Reports and Books
Title: Legal Literacy in Pakistan

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About the Report

Legal literacy is commonly understood as the basic knowledge of legal rights and processes among ordinary citizens who have no formal training in law.

This study on Legal Literacy in Pakistan is a part of a seven-country study on “Legal Literacy for Supporting Governance” commissioned by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and undertaken by the Asia Foundation (TAF).

The purpose of the study is to examine the effectiveness of legal literacy as a tool for institutionalizing good governance through the empowerment of disadvantaged groups such as women, minorities, and low income groups.

The study covers both grassroots legal literacy efforts that aims to increase the participation of citizens in the design or implementation of public policies, laws, and programmes.
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About the Report

This book describes the Hudood Ordinances that is a set of five ordinances. Brief sketches of the title of ordinances, forms of punishment and some Hadd punishments are presented. First Property (Enforcement of Hudood) Ordinance; second Zina (Enforcement of Hudood) Ordinance; third Qazf (Enforcement of Hadd) Order; fourth Prohibition (Enforcement of Hadd) Order and fifth is the Execution of Punishment of Whipping Ordinance.
The Hudood Ordinances were introduced in 1979 during the martial law period of General Zia-ul-Haq, under the pretext and grab of Islamisation. The ordinances prescribe two forms of punishment. Hadd literally means the limit and has been defined as punishment ordained by the Holy Quran or Sunnah. Tazir literally means to punish and includes any punishment other than hadd.

The Hudood Ordinances consists of the offences against property ordinance deals with the crimes of theft and armed and armed robbery; secondly the offence of Zina ordinance deals with the offences of rape, abduction, adultery and fornication; thirdly the offence of qazf ordinance relates to a false accusation of zina (adultery and fornication); fourthly the prohibition order deals with the manufacture, possession and use of intoxicants (alcohol and narcotics); fifthly the execution of punishment of whipping ordinance prescribes the mode of whipping for those convicted under the Hudood Ordinances.
Title: Report of the Commission of Inquiry for Women: Pakistan
Publishing place: Lahore
Publishing year: 1997
Description: 183 p
Language: English
Size: 8x10.5

About the Report

The Commission of Inquiry for Women was set up in pursuance of a private member resolution in the Senate. The Proposal had been pending for nearly two years before it was adopted unanimously with certain amendments.

Three major commissions or committees were set up from time to time in the past to identify the areas of discrimination against Pakistani women and suggest remedial measures and changes in the existing laws for the betterment of the tragic plight of women. Although these bodies did make various recommendation in practical terms little was achieved.
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About the Report
The present four drafts of Muslim Family Laws with proposed amendments in them, in tabular form, are the result of a very valuable input given by a number of law experts, civil society organizations, particularly women’s rights groups and committed human rights and women’s rights activists. The law experts actually drafted these amendments.