

# Human Rights Media Monitoring Report

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## Human Rights Monitor Report -July 2012

Human rights situation is getting worst day by day in Pakistan, particularly in Sindh. Today, the Sindh province of Pakistan is experiencing the worst situation of human rights violation in the history of Pakistan. All forms of human rights violation are prevailing in the Sindh including extrajudicial and arbitrary killings, kidnapping, rape, gage rape, child trafficking, smuggling, domestic tortures, honor killing, Child and bonded labour, car and motor bike theft, suicide, bomb blasting, target killing, forced disappearances, drug abuse, corruption etc.

In the day light law binding people are looted, kidnapped, banks are made dacoit, and those who are raising voice against the violation of human rights and poor law and order situation in Sindh are either murdered or allegedly involved into number of cases so that he should be busy rest of his/her life dealing with these cases and resolving these tiny matters.

Despite of having well defined constitution with 21 amendments and laws, big force of police, rangers and other laws enforcement agencies, people are always at risk. There is no security for the poor people. Tribal laws and customs are de facto, functioning and stronger than our constitution. No one is that much powerful to challenge the tribal laws and costumes in Sindh.

Although the constitution of Pakistan is protecting the fundamental rights of its citizens through its various articles like article 9 is clearly talking about the security of a person who is law binding citizen of Pakistan. No person shall be deprived of life or liberties save in accordance with law. Article 25 of the constitution of Pakistan ensures the equality of citizens. According to this article all citizens are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection. There shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex. Nothing in this article shall prevent the state from making any special provision for the protection of women and children.

Pakistan has also signed International Human Rights Declaration 1948 on December 11, 1948 and had ratified it on October 12, 1957. It was supposed to be implemented fully. As some of its articles clearly defining protection of basic human rights and giving security to human being irrespective of its color, belief and social, economical and political position. Articles ensuring protection of human rights are given below:

- Article 2 shares that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.
- Article 3 defines that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.
- Article 4 No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms

- Article 5 No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
- Article 9 No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile

In addition to this, Pakistan government has ratified interventional conventions on economic social and cultural rights, civil and political rights, conventions against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment/punishment and many other international conventions have also been ratified on various dates. All these constitutions, laws, bills, treaties, protocols and conventions are meant to protect basic human rights and intact the dignity of human beings globally. But what is happening practically on ground in Pakistan, particularly in Sindh, detail is given blow.

## Murders

It is basic right of every human being to live freely and with freedom. No one is allowed to take one's life. Taking life is considered a big crime and those who are involved into such crimes must to be brought to justice. Despite of the given protection and security to life in national and international constitutions & laws, human life is not protected in the Pakistan, particularly in Sindh province.



During the month of July 2012, 398 (328 male & 70 female) persons have been murdered in Sindh only. Following districts have remained on the tops where murders have been done. Including Karachi, capital of the Sindh province, Hyderabad, Larkana, Sukkur, Thatta, Tando Allahyar, Qambar@Shahdatkot, Nawabshah, Jamshoro, Khair Pur Mirs, Mirpur Khas, Sanghar, Badin, Kandh kot, Dadu, Jacobabad and Umarmkot.

It is the sole responsibility of the state and government to provide security to its citizens, but the state organs, law enforcement agencies, and ruling governments seem handicapped and helpless in front of the perpetrators.

## Kidnappings

Since the last many years, kidnapping has remained one of the most profitable businesses in Pakistan, particularly in Sindh. This is only business which required no investment, hence, every feudal, warlords, tribal chief who are backed by local politics in Pakistan want to engage in this business, because this business make them millionaire within the short span of time.



There is unfortunate day that went without any kidnapping across the Sindh. It is our wish, but ground realities are different, as media is witnessing that everyday people are kidnapped for the various reason, but one of the dominant reason behind kidnapping is a ransom. People from Hindu community and Sindhi middle class are targeted. The emerging middle class who is always decisive in the development of society is targeted by going and coming to their business and duties in Sindh.

Due to increasing of this dirty business of kidnapping, parents do not allow their children to play outside of their homes and persons having jobs and small business in the urban settlements are unable to move to their own cities, because they afraid either they would return back to their homes safely or not.

As during the month of July 2012, 39 (22 male 17 female) persons have been kidnapped mainly for the ransom purpose, from the following districts Larkana, Hyderabad, Karachi, Jacobabad, Ghotki, Khairpur, Naoshro Feroz, of Sindh

### Honor Killings

One of the grass root human rights violations Sindh is facing is an honor killing. Women are murdered, killed and injured for their economic and social interests and to occupy property women are possessing inheritably. Basically, there is procedural gaps and constitution is not fully implemented which gives space to murders and offenders to get out of detain in short period of time. Instead of teaching lessons to murders, it encourages him to do it more. Result of these procedural gaps flaws in implementation cases of honor killings are increasing day by day. During the reporting month 29 (7 male & 22 female) persons have been murdered in the name of honor killing in Sindh.



### Suicides

Increasing ratio of suicide in Sindh, Pakistan is the reflections of our society that how people are deprived from their basic needs and rights. When human reached to extreme level of disappointment and helpless then he/she commits a suicide.

In this situation, responsibility lies on the State and current governments to ensure that people are accessing to social justice and their basic rights are exercised. But, there in the Pakistan it is none of the business of State and governments to address the genuine issues of people. Poor people are left aloof and on their destiny. This is the



reason that 43 (15 male & 28 female) have committed suicides in the Sindh only during the July 2012.

## Rape

Cases of sexual assaults and sexual harassment are common in our society. Working women and girl students are frequently facing these kinds of situation at work places, going to schools, colleges, and universities, and for going to market for purchasing their domestic appliances and groceries. This is very unfortunate that those women who are reaching to provincial as well as national assembly are also facing the sexual harassments from their male members. Despite of legislation has made by this current government in 2010 protecting women from all these attitudes by the male members of the society and to make women more comfortable and ease while doing their jobs and going outside of their homes.

Like other human rights bills, protocols and constitution, this bill is also not practiced and implemented to punish all those who are involved into such inhuman and derogatory practices. As a result, case of rape and gage rapes are increasing in Sindh which has created fear among the women and adult girls as well. This vulnerability has restricted their mobility and has deprived them from working outside of their homes. During the month of July rape cases have been noted are 14 (9 female & 5 girls) in the districts Karachi, Sukkur, Badin, Benazirababd/ Nawabshah of Sindh.

## Injured

Disputes and quarrels are the common phenomena in the Sindh, Pakistan. Due to ignorance and lack of education people are engaged into disputes over the tinny matters, wasting their time, capital, resources and precious life. During the month of July 2012, 261 (204 male & 57 female) have been injured in various disputes and quarrels in Sindh, Pakistan.

One thing more, these are cases which have been reported in different newspapers, but still a lot cases are left unreported, and there in no mechanism of reaching to these cases.

### Table of human rights violation

#	Areas of Human Rights Violation	Districts	Male	Female	Total
1	Murder	Karachi, Hyderabad, larkana, Sukkur, Quatta, , Thatta, Tando Alhyar, Shahdatkot, Nawabshah, Jamshoro, Khair pur, Mirpur Khas, Sanghar, Badin, Kandh kot, Dadu, Jacababad and Umarkot	328	70	398
2	Kidnapping	Larkana, Hyderabad, Karachi, Jacobabad, Ghotki, Khairpur, Naoshro Feroz	22	17	39
3	Honor Killing	Khairpur, Sukkur, Shikar Pur, Kandh kot@ Kashmore, Kamber@Shahdadkot	7	22	29
4	Injured	Karachi, Hyderabad, Larkana, Sukkur, Noshehro Feroz, Ghotki, Thatta, Tando Allahyar, Kandh kot,	204	57	261

		Jamshoro			
<b>5</b>	Suicide	Karachi, Hyderabad, larkana, Sukkur, Nagra Parkar, Jacobabad, Kandhkot, Khairpur Mirs, NaoShahro Feroz and Sanghar	15	28	<b>43</b>
<b>6</b>	Rape	Karachi, Sukkur, Badin, Benazirababd/ Nawabshah		14	<b>14</b>

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<sup>i</sup> Information has been collected from local newspapers daily the Kawsih and Awami Awaz