

Editorial

Promising Future

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The first issue of International Criminal Justice Sciences (IJCJS) went online in January 2006 and the responses were very encouraging. Though, initially we started as an online open access journal, Serial publications, New Delhi has taken the responsibility of bringing the journal in print. We sincerely thank Serials publications for collaborating with us in this intellectual pursuit. We profusely thank all the peer reviewers who have spared their valuable time and have worked hard to select quality articles for this issue. We also thank Ms. T. Samyuktha, for her untiring editorial assistance. EBSCO, Directory of open access journals, Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek EZB (Electronic Journals Library, University Library of Regensburg) and Intute, UK have started abstracting the journal, and that has made the journal to reach the global audience in a short span of time, apart from our own open access website.

The second issue of IJCJS contains 4 research articles and two book reviews. Kam C Wong in his paper, "*Legalism and Constitutionalism in the People's Republic of China*", discusses the gravity and commonness of abuse of power by the PRC police which is done by offering a case study of Hong Kong merchant being illegally detained in PRC for a substantial period of time (487) days in 1999. Here he enlightens and converses two cultural reasons which have been blended constructively and well conveyed. One is the lack of a deep-rooted legal culture in the rule of law and second, the absence of an ingrained constitutional spirit in limited government in an attempt to explain PRC police abuse of power. The law in China is informed by past history and driven by prevailing philosophy. A very skillful attempt has been made by the author to identify the actual reasons for police misconduct by looking into China's past and a lack of a legal culture and constitutional spirit which materially affects the control of police in China.

Keith Harries in his paper "*Property Crimes and Violence: The influence of Population density*" has discussed the role of population density as a generator or inhibitor of crime. The conventional

squabble that high density offers prospects for property crimes much of which offers appealing targets to thieves has been analysed by the author. Densely populated areas do offer natural surveillance that has the effect of inhibiting violent crimes. His research evaluates the hypotheses with reference to the relationship between specific types of crime and population density in an effort to resolve whether persuasive evidence can be detected for the presence of differential effects, whether criminogenic or crime-inhibiting. According to his hypotheses property crimes will demonstrate a positive association with population density, due to the higher level of opportunity offered by higher densities. Crimes of violence will be inversely related to density owing to a posited surveillance effect. Most of the countries in the world are over populated. If one lives in an urban city he would identify with the struggle of existence. It is a renowned fact that most of us believe that over populated neighbourhood has an elevated crime rate. In this paper, Harries alleviates us of this reservation and gives us a lucid picture to know up to what level this might be accurate. However, Harries concludes that at the block level of geography, no evidence of a differential between property and violent crimes based on population density could be detected.

Eric G. Lambert et al., in their paper titled, *“Two Americas: Capital Punishment Views among Canadian and U.S. College Students”* has explored the views of Canadian and U.S. college students towards capital punishment. Canada and the United States have often been compared because of the perceived notion that they are very similar geographically, if not politically. Capital punishment is a debatable issue. Supporters of capital punishment argue that it prevents crime, prevents recidivism, and is an appropriate retribution for the crime of murder. Opponents of capital punishment argue that it does not deter criminals more than life imprisonment, violates human rights, leads to executions of some who are wrongfully convicted, and discriminates against minorities and the poor. Rather than examining the death penalty views of people in a single nation, this study examined the views of college students in two nations, the U.S and Canada. However the authors have not mentioned the reason for selecting college students as a representation of the country’s population. Canada no longer executes individuals for criminal offenses; the U.S. still does. By looking at capital punishment from a cross-cultural perspective, a better understanding of both nations is gained.

Angira's paper, "*Corporate Crime and Sentencing in India: Required Amendments in Law*" details out the framework of corporate criminal liability and sentencing. It traces the source and final verdict of the courts with regard to the concept of Corporate Criminal liability and also puts light over the inability of the court in properly sentencing the guilty corporate individuals due to inadequate remedy of the law. The criminal law jurisprudence relating to imposition of criminal liability on corporations is settled on the point that the corporations can commit crimes and hence be made criminally liable. However, the statutes in India are not in pace with these developments and the analysis shows that they do not make corporations criminally liable. A middling attempt has been made by the author to show that the statutes and judicial interpretations impose no other punishments except for fines.

While, starting and sustaining a journal in this globalised era is not difficult, getting quality articles is. A concerted effort from young and senior academics will help to get better articles in the near future. We foresee a bright future for this young journal and currently we are in the process of revamping our International Editorial Advisory board. International academics can collaborate with us by providing their valuable services as board member/peer reviewer. Interested resource persons can contact us at cjfindia@gmail.com. In the recent issue of ACJS Today, the official organ of Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, USA, President Jeffery T. Walker has highlighted the importance of greater linkages between International criminal justice/criminology academic organizations. IJCJS, the only International Criminology Journal from India, tries to make substantial strides forward in this direction.

Sincerely,
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