

Humbly Press Release

30 June 2010, Islamabad

Violence Against Women in Pakistan: A Qualitative Review of Statistics 2009.

Islamabad: Aurat Foundation launched its second annual report on: “Qualitative review of Statistics 2009” at Hotel Islamabad, in a launching ceremony. The report is a collection and compilation of statistics on the incidents of violence against women during Jan-to Dec, 2009 under its national programme ‘Policy and Data Monitor Violence Against Women’ for the elimination of violence against women in Pakistan.

According to the report a total of 8548 incidents of violence against women were reported in the four provinces of Pakistan and in capital territory Islamabad during year 2009. Of these, 5722 cases of violence were recorded in Punjab; 1762 in Sindh; 655 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 237 in Balochistan and 172 in Islamabad. Almost all these cases are reported cases.

The highest reported crime of violence against women in 15 districts of VAW. Lahore has earned itself the dubious distinctions of being the District with the highest VAW crime rate. In terms of VAW incidents, it saw 910 cases out of a total 8548 cases for all of Pakistan making it a the VAW crime capital of the country. Lahore had the same ranking last year, followed by Faisalabad with 742 cases and Sargodha with 473 VAW crimes. Rawalpindi (352), Peshawar (310), Gujranwala (290), Sheikhpura (259), Sukkur (243), Multan (240), Kasur (255), Vehari (171), and Toba Tek Singh (159), followed the three respectively.

Top 15 VAW

Sr. No.	District Name	Abduction/ Kidnapping	Acid Throwing	Domestic Violence	Rape/Gang Rape	'honour' Killing	Murder	Sexual Assault	Stove Burning	Suicide	Miscellaneous	Grand Total
1	Lahore	372	2	30	73	23	96	23	2	65	224	910
2	Faisalabad	265	10	18	151	26	91	37	2	32	110	742
3	Sargodha	140	-	39	40	17	49	31	2	30	125	473
4	Rawalpindi	169	3	24	23	4	53	1	9	8	58	352
5	Peshawar	56	-	110	3	5	72	-	1	7	56	310
6	Gujranwala	28	1	9	36	16	49	7	3	76	65	290
7	Sheikhpura	88	1	4	46	15	40	11	-	26	28	259
8	Sukkur	31		21	8	32	46	2		25	78	243
9	Multan	64	7	29	42	8	22	8	3	6	51	240
10	Kasur	80	-	5	41	13	36	14		10	26	225
11	Jacobabad	41	1	23	14	36	38		1	14	31	199
12	Larkana	13		4	18	31	52	2		21	56	197
13	Islamabad	52	1	18	9	2	39	2	2	6	41	172
14	Vehari	40	2	8	31	6	16	12		5	51	171
15	Toba Tek Singh	22	1	4	23	17	20	5		18	49	159

districts of

The industrialized districts showed a greater trend of case of VAW proving research observations that urban stresses especially the rising costs of living take their toll from the vulnerable parts of the population, women.

With extreme pain and anguish, Aurat Foundation and Members of Violence against Women Watch Group express their outrage and resentment over this state of affairs where women and girls are being murdered, kidnapped and subjected to various forms of violence, including killings in the name of 'honour', suicides, acid throwing and stove-burning with shameless impunity and the State functionaries are doing nothing except lip service before TV cameras, and that too, only in some high profile cases.

While having no expectations from the interior ministry or provincial governments and their departments, we urge the Ministry of Women's Development, which is under the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Women's Parliamentary Caucus, which is headed by the Speaker of National Assembly and comprised women MNAs, who are strong supporters of women's rights and the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), which is headed by a renowned women's rights activist to do something to stop this horrible situation of violence against women in the country.

The number of cases of violence in different categories of offences and their province-wise break down is as follows. There were:

- **1384 cases of murder:**
(752 in Punjab; 288 in Sindh; 266 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 39 in Balochistan; 39 in Islamabad);
- **604 cases of 'honour' killing:**
(245 in Punjab; 284 in Sindh; 14 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 59 in Balochistan; 2 in Islamabad);
- **1987 cases of abduction/kidnapping:**
(1698 in Punjab; 160 in Sindh; 64 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 13 in Balochistan; 52 in Islamabad);
- **608 cases of domestic violence:**
(271 in Punjab; 134 in Sindh; 163 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 22 in Balochistan; 18 in Islamabad);
- **683 cases of suicide:**
(448 in Punjab; 176 in Sindh; 43 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 10 in Balochistan; 6 in Islamabad);
- **928 cases of rape/gang-rape:**
(786 in Punjab; 122 in Sindh; 7 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 4 in Balochistan; 9 in Islamabad);
- **274 cases of sexual assault:**
(227 in Punjab; 44 in Sindh; 0 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 2 in Balochistan; 1 in Islamabad);
- **50 cases of stove burning:**
(33 in Punjab; 10 in Sindh; 4 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 1 in Balochistan; 2 in Islamabad);
- **53 cases of acid throwing:**
(42 in Punjab; 9 in Sindh; 1 in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa; 0 in Balochistan; 1 in Islamabad);
- **1977 cases of violence were of miscellaneous nature** (vanni/swara, custodial violence, torture, trafficking, child marriages, incest, threat to violence, sexual harassment, attempted murder, suicide & rape) in the four provinces and Islamabad.

The number and percentage of the cases of abduction/kidnapping are 1987 (23.25%), murder 1384 (16.9%), rape/gang-rape 928 (10.86%), suicide 683 (7.99%); and 'honour' killing of women 604 (7.07%) among all the recorded/reported cases of 2009, followed by cases of sexual assault 274 (3.21%); stove burning 50 (0.58%); acid throwing 27 (0.60%); and offences of miscellaneous nature around (23.13%). 1,977 cases of violence were of miscellaneous nature ie. (vanni/swara, custodial violence, torture, trafficking, child marriages, incest, threat to violence, sexual harassment, attempted murder, suicide & rape.) in the four provinces and Islamabad

Cases of Violence against Women: Comparison between 2008 & 2009

According to the data collected by Aurat Foundation's offices in Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar and Quetta during 1st January to 31st December 2009, through its press clipping service, the cases of violence against women have increased in 2009 as compared to the previous year in 2008. There were 7571 cases of violence against women in 2008, which have jumped to 8548, an increase of almost 13 percent. This is despite

the fact that less statistics were available from several districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhawa and Balochistan due to security situation.

Below is the table showing categories of offences, number of incidents and the percentages in comparison between 2008 and 2009.

VAW CASES: Comparison between 2008 & 2009

Categories of Crime	<i>Number of Cases of VAW in Pakistan during January to December</i>	<i>Number of Cases of VAW in Pakistan during January to December</i>
	Year 2008	Year 2009
Abduction/kidnapping	1,784	1,987
Murder	1,422	1,384
Domestic Violence	281	608
Suicide	599	683
Honor Killing	475	604
Rape/Gang Rape	778	928
Sexual Assault	172	274
Acid Throwing	29	53
Burning	61	50
Miscellaneous	1,970	1,977
Total	7,571	8,548

Overall Cases of Violence against Women in Punjab:

The data has shown that a total number of 5722 incidents of violence against women occurred in 35 districts of Punjab between (January- June) 2009.

Of these 5722 cases, there were:

- 752 cases of murder:
- 245 cases of ‘honour’ killing:
- 1698 cases of abduction/kidnapping:
- 271 cases of domestic violence:
- 448 cases of suicide:
- 786 cases of rape/gang-rape:
- 227 cases of sexual assault:
- 33 cases of stove burning:
- 42 cases of acid throwing:
- 1220 cases of violence were of miscellaneous nature in different parts of the province.

Out of the total of 5722 incidents, there were 1698 cases of abduction/ kidnapping; 752 cases of murder; 245 of ‘honour’ killing; 786 of rape/gang-rape; 448 incidents of suicide; 227 cases of sexual assault; 33 of stove burning; 42 of acid throwing; and 1220 cases of miscellaneous nature of violence against women occurred in different parts of the province.

Overall Cases of Violence against Women in Sindh:

A total number of 1762 incidents of violence against women were recorded in 23 districts of Sindh during January-June, 2009.

Out of a total of 1762 cases of violence against women in Sindh, there were:

- 288 cases of murder
- 284 cases of ‘honour’ killing

- 160 cases of abduction/kidnapping
- 134 cases of domestic violence
- 176 cases of suicide
- 122 cases of rape/gang-rape
- 44 cases of sexual assault
- 10 cases of stove burning
- 9 cases of acid throwing
- 535 cases of miscellaneous in nature

Of the total of 1762 incidents, there were 288 cases of murder (one of the heist ratio of crime against women reported from the province) ; 284 cases of 'honour' killing; 160 of abduction/ kidnapping; 176 incidents of suicide; 122 cases of rape and gang-rape; 122 cases of domestic violence; 44 of sexual assault; 10 of stove burning; 9 of acid throwing; and 535 cases of miscellaneous nature violence occurred in different parts of the province.

Overall Cases of Violence against Women in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa:

A total number of 655 incidents of violence against women occurred in 23 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhawa during January- December, 2009.

Out of a total of 655 cases of violence against women in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa, there were:

- 266 cases of murder
- 14 cases of 'honour' killing
- 64 cases of abduction/kidnapping
- 163 cases of domestic violence
- 43 cases of suicide
- 7 cases of rape/gang-rape
- 0 cases of sexual assault
- 4 cases of stove burning
- 01 cases of acid throwing
- 93 cases of miscellaneous nature.

Of the total of 655 incidents, there were 266 cases of murder; 43b incidents of suicide; 163 cases of domestic violence; 64 of abduction/ kidnapping; 14 of 'honour' killing; 7 cases of rape/gang rape; 4 cases of stove burning; 1 acid throwing and; 93 cases of miscellaneous nature.

Overall Cases of Violence against Women in Balochistan:

The study has shown that a total number of 237 incidents of violence against women occurred in 28 districts of Balochistan between during January- December, 2009.

Out of a total of 237 cases of violence against women in Balochistan, there were:

- 39 cases of murder:
- 59 cases of 'honour' killing:
- 13 cases of abduction/kidnapping:
- 22 cases of domestic violence:
- 10 cases of suicide:
- 4 cases of rape/gang-rape:
- 1 cases of sexual assault
- 1 cases of stove burning:
- 88 cases of miscellaneous in nature

Of the total of 237 incidents, there were 59 cases of ‘honour’ killing; 39 cases of murder; 13 cases of abduction/ kidnapping; 4 cases of rape/gang-rape; 10 incidents of suicide; 1 cases of stove burning; 22 cases of domestic violence; and 88 cases were of miscellaneous in nature

Overall Cases of Violence against Women in Islamabad:

There were a total of 172 incidents of violence against women in Islamabad between (Jan-Dec 09)

Out of a total of 172 cases of violence against women in Islamabad, there were:

- **39 cases of murder**
- **2 cases of ‘honour’ killing**
- **52 cases of abduction/kidnapping**
- **18 cases of domestic violence**
- **6cases of suicide**
- **9 cases of rape/gang-rape**
- **2 cases of sexual assault**
- **2 cases of stove burning**
- **1 case of acid throwing**
- **41 cases of miscellaneous nature**

Of the total of 172 incidents, there were 39 cases of murder; 2 of ‘honour’ killing; 52 of abduction/ kidnapping; 18 cases of domestic violence; 9 of rape/gang rape; 1 of sexual assault; 2 incidents of suicide; 2 of stove burning; 1 acid throwing and 41 cases of miscellaneous nature of offences against women were recorded .

The data is part of a report that will published soon, which will carry the entire collection and compilation of statistics on the incidents of violence against women during January to December 2009 under Aurat Foundation’s national programme ‘Policy and Data Monitor on Violence against Women’ for the elimination of violence against women in Pakistan.

Violence against Women Watch Group, Islamabad

AURAT FOUNDATION – ISLAMABAD