

# Crime & Justice PERSPECTIVE

Volume - I ~ Issue - II

A Knowledge Management Initiative of the Criminal Justice Forum (CJF)

March - 2004

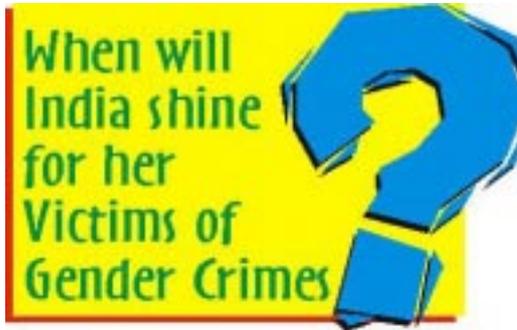
## Editor's PERSPECTIVE

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the third issue of "Crime and Justice Perspective". I thank all those individuals both from India and abroad who have sent their feedback by mail, email and SMS.

India Shining!!! This is the buzzword of the day and 'feel good factor' imposed on the Indian population. Is India really shining? This is a mystifying question that cannot be answered out rightly, but needs to be approached from various perspectives. I would like to address it from a victimological perspective, specifically focusing on gender victimization.

There has been a marked increase in the incidents of the atrocities against women over the past few years. *Crime in India* (2000) reports an increase of crime against women of 4.1% and 3.3% over previous years 1999 and 1998 respectively. The increase of crimes against

women over previous years includes rape (6.6%), dowry death (4.4%), molestation (1.9%), sexual harassment (24.5%), and trafficking in women (63%). An analysis of gender crimes in India, by the Amnesty International's report "Stop violence against women" (2004) warns us more on this issue.



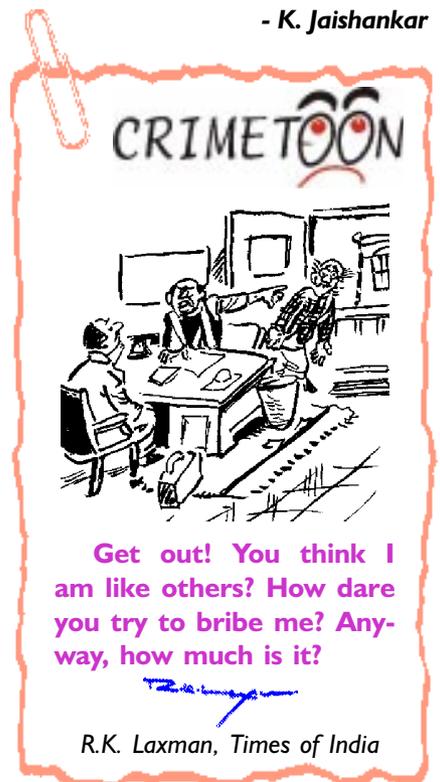
Gender crimes such as bride burning, honour killings, domestic violence, rape victimization, gender harassment and sexual harassment of women at work place are increasing day by day. Trafficking in women and female children continues unabated. Female infanticide and foeticide have sent the 0-6 age sex ratio plummeting to 800 (girls per thousand boys). Horrifying cases of young women murdered, acid being thrown on them has been reported from many States. If this is the present status of women in our country, how can we proudly say India is shining?

While celebrating the International Women's day, the gender crimes scenario concerns us further. But for now, let us be optimistic and hope for a day, when women in India will be respected, cherished and not

killed or harassed for being born as woman. That will be the day we can proudly say India is shining, at least to a certain extent, if not in toto.

On to this issue, I hope you will find it illuminating, enervating, and helpful and keep mailing your feedback, which serves as a source of encouragement for the enhancement of the quality of this newsletter. I also wish the readers a happy women's day for all your endeavours leading to gender justice.

- K. Jaishankar



Thirukkural's  
Criminal Justice Outlook

Lucknow  
Declaration of  
Criminal Justice  
System in India

Eminent  
Contributors to  
Indian Criminology  
Mr. N. Pichandi

ஓர்ந்துகண் ணோடா திறைபுரிந்து, யார்மாட்டும்  
தோர்ந்துசெய் வஃதே முறை.

செங்கோண்மை,

(Just Governance) Chapter 55, Kural 541

### Translated Verse

To examine in to the crimes, which may be committed, to show no favour to any one, to desire to act with impartiality towards all, and to inflict such punishments, as may be wisely resolved on, this is rectitude.

### Explanation:

Thiruvalluvar emphasized the Rule of Law, a good governance by law – ‘equality before the law’ and equal protection of the law’. If there is a delay in identifying and redressing the people’s grievances in time and failure in rendering justice to them according to the law, the reputation of the government will go down the drain and the government will have its natural end.

This Kural conceptualises that “Government has to examine the

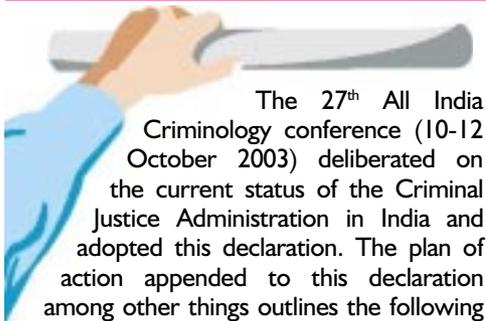
crimes, which may be committed, to show no favour to any one, and to inflict

such punishment as may be wisely resolved on”. This concept is reflected in A.V. Dicey’s “Rule of Law” which states that, “A country should be governed by the Law of the land and not according to the whims and fancies of any individual, group or government, however powerful they may be”. Another analogous assessment for

this Kural is found in Beccara’s proportionality justice principles which he highlighted as “Laws bind all members of society equally; Law is blind to rank or class; Punishments are the same for the highest as for the lowest in society and Punishment should fit the crime”.

Even though Dicey and Beccaria are not contemporaries of Thiruvalluvar, it is amazing to note that their concepts regarding criminal justice have a lot in common with Thiruvalluvar’s views.

- E. Enanalapperiyar & K. Jaishankar



The 27<sup>th</sup> All India Criminology conference (10-12 October 2003) deliberated on the current status of the Criminal Justice Administration in India and adopted this declaration. The plan of action appended to this declaration among other things outlines the following

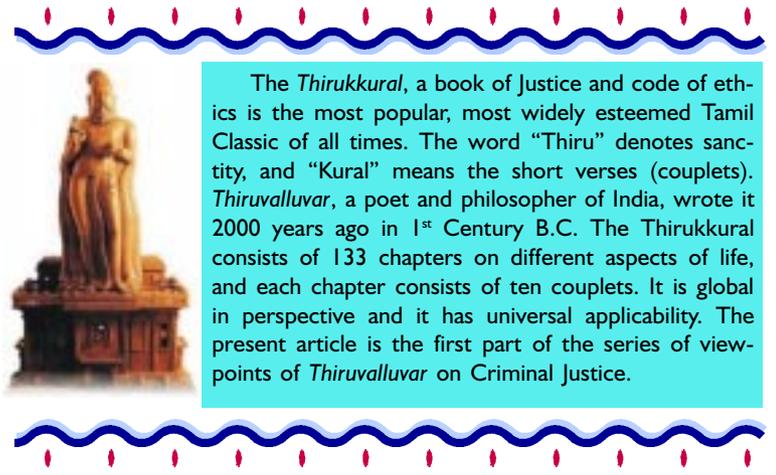
- The need to conduct studies, researches, seminars, workshops/conferences on Police commission and prison commission.
- A draft bill on sentencing and reclassification of offences.
- Addressing the issue of witness protection and preparation of draft bill.

- Mobilising civil society organisations including media to recognise the complex nature of crime problems and delinquency.
- Encouraging active participation of NGO’s in Criminal Justice related matters especially in service delivery.

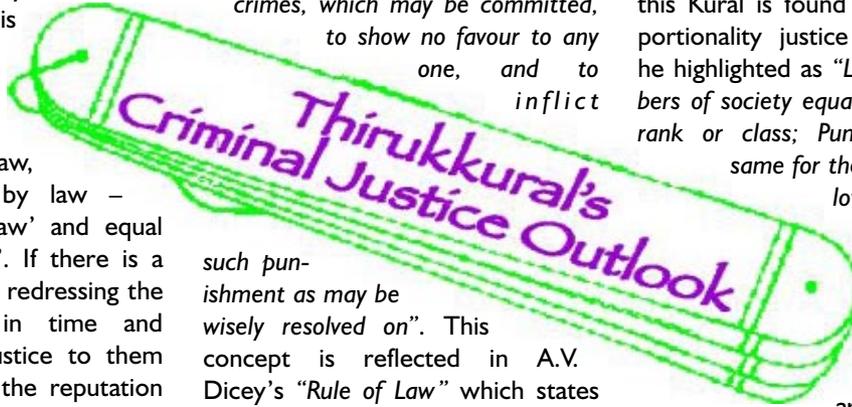
In short the declaration advocated for police modernisation, improving conditions for prisons, strengthening the probation system and augmenting the Juvenile Justice infrastructure. To this effect the Indian Society of Criminology commits itself to cooperation and collaboration.



## Lucknow Declaration of Criminal Justice System in India



The *Thirukkural*, a book of Justice and code of ethics is the most popular, most widely esteemed Tamil Classic of all times. The word “Thiru” denotes sanctity, and “Kural” means the short verses (couplets). *Thiruvalluvar*, a poet and philosopher of India, wrote it 2000 years ago in 1<sup>st</sup> Century B.C. The *Thirukkural* consists of 133 chapters on different aspects of life, and each chapter consists of ten couplets. It is global in perspective and it has universal applicability. The present article is the first part of the series of viewpoints of *Thiruvalluvar* on Criminal Justice.



# Eminent Contributors to Indian Criminology

Walter C. Reckless, a famous criminologist once said “*Criminology is one subject enriched by many faculties*”. The Indian Criminological scenario was made vibrant by people from many disciplines. Mr. Pitchandi, M.Sc., A.I.I.Sc., C. Chem. F.R.S.C., D.E.L. was the former Director of the Tamil Nadu Forensic Science Laboratory, till 1971. Mr. Pitchandi joined Government service in the year 1941 as Assistant to the Chemical Examiner to the Government of Madras for Police Research and started document examination for the first time in the Government of Madras, as State Examiner of Questioned Documents in the year 1950.

He was the founder Vice Chairman of the Indian Society of Criminology (ISC) and founder Editor of the Indian Journal of Criminology (IJC). Till 1982, he was the Secretary and Treasurer of the ISC. He was elected as its Chairman for the year in 1990-1991. In recognition of his contribution to the growth of the

## Mr. N. Pitchandi

Society and the IJC from its inception, he was requested to continue as the Editor Emeritus of the IJC, a rare distinction given by any journal, in which capacity he continued till his last breath.

He was instrumental in conducting many short courses on Crimes in Banks, Insurance Frauds, Security Management and Crimes relating to Documents and bringing out books on all these areas. This work he continued till his death under the banner of ISC's, Institute of Criminological Research, Education and Services, which subsequently became an independent body, for which he served as President.

He was very meticulous, gravitating towards perfection, in whatever work he undertook. When a journal issue was out, he would immediately lookout for errors,

count and feel for it. Several Indian Criminologists learnt the art of editing documents from Mr. Pitchandi - the author of this biography is no exception. While he was conventional, he was not averse to modernistic swing. When this biographer redesigned the cover of the IJC, Mr. Pitchandi was the first to appreciate the design and accept it wholeheartedly.

True to his professional identity, he was a fan of Sherlock Holmes, and as a true scientist, he was always at the background of things that were happening in the ‘*criminological milieu*’. Senior criminologists consulted him before taking up major tasks. Akin to Sherlock Holmes, Mr. Pitchandi used the finer skills of inductive and deductive reasoning, for the benefit of criminology. Mr. Pitchandi had contributed significantly to the growth of the science of criminology in India and was a role model for subsequent generations.

- P. Madhava Soma Sundaram

## CJF's Special Lecture Series...

On 14<sup>th</sup> October 2003, Mr. K.R. Shyam Sundar, IPS, Inspector General of Police, Tamil Nadu, delivered a lecture to the students of the university on “*How to become an IPS officer?*” In his lecture he highlighted the importance of personality development on becoming an IPS officer. He examined various aspects of being a best IPS officer. At the outset, Dr. P. Madhava Soma Sundaram, Reader & Head of DOCCJ, welcomed the gathering. Prof. K.Sadasivan, Member of the Syndicate, Head, Department of History, gave the memento to the Chief Guest. Mr. S. Ramdoss, Faculty member, DOCCJ, thanked the gathering.

## Crime Quiz

1. Caligula
2. Hammurabi
3. Arsenic
4. Edmon Locard
5. Paris

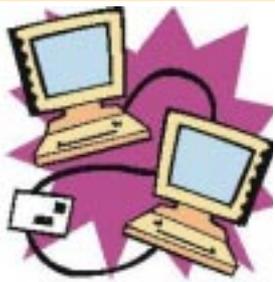
1. Indira Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India was assassinated by her own guards. This was not the first instance when such an act happened. Which other head of state was assassinated by his own guards?
2. The oldest written code of law is that of
3. In his last days Emperor Napoleon was isolated at the island of Helena where he died in 1821. It is now known that his enemies slowly poisoned him. Which poison was used?
4. “When two things come in to contact, each leaves a trace on the other” – Who said this?
5. The Head quarters of INTERPOL is situated in

“ All punishment is mischief. All Punishment itself is evil.

- Jeremy Bentham

The punishment of criminals should of use; when a man is hanged he is good for nothing

-Voltaire



# INBOX

I read the Crime & Justice Perspective newsletter. Wow! Fantastic! It's really great. You have covered lots of information. It seems you'll be working very hard on that.

Uma Kandasamy,  
Systems Analyst - CIS/Police,  
Athens Clarke County Police Department.  
Athens, Georgia, USA

Thank you for sending me the first two issues of Crime & Justice Perspective.. Both the issues bear evidence of professionalism for which the Faculty and the Students of the Department deserve appreciation. I congratulate you for taking up this laudable initiative.

Prof. J. Guha Roy, Professor of Political Science,  
Indian Institute of Public Administration,  
New Delhi.

We welcome your feedback and contributions in the form of success and failure stories, new initiatives, articles on contemporary issues, announcements, interviews of persons working in Criminal Justice and related areas.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE FORUM

Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice,  
M.S. University,  
Abhishekapatti, Tirunelveli 627 012,  
Tamil Nadu, India.  
e-mail : [cjf\\_india@yahoo.com](mailto:cjf_india@yahoo.com)

Thirteen burglaries per hour are occurring in India according to "Crime in India", (2000) the official publication of National Crime Records Bureau, India.

.....title to the last line of the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of your Crime & Justice Perspective deserves special attention. Particularly the Crimeton and Crime quiz give a special journalistic touch to an otherwise scholarly rendering of a subject like crime which concerns both the laymen and the scholars.

Dr. D.Haldar IPS (Retd),  
Ex. Add.I Director General of Police and Inspector  
General of police, West Bengal.



My Dear .....

I am sorry! we cannot meet over a soft drink as they are laced with pesticides or sit in the park as it's become a big car parking lot, or go to the Disco, as it takes hours to battle the traffic, or send chocolates, as they have worms, or eat butter chicken as they've got the flu....



Your true love,  
An Urban Indian  
14<sup>th</sup> Feb,2004.

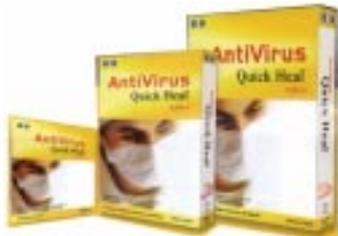
Courtesy : Rustam  
Vania, Down to Earth.

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