

Chapter 4

The Feminist Movement and Arab Society

Nishi Kant Bibhu

Bennett University, India

Nupur Kulshrestha

 <https://orcid.org/0009-0009-8997-2677>

GLA University, Mathura, India

ABSTRACT

The chapter is highlighting the role of feminist movement in Arab society in the context of honour killing. Various aspects concerning honour killing are dealt under it such as, it stresses on the historical background of Arab Feminism, furthermore it is going to discuss the early forerunners of Arab feminism. It is going to observe mercy while dealing with the cases of honour killing. Further, the manner in which sheikhs in Arab region played significant role as a saviour of the woman from whims and caprices of her family. Another important aspect which is highlighted is to ensure proper values prior to killing of an individual, resulting out of honour. Furthermore, it stresses on the influence of modernization in context of honour killing. It laid emphasis on the Matthew Goldstein's theory of social normalization. Lastly, it laid emphasis over the contemporary challenges in context of honour killing.

Kressel discovered that in 31 incidents of women being killed that were recorded, the killers were her brothers; in just 12 cases, the killer was her father; and in 8 cases, the killers were the father's nephews. Out of 112 honor killings, 24 of the killers were under 20 and 18 were between 21 and 40 years old. Cohen (Kressel, 1977) that her brothers or her nephews are responsible for the woman's death. Furthermore, in Turkey, violence against women and honour killings remains prevalent issues in 2022, over 330 women were victims of femicide, as reported by a Turkish association.

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This represents an increase compared to 2021, which was already a particularly troubling year and it shows growth in killing a woman by man on pretext of honor (Verot, 2023) The above stated trend of killing a woman by her father or brother is still prevalent which can be testified through the recent incident in Iraq, on January 31, 2023, Tiba Al-Ali, a young YouTube star living in Turkey with her fiancé, was killed by her father during a visit to her family in Iraq. Her death sparked widespread outrage on social media, with Iraqis calling for protests in the capital to demand justice.(Killing of YouTube Star by her father causes outrage in Iraq, 2023) Hence, it can be inferred from the above stated data that honour killings are still prevalent and is increasing day by day in spite of harsh laws and from the above stated trend, these kinds of killing does not find any end.

KEY TERMS

Terms, “Feminist Movement” and “Arab Society” depicts the main theme on which the whole chapter is revolving around. Broader themes like “Family honour (Marwick, 1965)”, “Taboo(Gale,2003)”, “Sheikhs(Ginat, 2000)”, “Bedouin (Ginat,2009)”, “Patrilineal society (Ruggi,2008)” provides the deep insight about the chapter. “Legal and Judicial Challenges (Lama,2010)” throw light on the legislative and judicial framework concerning the Honour Killings in Arab Societies.

Statistics, Data, Contemporary challenges, Recent trends of Honour Killings in Arab Societies, Historical Background, we use these keywords to select relevant articles from multiple online sources, for example “Google Scholar, Research Gate, Google Books, Springer, JSTOR, Sage, IJSSHR, Scopus.”

Selecting the right journals and carefully conducting inclusion/exclusion and article research is essential for a Research Paper on the sensitive issue “The Feminist Movement and Arab Societies”. The author opted for Journals like *Honor Killings and the Construction of Gender in Arab Societies* (Lama,2010), *Family violence including crimes of honor in Jordan: correlates and perceptions of seriousness* (Araji&Carlson,2001), *Shame and Gender* (Kressel & Gideon,1992), etc which align with the subject matter and provide a platform for scholarly discussions on these topics.

Inclusion criteria emphasized on relevance, ensuring that only articles directly addressing The Feminist Movement in Arab Societies in context of honour killings Priority is given to recent publications, to ensure the inclusion of up-to-date perspectives and data. The research was grounded in academic rigor by relying primarily on peer-reviewed articles, government reports.

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