PREFACE

Criminologists, sociologists and psychologists are trying to find the causative implications behind the implications included in the criminal behaviour. Such behaviours are so diverse that it is often difficult to pinpoint a single unifying factor determining the cause of such criminal behavioural pattern. Every person is a product of various socio-psychological situations which are often varied and diverse. The research would seek to explore how the intersection of various factors-social, psychological and physiological- contribute in constituting a criminal.

For the purpose of causative summation the thesis is divided into five broad section, each overlooking a type of murder. These are: 1) Murder of the Political Leaders; (2) Rape and murder; (3) Murder by intimate Family members(Domestic violence); (4) Murder due to property disputes; and (5) dacoity and murder. It is recognised that the attempt of writing a thesis on such broad interface is often fraught with great amount of risk and this thesis is no exception as well. The following limitations are unabashedly recognised: a) There may be more than one criminological explanations for any type of crime,.b) The criminological explanation mentioned in this study is applicable only the circumstances of the respective case. c) The circumstances in any particular type of murder cases are varied and accordingly on an average 50 cases were selected from each category.

As a matter of explication, the choice of cases reveal a point of divergence. For instance, for the first category, one of the most talked about murder of the country has been chosen—that of Indira Gandhi. The case is studied in great detail to find out an appropriate criminological issues that emerge out this assasination of the then Prime Minister of India. The views of the terrorism theorists would also be taken into consideration terrorism theorists believe that the bulk of terrorists are crusaders convinced of the moral rightness of their cause. This theory propagates how ‘normal’ people are persuaded to commit brutal acts against innocent people. In other words , the willingness to perform terrorist acts may reflect a process of moral disengagement more than an indication of pathological or criminal traits the individual brings to the terrorist group. Terrorists believe that their cause is just further dehumanizing of their targets and viewing man slaughter as ‘collateral
damage’. In the instant case Beant Singh believed that for the greater cause of Sikh religion his act was justified.

The second category would take into account the criminological behaviour embedded in the case of Ram Singh who and some other boys gang-raped a girl on the night of 16.12.2012. The list of the accused also include a juvenile. The study will reveal how cases of violent sex offence and murder is the outcome of fear, anger, or outrage. The study would show how the result of voluntary man slaughter when the offender had temporarily been in such a high state of emotional arousal that his rational faculties were impaired. In the instant case the delinquent activities are characterized by an enjoyment in the discomfiture of others, a delight in the defiance of taboos itself.

Another explanation of this tragic story of violent crime of gang rape and murder is known as fatal alcohol syndrome (FAS). Humans have a love of drinking or ingesting substances that alter their moods. We drink alcohol to escape reality, to loosen our tongues, to sedate ourselves. About 75% robberies and 80% of homicides involve a drunken offenders in United States and had been drinking at the time of the offence (Martin, 2001). Alcohol is linked to about 110,000 deaths a year in U.S.(M.Robinson, 2005).

The third category would show the perils of dowry case. Amongst many cases that are chosen for analysis one case is that of the murder of Urmila Devi on the fated night of September 26/27, 1985. The accused in this case was Ramesh Prasad Mishra. The study of the case will not only delineate the horrendous night but also give a glimpse into the behavioural pattern pertaining to such events.

The fourth category will deal with cases pertaining land dispute. A model case study of such disputes would be the study of dispute between Satbir Singh and Surat Singh. The case would be a revelation of the socio-psychological issues that dictate the ensuing of such heinous crimes.

The last category would be explicated with the help of about 50 cases to show how Dacoity can often to lead to murder. A model case analysed for the purpose would be that of the dispute between Iman Ali vs State of Assam. In this case, the appellant, Iman Ali made a dacoity of the house of TenuArjya. TenuArjya was also killed during the heinous crime. With the help of Differential Association Theory. The key proposition in Differential Association Theory is this:"A person becomes delinquent
because of an excess of definitions favourable to violation of law over definition unfavourable to violations of law” (Sutherland and Cressey, 1974, p.75). Definitions become favourable to law violation according to the frequency, duration, priority, and intensity of exposure to them. DAT assumes that antisocial behavior is learned. Individuals certainly learn to get better at doing these things in their associations with other like-minded individuals. This theory broadly said as Social Process theory.

From the foregoing discussion of many prominent theories of criminal behavior in the background of facts and circumstances of different categories of murder cases following revelations have been made:

The study of the above mentioned categories of case studies would reveal some features. These studies would ostensibly show how Criminal acts are easily explained by reference to a particular and often unusual set of facts and circumstances. It would be somewhat naïve to believe that the perpetrator’s actions could be explained simply by placing him into some pre-existing categories of murderers. In some cases it makes more sense to consider the environmental and situational factors surrounding criminal activity rather than to concentrate primarily on underlying individual factors. In this context crime is seen as essentially opportunistic. Criminal behavior is explained by people from a wide range of different backgrounds and academic disciplines. Thus psychologists are likely to look for relevant psychological factors, while sociologists will tend to focus on societal influences. Environmental criminologists may even add another dimension by considering some important geographical factors in criminal behavior. Analysis of how, where, when, and to whom crime is occurring should allow research to be conducted which would lead to a greater understanding of why crime is occurring and to a degree the type of person committing it. The reason why any one individual chooses to commit crime can be found in the combination of genetic predisposition, personality and social learning experiences. Sometime individuals may choose to commit a crime if they perceive that the chances of detection are limited or very remote. On the other hand an individual may refrain from exhibiting their criminal tendencies if it appears that the chances of their being caught are quite high. Analysis of facts of reported cases in India reveal that in most of the murders occurred due to individual offenders psychological or sociological factors. Research on crime causation has identified a large number of relevant factors and it will be the role of future researcher to add to our current level of knowledge.