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Unmasking the Minds of Serial Killers: A Jungian Analysis of Jeffrey Dahmer's and Javed Iqbal's Personalities

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Keywords: Crime, Personality, Sexual Pleasure, Psychological factors, Shadow, Persona

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Title

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Abstract

This study examines the cause of evil and the emergence of serial killers' personalities, focusing on Jeffrey Dahmer and Javed Iqbal. Central to this investigation is the debate over whether killers are born evil or shaped by their experiences, highlighting the interplay between nature and nurture in creating notorious criminals. The research explores psychological, cultural, and societal influences on deviant behaviors, incorporating criminology, sociology, and forensic psychology insights. Additionally, it critiques the media's portrayal of serial killers and its impact on societal perceptions, questioning the media's role in shaping and understanding evil. By closely examining Dahmer and Iqbal through multiple lenses, this study promotes a deeper understanding of the complex processes underlying criminal behavior and challenges cultural narratives that may perpetuate evil.

Keywords: [Crime](#), [Personality](#), [Sexual Pleasure](#), [Psychological factors](#), [Shadow](#), [Persona](#)

Introduction

The mysterious world of criminal behaviors has captivated scholars, researchers, and society. Notorious individuals like Jeffrey Dahmer and Javed Iqbal serve as a chilling reminder of the dark depths of human psychology. This research explores the psychological factors that drive criminals like Dahmer and Iqbal to commit their offenses. By examining human personality theory, the study seeks to uncover a complex web of

influences including family dynamics, bits of intelligence, sexual impulses, and questioning surrounding sexuality.

Carl Gustav Jung (1875-1961) was a Swiss psychiatrist who pioneered analytical psychology, a field that explores the human psyche. Unlike Freudian theories, Jung's work focused on unconscious archetypes and collective unconsciousness. His ideas have expanded our understanding of human behavior and personality



influencing art and literature, religion and philosophy, and shaping modern psychology. Using his well-known theory of personality, I examined the conscious and unconscious motivations behind the crimes of Dahmer and Iqbal.

Beyond the confines of individual psychology, this study extends its focus to the broader societal and cultural context. It explores the significant impact of religion, cultural norms, and the factor of fatal illness on shaping the personalities and actions of these criminals. The interaction between these external influences and the internal psychological landscapes of Dahmer and Iqbal reveals a complex tapestry that warrants a close examination.

This study also investigates the true stories of Dahmer and Iqbal have been immortalized in writing. This literary portrayal reflects society's fascination with the darkest aspects of human psychology and its intense curiosity about the minds of those who transgress social boundaries

When examining the cases of Jeffrey Dahmer and Javed Iqbal through the lens of Shadow and Persona within the framework of personality theory the complexity of their motivations becomes evident. Both Dahmer and Iqbal masterfully crafted external personas that concealed their malevolent intentions. They presented themselves to society as modest, ordinary individuals, diverting attention from the dark secrets lurking within.

In the research analysis, comparing Dahmer and Iqbal, Jung's theory of personality, with a particular focus on archetypes of Shadow and Persona, plays a pivotal role in understanding their complex psychological profiles.

The shadow perspective reveals the hidden, repressed, or darker side of a person's personality. For Jeffrey Dahmer, this shadow showed itself in his gruesome acts of necrophilia, dismemberment, and cannibalism. In Javed Iqbal's case, it emerged through his sadistic crimes against children. These insights help us understand how these individuals could separate their deviant desires from the socially acceptable personas representative. This analysis highlights the need to explore the interaction between persona and shadow aspects of personality to understand the depths of criminal behavior in such cases.

The Persona archetype represents the social mask that an individual presents to the outside

world. Both Dahmer and Ibar carefully constructed personas that concealed their dark intentions. Dahmer portrayed himself as a polite and unassuming neighbor, while Iqbal appeared as an ordinary member of his community. This allowed them to hide their malevolent shadows beneath socially acceptable results. The shadow outside compasses the hidden, repressed, or darker aspects of a person's personality which in this case manifested in the horrific crimes.

By examining these criminals through the lens of Jung's Theory of Personality and the archetypes of shadow and persona, we gain insight into the intricate interplay between their outward facades and the dark shadows that drove their heinous actions. This comparative analysis deepens our understanding of the complex factors at play in their criminal behaviors.

Research Objectives

1. Investigate the subtle psychological influences on criminal behavior, focusing on individuals like Dahmer and Iqbal.
2. Explore the impact of religion and cultural factors on the personalities of criminals such as Dahmer and Iqbal.
3. Examine literary representations of Javed Iqbal and Jeffrey Dahmer's real-life cases, shedding light on societal interpretations and implications of their crimes.

Research Questions

1. How do factors such as intelligence, genetic recombination, sexual drive, homosexuality, and family issues influence criminals like Dahmer and Iqbal psychologically to commit offenses?
2. What are the influences of religion, culture, and mental diseases on Iqbal and Dahmer?
3. How are the real-life instances represented in the literature of Jeffrey Dahmer and Javed Iqbal?

Theoretical Framework

The theory of Personality is a psychological theory developed by Carl Jung. Jung's most unique contribution to Psychology is two of the major and powerful archetypes: Shadow and Persona. Jung describes Shadow as "the inferior and less

commendable part of a person,” (McGrath, [n.d.](#)) and Persona as “a kind of mask, designed on the one hand to make a definite impression upon others, and on the other to conceal the true nature of the individual.” Jung considers shadows inherited and not learned. Persona is more of a self-preserving projection to the outer world, what we think we are, and what we show to the world by suppressing our true self, i.e., Shadow (Purrington, [2024](#))

Carl Jung claims that Shadow propels us forward. Shadow is considered the animal side of a human. In Sigmund Freud's world, it is known as the Id. It is an unconscious institution that has been there since birth. It is exclusive and well hidden from the world because a sane person would not want to show the true evil and aggressive side of themselves. Jung claims it is the constructive and obstructive part of human beings. Jung coined the term "shadow" to represent the aspects of our desires and emotions that society or our conscious mind often deem unacceptable. In our attempts to conform to or deny these darker facets, we sometimes project them onto others. Jung's belief was that acknowledging and understanding our shadow is crucial to preventing it from wreaking havoc in our lives or in our relationships with others. For instance, consider feelings of intense lust or overwhelming greed. If we continually suppress these emotions, they may manifest independently in our psyche, potentially leading to destructive sexual boundaries or unhealthy financial behaviors. Repressing the shadow can also result in individuals who struggle to express themselves fully and tend to assign blame to others. Jung encouraged individuals to embrace all facets of their being, shedding light on even the less savory aspects of their inner selves (Allen, [2020](#)).

A Persona is more like role play; you show others what you want to show them while concealing your identity. Jung introduced a principle called “Enantiodromia” when a person completely transforms himself into the Shadow opposite (Houston, [2023](#)). A person breaks at a point while pretending to be someone they are not, and that breaking point transmogrifies a person psychically.

In *Jung and Sex: Revisioning the Treatment of Sexual Issues*, Santana quotes Jung's sexual

concerns that sexuality is everywhere; when a man is involved in anything, sexuality becomes a foremost external factor in their case. A person's sexuality can help in understanding an individual's deepest desires (CG Jung and Sex — Dr. Ed Santana, [n.d.](#)).

Jung had a vigorous approach to the human psyche. He examined the conscious and unconscious minds of human beings through the lens of human evolution. He claims that with the evolution of humankind, the sexual nature of man has also evolved (McGrath, [n.d.](#)).

Jung asserts that emotions live on the borders of heaven and hell. There is lightness in it as much as darkness. The dark part is evident when archetypal and physical forces create friction and combust, just like when Shadow and Persona form an equilibrium and an immoral element of the human mind is hidden behind a mask of false positive identity impressions to the world (Man, And His Symbols: Carl Gustav Jung, [1964](#)).

Carl Jung's Theory of Personality matches exceptionally with my findings since both criminals had split personalities, hiding their wicked nature beneath the mask of normal-looking individuals. This study will explain why Dahmer's and Iqbal's victims were men-boys, why they took their victims' lives after engaging in physical contact with them, and how they concealed for far too long until Dahmer was apprehended, and Iqbal tuned in. And what is the influence of Nature and nurture on both? The research seeks to complete the list of notable criminals of the twentieth century using the Theory of Personality as a lens.

Literature Review

This paper applies Carl Jung's Theory of Personality to compare the crimes of Jeffrey Dahmer and Javed Iqbal, challenging the notion of an inherent predisposition to criminal actions. It explores the interplay between nature (psychological factors) and nurture (religion and culture). Using Jung's archetypes, the paper dives into the motivations of Dahmer and Iqbal, addressing the scarcity of studies on serial murderers. It also analyzes Dahmer's evolving modus operandi and law enforcement challenges, highlighting unique hurdles in Iqbal's case. Socially and culturally, the impact on communities, media sensationalism, and public reactions are examined, along with the

portrayal of mental health issues. This comprehensive approach provides valuable insights for prevention efforts and societal responses to extreme criminal behavior.

Stuart Palm said, and Dr. Khalid Sohail quotes in his book *ApnaQatil*, that when human beings are deprived of the basic rights of life, this deprivation gradually takes the form of violence (Raza, 2015). In 2018, the FBI recorded 1.2 million violent crimes and seven million property offenses in the US. Crime is a regrettable part of society, but the motivations behind these crimes remain a mystery. Current criminology focuses on underlying elements contributing to criminal behavior, considering individual motivations and circumstances (Blog-Walden University).

Dana Brooke Thurmond's *The Influence of Carl Jung's Archetype of the Shadow on Early 20th Century Literature* is narrated through the lens of Shadow and persona, where Dr. Jekyll splits himself in two, one good and one evil, leading to "dissociation," which refers to a division within the mind that can lead to a state of neurosis. An iconic fictional illustration of this phenomenon can be found in Robert Louis Stevenson's 1886 novella, "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." In the story, Dr. Jekyll's "split" manifests as a physical transformation, as opposed to the inner psychological state that typically characterizes dissociation in real life. (Thurmond 2012).

Genetics and upbringing influence criminal behavior; childhood events and genetic factors impact both juvenile and adult life. Exposure to criminal environments, poverty, and poor living conditions heightens the risk of crime (Genes, Environment, and Criminal Behavior, n.d.).

Dr. Katie Seidler, MAPS, a clinical and forensic psychologist, wrote in her blog, "What can culture add to an understanding of criminal violence?" about how culture takes part in violence and believes that "culturally influenced understandings of 'self' and others' can add in important ways to understandings of the nature and manifestation of violence" (What Can Culture Add to an Understanding of Criminal Violence | APS, n.d.).

To look at the era, it is said that the late 20th century was "the most violent in history". The twentieth century saw more mass murders than any preceding century (Payne, 2002).

"As a child grows and matures, the mother—whether biological or a stepmother—plays a key role in her child's development and attitudes. "At Kansas State University, an expert on child development, Chuck Smith, has done an extensive study on family influence in giving rise to criminals (Effects of Parents on Crime Rates [Marrimedia], n.d.). That included the missing figure, in my research, Dahmer and Iqbal were deprived of their mother's love. One left and the other died, respectively. A sense of unwelcoming was built in them and Iqbal in the rage of losing his mother (History, 2023) due to his unethical and disturbing activities killed hundreds of children took an oath, in a letter that was found by the police that "I will make a hundred mothers cry" because when he was beaten by one of his victims as per the report covered by VOA Urdu (VOA URDU, 2022)

Paraphilia is a bizarre sexual desire other than normal sexual interests. It involves Paraphilia of Necrophilia and Cannibalism along with pedophilia. Iqbal was a clear case of Pedophilia, but if we look at Dahmer's case through the eyes of his doctor in prison, Dr. Park Dietz, he claims that Dahmer had one enduring interest, which gives his soul a satisfactory response to what he was doing was "internal organs" to him they had "striking appearances" and what was appealing to him was "glistening surfaces" Mr. Dahmer, as per the reports by Dr. Dietz wanted a "loving, breathing and consenting partner" but in other words, he wanted a living submissive for his pleasure purposes. He wanted to be with someone who had no will of their own and Dr. Parks quoted him by saying he used the term "Zombies" for these two psychopaths with mental issues (COURT TV, 2022).

In contemporary literature, the multifaceted nature of criminal behavior and the underlying factors that contribute to it have been explored by scholars, particularly Dr. Khalid Sohail in his book "ApnaKatil." He posits that criminality often finds its roots in two primary causes. Firstly, individuals may become criminals due to neglect during their formative years, leading to emotional deprivation and a lack of parental love and compassion. This neglect results in the accumulation of anger, hatred, bitterness, and violent tendencies in their personalities. Notable criminals such as Henry Lee Lucas, Michael Mcgray, and Albert de Salvo fit into the category. The second group encompasses those

whose criminal tendencies are nurtured by the overly indulgent parent who caters to their every legitimate and illegitimate desire. This intricate interplay of familial dynamics in shaping. Criminal behaviors have been the subject of significant interest, with criminal psychologists like Eric Hickey exploring the early lives of notorious individuals like Dahmer, emphasizing isolation and familial discord as crucial elements. In contrast, Javed Iqbal's case highlights this phenomenon's complexity. The book provides a deep exploration of Iqbal's condition and the aftermath of heinous crimes. Within its pages, Chapter 11, titled "Day and Night of Uneasiness," stands out as a pivotal moment. Dr. Sohail interviewed Iqbal's brother, Pervaiz Iqbal, who vividly recounted the brutal beating Iqbal endured at the hands of one of his victims. This narrative underscores the dire consequences of criminal actions and the potential psychological repercussions they can exact. Dr. Khalid and Abid Hasan Manto both raised strong objections to the subsequent punishment meted out to Iqbal, which mirrored his own gruesome methods. Their criticism points to the intricate ethical and moral considerations surrounding such cases, shedding light on the broader implications of criminal behavior within society (ApnaQatil by Dr. Khalid Sohail.pdf, [n.d.](#)).

Jeffrey Dahmer faced negligence from his parents and the people around him too. He lacked the physical attention, and the attention he craved was of men whom he finds guilty of ever having homosexual feelings, just like one of the mass killers, John Wayne Gacy, who killed 33 young men in Chicago, as mentioned by Ted Cahill in his book about Wayne's killings, and Dahmer had easy access to lure men out of gay bars, particularly in a town in Milwaukee where after every other block there was a gay bar (Barron & Tabor, [1991](#)).

Iqbal was a pampered boy, had loving parents, and belonged to a wealthy family. To lure young boys, he opened a games shop, aquarium, gym, and his little money game. They were then taken to an adjacent room where the young boys would be sodomized, as per what was written in the Dawn newspaper in [2001](#) ("LAHORE: The Story of a Pampered Boy," 2001)

Emily Durkheim, A French Sociologist in *Elementary Forms of Religious Life* ([1912](#)), claims that religion functions as a social force and that

higher levels of religious commitment should result in fewer destructive behaviors. Researchers examined the fact that people who are more likely to be close to their religion are mostly engaged in sanctioning themselves and refraining from evil activities, as religion plays the role of "shielding against negative behaviors," including crime (McGivern, [2014](#)).

Madison Leech, in her article "Why Jeffrey Dahmer's religion is 'left out' of the serial killer's story," mentioned Dahmer finding God behind bars, claiming that he often mentioned it in his interviews "given to the media, but each time the report airs, that part is left out," Dahmer said, according to Rev. Roy Ratcliff (Leach, [2022](#)).

According to Christopher Craft's analysis of one of the characters from the novel *Dracula* written by Bram Stoker, Harker can be viewed through the lens of Carl Jung's Shadow archetype. Harker's pursuit of an unconventional erotic experience challenges Victorian gender norms, invoking the influence of his shadow. Jung's theory posits that the shadow represents hidden, darker aspects of one's personality. Harker's journey to the east symbolizes a confrontation with his shadow, where unconscious desires and fears are acknowledged. His open expression of desire for women, despite potential disapproval, reflects an exploration and integration of previously suppressed aspects. This not only challenges societal expectations but also represents a deeper understanding of his own psyche, guided by the Shadow archetype (Thurmond 33-35)

In a literary analysis of the film "Urumi," the concept of the shadow archetype is explored. This archetype, often portrayed as the antagonist, introduces tension and fear in the story. The movie features two shadow figures: Vasco da Gama and his son EstavioDa Gama. These characters exhibit prelogical thinking driven by intense desires and primal needs. Gama's obsession with acquiring pepper leads him to forsake his humanity, while Estavio, mirroring his father, resorts to brutal actions and revenge. Both characters break societal norms for personal gain, embodying the shadow figure archetype (Varghese and Balasubramanian, [2017](#)).

Applying Jungian Psychology to Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* (2013) discusses the Jungian archetype of Shadow and persona which is like my

topic of criminals living a masked life. Randall states in her work that in J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Fellowship of the Ring," the character Gollum was originally known as Sméagol, a hobbit-like figure with a preference for solitude and an interest in studying tree roots. The transformation into Gollum occurred after he killed his friend Déagol for the One Ring, leading him to be banished from his hobbit society. The use of the name "Sméagol" suggests a gentler nature, distinct from the darker persona of Gollum. This duality is further emphasized in "The Two Towers" when Frodo takes the elvish rope from around Gollum's neck, symbolizing the separation of the two opposing personalities within the character (Randall, 2013).

Maggie, the protagonist in Stephen Crane's "Maggie: A Girl of the Streets," is analyzed through Jung's archetype theory. Her tragic fate results from the interplay of shadow and persona. Maggie's impoverished life fueled a yearning for a better existence, leading to a misjudgment of Pete's character. The "persona," embodying the conformity archetype, both benefits and harms Maggie as she becomes overly attached to the role of a "good girl." This attachment renders her vulnerable, contributing to a tragic downfall marked by an inability to navigate life's challenges and a descent into despair (Zu & Han, 2013).

Textual Analysis

"Devil Made Me Do It" is an unscrupulous principle in horror and paranormal cases, influencing human behavior. Understanding psychology is crucial for personal growth, effective relationships, and addressing societal challenges. Emotional triggers can lead to impulsive actions, and criminal behavior ranges from minor offenses to serious crimes violating laws. Mass murder of innocent people falls under psychopathic personality disorder.

This study stands out by addressing the lack of research on serial murderers and emphasizing the interplay of nature and nurture in driving individuals to commit heinous crimes without remorse. Dahmer and Iqbal draw motivation from a Puritan standpoint, suggesting that human nature tainted by original sin influences their disturbing actions.

In 2008, divorce rates in the U.S. impacted over 8 million adults, correlating with behavioral

problems in children. Lack of emotional support from parents contributes more to delinquency than family structure (Effects of Parents on Crime Rates [Marrimedia], n.d.)

In Iqbal's case, parental favoritism contributed to rebellious behavior, linked to the "PuerAeternus" archetype (Rohde, 2003). Iqbal's exposure to violence in the media and a traumatic childhood event influenced his criminal actions (Sohail, 74). Dahmer's broken family aligns with the unresolved issues manifesting in destructive behaviors. His strange childhood, marked by an unusual fascination with animal carcasses, social isolation, and later compulsions, contributed to his criminal behavior (Finn, 2024).

A link between crime and emotions exists; lower emotional intelligence is associated with higher crime rates (Kelsey, 2023). Iqbal's traumatic childhood experience and Dahmer's peculiar upbringing highlight the impact of emotions on criminal behavior.

In 1935, homosexuality was classified as a "psychopathic personality" within sexual orientation, and by 1952, it was labeled a mental disorder in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (*Homosexuality in the DSM*, 2024).

Jung held the belief that individuals could encounter their own Shadow not only in dreams but also in visions. He suggested that embracing the shadow can stimulate creativity and originality (*What Is Shadow Psychology? | BetterHelp*, 2024). These two murderers were intelligent and unconventional. Jeffrey Dahmer was 13 years old when he realized he was a homosexual, but he was "ashamed and confused about it" (Sullivan n.d). Jung put Shadow as "the most part inferior and guilt-laden personality" trait (Stinchcombe, 2023). Dahmer was lonely and lacked attachment to people. His emerging sexuality took a turn in his behavior when he fantasized about killing young men. "I started having obsessive, intermingled thoughts of violence, intermingled with sex. And it just got worse and worse, and I did not know how to tell anyone about it. So, I did not and kept it all inside." (Inside Edition, 2018) On the other hand, Iqbal married twice, once when he was 17 years old and then at the age of 36, both marriages failed miserably. Between 1973 and 1992, he indulged himself in homosexual acts with boys ages 10-15.

They used to work in his shop; he would lure them to a room, physically abuse them, and pay them to keep their mouths shut for it. Dr. Khalid Sohail took on Haji Aslam Darvish, who was the president of the Shad Bagh Market Association for the past 30 years. He said in his interview that Javed Iqbal used to misbehave with his wife. He repeatedly did that for a long time, but after some time she could not handle it and left him. "We discovered at that time that he has no interest in women and only shows interest in guys." (ApnaKatil, 74 -75) It was the year 1990, when, for the first time, he was charged with homosexuality. He was accused of molesting a minor boy of a Pathan family, and since then, for a longer period, his victims have been minor Pathan boys. "Javed Iqbal was very friendly with Pathans, and people used to say that he likes Pathans and sleeps with them." (Arif Butt, Shad Bagh Market Association General Secretary - ApnaKatil, 61)

When police received Iqbal's letter, it clearly showed his mental health was on the brink of losing sanity. He wrote about the incident that led him to the first offense he ever committed. He was at home when a deadly attack left him unconscious for days in the hospital. He abused a local massage therapist, and upon realizing he was molested the massage therapist used an Iqbal gun's magazine that broke Iqbal's skull into pieces. "My jaw was broken, my eye was lost, my spine was fractured" I decided to take revenge by consulting all my friends." (Iqbal). This clearly indicates that Iqbal was filled with rage and revenge, and after all the treatments and operations were futile, his life turned towards suicide, but he never acted upon it, and instead he turned his hate fire against young boys. "I have seen young boys live here for years, commit crimes, commit misdemeanors, become accused, go with people, and steal and kill and escape from them. I had planned to take my revenge on them" (Iqbal, 1999)

The murders of Iqbal and Dahmer were a result of childhood trauma, exploitation, family issues, and sexual preferences. Iqbal was a pedophile, while Dahmer was diagnosed with Paraphilia, necrophilia, and Cannibalism (Dr Park Dietz, 1992).

Iqbal, a notorious serial killer, first targeted Yasir, a 14-year-old boy, by teasing him and causing him to be poisoned. He then injected him with flesh-eating acid, turning him into waterMurderpedia (n.d.). In 1978, Dahmer

murdered Steven Hicks, an 18-year-old hitchhiker, by strangling him and dismembering his body. He later used a sledgehammer to disperse the bones, and later masturbated on the corpse, using phallic organs to fulfill his sexual desires (BuzzFeed Unsolved Network, 2022).

Jeffrey Dahmer was arrested multiple times for sexual assault, masturbation, sodomy, and lobotomy on his victims. Dahmer's obsession with killing led to his murders, which were often carried out on the outskirts of society. His preference for corpses and "zombie" individuals led him to turn to pornography and heavy masturbation to satisfy his fantasies. Dahmer's low self-esteem and low self-esteem led him to become comfortable with dead bodies, which he believed were more comfortable with. According to Jung, the Shadow self is an essential aspect of one's identity but neglecting it can lead to extreme behaviors (McIntosh, 2018). Dahmer's obsession with killing led to his obsession with killing, as his sexual needs were being fulfilled. After living in a hospital unconscious for 22 days (about 3 weeks), Dahmer lost his mind and often entangled himself with his memories, speech, and brain capabilities.

The docuseries "My Son Jeffrey: The Dahmer Family Tapes" features unreleased phone conversations between Jeffrey Dahmer and his father Lionel during his prison time. Dahmer revealed that he had criminal tendencies since his beginnings, not just for pleasure fulfillment. The series highlights the link between criminal behavior and genetics, suggesting that mental issues like anxiety, depression, loneliness, and schizophrenia may contribute to criminal tendencies. The probability of being genetically criminal is one percent (McEvoy, 2024)

Religion and culture share common elements, with the West exhibiting distinct cultural differences from the East. Homosexuality dates to Lut AS, with the destruction of Allah warning against harmful practices. Research suggests that differences in sexual orientation are linked to brain variations, but the physical shape of the brain is unclear. Both sexual orientation and biological sex can affect brain structure (Votinov et al., 2011).

Jeffrey Dahmer and Javed Iqbal were both involved in illegal and gore activities that went against their religion. Both were lost in lust and power, seeking revenge against innocent people.

However, they found God behind bars, believing only Jesus Christ could save them from their sins. Rev. Roy Ratcliff baptized Dahmer again just months before his death, providing reassurance that he was "accepted" by God despite his horrifying crimes (Pastordave, [2022](#)).

Dr. Khalid Sohail studied the case of Javed Iqbal, arguing that there is a need for a dialogue between scientists and spiritualists. He believes that there is a contradiction in Iqbal's relationship with God, as he dreams of killing 100 kids but prays to God to execute his plan. Sohail believes that Pakistan should establish therapeutic prisons like those in Europe, as the culture is strict and extremist in religious beliefs. He found similarities between Iqbal and the judge, representing anger, hatred, and a desire for revenge. Sohail received worldwide sympathy for Iqbal, despite being the only person with any sympathy for him (ApnaKatil, [202](#)).

Doctors claimed Iqbal and Dahmer were mentally unstable. but despite this, they appeared sane in media interviews, confessing and addressing their crimes as if they were not guilty (ApnaKatil, [50](#)) When investigators arrested Jeffrey Dahmer, they realized they had stumbled onto a "real-life Hannibal Lecter"—a sadistic murderer who told them he had saved a human heart "to eat later" (Adventuresbetweenpages, [2018](#))

Iqbal was a clear case of Pedophilia; his victims were of the age of 6 – 16. While Jeffrey Dahmer had Paraphilia of Necrophilia where he had the desire to have sexual relations with corpses for Six months and did so, he was also suffering from Frotteurism which is the desire to rub up against someone without their consent lastly, he was diagnosed with Partialism, Dahmer had an enduring interest in one particular part of the internal organs or part of the human body he finds attractive", according to Dr. Park Dietz (*COURT TV*, [22 Oct. 2022](#)).

Javed Iqbal and Jeffrey Dahmer died at the hands of imbecile socially and morally religious people. Dahmer was found killed in his prison cell by his fellow prisoner Christopher Scarver, who was known to be a schizophrenic, on November 28, 1994. He claimed, "God told me to do it" (McEvoy). While on the other side of the world on October 10th, 2001, Iqbal, and his fellow prison friend Sajid committed suicide by hanging themselves from the ceiling, but the Post-mortem report claims

otherwise. "He cannot commit suicide. He was not in the state of mind to do so and the person, his companion, did the same on the same night. So, the chances of murder can be more than suicide," (ApnaKatil [201](#))

Jeffrey Dahmer, known as the "Milwaukee Cannibal" or "Milwaukee Monster," killed 17 men from 1978 to 1991. He faced sexual exploitation charges in 1989 and committed a gruesome murder while awaiting sentence. After being released, he began his notorious killing spree, developing unique rituals and experimenting with chemical disposal. His killing spree ended when he was apprehended in 1991 (McEvoy, [2023](#)).

The documentary "The Untold Story of Javed Iqbal | Pakistan's Worst Serial Killer" by Zia Zulfiqar provides a comprehensive account of Iqbal's brutal crimes, from his letter to the police in 1999 to his mysterious death in KotLakhpat Jail, Lahore on 9th October 2001 (Zia Zulfiqar, [2023](#))

Brian Masters' "The Shrine of Jeffrey Dahmer" explores the psychology of the criminal, highlighting his fascination with victims and dark instincts. Dahmer preserved body parts and created a submissive "zombie" from Anthony Sears, revealing his sinister psyche and motivations for his crimes (The Shrine of Jeffrey Dahmer: Masters, Brian, [1939](#))

Dr. Khalid Sohail's book "ApnaQatil" analyzes the psychological analysis of Iqbal, responsible for the tragic deaths of 100 children. The judicial response, driven by anger, led to his guilty verdict. Abid Hussain Manto criticizes the court's decision, arguing it is questionable and contradicts Islamic principles. He emphasizes the need for a compassionate approach.

Jasmine Washington's article suggests Dahmer struggled with inner demons and dark thoughts, even watching "Exorcist III" with his victims to distance himself from evil. Tracy Edwards' testimony during the trial confirmed Dahmer's cannibalistic tendencies and his descent into the depths of his shadow. Dahmer's struggles and crimes exemplify the darker aspects of the human psyche, while Iqbal's heinous crimes serve as a cautionary tale (Washington, [2022](#)).

Ryan Murphy's Netflix series "DAHMER - Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story" captivated audiences with its 10-episode series, blending fact and fiction to explore the heinous crimes of Jeffrey

Dahmer from 1978 to 1991, leaving audiences questioning the boundaries between reality and entertainment.

Javed Iqbal's story, spanning beyond his crimes, exposes the corrupt side of Pakistani politics, particularly the Lahore police. He claims his actions were a response to unjust accusations, fueling his desire for revenge. The shadow in these narratives symbolizes malevolence and corruption within the police force and political system, influencing Dahmer's crimes and Iqbal's revenge, highlighting the darker aspects of societal structures and the blurred lines between reality and entertainment. Jeffrey Dahmer and Javed Iqbal's personas reveal their complex interplay between conscious and unconscious mind. This societal integration, despite their dark inclinations, reflects the enigmatic depths of human psychology mirroring Jungian insights. The struggle and conflict between shadow and light, between negative and positive, and between right and left remain perplexing.

Findings and Conclusion

This paper compared the legal approaches of infamous serial killers Iqbal from Pakistan and Jeffrey Dahmer from the United States. This study highlighted significant disparities in how the legal system handled the cases. The focus on Dahmer included an in-depth examination of potential loopholes that could have saved them considering his mental health, conversely, the study revealed flaws in Iqbal's case, where he was declared guilty without a thorough assessment of his responsibility. Utilizing various analytical lenses including psychological, social, cultural, medical, and religious perspectives, the research underscores failures and governments and law enforcement leading to the tragic loss of lives it emphasizes the need for intelligent intervention, proactive measures, effective law enforcement, psychological assessments, and support system to address individual with dangerous motivations the study served as a reminder of the critical role of vigilance, intelligence and coordinated efforts in protecting communities from those driven by harmful intentions.

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