

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: A CASE OF ACID THROWING IN THE PROVINCE OF PUNJAB, PAKISTAN.

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ABSTRACT.: *This research article represents the interpretation of data regarding the violence against women's rights by acid throwing, in fact, a very shameful action/reaction, in the province of Punjab upon a decade (2001-2010). The tabulation and graphical expression show variable rates of acid throwing incidences, as the results of multiple causes, which, in reaction, have made reacted the people and have turned immunized as have well achieved the awareness against this crime. This article also shows a comprehensive, systematic and dedicated historical expression of the integration of crimes in the society and scholarly suggestions as implementable for the remedy of such damages as caused by the result of acid throwing/crimes intimidation etc.*

Keywords: Violence against Women, Acid Throwing and Crimes Intimidation etc.

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2.1. INTRODUCTION.

For a number of reasons, a considerable increase in the frequency of acid throwing incidents has been recorded in Pakistan, especially in the province of Punjab for the past decade (2001 -- 2010). Acid throwing is usually an act of revenge. In a male dominating society, it always happened with women. The background being, some social evils and psychological and emotional impacts like,

- When a woman refused to marry a particular man.
- In more cases, when the engagement breaks down due to some arguments between the two families which may depend upon
- The division of property between the families,
- Watta Satta (interchange) marriages,
- Differences of Caste, Creed and Colour as mainly the superiority complexes,
- The girl has superceded the boy in education and has become mature or desires not to marry to an illiterate or low educated man,
- The girl becomes an adult by good or higher education and has perfectly judged the man with bad habits cum has daringly declared of not marrying to the man with engagement or under negotiation of marriage,
- It could be due to ancestral rivalry that the women of the enemy could be deprived of fame or beauty and, in reaction, our hold as the ever-victorious group or tribe could be identified,
- It could be due to Shia Sunni conflict as this matter can also be glanced in view of the above perspective,
- Not by majorly, but up to a limited extent, the man or acid thrower could also be having problems facing psychological interpretations, i.e, failure to establish friendship or other desires with the girl or

- The boy and girl had a deep relationship or friendship with each other with the acceptance of a proposal from, at least, one side. Cum the girl has betrayed the confidence of boy for furtherance of love or marriage plan etc or
- Any other cause of action for acid throwing may also be interpretable and can also be incorporated into further research work.

This publication presents a widespread visualization of acid throwing incidents within the province of Punjab. Acid throwing is an intentional crime and no reasons can be sorted out giving that the crime has acted as non-intentional [1-5].

2.2. Identification of Data Resources.

The ministry of interior, Govt. of the Punjab, Lahore viz its' Police Deptt., association with a number NGOs and in affiliation with other welfare trusts/registered, civil societies, Human Rights Associations, Lawyer/Bar Associations within the province of Punjab and a number of other deserving personalities as helping to acid thrown affectees, as mainly cost-free, etc are the backbone of this research work.

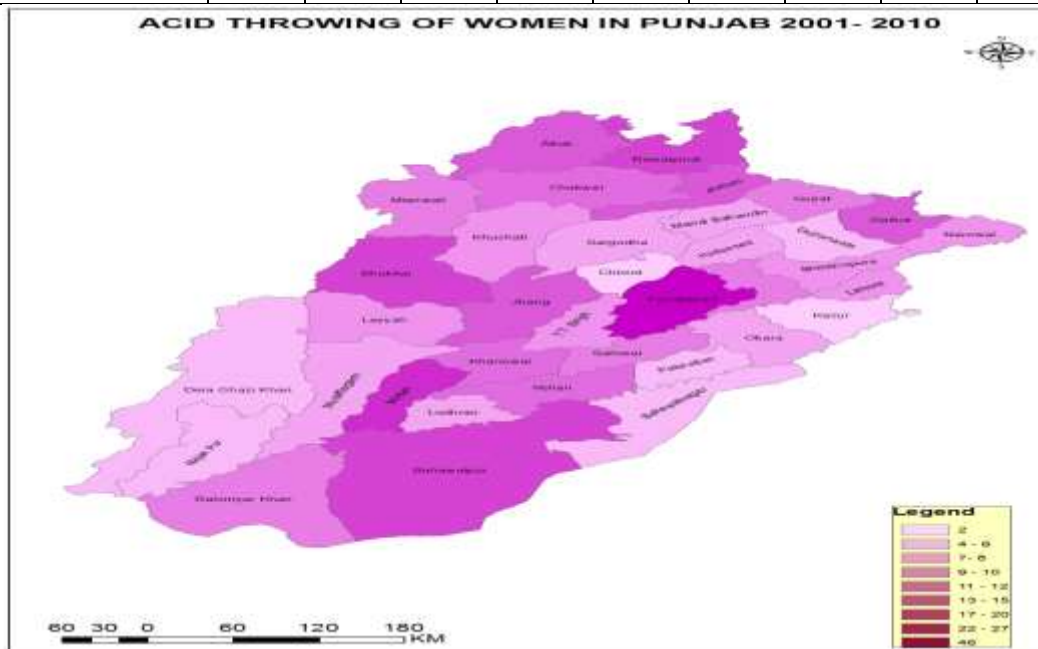
3.2. Interpretation of Data.

This is a Geographical Information System (GIS) based analysis about violence against women in different districts of the Punjab i.e., the total number of violence are reported in the table and shown by the map as above. The maps can be studied with the help of the legend, which mentioned the rate of violence incidents by the figure. The selected rate in each figure is between 1 to > 250. The map was drawn with the help of data which was collected from different sources as the data collected as mentioned in section 3.1 above as also reported in the dissertation as also this is an original piece of work. The color of the map of the province of Punjab is light peach which represents the 50 number of cases all over Punjab. The data of acid throwing is available for all areas of Punjab. Therefore, no area is shown by white color [6-10].

3.1. Manipulation of Data.

Table. The number of reported pact acid thrown cases.

FID	District Name	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Grand
1	Attock	1	2	1	3	4	1	-	1	-	2	15
2	Bahawalnagar	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	5
3	Bahawalpur	2	3	2	1	3	2	3	1	2	1	20
4	Bhakkar	5	4	3	1	1	6	-	-	-	2	22
5	Chakwal	1	-	-	1	3	5	-	1	-	2	13
6	Chiniot	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
7	D.G. Khan	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	4
8	Faisalabad	3	2	1	1	1	2	6	8	10	12	46
9	Gujranwala	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	5
10	Gujrat	2	3	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	1	11
11	Hafizabad	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	6
12	Jhang	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	3	17
13	Jhelum	-	-	-	2	2	3	4	1	2	1	15
14	Kasur	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
15	Khanewal	1	1	1	1	3	4	1	-	-	-	12
16	Khushab	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	2	8
17	Lahore	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	3	8
18	Layyah	1	-	1	2	1	-	2	1	1	-	9
19	Lodhran	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	6
20	Mandi Bahauddin	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	2	6
21	Mianwali	2	2	1	2	1	1	-	1	-	1	11
22	Multan	1	-	-	-	-	1	4	6	7	8	27
23	Muzaffargarh	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7
24	Nankana Sahib	-	-	1	1	2	2	3	-	-	1	10
25	Narowal	1	1	1	1	1	2	-	1	-	1	9
26	Okara	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	6
27	Pakpattan	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	5
28	Rahimyar Khan	2	1	-	-	1	1	3	1	1	1	11
29	Rajanpur	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	5
30	Rawalpindi	1	1	1	1	2	3	6	2	3	3	23
31	Sahiwal	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	10
32	Sargodha	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	6
33	Sheikhupura	1	1	-	2	2	-	-	1	1	1	9
34	Sialkot	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	2	2	2	17
35	Toba Tek Singh	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	1	1	2	9
36	Vehari	2	1	-	2	1	-	1	1	2	3	13
	Grand Total	40	33	20	28	36	45	52	41	42	73	410



Map. This shows the distribution of Distt. wise cases within the Province of Punjab.

4.1. CONCLUSIONS.

After going through the figures of the act of violence, i.e, acid throwing against women in the province of Punjab, from the year 2001 to 2010, it has been observed that violence against women has increased at a high rate during this period. As the figures indicate, the cases of violence against women were 40 by overall in the year 2001 that increased to 73 by overall in the year 2010. The districts with more population have more cases than the districts with less population. District Lahore is amongst with minimum cases overall in the decade and other districts like Faisalabad, Rawalpindi and Gujranwala have seen most cases of violence against women in the past decade than the all other districts of Punjab. Due to more awareness, education, media and the role of NGO's, the violence cases were reported in big and advance districts [6-10]. There was no district where there was no violence was present. In North East of Punjab, there was more violence. In this area, the districts of Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala and Sheikhpura are included. While there was less violence in the South West of Punjab. In this area, the districts of Layyah, Muzaffargarh, D.G. Khan, Attock, Bahawalnagar and Bahawalpur are included as the literacy rate is low compared with the developed areas like Lahore etc. [11-15].

GIS-based analysis of violence against women in different districts of Punjab shows that the crimes regarding violence against women are greater in number in upper Punjab than in the lower Punjab. The main reason behind this is that areas in upper Punjab are more educated and have a fast media, so more cases come into account. While in lower Punjab, there is a lack of education and not a lot of media coverage. So, violence against women doesn't get full attention [16-20]. In the districts of Lahore, Faisalabad and Rawalpindi, there is more awareness due to the effective role of law and order, education and media. Owing of this, the violence is recorded and seems more while in the area of South West, due to the lack of education, law and order and media, the awareness of rights is less. There is also the pressure of local feudal lords is exacting on the poor farmers and people. So, most of the people cannot dare to record their complaints of violence. Therefore, violence seems less [21-27].

Due to awareness of rights, women's struggle to get their rights from first to the eighth century, only a few were found to be significant. From the 10th century onward, several movements were launched, paving the way for women to achieve their social status; some, in the long run, became heads states. With concerted efforts, they tried to make NGOs forums. It was their struggle that pressurized the Government of Pakistan providing them 3% seats in Provincial & National Assemblies and passed Family Laws Ordinance 1961, regarding marriage, divorce, maintenance and child protection [28-32] etc. Due to the hard struggle of state and non-state activism, now women are lawyers, judges,

secretaries, Vice-Chancellors, MPAs, MNAs, Ministers and Prime Minister in Pakistan [33-37].

Ten years ago as an average year i.e, the year of 2005, acid throwing incidents were happening only in few areas of Punjab. But nowadays, it is happening frequently in all districts of Punjab. The average ratio of such incidents has increased 20% all over Punjab. Over the period of 2001-2010, the statistical rate/values of acid throwing are up to 50 cases in all the districts of Punjab. Ten years ago, this type of incidents was not common. While it is happening since the last ten years regularly in some of the areas in each district of Punjab. The rate of this violence is not high as compared to all other violence.

In the perspective of these results above, the issue was discussed comprehensively with a large number of scholars on violence against women in the province of Punjab and also to find the remedies to end or at least minimize this wave of violence to protect women in their houses and society. The concluding remarks were as follows:

- 1 It calls for solutions which are locally appropriate.
- 2 The belief "violence against women is acceptable" should be challenged.
- 3 The women should be aware of their rights.
- 4 They should be educated.
- 5 They should be made aware of the law.
- 6 The rights of the women should be protected by legislation.
- 7 Cruel men should be punished.
- 8 On a local level, the role of landlords should be monitored.
- 9 The protected cells should be established in all over the Punjab, to rescue women in the event of violence
- 10 They should be educated to go to protect cells by themselves, without, the company of male members of the family; father, brother, husband or son.

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