

COMMITTEE
FOR THE
WELFARE OF
PRISONERS



Acquittal of Khanam Bibi for being accused of a murder she did not commit

Khanam moved to Karachi from Faisalabad after she got married. In Karachi, she lived with her husband, three children, and her husband's cousin. Khanam's husband's cousin was in the city to look for work.

Unfortunately, Khanam's husband passed away due to a heart attack. Khanam's brother-in-law was, however, convinced that Khanam had relations with the cousin and they had killed her husband. Her brother-in-law filed an FIR and Khanam was arrested for allegedly murdering her husband.

Khanam was imprisoned in the Women's Prison Karachi where she met with the Committee's lawyer, Ms. Noor-ul-Sabah. Khanam's financial situation deteriorated after her husband's passing, and with her in prison, the family had no economic resources to pay for private legal representation. Her vakalatnama was filed by Ms. Noor-ul-Sabah on 12th March 2018.

Case proceedings began. The court conducted an assessment of all case records such as challan, evidence, statement of the accused, and final arguments of both sides. The court concluded that several ambiguities were found in the prosecution and witness's statement on the basis of which the prosecution completely failed to prove their case.

Khanam's son was an eyewitness to the scene. He told the court that his father fell as a result of the heart attack and hit his head on a cemented edge on the floor due to which he also suffered severe head injuries. Additionally, an FIR against Khanam was lodged four days after her arrest.

Based on the evidence, the court declared Khanam innocent on 14th January 2023.

