various significant ways:

NGOs and civil society organizations are vocal advocates for human rights in Pakistan. They raise awareness about rights violations by disseminating information, conducting public campaigns, and mobilizing public opinion. They focus on a range of issues, including gender equality, minority rights, and freedom of expression. Through their advocacy efforts, they push for policy reforms and societal change.

NGOs often provide crucial legal aid and support to individuals facing human rights abuses. This support is especially significant for marginalized and vulnerable groups who may lack the means to seek justice. By offering legal assistance, NGOs empower victims to seek legal redress, initiate legal proceedings, and hold perpetrators accountable for their actions. This aspect of their work ensures that human rights are not just theoretical concepts but practical tools for justice.

NGOs in Pakistan engage in in-depth research and documentation of human rights violations. This work involves the systematic collection of data and evidence on rights abuses. The research conducted by these organizations is invaluable in substantiating their advocacy efforts(Benedetti, F., & Washburn, J. L., 1999). It serves as a foundation for raising awareness, influencing policy change, and holding violators accountable. The evidence-based approach is essential for making a strong case for human rights improvements. NGOs actively work to enhance the capacity of local communities, legal professionals, and institutions to understand and defend human rights, conducting training programs, workshops, and educational initiatives to empower individuals with knowledge and skills, fostering a culture of human rights awareness, enabling people to stand up for their rights, and equipping them to advocate for their own rights and those of their communities in Pakistan. Additionally, these NGOs engage with government bodies and international organizations to influence policy development and implementation, participating in legislative processes, advocating for the alignment of national laws with international human rights standards, proposing legal reforms, providing expert input on human rights issues, and collaborating with government agencies to create a legal framework that respects and upholds human rights. In essence, NGOs and civil society organizations are the driving force behind many human rights improvements in Pakistan. Their work extends from advocacy and legal support to data-driven research, capacity building, and policy influence. They serve as essential partners in the endeavor to protect and promote human rights in the country.

# Case studies of successful advocacy and awareness campaigns

Numerous successful advocacy and awareness campaigns have been conducted by NGOs and civil society organizations in Pakistan. Some notable examples include:

The annual Aurat March, organized by women's rights activists and NGOs, has gained significant traction. It advocates for gender equality, reproductive rights, and an end to violence against women. It has sparked important conversations about women's rights and continues to push for policy changes. Meanwhile, Malala, a Pakistani education activist, and Nobel laureate, represents a successful case of civil society advocacy. Her campaign for girls' education garnered international attention, leading to increased investment in education and girls' rights. Whereas, HRCP is a prominent NGO that has been advocating for human rights in Pakistan since 1987. They publish an annual report on the state of human rights in Pakistan, shedding light on critical issues and recommending

reforms(Strasser, P. G., 2014).

# Collaboration between the government and civil society in addressing human rights issues

Collaboration between the government and civil society is indispensable for effectively addressing human rights issues. To ensure this, the government and civil society should engage in constructive dialogues to identify shared goals and strategies for advancing human rights. Regular consultations and meetings are pivotal in facilitating this collaboration. Moreover, the government can play a pivotal role in capacity building for civil society organizations, equipping them with the necessary resources and training to enhance their advocacy efforts. Collaborative efforts may also result in legislative reforms, aligning national laws with international human rights standards, with civil society organizations providing their valuable input expertise. and Furthermore, this collaboration can extend to human rights monitoring and reporting, where civil society organizations independently document violations, and the with government responds investigations accountability measures, ensuring a comprehensive and concerted approach to safeguarding human rights in Pakistan.

In Pakistan, the partnership between NGOs, civil society, and the government is essential for addressing human rights challenges comprehensively and ensuring that the country remains committed to upholding international human rights standards.

# Future Prospects Potential for further alignment with international human rights treaties

Pakistan has significant potential for further alignment with international human rights treaties. This alignment can be achieved through several key avenues. Firstly, prioritizing legislative reforms is essential to bring national laws in line with international human rights standards. This entails amending or enacting laws that protect and uphold fundamental human rights, including gender equality, freedom of expression, and minority rights. Secondly, while Pakistan has ratified numerous human rights treaties, the effective implementation of these treaties remains a challenge. The country can strengthen its commitment by improving the enforcement of human rights provisions and enhancing the mechanisms for monitoring and accountability. Finally, investing in capacity building, both within government institutions and civil society, is critical. Enhanced training and resources can empower individuals to better understand and advocate for human rights, thereby fostering a culture of respect for these rights and facilitating their broader realization in Pakistan.

## The role of Pakistan on the global stage in promoting human rights

Pakistan's impact on the global stage in promoting human rights is undeniably significant. The nation can contribute through various means, starting with diplomatic engagement. Pakistan can actively participate in international organizations and forums to advocate for human rights, not only within its own borders but also on a global scale. It can leverage its diplomatic influence to raise awareness about human rights issues worldwide.

Furthermore, as a participant in peacekeeping missions, Pakistan plays a crucial role in safeguarding human rights in conflict zones. The nation can continue to contribute to international peace and security efforts, advocating for and promoting respect for human rights in areas affected by conflicts(Bassiouni, M. C., 1982). Its role as a peacekeeper allows it to directly impact the protection of human rights in some of the most challenging environments.

Additionally, Pakistan has the opportunity to share its experiences, both its successes and challenges, in promoting human rights with other nations. This sharing of best practices can foster international cooperation and knowledge exchange in the realm of human rights. By sharing its insights and lessons learned, Pakistan can contribute to the global dialogue on human rights and encourage other nations to adopt effective strategies for human rights promotion and protection.

# Recommendations for strengthening Pakistan's commitment to international human rights standards

To bolster Pakistan's commitment to international human rights standards, a set of comprehensive recommendations should be considered.

Firstly, Pakistan should prioritize legislative reforms aimed at expediting the alignment of national laws with international human rights treaties. This entails a proactive approach to amending or enacting laws that safeguard fundamental human rights, including gender equality, freedom of expression, and minority rights.

Secondly, there is a critical need for substantial investments in human rights education, training, and

resources. This should encompass government officials, law enforcement agencies, and civil society organizations to enhance their capabilities in both protecting and promoting human rights. An educated and skilled workforce is pivotal in creating a culture of respect for these rights.

Thirdly, Pakistan should establish and reinforce transparent and accountable mechanisms for monitoring and reporting human rights violations. Timely, impartial investigations and the accountability of perpetrators should be paramount. This ensures that human rights abuses are met with appropriate consequences.

Furthermore, strengthening civil society is essential. Supporting the operations of civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations by creating an enabling environment is vital. This involves encouraging their active participation in policy development and human rights advocacy, allowing them to effectively amplify the voices of marginalized and vulnerable groups.

Diplomatic efforts are crucial in Pakistan's role on the global stage in promoting human rights. The nation should actively engage with international organizations and forums to advocate for human rights, both domestically and internationally. Collaborating with other nations to address global human rights challenges is a fundamental step in fostering global respect for these rights.

Lastly, raising public awareness about human rights is key. Pakistan should work towards ensuring that all citizens have a profound understanding of their rights and are empowered to protect them. Public education and awareness campaigns can be instrumental in achieving this goal. These recommendations collectively form a comprehensive strategy to strengthen Pakistan's commitment to international human rights standards.

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the influence of international human rights treaties on Pakistan's criminal justice system is unmistakable. These treaties have significantly impacted legislation, legal reforms, and the practical application of justice, leaving an enduring imprint on the pursuit of justice and human rights within the country. Pakistan's ongoing commitment to aligning with international standards not only holds significance for its own citizens but also serves as a beacon of hope and a source of lessons for other nations grappling with similar human rights and justice challenges. The world watches with anticipation, recognizing the broader implications of Pakistan's journey and the potential it holds to inspire positive change in the global arena of human rights and justice.

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