

## Judicial System of Pakistan

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### Abstract

The judiciary is one of the three basic organs of the State, the other two being the Legislature and the Executive. It has a vital role in the functioning of the State, more so, in a democracy based on the Rule of Law. Since time immemorial, law and the judiciary have played a vital role in the Indian polity. The Constitution accords a place of pride to the judiciary by conferring the power of judicial review of legislative and administrative action and entrusting it with the task of enforcement of the fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution.<sup>1</sup>

In a democratic polity, the supreme power of the State is shared among its three principal organs as constitutional functionaries. Each of the functionaries is independent and supreme within its allotted sphere and none is superior to the other. Justice has to be administered through the courts and such administration would relate to social, economic and political aspects of justice as stipulated in the Preamble of the Constitution and the judiciary, therefore, becomes the most prominent and outstanding wing of the constitutional system for fulfilling the mandate of the Constitution. The judiciary has to take up a positive and creative function in securing socio-economic justice for the people.

### Keywords

Pakistan Judiciary, Constitutional-Framework, Powers of Courts, Supreme Court of Pakistan, National Judicial Policy, Anti-Terrorists Court, Organizational Hierarchy of Courts, Legal History of Pakistan

### History

The roots of the current judicial system of Pakistan stretch back to the medieval period and even before. The judicial system that we practice today has evolved over a long period of time, spanning roughly over a whole millennium. The system has passed through several epochs covering the Hindu era, the Muslim period including the Mughal dynasty, the British colonial period and the post-independence period. The 4<sup>th</sup> and current era, commenced with the partition of India and the establishment of Pakistan as a sovereign and independent State. The system has evolved through a process of reform and development. During this process of evolution and growth, the judicial system did receive influences and inspirations from foreign doctrines and indigenous practices, both in terms of organising court structure and hierarchy, and following procedures in reaching decisions. Therefore, the present judicial system is not an entirely foreign transplant, as is commonly alleged, but has acquired an indigenous flavour and national colour.

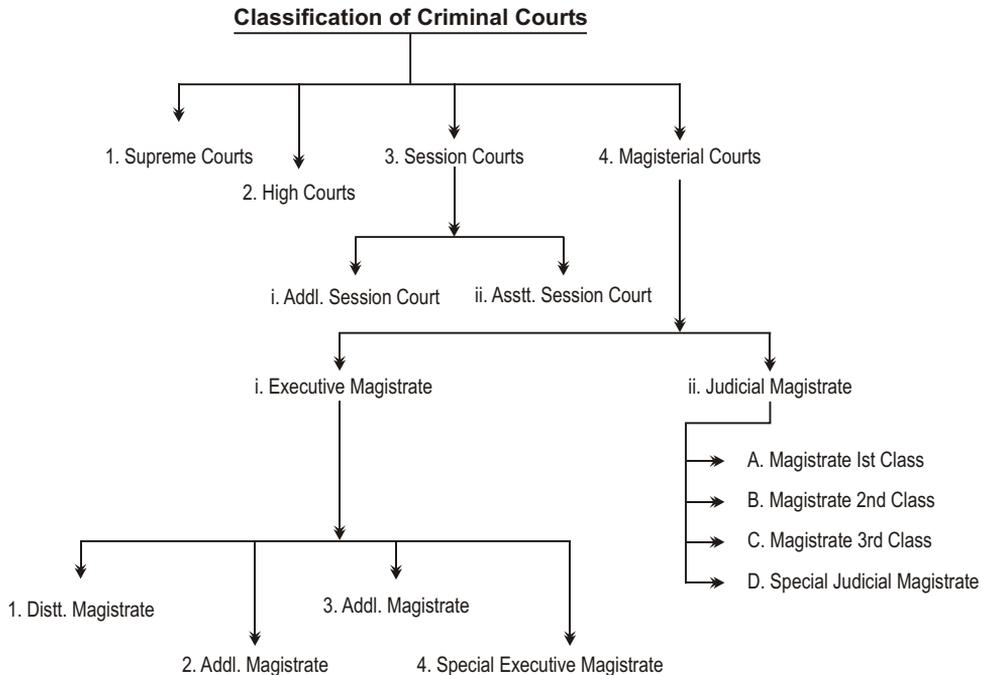
On independence, the Government of India Act 1935 was retained as a provisional Constitution. As a consequence, the legal and judicial system of the British period continued, of course, with due adaptations and modifications, where necessary, to suit the requirements of the new Republic. This way, neither any vacuum occurred nor any break resulted in the continued operation of the legal system. The judicial structure remained the same. The Lahore High Court continued to function and so did the Sindh Chief Court and the Courts of Judicial Commissioner in NWFP and Baluchistan.<sup>2</sup>

## Court System

The judiciary is composed of three levels of federal courts, three divisions of lower courts, and a Supreme Judicial Council. There are district courts in every district of each province, having both civil and criminal jurisdiction though they deal mainly with civil matters. The High Court of each province has jurisdiction over civil and criminal appeals from lower courts within the provinces. The Supreme Court sits in Islamabad and has exclusive jurisdiction over disputes between or among federal and provincial governments, and appellate jurisdiction over High Court decisions. There is also a Federal *Shariat* Court established by Presidential Order on 26<sup>th</sup> May 1980. This Court has exclusive jurisdiction to determine, upon petition by any citizen or the federal or provincial governments or on its own motion, whether or not a law conforms to the injunctions of Islam. An Islamic advisory council of *ulama* assists the Federal *Shariat* Court in this capacity.

## Classes of Criminal Courts

The term Criminal Court has not been defined by the Code of Criminal Procedure. But the Cr.P.C. describes its various kinds and their power. Courts are classified for the purpose to decide the cases immediately and reduce load on the other courts. Section 6 to 41 of the Code of Criminal Procedure describes classes of Criminal Courts with respect to its powers, jurisdiction and sentencing. The word “court means a place where justice is administered and the person or persons who administer justice”<sup>3</sup> while in the Black's Law Dictionary court is defined “ a governmental body consisting of one or more judges who sit to adjudicate disputes and administer justices.”<sup>4</sup> Generally Court includes all judges and Magistrates and all persons except arbitrators legally authorized to take evidence and it must be entrusted with judicial junctions. While it was held that if a person or body is entrusted with judicial power of the state, he or it would constitute a court<sup>5</sup>



## **Constitutional Significance of Supreme Court**

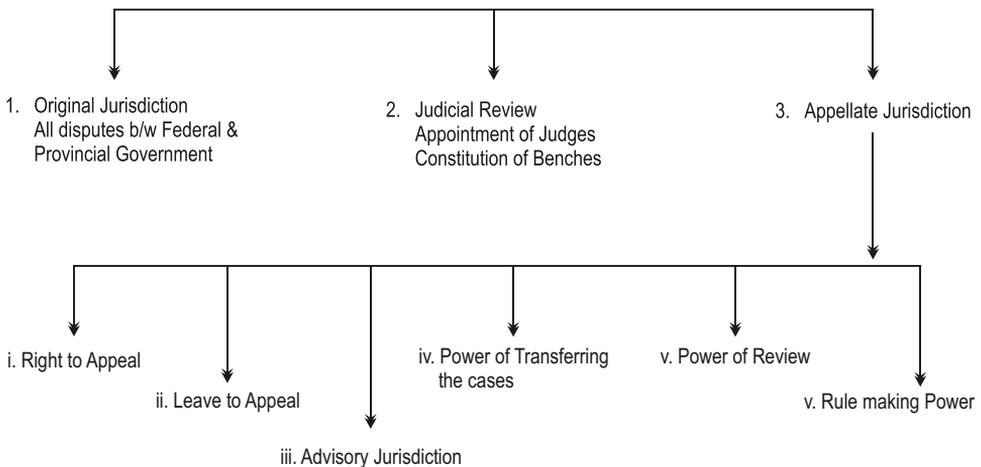
"There shall be a Supreme Court of Pakistan."<sup>6</sup> It is the apex of the judicial system of Pakistan. Its decisions become final and all lower courts are bound to follow it. The Supreme Court is the apex Court of the land, exercising original, appellate and advisory jurisdiction.<sup>7</sup> The Supreme Court of Pakistan was entrusted with a task of interpreting the constitution. It was given the power to adjudicate in any dispute between Federal and Provincial Governments or between Provincial Governments.<sup>8</sup> Enforcement of justice is the primary duty of the courts and custodian of the fundamental rights given in the Constitution of Pakistan.<sup>9</sup> The Supreme Court enjoys the most distinguished position within the entire judicial setup which decides the constitutional validities of all laws and having the power to declare the law null and void if it is against the injunctions of Holy Quran and Sunnah.

The Supreme Court is the guardian of the constitution and given the power of judicial review. The Supreme Court also protects all those rights guaranteed under the first chapter of the Constitution of Pakistan. The concept of judicial review firstly established in the case of *Madison VS Marbury* where Chief Justice Marshall took the plea that the constitution is the paramount law of the land since it is the source of all authority and power.<sup>10</sup> There are 18 judges in the supreme court of Pakistan along with Chief Justice.<sup>11</sup>

## Appointment of Its Judges

All the judges including the Chief Justice of Supreme Court are appointed by the President on the advice of Prime Minister. The Court consists of a Chief Justice and other judges, appointed by the president.<sup>12</sup> It is up to Parliament to determine the number of judges. The number fixed at the moment is 18. Currently, the Court is working with full strength. Further, 2 Ad hoc Judges have also been appointed for one year. The Court exercises original jurisdiction in inter-governmental dispute,<sup>13</sup> i.e. dispute between the Federal Government and a provincial government or among provincial governments. The Supreme Court also exercises original jurisdiction (concurrently with High Courts) for the enforcement of fundamental rights, where a question of 'public importance' is involved.<sup>14</sup> The Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters.<sup>15</sup> Moreover, the Supreme Court has advisory jurisdiction in giving opinion to the Government on a question of law.<sup>16</sup>

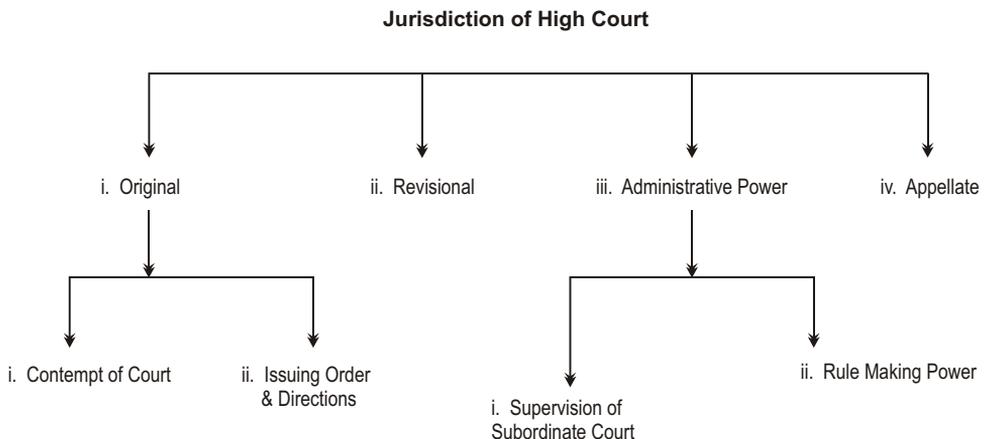
### Original Jurisdiction of Supreme Court (U/A 184 of the Constitution)



## High Court

High Court means the highest court of Criminal appeal or revision for a province.<sup>17</sup> There is a High Court in each province. Each High Court consists of a Chief Justice and other judges. The Chief Justice is appointed by the President in consultation with the Chief Justice of Pakistan while the other judges with the consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.<sup>18</sup> Following are the Power of High Court to Awarding punishment of

death: it may confirm death sentence; it is necessary that for Confirmation of death sentence the judges must be two or more in number, Petition of Habeas Corpus under section 491, transfer of criminal cases<sup>19</sup> from one court to another, award imprisonment up to 25 years, Fine any amount-difference between fine and compensation, Compensation for aggrieved person/heirs of deceased whereas fine goes in the treasury of the court, Forfeiture of property, High Court is the highest court in the province, and supervises the work of the subordinate courts in it. The most significant power of the High Court is writ jurisdiction<sup>20</sup> to issue direction in the nature of writ of Habeas Corpus, writ of mandamus, writ of certiorari, writ of quo warranto and writ of prohibition.



The High Courts have such jurisdiction as is conferred on them by the Constitution or by other statute of the country.

1. The jurisdiction of this court may be classified as follows:

### **i. Extra-Ordinary Jurisdiction**

As the name suggests by exercising this jurisdiction the High Court may issue directions and orders to any person or authority in the country, prohibiting, commanding, calling in question acts done or intended to be done by such person or authority, in specified circumstances.

The jurisdiction to issue these orders is the well-known prerogative writs, which have not been mentioned by their traditional names of the writs of mandamus, certiorari, prohibition, quo warranto and habeas corpus.

### Order of Mandamus

An order of mandamus is a direction issued to

- a. any natural person,
- b. corporation or
- c. inferior court

within the jurisdiction of the High Court requiring them to do some specific thing therein particularised, and which appertains to their office of duty.

Its object usually is to enforce a plain, positive, specific and ministerial duty presently existing and imposed by law upon officers when there is no other adequate and specific legal remedy and without which there would be a failure of justice.

### Order of Prohibition

The High Court's jurisdiction to issue an order of prohibition where a Court or Tribunal other than the Supreme Court of Pakistan, the High Court or a Tribunal established under the law relating to Defence Services acts in excess of or without jurisdiction.

In case of quasi-judicial proceedings generally an order of prohibition does not issue. It is issued **only against a Court or a judicial body**, which though may not be called a Court but has been created specifically under a statute.

### Order of Certiorari

Order of certiorari is of two kinds

- a. for removal and adjudication; and
- b. for quashing the proceedings.

The order of certiorari may be issued

- a. for correcting errors of jurisdiction as when an inferior Court or Tribunal acts without jurisdiction or in excess of it or fails to exercise it; or
- b. when the Court or Tribunal acts illegally in the exercise of its undoubted jurisdiction, as when it decides without giving an opportunity to the parties, to be heard, or violates the principles of natural justice. An order under this article may be issued only to a body acting judicially or quasi judicially because Certiorari lies in all cases where there is a duty to act judicially or where there is a judicial act or order or when the proceedings are judicial or quasi-judicial.

## **Quo Warranto**

Quo warranto is the remedy or proceeding whereby the Court inquires into the legality of the claim which a party asserts to an office or franchise, and to oust him from its enjoyment if the claim be not well founded to have the same forfeited.

To recover it if having once been rightfully possessed and enjoyed, it has become forfeited for misuser or nonuser.

Before opting for this kind of writ one shall look that it is a substantive corporate office of a public nature, and the person proceeded against is in actual possession and use of the office in question.

### **ii. Original and Appellate Jurisdiction**

The original and appellate jurisdiction of the High Courts are provided by pre-Constitution laws such as

- a. the Criminal Procedure Code,' and
- b. the Code of Civil Procedure,

Appellate Jurisdiction under the Code of Criminal Procedure, the High Courts hear appeals against the orders passed by the Sessions or Additional Sessions Judges and under the Code of Civil Procedure, the High Courts hear appeals from the decisions of the subordinate civil courts and the District Judges' courts.

A second appeal under the Code lies to the High Court on a question of law or on the ground of a substantial error or defect in procedure in the first appellate court.

As an appellate court, the High Court has the power to determine the case finally, to remand to frame issues and refer them for trial, to take additional evidence or to require such evidence to be taken as it may deem fit.

### **iii. Supervisory Jurisdiction**

The High Courts **make rules** for the guidance of the lower civil and criminal courts.

A High Court can **transfer cases** from one court to another or when it thinks fit may transfer a case for trial even to itself.

## District Courts

1. The district courts of Pakistan are the lowest of all the courts in the hierarchy, which deal with all the matters pertaining to civil and criminal nature.

## Civil Cases

1. In every district of a Province, there is a Court of District Judge which is the principal court of original jurisdiction in civil matters.
2. Courts of General Jurisdiction Besides the Court of District Judge, there are courts of Civil Judges.
3. Civil Judges function under the superintendence and control of District Judge and all matters of civil nature originate in the courts of Judges.
4. The District Judge may, however, withdraw any case from any Civil Judge and try it himself.
5. Appeals against the judgements and decrees passed by the Civil Judges in cases where the value of the suit does not exceed the specified amount lie to the District Judge.

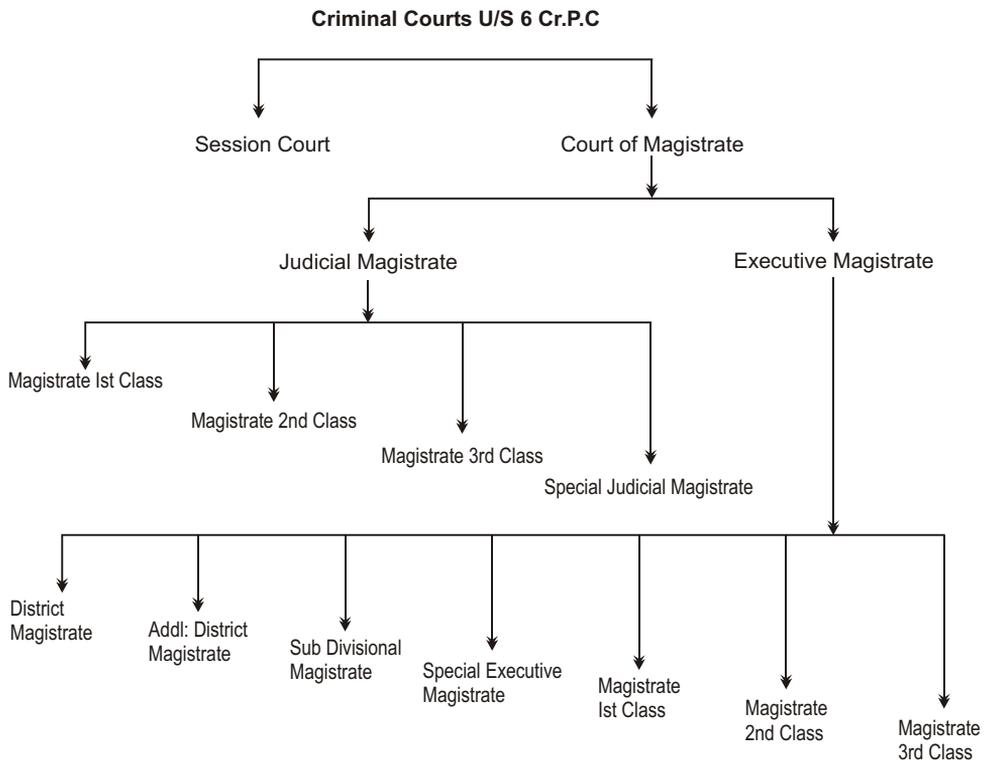
## Criminal Cases

1. In every district, there is a **Court of Sessions Judge** and **Courts of Magistrates** has the jurisdiction to try the Criminal cases.
2. The offences punishable with death and cases arising out of the enforcement of laws relating to Hudood are tried by Sessions Judges.
3. The Court of a Sessions Judge is competent to pass any sentence authorised by law.
4. Offences not punishable with death are tried by Magistrates.
5. Among the Magistrates there are Magistrates of 1st Class, II<sup>nd</sup> Class and III<sup>rd</sup> Class.
6. An appeal against the sentence passed by a Sessions Judge lies to the High Court and against the sentence passed by a Magistrate to the Sessions Judge if the term of sentence is upto four years, otherwise to the High Court.

## Session Court

Session Court is the August court in the district. Its jurisdiction extends to the whole district. It is presided by a session judge appointed<sup>21</sup> who may be assisted by one or more than one additional session judges all magistrates in the district are subordinate to the session judge. A Session judge has numerous powers e.g. to conduct trials all serious crimes such as robbery, murder and all kinds of homicide,

serious thefts by habitual offenders etc. A death sentence pronounced by him can be carried out only after the confirmation by the High Court. A Session Judge hears appeals from the orders of the First Class Magistrate and Section 30 Magistrates, if they have sentenced a man to four years or more imprisonment. He has also revisional jurisdiction. Appeals from the Session Court go to the High Court. All session judges have the power of the justice of the peace and they can exercise same powers as the police u/s 54 and 55 of the code of criminal procedure. An ex-officio justice of the peace may issue appropriate direction to the police authorities concerned on a complaint regarding i. non- registration of criminal case ii transfer of investigation from one police officer to another; and iii. Neglect, failure or excess committed by a police authority in relation to its function and duties.<sup>22</sup>



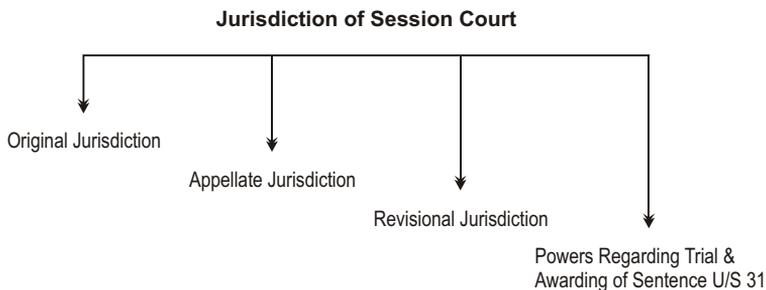
### Civil Judge Cum Judicial Magistrate Courts

In every town and city there are numerous civil and judicial magistrate courts. Magistrates with power of section 30 of Cr.P.C can hear all matters and offences of criminal nature, where there is no death penalty (such as attempted murder, dacoity, robbery, extortion) under his jurisdiction but he can pass sentence

only up to seven years or less. If the court thinks accused deserves more punishment than seven years then it has to refer the matter to some higher court with its recommendations. Every magistrate court is allocated a jurisdiction that is usually one or more Police Stations in the area. Trial of all non bailable offences including police remand notices, accused discharges, arrest and search warrants, bail applications are heard and decided by Magistrate Courts. Most of judicial Magistrates have powers over civil suits as well, they are usually called Civil Judge Cum Judicial Magistrates.

## Court of Magistrate

There are two types of magistrate, one is the judicial magistrate while the other is executive magistrate which is not any more because section 10 of the code of criminal procedure was related to executive magistrates which was omitted in 2001 through amendment ordinance XXXVII of 2001. There are several Judicial magistrates in one district and they can exercise their powers within the limits prescribed to them. The powers of judges are distributed for the purpose to reduce pressure on the judges and also provided opportunity to the accused to get remedy quickly in case of refusal to get the right of appeal



## Special Courts and Tribunals

1. In this country there are also special courts and tribunals has been established so as to deal with specific types of cases.
2. These are Special Courts for
  - i. Trial of Offences in Banks;
  - ii. For Recovery of Bank Loans;
  - iii. Under the Customs Act,
  - iv. Traffic Courts;
  - v. Anti-Corruption;

- vi. Anti Narcotics Courts
  - vii. Anti terrorist Courts
  - viii. Commercial Courts;
  - ix. Board of Revenue
  - x. Drug Courts;
  - xi. Labour Courts;
  - xii. Insurance Appellate Tribunal;
  - xiii. Income Tax Appellate Tribunal and
  - xiv. Services Tribunals.
  - xv. Special Magistrate courts
3. Appeals from the Special Courts lie to the High Courts, **except** in case of **Labour Courts and Special Traffic Courts**, which have separate forums of appeal.

## Special Courts

### i. Juvenile Court

Protection of child in criminal litigation is very important and for this reason special law through presidential ordinance came into in 2000 and juvenile courts are constituted under section 4 of the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance, 2000 to exclusively deal all offences committed by child. Which further clarify u/s 5 that there should be no joint trial of a child and adult person? The important thing is that u/s 12 the juvenile court can not award death penalty to juvenile nor handcuffed put in fetters or given any corporal punishment at any time while in custody.

### ii. Anti-Terrorism Court

Due to changing circumstances it was expedient to provide for the prevention of terrorism, sectarian violence and for speedy trial of heinous offences and for matter connected therewith.<sup>23</sup> The purpose of this enactment was to provide heinous punishment to harder criminal and prevent terrorism. No court has power to release an accused on bail except Anti terrorism court, High court and Supreme Court. Anti Terrorism Court was established in Pakistan, under Nawaz Sharif's government, to deal with terrorism cases. Anti-Terrorist Act, amended on 24 October 1998 by the Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance following the Supreme Court judgement (*Merham Ali versus Federation of Pakistan*, 1998) declaring most of its provisions unconstitutional.

### iii. Anti-Narcotics Court

Anti Narcotics court is a special court constituted under section 46 of the control of narcotics substance act 1997. Which says that the Federal Government and, if so directed by the Federal Government, the Provincial Government shall by notification in the official Gazette establish Narcotics court. The intent and object behind enacting Control of Narcotics Substances Act, 1997, inter alia, was to control the production, processing and trafficking of narcotics etc and the Act being a special law the effective provision thereof could not be defeated on technicalities.

### iv. Anti-Corruption Court

The anti-corruption court performs its function under the Prevention of the corruption Act, 1947 and its purpose is to eliminate corruption from societies. It is a special court and its judges are equivalent to session judge. Its procedure is different from the other courts in other courts majority cases are tried when some one lodge an FIR but in these court the cases are commence from the complaint and on the basis of the said compliant an investigating agency starts investigation and when the investigation officer finds some thing than an FIR is registered against the accused. Offences covered under the prevention of corruption Act are exclusively tried by the Anti Corruption Court and its appeal lies to the High Court.

### v. Shariat Court

Federal Shariat Court comprises eight Muslim Judges including the Chief Justice to be appointed by the President. Of the Judges, four are the persons qualified to be the Judges of the High Courts, while three are Ulema (scholars well-versed in Islamic Law).

**Jurisdiction:** Federal Shariat Court has original and appellate jurisdiction.

**Original Jurisdiction:** The Court may examine and decide the question whether or not any law or provision of law is repugnant to the injunctions of Islam as laid down in the Holy Quran and Sunnah of the Holy Prophet. If the Court decides that any law or provision of law is repugnant to the injunctions of Islam, it sets out the extent to which such law or provision of law is so repugnant, and specifies the day on which the decision shall take effect. Where any law is held to be repugnant to the injunctions of Islam, the President in the case of Federal law or the Governor in the case of a Provincial law is required to take steps to amend the law so as to bring it in conformity with the injunctions of Islam, and such law ceases to have effect from the specified day.

**Appellate Jurisdiction:** The Court has exclusive jurisdiction to hear appeals

from the decision of criminal courts under any law relating to enforcement of Hudood Law i.e. laws pertaining to offences to intoxication, theft, Zina (unlawful sexual intercourse) and Qazf (false imputation of Zina).

#### vi. **The Ombudsman (Wafaqi Mohtasib)**

The Concept Mohtasib (Ombudsman) is an ancient Islamic concept and many Islamic States have established the office of Mohtasib to ensure that no wrong or injustice is done to the citizens. In the 18th century, when King Charles XII of Sweden was in exile in Turkey, he observed the working and efficacy of this institution in the Ottoman Caliphate. On regaining his throne, the King established a similar institution in Sweden. Gradually, other developed western countries also adopted this institution.

***Establishment in Pakistan:*** In Pakistan, the establishment of the institution of Ombudsman was advocated on several occasions. It was Article 276 of the Interim constitution of 1972, which provided for the appointment of a Federal Ombudsman as well as Provincial Ombudsmen for the first time. Subsequently, the Constitution of 1973 included the Federal Ombudsman at item 13 of the Federal Legislative List in the Fourth Schedule.

The Institution of Ombudsman was, however, actually brought into being through the Establishment of the Office of Wafaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman) Order, 1983. The Wafaqi Mohtasib is appointed by the President of Pakistan and holds office for a period of four years. He is assured of security of tenure and cannot be removed from office except on ground of misconduct or of physical or mental incapacity.

***Jurisdiction:*** The chief purpose of the Wafaqi Mohtasib is to diagnose, investigate, redress and rectify any injustice done to a person through misadministration on the part of a Federal Agency or a Federal Government official. The primary objective of the office is to institutionalise a system for enforcing administrative accountability.

The term "misadministration" has been defined in the law governing the office of Mohtasib, to cover a very wide spectrum, encompassing every conceivable form of administrative practice. It includes a decision, process, recommendation, an act of omission or commission, which:

- a. is contrary to law, rules or regulations or is a departure from established practice or procedure;
- b. is perverse, arbitrary or unreasonable, unjust, biased, oppressive or discriminatory or is based on irrelevant grounds;
- c. involves the exercise of powers, or the failure, or refusal to do so, for corrupt or improper motives.

It also includes neglect, inattention, delay, incompetence, inefficiency, ineptitude in the administration, or in the discharge of duties and responsibilities. The term "Agency" has been defined as a Ministry, Division, Department, commission, or Office of the Federal Government, or a Statutory corporation, or any other institution established or controlled by the Federal Government.

**Powers:** If the Mohtasib finds an element of bad administration in a matter, he can, after investigating the matter, ask the Agency concerned to consider the matter further, to modify or cancel its decision, to take disciplinary action against any public servant, to dispose of the cases within a specified time, or to improve the working of the Agency, or to take any other specified steps. Failure on the part of an Agency to comply with the Ombudsman's recommendation is treated as "Defiance of Recommendations" which may lead to reference of the matter to the President of Pakistan, who, in his discretion may direct the Agency to implement the recommendations.

The Mohtasib is empowered to award compensation to an aggrieved person for any loss or damage suffered by that person on account of misadministration. But if the complaint is found to be false, or frivolous, he can also award compensation to the Agency or the functionary against whom the complaint was made.

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## **National Judicial Policy**

It is a fundamental and inherent right of every citizen of the state to seek speedy and affordable justice, the provision of which becomes a state's duty and responsibility. In this regard, the announcement of "New Judicial Policy of Pakistan" is welcomed by masses, among many of them were made waited into their pending cases in the courts for years. Since the higher rate of pendency of cases, uncertain time limit for courts decisions, remote accessibility to courts and affordability of legal fees were the main reasons for the demand of judicial reforms in the form of "Nizam-e-Adal Regulation" in Malakand division, the Supreme court of Pakistan's realization for the need to bring reforms in the judiciary is opening the doors of justice to a common man.

The New Judicial Policy's effort in bringing out reforms through minimizing the pendency of cases rate, the allocation of specific time limits for specific cases and the provision for judges not to serve as acting governor, and for those currently serving in other departments on deputation to be summoned back to the courts are extremely welcoming.

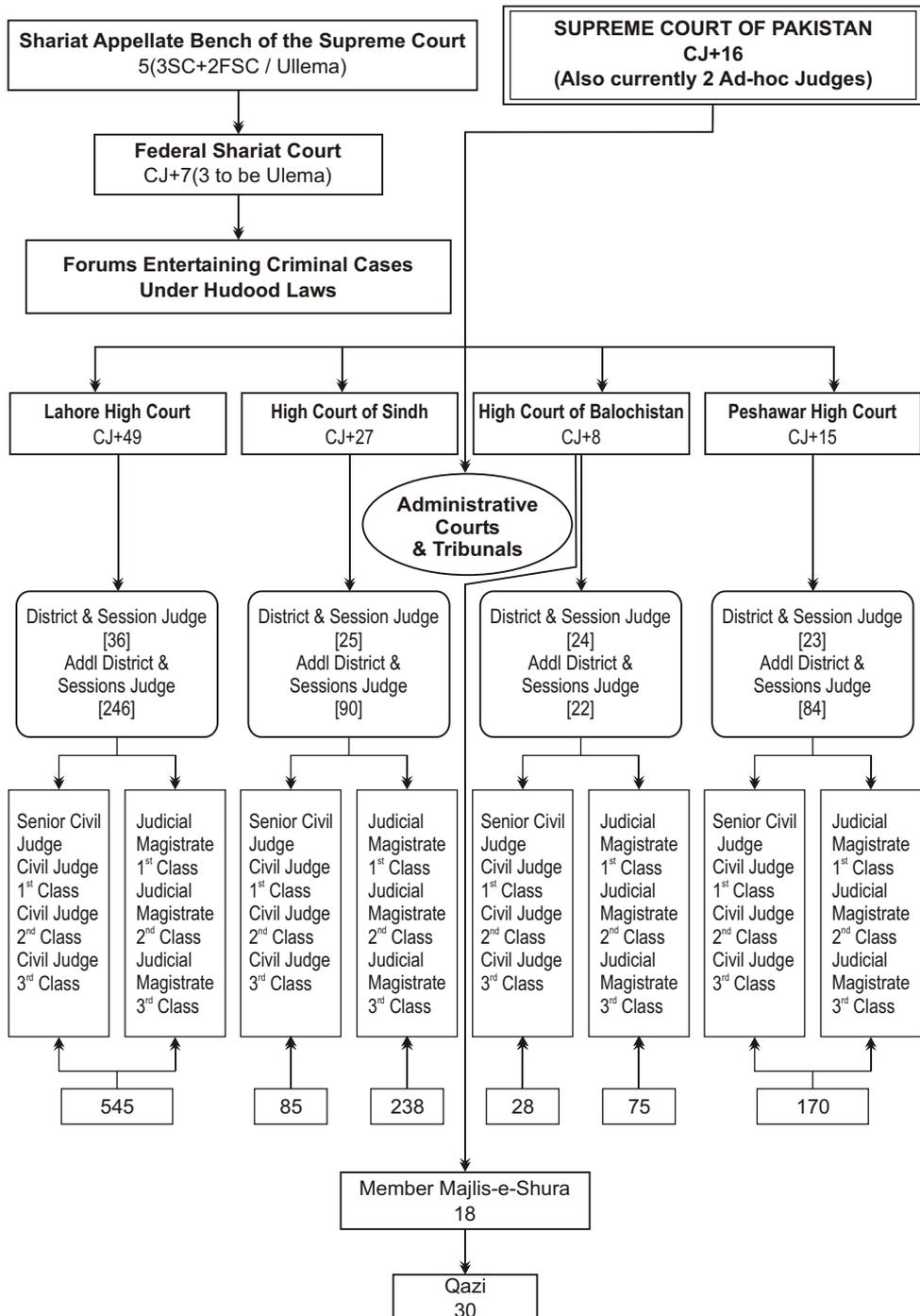
Since our judiciary is going through the phase of extensive reforms, other areas need to be considered for further efficiency. These include:

1. The appointment and dismissal of the judges of Supreme Court and those of High courts needs to be very clear and acceptable to the every stakeholder of the state. This will require the amendment in the constitution by parliament.
2. The practical implementation of the reforms introduced in the new policy is the most important task in this regard as justice in the real sense means justice not

only been done, but seemed to have been done. This will really help to boost the public confidence in the judiciary.

3. Code of ethics for judges needs to be revisited and needs to be brought about to the level comparable to that of judiciary in the most developed countries.
4. Remuneration and benefits provided to the all judges needs to be of sufficiently high level to minimize the chances of corruption. The establishment of anti-corruption cell is a very good move by the higher court in this regard.
5. There is also a need to bring improvements in the administration to ensure due dispensation of justice by the courts.
6. The problems of uncertain time limit and the pendency rate of cases have been appropriately addressed in the new policy, but following should be re-addressed:
  - a. Establishment of new courts and increase in the number of specialized courts particularly in remote areas to make justice easily accessible to every citizen.
  - b. A reasonable maximum amount of legal fees needs to be specified for specified cases to make justice affordable.
  - c. There is a need for public awareness about courts legal system of the state to make dispensation of justice easily understandable for a common man.
7. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Forums on each separate legal area needs to be established to encourage settlement and resolution of disputes through alternative means. This will also help in decreasing pendency rate.
8. There is a need to respond to the complains and feedback timely and efficiently to redress the grievances of the masses quickly.
9. Minimum numbers of jail inspections in a specified period by authorized judges needs to be prescribed to stop human rights violations and mal-practices in jails.

Judicial Organization and Strength of Hierarchy



**Note**

1. In Punjab, 55 District & Sessions Judges, 34 Additional District & Sessions Judges and 23 Senior/Civil Judges and Judicial Magistrates are working on ex cadre posts.
2. In Sindh, 42 District & Sessions Judges, 9 Additional District & Sessions Judges and 8 Senior/Civil Judges and 11 Judicial Magistrates are working on ex cadre posts.
3. In Balochistan, 5 District & Sessions Judges, 4 Additional District & Sessions Judges, 7 Senior/Civil Judges and 5 Judicial Magistrates are working on ex cadre posts.
4. In NWFP, 31 District & Sessions Judges, 19 Additional District & Sessions Judges and 17 Senior/Civil Judges and Judicial Magistrates are working on ex cadre posts.

**Strength of Judges and Administrative Staff of Superior & Subordinate Judiciary**

Judges	Supreme Court of Pakistan	Federal Shariat Court	Lahore High Court	Sind High Court	Peshawar High Court	Balochistan High Court
Chief Justice & Judges	19	08	50	28	16	08
Administrative Staff	567	216	1861	970	346	308
Pendency	10,914	3,316	75,195	27,291	13,610	2,445
District & Sessions Judges/ Addl Distt & Session Judge/ Senior Civil Judge/ Civil Judge	-	-	939	508	277	197
Administrative Staff	-	-	10,330	-	3,317	1450
Pendency	-	-	110,546	123,663	37,000	8,377

**Strength of Members and Administrative Staff of Administrative Tribunals**

	Federal Service Tribunal	Punjab Service Tribunal	Federal Ombudsman	Federal Tax Ombudsman
Members	11	05	07	01
Staff	126	-	593	145
Pendency	20,453	1516	4885	357

## Current Strength of Law Officers of the Federation and Provinces

<b>Federation</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Balochistan</b>	<b>NWFP</b>	<b>Punjab</b>	<b>Sindh</b>	<b>Total</b>
Attorney General for Pakistan/Advocate General	1	1	1	1	1	5
Deputy Attorney General/ Additional Advocate General	10	2	5	12	8	37
Standing Counsel/ Assistant Advocate General	9	2	5	33	12	61
District Attorney	-	31	-	58	24	113
Deputy District Attorney	-	-	-	180	152	332
Assistant Deputy District Attorney	-	16	-	128	-	144
Public Prosecutor	-	-	31		31	62
Deputy Prosecutor	-	-	45	-	-	45
Assistant Public Prosecutor	BPS 16	-	-	42		42
	BPS 14	-	-	84		84
Government Pleaders	-	-	9			9
Assistant Government Pleaders	-	-	31			31
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>965</b>

## Advocates on the Roll of the Supreme Court

<b>Senior Advocates</b>	<b>Advocates</b>	<b>Advocates on Record</b>	<b>Senior Total</b>
250	2,453	223	2,926

## Advocates on the Roll of the Supreme Court

<b>Punjab</b>	<b>Sindh</b>	<b>NWFP</b>	<b>Balochistan</b>
30,000	6,840	3,171	1,020

## End Notes

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