

Section 302 of the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860, deals with the punishment of "qatl-i-amd," which translates to intentional murder. It outlines the penalties for this crime, including death by qisas (retribution), death or life imprisonment as ta'zir (discretionary punishment), or imprisonment up to 25 years, depending on the circumstances and applicability of qisas.

Key points about Section 302:

- **Definition of "qatl-i-amd":**

Section 302 defines the crime of intentional murder, meaning the act is performed with the intent to kill.

- **Punishment:**

The section specifies that the punishment for qatl-i-amd can be:

- Death by qisas (retribution) if the victim's family or legal representatives seek it.
- Death or life imprisonment as ta'zir if qisas is not applicable or waived.
- Imprisonment of up to 25 years as ta'zir if the death penalty and life imprisonment are not applicable.

- **Factors influencing punishment:**

The court considers the specific facts and circumstances of the case, the availability of evidence, and the applicability of qisas in determining the appropriate punishment.

- **Compounding of offences:**

[The Prosecutor General, Punjab notes](#) that Section 302 PPC is now compoundable, meaning a compromise can be reached between the accused and the victim's family, potentially leading to a reduction in the penalty or the accused being released.

- **"Fasad-fil-ardh":**

The concept of fasad-fil-ardh (corruption on earth) is also relevant in the context of Section 302. [The Federal Shariat Court of Pakistan explains](#) that fasad-fil-ardh can include factors like past criminal history, brutality in the commission of the offense, and the potential danger the offender poses to society, which can influence the severity of punishment.