



**Legal Awareness
Watch Pakistan**

Juvenile Justice **NEWSLETTER**

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An initiative by Legal Awareness Watch Pakistan (LAW)

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NEWS FROM RECENT PAST:

- **PESHAWAR (KPK):** The **Peshawar High Court** has granted post arrest bail to a juvenile offender who was taken into custody on charges of assaulting a boy of ten years old two months ago. We at **LAW** applaud this decision of the Peshawar High Court reason being that the courts are the main stakeholders in the process of effective implementation of the **Juvenile Justice System Act 2018** (JJSA) and to safeguard the best interest of children in conflict with the law. ¹
- **LAHORE (PUNJAB):** The trial court has granted post arrest bail to a child (11) who was apprehended on account of murder almost **21** months ago. The family of (**M**) had no resources to hire the services of a legal counsel for his legal defense. **LAW** took up his case in June (2023) on a *pro bono* basis and moved his bail petition which was accepted by the trial court². **LAW** suggests through this edition to stakeholders that funds in Pakistan to be allocated for children in conflict with the law who have no resources or means to seek legal services in the pendency of judicial procedures against them. **See section 3 of JJSA 2018** which is available at www.legalawarenesswatch.com
- **LAHORE:** It has been reported to us that two children got arrested on charges of blasphemy under section 295 © of **Pakistan Penal Code 1860**. We at **LAW** believe these children will receive fair trial under **Article 10 (A) of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973**. In addition, their cases are to be considered under the provisions of **JJSA 2018**. *Note: we may provide you with further information if needed.*
- **LAHORE:** In another incidence *Raiwind police station* arrested three children namely **M (14), A (16), and Z (17)** on account of a murder. They were put to prison to stand trial; however, trial proceedings had not yet commenced. We have taken up their cases to provide them *pro bono* legal services to establish their innocence beyond the reasonable.
- **MIAN CHANNU (MULTAN):** To seek effective implementation of **JJSA 2018** across Punjab as much as possible in the given resources and man-power **LAW** had instituted a bail petition of a child who was found to be 17-year and 7-month-old on the day of alleged occurrence of committing sodomy in **December 2022**. “**N**” has been languishing in prison for more than six months without a trial. We instituted his post arrest bail petition in **June 2023** on the reason of delay in the conclusion of his trial within six months from the day of his arrest.

¹ <https://www.dawn.com/news/1761339>

² **JJSA 2018** provided cases involving children in conflict with the law to be concluded within six months if the delay in conclusion of the trial is not occasioned by the defense.

TWO-DAY TRAINING WORKSHOP IN JULY:

- **LAW** has planned a two-day training workshop in Multan district from **11th July to 12th July 2023**. In this year we had already conducted two forums (a day long) in two districts of the province Punjab of Pakistan i.e., **Taxila**, and **Khushab**. Since 2019 **LAW** in collaboration with their partners already held **nine** training workshops across Punjab and Sindh and **34** forums/sessions about juvenile justice.

Dated: 1st July 2023

END