

# BANGLADESH UNIVERSITY OF PROFESSIONALS



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## Table of content

Introduction
Profile of Javed Iqbal
Characteristics of Javed Iqbal
Methods of murder
Case and judgement:
Relevancy of the judgement with Punishment Philosophy/ theory
Relevancy with the positive school of Criminology
Motivation behind murder
Conclusion
References

**Introduction:**

The definition of a serial killer is typically a person who murders three or more people, usually in service of abnormal psychological gratification, with the murders taking place over more than a month and including a significant period of time between them. While most authorities set a threshold of three murders, others extend it to four or lessen it to two.

Although a serial killer is a distinct classification that differs from that of a mass murderer, spree killer, or contract killer, there may be conceptual overlaps between them and some debate exists on specific qualifications, especially with regard to spree killers in comparison to serial killers.

Theories for why certain people commit serial murder have been advanced. Some theorists believe the reasons are biological, suggesting serial killers are born, not made, and that their violent behavior is a result of abnormal brain activity.

My topic is about a Pakistani serial killer named JAVED IQBAL who murdered some 100 boys. His case attracted international attention not only because he was one of the deadliest serial killers in history but because, upon his conviction, he was sentenced to die in a manner similar to that in which he had tortured and killed his victims.

Little is known about Iqbal's early life. Although complaints of sodomy were lodged against him in 1985 and 1990, he was never convicted of any of the charges. Iqbal surrendered to Pakistani authorities in 1999 after confessing to 100 murders during a six-month period. According to his confession, he had lured the boys, mostly beggars and street children between the ages of 6 and 16, to his home in Lahore, where he sexually assaulted them, strangled them to death, dismembered their bodies, and disposed of the pieces in a vat of acid. Iqbal claimed that his crimes were undertaken as an act of revenge against the police, who, he said, had assaulted him following an arrest. Iqbal kept detailed records of his victims, including their names, ages, and photographs.

Although he later denied his guilt, Iqbal was given 100 death sentences; the court also ordered that he be executed with the same chain he used to strangle his victims and that his body be cut into 100 pieces and dissolved in acid. Before the execution could take place, however, Iqbal and a

young accomplice, who also had been convicted, were found dead in their prison cells. Despite indications of foul play, their deaths were officially ruled suicides.

### **Profile of Javed Iqbal:**

Javed Iqbal was the sixth child (fourth son) of Mohammad Ali Mughal, a well-off trader. He did his matriculation from Islamia High School. He started his own business in 1978 when he was an intermediate student at the Islamia College, Railway Road. His father bought two villas in Shadbagh. Iqbal set up a steel recasting business in one of the houses and lived there for years along with boys. Other family members learnt about his bad habits when they also moved to Shadbagh but he would not allow them interfere in his life or speak against the boys accompanying him.

### **Characteristics of Javed Iqbal:**

In late 1990, a man filed a complaint against Javed Iqbal for sodomising his son. Shadbagh police detained his father and two brothers after their failure to arrest him. They remained in custody for seven days but Iqbal did not surrender. On the eighth day, one of his boys was arrested from his house and was detained at the police station. Within a few hours Iqbal surfaced and hurled abuses at his family members for allowing the police to arrest the boy. Later, he himself surrendered to secure the release of the boy. For several years Iqbal resisted the efforts of his family to arrange his marriage. One day he stunned everybody by declaring that he had selected a bride for himself. She was the elder sister of one of his boys. “The purpose was to stop the boy from deserting him. “The marriage which took place in 1983 lasted for a couple of months. In an identical move, Iqbal married his youngest sister to one of his boys, Muhammad Iqbal. People who knew Javed Iqbal termed him an ‘evil genius’. He was well aware of law and punishment. He had a habit of filing applications to various departments, complaining about one thing or the other.

He was once arrested and jailed for six months on charges of committing sodomy but it had no effect on his inclination towards boys. Once he assaulted the son of a respectable person of the Shadbagh. The matter was taken up by the elders of the area. He confessed to his crime before a

panchayat at Gol Bagh. He signed a stamp paper, giving an undertaking that he would not do it again. Later, photocopies of the stamp paper were distributed in the area. On the panchayat's order, he visited 100 shops in the main market to tender apology. Shortly afterwards, his father died and there was nobody to stop the residents of Shadbagh to take him to the task. The next time he was caught, he was thrashed and ejected from Shadbagh..

Apart from his family business, everything Javed Iqbal did was aimed at luring boys. He opened a video games shop — the first of its kind in Shadbagh and would offer tokens to boys at reduced rates and in some cases free of cost. He would throw a 100 rupee note on the floor and watch the boy who would pick it up. Then he would announce that his money had been stolen and he had to search everybody. The 'thief' would be caught and taken to an adjacent room where he would be sodomised. At times the money would be given back to the boy as a "gesture of goodwill." When people stopped their children from visiting the shop, Iqbal set up a fish aquarium and later a gym, again to attract boys. He also set up an air-conditioned school (Sunny Side School) but it failed as nobody was willing to send children. He also opened a fair-price shop where items of daily use were sold at a price lower than the market value. That too lasted for a few weeks.

Javed Iqbal also invested in a monthly magazine (Anti-corruption Crime) where he published the 'heroics' of police officers and established good contacts in the department. He interviewed at least two dozen police officers, including SSPs and DIGs.

Following the death of his father in 1993, Iqbal received a hefty share of Rs 3.5 million from the estate. He constructed a large house in Rana Town, Shahdara, in 1995 with a pond in the basement and a swimming pool in the backyard. He loved moving around in style and was often seen driving in a five-door Pajero along with half a dozen boys. "Once he owned four vehicles: a Pajero, a Lancer, a Toyota and a Suzuki FX," said one of his old friends. Javed Iqbal sold his Rana Town house and shifted to a new residence in Fatehgarh, Ghaziabad, and opened a video games shop there. In September 1998, Iqbal and his employee, Arbab, were severely beaten up by another employee and a masseur, and deprived of Rs 8,000 in cash. Iqbal sustained serious head injuries and remained unconscious at the Lahore General Hospital for 22 days. Initially, the Ghaziabad police registered a robbery case but later, on the complaint of Arbab's family, amended the FIR and charged Iqbal with sodomy. He was arrested on release from the hospital. He was later granted bail by a local court. As no body in the family was willing to spend money on his treatment, his

Ghaziabad house, car and shop were sold out and the money was used for his treatment. On getting better, he was shocked to find that his assets had been sold. On more than one occasions, he told his brothers that he had prepared a chemical which left a person reduced to a skeleton in minutes.

Iqbal started his killing spree in May 1999 and himself leaked it to the press. "I did it to avenge an attempt on my life by my boys, the death of my mother and injustice in society," he later told police. Javed Iqbal Mughal alias Kukri was described by psychologists as a pampered child who developed bad habits in early age and later spent most of his life keeping a brigade of teenaged boys around him.

### **Method of Murder:**

In December 1999, Iqbal sent a letter to police and a Lahore newspaper chief news editor Khawar Naeem Hashmi confessing to the rape and murder of 100 runaway boys, all aged between 6 and 16. In the letter, he claimed to have strangled and dismembered the victims mostly runaways and orphans living on the streets of Lahore and disposed of their bodies using vats of hydrochloric acid. He then dumped the remains in a local river.

Inside Iqbal's house, police and reporters found bloodstains on the walls and floor, along with the chain with which Iqbal claimed to have strangled his victims and photographs of many of his victims in plastic bags. These items were neatly labelled with handwritten pamphlets. Two vats of acid with partially dissolved human remains were also left in the open for police to find, with a note claiming the bodies in the house have deliberately not been disposed of so that authorities will find them.

### **Case and judgement:**

Javed Iqbal wrote an anonymous letter to police claiming he had been killing runaway children and dissolving them in acid for months in his home in a slum near the Ravi Road in Lahore. He confess on that letter "I have killed 100 beggar children and put their bodies in a container,"

Police found vats of acid in his house, human bones from two bodies and piles of children's clothes. Despite a manhunt in which dozens of people were detained Iqbal eluded police for a month. He was arrested only after he walked into a newspaper office to give himself up. "I am Javed Iqbal, killer of 100 children," he told staff. "I hate this world, I am not ashamed of my action and I am ready to die. I have no regrets. I killed 100 children." Iqbal said his killings were in revenge for brutal treatment received at the hands of the police after his arrest in the past.

The Rigorous sentence for Pakistan's worst serial killing comes after a trial in which Javed Iqbal, at first admitted the killings and produced a diary of his crimes before retracting his confession. "Javed Iqbal has been found guilty of 100 murders. The sentence is that he should be strangled 100 times," Judge Allah Baksh told the court in Lahore. "His body should be cut into 100 pieces and put in acid, as he did with his victims."

The judge giving that rigorous sentence based on Islamic Sharia law and ordered that the death penalty should be carried out in a large park in Lahore by the Minar-i-Pakistan. That palace was the national monument of Pakistan. Pakistan's interior minister, Moinudeen Haider, criticised the sentence. The minister said that the judgement will be challenged in the high court because the punishments are not allowed. Iqbal's lawyer said he would appeal. The Sharia law governs some aspects of Pakistani life, including a ban on alcohol and laws on blasphemy and the Governs committee clearly said that there are no public punishments so the death penalty is carried out privately in prisons.

### **Relevancy of the judgement with Punishment Philosophy/ theory:**

#### ***Deterrent theory:***

The purpose of Deterrent punishment is to infliction of severe punishment on criminals & deter others from committing crime. Through deterrent punishment a message also given to the society that if someone commits any crime he himself has to suffer for this. Javed Iqbal was sentenced to "cut into his body in 100 pieces and put in acid, the same way you killed the children." The purpose of the sentenced was to deter others from committing these types of heinous crime and give a

strong message to the society that if anyone commits these types heinous crime he himself has to suffer for this & as well as achieve social utility. Through javad's sentenced it discourage the others people in to commit this kind of heinous crime.

There are two main goals of deterrence theory.

Individual deterrence is the aim of punishment to discourage the offender from criminal acts in the future. The belief is that when punished, offenders recognize the unpleasant consequences of their actions on themselves and will change their behavior accordingly.

General deterrence is the intention to deter the general public from committing crime by punishing those who do offend. When an offender is punished by, for example, being sent to prison, a clear message is sent to the rest of society that behavior of this sort will result in an unpleasant response from the criminal justice system. Most people do not want to end up in prison and so they are deterred from committing crimes that might be punished that way.

### ***Retributive theory:***

A judge gave him one hundred death sentences, stating: "You will be strangled to death in front of the parents whose children you killed, your body will then be cut into 100 pieces and put in acid, the same way you killed the children." The judge sentenced Iqbal to die by strangulation in the same public square he had frequented when searching for victims, and that his body should be cut up into 100 pieces and dissolved in acid under the Shariah legal concept of Qisas which is also known as retributive theory ("an eye for an eye"). The philosophy lies behind the retributive theory is "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." In this retributive punishment system the offenders are treating in the same manner the way he killed his victims. Iqbal's was sentenced to cut into his body in 100 pieces and put in acid as the same manner as he killed the children, this sentenced was given based on the retributive theory of punishment.

So, over the discussion we can said that the punishment of javed Iqbal have a relevancy with the Retributive and Deterrent theory.

### **Relevancy with the positive school of Criminology :**



The schools of criminology developed majorly during the 18th and 19th century. There are four popular

schools of Criminology, they are:

1. Pre-Classical School
2. Classical School
3. Positivist School
4. Neo-Classical School

The belief of The pre classical, classical and neo classical school were that criminal behavior were sought through spirits, demons and unknown power and the willingness of mind according to pain and pleasure thoery. On the Other hand, The Positivist School was founded by Cesare Lombroso attempting to find scientific objectivity for the measurement and quantification of criminal behavior. Its method was developed by observing the characteristics of criminals to observe what may be the root cause of their behavior or actions.[1] Since the Positivist's school of ideas came around, the research revolved around its ideas has aided in identifying some of the key differences between those who were deemed "criminals" and those who where not.

As the scientific method became the major paradigm in the search for knowledge, the Classical School's social philosophy was replaced by the quest for scientific laws that would be discovered by experts. It is divided into biological, psychological, and social laws. From the biography of the Pakistani serial killer Javed Iqbal, we can relate his criminality with the Positive School of Criminology.

- ***Biological positivism:***

Biological positivism is a theory that takes an individual's characteristics and behavior that make up their genetic disposition is what causes them to be criminals. Biological positivism in theory states that individuals are born criminals and some are not. According to biological positivist criminals and non criminals are different in their physical

characteristics(*endomorphs*, *mesomorphs*, and *ectomorphs*) Intelligence and some other medical factors(Testosterone , adrenaline )

- ***Psychological Positivism :***

The psychological positivism theory concentrates on all of the mental aspects of why an individual commits a crime, and associates it with their intelligence, personality, learning, and criminal behaviour. It looks at the determinations, thoughts, intentions and reactions of criminals and all that contributes in the criminal behaviour. Explanations of criminal behaviour were explained by looking at the work of Sigmund Freud (1856-1939). He established the psychoanalytical model in which he believed that a human progresses, early in life. Freud discusses that the human personality has three sets of interacting forces. These include the id, the ego and the superego. These are three components in a human personality that pledge them to behave in the manner they do and make individuals they are. Firstly Freud believes that humans are born with their id. He suggests that the id holds importance for personality. The id allows a new-born to get its desires met by crying. Freud mentions that the id is set on getting pleasure and the id wants whatever feels good despite the circumstances. In addition to this Freud had mentioned the second component of the personality develops. This is known as the ego, it understands feeling and emotions of others and takes them into account. Freud then suggest that the ego meets the needs of the id, at the same time looking at the reality of the condition. Lastly Freud mentions that when a child is five the development of the third personality which is superego. The superego incorporates the values and morals of society which are learned from one's parents and others. The superego's function is to control the id's impulses, especially those which society forbids, such as sex and aggression.

Iqbal's motive for committing his murders was his infuriation at a perceived injustice at the hands of Lahore police who had arrested him on charges relating to an act of sodomy against a young runaway boy in the 1990s. No charges were brought in relation to this offence. His mother had "been forced to watch [his] decline" before suffering a fatal heart attack. He had therefore resolved to make 100 mothers cry for their sons as his mother had been forced to do for him before her death.

Mr. Iqbal told the newspaper that he was motivated by a desire for revenge against police, who he said beat him when they detained him for questioning into allegations of sodomising children in the 1990s. He was never charged. "I was so badly beaten that my head was crushed, my backbone broken and I was left crippled," he said. "I hate this world. My mother cried for me. I wanted 100 mothers to cry for their children," the newspaper quoted him as saying. That means Aggression was the main reason behind his being criminal. According to psychological school his ID level was over his ego and super ego. So he couldn't control his ID that means desire to take revenge and did the crime.

- **Sociological positivism :**

Sociological positivism is a school of criminological thought which suggests that societal factors – such as low levels of education, poverty, and negative subculture influences – within an individual's environment or surrounding social or cultural structure could predispose that individual to crime. This field seeks to link crime statistics to sociological and economic concerns, such as population density, ethnographic diversity, distribution of wealth, and employment. Rejecting the classical notion that crime is a consequence of individual and predetermined decision making, sociological positivism investigates social influences in relation to propensity for criminal behaviour. Within this schema, crime and deviant activity are seen as normal, adaptive responses to the structural and sociological organizational and coercive factors of society. Experts in criminal law examine sociological positivism in relation to environmental criminology and sociological considerations of ethics and justice, studying social phenomenon as well as standards and limitations of morality and acceptability with respect to criminal activity.

Javed Iqbal said that he had fantasized about murder for a long time, since childhood. However, he developed a tremendous urge to kill after being released from jail. His mother had died during his incarceration, and he also felt he'd been brutalized by the police. Javed and his mother were extremely close, and her death set him into a firestorm of rage and anger at the world, which he would take out in the absolute worst of ways. Again he left home at his very early age and lived with his friends in a house that his father had bought for him. Basically death of his mother and staying far from the family had a big effect on his socialization.

It's rare that serial killers act in the company of others, but this was the case with Javed Iqbal, who had not just one but three accomplices total. The mastermind behind one of the most brutal cases of murder in history didn't do it without help, but he didn't recruit grown, adult men who could possibly turn him in; he needed people who would fall under his dark sphere of influence. He found that in runaway teenage boys, not unlike the ones he killed. Sajid Ahmed was just a 17-year-old boy but was Iqbal's main accomplice nonetheless. Two other youths were named as accomplices as well, and all three were brought to trial for the killing of 100 boys. Mamad Nadeem, age 15, would be found guilty of 13 murders and receive a sentence of 14 years for each murder, for a total of 182 years. Mamad Sabir was only 13 years old upon sentencing and received a total of 63 years in prison for his deeds. So the thing is that, Javed Iqbal didn't get an appropriate social upbringing and also got social influence and this matter leads him to criminal activities. So it's clear that Psychological and sociological factors played a vital role upon the criminal activities of Javed Iqbal.

### **Motivation Behind murder:**

Javed Iqbal was born to a very wealthy family. He was pampered throughout his childhood. From his early days he developed likings for people of his own gender i.e. boys. He was always in company of boys. Even when his family members tried to stop him, he refused and would keep company of several boys all the time. He started sodomizing boys from a young age and was caught many times. But this didn't make him stop and he would easily get away with his actions as he belonged to a rather influential family. As a result his psychology was developed in such a way that these things became very normal to him.

Javed Iqbal's motive for committing his murders was his infuriation at a perceived injustice at the hands of Lahore police who had arrested him on charges relating to an act of sodomy against a young runaway boy in the 1990s. No charges were brought in relation to this offence. As he was always accustomed to getting away with his actions, he couldn't bear that such injustice would happen to him by the police. As a result he went on luring young boys, sexually assaulting them and then killing them. This was Javed's way of revenge against the society.

### **Conclusion:**

Horrors have a way of supplanting the horrors that came before them. Still, life in this world goes on. Children, many of them lost to the streets, still congregate in the anonymous neighborhoods of Lahore and other parts of the world.

But for all of that Javed and the legacy of his horrors have not been forgotten.

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