

<u>Fatima</u> (Captivating; Shining One in Arabic)



A captivating flower denied her right to blossom and shine in the world.

A flower whose fragrance the world will never fully be able to recognise, as this Innocent Flower was trampled upon by her tyrants.

Verses from Holy Scriptures on protecting the Weak and fighting for Justice



O believers! Stand firm for justice as witnesses for Allah (The God) even if it is against yourselves, your parents, or close relatives. Be they rich or poor, Allah is best to ensure their interests. So do not let your desires cause you to deviate from justice. If you distort the testimony or refuse to give it, then know that Allah is certainly All-Aware of what you do. (Chapter An-Nisa' (Women), 4:135)



"Open thy **mouth**, judge **righteously**, and **plead the cause of the poor and needy**."

(Book of Mishlei (Proverbs) 31:9)



"Learn to do **right**; seek **justice**. Defend the **oppressed**.

Take up the cause of the **fatherless**; **plead the case of the widow.**"

(Isaiah 1:17)



"Besides, considering your duty as a warrior, you should not waver. Indeed, for a warrior, there is no better engagement than fighting for upholding of righteousness."

(Baghvad Gita 2.31)



"Hatred is, indeed, never <u>appeased</u> by hatred in this world.
It is appeased only by loving-kindness.

This is an <u>ancient law.</u>"

(Dhammapada Verse 5)



"The **Noble Man** concentrates on **what's right (yi 義)**; the **petty man** concentrates on **profit (li 利).**" (Kong Zi – Master Kong – Confucius, Analects 4.16)

A Beautiful Proverb from Ghana

"It is the **human** being that **counts**. I call **gold**; it does *not answer*. I call **cloth**; it does *not answer*. It is the **human being that counts**."

O *mind* filled with **doubt**, is it the **Beast** that needs the **shield** or the **weak foal**?

O heart overwhelmed with emotion, have the **Mighty** atop their Castles on the Hills ever a need to heed the cries of us **Doves**?

O my naive Soul, does thy think the Mighty Titans agreed willingly to these Laws written upon Stones, Papyri, or Books?

In what a pitiable state is the **Weak!**When Laws enacted to **protect** them from the **Mighty** are **abused** for naught but further **woe**.

Introduction

The beautiful and *unique* light that children bring into this world is contagious: their unique laughter, questions, perspectives, and amusements. Their questions might seem silly at first, yet many a times cause us to pause and think; their insatiable interest in "mundane" things reminds us of the **inquisitiveness we once had as children**. It is not a coincidence that many cultures, if not all, have their equivalent for the phrase:

"Children are full of life!"

It is with a heart full of agony that this document had to be written: there should <u>never</u> have been a need to write this document. One cannot help but relate with this tragedy: we all, one way or another, have witnessed this light in our families, friends' families, or around the world. We all have, one way or another, been affected by their contagious happiness, so it is only fair that we be equally affected by their loss.

The name of this Innocent Child was Fatima. Fatima is a name of Arabic origin, meaning **Captivating** or **Shining One**. Fatima's name evokes the memory of a captivating and beautiful flower, similar to the one attached to the front of this document. Just like this flower and her name, she must have been a captivating and shining human being; she must have been the **light** in the world for her **family**.

Crimes against children resonate with us on a deeper level is due to the inherent powerlessness of the victim against the perpetrator: it is the extreme sorrow one feels at the **loss** of the potential life, achievements, happiness that this Innocent Child and those they left behind **might** have seen. Children are akin to a "blank canvas" and it is not easy for **most** human hearts to "**pigeonhole**" their tragedy due to our prejudices or biases.

They **force** us to have a deep introspection of the world around us and lead to tough questions that require tough answers. This deep introspection provides a *rare* **opportunity to** <u>undo the very conditions</u> that allowed these crimes to be committed, preventing unimaginable future agony.

Out of respect to Fatima, her family and human decency, this *introduction* does not delve into the graphic details of the crimes committed against her. Accounts of the crimes against her have been narrated, *regrettably*, in the appendix of this document: the severity of the crime and the reports of a real risk to numerous more Fatimas (see appendix) made repeating this unspeakable atrocity a necessity.

Why is there a need for this document? With her voice tragically silenced, it falls upon us to raise her voice. However, the path to justice is marred by the consistent betrayals of those in power. They not only fail in their primary duty of protection but also indulge in hollow expressions of sympathy. How can their promises of 'support for Human Rights' and assurances of 'bringing the culprits to justice' be trusted?

Then is the "waiting game". This isn't the prolonged wait for justice that victims often endure in most of the world: here it's seems almost to be a "calculated pause", waiting for public memory to fade. Once an issue slips from the public's immediate consciousness, it's easier for the course of Justice to be subverted.

In this new **dark night**, it is incumbent upon all with hearts that bleed and are not made of stones, to keep lighting "vigils" throughout the world, in whatever way they can.

Sure, these "small" vigils might not ever be able to illuminate the entire world with there demand for Justice;

Sure, these "small" vigils might be the literal manifestation of "The Road Not Taken".

Indeed, most of those lighting these vigils might not have the capacity nor the socio-economic capability to figuratively "make the night seem like the day";

Certainly, the fear of **personal safety** will visit the minds of those who attend these "vigils".

Yet, is this fear greater than the one Fatima must have gone through? Ours might only, and God Willing <u>will</u> only, be a *figment of our imagination*. Imagine for a brief moment, the fear and brutality that Fatima must have faced near the end of her short life? What the beating heart of a decent human cannot even **bear to imagine** is nothing compared to the **real** agony that Fatima felt!

Many who have hearts of stone will fail to comprehend this; many who turn their otherwise beating hearts to stone, selectively, will try to shrug this injustice "under the rug". Such heinous crimes will make even the most optimistic person's faith in Humanity as a whole rattle if not shatter.

Yet I have seen the beauty of what Good humans with a beating heart can accomplish. I have seen the miracles that Loving humans can accomplish when they band together. My ears have heard the beautiful symphonies that Humans with a heart of Gold can forge onto the very fabric of reality! Every people have their history filled with accounts of what these Forces of Good were able to accomplish against all odds.

The previous Forces of Good faced rejection. They felt dejected when confronted with insurmountable odds. Often disorganised and with limited means, their minds teemed with doubts about **ever** achieving Justice. The fear of vengeful retribution by tyrants weighed heavily on their minds.

I propose a very simple dilemma to express but a very tough dilemma to overcome in reality: if the above odds did not stop these previous Forces of Good from **etching the symphony of their struggle upon the very fabric of human history**, is there any reason for us not to **even attempt** to follow in their footsteps?

We might not meet the same **success** they did, yet if we do embark on this arduous journey to demand justice for an Innocent Soul we will surely find ourselves being resembled to these Forces of Good in the past. Let us light vigils in whatever small ways we can so that the light that was Fatima is not allowed to be extinguished and her tyrants are brought to swift justice!

Otherwise, who else is there to stop Fatima from being forgotten and turned into a mere statistics, if even the Forces of Good do not clamour and demand justice for her? An endless circle of injustice needs to be stopped somewhere: if her tyrant is made an example of, can any sane mind argue that future tyrants would still be as likely to commit these heinous acts?

I will end with a beautiful verse from the Holy Quran on this topic (21:112). It was a prayer that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), who was also an Orphan, is said to have recited when he faced a struggle:

قَلَ رَبِّ ٱحْكُم بِٱلْحَقِّ وَرَبُّنَا ٱلرَّحْمَنُ ٱلْمُسْتَعَانُ عَلَى مَا تَصِفُونَ اللَّهُ قَلَ رَبِّ

'In the end,' the Prophet said, "My Lord! Judge 'between us' in truth. And our Lord is the Most Compassionate, Whose help is sought against what you claim." ¹

Content Warning

The following section contains distressing textual details about the crime. Reader discretion is advised.

Appendix

Disclaimer

Due to the gruesome nature of the crime and out of respect to Fatima and her family, it does not behave decency to repeat the intricate graphic image/video evidence of the heinous crimes committed by the perpetrator. As such, the decision was taken to not include any source with graphic imagery (namely the CCTV footage) that has made it into the public domain.

Unfortunately, in order to convey the true gravity of the crime committed and due to the reported persistent threat to numerous more Fatimas, regrettably, graphic text details of this crime had to be included.

A very thin fine line needs to be respected in this incident between the need to repeat the unspeakable horrors that Fatima and others have faced yet at the same time it is crucial to respect that Fatima was a real innocent daughter of a real human family. If the hearts of total strangers are filled with agony, the depths of agony of those that the victim has left behind cannot even be fathomed by anyone else.

Hence, I apologise unreservedly, if at any point I have erred on the wrong side of this line: it does not take a huge leap of imagination to understand how the repetition of these incidents can haunt those that Fatima has left behind.

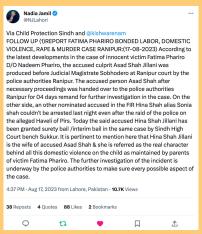
1. Reports on this tragic incident:



(Source: https://twitter.com/MJibranNasir/status/1692199402859790518?s=20)



(Source: https://twitter.com/NJLahori/status/1691855917149466711?s=20)



(Source: https://twitter.com/NJLahori/status/1692199016883503545?t=klPpb2-9Z9rp-7LoDu w&s=19)

- https://twitter.com/amarsindhu/status/1692275844738171359?t= OjcYEDkraP0HG8cJku9wQ&s=19
- https://minutemirror.com.pk/wife-of-pir-asad-ali-shah-granted-protective-bail-in-10-year-old-fatima-furiro-murder-case/
- https://twitter.com/OSINT Insider/status/1692136811303174298?s=20
- https://twitter.com/OSINT_Insider/status/1692138964394648004?s=20

2. Public Reaction:

- https://twitter.com/MalBokhari/status/1692181665148477654? <a href="mailto:text-mailto:
- https://twitter.com/NJLahori/status/1692102019727733083? t=3YMcCBIOcHLgJGHLKEkEng&s=19
- https://twitter.com/NJLahori/status/1690632836225638400?
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- https://twitter.com/NJLahori/status/1692263076936966645?t=wXc1cZooZl4eeb2DvsdyDQ&s=19