



1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Tuesday 11th June, 2024

**“Exploring the Role of Forensic Psychology in
Pakistani Legal System”**



POST CONFERENCE BOOKLET

Organized by

Department of Psychology (Abdul Haq Campus)

Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science & Technology, Pakistan

Vice Chancellor Message



I appreciate our Abdul Haq campus led by Dr. Shahid Iqbal, great, and wonderful. This event was very important for Pakistan specifically because of forensic psychology and the legal system in the country. Pakistan is suffering from economic turmoil and the majority of our youth is desperate to see things that are contributing to people's increasing mental distress. So I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Department of Psychology for their efforts to enhance students' learning through both curricular and co-curricular activities. Believe me, your commitment to this excellence keeps me going. I also congratulate the organizing team for successfully following up with this year's National Conference on Mental Health and Universal Human Rights. This is what I said in the beginning, that what we need to talk about more to find a solution to the problem that we are faced with. This conference will, of course, contribute towards awareness and have some action plan and recommendation to the government of Pakistan and the province of Sindh to have some kind of actions to reduce mental stress and improve the mental health of our society.

Today we are gathered here to delve into another critical area of psychology that interests our legal system, forensic psychology. While forensic psychology has long been recognized for its essential contribution to justice, its potential within Pakistan remains largely underexplored. We haven't worked much on it, and this is a timely event. I appreciate the efforts of my team at the Department of Psychology. This conference seeks to examine this wider field, its application, and ways of effectively integrating our legal framework. Forensic psychology, to be very candid, covers a broad spectrum of practices from assessing criminal behavior and the mental health of offenders to evaluating witness credibility and determining the competence of the stand to stand trial.

Moreover, it plays a key role in understanding the psychological impact of crime on victims and creating rehabilitation programs for offenders. These practices are academic. They are fundamental tools that can enhance the efficacy, fairness, and humanity of our legal system.

However, integrating forensic psychology into our legal system requires concentrated efforts on multiple fronts. And I'm sure our speaker will focus on several aspects of this. And one of the important pillars of all this is education and training which are of paramount importance. We need to develop specialized curricula and training programs to equip psychologists, lawyers, judges, and law enforcement officers with the necessary skills and knowledge to deal with this complex problem. Collaborative efforts between academic institutions, legal bodies, and mental health organizations are crucial to building a robust framework for forensic psychology in Pakistan. And I am proud to say that our university, FUUAST, is the first one to be dealing with such international efforts. Through fostering dialogue, sharing knowledge, and proposing concrete actions, we can collectively advance the field of forensic psychology in Pakistan. Our goal is to ensure that mentally ill offenders are treated with dignity and receive the necessary care, thereby creating a more just and humane criminal judicial system. The collaboration between psychiatrists is vital for achieving these objectives.

In closing, I once again congratulate the team that is organizing this event. Everyone from the Department of Psychology, right from the helper to the chairman and the dean and the campus in charge, contributed to organizing this profoundly informative conference. This conference is more than just a meeting of minds, it's a catalyst for change. It provides a platform for relevant stakeholders to gather, exchange insight, and develop ideas that will foster growth, prosperity, and a stronger academia-industry alliance. I hope this international conference is the first of many more to come, In Sha Allah.

Regards

Meritorious Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari(S.I & H.I)

UNESCO Laureate

Vice Chancellor, FUUAST

Chief Organizer's Message



I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for contributing to the overwhelming success of the 1st International Conference on Exploring the Role of Forensic Psychology in the Pakistani Legal System.

Your presence, insights, and active participation made this event truly memorable and impactful. The diverse perspectives shared during the sessions have laid a strong foundation for advancing forensic psychology within our legal system.

I would also like to thank Vice Chancellor FUUAST, our esteemed speakers, panelists, students, volunteers, and sponsors for their invaluable support and contributions. Without their expertise and commitment, this conference would not have been possible.

We look forward to your continued engagement and collaboration in future initiatives as we work together to enhance the intersection of forensic psychology and law in Pakistan.

Warm regards,

Dr. Shahid Iqbal (Chief Organizer)

In-Charge Abdul Haq Campus

In-Charge Dean Faculty of Arts

Chairman, Department of Psychology, FUUAST

Chief Organizer' s Message



My sincere appreciation goes out to every person who took part in the First International Conference on Exploring the Role of Forensic Psychology in the Pakistani Legal System. While the panelists added their expertise to our discussions, our speakers offered priceless insights. We would especially want to thank our volunteers, whose commitment made this event successful.

Your enthusiasm and participation have made this conference a significant milestone. Together, we have laid the foundation for future advancements in forensic psychology within our legal system.

Warm Regards

Sehrish (Chief Organizer)

Lecturer

Department of Psychology, FUUAST

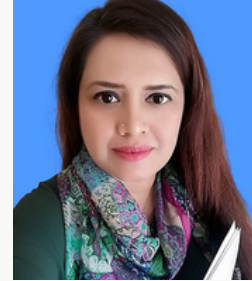
Organizing Committee



It was a great experience to attend and organize such a fantastic 1st international conference on the topic of " the role of forensic psychology in the Pakistani legal system. by the Department of Psychology, FUUAST, moreover, it was an absolute pleasure to see the distinguished experts from the field of law, forensic setting and psychology on the same platform, finally, this international conference could be a first step towards taking actions and implementation of psychological knowledge in the Pakistani legal system. I appreciate and congratulate the organizers of this 1st international conference, the Department of Psychology FUUAST for giving insight and the opportunity to open the door and explore more about this field specifically in the Pakistani law system.

Regards

Dr. Atiya Khatoon
Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology, FUUAST



As a member of the organizing committee, I am thrilled by the success of our recent conference on forensic psychology. The high level of engagement, the quality of presentations, and the vibrant discussions exceeded our expectations. We are grateful to our distinguished speakers for their invaluable contributions and to all attendees for their active participation. This event not only showcased cutting-edge research and practices but also fostered meaningful connections within our community. Thank you to everyone who helped make this conference a resounding success! We look forward to continuing this momentum in future events.

Regards

Dr. Sheeba Farhan
Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology, FUUAST

Organizing Committee



The conference on 'Role of Forensic Psychology in Pakistan's Legal System' brought together experts from academia and practitioners from the legal system of Pakistan. Forensic psychology is a relatively new field, especially in a developing country like ours. The conference was one of a kind where everyone benefited from the discussions on how psychological insights can revolutionize legal practices, making our judicial processes more effective and fair. This has paved the way for transformative advancements in the field where psychological principles will help ensure justice and equity.

Regards

Dr. Tooba Farooqi

Assistant Professor

Department of Psychology, FUUAST



As a committee member, I commend the organizers of the First International Conference on 'Role of Forensic Psychology in Pakistan's Legal System' for their insightful event. This conference will provide valuable benefits for students, legal professionals, and the community by fostering discussions on mental health law, criminality, and forensic practice.

Regards

Sabir Sial

Lecturer (Contractual)

Department of Psychology, FUUAST

Organizing Committee



I appreciate the insightful presentations, engaging discussions, and valuable information regarding forensic psychology. Speakers' contributions have enhanced our understanding of the complex intersection of psychology and law.

Special gratitude to the keynote speakers for sharing their expertise. Thank you to the exceptional organizers, speakers, and attendees who made the forensic psychology conference an unforgettable experience

Regards

Mrs. Huma Abbasi

Lecturer (Contractual)

Department of Psychology, FUUAST

About International Conference

Forensic psychology is a specialized discipline that applies psychological principles within the framework of legal proceedings, focusing on understanding human behavior as it intersects with the law. Forensic psychologists play critical roles in criminal investigations, court trials, and correctional settings, where they evaluate mental health, competency, and other psychological factors relevant to legal cases. Their expert testimony can significantly influence judicial decisions, and their research contributions extend to areas such as eyewitness testimony and jury behavior. Moreover, they collaborate with legal professionals and law enforcement agencies to enhance strategies for rehabilitation and reduce recidivism rates among offenders.

In Pakistan, the legal system may prioritize procedural aspects over psychological evaluations, reflecting broader societal attitudes towards mental health. The absence of clear policies for integrating forensic psychology into legal frameworks poses challenges, impeding effective support in legal proceedings.

Addressing these challenges necessitates raising awareness about the contributions of forensic psychology, allocating resources for professional training, and developing comprehensive integration policies. Collaboration between legal and psychological experts is crucial to implementing psychological insights effectively within the legal system, thereby ensuring fairer and more informed judicial outcomes.

The objectives of the inaugural international conference were multifaceted: firstly, to explore the current landscape and future trajectories of forensic psychology in Pakistan; secondly, to examine the integration of forensic psychological practices within the legal framework; and lastly, to foster interdisciplinary collaboration between the fields of psychology and law. These objectives have aimed to advance understanding, practice, and collaboration at the intersection of psychology and the legal system, contributing to more robust and equitable judicial processes in Pakistan.

Keynote Speakers

Prof. Dr. Jawed Aziz Masudi

Topic: Role of Forensic Psychology in the Legal System of Pakistan

Ex. Chairman Department of Criminology, SZABUL, Karachi/ Co-Chairman Dept. of Law & Director (ORIC)

Dr. Tariq M. Hassan (International Speaker)

Topic: Forensic Psychiatry in Pakistan Supreme Court Judgement Implication

Associate Prof. Department of Psychiatry, Queen's University Kingston, Canada

Prof. Dr. Zaeema Ahmad (International Speaker)

Topic: Forensic Psychology and Mental Wellbeing

Clinical Director, Licensed Psychotherapist, and Trauma Counsellor in Ontario, Canada

Barrister Uzair Ali Khan Ghori

Topic: Competency of Witnesses and Procedure of Mental Health Act

Former Judge/Advocate High Court

Dr. Waheed Ahmed Abbasi

Topic: A Forensic Perspective on the Relationship between Criminality and Mental Health.

Head of Department of Criminology, University of Sindh, Jamshoro

Dr. Reza Fahmi (International Speaker)

Topic: Exploring Psycho-Forensic in Islamic Psychology

Head of Department of Islamic Psychology, University of Negeri Padang, Indonesia.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Talreja

Topic: Understanding the Legal Procedure and Protection for Mentally Ill Persons

Former Judge/Advocate High Court

Dr. Javed Arif Khushik

Topic: Crime Scene, Investigation and Prosecution Challenges and Advantages in Pakistan

Forensic Expert/Criminologist Senior Medical Officer, Rangers Hospital Hyderabad

Mr. Syed Aftab Shah

Topic: Cognitive Interviewing and Detecting Deception Through Non-Verbal Cues

Forensic Psychologist, Head of Department of Psychology, Greenwich University

Discussion Panel

Prof. Dr. Riaz Ahmed (Session Facilitator)

Ex. Director Institute of Clinical Psychology, UoK.

Prof. Dr. Uzma Ali

Director Institute of Clinical Psychology, UoK.

Prof. Dr. Qudsia Tariq

Ex. Head of Department of Psychology, UoK.

Dr. Hina Imran

Associate Prof. ICP, UoK

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Talreja

Former Judge/Advocate High Court

Barrister Uzair Ali Khan Ghor

Former Judge/Advocate High Court

Dr. Syed Shameem Ejaz

Ex. Head of Department of Business Psychology, IoBM

Mr. Imtiaz Ali Khan

Criminologist

Mr. H. M. Waqar Umar

Advocate of High Court

Haroon-ur-Rashid

Clinical Psychologist



Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science & Technology

Department of Psychology

**1st International
Conference**

*Exploring the Role of Forensic Psychology in the
Pakistani Legal System*

Conference Program Checklist

Tuesday, 11th June 2024	
Venue: Art Council Auditorium 2	
Timings: 9am to 3pm	
Registration & Attendance on Desk: 8:00 to 8:45	
Session I (9:30am -12:00pm)	
Inaugural Ceremony	8:55am
Recitation from Holy Quran	9:00 -9:05am
National Anthem	9:05-9:12am
Welcome Address by Vice chancellor of FUUAST	9:15-9:20 am
Opening Remarks by Dr. Shahid Iqbal In-charge Abdul Haq Campus In-charge Dean Faculty of Arts Chairman Department of Psychology, FUUAST	9:20-9:25am
Keynote Speakers	
Prof. Dr. Jawed Aziz Masudi	9:25-9:40am
Topic: <i>Role of Forensic Psychology in Legal System of Pakistan</i>	
Ex. Chairman Department of Criminology, SZABUL, Karachi/ Co-Chairman Dept. of Law & Director (ORIC)	
Dr. Tariq M. Hassan (International Speaker)	9:40-9:55am
Topic: <i>Forensic Psychiatry in Pakistan Supreme Court Judgement Implication</i>	
Associate Prof. Department of Psychiatry, Queen's University Kingston, Canada	
Prof. Dr. Zaeema Ahmad (International Speaker)	9:55-10:10am
Topic: <i>Forensic Psychology and Mental Wellbeing</i>	
Clinical Director, Licensed Psychotherapist and Trauma Counsellor at Ontario, Canada	
Dr. Reza Fahmi (International Speaker)	10:10-10:25
Topic: <i>Exploring Psychoforensic in Islamic Psychology</i>	

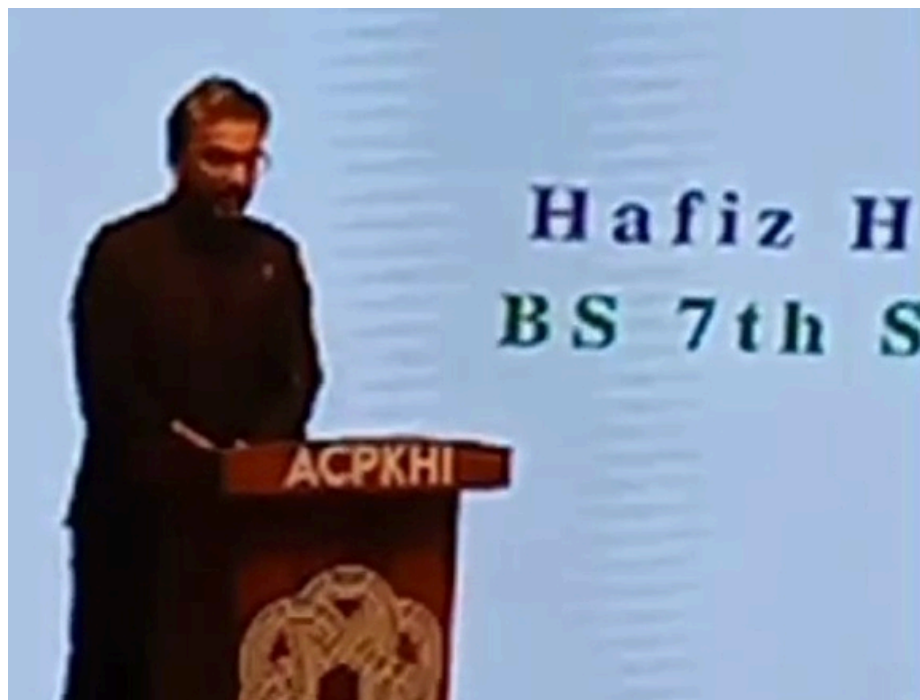
Head of Department of Islamic Psychology, University of Negeri Padang, Indonesia.	
Dr. Javed Arif Khushik	10:25- 10:40am
Topic: <i>Crime Scene, Investigation and Prosecution Challenges and Advantages in Pakistan</i>	
Forensic Expert/Criminologist Senior Medical Officer, Rangers Hospital Hyderabad	
Dr. Waheed Ahmed Abbasi	10:40- 10:55am
Topic: <i>A Forensic Perspective on the Relationship between Criminality and Mental Health.</i>	
Head of Department of Criminology, University of Sindh, Jamshoro	
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Talreja	10:55- 11:10am
Topic: <i>Understanding the Legal Procedure and Protection for Mentally Ill Persons</i>	
Former Judge/Advocate High Court	
Barrister Uzair Ali Khan Ghori	11:10- 11:25am
Topic: <i>Competency of Witnesses and Procedure of Mental Health Act</i>	
Former Judge/Advocate High Court	
Mr. Syed Aftab Shah	11-40:11:55am
Topic: <i>Cognitive Interviewing and Detecting Deception Through Non-Verbal Cues</i>	
Forensic Psychologist, Head of Department of Psychology, Greenwich University	
Youth Performance	11:55-12:05pm
Session II	
Discussion Panel	12:10-1:00pm
Prof. Dr. Riaz Ahmed (Session Facilitator) Ex. Director Institute of Clinal Psychology, UoK.	
Prof. Dr. Uzma Ali Director Institute of Clinal Psychology, UoK.	
Prof. Dr. Qudsia Tariq Ex. Head of Department of Psychology, UoK.	
Dr. Hina Imran Associate Professor, ICO, UoK.	
Dr. Syed Shameem Ejaz Ex. Head of Department of Business Psychology, IoBM	
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Talreja Former Judge/Advocate High Court	
Barrister Uzair Ali Khan Ghori Former Judge/Advocate High Court	
Dr. Haroon ur Rashid Senior Clinical Psychologist	
Mr. Imtiaz Ali Khan Criminologist	
Mr. Syed Aftab Shah Forensic Psychologist, Head of Department of Psychology, Greenwich University	

Mr. H. M. Waqar Umar Advocate of High Court	
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Questions Answer Session		1:00-1:20pm
Closing Ceremony		
Vote of Thanks		
Dr.Shahid Iqbal In-Charge Abdul Haq Campus In-Charge Dean Faculty of Arts Chairman, Department of Psychology, FUUAST		1:20-1:25pm
Shield Distribution		1:25-1:40pm
Group Photo		1:40-1:55pm
Lunch		

Inaugural Ceremony

The Inaugural Ceremony was started by the name of almighty Allah. The Quranic Verses were recited by Mr. Hafiz Hassan (BS.7th Semester, Evening)



The National Anthem of Pakistan was played with violin by Kazim & Saim. (Instrument key, Arts Council Pakistan)



OPENING REMARKS



Dr. Shahid Iqbal
In-Charge Abdul Haq Campus
In-Charge Dean Faculty of Arts
Chairman, Department of Psychology, FUUAST

Dr. Shahid Iqbal extended a warm greeting to the speakers, panel experts, guests, and attendees. He elucidated the objectives behind convening the inaugural international conference on "Investigating the Impact of Forensic Psychology on Pakistan's Legal System." Dr. Iqbal provided a concise overview of forensic psychology and its incorporation into the legal framework of Pakistan.

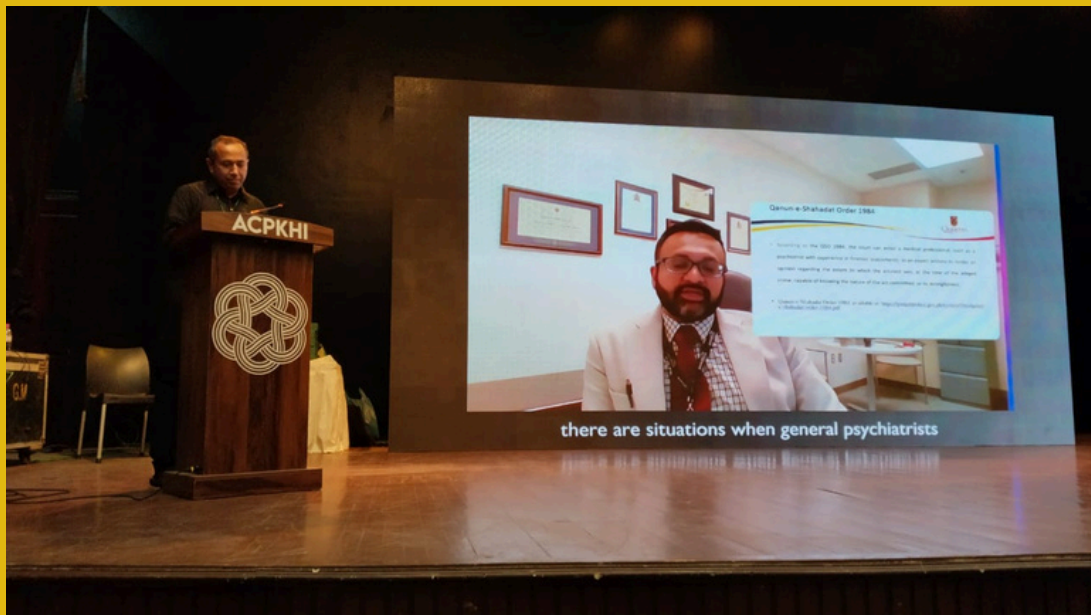
Session I

Keynote Speakers

INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

1: Dr. Tariq M. Hassan (International Speaker)

Topic: Forensic Psychiatry in Pakistan Supreme Court Judgement Implication
Associate Prof. Department of Psychiatry, Queen's University Kingston, Canada



Dr. Tariq M. Hassan accentuated the significance of psychiatric and legal relationships in the field. He emphasized the significance of mental health in Pakistan's legal system, spotlighting a 2021 Supreme Court ruling that emphasized its importance. Hassan also differed the court's reliance on victim medical reports, which are made by the medical board to satisfy the court, further advancing the field of forensic psychiatry.

2:Prof.Dr.Zaeema Ahmad (International Speaker)

Topic: Forensic Psychology and Mental Wellbeing

Clinical Director, Licensed Psychotherapist and Trauma Counsellor at Ontario, Canada



Dr Zaeema Ahmed shared her knowledge about forensic psychology as she described that Forensic psychology is a field that studies the psychological aspects of criminal behavior and the legal system. It involves assessing competency evaluations, risk testaments, expert testimony, and rehabilitation questions. She added that forensic psychologists also work in prisons to provide mental health services and help inmates manage their mental health. She mentioned that Investigative psychology uses psychological principles to understand criminal behavior and motivations behind crimes. In concluding remarks, she said that Forensic psychologists are supposed to provide victim support and advocacy, helping victims navigate the legal system and improve their mental wellbeing.

3:Dr. Reza Fahmi (International Speaker)

Topic: Exploring Psycho-Forensic in Islamic Psychology

Head of Department of Islamic Psychology, University of Negeri Padang, Indonesia.



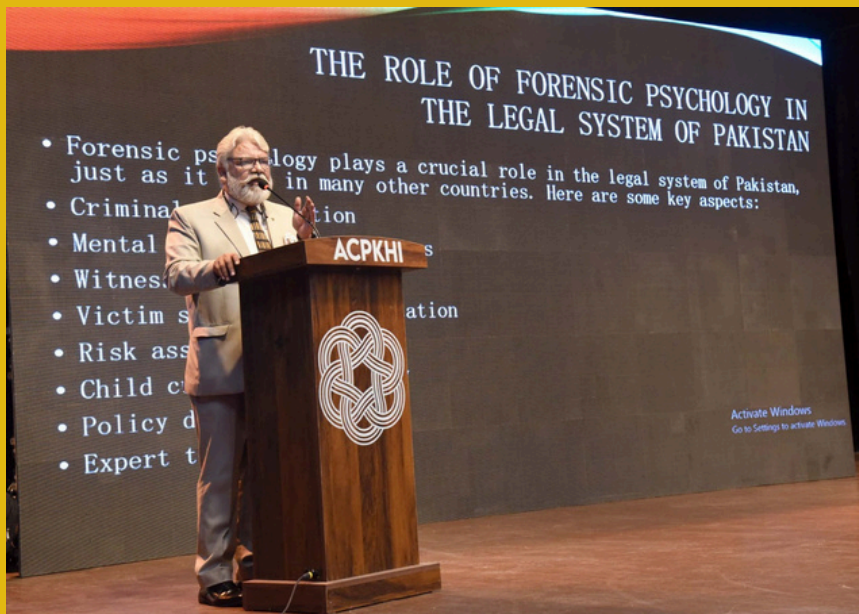
Dr Reza Fahmi debated psycho-forensics in Islamic psychology. It is a field that combines forensic psychology with Islamic principles to understand criminal behavior. He expressed that the field aims to integrate psychological insights with ethical considerations for effective interventions and restorative justice in the Islamic context.

NATIONAL KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

4: Prof. Dr. Jawed Aziz Masudi

Topic: Role of Forensic Psychology in the Legal System of Pakistan

*Ex. Chairman Department of Criminology, SZABUL, Karachi/ Co-Chairman
Dept. of Law & Director (ORIC)*



Dr. Jawed Aziz Masudi highlighted the need for integrating forensic psychology into Pakistan's legal system due to a lack of competent psychologists and appropriate facilities. He differed that understanding mental health and offenders' psychology is essential for effective criminal investigations. He castigated authorities for their apathy and called for hiring subject specialists to enhance the legal system and society. He concluded with a call for a better understanding and application of forensic psychology for justice and societal progress.

5: Dr. Javed Arif Khushik

Topic: Crime Scene, Investigation and Prosecution Challenges and Advantages in Pakistan

Forensic Expert/Criminologist Senior Medical Officer, Rangers Hospital Hyderabad



Dr. Javed Arif Khushik discussed Crime Scene, Investigation and Prosecution Challenges and Advantages in Pakistan. He explained that legal and judicial integrity is threatened by political influence and corruption, which results in unfair verdicts and a delay in the administration of justice. He also added that investigations and the integrity of the evidence are compromised by inadequate funding, antiquated technology, and inadequate training. He highlighted the importance of forensic psychology as he said that efficiency and transparency are increased by forensic skills, modern technology, and judicial changes. He concluded that in order to Increasing judicial independence, we need to focus the police units, and public activity which supports fair trials, improved crime control, and accountability.

6:Dr. Waheed Ahmed Abbasi

Topic: A Forensic Perspective on the Relationship between Criminality and Mental Health.

Head of Department of Criminology, University of Sindh, Jamshoro

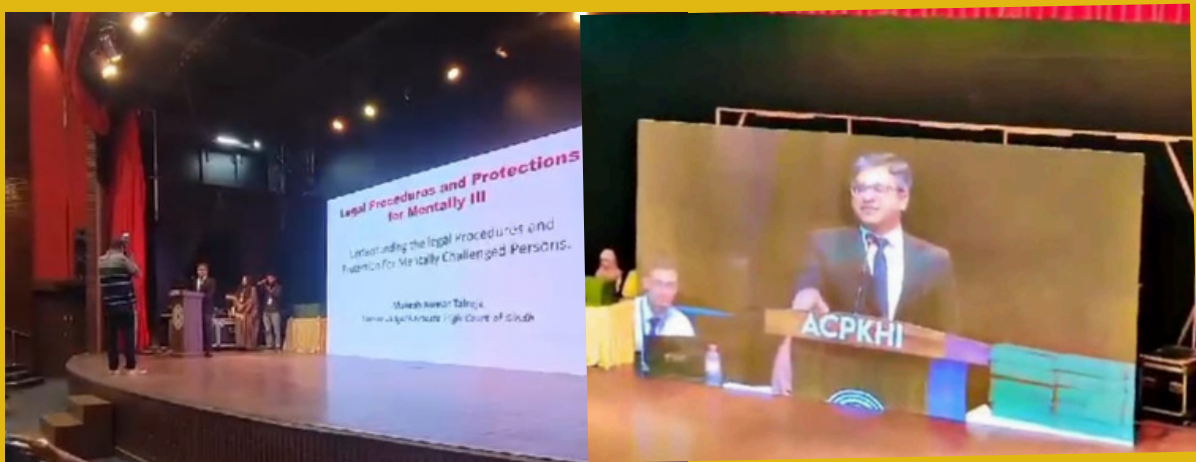


Dr. Waheed Ahmed Abbasi conferred that physiological criminology concentrates on the mental process, encompassing cognitive processes and cognitive styles. He classified criminals into three groups: those with violent extremist thoughts, those involved in murder, kidnapping, violent assault, and robbery, and those involved in honor-based violence. These criminals prohibit their actions, using techniques such as denial of responsibilities, injury, victim, condemnation of condemners, and imploring higher loyalties. By apprehending these processes, Dr Ahmed nourished a comprehensive understanding of criminals' thoughts and behaviors.

7:Mr. Mukesh Kumar Talreja

Topic: Understanding the Legal Procedure and Protection for Mentally Ill Persons

Former Judge/Advocate High Court



Mukesh Kumar Talreja accentuated the significance of mental health in Pakistan's legal system. He believed that recognizing and evaluating mental health issues can dissuade in justice and ensure competent trial-ready individuals. He supported for better legal outcomes through accurate assessments, informed judicial decisions, and rehabilitation programs to reduce recidivism. Talreja contended the legal framework in Pakistan, including the Lunacy Act, Mental Health Ordinance 2001, Sindh Mental Health Act, and The Criminal Procedure Code, 1898.

8: Barrister Uzair Ali Khan Ghorri

Topic: Competency of Witnesses and Procedure of Mental Health Act
Former Judge/Advocate High Court



Barrister Uzair Ali Khan Ghorri articulated about cases of Javed Iqbal and Noor Muqaddam which are two noteworthy cases in Pakistan that underscore the implication of forensic psychology in criminal cases. Javed was accused of killing 100 children with acid, a psychiatric issue that led to his death in prison. Noor Muqaddam's case also highlights the psychiatric issues faced by accused, as religion dictates that if an accused is found guilty, he/she cannot be punished in the same way as a normal person could be. These cases highlight the pertinence of forensic psychology in criminal cases, as it assesses the mental state of witnesses and accused individuals to determine their competency to testify, enter a plea, or stand trial. In Pakistan, this aspect is often overlooked, unlike in Western countries where it is a vital part of the legal process. Competency assessments evaluate the mental capacity of witnesses and accused individuals to understand legal proceedings, provide coherent testimony, enter a plea bargain and stand trial. Forensic psychology is related to law and legal issues, while psychology is the mindset of the individual.

9: Mr. Syed Aftab Shah

Topic: Cognitive Interviewing and Detecting Deception Through Nonverbal Cues

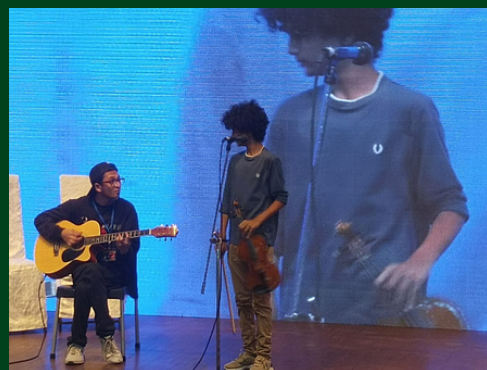
Forensic Psychologist, Head of Department of Psychology, Greenwich University



Syed Aftab Shah exchanged views about “Cognitive Interviewing and Detecting Deception through Nonverbal Cues.” He elucidated the importance of interviewing witnesses in criminal investigations. He said that it is crucial to interview witnesses in a way that produces accurate and detailed accounts. He added that witnesses are the primary source of information for criminal investigations. Furthermore, he rationalized the implementation of the “PEACE “ model in psychological evaluation and lastly, the speaker recapitulated the physiological limitations of lying and how lying is detectable by different research.

Youth Performance

"The Youth Ambassador Program by the Arts Council Pakistan showcased remarkable talent, featuring Kazim on the violin and Saim on guitar, who not only played different songs but also delivered soulful vocals. Kazim's virtuoso violin performances dazzled the audience, while Saim captivated them with his skilled guitar playing and singing. Their diverse repertoire ranged from classical compositions to contemporary songs, each piece performed with passion and precision. The event not only highlighted their musical prowess but also underscored the program's commitment to nurturing and promoting young artists, providing them with a platform to shine and inspire others. The audience was thoroughly impressed by Kazim and Saim, reflecting the vibrancy and creativity of Pakistan's youth in the realm of performing arts."



Session II

Panel Discussion

The panel discussion session was structured into three distinct parts: The first segment involved lawyers, who addressed specific questions pertinent to legal perspectives. The second segment featured forensic psychologists and criminologists, who discussed relevant issues in their field and responded to targeted questions. Lastly, the session included clinical psychologists, who provided insights into psychological considerations and responded to queries. This division ensured that each group addressed focused questions aligned with their respective disciplines, fostering in-depth exploration and comprehensive dialogue on the intersections of law and psychology.

Panel Discussion

PART I is for Judiciary Persons

Barrister Uzair Ali Khan Ghori (Former Judge / Advocate High Court)

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Talreja (Former Judge / Advocate High Court)

Mr. H. M. Waqar Umar (Advocate High Court)

We had these questions:

- How do you perceive the current integration and challenges of forensics psychology within the Pakistani legal system?
- How can the Pakistani legal system better utilize forensic psychological expertise in courtroom proceedings?



- ★ Barrister Uzair Khan Ghori reflected on the questions as the stance of the expert witnesses is enabled by our criminal procedure court and Qanoon-e-Shahadat but unfortunately we do not have the facilities and availability in the courtrooms. He enumerated that we need to work collaboratively for the betterment of our legal systems where many accused/victims are waiting for justice.
- ★ Mr. Mukesh Kumar affirmed that Forensic psychology in Pakistan is not widely integrated into the legal system, with limited awareness and understanding among judges and lawyers. To improve its utilization, specialized training for judges and lawyers, and a certification process for forensic psychologists are needed.
- ★ Mr. Waqar.H.Ahmed affirmed that there is a mental health act in our legal system which is applied in certain cases as if case of child guardianship of a child with intellectual deficit is dealt with by the Magistrate court/Criminal court rather than by the family court under the mental health act.

Panel Discussion

PART II is for Forensic Psychologist/Criminologist

Mr. Imtiaz Ali Khan (Criminologist)

Dr. Waheed Ahmed Abbassi

We had these questions:

- What specific contributions can forensic psychology offer to the Pakistani legal system?
- How do you assess and analyze the mental state of individuals, especially of accused involved in legal proceedings in Pakistan, what may be the qualifications of a forensic psychologist/expert?



- ★ Dr. Waheed Ahmed Abbasi stressed the contribution of forensic psychology in the Pakistani legal system that forensic psychologists can evaluate defendants to determine if they are mentally competent to stand trial. He also stated that Forensic psychologists can conduct evaluations to determine if a defendant was legally insane at the time of committing a crime or not.

- ★ Mr. Imtiaz has discussed Expert Testimony, Rehabilitation and Treatment. Furthermore, he elaborated on the assessment and analysis process and the qualification of forensic psychologists in Pakistan. He also had his views on the importance of forensic experts in courtrooms.

Panel Discussion

PART III is for Clinical Psychologist

Prof. Dr. Uzma Ali (Director Institute of Clinical Psychology, UoK)

Prof. Dr. Qudsia Tariq (Ex. Head of Department of Psychology, UoK)

Dr. Syed Shameem Ejaz (Ex .Head of Department of Business Psychology, IoBM)

Dr. Hina Imran (Associate Prof, ICP, UoK)

Dr. Haroon ur Rashid (Clinical Psychologist)

We had these questions:

- How does the role of clinical psychology intersect with forensic psychology within the Pakistani legal system?
- Please suggest some points for legislation or change or reforms in present law in light of expected challenges or situations where law of land is silent?



- ★ Dr. Uzma Ali addressed the questions by emphasizing that courts are obligated to refer both victims and accused individuals for medical board evaluations and psychological assessments. She highlighted the crucial role of assessments, psychometric tests, and clinical interviews in understanding the functioning of victims. Dr. Ali noted that case referrals can vary significantly in duration, ranging from several months to several years. She underscored the critical importance of familial accounts in decision-making processes, emphasizing the need to consider the client's cognitive abilities and neuropsychological functioning. Dr. Ali discussed the use of interactive assessments to detect impairments and the frequent application of MPPI in cases involving personality disorders and mental health issues. Ultimately, she stressed that justice should be based on the careful selection and application of appropriate assessment tools.
- ★ In response to the question, Dr. Qudsia Tariq pointed out that rehabilitation centers have programs designed to educate jail staff not only to oversee the completion of prisoners' sentences but also to help improve their personalities and behaviors, thereby reducing the chances of reoffending. She highlighted that there are 101 vulnerable cases in juvenile jails lacking forensic psychologists, underscoring the crucial need for their inclusion, alongside clinical psychologists, in juvenile detention facilities.

Panel Discussion

PART III is for Clinical Psychologist



- ★ Dr. Hina Imran suggested that standard protocols need to be added in court trials. These standard protocols would be developed by concerned stakeholders such as professional clinical psychologists, forensic psychologists and criminologists, who develop these protocols and implement them in courtrooms to help provide justice.
- ★ Dr. Haroon-ur-Rashid added that as clinical psychology and psychological assessment is used in Pakistan forces it must be used in the legal system as well.
- ★ Dr. Syed Shameem Ejaz intensified that We have to teach new things in a basic way. Those who are making decisions should be trained while sitting in the courts. He highlighted that training of magistrates, judges, and Policymakers is needed to pass judgment or to understand the cases better. He expanded on the things to be understood in this conference: what students and professionals are doing as clinical psychologists and forensic psychologists and what they need to do in the future. He advised that if students and professionals put their whole interest and whole ethos on understanding the basics then wherever they are doing, they will be successful.

Vote of Thanks



Dr. Shahid Iqbal
In-Charge Abdul Haq Campus
In-Charge Dean Faculty of Arts
Chairman, Department of Psychology, FUUAST

Dr. Shahid Iqbal expressed gratitude to the speakers and panel experts for sharing their knowledge and experiences. He extended his regards to the guests and attendees, and also conveyed appreciation to Dr. Imran for his sponsorship, and honorable Muhammad Ahmed Shah for collaborating with the Department of Psychology, FUUAST. Dr. Shahid Iqbal acknowledged the dedication of the chief organizer and organizing committee, and thanked the volunteers for their service during the conference. Finally, he expressed his commitment to contributing to the betterment of the community.

Shield Distribution

Keynote Speakers & Discussion Panel Experts



Shield Distribution

Organizing Committee



Group Photo

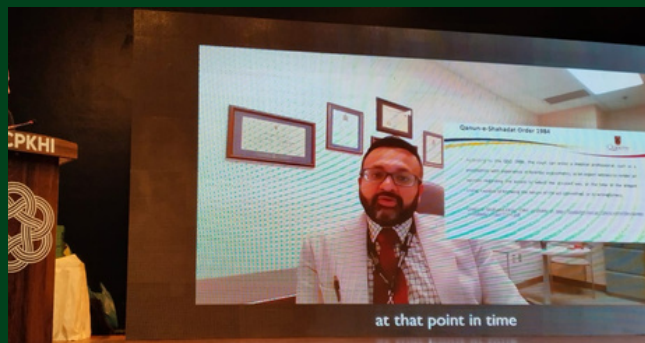


Conference Pictures

















"Thank you to all participants of the **“First International Conference on Exploring the Role of Forensic Psychology in the Pakistani Legal System”**. Your contributions and engagement were essential in making this event successful. We appreciate your commitment to advancing the field and look forward to continued collaboration in the future."

