

PRISONS AS PATHWAYS TO REHABILITATION OR CRIMINALITY? A CASE-STUDY OF THE PRISON'S EFFECT ON LONG-TERM REHABILITATION OUTCOMES IN HARIPUR JAIL

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INTRODUCTION

Prisons have traditionally been built across the globe to serve as both a place of punishment and a place of rehabilitation. Many academic discussions have focused on the relationship between these two objectives. However, there are many who believe that prisons contribute more to the cycle of crime than they prevent, despite the fact that they serve as a deterrent to criminal behavior and a place where individuals who have broken the law may work on their rehabilitation. Both individual and social destinies are profoundly influenced by the results of confinement in jail, whether they tend toward real recovery or unintentionally cultivate greater crime.

The Haripur Jail, with its interesting sociopolitical setting, provides an intriguing background against which to examine these results. Prisoners may learn about the larger dynamics of the criminal system and its repercussions by studying the jail's microcosm, which is characterized by its unique demography of prisoners, rehabilitation programs, and unique obstacles. This research aims to dive further into the enduring effect of imprisonment on people than has previously been done, by concentrating on long-term rehabilitation results rather than only anecdotal evidence or short-term evaluations.

METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this study is not just to record data on Haripur Jail, but also to include that data into the bigger picture of discussions about punishment. Do prisons serve as effective reform tools, rehabilitating convicts into productive members of society? Or do they possibly unintentionally reinforce criminal behavior, making for alienated and repeat-offender elements of society? This research aims to give a nuanced knowledge of the prison system's effects on rehabilitation, recidivism, and, ultimately, the larger social fabric via an in-depth investigation of previous and contemporary convicts at Haripur Jail.

Our research used a mixed-method approach to provide a complete picture of the situation of prisons in KP after 9/11, with a particular emphasis on the Haripur Jail. This approach combined qualitative and quantitative studies for a more complete understanding of the issue at hand. Here is a comprehensive rundown of the approaches taken:

Information Gathering

Facts and Figures:

First, we prepared some sample data to give you a sense of the state of prisons in KP. Collecting data on prison populations, jail infrastructure, and inmate characteristics was part of this process. The majority of the information used came from freely available web sources, but where that wasn't enough, we reached out to the appropriate jail departments and local government.

Interviews with current and past convicts, as well as staff, were done with a focus on Haripur Jail. Repeat offenders were studied in depth to determine the impact their prison terms had on their later actions. Five formerly jailed people who have avoided criminal activities since their release were also interviewed. Using a snowball sampling method, we were able to find these people to interview.

Interviews were also conducted with members of the provincial bureaucracy, with a focus on those directly or indirectly engaged in public policy as it relates to jail administration.

Tertiary Sources:

Humane treatment of convicts and training procedures for prison employees were established with reference to documents from the United Nations, Human Rights Watch, and other relevant material on Pakistan's jails.

Examining the Numbers

Thematic analysis was used to identify recurring topics and points of view across respondent types in the qualitative data collected via interviews. Finding out what problems are most common, how resources are distributed, and what jail conditions are like was the goal.

Using this quantitative information, we compared outcomes on a global, inter-national, and historical scale. Quantitative data was also utilized to examine the dynamics between resource allocation, staff training, and jail conditions.

Questionnaire Sampling Method

The overall population of Haripur Jail, estimated at 300 inmates (294 male and 6 female), was the major target of the sampling plan.

Method: A random selection of detainees from Haripur Jail was followed by systematic random sampling of every fifth male inmate and all female inmates. This method strikes a good compromise between complete randomization and systematic information collecting.

Analysis of the Data:

The collected data underwent a comprehensive analysis using SPSS. This allowed for comprehensive studies of the demographics, rehabilitation results, and other variables affecting the inmates at Haripur Jail. Some of the most important takeaways are the evaluation of the efficacy of present rehabilitation programs and the identification of gender-based differences in rehabilitation results.

The acquired data gives an accurate depiction of the convict population at Haripur Jail since our methodology was based on the concepts of simple random sampling and systematic random sampling. By using such a methodical approach, we hoped to provide results that are not only informative, but also credible and legitimate, laying the groundwork for the rest of our study.

CONCLUSIONS AND RESULTS

- Context and Current Situation the foundations of the modern jail system in Pakistan may be traced back to the 19th-century British Raj. The subsequent, intermittent, improvements and revisions show a continuing discontent with the jail system's status and results. Constant difficulties include insufficient space, unqualified employees, and little available resources. While changes to the law are intended to make jails more humane, they frequently come into conflict with international standards like the Mandela Rules.

Overcrowding and the Slow Justice System:

- In the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) area, where there are 43 prisons, inmates exceed available beds by a factor of two to one. There is a clear breach of the SMR in this circumstance.
- Eighty percent of the prison population is awaiting trial, suggesting a lengthy legal system.
- The strain on the economy is just one of the ways that overcrowding hinders recovery efforts.

Condition of Prisons and Treatment of Prisoners:

- The vast majority of detainees are housed in crowded barracks with less-than-ideal amenities.
- There is a shortage of even the most fundamental amenities, such as decent lighting, comfortable lodging, and a clean environment.
- Inmates are deprived of opportunity to develop their skills and enhance their likelihood of associating with criminal elements when positive activities and training are not provided.
- Negative behaviors such as slave-like forced labor, poor nutrition, and insufficient medical care further delay the recovery process.
- Harsh punishments for small transgressions, combined with reports of sexual assault, unlawful possession of property, and drug usage by convicts, all contribute to a climate of animosity against the law.

New Policies and Programs from the Government

- The K-P Probation of Offenders Act of 2018 is proof of the ongoing effort to overhaul the correctional system.
- The "rule of law road map" is an effort to improve prisoner rehabilitative service delivery.
- New prisons are being constructed in a variety of jurisdictions as part of the ongoing infrastructure development.
- Many communities now have vocational centers thanks to joint efforts with TEVTA.

However, financial limitations continue to prevent the release of certain inmates.

Suggestions for convicts to be really rehabilitated and reintegrated into society, the following measures are essential:

- Construct brand-new jails, staffed by qualified professionals.
- Use digital surveillance to keep an eye on the cells within the jail.
- Demand accountability from corrupt authorities.
- Keep jails clean and make sure inmates have access to nutritious meals.
- Improve the state of lodging.
- Provide inmate populations with access to training programs.
- Include prisoners in psychological counseling.
- Keep recurrent offenders apart from first-time offenders.

- Make a distinction between small and major offenders to ensure that punishment fits the crime.

The jail system in Pakistan, and especially in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, is in serious need of improvement, it has been concluded. Despite ongoing difficulties stemming from the past and the current system, progress may be made by concerted efforts that put a premium on convict rehabilitation rather than just containing them. The correctional system has the potential to become a true place of rehabilitation if appropriate measures are taken, releasing transformed persons who can make constructive contributions to society.

Concise Synopsis:

The RASTA CGP initiative investigated Haripur Jail extensively to learn about the convicts' long-term rehabilitation results. The major goal was to determine whether prisons encourage or discourage criminal behavior or if they are successful rehabilitation institutions. Significant ramifications for prison reform and the criminal justice system at large are found in this research.

The Major Results of the study:

- Lack of availability or knowledge likely contributed to just 40% of offenders taking part in rehabilitation programs.
- Thirty percent of formerly incarcerated people reoffended within two years of their release, pointing to failures in the rehabilitation system.
- Inmates who participated in vocational training had a 20% lower recidivism rate than those who did not.
- Inmates' mental health: While 60% showed symptoms, just 10% were given the help they needed.
- 25% more ex-offenders were successful in mainstream society after receiving post-release help such job placement or community integration programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✓ Increase Rehabilitative Options The prison population has varying demands, thus it is important to increase the quantity and range of rehabilitation options accessible to convicts.
- ✓ Improve Vocational Education by teaming up with businesses and non-governmental organizations to teach convicts marketable skills.
- ✓ Improve Inmate Mental Health Services through investing in the hiring of mental health specialists and providing consistent therapy.
- ✓ Employment and community reintegration programs, as well as ongoing counseling, should be part of a comprehensive post-release support system.
- ✓ Set up a mechanism to keep tabs on recently released convicts and help them get back on their feet so that they don't end up back in jail.
- ✓ The rehabilitation of detainees is difficult at Haripur Jail, as it is at many jails across the globe. The RASTA CGP initiative sought to get insight into these issues and locate potential points of improvement to guarantee that prisons achieve their rehabilitative goals.

Analysis

- The high recidivism rate suggests that prisons may be unintentionally encouraging criminal behavior rather than its opposite, rehabilitation. Potential issues include the absence of adequate rehabilitation programs and post-release services.
- Due to a lack of resources, jails may actually make convicts more dangerous because of the prevalence of untreated mental health problems among inmates.
- Recidivism is more likely to occur among ex-cons who are unable to find gainful employment after serving their time in prison.