

Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation: A Cross-Cultural Study of Public Policy and Architectural Design with Community-Based Approaches

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Abstract: Due to the lack of a widely accepted definition, it is difficult to define juvenile criminal conduct. Still, it is generally defined as antisocial behavior or criminal activity committed by individuals under the age of 18. Criminal cases are governed by juvenile codes that prioritize rehabilitation over punishment and have the age of criminal liability set at 18 in the majority of legal systems. Juvenile correctional institutions are intended not as places of harsh confinement but as environments for safety, guidance, and personal reform. The purpose of this study is to investigate how environmental psychology and architectural design influence the creation of environments that aid in the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders. It stresses the significance of therapeutic environments, non-punitive settings, and humane treatment. The study focuses on Punjab, Pakistan, & highlights a troubling infrastructure gap: Despite having the nation's highest juvenile crime rate, the region has only two outdated juvenile detention facilities and no dedicated juvenile courts. This demonstrates how urgently renovated, purpose-built spaces that place reform of retribution are required.

Key Words: Juvenile Delinquency, Inmate Rehabilitation, Juvenile Justice System, Correctional Architecture, Environmental Psychology, Antisocial Behavior

Introduction

These days, prisons are constructed as structures that serve as havens for those who are disapproved of by society. Building more and more hospitals for the sick instead of avoiding the sickness itself is comparable to this. Other than prisons or correctional facilities, no other building form necessitates more significant and efficient architectural structuring of the physical environment to elicit and demand responses from the target individual. All activities, including eating, sleeping, working, and exercising, must be coordinated under one roof (Skowrya & Coccozza, [2006](#)).

Because of poverty and poor living conditions, most crimes in our society are committed. The current practice of constructing jails purely for the sake of punishment will not lower crime rates. 60% of criminals in Western nations reoffend within two years of their release from prison. Beyond simply locking up criminals, much more needs to be done to eradicate crime from society. To solve the issue, one must address its underlying causes.

Prisons are often built as dens for rejected individuals, similar to hospitals for the sick rather than preventing diseases. They require a structured physical environment to induce responses from the target individual. Building jails for punishment alone won't reduce crime rates, as 60% of criminals commit crimes again within two years. Addressing the root of the problem is crucial. Incarceration of juvenile delinquents should be done according to the World Human Rights Organization's criteria, rather than with adults or in adult prison.

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The Punjab Prisons Department, established in 1854, manages inmates in Punjab's central, district, and special jails. With 21 new jails commissioned since independence, the department currently operates 40, including a high-security facility (Elrod & Ryder, [2013](#)).

Prison

There are nine (9) Central Jails, twenty-five (25) District Jails, two (2) Borstal Institutions and Juvenile Jails, one (1) Women's Jail, and two (2) Sub Jails. At the moment, three (3) new jails are being built.

Punjab Prisons is a modern department whose goal is to ensure that the offender returns to society as a productive member. The steady reform of prison administration per correctional philosophy and rehabilitative approach to convicts has resulted in a wholesome and healthy environment in jails. Today, the Department not only places a strong focus on moral teaching for offenders but also takes a holistic approach to ease inmates' reintegration into society after they are released (Skowrya & Coccozza, [2006](#)).

"Hate for crime, but not for criminal," says the Punjab Prisons Department. It also recognizes that detention alone will not achieve the goal of a safe society unless the offender is corrected and reformed while in prison. The Department has taken a variety of steps to achieve this goal (Child's rights, [2021](#)).

Research Questions

Q1: How can architectural design reduce the negative impacts of a juvenile facility?

Q2: How can we provide the facilities & activities for juveniles?

Q3: How can we reduce crime in prisons through the environment?

Aims and Objectives

1. I want to make such a program for the better rehabilitation of these prisoners in which they should be given vocational training as well as education. As a lab system in the school, the same place should be given vocational training in the place of lab which can improve their future.
2. To improve their mental health, they should be given sports activities so that their minds can be positive.
3. According to their minds, they should be given various types of therapies through architecture.
 - ▶ Positive thinking should be created by eliminating the negativity so that they cannot repeat the crime.
 - ▶ For them, football, badminton, and outdoor activities are provided.
 - ▶ Facilities of the mosque should be provided
4. Prisoners as well as the prisoner staff should be provided a better environment so they have a fresh mind and they can work well with the children.

An area/room should be built inside the institute where the parents should be taught how to behave with the children before meeting with the children (Elrod & Ryder, [2013](#))

Literature Review

General Overview

Overcrowding in jails is a significant issue in Pakistan, particularly in Punjab, where the majority of juvenile offenders are from impoverished and underprivileged areas. The prison system in Punjab houses 48,952 prisoners as of June 1, 2016, with 48,036 male prisoners and 916 female prisoners, adding 647 juveniles except for female juveniles against the authorized accommodation of 21,527. This overcrowding and merging of juveniles and adult criminals have led to more space being required for the placement of prisoners and indulging young prisoners in more criminal activities (Edwards, [2008](#)).

Not a single prison in Pakistan is self-reliant and obtains expenses from the government, which relies on taxes. The fact that under trials and condemned prisoners will not be subjected to any labor will not help in solving the problem. The juvenile justice system has evolved, with many ancient societies and their legal systems distinguishing between adult and young criminals by fixing the minimum age of criminal responsibility. Juvenile delinquents were treated as adults for a long time, with harsh sentences and occasional death penalties.

In the nineteenth century, the reform movement for the welfare of children corresponded with the influence of rehabilitation on phonological thinking and laid the basis for a separate justice system for juveniles. Juveniles were thought to be treated differently than adult criminals, and the position of juvenile delinquency should be viewed as distinct from and less serious than adult criminality. The new approach called for individualized justice for each child and emphasized the need for an informal, noncriminal procedure instead of the legalistic, criminal procedure when dealing with juvenile offenders (Edwards, [2008](#)).

One of the foremost concerns of the juvenile justice system based on this line of thinking was to prevent as much as possible the coming into contact of juveniles with the formal court system, thus avoiding children being stigmatized and ensuring they retain the maximum contact with society. Liberals believed that the institutionalization of juvenile offenders was one of the most painful forms of treatment for young offenders, as it denied them the freedom to engage with the community and lacked many of the facilities that the institution is expected to provide.

Conservatives, in contrast to this liberal line of thinking, continued to demand harsher sentences for juveniles, ascribing the high rate of serious and violent juvenile crimes to the lenient juvenile justice system, which they believe encourages rather than deters delinquents. Conservatives propose harsher punishments as a solution to solve juvenile delinquency, such as longer periods of detention in guarded facilities, transfer of juvenile cases to the adult criminal justice system for strict punishments, crackdown on adolescent drug abuse, abrogation of privacy protection for delinquents, and more discipline in schools (Rachmayani, [2015](#)).

Juvenile Justice System in Pakistan

Over six decades of self-rule in Pakistan, there has been no significant effort to revise penal codes, implement more rigorous disciplinary measures, or soften prison structures to reduce criminals' ability to escape punishment. Juvenile justice in Pakistan focuses on children's criminal activity, with between 1500 and 2000 juveniles being held in prisons. The country's stance on criminal responsibility leads to an abundance of children running afoul of the law, as the Penal Code states that something is not illegal when performed by a child at the age of seven who has not yet reached the age where they can understand the significance of their actions. The Juvenile Justice System Ordinance 2000, enacted by the Musharraf government in July 2000, is still being implemented. A study of 51 jails revealed the most wretched conditions for Pakistani juvenile prisoners, with most being under trial and unable to obtain bail due to poverty.

Chart 1

Types of Major Offences Committed by Under Trial Prisoners

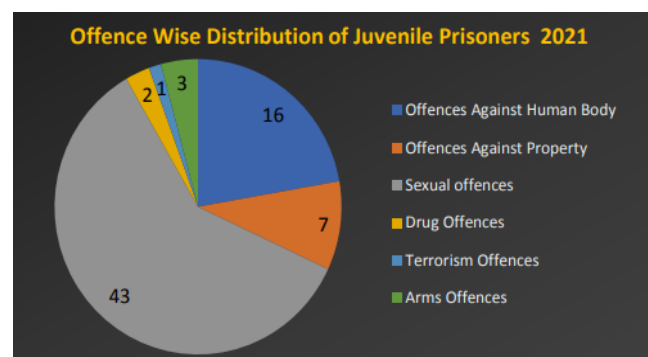
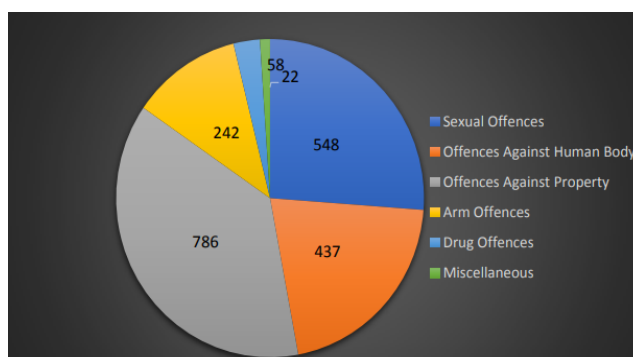


Chart 2

Offence-wise Distribution of Juvenile Prisoners Convicted in 2021



Source: (research paper): Prison-Data-Report-2024_NCHR-x-NAPA-x-JPP

No. of Juvenile Prisoners

A total of 1,584 juveniles are currently imprisoned across Pakistan's jails. Female juvenile prisoners constitute only 0.7% of the total juvenile prisoner population in 2024. Of the total juvenile population, 85.1% are under-trial, an increase from 86.3% in 2023.

Chart 3

Province-wise Juvenile Prison Population

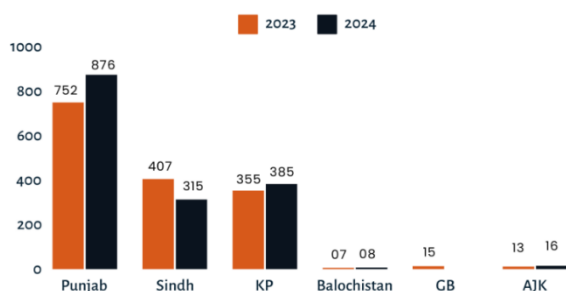
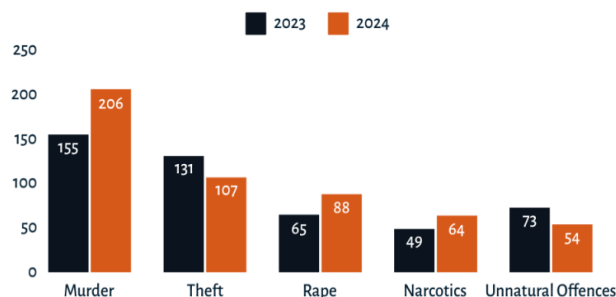


Chart 4

Crime-wise Juvenile Prison Population



Source: (research paper): Prison-Data-Report-2024_NCHR-x-NAPA-x-JPP

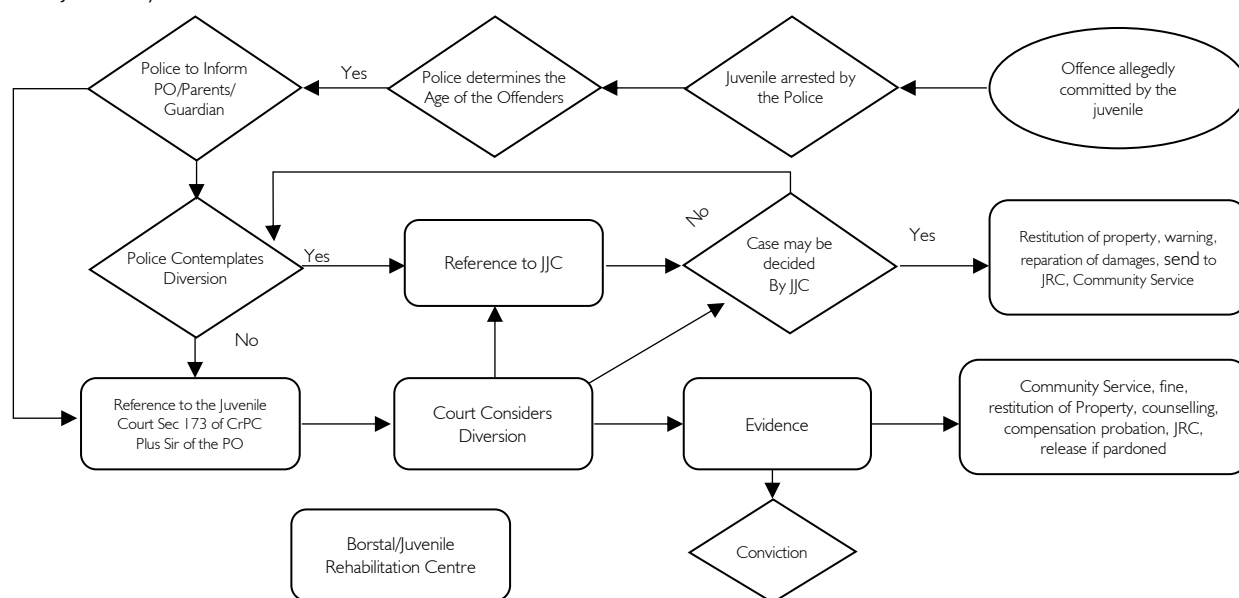
Salient features of the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance in Pakistan:

Definition:

The term "juvenile" describes an individual who committed an offense when they were just under 18.

Figure 1

Juvenile justice system in Pakistan



Source: Primary Data

Arrest and Detention:

- ▶ Once an arrested juvenile has been detained, it is in the best interest of their well-being if their guardians are informed as soon as possible.
- ▶ It is also necessary that the concerned probation officer is made aware of this.
- ▶ For children arrested for a non-bailable offense, the 24-hour timeframe is for when they have to appear before the juvenile court, while for children arrested for a bailable offense, they may be released even with no bail.
- ▶ When children are committed to Borstal institutions, the JJSO stipulates that they must be "imprisoned and given training and education for their mental, moral, and psychological development." Furthermore, cash and resources are provided to assist in the establishment of these Borstal institutions in the various regions. Handcuffs or fetters cannot be used on any child in custody.
- ▶ It bans the use of corporal punishment or hard labor on children, even during detention or imprisonment.
- ▶ For non-bailable offenses, it restricts keeping a child in police stations.

Trial and Sentencing

- ▶ Free legal counsel, free medical treatment, and the right to appeal a conviction within 30 days of becoming aware of the conviction are all provided to children as part of this program.
- ▶ Also, any joint court hearing of an imamate with an adult is strictly prohibited.
- ▶ It is in the best interests of the court proceedings to avoid unnecessary delays (Chan et al., [2018](#)).
- ▶ Proceedings for offenses punishable by ten years of imprisonment may be released on bail for children under the age of fifteen, and publication of the proceedings is forbidden.
- ▶ This law prohibits anyone under the age of 18 from being convicted of murder (Punjab, [2023](#)).

Prison Systems

Origin

Prison systems have existed for centuries, as they were constructed by the British to house criminals and debtors. Today, prisons are significantly different from their past use, as they were initially used to punish convicted offenders. The concept of 18th-century Europe aimed to deprive prisoners of their freedom as punishment (Karpinski, [2016](#)). Hard prisons are designed to show criminals that they have received punishment for their past wrongdoings. Prisons are built based on the modernistic approach of "form follows function," with security being a priority. The building cannot negate the concept of punishment by introducing comfortable spaces, making it a building whose form is primarily dependent on its function (Moran et al., [2016](#)).

Purpose of Research

- ▶ The purpose of research on prison designs will lead to understanding the functionality of early prisons.
- ▶ Will lead to understand the outcomes of the different prison layouts.
- ▶ To comprehend the surveillance methods and patterns.
- ▶ To grasp how prison design can affect inmates.
- ▶ Will lead to understand the emergence of outdoor and indoor spaces.

Types of Prison Layout

- ▶ **Radial Prison Layout/Panoptic On:** The Eastern State Penitentiary in the U.S. was the first to use the radial layout, which was later applied to 300 other prisons worldwide. The Panopticon, designed by Jeremy Bentham in the late 18th century, is another notable example.
- ▶ **Concept & Architecture:** The design aims to allow a single watchman to monitor all inmates in an institution, ensuring they are not aware of their presence. The architecture features a tall tower within a circular building, with each cell having one-third of the structure's thickness for windows. The cells are creatively isolated and monitored by a secret observer.
- ▶ **Auburn/Sing-Sing Layout:** The Auburn/Sing-sing layout with long cell houses containing cells inside suitable only for maximum-security prison.
- ▶ **Telephone Pole Layouts:** Modified telephone pole layouts allow for easy access to prisons, well-lit, ventilated cell blocks, and easier administration and supervision, making it suitable for various institutions and suitable for various types of institutions.
- ▶ **Self-Enclosed Prisons:** Self-enclosed institutions, where the prison building forms the outer boundary wall. This is used for maximum-security prisons. The proper classification of prisoners is not possible because of the restricted space (Moran et al., [2016](#)).
- ▶ **Courtyard Layout:** Courtyard layout prisons, typically maximum and medium security, feature cell houses arranged around a central court connected by covered corridors. However, these institutions are expensive to build, have long corridors, and are too distant from other facilities
- ▶ **Unit Plan or Open Campus Layout:** Unit plans or open campus layouts with separate cell houses or cottages were planned to enclose one or a series of courts. Usually used for medium and minimum-security systems (Karnam, [2010](#)).

- ▶ **Free or Open Layout:** Completely free and open layout, conforming to no definite architectural patterns. This is usually for juvenile institutions and minimum–security prisons (Fairweather & McConville, [2013](#)).
- ▶ **Skyscraper Prison:** Skyscraper prisons, either radial or rectangular, are used for remand and short sentences, providing maximum and medium security. They offer advantages such as height, limited space, centralized administration, easy guarding, and cost-effectiveness. They can be fitted on small sites in cities, making them ideal for restricted spaces and cost-effective construction (Danawala, [2016](#)).

How Does the Architectural Planning scale Down the Ratio of Crime?

Newman argued in 1972 that crime was significantly higher in 100 New York City housing projects than in their respective neighborhoods. Although on average, crime was typically higher (per capita) in high rises, the most significant element was the number of hidden spaces, such as elevators and stairwells, that made it difficult to exit, as well as the public spaces that were not readily accessible, like lobby areas and parking garages. Crime took place in these areas. Newman thus concluded that for a housing development to be successful, it must provide defensible space that is within easy reach of neighborhood residents. When it comes to the design of housing developments, four key factors must be considered.

- ▶ Design places where people will consider personal security important because they have ownership of the area.
- ▶ To allow residents to easily see what is happening, try to avoid creating spaces in which residents cannot see clearly.
- ▶ Instead of opportunistic crimes, create a building with a secure appearance and otherwise image to avoid.
- ▶ To allow access to the environment while at the same time providing ample surveillance (Rachmayani, [2015](#)).

National Case Study: Borstal Institute and Juvenile Jail Bahawalpur

Introduction

- ▶ The word Borstal means Reformatory. A reformatory is a place for those who commit crimes due to various reasons. The underlying reason varies from one individual to another.
- ▶ There is only one institute in Punjab and one remand home in Karachi. The Punjab Borstal Institute is in Bahawalpur.
- ▶ The building was built in 1866, but in 1965, it was established as a juvenile jail. The total area of the institute is 33 acres, of which 6 acres is the residential area, 13 acres is the jail area, and 14 acres is for agriculture.
- ▶ Total prisons: 450 in this institute (Victims et al., [n.d.](#)).

Analytical Study

The institute houses juveniles in district jails across Punjab, including those in Bahawalpur. It is divided into sections like the “hospital, kitchen, barracks, school, general ward, dispenser, isolation ward, and doctor's room”. The institute also handles under-trial juveniles from the Bahawalpur district.

- ▶ The isolation ward is for tuberculosis patients.
- ▶ The juveniles themselves under an instructor cook the food.
- ▶ The facilities available in the kitchen are the kneading machine, tandoor, and 2 stoves.
- ▶ The storage is connected to the kitchen.
- ▶ Children aged between 10 to 15 years are put together in one barrack.
- ▶ The number of juveniles is around 29-40.
- ▶ They don't have any private space where they can sit in isolation if they wish so.
- ▶ Each of them has a space of about 3'6" where they sleep and keep their belongings.
- ▶ Segregation cells are used to keep those juveniles who violate the prison rules.
- ▶ The cells are 6'8", including the w.c, a tap for water, and a sleeping berth, which is not present. 3 at a time use the space.
- ▶ The curtain wall covering the w.c is 2'6" high from the floor level of the cell.

- ▶ Each cell has an open yard which is not more than 5'6".
- ▶ The school section comprises separate classes from prep to graduation.
- ▶ The juveniles take examinations and tests to be promoted next class.
- ▶ When a juvenile reaches class 10, he is prepared to take matriculation examinations.
- ▶ The central jail in Bahawalpur becomes the center for them to sit examinations for secondary school, inter, or bachelors.
- ▶ The ones who are learning the Holy Quran and the ones who recite the Holy Quran sit in a separate class.
- ▶ The ones who are learning the Holy Quran do not attend school, as they only concentrate on learning by heart

The school offers a library and a mosque, with children playing on the playground. Some are introverts, and others are extroverts, and they need love and affection to eradicate criminal behavior. They need to feel normal and live in normal settings. Their families can meet them once a week in the visiting section, which is divided into two rooms with a double-grated iron curtain. The visiting section is divided into visitors and juveniles. Both formal and religious education programs are offered, and the prisoners are appointed by qualified teachers. However, they do not have access to the telephone.

Reasons

Paternal neglect, broken family, family heritage and violent behavior, undue uniformity in school and at home, peer pressure, school environment, lack of moral education, media and Internet, life situations.

Table 1

Facilities Provided

Vocational Training	Sports & Recreation	Rehabilitation Center	Medical Services	Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Carpet weaving workshop ▶ Tailoring workshop ▶ Bike mechanic ▶ Electrical workshop ▶ Welding workshop 	<p>The following facilities are provided to the prisoners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ludo ▶ Carom board ▶ Cricket ▶ Football ▶ Table tennis ▶ Badminton ▶ Martial Arts 	<p>The Rehabilitation Center functions within the jail, offering essential treatment and support services to inmates.</p>	<p>The prisoners are provided with all fundamental medical facilities.</p>	<p>Both formal and religious programs are offered.</p>

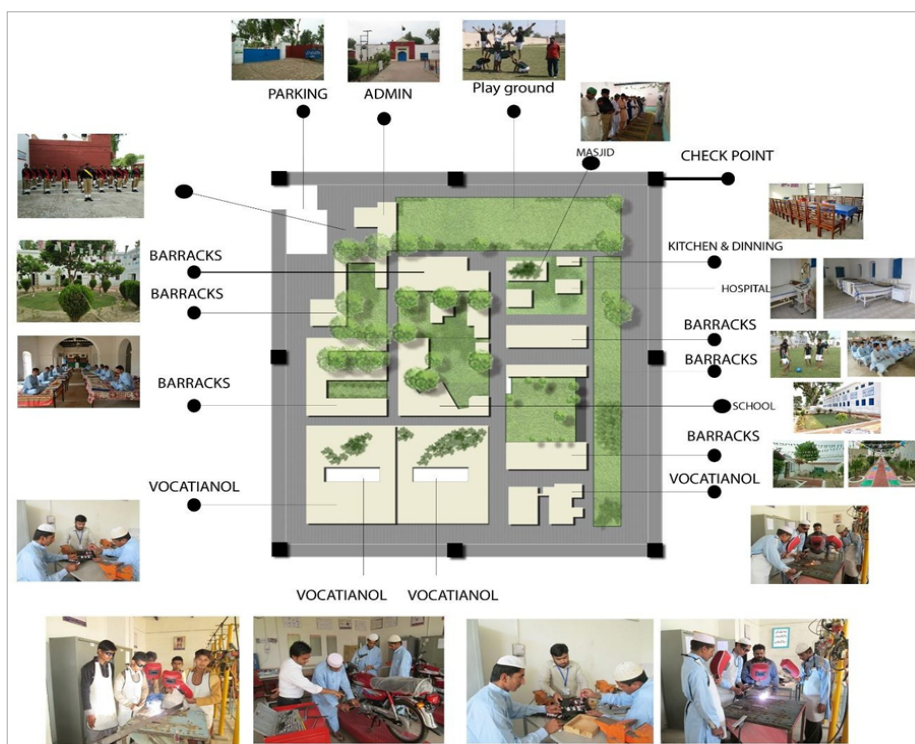
Table 2

Daily schedule

Daily Schedule (Monday-Sunday)	Timing
Study the Quran.	5 am to 6 am.
Breakfast 7 am.	7am.
Class.	9 am to 1 pm
Lunch timing.	1 pm.
Sports activity.	2 pm to 4 pm
Vocational classes.	4 pm to 6 pm
Dinner time.	7 pm.

Figure 3

Borstal Institute Bahawalpur Master Plan



Source: Primary data

v-Critical Analysis

Pros

These institute facilities are good &and proper management

- ▶ Vocational studies
- ▶ Praying area
- ▶ Health facilities
- ▶ Education study

Cons

- ▶ No proper ground
- ▶ No proper library

Superintendent Interview

1. How many prisons are in the jail?

Ans: The Total strength is 450 above

2. How many prisoners were again arrested? & why?

Ans: No idea why prisons again arrested

3. Which facilities do you provide for juveniles?

Ans: Football, cricket, ludu, carom, badminton. Martial arts,

5. What Type of facilities are you providing?

Ans: Tandoor, praying area, sports area, toilets, health facilities, education facilities

6. Which type of Vocational studies are you offering?

Ans: Carpet weaving workshop, tailoring workshop, bike mechanic, electrical workshop, welding workshop.

7. What is the crime ratio of juveniles?

Ans: Per year, 700 to 800 juvenile offenders

8. Age limits?

Ans: 9 to 18 considered

9. Solution?

Ans: Provide vocational training.

National Case Study: Camp Jail

Camp Jail on Jail Road Lahore Ichra

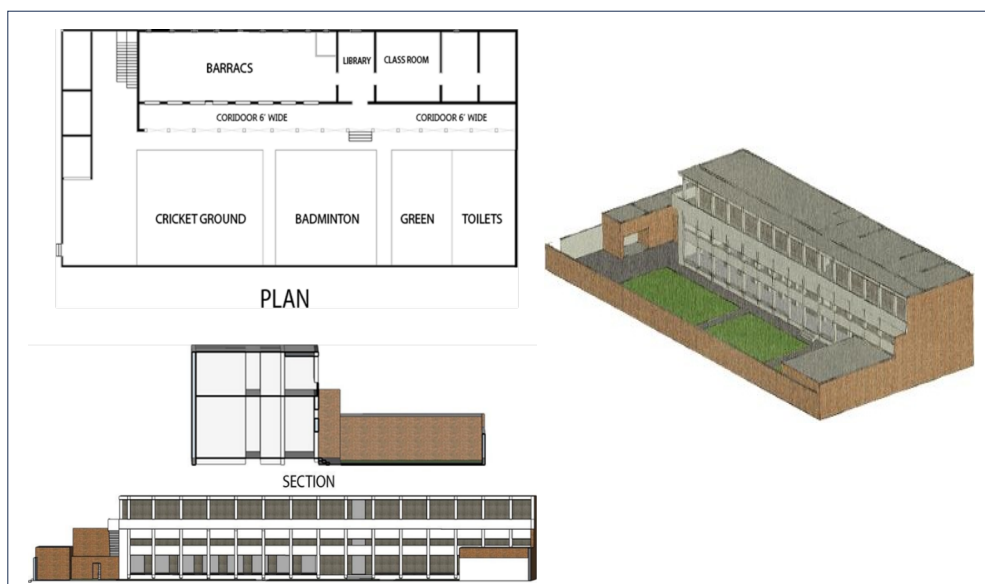
District Jail Lahore was commissioned in 1930, and the area of the Jail is 32 acres 04 Kanal 01 marls, the area of the lines 01 acre, 04 Kanal, the area of the jail colony is 01 acre, and 04 Kanal. The Jail is permitted to facilitate 1050 inmates, while 2895 are held here. But the youth department is only on 4 Kanals.

Table 3

Facilities	Sports & Recreation	Rehabilitation Center	Medical Services	Education
Sports & Recreation	Volleyball	Physical exercise for drug addict prisoners	Provide Basic facilities to prisoners in jail hospitals like E.C.G,	The following facilities are being provided for the prisoners: Rehai School (NGOs)
Rehabilitation Center		Medical care of addicted prisoners Religious education for addicted prisoners	X-Rays Dental Lab	Taaleem-ul-Quran Library for prisoners
Medical Services Education	Carom board	Academic Education for Juveniles Computer Education for Juveniles Vocational training for Juveniles.	Ambulance Weekly visits of the consultants.	Academic education (Computer education & Vocational training) for Juveniles.
Visitors Schedule		Schedule		
Day				
Monday		302, 324,489 F Kidnapping, etc		
Tuesday		302, 324,489 F Kidnapping, etc.		
Wednesday		Dacoit		
Thursday		Dacoit 302, 324,489 F Kidnapping		
Friday		Juvenile, Narcotic Cases		
Saturday		Juvenile, Narcotic Cases		

Figure 4

Plan, Elevation & 3D View of Camp Jail Ichra



Source: Primary Data

Interviews (Primary Data)

Superintendent Interview

(Mr. Asad Javed Warraich)

1. How many prisons are in the jail?

Ans: Total strength is 30 above

2. How many prisoners were again arrested? & why?

Ans: 12 prisons were again arrested because they are doing crimes.

3. Which facilities did you provide for juveniles?

Ans: Tailor, computer lab (typing), Football, cricket, ludo, carom, badminton.

4. Can you punish?

Ans: Yes

5. What type of facilities can you provide?

Ans: Tandoor, praying area, sports area, toilets, health facilities, education facilities

6. What is the crime ratio of juveniles?

Ans: Per year, 113 juvenile offenders

7. Age limits?

Ans: 9 to 18 considered

8. Solution?

Ans: Provide vocational training

Teacher Interview

1. Vocational training Provide?

Ans: Yes (silage, computer lab [typing],

2. The behavior of prisons?

Ans: Not good, using abusive language, no discipline, not interested in studying.

3. What is the interest level of juvenile offenders?

Ans: Some students are interested in games & some students are interested in study & some students are interested in vocational work.

4. Can you punish?

Ans: It depends on the behavior; otherwise, no punishment.

5. What are the playing activities that you have provided?

Ans: Football, cricket, ludo, Caram, badminton

6. Interested in studying or not?

Ans: Mostly no

7. Will other facilities be provided in the future?

Ans: Yes, because the TEVTA board contracts the 20 jails for the vocational training provided in Punjab for juveniles

International Case Study: Halden Prison (Most Humane Prison in the World)

Location: Halden, Norway

Status: Operational

Capacity: 248-252

Population: 251(2015)

Opened: April 8, 2010

Area: 75 acres

General Overview

Halden Prison, located in Norway, is a maximum-security prison with three main units, receiving prisoners from around the world without a conventional security apparatus. Established in 2010, it is the second-biggest prison in Norway, focusing on rehabilitation (Stott, [n.d.](#)). The prison's design simulates life in a non-prison setting, offering activities such as sports and music for inmates to interact with unarmed personnel. It received an Aronstein Arnsberg Prize in 2010 for its interior design (Schaefer et al., [2017](#)).

Design

Concept: "Let the Inmates See All of the Seasons."

The architects of Halden have preserved trees to minimize the institutional feel on their 75-acre site, thereby avoiding the need for a 20-foot-high wall. The maximum penalty in Norway is 21 years, even for murder. Prisons imitate the outside world to



prepare inmates for freedom, with rooms featuring private bathrooms with ceramic tiles, mini-fridges, and flat-screen TVs (Roush & McMillen, [2000](#)).

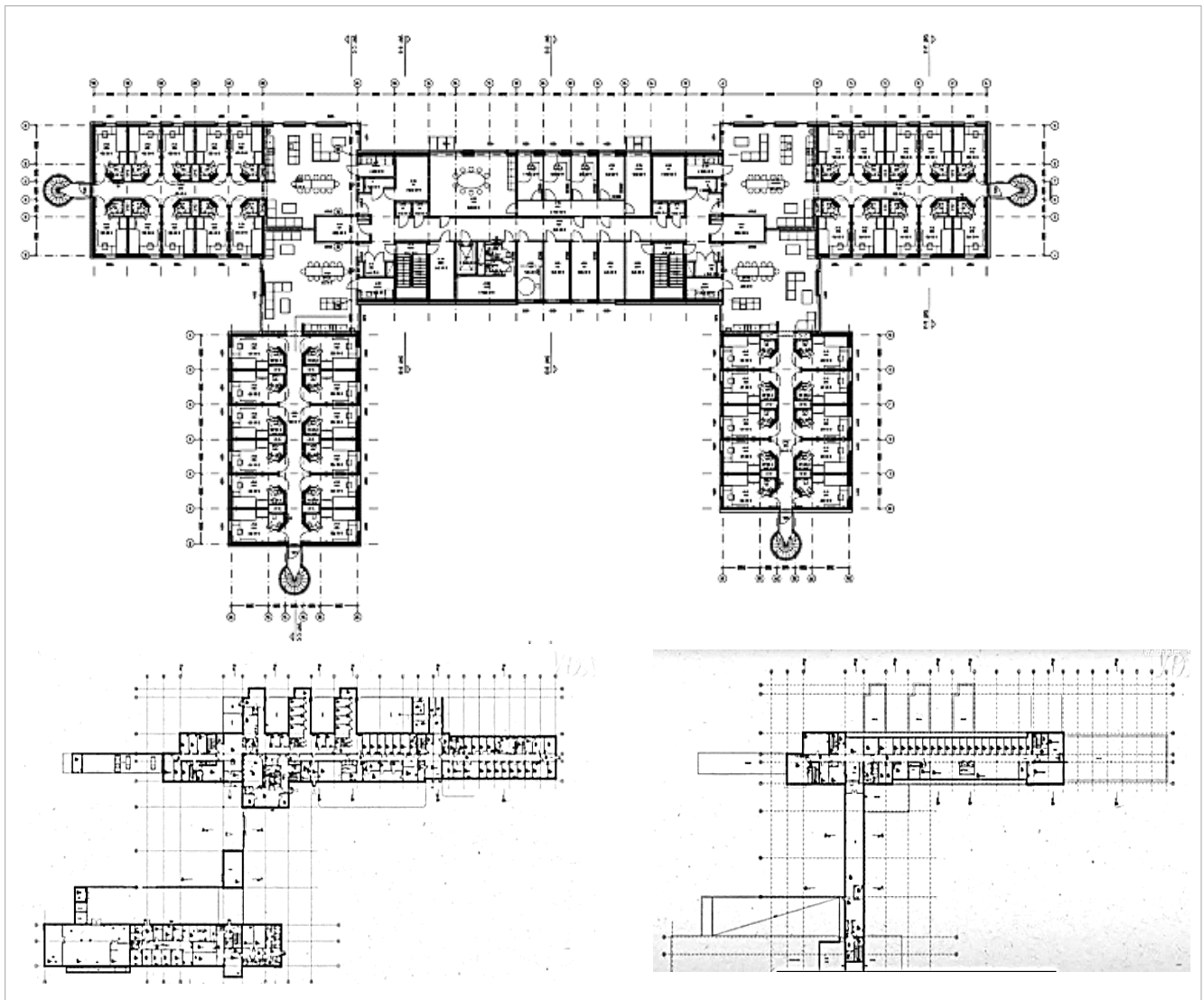
Facilities

The Halden prison has invested approximately \$1 million in paintings, photography, and light installations to alleviate the psychological burdens of prisoners. In-house music teachers, who refer to the prisoners as "pupils," teach them various instruments, such as the piano, guitar, and bongos.

Each cell in the prison shares a kitchen and living room, where prisoners prepare dinner and relax after a working day. The prison also lacks bars in all windows, ensuring a safe environment for prisoners (Kimble, [2015](#)).

Figure 5

Floor Plans Halden Prison, Norway (Chaichian, [2024](#))



Staff

- ▶ Halden had 340 employees in 2012, including teachers, health workers, staff trainers, and guards.
- ▶ The 'dynamic security' philosophy, which promotes interpersonal relations between employees and prisoners, helps prevent potentially aggressive behavior and guarantees security.
- ▶ Guards eat meals as well as play sports with prisoners and are typically unaffected because weapons can intimidate and distance socially.
- ▶ The interaction among both prisoners and employees is "family creation,"

- ▶ The stations were also designed to be small and tight to motivate officers to interact more with prisoners (Chaichian, [2024](#)).
- ▶ Halden townspeople view the prison as an opportunity to find work instead of a bad thing.
- ▶ Some philosophers have said that. Prison is known to be the most humane in Europe and some people called it the most humane prison in the world (Tikkanen, [2022](#)).
- ▶ Halden Prison was awarded the World Festival Awards for Architecture in 2010.
- ▶ The Arnstein Arneberg Award was awarded to its interior design.
- ▶ Prison life should not be different than life outside prison; only the lack of freedom of movement is the difference (Stott, [n.d.](#)).

Conclusion

Significant flaws in the former juvenile jail's atmosphere and architecture are evident in its current state, which has a direct impact on the inmates' psychological health and chances for rehabilitation (Petersen, [2013](#)). Many of the young people residing at the institution have voiced their displeasure with the physical environment, describing it as uninteresting, constrictive, and lacking in any components that foster optimism or personal development (Schaefer et al., [2017](#)). Since correction and rehabilitation, not punishment, are the primary goals of juvenile incarceration, the lack of a well-designed, rehabilitative environment seriously compromises this purpose (Tikkanen, [2022](#)).

There are still issues, even though the jail staff usually treats the convicts with respect and friendliness. Stricter monitoring and staffing procedures are required since the juveniles frequently do not react correctly to the staff's leniency, leading to disciplinary problems. The jail employs enough people to run its operations and maintain safety and order, and some attempts are made to get prisoners involved in craft and vocational training programs to help them develop their skills (Maiello et al., [2016](#)).

Notwithstanding these efforts, the rigid daily schedule that both staff and prisoners adhere to produces a dull environment with little opportunity for introspection, creativity, or emotional growth (Institute for Crime & Justice Policy Research, [2019](#)). The convicts' lack of positive motivation is exacerbated by this strict discipline and the uninspired surroundings. The institution must take a more comprehensive, design-driven approach that incorporates therapeutic areas, stimulating activities, and adaptable schedules that promote emotional healing, education, and reintegration into society if it is to accomplish its rehabilitative objective (Micheletti, [2025](#)).

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