

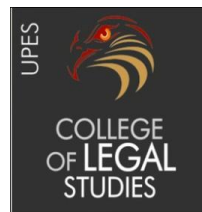
**“Capital Punishment : Rebuttal to the Law Commission of India”,**

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**Submitted under the guidance of Dr. Ashish Verma**

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*This dissertation is submitted in partial fulfillment of the degree of B.A., LL.B.  
(Hons.)*



**College of Legal Studies**

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**2015-16**

## DECLARATION

I declare that the work embodied in this dissertation, entitled "**Capital Punishment : Rebuttal to the Law Commission of India**", is the outcome of my own work conducted under the supervision of Prof. Ashish Verma, at College of Legal Studies, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

I declare that the dissertation comprises only of my original work and due acknowledgement has been made in the text to all other material used.

Signature & Name of Student

## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the research work entitled “**Capital Punishment: Rebuttal to the Law Commission Of India’s Report**” is the work done by **Vijeta Singh** under my guidance and supervision for the partial fulfillment of the requirement of Int. B.A., LL.B. (Hons) with specialization in Energy Laws degree at College of Legal Studies, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Signature & Name of Supervisor

Designation

Date

## **ABSTRACT**

Capital Punishment or Death Penalty is a well-known term to every individual and the huge cry around the world for the termination or depletion of capital punishment by seconding the Human Right Conventions is a controversial issue in today's time so as to discuss.

Termination of Capital Punishment completely where the heinous and grievous crimes against humanity is increasing day by day is even been supported by the recent report of the Law Commission of India. A new draft report of the law Commission has recommended ending death penalty except in terrorism- related cases. The draft report, circulated among the members, supports doing away with capital punishment but again it raises many questions which are left unanswerable on the same place by the Law Commission of India.

The hanging of YakubMemon gives us a good reason to start the debate over the death penalty. I would like to make out a case *in favour of retaining the death penalty*.

The main arguments trotted out in favour of the abolition of capital punishment are these. First, we should not be party to taking precious human life. Second, sentencing someone to death when facts may later prove him or her innocent means irreparable injustice will be done. Third, death is never a deterrent. And, a fourth, that retribution should never be the aim of capital punishment. It is primitive and barbaric to seek death even for the worst crimes. Let researcher here agrees that none of these arguments are invalid but they are not as strong as they appear to be at first glance and a brief discussion will be done in the dissertation to come to a conclusion.

On the other hand, considering the theories of punishment under jurisprudence, the researcher faces problem to come to the point as to which theory is been followed in India?

The other problem raised by the researcher in the concerned dissertation is to analyze the extend of the intention of the criminals and analyze the punishments as been given in the Legislation

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, Vijeta Singh, student of Int. B.A., LL.B (Hons.) with specialization in Energy Laws, 10<sup>th</sup> Semester, College of Legal Studies, The University of Petroleum and Energy studies have made this dissertation on “**Capital Punishment: Rebuttal to the Law Commission of India’s Report**”.

The research has been collected largely from secondary sources of information and the method that has been adopted is doctrinal in nature for the collection of information such as international treaties, websites, books, commentaries, journals and articles etc.

I would like to thank my mentor Dr. Ashish Verma for his guidance and support and would even like to thank my friends for their suggestions.

## **TABLE OF CONTENT**

<b>1. <u>CHAPTER 1:</u></b>	
<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>8- 14</b>
<b>2. <u>CHAPTER 2:</u></b>	
<b>Research Methodology</b>	
<b>2.1 Statement of Problem.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2.2 Objective of Study.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>2.3 Scope of Research.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>2.4 Research Questions.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>2.5 Hypothesis.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>2.6 Methodology.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>2.7 Literature Review.....</b>	<b>18-19</b>
<b>3. <u>CHAPTER 3:</u></b>	
<b>History of Death Penalty In India</b>	
<b>3.1 Capital Punishment under the Hindu Law.....</b>	<b>20-23</b>
<b>3.2 Capital Punishment under the Earlier British Rule.....</b>	<b>23-28</b>
<b>3.3 Pre- constitutional History and Constituent Assembly Debates.....</b>	<b>29-31</b>
<b>4. <u>CHAPTER 4:</u></b>	
<b>The Existing laws in India.....</b>	<b>32-38</b>
<b>5. <u>CHAPTER 5:</u></b>	
<b>5.1 Deterrence.....</b>	<b>39-40</b>
<b>5.2 Incapacitation.....</b>	<b>41-42</b>
<b>5.3 Abolition or Retention.....</b>	<b>44-60</b>
<b>5.4 Established Legitimacy on Capital Punishment.....</b>	<b>61-63</b>
<b>5.5 Capital Punishment Procedure.....</b>	<b>64-68</b>

**6. CAPTER 6:**

**Case studies regarding Capital Punishment.....69-81**

**7. CHAPTER 7 :**

**Conclusion.....82-84**

**Bibliography**

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Report of the Law Commission of India released in August 2015 recommending the complete annihilation of Capital Punishment in India except in the case of terrorism has become a topic of debate to all the citizens of India.

The Report No. 262 of the Law Commission of India released in August 2015 is a result of the reference made by the Supreme Court of India to the Law Commission Of India in the case of Santosh Kumar SatishbushanBariyar Versus State of Maharashtra<sup>1</sup> and Shankar KisanraoKhande Versus State of Maharashtra<sup>2</sup> asking to “resolve the issue by examining whether death penalty is a deterrent punishment or is retributive justice or serves as an incapacitative goal”<sup>3</sup>.

Earlier too, reference regarding the eligibility of the death penalty in our country has been done to the Law Commission of India, to which 35<sup>th</sup> Report i.e. “Capital Punishment”, 1967 was issued which recommended the retention of death penalty in our nation<sup>4</sup>. Not only in the 35<sup>th</sup> report, Indian Government attested its need for retention of death penalty by voting against the United Nation General Assembly draft resolution seeking to ban the death penalty in November, 2012<sup>5</sup>. But with the change of time, the Law Commission in its recent report (report No. 262) argued against its earlier report (Report No. 35) and supported the termination of death penalty in India completely.<sup>6</sup>

Death penalty is beyond the depth in our country and the debate regarding its termination/abolition completely or not, continues since beginning. The same issue, the same reason for termination and the same consequences are again raised as it was raised earlier. Nothing much

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<sup>1</sup> (2009)6 SCC 498

<sup>2</sup> (2013)5 SCC 546

<sup>3</sup> <http://indiankanoon.org/doc/79577238/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/1-50/Report35Vol1and3.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/India-votes-against-UN-resolution-banning-death-penalty/articleshow/17302262.cms>; India was among the 39 nations which voted against the draft resolution seeking

to ban the death penalty and stated that “every nation had the sovereign right to determine its own legal right.

<sup>6</sup> Letter by the Chairmen of the Law Commission of India, Justice Arjit Prakash Shah to Mr. D. SadanandaGowda, the Hon’ble Minister of Law and Justice, Government of India; D.O. No. 6(3)263/2014-LC/(LS)



has changed except the crimes as now the crimes committed are so heinous that it cannot even be described easily.

The Nirbhaya case, also known as the Delhi Rape Case, is one of the examples to evidence the above statement. After two years of that incident, a documentary was made by one of the foreign Law student on the same. In the interview with the driver, who is one among the five criminal involved made a very clear statement that he does not regret what he did and further also stated that they had beaten, bitted, put rods in her just for fun and also because she did not allow them to rape her silently and fought again them till the end. With such a criminal psychology, it is very much clear that the criminals are not even scared of capital punishment and in such a circumstance, the call to blanket the Capital Punishment will take our country to more adverse situation.

In our Country, Indian Penal Code (Act No. 45 of 1860) has many provisions regarding the existence of death penalty, namely, Section 121 ( Waging of attempting to wage war, or abetting waging of a war, against the Government of India)<sup>7</sup>; Section 132 (Abetment of mutiny, if mutiny is committed in consequence thereof)<sup>8</sup>; section 194 (Giving or fabricating false evidence with intent to procure conviction of capital offence)<sup>9</sup>; Section 302 (Punishment for Murder)<sup>10</sup>; Section 303 (Punishment for murder by life convict)<sup>11</sup>; Section 305 (Abetment of suicide of child or insane person)<sup>12</sup>; Section 307 (Attempt to murder; attempt by life convict if hurt is caused)<sup>13</sup>;

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<sup>7</sup> Whoever wages war against the Government of India, or attempts to wage such war, or abets the waging of such war, shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine

<sup>8</sup> Whoever abets the committing of mutiny by an officer, soldier, sailor or airmen, in the Army, Navy or Air Force of the Government of India, shall, if mutiny be committed in consequence of that abetment, be punished with death or with imprisonment for life, or imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>9</sup> Whoever gives or fabricates false evidence, intending thereby to cause, or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause, any person to be convicted of an offence which is capital by the law for the time being in force in India, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extent to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>10</sup> Whoever commits murder shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>11</sup> Whoever being under sentence of imprisonment for life, commits murder, shall be punished with death.

<sup>12</sup> If any person under eighteen years of age, any insane person, any delirious person, any idiot, or any person in a state of intoxication, commits suicide, whoever abets the commission of such suicide, shall be punished with death or imprisonment for life or imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>13</sup> Whoever does any act with such intention or knowledge, and under such circumstances that, if he by that act caused death, he would be guilty of murder, shall be punished with imprisonment or either description for a term

Section 364-A (Kidnapping for ransom, etc.)<sup>14</sup>; Section 396 (Dacoity with murder)<sup>15</sup>; and certain other laws in different acts also contains punishment regarding death penalty.

Though any of the section of the Indian Penal Code does not strictly restricts its punishment only to the death penalty and gives wide options in the hand of the judiciary to decide the punishment of the criminal and even the judgment given in the case of Bachan Singh Versus State of Punjab<sup>16</sup> as to give death penalty in the rarest of rare cases, the Commission's report supports the termination of capital punishment which is not been agreed by the author itself, in the present dissertation, considering the present scenario of our country. Even in the case of State of Punjab Versus SaurabhBakshi<sup>17</sup>, Justice Dipak Mishra held "Law can never be enforced unless fear supports them and further stated that though this statement was made centuries back by an eminent thinker and author but it has its pertinence in today's society too".

Article V of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, 1948<sup>18</sup> states clearly that "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment", and the same has been emphasized by the Law Commission of India in its Report No. 262 holding it as an evidentiary proof to terminate Capital Punishment and even in the case of Prem Shankar Versus Delhi Administration<sup>19</sup>, Hon'ble Justice Krishna Iyer held that "in interpreting constitutional and statutory provisions, the Court must not forget the core principle found in Article V of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 but here this contention of the UN Declaration of Human

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which may extend to any person by such act, the offender shall be liable either to imprisonment for life, or to such punishment as is hereinbefore mentioned.

Attempts by life convicts- when any person offending under this section is under sentence of imprisonment for life, he may, if hurt is caused, be punished with death.

<sup>14</sup> Whoever kidnaps or abducts any person or keeps a person in detention after such kidnapping or abduction, and threatens to cause death or hurt to such person, or by his conduct gives rise to a reasonable apprehension that such person may be put to death or hurt, or cause hurt or death to such person in order to compel the Government or any foreign state or international inter- governmental organization or any person to do or abstain from doing any act or to pay a ransom, shall be punishable with death, or imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>15</sup> If any one of five or more persons who are conjointly committing dacoity, commits murder in so committing dacoity every one of those persons shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life, or rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>16</sup> AIR 1980 SC 898

<sup>17</sup> S.L.P. (Cri.) No.5825 of 2014

<sup>18</sup> Constitutional Law Of India by Dr. J.N. Pandey, Page 57, Chapter 7, Fundamental Rights

<sup>19</sup> AIR 1980 SC 1535

Right is for “the Humans” which has much wider scope than to make it specific only to criminals.

The author here raises a question as what is torture or cruel inhuman or degrading treatment. The punishment imposed on the criminals for the heinous crime they do or the cruel inhuman or degrading treatment faced by the innocent victims.

It is very much known to every individual that the judiciary has a discretionary power to punish a criminal with death penalty and the judiciary not only made the rule of “rare to rarest” case in Death penalty but even expanded the role of Habeas Corpus<sup>20</sup>. In the case of Sunil Batra Versus Delhi Administration<sup>21</sup>, the Court converted the informal information through a letter, given by the prisoner, into a writ of Habeas Corpus regarding necessary amenities to prisoners and to protect them from inhuman and barbarous treatment.

Not only did the judiciary expanded the scope of writ of Habeas Corpus but even hanging till date has only taken place in 4 cases in last 40 years in which trial court has convicted of death sentence to 1617 prisoners which was scrutinized by the Hon’ble High Court and conviction of death sentence was reduced to 71 cases out of 1617 and when the appeal reached to Supreme Court of India, only 4 cases succeeded for death penalty<sup>22</sup>. So the contention given in paragraph 2.1.3<sup>23</sup>; stating the possibility of error, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava said:

“It is quite true that a person does not get justice in the original court. I am not complaining of district Courts, in very many cases of riots in which more than five persons are involved, a number of innocent persons are implicated. I can speak with authority on this point. I am a legal practitioner and have been having criminal practice for a large number of years,”<sup>24</sup> stands nowhere and analyzing the survey it is not at any step justified and is irrelevant to entertain such baseless grounds for relief.

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<sup>20</sup> Page 56, Chapter 7, Fundamental Rights, Constitution Of India By Dr. J.N. Pandey

<sup>21</sup> AIR 1978 SC 1675

<sup>22</sup> Page No. 237, paragraph iii, “Note on Death Penalty”, Report No. 262, Law Commission Of India.

<sup>23</sup> Chapter II, History of the Death Penalty In India, “Pre Constitutional History and Constituent Assembly Debates”

<sup>24</sup> Constituent Assembly Debates on 3 June, 1949 Pat II, available at

<http://parliamentofindia.nic.in/ls/debates/vol8p15b.htm>

Even the Law Commission also plays a vital role and did a lot in support of the criminals. The Commission's Report on Constitutional Paper on Mode of Execution of Death sentence and Incidental Matters<sup>25</sup> was made on the examination on the mode of execution of Death Sentence which should be certain, humane, quick and decent and during the examining of the mode of execution of death sentence, "the Commission did not confine itself to the four main methods of execution (lethal gas, shooting, electrocution, guillotine). It persuaded enquiry whether there was any other method still untried that would inflict death as painless and certain as hanging but with greater decency and without the degrading and barbarous association with which hanging is tainted."<sup>26</sup>

The Supreme Court in the Case of Deena versus Union Of India<sup>27</sup>, laid down the threefold test which should be satisfied during the execution of death penalty. The threefold test laid down is:

1. "It should be quick and simple as possible, the act of execution should be as quick and simple as possible and free from anything unnecessarily sharpens the poignancy of the prisoner's apprehension.
2. The act of the execution should produce immediate unconsciousness passing quickly into the death.
3. It should be decent and should not involve mutilation".

This dissertation in its chapters will deal with the rebuttals of the Law Commission Of India Report No. 262 in a more elaborative manner and will also consider the others reports of Law Commission Of India such as Constitutional Paper on Mode Of Execution of Death Sentence and Incidental matters<sup>28</sup>, Capital Punishment Volume I and III<sup>29</sup> and Capital Punishment Volume II<sup>30</sup>.

The Law Commission in its recent report has recommended finally for the abolition of Capital Punishment except that in the case of terror attack. The recommendation made by the Law

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<sup>25</sup> Page 4, Para 1150, <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/cpds1.pdf>

<sup>26</sup> Page 256 to 261 Of the Law Commission Of India's report on Constitutional Paper on Mode of Execution of Death sentence and Incidental Matters

<sup>27</sup> (1983) 4 SCC 645

<sup>28</sup> <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/cpds1.pdf>

<sup>29</sup> <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/1-50/Report35Vol1and3.pdf>

<sup>30</sup> <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/1-50/Report35Vol2.pdf>

Commission consists of nine members in penal with one full time member and two government representative who after the analysis will be supporting or dissenting capital punishment.

The Law Commission of India in its 35<sup>th</sup> report stated that the eventual goal is to remove capital punishment completely as a penalty from India but the condition is not that well right now so as to bring such experiment of abolition in our nation.

During the refusal of recommendation of model for abolishing death penalty, the penal held “the options are many from moratorium to a full- fledged abolition bill. The Law Commission does not wish to commit to a particular approach in abolition. All it says is that such a method for abolition should be compatible with the fundamental value of achieving swift and irreversible, absolute abolition.”

The Death Penalty report supported death penalty against the cases of terror attack and for waging war against the country. The report stated so that “although there is no valid penological justification for treating terrorism differently from other crimes, concern is often raised that abolition of capital punishment for terror related offences and waging war will affect national security.”

The other question raised by the panel was regarding the doctrine of rarest of rare case in penalizing death sentence. “After many lengthy and detailed deliberations, it is the view of the Law Commission that the administration of death penalty even within the restrictive environment of rarest to rare doctrine is constitutionally unsustainable.”

“Continued administration of death penalty asked very difficult constitutional question as these questions relate to the miscarriage of justice, errors as well as the plight of the poor and disenfranchised in the criminal justice system”

<sup>31</sup>Justice (Rtd.) Usha Mehra and the ex officio members, Law Secretary P.K. Malhotra and Legislative Secretary Sanjay Singh gave the notes against the capital punishment. The Law Commission consisted of a Chairman, three full time members, two ex officio members who were representing the government and other three part time members for making the final report of the Capital punishment.

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<sup>31</sup> Report No. 262, Capital Punishment, page 232 to 258

“Recommending blanket abolition of death sentence or moratorium on death penalty in heinous crimes is not an appropriate course particularly keeping in view the circumstances prevailing in our country.”<sup>32</sup>

<sup>33</sup>“Parliament in its wisdom has prescribed death penalty only in heinous crimes. The need of the hour is to retain it...We have a vibrant judiciary which is respected world-over. We should have faith in the wisdom of our judges that they will exercise this power only in deserving cases for which the law is well laid down in various judgments.”

<sup>34</sup>“The panel should not recommend something which has the effect of preventing the state from making any law in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of the country.”

The question was then raised to the Chairman Justice (rtd.) A.P. Shah, as the dissent of the two government nominees regarding the abolition of capital punishment will have any effect on the government’s decision while examining the recommendations. He replied that “the report has been prepared to enable a debate on the subject when two private members bill, one on moratorium and another on abolition of death sentence, are moved in Parliament. It is not meant for immediate implementation”

The Panel in support of the abolition of capital Punishment held that “the Supreme Court has on numerous occasions expressed concern over arbitrary handing down of death sentence.”<sup>35</sup>

In reply to the exercise of mercy powers under Article 72 and 161 of the Constitution of India, the Panel further stated that “these articles have failed in acting as the final safeguard against miscarriage of justice in the imposition of the death sentence.” It further stated that since 1950 till date, the Presidents so appointed respectively, have accepted 306 mercy petitions and rejected 131 of them.

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<sup>32</sup> Justice (retired) Usha Mehra

<sup>33</sup> Law Secretary, P.K. Malhotra

<sup>34</sup> Legislative Secretary, Sanjay Singh

<sup>35</sup>“The Court has noted that it is difficult to distinguish cases where death penalty has been imposed from those where the alternative of life imprisonment has been applied.”

## **CHAPTER II**

### **2.1 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Capital Punishment or Death Penalty is a well known term to every individual and the huge cry around the world for the termination or depletion of capital punishment by seconding the Human Right Conventions is a controversial issue in today's time so as to discuss.

Termination of Capital Punishment completely where the heinous and grievous crimes against humanity is increasing day by day is even been supported by the recent report of the Law Commission of India. A new draft report of the law Commission has recommended ending death penalty except in terrorism- related cases. The draft report, circulated among the members, supports doing away with capital punishment but again it raises many questions which are left unanswerable on the same place by the Law Commission of India.

The hanging of YakubMemon gives us a good reason to start the debate over the death penalty. I would like to make out a case *in favour of retaining the death penalty*.

The main arguments trotted out in favour of the abolition of capital punishment are these. First, we should not be party to taking precious human life. Second, sentencing someone to death when facts may later prove him or her innocent means irreparable injustice will be done. Third, death is never a deterrent. And, a fourth, that retribution should never be the aim of capital punishment. It is primitive and barbaric to seek death even for the worst crimes. Let researcher here agrees that none of these arguments are invalid but they are not as strong as they appear to be at first glance and a brief discussion will be done in the dissertation to come to a conclusion.

On the other hand, considering the theories of punishment under jurisprudence, the researcher faces problem to come to the point as to which theory is been followed in India?

The other problem raised by the researcher in the concerned dissertation is to analyze the extend of the intention of the criminals and analyze the punishments as been given in the Legislation.

## **2.2 OBJECTIVE OF STUDY**

1. Analyze the recent report of Law Commission on Capital Punishment
2. Comparison between the Report No. 262 and 35 of Law Commission of India
3. Examination of Existing Laws In India regarding Capital punishment

## **2.3 SCOPE OF THE RESEARCH**

In the present dissertation, it is completely challenging the recent report of the Law Commission of India which gives number of reasons to terminate the capital punishment completely in India.

Also here, the researcher clearly wants to state that the work in this dissertation is not been done by blocking the mind completely to go against the Capital Punishment but to examine the loopholes in the legislation of India and to judge as for which crime the capital punishment or death penalty is in major need.

This dissertation will also raise the mindset, intention and hormonal changes which takes place during and before the crime is done by any individual or company considering the report of the Indian Council Of Medical Research.

## **2.4 RESEARCH QUESTION**

The question raised by the researcher in this research paper are whether the ending of Capital Punishment in India a right decision of the Law Commission of India and to which extend the argument raised by the Law Commission is valid and reasonable considering the crime rate and the condition of India.

Also, the research will try to evaluate the death sentence compared to the alternative: a life sentence. Is living life in a dingy cell somehow more humane than sending the killer to the hangman? When suicide bombers voluntarily kill themselves for psychic gains, why is the right to life somehow so sacrosanct?



The other question which has been raised in the present paper is to conclude as to which theory of punishment is followed in India and with reference to that the mode of punishment for crimes will be judged.

## **2.5 HYPOTHESIS**

The researcher supports the capital punishment because it creates a lesson in front of the public or criminals that law is made for the public and if we abolish the law by committing the crime it would create a penalty for that person.

This research has been attempted to analyze the consequences of terminating capital punishment and does there be any relevant and reasonable result of the termination or not. This research will also attempt to analyze the major sections of Indian Penal Code which allows for the death punishment and its relevancies.

## **2.6 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research is based upon a corroboration of both qualitative and qualitative methodology. The method of research includes a strong appreciation and analysis of facts on various areas including history, legislations and cases that is making an attempt to change the mode of punishments in India.

This paper adopts a critical approach to study the lacunas and problems faced by the Indian legislation and digs deeper into the failures the report of Law Commission of India has witnessed.

To gain a rich understanding of the research perspective, this study would adopt a case study strategy in order to answer the misuse and abuse in case of termination of capital punishment completely. With the help of comparative analysis, this research would further endeavor to distinguish between the divergent approaches adopted by different countries towards capital punishment and carve out a comparison with respect to the distinct jurisprudence of each country.

## **2.7 REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

**“Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication: Page 17**

Hindu Society itself did not find anything abhorrent in Capital Punishment, they justified it in the cases of certain serious offences against the individual and the State.”

**“Kanishka Bose” the right to live.....is death penalty alien to Indian Values” Hindustan Times, December 30, 1979**

“The King shall ordain punishment to law breakers according to the merit of each case, having carefully examined it with social reference to the place and time of breach and the capacity and knowledge (of the Law Breakers).

“The holy scripts of India are an evidence to support our custom regarding the presence of capital punishment in India. Everything has its proper utility, and a man who is situated in complete knowledge knows how and where to apply a thing for its proper utility. Similarly, violence also has its utility, and how to apply violence rests with the person in knowledge”.

**BrihaspatiSmriti, xxii, 29 and Manu Smriti, viii, 244**

Nanda declared that taking human life through poison, weapon or other means was sahasa of the highest degree and should be punished accordingly.

Brihaspati prescribed death sentence for murderer “YajnaValkya speaks of four class of punishment, viz., censure, rebuke, pecuniary punishment and corporal punishment, and says that

these should be used either separately or jointly according to the nature of the crime. The corporal punishment included imprisonment, banishment, branding, cutting of offending limbs, and lastly death sentence. It goes without saying that the measure of punishment depended chiefly on the gravity of the offence.”

**Dr. P.K. Sen, Hindu Jurisprudence (Tagore Law Lecture, 1909) page 242-243**

“The legal side of the India is still in dilemma as to which theory of punishment is followed and where the death penalty taking us to....”

**Indian Legal, September 15, 2015, Compiled by Prabir Biswas, Illustrations of Uday Shankar**

“There is nothing unconstitutional or even unreasonable about death sentence mandated under section 364A of IPC for kidnapping for ransom, Capital punishment is appropriate as considering the nature of the crime properly”.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **HISTORY OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN INDIA**

#### **3.1 Capital Punishment Under the Hindu law :**

The holy scripts of India are an evidence to support our custom regarding the presence of capital punishment in India. “Everything has its proper utility, and a man who is situated in complete knowledge knows how and where to apply a thing for its proper utility. Similarly, violence also has its utility, and how to apply violence rests with the person in knowledge. Although the justice of the peace awards capital penalty to a person condemned for murder, the justice of the peace cannot be answerable, because he orders violence to another person according to the codes of justice”<sup>36</sup>. In Ramayana, “Sri Ram, the embodiment of dharma, killed King Bali who stolen his own brothers wife and also killed Ravan” for what reason is known to all.

“Capital punishment has been prevalent in India from times immemorial. Perhaps, it is as old as the Hindu Society itself. We find references to the penalty of death in our ancient scriptures and law books. Hindu law givers did not find anything objectionable in it; they justified it in the cases of certain serious offences against the individual and the State.”<sup>37</sup>

As far back as the 4th Century B.C., “the science of penology was a fully developed subject of study and statecraft in India”. “Beginning from the Mahabharata and ending with the 17th century A.D.,” observes Sen, “one finds a long line of authoritative writer, commentators and compilers who have left a literature rich in its content and prophetic in its vision”. Dandanitiis, is not a recent growth in India.

The fundamental basis of Dandaniti is deterrence and mental rehabilitation. It does not savour of retribution and vengeance. “There is a clear distinction between the moral and religious transgression, i.e., Paapor juristic and legal transgression, i.e., Apradha and great caution should be observed in interpreting any act in the true spirit of the original law-givers”. “It is necessary to

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<sup>36</sup>Bhagwat-Gita; Chapters 1-6; text 21

<sup>37</sup>Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, p.17

note that in Hindu penal literature there is a clear appreciation of juristic wrong as distinguished from breaches of moral or religious laws.”<sup>38</sup>

Manu has taken account not only of the objective circumstances of an offence but also the subjective limitation of the offender. “In this respect the penal science of Hindu India ranks on the same level as the most advanced systems of today. “The king shall ordain punishment to law-breakers according to the merit of each case, having carefully examined it with social reference to the place and time of breach and the capacity and knowledge (of the law breaker)”<sup>39</sup>. The modern concept of taking into account, the offender and the offence, the individual and the environment was given due consideration in the old days. <sup>40</sup>

Of various acts of Sahasa or violence, man slaughter was considered the worst and punishment was also severe.<sup>41</sup>”Narda declared that taking human life through poison, weapon or other means was Sahasa of the highest degree and should be punished accordingly.”<sup>42</sup>

“Brhaspati prescribed death sentence for murderers. Both notorious murders and secret assassins should be put to death by various modes of execution after confiscating their property. Murderers were never tolerated in the society.<sup>43</sup>” “Even in the work of Kautilya, we find the mention of sentence to death by various means of murder.”<sup>44</sup>

The same attitude continued later on. “From Kalidasa it gathered that murder was legally punishable by death.”<sup>45</sup> When a murder was committed by conspiracy, no one was spared from the rod of the king. Thus when several persons killed a single individual, the responsibility for murder should be charged on him who gave the fatal blow and should be inflicted with due punishment, while his associates should also be adequately punished though that would only be half the punishment of the real criminal. “Kattayamma also pointed out that the associates and

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<sup>38</sup> Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, p. 18

<sup>39</sup>Quoted by Kanishka Bose, “the right to live- is death penalty alien to Indian values”, the Hindustan times, December 30, 1979.

<sup>40</sup>Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, p.19

<sup>41</sup>BrhaspatiSmriti, xxii, 29

<sup>42</sup>NardaSmriti, xiv, 6-8

<sup>43</sup>Manu smriti, viii, 244

<sup>44</sup>Arthashastra of Kautilya, 4.11

<sup>45</sup>Raghuvansham , ix, 81

inciters who helped the actual miscreant in different ways were also to be considered perpetrators of the crime and should be punished according to the gravity of their guilt.”<sup>46</sup>

“The capital punishment was in vogue at almost every stage during the Hindu period. The emphasis on Danda during the vedic period (1500 to 600 B.C.) led to the doctrine of the Divine affinity of the temporal ruler.”<sup>47</sup>,”

“The authority of the King was coupled with his obligation towards his subjects, and the coercive authority of the ruler was recognized as the cause of Dharma.”<sup>48</sup>

In one of the earliest Smritis, the list of the offenders punishable with death includes those who caused injury to the seven constitutes of the State, and those who forged Royal edicts etc. Kautilya emphasis that danda is the surest and most universal means of ensuring public security.<sup>49</sup>

The different kinds of punishment prescribed by the Hindu law, and some of the principles on which they were directed to be administered, have been thus described by Dr. P.N. Sen:<sup>50</sup>

“YajnaValkya speaks of four class of punishment, viz., censure, rebuke, pecuniary punishment and corporal punishment, and says that these should be used either separately or jointly according to the nature of the crime. The corporal punishment included imprisonment, banishment, branding, cutting of offending limbs, and lastly death sentence. It goes without saying that the measure of punishment depended chiefly on the gravity of the offence.”

In the feudal Indian days the Brahmin and the Kshatriyas (warrior community) lorded it over the Vaisyas (commercial community) and the Shudras (workers). The punishments meted out to the lower castes were brutal. If a Shudra killed a Brahmin, he was made to drink alcohol heated to boiling point. The Brahmins were immune from the death sentence. Women in the Dharma Sastras, had a raw deal by way of death by burning and Muslim law stoned an adultress to death.

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<sup>46</sup>Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, p.19

<sup>47</sup>Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, p.20

<sup>48</sup>Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, p.20

<sup>49</sup>Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, p.20

<sup>50</sup> Dr. Sen, P.N. Hindu Jurisprudence (Tagore Law Lectures, 1909) pp 242-243

During the succeeding period, the old practices were faithfully adhered to. Capital and corporal punishments were regarded as the two effective measures for ensuring law and order in society.<sup>51</sup>

During the reign of Mughal emperors, barbaric methods of putting an offender to death were used. The British, however, used death by hanging as the only legalized mode of inflicting capital punishment.

### **3.2 Capital Punishment under the Earlier British Rule**

<sup>52</sup>Section XXVI, clauses 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th of the List of Capital offences under Bombay Regulation XIV OF 1827, dealt with murder as follows :

Clause 1st – “Any person who shall purposely, and without justifiable or extenuating cause deprive a human being of life or who shall commit or assist in any unlawful act, the perpetration of which is accompanied with the death of human beings, shall be liable to the punishment of murder, provided always that death take place within six months after the act was committed.”

Clause 4th – “the punishment of murder shall be death, transportation, imprisonment for life, or solitary imprisonment with flogging.”

The reasons given by the framers of the 1837 draft in support of the various provisions relating to the death sentence suggested by them were as follows:

“First among the punishments provided for offences by this code stands death. No argument has brought to our notice has satisfied us that it would be desirable wholly to dispense with this punishment. “But we are convinced that it ought to be very sparingly inflicted, and we propose to employ it only in cases where either murder or the highest offence against the State has been committed”

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<sup>51</sup>Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, p.21

<sup>52</sup> Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, pp. 24-25

Regarding the power of commutation it was observed that it was evidently fit that the Government should be empowered to commute the sentence of death (without the consent of the offender) for any other punishment.

The Law Commission in 1846 dealt with the subject of death caused by words during the discussion on 1837 draft and came to the conclusion that if death is certainly caused by the words deliberately used by a person with intention to cause that result, or with the knowledge that in the condition of the party to whom the words are spoken it is likely that the words will make such an impression on him as to cause death, and without any such excuse as it admissible under “ General Exceptions”, such person should suffer the penalty of culpable homicide.

On 30th May, 1851, the revise edition of the Code was circulated to Judges for comments. Later in 1854, a Committee consisting of Barnes, Peacock, Sir James Colvills, J.P., Grant E.D., Elliot, etc., was asked to consider the revised Code. That committee did not recommend any substantial alterations in the Original Code. The Code was read for the first time on 28th December, 1857, and referred to a Select Committee. It was then passed by the Legislative Council of India; it received the assent of the Governor- General on 6th October, 1860.

Thus, it was left to the Britishers to give the country a systematic penal code which strictly limited the number of capital offences and laid down the procedure for criminal trials. In a sense, the Britishers were responsible for partial abolition of capital punishment. }<sup>53</sup>

Considering the crimes and situations of the history, today the situation is much different and worst. The crimes which are committed in our society are unexpected and unimaginable whereas there is a technological advance in the field of science, technology, medicine and anesthetics which has both positive and negative effects. To have broad mind and to think out of the box did not just restrict to good and developing mind but also crimes and suggestions to escape from punishments.

Each society has their specific social control for which they make laws and punishments. Now the kind of punishment is influenced by the kind of society an individual lives in. During ancient time, the logic of creating fear was considered and sever punishments were awarded but with the

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<sup>53</sup>Gupta, Subhash C., Capital Punishment In India, Deep and Deep Publication, pp.24-25



change of time and development of human mind, this strategy changed and punishment was given as per the crime was done by an individual. Now the question of abolition of capital punishment has been raised. While the capital punishment is exercised, laws say that it does not punish the individual but the guilty mind and punishment is given only when law recognizes the concept “actus non facit reum, nisi mens sit rea”, and “amens ne sine mente” i.e. a physical act alone does not make a person guilty, the mental component in the form of evil intent (guilty mind) is equally important<sup>54</sup>. Not only this, other legal options are also present for the defence to escape from the capital punishment such as person proven to be of unsound mind<sup>55</sup>, plea of mental illness and unsoundness of mind is usually brought forward by defence in order to save his client from capital punishment.<sup>57</sup> A mentally ill person is not punished for his crime, as he is devoid of free will, intelligence and knowledge of the act<sup>58</sup>. Concept behind this provision is that as such the individual was not in complete control of mind at the time of offence so he should not be punished. Moreover, he need not be punished as punishment is already given to him by nature<sup>59</sup>. Many times this provision is even dangerous as all the criminals will plead defence of insanity in order to escape capital punishment.

The provision of section 85<sup>60</sup> and 86<sup>61</sup> of Indian Penal Code<sup>62</sup> is another defence section which helps the criminals to escape. Though the changing trends and modernization in almost all

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<sup>54</sup> Camps FE et al. Gradwohl's Legal medicine. 3'd ed. Bristol: John Wright & sons; 1976. p.494

<sup>55</sup> Section 84 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 is based on McNaughten's rule of 1843 in England. This section states that, “nothing is an offence which is done by a person, who at the time of doing it, by reason of unsoundness of mind, is incapable of knowing the nature of the act, or that he is doing what is either wrong or contrary to law”.

<sup>56</sup> Chandrachud YV. Ratanlal and Dhirajlal's The Indian Penal Code. 28th ed. Agra: Wadhwani & Company Law Publishers; 2001. p. 87-96.

<sup>57</sup> Section 84, IPC: Analysis; JIAFM, 2006: 28 (4) ISSN : 0971-0973

<sup>58</sup> Subrahmanyam BV. Modi's Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology. 22nd ed, New Delhi: Butterworths India; 1999. p. 663-669.

<sup>59</sup> Mukherjee JB. Forensic Medicine and Toxicology Vol 2. 2nd ed. Calcutta: Academic Publishers; 2000. p.164, 167

<sup>60</sup> Act of a person incapable of judgment by reason of intoxication caused against his will.—Nothing is an offence which is done by a person who, at the time of doing it, is, by reason of intoxication, incapable of knowing the nature of the act, or that he is doing what is either wrong, or contrary to law; provided that the thing which intoxicated him was administered to him without his knowledge or against his will.

<sup>61</sup> Offence requiring a particular intent or knowledge committed by one who is intoxicated.—In cases where an act done is not an offence unless done with a particular knowledge or intent, a person who does the act in a state of intoxication shall be liable to be dealt with as if he had the same knowledge as he would have had if he had not been intoxicated, unless the thing which intoxicated him was administered to him without his knowledge or against his will.

<sup>62</sup> Chandrachud Y V and Manohar V.R. Ratanlal&Dhirajlal, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition, Wadhwani & Co., Nagpur, 2002, p. 346-353.

corners of the society in India, alcohol is particularly becoming a social drink. In the words of Abraham Lincoln it is "The injurious effect of alcohol must not be construed as the result of the use of a bad thing; it is actually the result of abuse of a good thing"<sup>63</sup>. The issue whether a person in question has consumed alcohol or not and in case the individual has consumed alcohol, whether he is under its influence or not, give a wide opportunity of prevention from punishment to the criminals. A defence does not rescue the individual from liability totally but it does reduce the severity of punishment for he can be convicted for culpable homicide not amounting to murder rather than murder.

The Indian jurisprudence is a blend of reformatory and deterrent theories. Deterrence is one of the fundamental reasons for punishment of any kind. Though death penalty is considered as the harshest punishment available under the law, it seems logical that it must also be the most effective deterrent to crime. The English Barrister, Sir James Stephen remarked, "no other punishment deters men so effectively from committing crimes as the punishment of death. In any secondary punishment, however terrible, there is hope; but death is death; its terror cannot be described more forcibly."<sup>64</sup> The federal prisons now have custody of sentenced to life imprisonment, who, since he has been in the prison, has committed three more murders on three separate occasions, both of prison guards and inmates. There is no further punishment that he can receive. In effect, he has a license to murder"<sup>65</sup>.

While the punishments are to be imposed to deter the offenders, it is also inalienable part of Indian penal jurisprudence that the offenders should be given opportunity for reformation. Bearing in mind these fundamental tenets, the legislatures drafted Sec. 354 (3) of the Cr.P.C. This subsection basically lays down that special reasons are to be recorded by the Court for imposing death punishment in capital offences. Once death sentence is awarded and is confirmed after executing all the possible available remedies, the execution is carried out in accordance

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<sup>63</sup>Pillay VV. Comprehensive Medical Toxicology, .1 st Edition, Paras Publishing, Hyderabad, 2003. Chapter 8, Alcohols; p.141-159.

<sup>64</sup> Quoted by Leonard A. Stephens in Death Penalty: the Case of Life Versus Death in the United States (New York: Coward, McCann &Geoghegan, 1978), 73

<sup>65</sup> "Bring Back The Death Penalty," US News and the World Report (April 1976); reprinted in The Death Penalty, ed. Irwin Isenberg (New York: H. W. Wilson, 1977), 133

with section 354(5) of the Code of Criminal Procedure<sup>66</sup>. Thus, the position of law after Cr.P.C. 1973 became that the general rule was life imprisonment while the death sentence was to be imposed only in special cases<sup>67</sup>.

In this report the authors does not support such situations where there is no option for judiciary for punishment other than capital punishment. Capital punishment is given in rarest to rare condition and that too under in such case where the act of crime was totally inhuman and unimaginable. Section 303 of the Indian Penal Code was struck down as being unconstitutional as violative of Article 21 and 14 of the Constitution Of India because offence under this section was punishable only with capital punishment. Capital punishment is prescribed as one of the punishment in Arms Act, 1959; The Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic substances Act, 1985; and the Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act; the Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987; The Air Force Act, 1950; the Army Act 1950 and the Navy Act, 1957. In the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2002 also, there was a provision of death penalty for causing death of person by using bombs, dynamites or other explosive substances in order to threaten the unity and integrity of India or to strike terror in the society. Constitutionality of Section 354(5) came up before the Supreme Court of India in *Dine vs. State of India*<sup>68</sup>. The apex court did not accept the view that the mode of hanging violates of Article 21 of the Constitution. The mode was invoked in many other countries of the world. In the case of *Jagmohan Singh Versus State of Uttar Pradesh*<sup>69</sup>, the constitutional validity of death penalty was upheld by the Supreme Court by the bench of five judges composing the bench.

Death penalty is often justified on the grounds that it will have a deterrent effect on crime. However, such claims of deterrence are without any empirical support. It is not the harshness or severity of death penalty that acts as deterrent. A life sentence of 20 years would act as equally strong deterrent against crimes as death penalty, provided the killer feels that the crime would not go unpunished. More than the severity of the sentence it is the certainty of detection and punishment that acts as a deterrent. The Advisory Council on the Treatment of Offenders

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<sup>66</sup>When any person is sentenced to death, the sentence shall direct that he be hanged by the neck till he is dead. It is also provided under The Air Force Act, 1950; The Army Act, 1950 and The Navy Act, 1972 that the execution has to be carried out either by hanging by neck till death or by being shot to death.

<sup>67</sup> [http://www.legalserviceindia.com/articles/cap\\_pp.htm](http://www.legalserviceindia.com/articles/cap_pp.htm)

<sup>68</sup> (1983) 4 SCC 645:1983 SCC (Cri) (879)

<sup>69</sup> AIR 1973 SC 947

appointed by the Government of Great Britain stated in its report in 1960 as “we were impressed by the argument that the greatest deterrent to crime is not the fear of punishment but the certainty of detection”.

All sentences are awarded for security and protection of the society, so that every individual may live in peace. Capital Punishment is needed to insure this security<sup>70</sup>. When the public peace is endangered by certain particularly dangerous forms of crime, death penalty is the only means of eliminating the offender.<sup>71</sup> Society must be protected from the risk of a second offence by a criminal who is not executed and who may be released, after release may commit a murder again<sup>72</sup>. Public opinion is substantially in the favor of capital punishment and it would be unwise to abolish capital punishment contrary to the wishes of the majority citizens of our society. Keeping murders in the prison make the condition more complicated and dangerous for the prison administrators.<sup>73</sup> If all convicted murders were imprisoned, safety of the prison staff and general public from the dangerous prisoners would be at risk.<sup>74</sup> Money of the citizens should not be used to maintain those who did great harm to our society.<sup>75</sup> The taxpayer should not be called upon to pay for the maintenance of the anti social criminals for an indefinite or for a very long period.<sup>76</sup> Whereas Capital punishment is painless and humane form and is very much less painful than by life imprisonment.

Crime has rightly been described as an act of warfare against the community touching new depths of lawlessness. The object of imposing deterrent sentences is threefold: (1) To protect the community against callous criminals for a long time. (2) To administer as clearly as possible to others tempted to follow them into lawlessness on a war scale if they are brought to and convicted, deterrent punishment will follow, and (3) To deter criminals who are forced to undergo long-term imprisonment from repeating their criminal acts in future. Even from the point of view of reformatory form of punishment "prolonged and indefinite detention is justified not only in the name of prevention but cure. The

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<sup>70</sup> Late Sri Datar, Minister of State in Ministry Home Affairs, RajyaSabha Debate, 25<sup>th</sup> April, 1958

<sup>71</sup> U.N. Publication, page 59, paragraph 216

<sup>72</sup> Ceylon Report, summary of Arguments, page 40, under “Alternative Punishments”

<sup>73</sup> Ceylon Report, summary of Arguments, page 40, under “Prison Administration”

<sup>74</sup> Canadian Report, page 10 and 11, paragraph 32.

<sup>75</sup> Kumari Santa Vashist, RajyaSabha Debate, 8<sup>th</sup> September 1961, col. 3817

<sup>76</sup> UN Publication, page 60, paragraph 220

offender has been regarded in one sense as a patient to be discharged only when he responds to the treatment and can be regarded as safe" for the society.

Hobbes asserted that every man had under the natural order has the right of reprisal for wrongs done to himself or anyone else. Then he said that social contract had left this right to the sovereign while taking it away from everyone else. Kant viewed that every political society had a duty to enforce retributive justice. Rousseau felt that the subject ought not to complain if the sovereign demanded the subject's life. He considered death as a proper punishment, if the criminal was beyond redemption. "A society which felt neither anger nor indignation at outrageous conduct would hardly enjoy an effective system of law" (Salmond).

Salmond's definition of crime is Crime is an act deemed by law to be harmful for the society as a whole though its immediate victim may be an individual. He further substantiates his point of view through the following illustration a murderer injures primarily a particular victim but its blatant disregard of human life puts it beyond a matter of mere compensation between the murderer and the victims family. So, it is very necessary on behalf of the society to punish the offender and replacing capital punishment with life imprisonment does not gives a guarantee that it will change the mind of the criminal ever and alternatively it will impose more concern and rights towards a criminal and after every day they will question their freedoms as prisoners and more liabilities will be created towards them.

### **3.3 Pre- constitutional History and Constituent Assembly Debates**

Question of termination of death penalty for the first time raised in pre- independent India in Old Legislative Assemble, 1931, when Shri Gaya Prasad Singh introduced a bill regarding abolition of Death Penalty for offences in Indian Penal Code, 1931. The bill was disagreed and defeated<sup>77</sup>. The abolition of Death Penalty was again came in demand at the time of execution of Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru by the British Government and the Congress at that time, moved a resolution regarding the same in its Karachi session<sup>78</sup>.

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<sup>77</sup> Law Commission Of India, 35<sup>th</sup> Report 1967, at para 12, available at <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/1-50/Report35Vol1and3.pdf>

<sup>78</sup> Special Correspondent, It's time death penalty is abolished: Aiyar, The Hindu, 7 August 2015, available at <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/its-time-death-penalty-is-abolished-aiyar/article7509444.ece>

The contention for the abolition of Capital Punishment was made on the ground that, most of the developing and developed country has abolished the capital punishment completely to which the then Home Minister, Sir James Carerar, than many countries has even restored Capital Punishment after abolition ( example France and Germany) and further also stated that other countries which are abolished or abolished capital punishment are in a much better stage than the where India stands and thirdly, he also contended that from the familiarity he had gained with homicides throughout the length and breadth of India, any other punishment other than capital punishment could be proper for the crimes of such a dreadful character that the one is presented with”<sup>79</sup>. He further contended that the Indian law was more elastic than the English Law, as it empowered the Courts to pass an alternative sentence. In this contention, he stated:

“.....it is my experience, both as an official in a Local Government and as an official and a member of the Government of India, that the discretion is very frequently and I think on the whole, very wisely and judiciously exercised”.<sup>80</sup>

To trace the history for abolition of death penalty in India, the Bill introduced by Sri MukundLal Agrawal<sup>81</sup> has been referred. The first reading of the Bill was moved on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1956, and the discussion was resumed and concluded on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1956, when the bill was rejected on the opposition of the Government<sup>82</sup>.

Numerous points were put forth in the speech of the mover of the Bill<sup>83</sup>, which included a review of the position prevailing in other countries, and emphasized the futility of capital punishment as a deterrent and its primitiveness.<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>79</sup> Legislative Assembly Dispute, (1931), Volume 1, Page 949; also in the 35<sup>th</sup> Report of Law Commission Of India, page 29

<sup>80</sup> infra

<sup>81</sup> Before this, Sri M.A. Kazmi’s Bill to amend section 302 I.P.C., certain discussions took place in 1952 and 1954 and in the course of the discussion, some members. E.g. Sri Venkataraman from Tanjore raised the question for abolition. Bill No. 77 of 1952 (withdrawn), LokSabha Debates, 1952; Vol. III, Part II, No. 10, Cols. 4902- 412, dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 1952; LokSabha Debates, 1954, Vol II, Part II, dated 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1956, Cols. 2054- 2058; and Vol. III, Cols 3146- 3160, dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 1954.

<sup>82</sup> Bill No. 24 of 1956 (LokSabha), LokSabha Debates, 1956, vol. I, Part II, Col. 3538, dated, dated 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1956 and LokSabha Debates Vol. XI, Part II, Cols. 916- 986, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1956.

Also Agrawal “Capital Punishment abolition move in India”, A.I.R.1958 Journal 69, at page 73.

<sup>83</sup> Sri MukundLal Agrawal

<sup>84</sup> “Arguments for Abolition” paragraph 152 of Law Commission Of India’s Report No. 35

Thereafter, Sri Prithavi Raj Kapur moved a resolution for the abolition of capital punishment in the RajyaSabha, in 1958<sup>85</sup>. The resolution was withdrawn after debate, the mover observing, “the purpose of my resolution is served, the ripples are created and it is in the air. By votes such delicates things are not decided.

Again a resolution for the abolition of Capital Punishment was moved in 1961 in the RajyaSabha<sup>86</sup> by Smt. Savitry Devi Nigam, but that was negative after discussion.

After this, Sri Raghunath Singh’s Resolution for the abolition of capital punishment was discussed in the LokSabha, 1962<sup>87</sup>. The resolution was withdrawn after discussion. Sri Harish Chandra Mathur had moved an amendment to refer the matter to the Law Commission of India for examination to which the Government of India gave its consent and referred the copy of the discussion which took place in the LokSabha to the Law Commission Of India. Later again 1963, the same question on the abolition of Capital Punishment was raised in the RajyaSabha<sup>88</sup> to which the Government gave an assurance to forward the copy of the resolution of Smt. Savitry Devi Nigam to the Law Commission of India<sup>89</sup>.

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<sup>85</sup>RajyaSabha Debate, 25<sup>th</sup> April, 1958, Cols. 431 to 442 and 444 to 528

<sup>86</sup>RajyaSabha Debates, 25<sup>th</sup> August, 1961, Cols. 1681 to 1784 and 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1961, Cols. 3780 to 3836

<sup>87</sup>LokSabha Debates, April 21, 1962, Cols. 307 to 365, Peticularly Cols. 354 and 355

<sup>88</sup>RajyaSabha Debate, dated 19<sup>th</sup> December, 1963

<sup>89</sup> Page 7, law Commission Of India report 35 volume 1 and 3

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **THE EXISTING LAWS IN INDIA**

Capital punishment exists in many sections of Indian law as also discussed in the very first chapter of this dissertation. Death penalty as a punishment is only considered in those offences which make their very presence in the category of heinous crimes.

Now considering the Indian Penal Code, the capital punishment can be awarded in certain offences. But the code provide for the punishment which is permissive (allowed but not obligatory) and the Hon'ble Courts have discretionary power either to give capital punishment or to punish with life time imprisonment. Capital punishment is only obligatory for an offence under section 303<sup>90</sup> of Indian Penal Code.

Indian Penal Code (Act No. 45 of 1860) has many other provisions regarding the existence of death penalty, namely, Section 121 ( Waging of attempting to wage war, or abetting waging of a war, against the Government of India)<sup>91</sup>; Section 132 (Abetment of mutiny, if mutiny is committed in consequence thereof)<sup>92</sup>; section 194 (Giving or fabricating false evidence with intent to procure conviction of capital offence)<sup>93</sup>; Section 302 (Punishment for Murder)<sup>94</sup>; Section 305 (Abetment of suicide of child or insane person)<sup>95</sup>; Section 307 (Attempt to murder; attempt by life convict if hurt is caused)<sup>96</sup>; Section 364-A (Kidnapping for ransom, etc.)<sup>97</sup>;

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<sup>90</sup> Punishment for murder by life convict- whoever, being under sentence of imprisonment for life, commits murder, shall be punished with murder.

<sup>91</sup> Whoever wages war against the Government of India, or attempts to wage such war, or abets the waging of such war, shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine

<sup>92</sup> Whoever abets the committing of mutiny by an officer, soldier, sailor or airmen, in the Army, Navy or Air Force of the Government of India, shall, if mutiny be committed in consequence of that abetment, be punished with death or with imprisonment for life, or imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>93</sup> Whoever gives or fabricates false evidence, intending thereby to cause, or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause, any person to be convicted of an offence which is capital by the law for the time being in force in India, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extent to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>94</sup> Whoever commits murder shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>95</sup> If any person under eighteen years of age, any insane person, any delirious person, any idiot, or any person in a state of intoxication, commits suicide, whoever abets the commission of such suicide, shall be punished with death or imprisonment for life or imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>96</sup> Whoever does any act with such intention or knowledge, and under such circumstances that, if he by that act caused death, he would be guilty of murder, shall be punished with imprisonment or either description for a term



Section 396 (Dacoity with murder)<sup>98</sup>; and certain other laws in different acts also contains punishment regarding death penalty.

Analyzing section 229 and section 300 of the Indian Penal Code, the section states that except in the cases hereinafter excepted, “culpable homicide” is murder if the act by which the death is caused is done with the intention or knowledge set out in the section. The definition of “culpable homicide” is given in section 299. The section states that

“Whoever causes death by doing an act with the intention of causing death, or with the intention of causing such bodily injury as is likely to cause death, or with the knowledge that he is likely to cause death, or with the knowledge that he is likely by such act to cause death, commits the offence of culpable homicide.

Explanation 1: A person who causes bodily injury to another who is laboring under a disorder, disease or bodily infirmity, and thereby accelerates the death of that other, shall be deemed to have caused his death.

Explanation 2: where death is caused by bodily injury, the person who causes such bodily injury shall be deemed to have caused the death, although by resorting to proper remedies and skilful treatment the death might have been prevented.

Explanation 3: the causing or the death of the child in the mother’s womb is not homicide. But it may amount to culpable homicide to cause the death of a living child, if any part of that child has been brought forth, though the child may not have breathed or been completely born<sup>99</sup>.

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which may extend to any person by such act, the offender shall be liable either to imprisonment for life, or to such punishment as is hereinbefore mentioned.

Attempts by life convicts- when any person offending under this section is under sentence of imprisonment for life, he may, if hurt is caused, be punished with death.

<sup>97</sup> Whoever kidnaps or abducts any person or keeps a person in detention after such kidnapping or abduction, and threatens to cause death or hurt to such person, or by his conduct gives rise to a reasonable apprehension that such person may be put to death or hurt, or cause hurt or death to such person in order to compel the Government or any foreign state or international inter- governmental organization or any person to do or abstain from doing any act or to pay a ransom, shall be punishable with death, or imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>98</sup> If any one of five or more persons who are conjointly committing dacoity, commits murder in so committing dacoity every one of those persons shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life, or rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

<sup>99</sup> Section 299 of the Indian Panel Code, 1860 Bare Act

Now, section 300 of Indian Penal Code, which defines murder states as :

Except in the cases hereinafter excepted, culpable homicide is murder, if the act by which the death is caused is done with the intention of causing death, or-

2ndly- if it is done with the intention of causing such bodily injury as the offender knows to be likely to cause the death of the person to whom the harm is caused or;-

3rdly- if it is done with the intention of causing bodily injury to any person and the bodily injury intended to be inflicted is sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death, or-

4thly- if the person committing the acts knows that it is so imminently dangerous that it must, in all probability cause death, or such bodily injury as is likely to cause death and commits such act without any excuse for incurring the risk of causing death or such injury as aforesaid.

Exception 1- Culpable homicide is not murder if the offender, whilst deprived of the power of self control by grave and sudden provocation, causes the death of the person who gave the provocation or causes the death of any other person by mistake or accident.

<sup>100</sup>The above exception is subject to the following provisions:

“1<sup>st</sup>- that the provocation is not intentionally provoked by the offender as an excuse for murder or for causing harm to any person.

2ndly- that when anything is done in accordance with the law and by the public servant during the exercise of his duty, the provocation is not considered under this case.

3rdly- that anything done under the right of private defence will not be considered under provocation.

Exception 2- Culpable homicide is not murder when the person so accused has exceeded his power given under the law in good faith so as to protect any person or property under the right to private defence which unintentionally results into causing death of any person against whom the accused was excersing.<sup>101</sup>

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<sup>100</sup> Report 35, volume 1 and 3; page 28; Chapter III, Existing Laws in India regarding Capital Punishment.

<sup>101</sup>:infr

Exception 3- Culpable homicide is not murder if any public servant exceeds his power for the advancement of public justice and in doing an act in good faith causes death and also believes it to be lawful and necessary.

Exception 4- Culpable Homicide is not murder if it happened in sudden quarrel and heat and that the offender has not taken any undue advantage or acted in a cruel or unusual manner.

Exception 5- Culpable Homicide is not murder when the person whose death is caused is of the major age and suffers murder or the risk of murder with his own consent.”

Now to distinguish between both the sections of offence, reference to the Bombay case<sup>102</sup> can be done. In this case the accused knocked his wife and put his knees on her chest and struck her two or three violent blows on the face with the closed fist, which resulted into extravasations of blood on the brain. The wife died in consequence. The Court held that since there was no intention to cause death and the bodily injury was not sufficient in the “ordinary course of nature” to cause death, the offence committed was not murder but culpable homicide. Further the judgment analyzed both the sections respectively. The observation regarding both the sections by the Bombay court was later made to be very restrictive as it faced criticism in *Heji Khudu Versus Emperor*<sup>103</sup> and overruled the decision stating that it may sometimes mislead and may sometimes be valid.

Definite propositions, though they may come into view to be indispensable, are well worth as prominence in this framework:

Culpable Homicide is a nonspecific offence. If it satisfies the conditions laid down in section 300 then it will come under the provision of murder.

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<sup>102</sup>Reg Versus Govinda(1876) I.L.R. I Bombay 344, 346

<sup>103</sup> AIR 1939 Sind 57, 60

It does not follow that a case of culpable homicide is murder since it does not fall within any of the Exceptions in section 300. To submit culpable homicide murder, the case must come within the necessities of clauses (1), (2), (3) and (4) of section 300<sup>104</sup>.

Culpable Homicide not amounting to murder if despite the intention to cause murder, the mental state as described under section 299 is not of the particular amount of criminality required under section 300.

Where there is an offence which falls under section 300 of the Indian Penal Code and not in the particular sections, the capital punishment is not obligatory in that condition too. It is just an alternative sentence for which the Judiciary has unrestricted power.

In the Rangoon case<sup>105</sup>, the four stages were given to come within reach of the question of culpable homicide and murder, i.e.:

The accused must have proceeded by doing which he has caused the death of an additional person;

His act must result to culpable homicide;

It must further be recognized that the act was done with one of the three intentions or with the knowledge set out in section 300.

It must then be well thought-out whether on the facts of the particular case, it is brought down from the higher plane of murder to which it has been raised, to the lower plane of culpable homicide not amounting to murder by reason of the act diminishing within any of the exceptions to section 300.

Now considering section 121 of the Indian Penal Code, the offence under this section is a capital offence as it threatens the existence of the organized Government, which is important for the human life protection. Then again the offence under section 132 of the Indian Penal Code is also comes under the provision of major offence as it aims at the destruction of the very forces intending to protect the apparatus of the State. The other offence as given under the Indian Penal Code under section 194, in paragraph second, the penalty is again a Capital Punishment with the

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<sup>104</sup> Page 31, Report on Capital Punishment, Volume 1 and 3

<sup>105</sup> Nga Chit Tin Versus The King, A.I.R. 1939 Rang. 225

logic that the accused has given false evidence intending to or with knowledge of likelihood of lack of innocent human life. Then comes the offence under section 305, the homicide crime committed indirectly, where the accused encourages the other person who cannot look after his own interest, to end his life. In a simple way, the person who does so is just a tool in the hand of the person who has been held accused for the offence under this section. The objective of this section is to protect the person who kills himself by the encouragement of the other.

The other section under the Indian Penal Code which states of the condition as where the attempt is not successful, the ignore also, as is re-enforced by the requirement that the act must be such that if the death is caused by the offender due to that act, the offender will be held liable for the murder (section 307 para 1). The death sentence can only be awarded where any hurt has been caused and the accused person is already under the sentence of imprisonment for life (section 307 para 2). As per the requirement of this section it is very much clear that the legislation has not ruled out a consideration of the individual. So if “X” after loading a gun fires at “Y” with an intention to murder “Y”, then “X” will be held liable for an attempt to murder and if by such an act “X” causes hurt to “Y” and “X” is under the sentence for life imprisonment, then he may be punished with death<sup>106</sup>.

The element necessary under section 303 and 307 is that the offender should be under the sentence for life imprisonment. The specialty of section 303 is that the act of murder has taken place and the death sentence is mandatory.

Section 396 is another special case of vicarious liability considering capital punishment but even in this case it is not difficult to separate. The section requires five or more person who conjointly commits “dacoity”<sup>107</sup> and that any one person among all must have committed murder during committing dacoity. Joint liability does not arise when dacoity has not been committed jointly and the murder is committed during the process of dacoity.<sup>108</sup>

Herein the other difference between section 299 and 300 i.e. culpable homicide and murder can be used to analyze the principle behind the sentence of death which is allowed only if the offence falls under section 300 i.e. murder. Now leaving the detailed discussion of difference in between

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<sup>106</sup> This is a stronger case than that given under the illustration of section 307 (c) of Indian Penal Code.

<sup>107</sup> Section 391 read with section 390 of Indian Penal Code

<sup>108</sup> Mathura Thakur (1901) 6 C.W.N. 72

both the sections, it can be stated that the intention or bodily injury caused or the high probability of death, the offence will be considered to be under the one or the other. It must further be added that the Court is not bound to impose the punishment of murder even if the offence is made under section 300 of the Indian Penal Code. The court has all the discretionary power to impose the punishment considering the fact and circumstances of the case.

The exceptions given under section 300 of the Indian Penal Code take out the cases from the category of murder and put them in the category of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. It is very clear herein that the concern of the legislation is to ensure that the capital punishment is to be imposed in such a condition where there is a disregard of human life is evident.

As per the discussion on the subject of offence of dacoity resulting to murder is contained in the draft Report of the Panel Code framers. The Bombay regulation, 1827 also contained provisions regarding the same. But the best has been defined in the provision for highway robbery by Muslim Laws of Crimes as administered in India<sup>109</sup>. The highway robbery was categorized into four category: firstly the one who seized before robbed and murdered any person. Secondly, those who only committed the robbery. Thirdly, those who committed only murder, not the robbery and fourthly those who committed both, robbery and murder.

The punishment for all the four categories was imposed separately. Such as under the first category, robbers were to be imprisoned until they showed regret. In the second category, robbers were to suffer amputation of the right hand and left foot if the share of each robbers amounted to ten dirhms. In the third category, punishment of death with or without amputation and in the last category, amputation and death or death immediately. If any among the robbers commits murder, all were jointly held liable for the death penalty.

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<sup>109</sup> Beaufort's Digest of Criminal Law (1846), page 37; paragraph 129

## **CHAPTER V**

### **DETERRANCE**

Deterrence is a more serious punishment given with an reason to create a fear in the mind of the offenders so that the society can be prevented. Deterrence has its types i.e. Specific deterrence and general deterrence.

Specific deterrence is against an individual offenders or criminals. In specific deterrence the punishment is made so serious and cruel with an intention that it does not continues in future by the offender itself.

Whereas, general deterrence is against the general public. Through a general deterrence an example is set for the whole of the public that if they do the same they will also be punished in the same way as the offender in the particular case has been punished.

Death penalty comes under the deterrent effect. It has always been supported that death penalty is an effective and influential penalty than that what is life imprisonment is.

As specified by the literature since time immortal, “deterrence is a common reason providing for supporting the death penalty”<sup>110</sup>. Many foreign politicians even supported the deterrent effect to be more effective than any other punishment.<sup>111</sup> According to one of the survey, were the respondents were questioned as to support the death penalty either for deterrence or retribution, it was found that more than sixty person of them opted for deterrence.

It is further referred in the literature by the supporters who want the abolition of capital punishment that there is an increase of violence because of the capital punishment as it has a brutalization effect<sup>112</sup>.

“The brutalization effect as a reason to oppose the death penalty is diametrically opposite to the deterrence reason to support the death penalty. The deterrence position argues that capital

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<sup>110</sup> Ellsworth and Gross, 1994; Thomas, 1977; Zeisel and Gallup, 1989

<sup>111</sup> Ellsworth and Ross, 1983; Fagan, 1986; Vidmar and Ellsworth, 1974; Whitehead and Blankenship, 2000; Zeisel and Gallup, 1989

<sup>112</sup> Amsterdam, 1982; Bowers, 1984; Bowers and Pierce, 1980

punishment reduces violence while the brutalization position argues that it actually causes more violence in society.”

Instead of the Law Commission coming up with a report for abolition of Capital punishment, it should better come up with such punishments or security rules or any such other regulation which deter people from committing heinous crimes.

In today’s time, disregarding the effect of deterrence, most of the people supports retributive theory and believed that retribution is the exact response to violent crimes.

“There has been a hardening of the public’s attitude toward crime during the past twenty years and an increase in social acceptance of retribution for criminal acts”<sup>113</sup>. “While retribution, sometimes referred to as “just deserts” in the literature, is a complex punishment ideology, it states in essence that there must be punishment for wrong doers and that the punishment must be proportionate to the harm caused by the criminal act.”<sup>114</sup>

“This ideology is founded on in the principle of lextalionis, which holds that the punishment must fit the crime.”<sup>115</sup> “It is the idea that if a person takes a life, then he or she must sacrifice his or her own life. Thus, under this ideology murder is generally the only crime that should be punished by the death penalty.”<sup>116</sup>

“Retribution is probably the most emotional of the punishment ideologies and support for the death penalty is frequently based upon emotions”.<sup>117</sup>

The theory behind the retribution made its ground on the ideology that it is a revenge by the family of the victim and the society at large from the offender as the punishment equal to that of the offence committed by the offender gives a relief to the anger, pain and hurt done by the offender to the society at large.

By the research, it has been proven that “retribution, including emotional retribution, is a frequent reason provided by those who support capital punishment.”<sup>118</sup> “It was observed that 79%

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<sup>113</sup> Bowers, 1984; Durham et al., 1996

<sup>114</sup>Bohm, 1992; Finckenauer, 1988

<sup>115</sup>Bohm et al., 1990; Firment and Giselman, 1997; Lotz and Regoli, 1980

<sup>116</sup>Bohm, 1987

<sup>117</sup> Ellsworth and Gross, 1994; Ellsworth and Ross, 1983; Tyler and Weber, 1982



of capital punishment proponents indicated that they are outraged when a murderer does not receive the death penalty.”<sup>119</sup>

## **INCAPACITATION**

Incapacitation is another one which supports death penalty completely.

“Under the incapacitation ideology, offenders are kept under tight state control so as to minimize their ability to commit future criminal acts. Curtailment can be done in many ways, such as house arrest, intensive supervision probation, imprisonment, and death. A person who has been executed cannot victimize other inmates or escape and harm innocent citizens and, therefore, poses no future danger to those in prison or general society.”<sup>120</sup>

“Beyond doubt, executing a person is the ultimate form of incapacitation. Additionally, there is a belief by many that life imprisonment, even without a chance of parole, does not actually mean life”<sup>121</sup>.

There is an assumption to this theory that when an offender is sentenced to life imprisonment, he will one day be released and be back in the society to effect the security and do heinous crime against the innocent citizens. Whereas, the supporters of abolition of capital punishment argues that after completing the punishment of life imprisonment, they ensures the society that they will not harm any innocent or the society at large in future in any single way.

“The instrumental perspective Besides the three punishment ideologies, there are other reasons that people have provided for supporting capital punishment. Citizens who fear crime tend to be more in favor of the death penalty<sup>122</sup> but not always.”<sup>123</sup>”

“Some proponents of the death penalty perceive crime rates as rising and see crime as a serious social problem that requires the death penalty in order to maintain law and order. The “get tough

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<sup>118</sup>Ellsworth and Gross, 1994; Firment and Geiselman, 1997; Whitehead and Blankenship, 2000; Zeisel and Gallup, 1989

<sup>119</sup> Ellsworth and Gross (1983)

<sup>120</sup>Ellsworth and Gross, 1994; Fagan, 1986; Firment and Geiselman, 1997; Zeisel and Gallup, 1989

<sup>121</sup> Ellsworth and Gross, 1994

<sup>122</sup> Arthur, 1998; Bohm, 1987; Thomas and Howard, 1977

<sup>123</sup> Ellsworth and Gross, 1994; Seltzer and McCormick, 1987; Stinchcombe, Adams, Heimer, Scheppele, Smith, and Taylor, 1980

with crime mentality,” with the death penalty representing the harshest and toughest punishment available to society<sup>124</sup> has resulted from a general frustration in the U.S. population with the inability to effectively deal with crime<sup>125</sup>”.

Rankin<sup>126</sup> argues that “support for the death penalty is associated with a willingness to use violence and punishment for social control”.

“According to the literature, the above reasons for supporting the death penalty are part of the instrumental perspective”<sup>127</sup>.

“Citizens who fear crime and regard crime as a major social problem are more likely to demand that punishment of crime should be more severe”<sup>128</sup>.

“The instrumentalist perspective holds that peoples’ attitudes toward the death penalty are driven primarily by their desires to reduce crime and protect society, and that the death penalty is a means to achieve this end”<sup>129</sup>.

By the above observation, it can be stated that instrumentalist perspective is indirectly in support of the idea of the theory of deterrence. By the theory of deterrence and by giving a penalty of death sentence, the desire to maintain the law and order can be done as a fear in the mind of the offender is always present after that.

“The instrumental perspective was important in predicting support for death penalty among 103 Puerto Rican undergraduate students<sup>130</sup>”.

“In a study of death penalty attitudes among Black people, it was found that a perception that the courts are not harsh enough on criminals results in greater support for capital punishment.”<sup>131</sup>

“The final reason provided for supporting the death penalty is costs.”<sup>132</sup>

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<sup>124</sup>Bohm, 1989; Finckenauer, 1988

<sup>125</sup> Rankin, 1979

<sup>126</sup> 1979

<sup>127</sup> Arthur, 1998; Maxwell and Rivera-Vazquez, 1998; Tyler and Weber, 1982

<sup>128</sup> Arthur, 1998, p. 163

<sup>129</sup>Maxwell and Rivera-Vazquez (1998); page 337

<sup>130</sup> Maxwell and Rivera-Vazquez (1998)

<sup>131</sup> Arthur, 1998

<sup>132</sup>Bohm, 1987; Ellsworth and Gross, 1994; Zeisel and Gallup, 1989

“The issue of cost is also related to incapacitation.”<sup>133</sup>

Statements against Capital Punishment, is one of the morality. Abolitionists argues that the capital punishment is immoral and against the rule of god as the human creature is the gift of god and no other human has right to take away the gift of god.

“Death penalty is immoral and uncivilized<sup>134</sup> . Basically, the idea is that it is wrong to respond to violence with violence<sup>135</sup>”.

To justify the morality and immorality of the capital punishment, the abolitionists states death penalty to be inhuman and cruel. Capital punishment is also opposed on the ground of administrative concerns. One of the administrative concern is the danger of executing or punishing the innocent person with capital punishment.

“There is growing evidence that many innocent persons have been sentenced to death<sup>136</sup> , and abolitionists use the risk of executing innocent persons to explain their opposition to capital punishment<sup>137</sup>”.

“Abolitionists are many times emotionally moved and saddened by executions. A final fundamental reason provided for opposing the death penalty that it is unfairly applied”<sup>138</sup> .

They further argues that only the poor and the minorities faces the death penalties and the rich or the politically strong always have the opportunity to escape.

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<sup>133</sup>Bohm, 1987

<sup>134</sup>Firment and Geiselman, 1997

<sup>135</sup> Ellsworth and Gross, 1994

<sup>136</sup>Radelet, Bedau, and Putman, 1992; Radelet, Lofquist, and Bedau, 1996

<sup>137</sup> Ellsworth and Gross, 1994

<sup>138</sup> Ellsworth and Gross, 1994

## **ABOLITION OR RETENTION**

Considering the capital punishment, the object of the punishment should be examined so as to find the real meaning of the capital punishment. If the fair and proper object of capital punishment is achieved then there is no other option than to maintain the Capital Punishment. On the other hand if the object of the Capital Punishment is not achieved or maintained then the better option is to abolish Capital Punishment completely.

Now so as to examine the abolition or retention of the Capital Punishment, the condition of the state should be considered. As different states have different level in the matter of crimes and here whatsoever examination is done, Indian is to be kept in mind. So may be many arguments be suitable in other countries but not in India or vice- versa.

Now that the examination of the object of the Capital Punishment is to be done with the India's perspective, it is very well known to all and every one that a huge crowd of the nation is still illiterate and uneducated. Mass of the population lives in the rural community, scattered wide and apart and looked after by the police force which is not consistently sufficient. There are, in some part of the country, sectional feuds stained by fanaticism. The extra legal factors that act as a check on murder in Western Countries- education, prosperity, homogeneity and soundness- are sadly absent in many parts of India, or are in times of emergency, overpowered by other and more violent factors.

An example to support the retention of the Capital Punishment, we can observe the process of the mediation Centre. As per the author's observation, most of the educated people generally don't need any mediator to solve their issues or help them to remove any misunderstanding among them. Still many illiterate and uneducated society of this nation needs a mediator to solve and discuss their issues in a cold matter rather than fighting or beating each other. Same consequences are with the Capital Punishment as deterrent punishment is not needed generally for most of the educated people but to create a fear in the mind of an illiterate and uneducated people, Capital Punishment is still a major need for the nation.

In this situation, criminal law and punishment constitute practically the only major safeguards for the protection of society and the only barriers against the upsurge of violence by individuals and groups.

## CONTENTION FOR RETENTION

The discussion of retention or abolition continues since time immortal and still it continues and that the arguments raised regarding the same has been stated below separately for the both:

The very first argument on behalf of the retention of the Capital Punishment is that the Capital Punishment act as a deterrent punishment which creates a fear in the mind of the murderers, i.e. before any individual makes a plan of murdering another, the punishment will automatically go through the mind of that individual. So putting a blanket on the death penalty will also remove the fear in the person's mind. "So do you want more murders in the Country or do you want less of them"?<sup>139</sup>

"The Capital punishment is just for the protection and security of the person, property, society and the nation at large. The laws, rules, regulations and punishments are made so as to let the society can leave in peace. So now considering the realistic view, till the society does not become more refined, retention of death punishment is the need of an hour<sup>140</sup>".

"The security of the society as well as individual liberty of every person has to be borne in mind. Capital punishment is needed to ensure this security.<sup>141</sup>"

Experience of other countries would not be decisive for India. "Need for deterrent control provided by capital punishment is greater in various classes of society. There is greater danger in India of increase in violent crimes if capital punishment is abandoned, particularly in respect of professional criminals<sup>142</sup>".

Many countries who firstly removed capital punishment, re- introduced the same again after seeing the result of the effect of such removal. As many countries found it that abolition of capital punishment resulted in an adverse affect to the nation at large.

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<sup>139</sup> Late Shri GovindBallabh Pant, Minister of Home Affairs, RajyaSabha Debates, 25-4-1958, col. 458

<sup>140</sup> Late Shri GovindBallabh Pant, Minister of Home Affairs, RajyaSabha Debates, 25-4-1958, cols. 458, 459

<sup>141</sup> Late Shri Datar, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs LokSabha Debates, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1962, col. 356

<sup>142</sup> The argument put forth before the Canadian Committee- Canadian Report, page II, paragraph 35 and conclusion at page 14, paragraph 54. In this connection, it may be noted that in India cases of dacoity and goondaism, accompanied with murder or attempt to murder, are frequent in certain areas.

“When the public peace is endangered by certain particularly dangerous forms of crime, death penalty is the only means of eliminating the offender.<sup>143</sup>”

“A particularly potent weapon is needed for dealing with dangerous criminals and individuals not only for protecting human life and culture values but even to safeguard certain social property, which is placed under the protection of the laws<sup>144</sup>”

If the murderers will not be sentenced to death then there are chances that they may take revenge for detention either from the police or the parties who bought the case against them or the judge who sentenced the offender once they come out of the prison.

The criminals are the curse to the society. There are chances what once they complete their sentence and come back to the society; they may create a mess and danger again to the society and do the same crime/ murder for which once they have been sentenced. Not giving them another chance is much better than giving them a chance to take another life.

Civilization has always used punishment to discourage would-be criminals from illegal action. Since society has the maximum interest in preventing murder, it should use the strongest penalty available to deter murder and that is the death penalty.

If murderers are sentenced to death and executed, possible murderers will think two times before assassination for fear of losing their own life. For years, criminologists analyzed murder rates to see if they fluctuated, with the likelihood of convicted murderers, being executed, but the results were open to doubt.

An analysis was done which produced results showing that for every prisoner who was executed, 7 lives were spared, because others were deterred from committing murder. Moreover, even if some studies regarding deterrence are full of loopholes, that is only because the death penalty is hardly ever used and takes years before an implementation is actually carried out.

Punishments which are fast and sure are the best prevention. The information that some states or countries which do not use the death penalty have lower murder rates than jurisdictions which do is not evidence of the failure of deterrence.

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<sup>143</sup> UN Publication, page 59, paragraph 216

<sup>144</sup> U.N Publication, (1962) page 60 paragraph 217

States like India with high murder rates would have even upper rates if they did not use the death penalty. "Ernest van den Haag<sup>145</sup>, who has studied the question of deterrence closely, wrote: "Even though statistical demonstrations are not conclusive, and perhaps cannot be, capital punishment is likely to deter more than other punishments because people fear death more than anything else. They fear most death deliberately inflicted by law and scheduled by the courts.

Disciplines which are quick and beyond any doubt are the best aversion. The data that a few states or nations which don't utilize capital punishment have lower homicide rates than wards which do is not confirmation of the disappointment of discouragement.

States like India with high murder rates would have even upper rates on the off chance that they didn't utilize capital punishment. "Ernest van sanctum Haag, who has concentrated on the topic of prevention nearly, composed:

"Despite the fact that factual showings are not definitive, and maybe can't be, the death penalty is liable to deflect more than different disciplines since individuals dread passing more than whatever else. They fear most passing purposely delivered by law and booked by the courts. Whatever individuals fear most is liable to prevent most. Henceforth, the risk of capital punishment might prevent a few killers who generally won't not have been dissuaded. What's more, without a doubt capital punishment is the main punishment that could dissuade detainees as of now serving a lifelong incarceration and enticed to execute a watchman, or guilty parties going to be captured and confronting a lifelong incarceration. Maybe they won't be prevented. Be that as it may, they would surely not be deflected by whatever else. We owe all the insurance we can provide for law authorities presented to uncommon dangers."

At last, capital punishment unquestionably "discourages" the killer who is executed. Cruelly talking, this is a type of debilitation. Like the way a criminal put in jail is kept from looting in the city, rough killers must be slaughtered to keep them from killing once more, either in jail, or in progress in the event that they ought to get out. Both as an impediment and as a type of perpetual debilitation, capital punishment dodges future wrongdoing.

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<sup>145</sup> a Professor of Jurisprudence at Fordham University, " The Ultimate Punishment: A Defense," (Harvard Law Review Association, 1986)

"Most abolitionists recognize that they would keep on favoring abrogation regardless of the fact that capital punishment were appeared to stop a greater number of homicides than choices could prevent. Abolitionists seem to esteem the life of an indicted killer or, in any event, his non-execution, more exceptionally than they esteem the lives of the pure casualties who may be saved by preventing imminent killers. Prevention is not inside and out definitive for me either.

The author would support maintenance of capital punishment as revenge regardless of the fact that it were demonstrated that the danger of execution couldn't stop imminent killers not as of now deflected by the risk of detainment. Still, the author trust capital punishment, as a result of its conclusiveness, is more dreaded than detainment, and prevents some forthcoming killers not hindered by the considered detainment. Saving the lives of even a couple of imminent casualties by dissuading their killers is more imperative than saving the lives of sentenced on the grounds that for the likelihood, or even the likelihood, that executing them would not discourage others. Though the life of the casualties who may be spared are significant, that of the killer has just negative quality, in view of his wrongdoing. Without a doubt the criminal law is intended to secure the lives of potential casualties in inclination to those of real killers."

"We debilitate disciplines keeping in mind the end goal to stop wrongdoing. We force them to make the dangers solid as well as requital (equity) for the wrongdoings that were not dissuaded. Dangers and disciplines are important to stop and prevention is an adequate down to earth support for them. Reprisal is an autonomous good defense.

In spite of the fact that punishments can be rash, terrible, or unseemly, and those rebuffed can be pitiable, it might be said the curse of lawful discipline on a liable individual can't be unreasonable. By carrying out the wrongdoing, the criminal volunteered to expect the danger of accepting a legitimate discipline that he could have maintained a strategic distance from by not perpetrating the wrongdoing. The discipline he endures is the discipline he willfully gambled enduring and, along these lines, it is not any more unfair to him than some other occasion for which one intentionally volunteers to expect the danger. In this manner, capital punishment can't be out of line to the blameworthy criminal."<sup>146</sup>

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<sup>146</sup> Professor of Jurisprudence and Public Policy, Fordham University. Excerpts from " The Ultimate Punishment: A Defense," (Harvard Law Review Association, 1986



When somebody takes an existence, the equalization of equity is exasperates. Unless that adjust is restored, society succumbs to a principle of savagery. Just the taking of the killer's life restores the parity and permits society to indicate convincingly that murder is an insufferable wrongdoing which will be rebuffed in kind. Retaliation has its premise in religious qualities, which have truly kept up that it is legitimate to take an "eye for an eye" and a life for an existence. In spite of the fact that the casualty and the casualty's family can't be restored to the status which went before the homicide, no less than an execution conveys conclusion to the killer's wrongdoing (and conclusion to the experience for the casualty's family) and guarantees that the killer will make no more casualties. For the most pitiless and appalling wrongdoings, the ones for which capital punishment is connected, guilty parties merit the most exceedingly bad discipline under our arrangement of law, and that is capital punishment. Any lesser discipline would undermine the quality society places on ensuring lives.

Robert Macy, District Attorney of Oklahoma City, portrayed his idea of the requirement for retaliation in one case: "In 1991, a youthful mother was rendered defenseless and made to look as her child was executed. The mother was then ruined and executed. The executioner ought not lie in some jail with three suppers a day, clean sheets, satellite TV, family visits and unlimited advances. For equity to win, a few executioners simply need to kick the bucket."

Creator and Professor of Philosophy, U.S. Military Academy. Portion from "The Death Penalty: For and Against," (Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 1998) "[Opponents of the death penalty regularly set forth the accompanying argument:] Perhaps the killer should bite the dust, however what power does the state need to execute him or her? Both the Old and New Testament says, "'Vengeance is mine, I will reimburse, you require extraordinary power to legitimize taking the life of a person.

"The objector neglects to note that the New Testament entry proceeds with a backing of the privilege of the state to execute offenders for the sake of God: Let each individual be subjected to the overseeing powers. For there is no power with the exception of from God, and those that exist have been founded by God. Along these lines he who opposes what God has delegated, and the individuals who oppose will cause judgment.... On the off chance that you do wrong, be

apprehensive, for [the authority] does not tolerate the sword futile; he is the worker of God to execute his anger on the wrongdoer”<sup>147</sup>.

In this way, as indicated by the Bible, the power to rebuff, which apparently incorporates capital punishment, originates from God. Be that as it may, we require not speak to a religious avocation for the death penalty. We can site the state's part in apportioning equity. Pretty much as the state has the power (and obligation) to act fairly in assigning rare assets, in addressing negligible necessities of its (meriting) nationals, in guarding its natives from viciousness and wrongdoing, and in not pursuing uncalled for wars; so too does it have the power, spilling out of its central goal to advance equity and the benefit of its kin, to rebuff the criminal. On the off chance that the criminal, as one who has relinquished a privilege to life, should be executed, particularly in the event that it will probably discourage would-be killers, the state has an obligation to execute those sentenced first-degree murder."

There is no verification that any guiltless individual has really been executed following expanded shields and claims were added to our capital punishment framework in the 1970s. Regardless of the fact that such executions have happened, they are extremely uncommon. Detaining blameless individuals is additionally wrong, however we can't discharge the penitentiaries in view of that insignificant danger. In the event that upgrades are required in the arrangement of representation, or in the utilization of exploratory proof, for example, DNA testing, then those changes ought to be established. Be that as it may, the requirement for change is not motivation to annul capital punishment. Also, large portions of the cases of guiltlessness by the individuals who have been discharged from death line are really in light of lawful details. Because somebody's conviction is upset years after the fact and the prosecutor chooses not to retry him, doesn't mean he is really guiltless. On the off chance that it can be demonstrated that somebody is guiltless, most likely a senator would allow mercy and extra the individual. Theoretical cases of guiltlessness are typically simply postponing strategies to put off the execution to the extent that this would be possible. Given our intensive arrangement of advances through various state and government courts, the execution of a blameless individual today is verging on outlandish. Indeed, even the

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<sup>147</sup> Roman 13: 1-4

hypothetical execution of a pure individual can be supported on the grounds that capital punishment spares lives by stopping different killings.

Attentiveness has dependably been a fundamental piece of our arrangement of equity. Nobody anticipates that the prosecutor will seek after each conceivable offense or discipline, nor do we anticipate that the same sentence will be forced on the grounds that two wrongdoings seem comparable.

Every wrongdoing is one of a kind, both in light of the fact that the circumstances of every casualty are distinctive and in light of the fact that every litigant is distinctive. The U.S. Incomparable Court has held that an obligatory capital punishment which connected to everybody sentenced first degree homicide would be unlawful. Subsequently, we should give prosecutors and juries some circumspection.

Actually, more white individuals are executed in this nation than dark individuals. Furthermore, regardless of the fact that blacks are lopsidedly spoken to on death column, proportionately blacks confer a greater number of killings than whites. Also, the Supreme Court has rejected the utilization of factual studies which guarantee racial inclination as the sole purpose behind toppling a capital punishment.

Regardless of the fact that capital punishment rebuffs a few while saving others, it doesn't take after that everybody ought to be saved. The liable ought to still be rebuffed fittingly, regardless of the fact that some do escape appropriate discipline unjustifiably. Capital punishment ought to apply to enemies of dark individuals and also to enemies of whites. High paid, adroit attorneys ought not have the capacity to get a few respondents off on details. The presence of some systemic issues is no motivation to forsake the entire capital punishment framework.

### **CONTENTION FOR ABOLITION**

The individuals who trust that discouragement legitimizes the execution of specific guilty parties bear the weight of demonstrating that capital punishment is a hindrance. The mind-boggling conclusion from years of discouragement studies is that capital punishment is, best case scenario, no even more an impediment than a sentence of life in jail.

A very few criminologists,<sup>148</sup> keep up that capital punishment has the inverse impact: that is, society is brutalized by the utilization of capital punishment, and this improves the probability of more murder.

Indeed, even most supporters of capital punishment now put next to zero weight on discouragement as a genuine legitimization for its proceeded with use. States in the United States that don't utilize capital punishment for the most part have lower homicide rates than states that do. The same is genuine when the U.S. is contrasted with nations like it.

The U.S., with capital punishment, has a higher homicide rate than the nations of Europe or Canada, which don't utilize capital punishment. Capital punishment is not an obstruction in light of the fact that the vast majorities who confer murders either don't hope to be gotten or don't precisely measure the contrasts between a conceivable execution and life in jail before they act.

Every now and again, murders are perpetrated in snippets of energy or outrage, or by culprits who are substance abusers and acted rashly.

As somebody who managed a large number of Texas' executions, previous Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox has commented, "It is my own experience that those executed in Texas were not dissuaded by the presence of capital punishment law. I think much of the time you'll see that the homicide was conferred under extreme medication and liquor misuse."

There is no convincing proof that capital punishment goes about as a superior hindrance than the risk of life detainment. An overview of the previous and present presidents of the nation's top scholarly criminological social orders found that 84% of these specialists dismisses the thought that examination had shown any obstruction impact from capital punishment.

Once in jail, those serving life sentences frequently subside into a routine and are to a lesser degree a risk to submit brutality than different detainees. Additionally, most states now have a sentence of existence without the chance for further appeal. Detainees who are given this sentence will never be discharged. Along these lines, the security of society can be guaranteed without utilizing capital punishment.

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<sup>148</sup> William Bowers of Northeastern University

“Persons who carry out homicide and different violations of individual roughness either could possibly plan their wrongdoings. At the point when wrongdoing is arranged, the criminal normally focuses on getting away location, capture, and conviction. The danger of even the severest discipline won't demoralize the individuals who hope to escape discovery and capture. It is difficult to envision how the danger of any discipline could keep a wrongdoing that is not premeditated”.

Most capital wrongdoings are submitted seemingly out of the blue. Most capital wrongdoings are conferred amid snippets of extraordinary enthusiastic anxiety or affected by medications or liquor, when legitimate deduction has been suspended. In such cases, brutality is dispensed by persons careless of the outcomes to themselves and also to others.

On the off chance that, nonetheless, serious discipline can deflect wrongdoing, then long haul detainment is sufficiently extreme to discourage any balanced individual from carrying out a rough wrongdoing. The incomprehensible dominance of the proof demonstrates that capital punishment is not any more compelling than detainment in deflecting murder and that it might even be an induction to criminal roughness. Capital punishment states as a gathering don't have bring down rates of criminal murder than non-death penalty states.

On-obligation cops don't endure a higher rate of criminal strike and murder in abolitionist states than they do in capital punishment states. “In the middle of 1973 and 1984, for instance, deadly strikes against police were not altogether more, or less, visit in abolitionist states than in capital punishment states. There is no backing for the perspective that capital punishment gives a more powerful obstruction to police manslaughters than option sanctions. Not for a solitary year was proof found that police are more secure in locales that accommodate the death penalty.”<sup>149</sup>

“Prisoners and jail staff don't endure a higher rate of criminal ambush and manslaughter from life-term detainees in nullification states than they do in capital punishment states. Somewhere around 1992 and 1995, 176 detainees were killed by different detainees; by far most (84%) were murdered in capital punishment locales. Amid the same period around 2% of all ambushes on jail

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<sup>149</sup> Bailey and Peterson, *Criminology* (1987)

staff were submitted by prisoners in cancellation wards. Obviously, the danger of capital punishment 'does not apply an incremental hindrance impact over the risk of a lesser discipline in the abolitionist states.'<sup>150</sup> Actual experience hence builds up past a sensible uncertainty that capital punishment does not hinder murder. No practically identical assemblage of confirmation repudiates that conclusion."

Retaliation is another word for reprisal. In spite of the fact that our first nature might be to perpetrate prompt agony on somebody who wrongs us, the models of an experienced society request a more measured reaction. The passionate motivation for vengeance is not an adequate support for conjuring an arrangement of the death penalty, with all its going with issues and dangers. Our laws and criminal equity framework ought to lead us to higher rule that exhibit a complete appreciation forever, even the life of a killer. Empowering our basest thought processes of vengeance, which closes in another murdering, augments the chain of savagery.

Permitting executions sanctions murdering as a type of 'pay-back.' Many casualties' families decry the utilization of capital punishment. Utilizing an execution to attempt to right the wrong of their misfortune is an attack against them and just purposes more agony. For instance, Bud Welch's little girl, Julie, was executed in the Oklahoma City shelling in 1995.

In spite of the fact that his first response was to wish that the individuals who carried out this repulsive wrongdoing be executed, he eventually understood that such murdering "is essentially retribution; and it was retaliation that slaughtered Julie.

Retaliation is a solid and normal feeling. In any case, it has no spot in our equity framework." The idea of an eye for an eye, or a life for a life, is a shortsighted one which our general public has never embraced. We don't permit tormenting the torturer, or assaulting the attacker. Taking the life of a killer is a comparably lopsided discipline, particularly in light of the way that the U.S. executes just a little rate of those sentenced murder, and these respondents are regularly not the most noticeably bad guilty parties but rather only the ones with the least assets to guard themselves.

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<sup>150</sup>Wolfson, in Bedau, ed., *The Death Penalty in America*, third ed. (1982)

National Council of Synagogues and the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops Excerpts from "To End the Death Penalty: A Report of the National Jewish/Catholic Consultation "Some would contend that capital punishment is required as a method for retributive equity, to offset the wrongdoing with the discipline. This mirrors a characteristic worry of society, and particularly of casualties and their families.

Yet we trust that we are called to look for a higher street even while rebuffing the blameworthy, for instance through long and at times deep rooted imprisonment, so that the recuperating of all can at last occur. Some would contend that capital punishment will show society everywhere the earnestness of wrongdoing. Yet we say that instructing individuals to react to brutality with viciousness will, once more, just breed more savagery”<sup>151</sup>.

The most grounded contention of all, in support of the passing penalty, is the profound torment and sadness of the groups of casualties, and their entirely normal yearning to see discipline distributed to the individuals who have dove them into such desolation. Yet it is the unmistakable educating of our conventions this agony and enduring can't be recuperated just through the retaliation of the death penalty or by retribution.

It is a troublesome and long procedure of mending which comes to fruition through self-awareness and God's elegance. We concur a great deal more should be finished by the religious group and by society everywhere to comfort and tend to the lamenting groups of the casualties of rough wrongdoing. Late articulations of the Reform and Conservative developments in Judaism, and of the U.S. Catholic Conference whole up well the inexorably solid feelings shared by Jews and Catholics: “Regard for all human life and resistance to the brutality in our general public are at the base of our long-standing restriction, as clerics, until the very end punishment.

“We see capital punishment as propagating a cycle of brutality and advancing a feeling of retribution in our way of life. As we said in confronting the Culture of Violence: 'We can't show that killing so as to slaughter isn't right.’”

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<sup>151</sup> December 1999

“We restrict the death penalty not only for what it does to those liable of shocking wrongdoings, yet for what it does to every one of us as a general public. Expanding dependence on capital punishment lessens every one of us and is an indication of developing lack of regard for human life. We can't overcome wrongdoing by basically executing offenders, nor would we be able to restore the lives of the honest by completion the lives of those sentenced their homicides. Capital punishment offers the unfortunate hallucination that we can safeguard life by taking life.”

We certify that we arrived at these conclusions as a result of our mutual comprehension of the holiness of human life. We have submitted ourselves to cooperate, and each inside of our own groups, toward closure capital punishment."

Capital punishment alone forces an irreversible sentence. Once a prisoner is executed, there is no hope to present appropriate reparations if an error has been made. There is significant confirmation that numerous missteps have been made in sentencing individuals to death.

Since 1973, no less than 88 individuals have been discharged from death column after confirmation of their purity developed. Amid the same timeframe, more than 650 individuals have been executed. Along these lines, for each seven individuals executed, we have discovered one individual on death line who never ought to have been sentenced.

These measurements speak to a deplorable danger of executing the honest. In the event that a vehicles maker worked with comparable disappointment rates, it would be come up short on business. Our death penalty framework is untrustworthy.

A late study by Columbia University Law School found that 66% of every single capital trial contained genuine blunders. At the point when the cases were retried, more than 80% of the respondents were not sentenced to death and 7% were totally vindicated. A hefty portion of the arrivals of honest litigants from death line came to fruition as a consequence of elements outside of the equity framework. As of late, reporting understudies in Illinois were doled out to explore the instance of a man why should planned be executed, after the arrangement of advances had rejected his legitimate cases.



The understudies found that one witness had lied at the first trial, and they could locate the genuine executioner, who admitted to the wrongdoing on tape. The pure man who was discharged was extremely lucky, however he was saved on account of the casual endeavors of concerned subjects, not in view of the equity framework.

In different cases, DNA testing has excused demise column detainees. Here, as well, the equity framework had reasoned that these respondents were blameworthy and meriting capital punishment. DNA testing got to be accessible just in the mid 1990s, because of progressions in science. On the off chance that this testing had not been found until ten years after the fact, large portions of these detainees would have been executed. Also, if DNA testing had been connected to before situations where detainees were executed in the 1970s and 80s, the chances are high that it would have demonstrated that some of them were pure too. Society goes for broke in which guiltless lives can be lost.

We assemble spans, realizing that factually a few specialists will be executed amid development; we take incredible insurances to decrease the quantity of unintended fatalities. In any case, wrongful executions are a preventable danger. By substituting a sentence of existence without the chance for further appeal, we address society's issues of discipline and assurance without risking a wrong and permanent discipline.

"There is no doubt in my brain, and I can let you know this having seen the flow of our criminal equity framework over the numerous years that I have been connected with it, [as] prosecutor, protection lawyer, trial judge and Supreme Court Justice, that persuades me that we unquestionably have, previously, executed those individuals who either didn't fit the criteria for execution in the State of Florida or who, actually, were, factually, not blameworthy of the wrongdoing for which they have been executed.

What's more, you can put forth these expressions when you comprehend the elements of the criminal equity framework, when you see how the State makes manages more blamable litigants in a capital case, offers them light sentences in return for their affirmation against another member or, now and again, indeed, gives them safety from indictment so they can secure their confirmation; the utilization of jailhouse admissions, similar to individuals who say, 'I was in the cell with so-thus and they admitted to me,' or utilizing those specific admissions, the legitimacy

of which there has been awesome uncertainty. But then, you see the uneven utilization of capital punishment where, in numerous occurrences, those that are the most chargeable break passing and those that are the slightest guilty are casualties of capital punishment. These things start to weigh intensely upon you. Also, under our framework, this is the framework we have. What's more, that is, we are individuals directing a flawed framework."

What's more, what about those individuals who are as yet sitting on death push today, who might be genuinely blameless however can't demonstrate their specific case essentially in light of the fact that there is no DNA proof for their situation that can be utilized to absolve them? Obviously, by and large, you're not going to have that sort of DNA proof, so it is extremely unlikely and there is no expectation for them to be spared from what might be one of the greatest oversights that our general public can make."

"Articulation before the Committee on the Judiciary, United States House of Representatives, Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights Concerning Claims of Innocence in Capital Cases (July 23, 1993) "Given the frailty of human judgments, the likelihood exists that the utilization of the death penalty might bring about the execution of a blameless individual. The Senate Judiciary Committee has beforehand observed this danger to be "insignificant," a perspective shared by various researchers. As Justice Powell has noted remarking on the various state capital cases that have preceded the Supreme Court, the 'uncommon protections' as of now inalienable in capital sentencing statutes 'guarantee a level of consideration in the inconvenience of the sentence of death that must be portrayed as extraordinary.'"<sup>152</sup>

"Our present arrangement of the death penalty confines a definitive punishment to certain specifically defined violations and still, at the end of the day, allows the punishment of death just when the jury finds that the disturbing circumstances for the situation exceed all alleviating circumstances.

The framework further gives legal audit of capital cases. At last, before capital sentences are completed, the senator or other official authority will audit the sentence to safeguard that it is an only one, a determination that without a doubt considers the proof of the censured litigant's

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<sup>152</sup> Partner Professor of Law, University of Utah, College of Law, and previous law assistant to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger

blame. Once those chiefs have concurred that a capital punishment is suitable, pure lives would be lost from inability to force the sentence.

“Capital sentences, when done, spare honest lives by forever debilitating killers. A few persons who submit capital crime will kill other pure persons if given the chance to do as such. Capital punishment is the best method for keeping such executioners from rehashing their violations. The following most genuine punishment, life detainment without probability of parole, keeps killers from carrying out a few violations however does not keep them from killing in jail.”

“The mixed up arrival of liable killers ought to be of far more noteworthy worry than the theoretical and to this point nonexistent danger of the mixed up execution of a guiltless individual.”

Capital punishment does not single out the most exceedingly awful wrongdoers. Maybe, it chooses a discretionary gathering taking into account such silly elements as the nature of the resistance guide, the area in which the wrongdoing was submitted, or the race of the litigant or casualty. All respondents confronting capital punishment can't manage the cost of their own lawyer. Consequently, they are reliant on the nature of the legal advisors doled out by the state, a number of who need involvement in capital cases or are underpaid to the point that they neglect to research the case legitimately. An inadequately spoke to litigant is substantially more liable to be indicted and given a capital punishment. Regarding race, thinks about have over and over demonstrated that a capital punishment is much more probable where a white individual is killed than where a dark individual is killed.

Capital punishment is racially divisive on the grounds that it seems to consider white lives more significant than dark lives. Since capital punishment was restored in 1976, 158 dark respondents have been executed for the homicide of a white casualty, while just 11 white litigants have been executed for the homicide of a dark casualty.

Such racial variations have existed over the historical backdrop of capital punishment and give off an impression of being to a great extent immovable. It is discretionary when somebody in one region or state gets capital punishment, however somebody who perpetrates a practically identical wrongdoing in another province or state is given a lifelong incarceration.

Prosecutors have tremendous attentiveness about when to look for capital punishment and when to settle for a request deal. Frequently the individuals who can just bear the cost of a negligible guard are chosen for capital punishment. Until race and other discretionary elements, similar to financial aspects and geology, can be dispensed with as a determinant of who lives and who bites the dust, capital punishment must not be utilized.

“Who gets capital punishment has less to do with the roughness of the wrongdoing than with the shade of the criminal's skin, or all the more regularly, the shade of the casualty's skin. Murder - constantly disastrous - is by all accounts a more egregious and abhorrent wrongdoing in a few states than in others. Ladies who execute and who are slaughtered are judged by various benchmarks than are men who are killers and casualties.

Capital punishment is basically a subjective discipline. There are no target tenets or rules for when a prosecutor ought to look for capital punishment, when a jury ought to prescribe it, and when a judge ought to give it.

This absence of goal, quantifiable benchmarks guarantees that the utilization of capital punishment will be unfair against racial, sexual orientation, and ethnic gatherings. The lion's share of Americans who bolster capital punishment accept, or wish to trust, that true blue variables, for example, the viciousness and cold-bloodedness with which the wrongdoing was conferred, a litigant's culpability or history of savagery, and the quantity of casualties included figure out who is sentenced to life in jail and who gets a definitive discipline. The numbers, be that as it may, recount an alternate story.

They affirm the loathsome truth that predisposition and separation twist our country's legal framework at the very time it makes a difference most - in immeasurably significant issues. The elements that figure out who will live and who will kick the bucket - race, sex, and geology - are the extremely same ones that visually impaired equity was intended to overlook. This biased dissemination ought to be an ethical shock to each American.

## **ESTABLISHED LEGITIMACY OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

On account of Jagmohan V/s State of U.P .the topic of established legitimacy of death discipline was tested before the SC, it was contended that the privilege to live was essential to flexibility ensured under Article 19 of the constitution . The S.C. rejected the dispute and held that capital punishment can't be viewed as preposterous in essence or not in people in general hobby and henceforth couldn't be said to be violative of Article 19 of the constitution.

In Bachan Singh's case it was completely opined by the Apex court ..it is unrealistic to held that the procurement of capital punishment as an option discipline for homicide, in sec. 302, Penal Code is irrational and not in general society interest. The reproved procurement in Sec. 302 , abuses neither the letter nor the ethos of Article 19". Sarkaria J. conveyed the judgment for larger part talked about every one of these issues finally, and the SC, with the lion's share of 4:1 rejected the difficulties to the defend ability of sec.302 I.P.C.

### **Imperativeness of Capital Punishment in India**

Life detainment in our nation is not of much hugeness as it can be significantly decreased (constraint is that it can't be lessened underneath 14 years). Life detainment by no means ought to be decreased as it is in many shocking wrongdoings that the sentence life detainment is granted. Regardless of the possibility that this is acknowledged still there are other legitimate protests. Capital punishment can't be uprooted or abrogated on philanthropic grounds or on the grounds of other option method of discipline are accessible. An executioner who is a culprit of other's entitlement to live can't claim to have a sacred right to live. The emphasis ought to be on the devilishness spilling out of what the criminal has done to his casualty and those precious to him and more noteworthy consideration be paid to victim logy and in this manner to the retributive part of discipline. The abolitionist needs to move their center from criminal to casualty, as an executioner is a demonstrated adversary of society.

Regardless of the fact that choice to settle on capital punishment or life detainment is to be given it ought to be left to the casualty's family who have endured because of the executioner and know more about pitilessness than the abolitionists. The interest of nullification of capital punishment

is an interest in wrong course and speaks to a pattern inversion when society is considering the issue whether benevolence slaughtering be acknowledged or not. Capital punishment to an executioner is a kind of leniency to a debilitated society, which needs to dispose of its adversary. The procedure of reorganization of offenders with an unascertained record would involve an awesome danger as a sizable number of hoodlums as opposed to being improved might be urged to submit offenses after offenses and turn into a genuine and unpleasant risk to the general public. The inquiry, along these lines, is- - ought to the nation go out on a limb of honest lives being lost on account of lawbreakers carrying out grievous wrongdoings in the blessed trust or pie in the sky believing that one day or the other, a criminal, however risky or hard he might be, will change himself, Valmiki is not conceived ordinary and to expect that our present era, with the overarching social and monetary environment, would create Valmiki for quite a while is to seek after the inconceivable.

Notwithstanding to stoke the present conversation in the event that it is acknowledged that death penalty has no prevention then it implies that criminal is not anxious of death and it will be troublesome for the state to keep such a man in jail after all it is the apprehension of death that keeps a criminal in prison. After all criminal confronting life detainment require a solitary opportunity to set himself free to take a requital from antagonistic witnesses and the indictment who as indicated by him were in charge of sending him to imprison. Judge might likewise turn into the casualty of his displeasure. As there is a saying as much long as there is life, there is degree for irrepressible seek and seek after a break after flexibility. A detainee serving life detainment can go on an executing spree and there can be no further discipline from the discipline he is as of now confronting.

One critical inquiry that emerges is should we give up the lives of future casualties so as to extra the life of a killer. Contention that conflicts with capital punishment is that the social orders don't have the privilege to take anybody's life since it can't give life then why to murder warriors of foe, terrorist. One might say what is the need of giving arms to security powers if no person can be denied of his/her life whatever might be the circumstances. By all appearances, the punishment of death is liable to have a more grounded impact as a hindrance to typical human conduct than whatever other type of discipline, however it is hard to disentangle the deepest openings of the brains of potential killers.

The conditions prevailing in some western nations that have canceled capital punishment are exceptional with India. In abolitionist States even the most famous crooks are viably isolated from common society for whatever remains of their regular life.

Contrastingly, in India life sentence can be lessened to 14 years. Our jail framework is deficient and not able to hold capital guilty parties for more periods as in most western nations. How often we have perused the reports in daily paper about recuperation of PDAs from detainment facilities and numerous hoodlums think that its suitable to work from prisons as they are shielded from their opponent lawbreakers.

## **CAPITAL PUNISHMENT PROCEDURE**

There are no less than 28 strategies essential in achieving a capital punishment. They are:

- (1) The wrongdoing must be one recorded as a capital wrongdoing in the reformatory code;
- (2) a suspect must be distinguished and captured;
- (3) Beginning with the Bill of Rights, the Miranda notices and the exclusionary rules, U.S. criminal litigants and those sentenced have, by a wide margin, the most broad insurances ever formulated and actualized;
- (4) in Harris County (Houston), Texas a board of head prosecutors figures out whether the case justifies capital punishment as recommended by the Penal Code (See 12-19);
- (5) an excellent jury must arraign the suspect for capital homicide;
- (6) the suspect is assumed blameless;
- (7) the indictment must demonstrate to the judge that the proof, whereupon the arraignment will depend, is acceptable;
- (8) the respondent is relegated two lawyers. Province assets are given to barrier advice to examination and trial;
- (9) it takes 3-12 weeks to choose a jury;
- (10) trial is led;
- (11) the weight of verification is on the state;
- (12) every one of the 12 jury individuals must discover for blame, past a sensible uncertainty. Much of the time, the jury remains unaware of the respondent's past criminal acts, at this stage. In the event that discovered liable, then, the discipline period of the trial starts;
- (13) the arraignment presents extra accusing proof against the killer, i.e., different violations, casualties, casualties' or survivors' affirmation, police reports, and so on;



(14) to observe for death, the issues to be determined by the jury are {a}(14) did the respondent demonstrate persistently in bringing about the demise, as well as act intentionally, too, {b}

(15) does the confirmation appear, past a sensible uncertainty, that there is a probability that the litigant will be perilous later on, {c}

(16) if there was incitement with respect to the casualty, were the litigant's activities outlandish because of the incitements and {d}

(17) is there something about the respondent that decreases moral obligation or somehow mitigates against the inconvenience of death for the litigant for this situation, whereby,

(18) the guard displays all alleviating condition, which might lessen the likelihood of the jury forcing passing , i.e., family issues, substance misuse, age, no earlier criminal record, mental inability, parental misuse, neediness, and so on. Witnesses, for example, family, companions, colleagues, and so on., are displayed to talk and offer the positive characteristics of the respondent;

(19) the jury must mull over those alleviating circumstances (Penry choice) and, if just 1 hearer trusts that the culprit merits mercy as a result of any relieving circumstances, then the jury can't force capital punishment; and

(20) when capital punishment is forced, the culprit gets a programmed advance. (21& 22) the passing line detainee is given a lawyer, or lawyers, to handle the immediate bid, at district cost, through both the state and government courts; (23 and 24) the state pays lawyers for the prisoner's habeas corpus requests, at both the state and elected level; (25 and 26) demise line detainees might be conceded a hearing, in both state and elected court, to present post conviction cases of guiltlessness. The weight of confirmation for these cases of purity mirrors that utilized by the Federal courts; and (27 and 28) Convictions and sentences are liable to exculpate or sentence diminishment through the official branch of government, at both the state level (Governor) and elected level (President).

These 28 techniques speak to the general classifications of litigant and detainee insurances. Inside of these 28 methods, there are hundreds, if not thousands, of extra systems and insurances.

In a few wards, the guard must demonstrate relieving circumstances by a prevalence of the confirmation and the arraignment must demonstrate irritating circumstances past a sensible uncertainty. This is a colossal point of preference for the respondent and a noteworthy detriment for the arraignment.

To rebuff with death, every one of the 12 legal hearers must concur with the indictment in each of five particular ranges ( 12, 14, (a)14, (b)15, (c)16, and (d)17 (with 18 and 19). A capital punishment requires that the indictment must win in 60 out of those 60 contemplations, or 100%.

To keep away from death, the litigant must win in just 1 out of those 60 contemplations, or 1.67%. On the off chance that indicted and sentenced to death, the detainee might then start an advances process that could reach out through 23 years, 60 bids and more than 200 individual legal and official audits of the detainees claims.

The normal time on death line for those executed from 1977-1995 was 9 years. For the 56 executed in 1995, the normal time on death column was 11 years, 2 months - another record of life span, surpassing the old record of 10 years, 2 months, set in 1994. 60 passing line prisoners have been on death column for more than 18 years. (The death penalty 1994 and 1995, BJS 1995 and 1996).

HABEAS CORPUS - Opponents guarantee that with the new government rules for claims in capital cases, that nothing is left to secure the privileges of the demise line detainee. Typically, such craziness is unjustifiable and untrue. The new government claims law, which influences the writ of habeas corpus, was maintained collectively by the U.S. Preeminent Court in 1996.

This law built up, broadly, higher least measures for protection counsel in capital cases and requires said guidance for all poverty stricken capital respondents. Besides, with these new government benchmarks, there are still no less than 17 levels of post conviction survey accessible until the very end line detainee; 6 state and 11 elected, included 5 direct offers, one at the state level and four at the elected level; 10 habeas corpus bids, four at the state level and six at the elected level; 2 of those habeas offers are for convincing post conviction cases of purity, which are liable to a formal hearing, one at the state level and one at the elected level; and the

sixteenth and seventeenth levels of bid give that the prisoner's cases are liable to audit for official mercy or compensation, at either the state or elected level, and some of the time both. Comparable investigative issues are regularly heard at each redrafting level. There is no restriction to the quantity of redrafting issues which the detainee might raise on advance. By and large, prosecutors and casualty survivors have no privilege to bid.

In spite of the fact that this segment bargains particularly with Texas, the methods are comparable in all capital punishment states and at the government and military levels. The due procedure insurances in capital cases are overwhelming to the point that detainees are six times more prone to get off death column by offers than by execution. 37% of all demise column cases are toppled on bid. The American capital punishment keeps on having, by a wide margin, the best due procedure securities of any criminal authorization on the planet.

Numerous appear to be uninformed of the genuine significance of the habeas corpus process. They may not realize that the plan of the "Incomparable Writ", set up in pre-Magna Carta England, is to rapidly encourage the arrival of the blameless or those generally wrongfully held or indicted - a procedure that will at long last regarded with these changes. This is an extremely positive improvement, aside from the blameworthy and for the individuals who wish to manhandle the habeas corpus process by postponing equity with negligible, dreary and delayed claims.

It is a sharp incongruity that it was simply such deliberate deferrals of equity that the "Incomparable Writ" was made to nullify. It was simply such misuse that brought about a considerable lot of the states and the government to order new habeas corpus changes. To be sure, it was rivals of capital punishment who at last ensured section of these since a long time ago deferred changes.

Rivals had started to challenge the long keeps focused line as illegal, asserting that such defers were, without anyone else's input, "savage and unordinary discipline", an infringement of the eighth amendment. Albeit all such critical and clever cases were rejected by U.S. courts - there was overpowering confirmation that prisoners and their lawyers were in charge of such postpones - such cases provided the last push important to at last go these changes through the

U.S. Congress, in this way regarding the cases of rivals, prisoners and their lawyers through enactment.

Equity for all is a criminal equity change association committed to ensuring the common and human privileges of all nationals from rough wrongdoing. Through training and enactment we might take every single fundamental measure to lessen the human enduring brought about by vicious culprits and a fizzled criminal equity framework. Established in Houston, Texas in 1993, JFA has enrollment all through the U.S.A. If it's not too much trouble ask about participation and/or beginning a section in your general vicinity.

## **CHAPTER VI**

### **CASE STUDIES REGARDING CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

The Afzal Guru case is a very well known case since its beginning and those who all were unaware of the case, now know it due to the JNU matter. The secret hanging and burial of Afzal Guru in Tihar jail has been a controversial topic.

Once the judiciary decides to hang a person, the issue of whether the assassination took place in a 'transparent' and 'dignified' manner is a mainly visual one. The modus operandi that initiated the assassination continues to be of most important epistemic fear.

Most likely the way and timing of the hanging obviously shows that the administration had ulterior political thought processes personality a primary concern. Yet, these intentions are better comprehended as far as the political contemplations that guided the instance of Afzal Guru from his capture to the dismissal of his leniency appeal. His hanging inside of a couple of days of the presidential dismissal was only the unavoidable perfection of this political procedure.

For capital punishments, the choice making comprises of two sections. The formal legal part of the procedure closes with the grant of the death penalty by the Supreme Court of India; the procedure then reaches out to the President of India under article 72(1)(C) of the Constitution of India. I will recommend that vile political contemplations assumed a definitive part in the last affirmation of capital punishment for Afzal Guru. It was a political need to murder Afzal, henceforth capital punishment.

A few creators, have hazily indicated this probability some time recently. It appears to me now that the idea can be sought after with more detail. A beginning stage could be the two brief meetings given by Afzal's attorney at the Supreme Court, senior direction Sushil Kumar. The principal meeting is in the accompanying narrative by KK Productions on the Afzal Guru case (transferred on Youtube). This narrative likewise incorporates articulations by NanditaHaksar who was additionally nearly connected with the Afzal Guru case.

As a protection legal advisor firmly acquainted with the case, Shri Kumar holds that the judgment is completely unsatisfactory. It is essential to see why.

The essential legal issue is this. Upon the arrival of Afzal's hanging itself, Shri Kumar watched that terrorism cases are regularly settled on the premise of admissions in light of the fact that the starting point, arranging, and organization of terrorist activities are commonly covered in secret. Incidental confirmation is then used to substantiate the admission to fortify the case. Thusly, a legitimate admission substantiates the conditional proof autonomously got and delivered before the legal framework to decide out the likelihood that the material created before the courts had been controlled. Basically, admissions and fortuitous confirmation validate each other.

Kumar watches that, on account of Afzal Guru, his admission was put aside by the Supreme Court. So the whole weight of the legal claim relied on upon the nature of incidental proof where the likelihood of (expansive scale) control stayed open. As per Kumar, this vital issue couldn't be appropriately analyzed at the advances because of the out of line character of the trial at the sessions court. Shri Kumar holds that, on the premise of the accessible records, Afzal ought to have been vindicated.

Notice the essential move from a sensible plausibility to an accurate realisability in Shri Kumar's contention. As I hear him, he is not simply raising the hypothetical plausibility that the uncorroborated incidental proof could have been controlled. He is proposing that Afzal ought to have been vindicated, inferring accordingly that the records raised the terrible probability that the proof had actually been controlled. To investigate the issue, I am constrained, once more, to experience a portion of the striking elements of the case.

### **Afzal's Confession:**

Shri Kumar's contention starts with the way that the Supreme Court rejected Afzal's admission. The Court's way of dismissal of the admission is charming. These admissions were acquired inside of the purview of the Special Cell of Delhi police itself since the admissions were gotten under POTA. Afzal's admission was really broadcast from the police quarters on twentieth of December 2001, a week after the assault on the parliament, with ACP Rajbir Singh, the exploring officer, coordinating the shooting from simply outside the casing.

In the Supreme Court, the resistance contentions were made by legitimate lights Ram Jethmalani (Geelani), Shanti Bhusan (Shaukat and Afsan) and Sushil Kumar (Afzal Guru). The barrier contended that the admissions were constrained, that is, separated by torment. Truth be told, it is

on record that the charged whined that they were made to sign on clear papers with the police filling in the points of interest. Having heard the contentions, the Court discovered them "conceivable and powerful". Yet, the Court chose inquisitively not to go into these "probabilities". By and by, it set the admissions aside in light of the fact that the police had neglected to watch even the negligible shields allowed in the generally draconian POTA: securing a legal advisor for the denounced, educating relatives, and so on. Accordingly, in spite of the fact that the activity of the Supreme Court put a gentle sign of wrongness on the Delhi police, it held back before specifically prosecuting the police for constrained extraction of essential proof.

The Court concurred that there was no legitimate motivation behind why the admissions were not got before a justice under the standard segment 164 of the Criminal Code (Supreme Court Judgment, SCJ, p.148). Amid the listening to, the Court watched that admissions under POTA could be required just in those remarkable circumstances, for example, operations in remote territories, in which a legal judge may not be effectively accessible. The case under discourse, conversely, was taken care of in New Delhi.

Really, it can be convincingly gathered from the certainty of infringement of protections itself that the admissions were automatically separated. And still, at the end of the day the Supreme Court declined to think if the admissions were constrained. Undoubtedly, there was no legitimate impulse to do as such once a few premise had been found to set the admissions aside as acceptable confirmation; period. Yet, there is a waiting unease in the matter of why a more grounded articulation against the admissions was not made.

Hypothetically, it is conceivable to see the intense safeguard contentions as raising a quandary. From one perspective, it would have been somewhat hard to depend on the admissions any further without persuading nullification regarding contentions introduced by the barrier—a strenuous errand. On the other, if the admissions were rejected on the premise of barrier contentions, then it would have genuinely harmed whatever is left of the arraignment's case, as we will see. Putting the admissions aside on specialized grounds in this manner offered an exit from the issue.

Without a doubt, it is truly sketchy if this essential bit of proof ought to have been put aside on specialized grounds alone. Both the trial court and the High Court had disregarded this infringement. Depending on the admissions, the High Court had recompensed capital punishment to Afzal since "the country endured a financial strain as well as even the injury of a fast approaching war" (High Court Judgment, HCJ, para 448). As definite by both the lower courts, the admissions were the main source from which the country took in the subtle elements of the intrigue as it was arranged by terrorist associations in Kashmir and somewhere else. It seems unreasonable to set this basic proof aside on negligible details. Exactly what was the issue? As noticed, the Court did not need to answer this inquiry. By and by, one conceivable answer could be as per the following.

When somebody is captured on criminal accusations, the announcement of the blamed is recorded by the police to start examination. These "divulgence" articulations in this manner lead the police to the proof. Revelation explanations without anyone else are not allowable as confirmation; the whole affix from exposures prompting fortuitous proof is. The issue with the admissions in the parliament assault case was that they coordinated the revelation explanations of the denounced verbatim. Constrained extraction of the admissions would have raised the likelihood that the exposures were comparatively constrained. That would have been hazardous.

Having contended that the admissions were constrained, senior guidance Shanti Bhusan asked in the Supreme Court that, if the divulgences were certifiable, then why might the police take plan of action to constrained admission with verging on indistinguishable substance? In the event that the divulgences were likewise constrained, then it would have raised the dismal plausibility that the conditional proof that the revelations had as far as anyone knows "drove" to was exhaustively controlled, as Sushil Kumar watched. The chain of doubt would have driven from the admissions to the conditional confirmation by means of the divulgences. In plain words, if the revelations were unlawful, there would have been no premise for the conclusion that the police was "drove" to the circumstances. On the off chance that the police neglected to clarify how they achieved the circumstances, a characteristic deduction would be that the circumstances were planted. As it so happened, the Supreme Court did not think that its important to seek after this line of intuition from the dismissal of admissions to questions about incidental confirmation outfitted by the police.



The fortuitous confirmation delivered by the police loans much backing to the line of speculation simply delineated. Consider Afzal's affirmed distinguishing proof of the assailants in the funeral home. There was in reality a recognizable proof notice put together by the police with Afzal's mark on it. It is on record that this and some other vital bits of proof were conceded by Afzal's court-named legal advisor, Ms. Seema Gulati, before the trial opened. Therefore, this proof was depended upon by every one of the courts without anybody analyzing it. It is likewise on record that Afzal asserted that the police constrained him to sign on the distinguishing proof notice; he had no choice since he had been educated that his sibling was in unlawful capture in Kashmir. Regardless, all this proof, if legitimate, says is that Afzal knew some of those aggressors. I come back to this point.

This is only the tip of the ice sheet. Baldfaced infringement of law raise quickly as we investigate more subtle elements of the case.

Every one of these actualities were under the watchful eye of the Supreme Court. Since Afzal had essentially no protection, the police had a free deliver displaying discolored proof in the court. Critically, the admissions were no more accessible to authenticate this proof. The believability of the confirmation in this manner soundly relied on upon what stand the Court embraced as to the researching organization, to be specific, the Delhi police. In the event that there were autonomous motivations to scrutinize its validity for this situation, the possibility of huge control would have posed a potential threat.

It was at that point on record that, for this situation itself, this organization had submitted an assortment of illegalities, for example, bogus capture of individuals, constraining individuals to sign on clear papers (HCJ, para 21), messing around with telephone records (HCJ, para 340), neglecting to record free witnesses, and so on. On the off chance that, on top of this, the Court concurred that the admissions were constrained, the believability of the police and, along these lines, of the exposures would have totally caved in. Actually, the Supreme Court did not express that the admissions were constrained, so the grave results never emerged.

Assume, to keep the conversation going, that the admissions were constrained with the outcomes delineated. As Shri Shanti Bhusan submitted to the High Court, "the researching authorities were readied to fashion and manufacture records against the appellants". It takes after that "the main

proof on which dependence could at present be put by the Court would be confirmation absolutely autonomous of these exploring officers." In that situation, it would have been a fantastic assignment to depend on the conditional confirmation any longer, aside from one piece.

There was proof that Afzal surely went with one of the aggressors, distinguished as Mohammad, to buy the auto that was utilized as a part of the assault; Afzal had marked the receipt update. In his announcement 313, Afzal had conceded this and also the actuality of his former colleague with Mohammad; so this bit of confirmation was free of the examining officers.

Presently, the Supreme Court recompensed 10 years in jail to Shaukat in light of the fact that, as indicated by the Court, Shaukat disguised information of trick from the law. Shaukat was discharged in 2011. Under the somewhat questionable assumption that learning of auto buy demonstrates some information of trick which Afzal neglected to answer to the police, his case would have coordinated Shaukat's. Afzal would have been a liberated individual at this point.

The trial court and the High Court did not confront this issue since they observed the admissions to be legitimate and, consequently, validating the fortuitous proof. Indeed, even without the validating security of the admissions close by, the Supreme Court fundamentally took after the conclusions came to at the lower courts that the witnesses were not broken by the barrier and that, different things being equivalent (that is, if the resistance had neglected to deliver counter-prove), the announcements of the police stand.

Both the trial court and the High Court depended on the judgment 2000 (vii) A.D. (SC) 613, Government of NCT of Delhi Vs. Sunil, where it was held: When a cop gives proof in Court that a specific article was recuperated by him on the quality of the announcement by the blamed it is interested in the Court to trust the rendition to be right on the off chance that it is not generally appeared to be inconsistent. It is for the blamed, through round of questioning of witnesses or through some other materials, to demonstrate that the proof of the cop is either untrustworthy or possibly risky to be followed up on in a specific case. On the off chance that the Court has any justifiable reason motivation to associate the honesty with such records of the police, the court could surely consider the way that no other autonomous individual was available at the season of recuperation.

Likewise, the Supreme Court referred to the instance of Sanjay v. NCT (2001) 3 SCC 190: "the way that no autonomous witness was connected with recuperations is not a ground and that the Investigation Officers proof need not generally be doubted". The fact of the matter is, if the admissions were to be put aside to be constrained, and since the substance of the admissions coordinated the exposures, there would have been "justifiable reason motivation to associate the honesty with such records" on the premise of the Court's own thinking. At that point the Court could no more have depended "on the quality of the announcement by the denounced" (read, "revelations"). As it were, the arraignment's case would have gave way.

To underscore, if the Court depended just on proof autonomous of the police, even a discipline forever detainment would not have been supported on any of the numbers. In that speculative situation, the Court would have been constrained to either grant a couple of years' of detainment or to absolve Afzal inside and out, as proposed previously. It is not surprising for the courts to turn the verdicts of lower court recompensed capital punishments to 3 individuals and life detainment to 8; the High Court absolved every one of them.

Nonetheless, in the parliament courts upside down. Most as of late in Bihar, for a situation of slaughter including the RanavirSena, the assault case, the legal procedure would not so much have finished with the illuminated sentencing just recommended. The due procedure of law all things considered would have reached out to arraign the Special Cell of Delhi police. As Senior Counsel Shanti Bhusan contended in his accommodation to the High Court, "the examining authorities have obviously dedicated offenses culpable with detainment for life under Section 194 and 195 of I.P.C." "When such a genuine offense has been submitted by the exploring authorities," Shanti Bhusan proceeded, "it is just by having them rebuffed that such creation of records and the giving of prevaricated proof can be ceased by the Court."

Practically speaking, sadly, Shanti Bhusan's fair recommendation has been routinely overlooked. As a counter-terrorist unit exceptionally planned by the union, the Special Cell frames cozy associations with the legal, the home service and such offices of the state as the Intelligence Bureau and the Research and Analysis Wing. Despite the fact that the famous character of the Special Cell in dishonestly confining individuals had been more than once recorded prompting synopsis quittances at the trial stage itself no legal activity had ever been started against this organization.

Be that as it may, the parliament assault case contrasted considerably from other "schedule" terrorism cases. The conceivable size of manufacture was such that, if recognized by the Court, the Special Cell basically couldn't be left unpunished. The Court obviously never recognized the inauspicious plausibility. So the impact of the Court's activities was really inverse of what Shanti Bhusan recommended.

To review, to begin with, the Court put the admissions aside on a specialized point without scrutinizing its substance; second, thusly, it depended on the chain of confirmation delivered by the police on the premise of the divulgences; and third, it took a limited perspective on the issue of reasonable trial despite the fact that the "examination" of the proof in the trial court was a "joke of due procedure of law" as per prominent legitimate conclusion. While securing a capital punishment for Afzal, the system successfully shielded the Special Cell from the charge of enormous control. Indeed, the Court went past Afzal Guru to grant 10 years RI to Shaukat on another charge; likewise, it cast a "genuine suspicion in any event" about Geelani's "learning of the episode and his unsaid endorsement of it" with contentions that verge on silliness. As an extra impact then the Special Cell was absolved from the charge of surrounding Geelani and Shaukat.

Truth be told, the structure implemented another genuine impact. The parliament assault case was not only an instance of monstrous wrongdoing, it had broad political results including discretionary and military hostile against a neighbor, the on-going 'war on fear', sensitivities of groups, believability of the legislature, majority rule working of the state, and so forth. What the structure did was to exchange the last weight of the case to whatever is left of the choice making framework to think about these contemplations on the off chance that it so wanted. This exchange couldn't happen unless the death penalty is granted to draw in Article 72.

As the content of its judgment endeavors to demonstrate, the Supreme Court persuaded itself that capital punishment was justified for this situation on entirely legitimate contemplations that it discovered practical. Yet the impact was that it opened the path for a full investigation of the whole case in every one of its angles including whether the Supreme Court was legitimized in taking the legitimate perspective it did. The weight in this manner moved to the presidential part of the framework. In this way, on a basic level, Afzal still had an opportunity to be free.

Yet the trust, entertained by Afzal, his family and some well-wishers over the world, did not have a grip of reality. Despite the fact that Article 72 makes all alternatives accessible to the presidential framework on a fundamental level, as an issue of practice the hands of the framework are tied by the very recompense of capital punishment. The framework truly can't clear a man or give him an essentially milder sentence without bringing about incredible harm to the validity of the legal procedure. So the main commonsense alternatives are either to maintain the sentence or to drive it to life detainment.

Regardless, regardless of the possibility that it was hypothetically feasible for the framework to vindicate Afzal, it was obviously unfathomable in light of the current situation. Not just would the choice have genuinely harmed the legal framework, it would have significantly uncovered the Special Cell as noted. The last step was not practical on the grounds that, as indicated by the senior guidance Shanti Bhusan, a "scheme" was "made" to "casing individuals" to "push" the nation to the "edge of an atomic war" (Tehelka, 16 October, 2004, p.21). This scheme, if there was one, couldn't have been "made" without direct association of a large group of top functionaries of the administration.

For instance, it is unfathomable that a lesser ACP of Delhi Police, Rajbir Singh, could have sorted out Afzal's "admission" on national TV on twentieth of December 2001 without freedom from the home service. The administration had as of now for all intents and purposes proclaimed war on Pakistan in light of Afzal's admission despite the fact that, as per Shanti Bhusan, the police "neglected to split the case" as "all the five activists had passed on in the assault". The legislature required the admission. The "scheme", subsequently, more likely than not been arranged, if by any means, at the most elevated amount of administration. No administration can set out to bombshell such an extensive piece of the framework without making a minefield for itself. Specific governments go back and forth, yet the arrangement of administration, the state, stays set up with its work force.

This point of view got notwithstanding for the more conceivable situation of driving Afzal's sentence to life detainment. A drove sentence would have implied Afzal's verging on unavoidable discharge. Having effectively spent over 10 years in jail, and with his flawless record as a researcher detainee, Afzal would have been expected for discharge in a couple of years.

As indicated by the Supreme Court, Afzal Guru was the main individual alive who had direct learning of the trick to assault the parliament. As contended over, the Supreme Court failed hugely in achieving this decision about Afzal's association in the assault. Be that as it may, it is more than likely that Afzal was witness to no less than a critical part of the "connivance" made by the then government with the Special Cell at the inside. As his brief intercessions in his announcement 313 hazily recommend, Afzal had intriguing things to say on this shadowy subject.

Regardless then Afzal Guru was bound to kick the bucket. The main obstacle to his hanging was the dubious circumstance in Kashmir. In this way, as Kashmir "standardized" and a serious winter secured the inhabitants to their homes, the legislative issues of the parliament assault case discovered its most fortunate minute. Afzal Guru was held tight ninth February 2013 for reasons of state.

In a minute of uncommon solidarity the Indian country, or possibly its major political gatherings – Congress, the BharatiyaJanata party and the Communist party of India (Marxist) – met up as one (notwithstanding a couple quarrels about "postponement" and "timing") to commend the triumph of the guideline of law. Live telecasts from TV studios, with their typical mixed drink of ecclesiastical enthusiasm and a sensitive grasp on actualities, crowed about the "triumph of majority rule government". Conservative Hindu patriots conveyed desserts to commend the hanging, and beat up Kashmiris (giving careful consideration to the young ladies) who had accumulated in Delhi to challenge. Despite the fact that Guru was dead and gone, the pundits in the studios and the hooligans in the city appeared to be, similar to defeatists who chase in packs, to need each other to keep their strength up. Maybe on the grounds that, profound inside, themselves they knew they had plotted in accomplishing something horribly off-base.

On 13 December 2001 five furnished men drove through the entryways of the Indian parliament in an auto fitted out with a bomb. At the point when tested they bounced out of the auto and opened flame, murdering eight security faculty and a cultivator. In the firefight that took after, every one of the five aggressors were executed. In one of the numerous forms of the admissions he was compelled to make in police guardianship, Guru recognized the men as Mohammed, Rana, Raja, Hamza and Haider. That is all we think about them. They don't have second names. LK Advani, then home priest in the BJP government, said they "looked like Pakistanis". (He

ought to know what Pakistanis look like right? Being a Sindhi himself.) Based just on Guru's custodial admission (which the preeminent court in this way put aside, referring to "slips" and "infringement of procedural shields") the administration reviewed its diplomat from Pakistan and activated a large portion of a million warriors on the Pakistan outskirts. There was talk of atomic war. Outside government offices issued tourism warnings and emptied their staff from Delhi. The standoff kept going months and cost India a huge number of crores – a huge number of pounds.

Inside of 24 hours, the Delhi Police Special Cell (famous for its fake "experience" killings, where suspected terrorists are focused in extrajudicial assaults) asserted it had split the case. On 15 December it captured the "genius", Professor SAR Geelani, in Delhi, and Showkat Guru and his cousin Afzal Guru in Srinagar, Kashmir. Thusly, they captured Afsan Guru, Showkat's wife. The Indian media excitedly spread the police rendition. These were a percentage of the features: "Delhi college speaker was fear arrangement center point", "Varsity wear guided fidayeen", "Wear addressed on dread in spare time." Zee TV, a national system, telecast a "docudrama" called December 13, an entertainment that asserted to be "reality taking into account the police charge sheet". The then executive, AtalBihari Vajpayee, and Advani openly acclaimed the film. The incomparable court declined to delay the screening, saying that the media would not impact judges. It was telecast just a couple of days under the steady gaze of the most optimized plan of attack court sentenced Geelani and Afzal and Showkat Guru to death. Along these lines the high court vindicated Geelani and Afsan Guru. The preeminent court maintained the vindication. In any case, in its 5 August 2005 judgment it gave Afzal Guru three life sentences and a twofold capital punishment.

The BJP required a quick execution. One of its decision mottos was "Deshabhisharmindahai, Afzalabhibhizindahai", which implies (in mixing rhyme), "Our country is embarrassed in light of the fact that Afzal is still alive". With a specific end goal to limit the mumbles that had started to surface, a new media crusade started. ChandanMitra, now a BJP MP, then supervisor of the Pioneer daily paper, composed: "Afzal Guru was one of the terrorists who raged parliament house on 13 December 2001. He was the first to start shooting at security work force, evidently murdering three of the six who passed on." Even the police charge sheet did not blame Afzal for that. The preeminent court judgment recognized the confirmation was fortuitous: "Similar to the

case with most tricks, there is and could be no proof adding up to criminal connivance." But then, shockingly, it went ahead to say: "The episode, which brought about overwhelming losses, had shaken the whole country, and the aggregate still, small voice of society may be fulfilled if the death penalty is recompensed to the guilty party."

The trial in the most optimized plan of attack court started in May 2002. The world was still writhed by post 9/11 free for all. The US government was gloating rashly over its "triumph" in Afghanistan. In the condition of Gujarat, the slaughter of Muslims by Hindu goon squads, helped along by the police and the state government apparatus that had started in late February, was all the while going on sporadically. The air was accused of mutual disdain. What's more, in the parliament assault case the law was taking its own particular course. At the most significant phase of a criminal case, when proof is exhibited, when witnesses are interviewed, when the establishments of the contention are laid – in the high court and preeminent court you can just contend purposes of law, you can't present new confirmation – Afzal Guru, secured a high-security single cell, had no legal advisor. The court-delegated junior legal advisor did not visit his customer even once in prison, he didn't summon any witnesses with all due respect, and he didn't interrogate the indictment witnesses. The judge communicated his failure to take care of the circumstance.

Indeed, even in this way, from the word go the case went into disrepair. A couple of illustrations out of numerous: The two most implicating bits of confirmation against Guru were a cellphone and a tablet appropriated at the season of capture. They were not fixed, as proof is required to be. Amid the trial it developed that the hard circle of the tablet had been gotten to after the capture. It just contained the fake home service passes and the fake personality cards that the "terrorists" used to get to parliament – and a Zee TV video clasp of parliament house. So as per the police, Guru had erased all the data with the exception of the most implicating bits. The police witness said he sold the critical sim card that associated all the charged for the situation to each other to Guru on 4 December 2001. Be that as it may, the arraignment's own particular call records demonstrated the sim was really operational from 6 November 2001.

They said that Geelani drove them to him. However, the court records demonstrate that the message to capture Afzal went out before they got Geelani. The high court called this a "material inconsistency" yet left it at that.



The capture reminders were marked by Bismillah, Geelani's sibling, in Delhi. The seizure updates were marked by two men from the J&K police, one of them an old tormentor from Afzal's past as a surrendered "aggressor".

It continues forever, this heap up of untruths and created proof. The courts note them, yet for their torments the police get close to a tender rap on their knuckles. Nothing more.

Any individual who was truly inspired by tackling the riddle of the parliament assault would have taken after the thick trail of confirmation on offer. Nobody did, accordingly guaranteeing the genuine creators of the scheme will stay unidentified and uninvestigated.

The genuine story and the deplorability of what happened to Guru is too colossal to be in any way contained in a court. The genuine story would lead us to the Kashmir valley, that potential atomic flashpoint, and the most thickly hostile area on the planet, where a large portion of a million Indian warriors (one to each four regular folks) and a labyrinth of armed force camps and dungeons that would put Abu Ghraib in the shade are conveying secularism and majority rules system to the Kashmiri individuals. Since 1990, when the battle for self-determination got to be aggressor, 68,000 individuals have passed on, 10,000 have vanished, and no less than 100,000 have been tormented.

## **CHAPTER VII**

### **CONCLUSION**

“With due respect, I say that I am unable to agree with the recommendation that the death penalty be immediately abolished in all crimes other than terror. However, I agree with the view that abolition of death penalty is an eventual goal. I am of the considered view that the time is not ripe for its abolition in our country.”<sup>153</sup>

After making this dissertation, the author here would like to conclude that death penalty as a punishment is a debatable topic and never ending topic and the reasoning from both the side, i.e. for abolition or retention of Capital Punishment stands relevant for one or the other and there relevancy becomes a reason that no conclusion can be drawn as such which can satisfy every individual's thought.

Now the author herein, supports the retention of the capital punishment. The major reason behind it is that our nation is still not at such a stage or to say no such developed, educated and literate that retention of capital punishment will result in betterment. Half of the population is still believes in honor killing, dowry death, killing of female feticides and killing for inter caste marriages.

The Law Commission of India when submitted its 35<sup>th</sup> report, examined the conditions, effects and results of capital punishment in India in- depth. It concluded that “The suggestion that death penalty may be abolished as an experiment (so that it can be re- introduced after abolition) is an argument to which we have given our thoughtful attention, but we have to take note of certain possibilities. Between abolition and re- introduction may intervene an era of violence. We do not say that this is a certain consequence- but it is a possibility which cannot be ignored. Irreparable harm would then have been done not only to the victims of such violence, but to the general cause of security of the society. Once the forces of lawlessness are let loose re- introduction of capital punishment may not have the desired effect of restoring law and order immediately. Further, Parliament may not be sitting all the time and the interval that might elapse before the law is again actually amended would prove disastrous. On a consideration of all the issues

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<sup>153</sup> P.K. Malhotra, Ex- officio Member, Law Commission of India; page 235, Report 262.

involved, we are of the opinion that capital punishment should be retained in the present state of the country.”<sup>154</sup>

In India the problem faced is that the legislation and the judiciary contradictions. The legislation provides for capital punishment under many sections of my acts and then the judiciary came up with rarest to rare cases, death penalty is to be awarded, then came the Report No. 262 of the Law Commission of India, for abolition of Capital Punishment completely and without any guarantee that it will result in society security. The Delhi Rape Case and many such other cases are already questioning the punishment as the way the crimes are done and abolition will take the nation nowhere but to danger.

The other question raised as to what constitutes a “rarest to rare case” or “special reasons” which is neither answered by the legislation nor judiciary and its application completely depends on the courts observation has been raised and this has been stated to be very uneven and inconsistent.

The cases which are brought to the Court are not the similar cases, though the murder has happened but circumstances and the way the murder has happen is completely different in different cases then how a question regarding as what constitutes rarest to rare case or special reason can be raised. It is so but obvious that the Court can only understand the depth and state the penalty after examining the cases and the offenders.

The investigating report, the appeals, the penal, how all can be wrong in the same case and at the same time. There are some exceptional cases but that will even be there if we abolish capital punishment completely.

“It would be just and appropriate to get the matter examined further as to what would constitute the ‘rarest of rare case’ for award of death penalty in case of conviction of offences punishable with death sentence. The interest of the state is of paramount importance and any recommendation made in this regard may be considered as imposition of restriction made in this regard may be considered as imposition of restriction on the power of the State necessary to protect the interest of the country.”<sup>155</sup>

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<sup>154</sup> Report No. 35, Volume I & III, Capital Punishment

<sup>155</sup> Report 262, Capital Punishment, Page 232

Instead of thinking of abolishing capital punishment completely, the Law Commission of India should think of how death penalty can fulfill the conditions for protection of human right in Criminal Justice Administration in India. The law Commission should come up with such observations and examinations which make the death penalty just, adequate, fair, reasonable and proportionate to the crime so as to achieve the goal and in such a way that it does not become aggressive.

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