



RESOLUTION NO. 592

“This House strongly and unequivocally condemns the heinous incident wherein a woman and man were publicly and illegally executed in broad daylight, following a so-called jirga decision. This premeditated act of vigilante murders constitutes an abhorrent crime; it is a gross violation of human rights, the Constitution, and the laws of Pakistan.

This barbaric murder cannot and must not be masked by any cultural, tribal, or traditional justification under the pretext of so-called ghairat or "honour." It is in fact a crime that has gravely dishonoured the nation. Any attempt to justify such a crime based on "custom or honour" is completely unacceptable, as is the entire process of victim-blame.

The House recalls that Parliament has previously enacted legislative reforms to curb so-called honour crimes, particularly by disallowing compoundability or sulah in such cases, in recognition of the need for the State to act decisively against perpetrators. However, this House notes with deep concern that despite such legal safeguards, implementation on the ground remains weak, and justice is often subverted, as evidenced in past high-profile cases, especially those that target women.

This House affirms that so-called honour killings are not honourable but constitute murder under the law, and must be treated and prosecuted as such. The rule of law cannot be selectively applied, nor can tribal or informal justice mechanisms be permitted to undermine constitutional protections and due process.

The Senate, therefore, resolves that:

1. The Government must ensure immediate and transparent investigation into the recent killings, with all those involved—directly or indirectly, including those who convened or sanctioned any jirga—brought to justice without delay.
2. Law enforcement agencies must be directed to treat all such cases strictly under the relevant provisions of the Pakistan Penal Code, without compromise or discretion.

3. The Ministry of Law and Justice and Ministry of Human Rights are urged to conduct a thorough review of the enforcement gaps in existing laws dealing with so-called honour crimes, and to recommend actionable reforms for robust implementation.

4. Public prosecutors and investigating officers must be trained and sensitized to treat gender-based violence and honour crimes as serious criminal offences requiring proactive prosecution.

5. Provincial and Federal Governments must launch awareness campaigns that categorically reject the concept of honour-based violence and reinforce the primacy of constitutional law over tribal or feudal norms.

This House stands once again squarely with all citizens of Pakistan as equal and entitled to the protections of the law. It also, finally reiterates its unyielding commitment to upholding the rights, safety, and dignity of all citizens, especially women, as enshrined in the Constitution of Pakistan.”

Moved by Senator Sherry Rehman on her own behalf and on behalf of Senators Mohammad Abdul Qadir, Jan Muhammad, Mohsin Aziz, Haji Hidayatullah Khan, Kamil Ali Agha, Raja Nasir Abbas, Palwasha Mohammad Zai Khan, Irfan-ul-Haque Siddiqui, Quratulain Marri and Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari Passed by the House on Thursday, the 24th July, 2025.