



Sociological Analysis Of Police Legitimacy And Criminals' cooperation With Police In Pakistan

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Abstract

Policing in Pakistan continues to face many challenges. The relations between police and community are characterized by distrust among stakeholders. The present research focused on police legitimacy and criminals' cooperation with police. Criminals' knowledge about the laws of institution of police, appropriateness, and rightness of the actions of police in each social system of norms and rules is called legitimacy. The police may exhibit desirability and acceptance by developing methods, concepts, and ideas those are commonly accepted and considered useful and desirable by professionals and experts in its surrounding environment to get cooperation from criminals. This research work was conducted in Rawalpindi division of Punjab, Pakistan. The respondents in the present research were individuals who had more exposure to police (involved in murder cases). The present research revealed that the complaint system against policing must be made sound to record the complaints against policing. Moreover, the respondents suggested that police is to be courteous with the people of Pakistan. Many people are unwilling to cooperate with police due to illegitimacy of police. The legitimacy of police is questioned by the people of Pakistan. Police is not ready to provide satisfactory assistance to victims of crime in Pakistan. Satisfaction of the victims of crimes play an important role in the cooperation of public in general and the criminals. Police is to access at the place of crime. Inaccessibility of police at the place of crime will not only motivate the criminals to commit the crime but also develop a predicament of non-cooperation of criminals. Quick response of police is necessary to eradicate the acts of crime. Quick response of police is necessary to achieve confidence from the public in order to get cooperation from different factions of society.

Keywords: Police, Criminals, Legitimacy, Cases

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Sociological Analysis Of Police

Legitimacy And Criminals' cooperation With Police In Pakistan

Introduction

Pakistan has been a part of former British colony. Pakistan came into being on 14th of August 1947. Historically, a revolution took place against British rule in 1857. A turning point in the historical development of the police was the rebellion against British rule in 1857. The plight situation of rebellion was re assessed by the rulers. A product of this plight situation was the Police Act, 1861. Along with other salient features of this act, untiring efforts were made to demilitarize the police. Entirely civil police were created. The police were led by an inspector general of police. The inspector general of police was responsible to political authorities to run the system of police in Pakistan (Bayley, 1969).

The present research focused on police legitimacy and criminals' cooperation with police. Present research was conducted in Rawalpindi Division of Punjab, Pakistan. The respondents in the present research were that faction of society who had more exposure to police (murderers). Legitimacy is operationalized as perceived feelings of obligation to obey legal authorities, institutional trust and moral alignment with these authorities (Sunshine & Tyler, 2003; Tyler, 2006; Tyler & Huo, 2002). Legitimate power can be defined as power which is acknowledged as rightful by relevant agents who include power holders and their staff. The power holders and their staff are subject to the power. Similarly, the third parties whose support or recognition may help to confirm it as the act of cooperation (Beetham, 2013). Policing in Pakistan continues to face many challenges. The relations between police and community are characterized by distrust. For example, (85%) of Pakistanis trust in teachers while only (18%) place trust in police officers (Gallup Pakistan, 2011). There are underdeveloped areas, uneducated and poor population in Pakistan. The efficacy of law enforcement agencies and judiciary has continuously been questioned by the local and international NGOs and INGOs including United Nation. In spite of the untiring efforts made by the government of Pakistan in order to instill the element of the cooperation between police and community, situation on the whole is miserable.

The performance of the police is necessary in order to get cooperation from the criminals (Suchman, 1995). Optimum level of performance of the police is necessary to get cooperation from criminals. Otherwise, the goal to get cooperation will not be fulfilled. Low level of police legitimacy may lose the power to exercise authority in Pakistan (Maurer, 1971). Criminals' knowledge about the laws of institution of police, appropriateness, and rightness of the actions of police in each social system of norms and rules is called legitimacy. The police may exhibit desirability and acceptance by developing methods, concepts, and ideas those are commonly accepted and considered useful and desirable by professionals and experts in its surrounding environment to get cooperation from criminals (Scott, 1995).

The present research revealed that the complaint system against policing must be made sound to record the complaints against policing. Moreover, the respondents suggested that police is to be courteous with the people of Pakistan. Similarly, respondents said that appealing system was not providing equality in the prisons of Pakistan. Interestingly, police Act (2002) specified that complaint system against law enforcement official is to be formed at Federal and District level. Similarly, police Act (2002) specified that police is to be courteous with the people of Pakistan. Mostly, respondents were unaware of the above-

mentioned salient feature of police Act (2002). Policing is not competent in Pakistan. Incompetent policing creates a lot of problem in any community like Pakistan. Traditional and outdated methods of investigation are used in Pakistan. The people are desirous to have an efficient and competent policing in Pakistan. On the other hand, police is not measuring up the standard of local community. Professional knowledge of police is necessary in order to get cooperation from people. Lack of professional knowledge of police is to create a lot of problems in Pakistan. The use of legitimacy in Pakistan must be flexible not rigid. The people of Pakistan demand that the police must be quick in response to deal with crime. Quick response of police is necessary to get cooperation of the people of Pakistan. The police personnel should know the expectations of the public to get optimum support and cooperation from the individuals of Rawalpindi Division of Pakistan (Deegan et al., 2002, Pp.319-320). The legitimacy of police is not exempted from external pressure of the politicians. Unnecessary pressure of higher police authorities and politicians is such a curse which will mitigate the legitimacy of police (Ashford & Gibbs, 1990, p. 183). Police should inculcate personal professional abilities and the desires of community to defend their own legitimacy to get maximum level of cooperation from the people of Pakistan (Hearit, 1995, p.3).

Review of Literature

Basically, social science deals with social phenomenon. Sociology is also a social science. The review of literature of sociology deals with the evaluations of that work which earlier researchers have done field of study. In the part of this study, researcher makes the problem clear, summarizes the previous studies in order to intimate the state of condition, identifies some of the relations and suggest the next course of action to solve that particular issue or problem. Pakistan is among one of those countries who are considered the paradise of the acts of poor police legitimacy and criminals' cooperation with police. Legitimacy of police is carried out without taking care of the rights of others in Pakistan. No serious efforts have been made to eradicate this evil. No researcher has focused this important topic of police legitimacy and criminals' cooperation with police in Pakistan. Whenever, the research will be conducted in this field then this grey area of police legitimacy and criminals' cooperation with police is to be discussed in detail.

Criminal justice system of any country is like an organism. Every organ of the body complements another organ. Similar case goes to criminal justice system of any country like Pakistan. There are a lot of problems in the components of criminal justice system in Pakistan. The police is an important component of criminal justice system. The irregularities exist from normal policemen to Inspector General of police in Pakistan (Chiew, 2012). The right of self-protection or defense is mostly justified in the cases of violence. The criteria to determine the right of self-defense is probably kept with the powerful factions of the society. No poor personnel in developing countries like Pakistan can set the criteria of self-defense. Usually, whenever, the people feel that the criminal justice system is not functioning properly. The most probable solution available to the public will be self-infliction of punishment on the perpetrator while keeping in view the loopholes in the criminal justice system (Wells, 2008).

State must make untiring efforts to deal with inefficient and human right violators. The system of reward and punishment must be exercised in the institutions of law enforcement agencies. Punishment of fine and corporal punishment must be imposed upon inefficient officials. The officials who are repeatedly bad name for the institutions must be removed from the service. Record of the offenders must be maintained by the law enforcement agencies. Lack of sound reward, fine and safe custody of record in the law enforcement agencies are such components of police legitimacy which may create opportunities for non-cooperative behavior of public with police (Johnson, Kaufmann, & Zoido, 1998a). The prevalence of dysfunction in any organ of the criminal justice system is considered the paradise for the commission of acts of murder and other crimes in Pakistan while violating the principle of cooperation (Chiew, 2012). Whenever, voluntarily cooperation with social norms and laws cannot be achieved, the state will adjust by using more repressive forms of social control. Proper assistance of police to victims of crime will enhance criminals' cooperation in Pakistan. Mostly, people are not assisted by the officials of police in Pakistan (Black, 1983; Tankebe, 2008).

Challenges with terrorism have further compounded difficulties in transforming the police from an institution perceived as ill-equipped, poorly trained, deeply politicized and chronically corrupt into a fair and an effective institution (Lieven, 2017). Pakistan is one of the five countries mostly affected by terrorism. Some (1760) people were killed in Pakistan in the year of 2014 (Liang et al. 2015). The study extended research on police legitimacy and criminals' cooperation with police in the context of practical focus on Pakistan. Results from Global Corruption Barometer (2013) cited by Hardoon & Heinrich (2013) showed that on a scale ranging from 1 (not at all corrupt) to 5 (extremely corrupt). The judiciary and police in Pakistan received a score of (3.3) and (4.3) respectively. The score for the police in Afghanistan is worse (2.9) but it is better in the case of the judiciary (3.7). At the same time, the scores for both institutions are worse in Iraq (2.8 and 2.8) respectively (Hardoon & Heinrich, 2013).

The lawfulness is very pivotal figure to capture strict adherence of police to the principles of the rule of law. The legitimate and effective police power is that which is acquired and exercised in accordance with established rules and regulations of the police as an institution (Beetham, 1991). Weber (1919) cited by Lassman (2000) emphasized much on the lawfulness. Lawfulness is the foundation of one of Max Webers' pure types of legitimacy namely legal-rational authority. Here, legitimate power is grounded in a belief in the legality of the enacted rules and the right of those elevated to authority under such rules to issue commands (Lassman, 2000). The most controversial element is effectiveness of police. Earlier studies of legitimacy viewed effectiveness as an instrumental consideration which is distinctive from legitimacy (Bottoms & Tankebe, 2012). Instrumental perspective is defined as taking up public acceptance of the abilities of the police to control crime and criminal behavior effectively (Sunshine & Tyler, 2003). Whenever, the rate of crime increases in any country. The case of increase in crime is attributed towards the inefficiency of the criminal justice system. The policing in Pakistan is such an institution of criminal justice system whose failure leads towards non-conformist behavior of prisoners. Inefficient and traditional police is unable to get proper cooperation from criminals in Pakistan (Lieven, 2017). Similarly, 1017 Londoners were interviewed. The results showed that peoples' sense

of obligation to obey the law was responsible to cooperate with police. The sense of obligation to obey the law is to be mandatory. Islamic teachings guide to obey the rulers. Police enforces the law as the orders of the rulers. Obedience instead of disobedience is appreciated in every society. Every person is to be law abiding in the country instead of law breaker (Jackson et al., 2013).

Criminal act is way for the marginalized to use marginality to their advantage. The factors such as broader state legitimacy or frustration with government more generally, personal involvement in crime and feelings of social exclusion may contribute to our understanding of support for cooperation or non-cooperation. The insights point to fresh avenues of inquiry that should lead investigators to undertake quantitative criminological analysis of cooperation of criminals with police (Pratten, 2008). Tyler (1990) conducted a research on the topic of why people obey the law? The legitimacy of police is central to peoples' willingness to comply with the law, to accept the decisions of police and to help the police fight crime (Reisig, Bratton, & Gertz, 2007; Reisig, Wolfe, & Holtfreter, 2011; Sunshine & Tyler, 2003; Tyler & Fagan, 2008).

Procedurally, just treatment communicates to members of local communities. Whenever, police abuse the rights of public. The public communicates to the other people of the society. The low social standing of the individuals and fact that the police officials neither protect them nor remove their harm will become much important in this regard. The police should explain the reasons for their actions, provide opportunities for unfair decisions to be corrected and lastly police should take account of the needs and concerns of the people of their area of responsibility. The mentioned items are termed as decision making phase of the procedural justice (Tyler, 1989). The life of human beings is controlled by formal rules and regulations. The formal rules and regulations are termed as law. In the eyes of the society, deviation from its laws is termed as crime. Crime is a major social evil of the day. Criminals violate the sacred customs, values and laws. Distance from religious teachings may create hurdles in order to cooperate with police in Pakistan (Bronn & Vidaver, 2009).

Methodology

The data was collected from the persons who had committed the acts of murder from district of Rawalpindi Division of Punjab, Pakistan. One prison in Rawalpindi Division namely Sub jail Chakwal had no murderer. The murderers were only be included as respondents from central jail Rawalpindi. Due to limited time and resources, it was impossible to encompass all the jails of district and whole province Punjab, Pakistan. Moreover, it was not possible to include all types of heinous and misdemeanor crimes. The criminals of other crimes were not subject to the present research. Central jail Rawalpindi had murderers of the foreign countries namely Britain, Bangladesh and South Africa. Target population and universe of the study was all the murderers of district Central jail Rawalpindi Division of Pakistan. A sample consisting of (322) under trialed and convicted murderers were interviewed in the present research. An interview schedule consisting of close ended questions were constructed to collect data from the respondents of the mentioned jail of Rawalpindi Division. After the collection of data, it was analyzed by using univariate, bivariate and multivariate analysis.

The swift and efficient response of police to the problems of people is termed as responsiveness of police. The items included in responsiveness of police were;- readiness of police to provide considerable support and assistance to victims, accessibility of police at the scene of crime, prompt and swift response of police and attitude of controlling the violent and aggressive acts of the people. Whenever, these items are included, the result will be responsiveness of police.

Discussion and Analysis

Variables	Frequency	Percent
Gender of the respondents		
Male	298	92.5
Female	24	7.5
Total	322	100.0
Age of the respondents (in completed years)		
20-30	100	31.1
31-40	115	35.7
41-50	61	18.9
51-60	38	11.8
61-70	8	2.5
Total	322	100.0
Occupation of the respondents		
Government employee	36	11.0
Private employee	28	8.7
Own business	138	42.9
Skilled labor	46	14.3
Doctor	25	7.8
Engineer	25	7.8
Teacher	5	1.6
Farmer	19	5.9
Total	322	100.0

Area of the respondents		
Rural	187	58.1
Urban	135	41.9
Total	322	100.0
Marital status of the respondents		
Unmarried	86	26.7
Married	131	40.7
Divorced	58	18.0
Widowed	47	14.6
Total	322	100.0
How many crimes have been committed by you?		
One	157	48.8
Two	93	28.9
Three	72	22.3
Total	322	100.0
What was age at the time of commission of crime?		
Age at 1st crime		
18-25	139	42.0
26-33	150	46.3
34-41	28	8.2
42-49	11	3.5
What were reasons of crime?		
Honor killing	108	19.0
Anger	136	24.0
Greed	115	20.3
Revenge	91	16.0
Accident	117	20.7

What was reason of present crime?

Honor killing	107	33.2
Anger	17	5.3
Greed	13	4.0
Revenge	90	28.0
Accident	95	29.5
Total	322	100.0

What were types of crime?

Simple assault	70	29.16
Aggravated assault	66	27.52
Theft	43	17.91
Dacoity	61	25.41
Murder	322	100.0

How many times have you been imprisoned?

1	154	47.8
2	122	37.9
3	46	14.3
Total	322	100.0

Demography plays an important role in the lives of individuals. Table not only portrays important characteristics like gender, age, education, monthly income, occupation, residential area, marital status, number of children, family size, number of crimes, age at the time of commission of crime, reasons of commission of crime, types of crimes and the number of imprisonments of the respondents but also education and occupation of mother and father of the respondents. As far as gender is concerned, Mullin, Christopher, Richard, Wright, & Jacobs (2004).

Table showed that as far as gender is concerned, most of the respondents (92.5%) were male murderers. As far as the age of the respondents is concerned, most of the respondents (35.7%) were within the age group of 31-40. The second highest number of age group (31.1%) were from age group 20-30.

The question regarding type of family revealed that most of the respondents (35.1%) come of the joint family system. Second highest number in type of family (27.3%) were having single parent family. The question regarding how many crimes have been committed by you revealed that most of the respondents (48.8%) had committed only one crime murder. Of 322 respondents (28.9%) had committed two crimes. The question regarding times of imprisonment of the respondents revealed that most of the respondents (47.8%) had imprisoned once in life. Out of 322 respondents (37.9%) were imprisoned twice in life.

Table Percentage distribution of respondents regarding Suggestion if any

Variables	Frequency	Percent
courtesy of police	98	30.4
appealing system in CJS	80	24.8
complaint system against police	72	22.3
Total	250	77.6
No comments of the respondents	72	22.4
Total	322	100.0

Table portrays that the question regarding suggestion if any revealed that majority of the respondents (30.4%) replied that courtesy of the police is not up to the required standard. The courtesy of police is the salient feature of police Act (2002). Police is to be courteous in order to deal with the people of Pakistan. Courtesy of police will bring the cooperation among the people of Pakistan. Police personnel are to be fully aware of the police Act (2002) through media and local training agencies of the institution of police.

Second highest suggestion is appealing system, (24.8%) of the respondents replied that appealing system in criminal justice system of Pakistan is not equal for the rich and the poor. In order to dispense justice in the public, the opportunities of the access to the law must be made convenient and easy for everyone in Pakistan. The appeal of the criminal of death penalty must be evaluated because it is the matter of life of any living being. Whenever, the justice will not be available equally for the rich and poor, it is much alarming state for a common person of the country to get justice in Pakistan. Fair and impartial opportunities for the rich and the poor must be equally distributed for the people of Pakistan. At the same time, (22.3%) of the respondents pointed out that complaints system against policing does not exist in Pakistan even it is also mentioned in Police act (2002) that complaint system against police at Federal and District levels must be made in order to litigate the criminal police officials. The law must be made easy and feasible for everyone. The people of Pakistan must be aware of their right to register complaints against officials of the police through print and electronic media. Interestingly, the people of Pakistan did not know that they had the right to register the complaints against corrupt and impolite officials of police as per police Act (200

Conclusion

The study concludes that police legitimacy and criminals' cooperation with police is emerging as one of the important fields to be investigated. Many people are unwilling to cooperate with police due to illegitimacy of police. The legitimacy of police is questioned by the people of Pakistan. Police is not ready to provide satisfactory assistance to victims of crime in Pakistan. Satisfaction of the victims of crimes play an important role in the cooperation of public in general and the criminals. Police is to access at the place of crime. Inaccessibility of police at the place of crime will not only motivate the criminals to commit the crime but also develop a predicament of non-cooperation of criminals. Quick response of police is necessary to eradicate the acts of crime. Quick response of police is necessary to achieve confidence from the public in order to get cooperation from different factions of society. The primary duty of policing is to control the wave of crime in Pakistan. The police is to take help from all means to control the crime in Pakistan. Controlling of crime is also to develop the element of cooperation from the people of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. To pay money to police as bribe is sin in Islam. Main argument of the study is that Police legitimacy (responsiveness, lawfulness, effectiveness, obligation to obey law and procedural justice) influences the level of cooperation of criminals (Consent of the individual to call police, acquiescence of the individual to tell the crime scene story to police, willingness of the people to expose officials' corruption and consent of individual to volunteer as witness in heinous crime) in Rawalpindi Division of Punjab, Pakistan.

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