

The Influence of Social Heritage on the Prevalence of Honor-Killing Crimes: A Field Study in the Hebron Governorate

Raouf Abu Awad (1,*)

Received: 20 November 2025

Revised: 23 November 2025

Accepted: 25 November 2025

© 2025 University of Science and Technology, Aden, Yemen. This article can be distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

© 2025 جامعة العلوم والتكنولوجيا، المركز الرئيس عدن، اليمن. يمكن إعادة استخدام المادة المنشورة حسب رخصة مؤسسة المشاع الإبداعي شريطة الاستشهاد بالمؤلف والمجلة.

¹ Department of Criminology, Faculty of Law, Al-Istiqlal University, Jericho, Palestine.

* Corresponding author. E-mail: raofabuawwad@yahoo.com

The Influence of Social Heritage on the Prevalence of Honor-Killing Crimes: A Field Study in the Hebron Governorate

Abstract:

This study aimed to explore the role of customs and traditions in motivating individuals to commit honor-based killings from the perspective of citizens in Hebron Governorate. The study was conducted on a sample of 60 citizens, and data were collected using a questionnaire whose validity and reliability were confirmed, with a reliability coefficient of 0.851, indicating high reliability. To analyze the data and answer the research questions and hypotheses, arithmetic means, standard deviations, and percentages were used, in addition to One-Way ANOVA and Independent Sample t-test.

The overall mean score was 3.7922 with a response level of "Agree," indicating that the participants were aware of the role of customs and traditions in motivating individuals to commit honor-based killings. The study also provided a set of recommendations, the most important of which are: enhancing religious, cultural, and social awareness to reduce negative attitudes toward honor crimes; protecting women and ensuring their rights; raising religious awareness about the dangers of this phenomenon; conducting community campaigns by media professionals and academics to address it; and eliminating tribal cover that supports or tolerates such practices.

Keywords: *Social heritage, honor crime, honor-based killing.*

References:

- Abu Al-Basal, A. A. (2013). **Honor crimes: A comparative jurisprudential study.** *Journal of Sharia Research and Studies, (9).*
- Jaradat, I. M. S. (2019). **Honor-based killings from the perspective of Palestinian cultural heritage.** *Journal of Legal and Economic Research, 2(1).*
- Hijazi, I. H. (2008). **The right to privacy and journalists' responsibility under Islamic law and civil law** (1st ed.). *Dar Al-Fikr Al-Jami'i, Alexandria.*
- Hassanein, I. (2006). **Crimes against honor and dignity in Sharia and law.** *Egyptian General Book Authority, Cairo.*
- Al-Khalid, A. O. M. S. (2019). **Legal standards of honor crimes: A comparative study.** *Al-Kufa Journal for Legal and Political Sciences, 1(43).*
- Al-Daqaq, S. (2006). **Limits of leniency in crimes of honor and reputation.** *Women's Juiciary Center, Cairo.*
- Saada, L. (2009). **Local recommendations to reduce violence against women in the West Bank and Gaza based on the work of local institutions.** *Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.*
- Salama, I. H. M. (2007). **Emotional intelligence and its relation to irrational thinking among perpetrators of honor killings in northern Palestinian governorates** (Master's thesis). *Al-Quds University, Jerusalem.*
- Al-Salaimeh, M. M. A. B. (2018). **Economic and social conditions and their impact on crime rates among correctional center inmates in the West Bank** (Master's thesis). *Al-Quds University, Jerusalem.*
- Al-Shdifat, A. J., & Al-Rashidi, M. A. R. (2016). **Social factors affecting crime in Jordanian society from the perspective of convicted individuals in correctional centers.** *Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Studies, 43(5).*
- Shlash, M. M. (2013). **Honor killings: A legal and Sharia perspective.** *Studies Journal, Sharia and Law Sciences, 4(Suppl. 1).*
- Shalhoub, N. (2001). **Femicide in Palestinian society.** *Women's Legal and Social Guidance Center, Jerusalem.*
- Al-Shamaila, N. J. M. (2002). **Moral damage and transfer of the right to compensation** (Doctoral dissertation). *College of Law, University of Mosul.*

- Shamlawi, H. (2013). **Femicide between prevailing culture and law: Contributions from young journalists**. Women and Media Series, *Women's Legal and Social Guidance Center*, Ramallah.
- Saqr, Y. (2007). **Protection of personal rights under tort liability: A comparative study**. *Dar Al-Nahda Al-Arabiya*, Cairo.
- Touman, H. A. H. (2015). **Honor as a motive in murder: A comparative study** (Master's thesis). *Al-Azhar University*, Gaza.
- Abdullah, A. F. (2013). **Femicide between prevailing culture and law: Contributions from young journalists**. Women and Media Series, *Women's Legal and Social Guidance Center*, Ramallah.
- Abdullah, N. S. (2016). **Social factors affecting crime: A field study on the social factors leading to crime in Ramadi**. *Al-Anbar University Journal of Humanities*, (1).
- Ubaidi, I. F. H. (2009). **Analytical geographic study of population characteristics in Hebron** (Master's thesis). *Birzeit University*, Ramallah.
- Al-Amali, F., Al-Ladawwa, I., Taqz, A., Al-Barghouti, M., & Al-Barghouti, E. K. (2020). **Community customs and traditions in population clusters**. Submitted to *Kober Girls' Basic School*, Ramallah.
- Al-Qahtani, M. N. (2010). **Homicide: Causes and social effects: A field study in Abha, Saudi Arabia** (Master's thesis). *Mutah University*.
- Kabaja, A. W. (2016). **Honor-motivated murder in Palestinian law: An analytical comparative study** (Master's thesis). *Islamic University*, Gaza.
- Nashwan, H. (2000). **Women in Arab proverbs in Jordan and Palestine** (1st ed.). *Azmena Publishing and Distribution*, Amman.