

Editorial

Criminology (the interdisciplinary study of crime and delinquency), has established itself in the developed world, and is now emerging as a field of immense interest in the developing and transitional nations. We are now seeing not only academic institutions and justice agencies, but also many professional societies of criminology engaging in the promotion of criminological knowledge and research around the globe. Pakistan, though lagging a little behind, has joined the rank of those introducing criminology and police sciences as an integral part of academic curricula in the law enforcement training institutes. After publishing *Expanding Criminology to Pakistan*, the Pakistan Society of Criminology launched its modest website and now the *Pakistan Journal of Criminology*, a research-based journal, focusing mainly on indigenous criminological work, is being published and introduced. Those who initiate new ideas and launch creative programmes will definitely appreciate the level of efforts, energies and resources needed for establishing and promoting such an idea. The idea is especially relevant in the context of a country which is the major focus of international attention since the last decade, but faces serious problems in tackling the issues related to internal security, crime, law and order and reforms in the criminal justice system.

Our efforts have been encouraged by scholars and officers of law-enforcement agencies across the world. The first issue of the *Pakistan Journal of Criminology* bears testament to the messages of goodwill. We have stated the aims and objectives of the Pakistan Society of Criminology at various academic forums of Pakistan as well as in our publications and writings. However, the overall aims and objectives of the Pakistan Society of Criminology are reproduced here for ready reference, which include:

- Promoting the scientific study of crimes, deviant behaviour and delinquency, and of criminal justice processes through all available ways and means.
- Bringing together in one multi disciplinary society persons actively engaged in research, teaching and practicing in field of criminology.
- Bringing together academics from across the social sciences in the country with interest for research in crime and criminal justice, and to use that enhanced capability to undertake research on topics relevant to Pakistan's criminal justice needs and of international implications.
- Building important strategic relationships with government institutes, police colleges and academy and other academic and public sector research and policy groups.
- Forging a collaboration with the law-enforcement agencies and the people involved in the criminal justice system of the country to facilitate cooperative working and knowledge exchange.
- Engaging high quality research colleagues for undertaking interdisciplinary and cross-institutional research on various topics with a range of collaborators.

- Collecting, compiling and analyzing data on important social issues for evidence-based policy options which should lead to a knowledge-based governance and understanding on the subject matter.
- Providing training facilities and a forum for all trainers and workers who are involved in protection of children rights, women rights and minority rights, and for all those working for promoting awareness, advocacy and education on democracy, justice, equality and freedom.
- Establishing a high standard of higher education in security and criminological studies which will be a positive and fruitful addition to our existing educational system.
- Working for an umbrella institute for capacity-building courses for all stakeholders involved in law-enforcement and justice dispensation.
- Working for introducing educational programmes in discipline of criminology, criminological research and justice education.
- Creating future scholars and researchers into the discipline of criminology and criminal justice education through proper academic courses and training.
- Providing facilities for rehabilitation, counseling and reintegration of victims of crimes and situations.
- Working academically on integrating national and international efforts on organized crimes, especially terrorism, sectarianism, drugs, corruption, money-laundering, cyber-crimes, transnational crimes and criminal justice reforms, etc.
- Promoting interfaith dialogue, inter and intra religious harmony, world peace and tranquility and human progress at local, national and international level.

We thank the learned members of the Society, the members of the esteemed Advisory Board and the members of the committed Editorial Board, who whole-heartedly supported and welcomed all the initiatives of Pakistan Society of Criminology to Pakistan. We are especially indebted to the worthy scholars who wrote messages for this issue and to the respected writers who contributed their articles in the shortest possible time. We cannot ignore to mention the valuable services of Syed Wajid, Muhammad Saeed Khan, Amin-ur-Rehman and Zia-ur-Rehman who made the publishing and printing of this journal possible.

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