



## TWITTER/X's LATEST UPDATE RAISES MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS

READ ABOUT IT ON PAGE 3

## PARALLEL TERROR: ISLAMABAD & DEHLI BOMBINGS

READ ABOUT IT ON PAGE 2

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national security sparked terror in two capital cities that long prided themselves on security. This raised worries about a regional rise in violent extremism. Investigations from Delhi state that a vehicle laden with explosives detonated near a busy junction next to the Red Fort,



## DENNING'S INTRA-ADVOCACY COMPETITION ENDS WITH A SURPRISE

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during which numerous teams were assessed on their ability to advise and interact with hypothetical clients. This opening phase set a demanding pace for the days ahead.



READ ABOUT IT ON PAGE 4



## Parallel Terror- Islamabad and delhi bombings reflect escalating extremism in the region.

Two near simultaneous bomb attacks occurred in South Asia this month, a car bomb near New Delhi's Red Fort on 10 November 2025 and a suicide blast outside a judicial complex in Islamabad the very next day on 11 November 2025. Apart from the uncanny similarities in the timing and situation, the threat to national security sparked terror in two capital cities that long prided themselves on security. This raised worries about a regional rise in violent extremism.

Investigations from Delhi state that a vehicle laden with explosives detonated near a busy junction next to the Red Fort, claiming multiple lives and leaving many wounded. The investigation was followed by multiple arrests of potential suspects, including medical professionals and some individuals from Jammu and Kashmir. Furthermore, authorities have been tracing supply chains for chemicals and hideouts in neighbouring countries as they attempt to piece together the network responsible for the blast.

The very next day in Islamabad, a suicide attacker struck outside the District Judicial Complex in the G-11 sector, killing a similar number of people and injuring many more. Pakistani officials claimed that the blast was linked to the Pakistan

Taliban and its groups, and one faction even claimed responsibility, leading to several arrests in the following days. Authorities noted that some of the attackers and their accomplices appeared to come from areas outside Pakistan, raising serious concerns over cross border networks.

What makes these two attacks alarming is that they hit two capitals, urban centers with heavy security and large civilian populations. This suggests that extremists are no longer confined to remote, conflict-ridden regions. Instead, they are bold enough to strike symbolic and civilian targets in big cities. The coincidence in timing and target profiles, such as symbolic sites with high public footfall, raises many questions about intelligence sharing, border controls and logistical networks.

For ordinary civilians, these events had a simple consequence. They took away a sense of security, and markets, courts and even heritage sites no longer feel safe, adding unpredictability to everyday life. The bombings remain a wake up call for both governments, demanding better intelligence and stronger coordination to dismantle terror networks.

Put together, these bombings show a concerning trend in how extremism in the region is becoming more coordinated, more unpredictable and more capable of striking at the heart of major cities. As investigations continue, the alarming tally of the dead and wounded will surely be followed by forensic work, arrests and, inevitably, political blame.

However, unless policymakers in Islamabad, New Delhi and regional partners move beyond short term crisis management and aim toward coordinated intelligence and efforts to reduce radicalism, analysts warn that these attacks may be the opening chapters of a wider and more dangerous period in South Asian security.

# X'S LATEST UPDATE RAISES QUESTIONS



X, formerly known as Twitter, recently introduced a new profile feature showing where users are located. At first, it seems fairly straightforward, a tool which helps followers decide if accounts are genuine or not. However, its release sparked widespread confusion, anger, and worries about personal data safety among the users.

To put into perspective, the tool was promoted as a way to boost openness. Over time, social media has faced issues with false profiles, automated scripts, or overseas run sites pretending to be domestic voices. Through showing a regional tag, X aimed to help users identify these more easily and hence boost user confidence. Ideally, this might lower false info and increase user confidence on the app.

However, users noticed right away that the labels were wrong most of the time as the label would showcase false locations even if the user had never visited the place before. Those using a VPN or older accounts got odd, stale locations instead. As a result, doubts about accuracy

appeared at launch almost quickly. Besides being unclear, the labels could also lead to risks which are especially serious for reporters, activists, or people in high-risk political areas who rely on privacy to stay safe. Even an incorrect public location marker can expose them to threats or real-world danger.

Moreover, the new function brought risks of political abuse as well. Across several nations, parties used the tags aggressively, accusing rival backers of being outsiders meddling in local affairs with evidence behind such claims being weak, even so, the markings stirred disputes and doubt. Instead of reducing confusion, it increased conflict and skepticism. Nevertheless, X argued the feature wasn't meant to show exact locations, suggesting that people should avoid seeing it as solid evidence of a user's location.

Yet this explanation raised more doubts than it cleared. Hypothetically, assuming that the data could be off, the new feature still does not add anything of value to the user experience at large. Furthermore, If it should not be deemed as solid or reliable evidence why should it be displayed anyway.

To conclude, the new feature introduced by X has caused more controversy than good. Although people expect platforms to expose harmful profiles, real users also deserve protection, secrecy, and fair portrayal. The latest update from X aimed at fixing an issue ended up highlighting the delicate nature of digital identity while making the issue far worse.

# INTRA ADVOCACY COMPETITION CONCLUDES WITH A SURPRISE VICTORY FOR FIRST-YEAR TEAM

Denning Intra Advocacy Competition concluded this week, marking one of the most fast-paced and engaging editions the institution has hosted. Organised by Denning Law School, the competition commenced on 16 November with the client-dealing round, during which numerous teams were assessed on their ability to advise and interact with hypothetical clients. This opening phase set a demanding pace for the days ahead.

On 18 November, participants submitted their complaints, showcasing their drafting abilities and grasp of the legal issues at hand. The pressure continued to build as teams raced to meet the written submission deadline on 20 November. This early period proved particularly strenuous for many, who found themselves juggling research, drafting, and strategic planning within an exceptionally tight timetable.

The preliminary oral rounds began on 22 November, launching the advocacy phase of the competition. Competitors presented their arguments before panels of judges who evaluated their legal analysis, courtroom etiquette, and overall persuasiveness. The competition culminated on 23 November with a packed day featuring the quarter-finals, semi-finals, and finals—all unfolding in rapid succession. The atmosphere throughout was electric, with students hurriedly revising their submissions and preparing rebuttals moments before entering the courtroom.

In a remarkable turn of events, the finals saw Team 11, composed of experienced third-year students, face off against Team 7, a team of talented first-year students who had impressed judges at every stage. Defying expectations, Team 7 emerged victorious, securing the title, while Team 11 finished as well-deserved runners-up. Their match-up was widely praised as a reflection of the depth of advocacy talent present across different years at Denning.



Despite the exhilaration, many participants voiced concerns about the limited preparation time between rounds, particularly when required to counter opposing arguments with little notice. Even so, students overwhelmingly described the competition as a valuable learning experience. Its fast-paced structure mirrored the pressures of real legal practice, sharpening competitors' research skills, resilience, and ability to think on their feet.

This year's Intra Advocacy Competition not only identified standout advocates but also offered participants a rigorous, practice-oriented environment—one that many will carry with them as they continue their legal education at Denning University.

# DEN-LEAGUE MARATHON

Puma shirt, check.

Adidas running shoes, check.

Nike peak cap, check.

Going quick is one thing. Going far is another. Going both quick and far sets apart the gritty from the mediocre. Marathons are not about who won. It's about who showed up, and who crossed the finish line.

Den League began with a bang on a serene Sunday morning. Sir Mustafa, armed with a megaphone in one hand and a Cappuccino in the other, dishing out instructions like a Scoutmaster who had enough. Us, intimidated, more by the marathon ahead than him, lined up for the requisite photo session and then the starting line right after.

GO, somebody called out. I never heard the "1,2, 3" before it, either because I was light-headed from lack of sleep, or because of all the commotion. And we launched. Some runners had missed the memo. They sprinted. Bad idea. I started with a walk. Because I am smart and all that. We were a sight to look at.

Pretty much all the early sprinters switched to walking within the first 50 or 100 metres. No shame in that, trust me, you weren't there. A solid 7 km still stretched ahead. Like mentioned earlier, it's not about winning. It's about making it to the finish line. We switched between walking and jogging (and some of us resting right in the middle of a marathon. No names will be mentioned).

Commendations to the ECA for the organization and setup. Water stations landed exactly where you needed them. If you couldn't make it to a water bottle, they would throw



Commendations to the ECA for the organization and setup. Water stations landed exactly where you needed them. If you couldn't make it to a water bottle, they would throw one right at you, heads-up. Security along the whole route. Sir AQ and Sir Mustafa were right in the mix, running and sweating with the rest of us.

I was somewhat skeptical, but proven wrong concerning the general fitness of our fellow school mates. Almost the whole squad completed the marathon. Almost nobody tried to cheat or take shortcuts. The first group that arrived at the finish line jogged throughout the marathon and their fitness was very obvious. I won't admit I was somewhat jealous, but I was.

Cue the celebrations, loud and unashamed. Pandemonium.

Winners on the podium. Pictures. Medals. More pictures. All while runners were still arriving at the finish line. Laughter and smiles. Lighthearted teasing pointed at friends arriving late. All while gulping down water bottle after bottle. Drenched in sweat and glory.

We had a breakfast fit for kings. We felt like kings. We were kings for one serene Sunday morning.

# Why we struggle to say “No”:



Sure “I will help you”, no problem i can do this for you. Most of us have agreed on doing something for someone when our own schedule is overflowing with pending work and stuff. In simple words this is people pleasing, when you prioritize someone else's needs over your own desires (Ooms 2023). The question we should ask ourselves is why we often do that even though we do have a lot on our plates? This question is perfectly addressed by (Braiker 2001), stated that pleasing people is considered one of the main magic ingredients to avoid abandonment, rejections and for the sake of self worth, even if it's only for a limited time. Sometimes saying “no” is the simplest answer but we feel heavy with guilt or felt worse because the morals of the society wants us to be helpful even when you, yourself is suffering. But always being present for saying “yes” will badly influence the mental health or effect relationships of individuals.

People pleasing are deeply rooted in various cultures or their upbringing usually revolves around making people happy from a young age, just by saying “yes” or prioritising others’ needs, sometimes at the expense of their own. According to research conducted by the American Psychological Association (2021) that pleasing people can ruin your mental peace through burn outs, stress or resentments. Over time you will get distant from your own needs and identity which will cause emptiness and put you in a state of constant dissatisfaction. This makes you question yourself and will lead towards continuous mental break downs and frustration.

It is important to highlight that Saying “yes” is not always inherently wrong, it is great for some situations like hosting parties and

in interviews but not in your intimate circle or not even in your relationship because your partner will never get to know what you wish for!

People pleasing is a mask which we often wear to avoid conflict, clashes with one another but it does reflect inner peace because at one point you will feel emotionally drained and disconnected from your own needs. The more you give a person without replenishing one self will make you feel overworked, overwhelmed, and invisible. People’s values get faded when you show constant availability. Usually people pleasers, tend to hide their struggles and hardship because if they speak up they will get the tag of “selfish”. Unfortunately, this silence allows the cycle to continue, reinforcing the idea that saying “no” is unacceptable.

Globally, on social media people are prioritizing “self care” by initiating the movement #BoundariesAreHealthy and Companies are introducing “right to disconnect” policies, for the purpose of work life balance, even support groups are teaching, why is it important to decline requests without shame.

According to Terry Gaspard, a contributor to the Gottman Institute, explains that your childhood can effect your marriage. People often end up in a pattern which is similar to their past life, like the relationship of their parents or how they have been treating their child.

For example, in Amna's childhood, whenever she cried her parents became angry and said “Stop crying,

you’re making us stressed.” Eventually, Amna learned to hide her feelings just to make her parents comfortable and unbothered from her feelings, she started comforting her others so often, even when she herself is struggling. As an adult, Amna might continue this pattern: always checking upon other’s feelings, trying to please them, and putting her own emotions aside because that is what she has learned all her life. Due to this toxic pattern she will never be able to build healthy boundaries in her relationship and for every minor inconvenience with her partner, she will blame herself. The Psychologists name it “insecure attachment in childhood” meaning when a child did not receive consistent comfort and security from the caregiver in their childhood. Growing up, this can eventually impact self-esteem and long-term mental health.

We need to understand that saying “no” or hearing “no” is an act of honesty rather than unkindness. This means that you are creating space to say “yes” to the things that truly align with your values and energy. The next time you feel pressured to agree to something, pause and ask yourself: “Am I saying yes because I want to, or because I feel I have to?” Recognizing the difference is the first step toward reclaiming your boundaries.

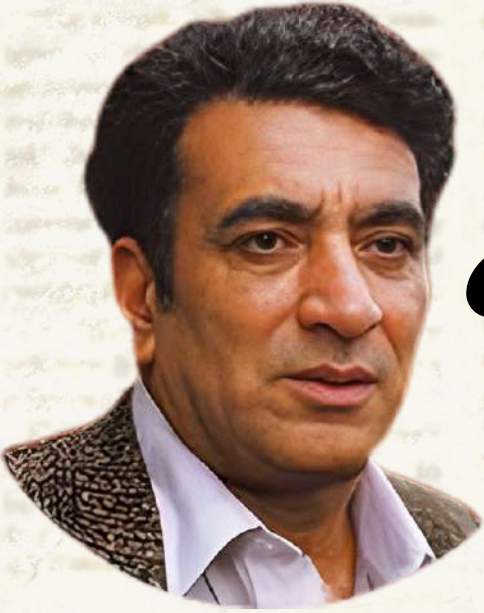
Steps on how one can learn to say ‘No’:

Firstly start with saying “no” to any minor things which don't align with your morals and don't value your opinions. Secondly, observe how it feels. Gradually, you will adapt to say “no” and can save your time and energy and make a peaceful full space for yourself.

When we learn to say “no” without guilt, we open space for healthier relationships, self-respect, and personal growth. Saying “no” is not about shutting people out, it’s about showing up more authentically when we do say “yes.”

“Boundaries are not walls; they’re gates we control”. Setting strict boundaries will help you navigate through the life and you will maintain your personal space peacefully and if some one is bother of you saying “no” its high time to distant yourself from them because they might not harm you now but will become noxious later on in life.

## احمد فراز



اور فراز چاہتیں کتنی محبتیں تجھے  
ماؤں نے تیرے نام پر بچوں کا نام رکھ لیا

احمد فراز ۱۲ جنوری ۱۹۳۱ کو کوہاٹ کے ایک معزز سادات خاندان میں پیدا ہوئے۔ ان کا اصل نام سید احمد شاہ تھا۔ احمد فراز نے جب شاعری شروع کی تو اس وقت ان کا نام احمد شاہ کوہاٹی ہوتا تھا جو بعد میں فیض احمد فیض کے مشورے سے احمد فراز ہو گیا۔ احمد فراز کی مادری زبان پشتو تھی لیکن ابتدا ہی سے فراز کو اردو لکھنے اور پڑھنے کا شوق تھا اور وقت کے ساتھ اردو زبان اور ادب میں ان کی یہ دلچسپی بڑھنے لگی۔ ان کے والد انہیں ریاضی اور سائنس کی تعلیم میں آگے بڑھانا چاہتے تھے لیکن احمد فراز کا فطری میلان ادب و شاعری کی طرف تھا۔ اس لئے انہوں نے پشاور کے ایڈورڈ کالج سے فارسی اور اردو میں ایم اے کی ڈگری حاصل کی اور باضابطہ ادب و شاعری کا مطالعہ کیا۔ احمد فراز نے اپنا کیریئر ریڈیو پاکستان پشاور میں اسکرپٹ رائٹر کے طور پر شروع کیا مگر بعد میں وہ پشاور یونیورسٹی میں اردو کے استاد مقرر ہو گئے۔ ۱۹۷۶ میں جب حکومت پاکستان نے اکیڈمی آف لیٹرس کے نام سے ملک کا اعلیٰ ترین ادبی ادارہ قائم کیا تو احمد فراز اس کے پہلے ڈائریکٹر جنرل بنائے گئے۔

فراز اپنے عہد کے سچے فنکار تھے حق گوئی اور

بے باکی ان کی تخلیقی فطرت کا بنیادی عنصر تھی، انہوں نے حکومت وقت اور سینیٹیشنٹ کی بد عنوانیوں کے خلاف ہمیشہ آواز بلند کی۔ جنرل ضیا الحق کی آمریت کو سخت تنقید کا نشانہ بنانے کی پاداش میں انہیں گرفتار بھی کیا گیا۔ وہ چھ سال تک کنواڈا اور یورپ میں جلا وطنی کا عذاب سہتے رہے۔ فراز کی شاعری جن دو بنیادی جذبوں، رویوں اور تیوروں سے مل کر تیار ہوتی ہے وہ احتجاج، مزاحمت اور رومان ہیں۔ ان کی شاعری سے ایک رومانی، ایک نوکلاسیکی، ایک جدید اور ایک باغی شاعر کی تصویر بنتی ہے۔ انہوں نے عشق، محبت اور محبوب سے جڑے ہوئے ایسے باریک احساسات اور جذبوں کو شاعری کی زبان دی ہے جو ان سے پہلے تک ان چھوے تھے۔

فراز کی شخصیت سے جڑی ہوئی ایک اہم بات یہ بھی ہے کہ وہ اپنے عہد کے سب سے مقبول ترین شاعروں میں سے تھے۔ ہندوپاک کے مشاعروں میں جتنی محبتوں اور دلچسپی کے ساتھ فراز کو سنا گیا ہے اتنا شاید ہی کسی اور شاعر کو سنا گیا ہو۔ فراز کی پزیرائی ہر سطح پر ہوئی انہیں بہت سے اعزازات و انعامات سے بھی نوازا گیا۔

تم تکلف کو بھی اخلاص سمجھتے ہو فراز  
دوست ہوتا نہیں ہر ہاتھ ملانے والا

کسے نصیب کہ بے پیر ہن اسے دیکھے  
کبھی کبھی درو دیوار گھر کے دیکھتے ہیں

رنجش ہی سہی دل ہی دکھانے کے لیے آ  
آپھر سے مجھے چھوڑ کے جانے کے لیے آ

اب کے ہم بچھڑے تو شاید کبھی خوابوں میں ملیں  
جس طرح سو کھے ہوئے پھول کتابوں میں ملیں

ہم کو اچھا نہیں لگتا کوئی ہم نام تیرا  
کوئی تجھ سا ہو تو پھر نام بھی تجھ سا رکھے

اس کی وہ جانے اسے پاس وفا تھا کہ نہ تھا  
تم فراز اپنی طرف سے تو نبھاتے جاتے

ہوا ہے تجھ سے بچھڑنے کے بعد یہ معلوم  
کہ تو نہیں تھا تیرے ساتھ ایک دنیا تھی

فراز اپنے عہد کے سچے فنکار تھے حق گوئی اور

# Masla-e-khaas, Mashwara-e-aam

## AAP KA MASLA

What's your favourite module?

## HAMARA MASHWARA

The one that hasn't traumatised me yet. Which is none. They all attack me in different ways, like a personalised torture package.

## AAP KA MASLA

idk how to stay motivated during exams

## HAMARA MASHWARA

I don't, my motivation leaves after the title page. By the end, it's just me, caffeine, and the sheer fear of failing publicly.

## AAP KA MASLA

What do you do when you don't understand a lecture?

## HAMARA MASHWARA

Nod like I'm absorbing the deepest wisdom of mankind. Inside. But no in reality, they're so many recorded lectures & notes

## AAP KA MASLA

How do you handle academic burnout?

## HAMARA MASHWARA

I just pretend I'm fine. And sometimes I do go through it well because it's okay to take breaks

## AAP KA MASLA

Why does everyone think law students have their life together?

## HAMARA MASHWARA

Probably because we've gotten good at creating an illusion that our lives are going smooth

## AAP KA MASLA

Do you ever take breaks?

## HAMARA MASHWARA

Yes, an hour for every 10 minutes of work. It's all about balance, even if the balance is aggressively unbalanced.

## AAP KA MASLA

i don't remember why i liked Law

## HAMARA MASHWARA

Honestly, I thought it would make me look smart and put together but I'm slowly missing the "put together" part.

## AAP KA MASLA

How can stress be managed

## HAMARA MASHWARA

I don't. I just keep it inside until it becomes part of my personality. Then others call it "drive" or "focus" but it's really just panic.

## AAP KA MASLA

7.What was the hardest part about property law?

## HAMARA MASHWARA

It felt like reading ancient curses disguised as legal rules.



## Breaking Barriers with Grit: The Inspiring Journey of a First-Generation Law Student Sundus Qureshi:

In a world where professional networks are often seen as the currency of success, one young law student is proving that passion, perseverance, and unshakeable dedication can chart a powerful path of their own. As the youngest in a family where no one had pursued law, she entered the field not by tradition but by instinct driven by her naturally persuasive personality, her love for history, and the courtroom thrillers that captured her imagination early on.

“I always felt an inner urge to choose a path different from everyone else,” she shared. But stepping into the legal world as a first-generation lawyer wasn’t without its warnings. Many told her that without connections, opportunities would be scarce. Her journey, however, told a different story. From securing roles within her university to landing coveted internships at top law firms, she learned that while networking can help, nothing replaces the power of hard work, dedication, and genuine passion.

during manageable academic periods, she ensured growth without compromising performance.

She credits many teachers and seniors for guiding her along the way, particularly Sir Abdul Qadir and Sir Huzaifa, who consistently advised her on internships and professional decisions. Among seniors, she expresses special gratitude for Ghazali Shaikh, whose mentorship, practical tips, and academic support played a crucial role in her journey.

### Lessons Learned and Aspirations Ahead

Looking back, she wishes she had started reading foundational legal texts such as the CPC, CrPC, and core University of London materials earlier. These works, she believes, sharpen analytical skills that every lawyer needs.

Looking ahead, she aspires to build a career in corporate law, strengthened by her internships at RIAA Barker and AKLA. Beyond corporate practice, she also sees a future in academia, inspired by her long-standing passion for teaching and organizing educational events.

Behind her achievements stands a constant source of strength her parents. “My father has been my biggest cheerleader,” she says with gratitude. From supporting her internships to encouraging every academic and extracurricular endeavor, her family’s belief in her has fueled her ambition and perseverance.

### Redefining Success

Her advice to the next generation of law students is grounded in the wisdom of experience: “Work hard, be tenacious, and never quit. Avoid unnecessary stress and politics. Trust in Divine guidance and in yourself. Stay patient, act with integrity, and focus on your own growth. Be kind, stay committed, and the rewards will follow.”

Her academic interests naturally gravitated toward the corporate side of the legal world, a curiosity that transformed into a full-fledged aspiration after she unexpectedly secured an internship at Ali Khan Law Associates in her first year. Immersed in real corporate transactions and demanding deadlines, she found herself energized rather than intimidated. The experience confirmed what she already felt that corporate law was where she belonged.

Her development as a law student has been shaped by a blend of classroom learning, extracurricular involvement, and practical exposure. Regular lectures helped her build the essential skill of reading and applying the law, while moot court competitions honed her confidence in courtroom etiquette and argumentation.

Her engagement with the Denning Legal Clinic and involvement in pro-bono matters added another dimension to her training. Recording evidence, drafting arguments, and stepping into litigation gave her a more holistic understanding of the legal system a valuable asset for any aspiring corporate lawyer.

Law is not just intellectually challenging it tests emotional strength too. She candidly reflects on how her tendency to overthink and take criticism to heart once affected her deeply. But practical experience taught her an essential lesson: “The only way to survive in this field is by developing mental resilience.” Through conscious effort, she learned to handle negativity, trust her instincts, and grow from every setback.

Of all her internships, her time at Nuruddin Sarki and Co. remains the most memorable. As her first experience in litigation, she never expected to excel to the point of being offered an extension. But strong mentorship, supportive seniors, and invaluable lessons in legal research and courtroom conduct made the experience transformative. These early moments, she says, continue to guide her every day.

Across all her roles, one truth became clear: legal life demands commitment. There is no strict 9-to-5, and challenges are inevitable. But patience, consistency, and perseverance always pay off.

Maintaining a balance between academics, internships, extracurricular activities, and personal life has been one of her biggest challenges. Her solution? Strategic planning. By dedicating summer breaks to internships and focusing on activities

# Accidental Advocate; The Unlikely Ascent of a Judicial Law Clerk

## Muhammad Younus Shaikh

One thing that to me is salient in life, is the fact that some careers begin with a dream that is nourished and raised from early adolescence, and others begin with a detour. For this University of London, and Denning School of Law graduate, now a Judicial Law Clerk at the Supreme Court of Pakistan, the journey into law was anything but harbored and nourished from before. In his own words, “Until 2022, I was pretty directionless... drifted into pre-medical without really choosing it, and only landed in the University of London’s law programme because COVID reshuffled admissions and the title ‘Advocate’ sounded attractive.”

But what began as an accident soon transformed into ambition, as things often do for people who find their fated spark without realizing that they had gotten closer to it. Younus Shaikh says, “Once I started studying law, something clicked... it felt like ‘oh this is so my thing.’”

That spark pushed him into the gritting and challenging world of litigation, where he chose not comfort, but decided to face the challenge itself. He threw himself into the boisterous environment of district courtrooms, inhabited back benches and truly observed proceedings, and eventually prepared himself to step into taking the lead into real cases. Those early, tough experiences, he says, were defining to him in a very foundational way. “Those early choices to priorities courtroom exposure over comfort shaped everything that followed.”

Yet this rise was not smooth, as such steps upwards are often not. He openly reflects on the internal battle that marked the beginning of his professional life, confiding what many don’t care to admit. “I started from a place of no clear ambition and very average student habits.”

Transforming himself required discipline, for Muhammad Younus Shaikh, a theme that runs through every chapter of his story, making one realize that discipline truly is the key to such transformations and meaningful changes. And then there were the emotional and financial pressures of litigation that our Alumni highlighted. “Litigation, especially early on, does not pay well... I dealt with that by accepting upfront that the short term would be tough and focusing on skills rather than income.”

His path took him through top litigation chambers, NGOs, and high-pressure environments where every comma and such punctuation was scrutinized. “I learned how unforgiving good litigation practice is: every word in a pleading, every note for counsel, every citation matters.”

That pressure, rather than deterring him, sculpted and shaped him, creating a form he upholds today. Today, he sits at the heart of Pakistan’s essential constitutional machinery. His role at the Supreme Court has granted him an extraordinary vantage point that is not witnessed in many. “The most fulfilling part is seeing how big constitutional questions are actually resolved behind the scenes, not just argued at the rostrum.”



Working with an Hon’ble Judge, he assists in cases linked to the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Amendments, matters as we know now, with extremely profound and altering institutional implications. The experience, he says, has reshaped the entire philosophy of law he believed in. “When I started, I thought law was mainly about sharp advocacy and ‘winning’ a case; now I see it as slow, disciplined institution-building.”

And now for the part wherein we ask our Alumni for wisdom and advice for present law students, his addition was both sobering and direct. “Stop waiting for the ‘perfect time’... get into court early.” But more importantly, he adds, “Build character, not just a CV.”

His work with juvenile justice, he says, has given him “more purpose than any title or award.” Aside from all of his words and insights, I think perhaps his greatest wisdom comes from lived experience. “Stay humble in success and patient in struggle. Law is a long game.”

A long game indeed! And this player has effectively reminded me, and all of us, with his thoughtful words, reflections and experiences, that playing with remarkable clarity, purpose and conviction is equally important.

# PERCEPTION PARADOX:

THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN EXCELLENCE (TCHE) from Denning Law School, conducted “Perception Paradox” at the Denning League, a competition designed to teach students language – pattern elicitation. This competition included a 4 days extensive training by Sir Faheem Ahmed Khan (Mind Sciences Master/ Reiki Master and the Founder of TCHE), Sir Mahin Muhammad and Ms. Areeba Ahmed (NLP specialists in assistance of Sir Faheem) on various principles of Neuro Linguistic Programming i.e. Meta Modelling, VAKOG predicates, belief and its understanding and the several categories of Language. The event stood out for its unique and first of its kind approach to training participants in linguistics.

The competition paired teams and assigned trained actors (in collaboration with DAMP) to play scripted roles, giving the participants a realistic environment to practice in. One of the striking scenarios involved a chai wala who witnessed a tragic hit-and-run accident, where a man was hit by a flashy vehicle and the driver fled the scene. Participants were given only ten minutes per round to question the witness(s), who being in his core character essence was a man of unhinged biasness towards the rich, treated them like criminals behind the vehicle, was a moody and frustrated man who was tired of questions and would not open up easily unless he felt a Rapport established. The real challenge for the Participants was to identify the linguistic inconsistencies and using them to create a line of questioning that led to uncovering the missing essential details in a manner that neither felt like interrogation nor it felt like threats.

What made this event different was its focus on Meta-Modelling which is a principle of NLP (Neuro-Linguistic Programming), a technique that emphasize clarity, empathy, and structured communication rather than intimidation or pressure. One of the core reasons for choosing to teach and test the skill of Meta Modelling was that generally we all know that communication is the foundation of everything and normally due to not being aware of the deletions, distortions and generalizations we make in our everyday life we face issues like miscommunication and misunderstanding in all domains of our life.

Meta-Modelling according to Richard Bandler and John Grinder (founders and creators of NLP) is a “set of linguistic questions to challenge and clarify vague language, targeting deletions, generalizations and distortions in a person’s communication to reveal their deeper, more specific map of the world”. Neuro Linguistic Programming is the “study of how highly successful people structure



their thinking, language and behavior so that these patterns can be modeled, taught and replicated by others”.

The final session was held at Denning’s PECHS campus Auditorium. They invited a panel of judges, led by Sir Faheem Khan, to evaluate each participant’s ability to apply these skills effectively. The event concluded with a closing ceremony where Asharib Bhutta won Best Actor, Dua Rizvi won Best Actress, and the winning team Faizan Imran and Allaya Yousuf was announced for their outstanding application of Meta-Modelling NLP technique and deriving all the required information from multiple witnesses in all rounds. Abid Ali and Amna Zeeshan qualified as the runner ups and Abiha Javaid won the Best Rapport Presenter Award and Abid Ali won the Best Fact Presenter Award.

Overall, the challenge proved to be an enriching experience for Denning students, blending analytical thinking with empathy and communication. It not only strengthened their questioning abilities but also showcased how modern techniques can transform conventional interrogation into a more impactful and humane practice.



# Obiter Legal



MONDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, 2025



## A MOST NOTABLE DISPATCH FROM THE HALLS OF JUSTICE

Dearest readers,

Welcome to the part of Obiter Legal, our newest edition where the courtroom lights are always on and the legal world refuses to sit still. Think of this section as your backstage pass to everything shaping the landscape of justice today. New laws that quietly slip into force, judgments, as well as policies everyone is suddenly arguing about, and the occasional legal drama that makes even non-lawyers raise an eyebrow.



Whether you're here to stay updated, to sound smart in class, or to confirm that yes, the legal system really is this wild, we've got you covered. From landmark rulings to unexpected legislative twists, we break down what's happening, why it matters, and how it might just change the way we live. In this section, there's a lot to uncover and discuss with not just your political friends but as well as your professors.

So with that, let's get into it and take a closer look at the legal developments shaping the conversations around us.



# AI usage in modern warfare and breach of humanitarian laws

## BY HAYA ANSARI

In 2023, +972 and Local Call, the official Israeli publications, reported the use of Gospel and Lavender AI support systems, which have exponentially changed the scale of modern warfare. Boasting unparalleled precision, Lavender serves as a database that records any possible associate of Hamas, regardless of rank, while Gospel identifies buildings and equipment with possible militant involvement. The IDF contends that these serve as mere reference points to collate vast sets of data and assist the human analysts who, after thorough verification, obtain authorization from the commanders to launch attacks. These comply with the maxims of international humanitarian law regarding necessity, proportionality and distinction.

However, the incommensurable level of annihilation that has wrecked the Gaza Strip is a testament to the blatant disregard for any humanitarian protocols. An operator of the model confessed to allocating less than 20 seconds to approve targets and relying entirely on the algorithmic recommendations, which explains the death toll that has amassed in a relatively short period. The attacks employed unguided munitions, allowing up to 20 civilian casualties per target, which several humanitarian lawyers have expressed concerns about.

The Promethean myth is often used as a defence of controversial technology, claiming that, just like the divine gift of fire, technology inherently has no moral compass; it is the wielders' responsibility to guide its purpose. But what happens when you grant it the critical autonomy to decide its own course? It opens a Pandora's Box of uncharted legal and moral implications, threatening to revolutionise the domain of warfare for the worse. The proliferation of AI-based data tools in military operations is just the first circle of Dante's Inferno, with several fully autonomous weapon systems already in late stages of development, that eliminate human interference by embedding these systems with sole decision-making authority. One might think we have had enough sci-fi movies warning against such actions; yet, this is no dystopian future, but the terrifying reality of the world we live in.

Consequently, several emerging conflicts have arisen between this new technological frontier and existing rules of International Humanitarian Law. Claims in favour of the improved target precision are refuted by the increased reports of misidentification due to biased training data during data curation, which contradicts the principle of distinction and non-discrimination in Humanitarian law.

The ratio of 1 target to 20 casualties already disregards the lawful proportionality allowed per case, which would be amplified in an autonomous system where assessments would be made without human guidance, relying on a vast aggregate of data, further leading to miscalculations.

Lastly, the principles of military necessity and precaution require careful ethical consideration, where over-reliance on autonomous algorithms would lead to severe consequences, violating the *jus ad bellum*[justification for going to war] and *jus in bello*[laws governing conduct during war] principles. Risk assessments during unprecedented events raise concerns about the moral capability of autonomous machines, which operate only within pre-determined parameters. Additionally, the complex workings of these systems hinder transparency, as the exact rationale behind a decision cannot be ascertained to establish legal causation.

This impersonalisation also distorts military personnel's culpability, as in the scenario of a breach of rights defined by ROE[rules of engagement] and LOW[laws of warfare], who shall be declared guilty of the war crimes? The operator, the commander, or the machine itself?. This reveals legal loopholes concerning system overrides, hacking, self-learning algorithms and other technical malfunctions, which enable avoiding accountability by pinning the breach on a system gone rogue.

Akin to the evils in Pandora's Box, Artificial Intelligence can not be phased out of existence. However, we can still harness its potential to reimagine the future of armed conflicts, one which stays true to the core values of justice and morality through efficiency and precision.

We should expand the avenues of accountability by restructuring conventional legal frameworks around AI-integrated warfare to align it with Humanitarian laws and ensure swift justice for any war crimes committed in this new era. This requires global compliance through multilateral discussions and legal reviews, aiming to mitigate any further exploitation of systems and ensuring future developments involve an active human role to help navigate contextual constraints. As for existing decision support tools such as Lavender and Gospel, strict regulations should be placed to revise current protocols and ban their mass facilitation of crimes against humanity.

# HAS BREXIT TRULY RESTORED PARLIAMENTARY SOVEREIGNTY?

## BY ANUM SHAFIQUE

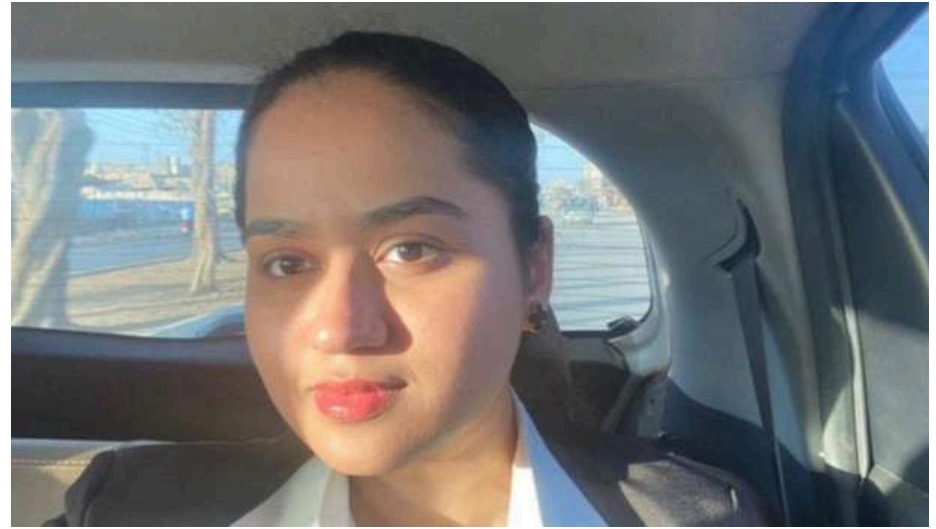
Parliamentary sovereignty has long been regarded as the cornerstone of the United Kingdom's constitutional framework. Yet the constitutional complexities brought about by Brexit have prompted a critical reevaluation of its scope, limits, and practical significance. The classical definition of parliamentary sovereignty reflects a time when Parliament's authority was legally unlimited and politically unquestioned.

Before the United Kingdom joined the European Union, Parliament held the power to make or unmake any law without being bound by its predecessors or constrained by any higher authority, including the courts. This absolute legal supremacy stood largely unchallenged, shaping how the British constitution functioned in practice and in theory. The UK constitutional structure, traditionally divided into three arms of state, the legislature, the executive and the judiciary. Historically, however, the legislative arm, represented by the Parliament was the most dominant of the three. This article explores the transformation of parliamentary sovereignty through key constitutional developments, focusing particularly on UK's membership in, and eventual withdrawal from, the European Union. The discussion will compare the absolute and unquestioned nature of sovereignty in the preEU era with its reconstructed and increasingly contested form in the post-Brexit legal landscape.

### The Evolution of Parliamentary Sovereignty Through Case Law

**The Shifting Meaning of Parliamentary Supremacy: From Absolute Rule to a Judiciary Protected Principle** One of the clearest demonstrations of Parliament's absolute authority can be seen in *Madzimbamuto V Larden – Burke* [1969] 1 AC 645. Decided by the Privy Council, the case upheld the supremacy of the UK Parliament to legislate for Southern Rhodesia despite political convention and widespread opposition. Lord Reid famously observed that it might be "unconstitutional for Parliament to do certain things", that did not mean it was "not legally competent to do them". This case reflected the classic Diceyan account to the prevailing parliamentary supremacy in the UK at the time: that Parliament was legally omnipotent, and no court or convention could invalidate its legislative will. During this period, the courts remained firmly deferential, reinforcing a vision of parliamentary supremacy that was untouchable.

The judiciary begin to hint that the principle of parliamentary sovereignty might not be limited by the law, but by the constitutional and judicial principles. The case of *Jackson V Attorney General* [2006] UKHL 56, which challenged the validity of the Hunting Act 2004 passed under the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949. Although the court upheld the Act, several judges in their obiter comments raised profound constitutional questions. Lord Steyn notably remarked that the supremacy of Parliament "is no longer, if it ever was, absolute". This hinted at



the judiciary's growing willingness to consider constitutional limits on Parliament, particularly where fundamental rights or constitutional values were at stake.

### European Union Membership Era

In 1972, the UK Parliament enacted European Communities Act 1972, a landmark statute within the UK's domestic legal system. This Act followed UK's signing of the Treaty of Accession, and on 1 January 1973, the United Kingdom officially joined the European Economic Community, the precursor to the European Union. From that point onward, European law began to take precedence over domestic legislation, significantly reshaping the traditional understanding of parliamentary sovereignty.

### EU Law V UK Law: Practical Challenges

During its time as a member of the European Union, the UK Parliament's sovereignty faced particular limitations. In cases such as *Factortame (No.2)* [1991], *Costa V ENEL* [1964] (ECJ) and *Thoburn V Sunderland City Council* [2002] the UK courts were compelled to disapply domestic legislation that conflicted with EU law, a significant shift from the Diceyan principle of an all-powerful Parliament. This reflected a deeper constitutional transformation, where the UK had accepted a form of shared sovereignty as a condition of EU membership.

### Human Rights Act 1998: Sovereignty through the Lens of Rule of Law

One of the most important constitutional developments during the EU membership period was the Human Rights Act 1998. Although often viewed as part of the European legal influence, the HRA was enacted by the UK Parliament itself, giving domestic effect to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

Rather than threatening sovereignty, the HRA reflects Parliament's deliberate choice to legislate in a way that promotes rule of law, ensuring all UK legislation is compatible with basic rights. In this sense, it acts as a "filter" not limiting Parliament's power, but guiding it toward justice and legal consistency. As Bogdanor notes in *The New British Constitution*, the Human Rights Act "gave birth to a new British Constitution" one where sovereignty is exercised with restraint and responsibility, rather than unqualified dominance.

### The Growing Discontent and the Road to Brexit

By the early 2010s, debates over parliamentary sovereignty had become increasingly politicised. Many critics argued that continued membership of the European Union compromised the ability of Parliament to exercise its legislative authority independently. Laws made in Brussels were binding on the UK, often without the same degree of democratic scrutiny traditionally afforded in Westminster. This perception gave rise to a populist sentiment that sovereignty had been "lost" to the EU.

The 2016 referendum, framed heavily around "taking back control", marked the culmination of this discontent. Though, legally advisory, the vote to leave EU was interpreted politically as a mandate to restore parliamentary supremacy. Ironically, the Brexit process itself revealed further tensions between Parliament, the executive and the judiciary, particularly over who held the authority to initiate withdrawal. These tensions set the stage for landmark constitutional cases such as *Miller V Secretary of State for Exiting EU (Miller No.I)* and *R (on the Application of Miller) V The Prime Minister [2019] UKSC 41 (Miller II)*.

### The Miller Cases: Restating Parliamentary Sovereignty Through the Courts

In *Miller V Secretary of State for Exiting EU [2017] UKSC 5*, the Supreme Court held that the government could not trigger Article 50 without parliamentary approval, affirming Parliament's central role in the constitutional order. The case reaffirmed that only Parliament can change domestic legislation and that major constitutional changes require democratic legitimacy via parliamentary procedures.

Two years later *R (on the application of Miller) V The Prime Minister*, another high-profile constitutional challenge, the Supreme Court unanimously found Prime Minister's advice to prorogue the Parliament as unlawful. The court emphasized that the executive cannot frustrate or prevent Parliament from carrying out its constitutional functions, even under the guides of political strategy.

### Brexit and Beyond: A New Chapter in Sovereignty

The doctrine of parliamentary sovereignty has endured a profound constitutional journey. From Dicey's classical vision of an all-powered Parliament to the tempered, rights-conscious landscape shaped by EU membership and the Human Rights Act 1998, sovereignty has evolved not weakened. These developments, particularly during the UK's time within the European Union, tested the limits of domestic supremacy but ultimately refined it.

As the UK reclaims full legislative autonomy post-Brexit, this sovereignty is no longer exercised in vacuum. Instead, it is practiced within the bounds of legality, judicial oversight, and democratic accountability. Landmark rulings such as *Miller I* and *Miller II* reaffirmed Parliament's central role, while simultaneously reinforcing constitutional limits on executive power.

Recent legislative initiatives, including the Rwanda Act 2024 illustrate how Parliament continues to make authorities legal decisions, even amidst controversies. Yet, what distinguishes this era is not the return of unchecked supremacy, but the emerging balance between sovereign will and constitutional responsibility.

The Brexit did not simply restore Parliament's legislative authority; it marked a transition into a more measured, rule of law-driven sovereignty. The UK's codified constitution, adaptable nature, has withstood external influences while preserving its core. In this post-Brexit chapter, sovereignty is not diminished, it is redefined not as power, but as responsible authority, reflective of modern democratic values.

Nonetheless, the strong response from lawyers, journalists, and citizens has kept the issue alive. If the Lahore High Court's inquiry leads to reforms, it could set an important precedent for the entire country. Authorities might finally be required to plan humane enforcement operations and treat animal welfare as a serious legal responsibility rather than just an afterthought. To conclude, the destruction of Lahore's animal market was more than just the loss of a physical space. It was a test of compassion, one that the city failed that morning. However, the ongoing legal and social pressure offers a chance for the authorities to plan better. Real progress will come only when development and empathy can exist side by side and when no animal has to die beneath a bulldozer for the sake of a cleaner street.

# CAREER CORNER

## Hand-picked oppurtunities just for you!

POSITION	ORGANIZATION	REQUIREMENTS	TYPE	LOCATION	LINK
LEGAL INTERN	Khichi Law Associates (KLA)	Law Students	Internship	Karachi, Pakistan	<a href="mailto:sararezaabbasi@gmail.com">sararezaabbasi@gmail.com</a> (for internship application)
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY	Gajani & Shar (GS Legal)	Law Students & Graduates	Internship program	Karachi, Pakistan	<a href="https://gslegal.com.pk/">https://gslegal.com.pk/</a>
LEGAL RESEARCH INTERN	AFMalik Law	Law Students	Internship	Karachi, Sindh	<a href="https://afmalik-law.com/">https://afmalik-law.com/</a>
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INTERN	HRI Private Limited	Final-year students or fresh grads (BBA, etc)	Internship program	Karachi, Pakistan	<a href="https://pk.linkedin.com/company/hri-private-limited">https://pk.linkedin.com/company/hri-private-limited</a> <a href="https://hri.com.pk/">https://hri.com.pk/</a>
BBA INTERN	MAANU Venture	Final year undergraduate/graduate students (including BBA Marketing/Finance)	internship program	Karachi, Pakistan	<a href="https://www.maanu.biz">https://www.maanu.biz</a>
LEGAL INTERN	Iqbal & Iqbal Law Associates	Law Students	Internship	Karachi, Pakistan	<a href="https://www.iqballawassociates.com/">https://www.iqballawassociates.com/</a>
Virtual / Public-Law Internship	PJ/IR	Law Students	(Legal Training & Internship Division)	Pakistan	<a href="https://certificates.pjri.org/virtual-internship-">https://certificates.pjri.org/virtual-internship-</a>
LEGAL INTERN	Mandviwalla & Zafar	Law Students	Internship 2 weeks	Karachi, Pakistan	<a href="http://mandviwallaandzafar.com">mandviwallaandzafar.com</a>
Scholarship	GREAT Scholarships for Justice & Law	1-year postgraduate law students	Scholarship	UK	<a href="http://www.london.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/llm-postgraduate-laws">www.london.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/llm-postgraduate-laws</a>
Legal Intern	Military Lands & Cantonment Department (ML&CD)	Fresh graduates, Final year law students	Government sector legal internship.	Karachi, Pakistan	<a href="https://www.paradigmshift.com.pk/community-forum/external-internships-forum/military-lands-and-cantonment-department">https://www.paradigmshift.com.pk/community-forum/external-internships-forum/military-lands-and-cantonment-department</a>
Scholarship	Fulbright Foreign Student Program) Depaul university	International Law students , LLM etc	Scholarship program	Onsite	<a href="https://core.depaul.edu/uwide">https://core.depaul.edu/uwide</a>

# THATS ALL FOLKS!

## DISCLAIMER

The views and opinions expressed in this issue are entirely those of the student writers and contributors. They do not necessarily reflect or represent the views, positions, or policies of the university, its administration, or any affiliated departments. The Denning Obiter serves as a platform for student expression, creativity, and discussion, and the content within should be read as such. Our goal is to encourage open dialogue and showcase diverse perspectives within our community while maintaining respect for all individuals and institutions.

★★★★ THE DENNING OBITER ★★★★★

## HAVE AN INSIGHT, STORY OR INITIATIVE?

Obiter's student column is now open for submissions, and we are looking for creative ideas, analysis, unique insights and fresh perspectives concerning the legal, political and business matters from YOU.

Send us your work at [Denning.obiter@denning.edu.pk](mailto:Denning.obiter@denning.edu.pk) and join us in making your voice and opinions heard.

Obiter: The Voice Of Denning



The team of The Denning Obiter would like to thank all our readers for supporting The Obiter and being part of our journey so far. Your encouragement keeps us going, and we're always looking to grow with you. We'd love to hear your thoughts; what you enjoy, what you'd like to see more of, and how we can do better. Your feedback means the world to us and helps us make The Denning Obiter a space that truly represents our community.

Please let us know your thoughts at [Denning.Obiter@denning.edu.pk](mailto:Denning.Obiter@denning.edu.pk)

## Front Page

[Mikyle Sulehri]

## Parallel Terror:

[Written by; Umer Ali]

## X's Latest Update Raises Questions:

[Written by: Amna Malik]

## Den- League Intra Advocacy Competition:

[Mikyle Sulehri]

## Den-League Marathon:

[Written by: Momin Tharin]

## Why we struggle to say no:

[Written by: Tazmeen Rashid]

## Urdu Page:

[Written by: Hatim Zoeb]

## Masla-e-khaas Mashwara-e-Aam

[Written by: Maria Jagirani and Edited by: Tazmeen Rashid]

## Breaking Barriers with Grit: Sundus Qureshi

[Written by: Muhammad Yaseen]

## Accidental Advocate:

Muhammad Younus Sheikh  
[Written by: Daniyah Ali]

## Perception Paradox:

[Written by: Areeba Ahmed, Tazmeen Rashid]

## Obiter Legal:

## How Brexit Truly Restored Parliamentary Sovereignty?

[Written by: Amna Shafique]

## AI usage in modern warfare and breach of humanitarian laws:

[Written by: Haya Ansari]

## Career Corner:

[Written by: Umaima Baig and Edited by: Tazmeen Rashid]

## That's All Folks:

[Tazmeen Rashid]