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• [Section 295-C of Pakistan Penal Code: Blasphemy Law](#) [1]

Out of all these sections, section 295-A (Defiling Holy Quran) and 295-C (Defaming Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)) carry severest punishments. For defiling Quran the punishment is life imprisonment and for defaming Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) the punishment is life imprisonment or death sentence. In the remaining sections the punishment is of fine and or imprisonment up to three years except section 295 (outraging religious feelings) for which the punishment is imprisonment up to ten years. Thus 295-C is the only section which prescribes capital punishment and is subject to severe criticism and debate.

Section 295-C of Pakistan Penal Code states:

"Whoever by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representation or by any imitation, innuendo, or insinuation, directly or indirectly, defiles the sacred name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine."

[1]

Source Item:

[Section 295-C of Pakistan Penal Code: Blasphemy Law](#) [2]

Author(s):

[Fatima Jinnah Women University](#) [3]

Summary:

Abstract:

This article discusses blasphemy law of Pakistan and deliberates on international criticism and pressure on Pakistan to change death penalty for crime under section 295-C of PPC. It highlights the reasons why even the most liberal Pakistani governments have not been able to bring any reforms in this law let alone change the law. The article further focuses on section 295-C of Pakistan Penal Code on defamation of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) and sees how it is different from other offences relating to religion mentioned in part XV of Pakistan's Penal Code. This research carries out an in depth study of the Qur'anic verses and the incidents which took place during the life time of Prophet Mohammad (pbuh) as recorded in classical Islamic literature, of offending, ridiculing or disobeying the Prophet of Islam. Finally capital punishment under Islamic law and under laws of United States is discussed. Islamic legal philosophy on capital punishment and mannerism in which Islamic legal system deters the misuse of law in capital crimes is part of this research. The article also suggests that the constitutional status of a country has a very important role to play in its legislation.

To conclude it is stated that section 295-C of Pakistan Penal Code is in line with the verses of Quran and Prophetic traditions. Since the Constitution of Pakistan states that laws should not be repugnant to injunctions of Islam therefore derogating Prophet Muhammad's name or personality is considered as a capital crime under section 295-C.

Source URL (retrieved on 29/01/2020): <https://shariawatch.org.uk/?q=authors/fatima-jinnah-women-university>

Links

[1] <https://shariawatch.org.uk/?q=content/section-295-c-pakistan-penal-code-blasphemy-law>

[2] [http://www.savap.org.pk/journals/ARInt./Vol.6\(3\)/2015\(6.3-38\).pdf](http://www.savap.org.pk/journals/ARInt./Vol.6(3)/2015(6.3-38).pdf)

[3] <https://shariawatch.org.uk/?q=authors/fatima-jinnah-women-university>