

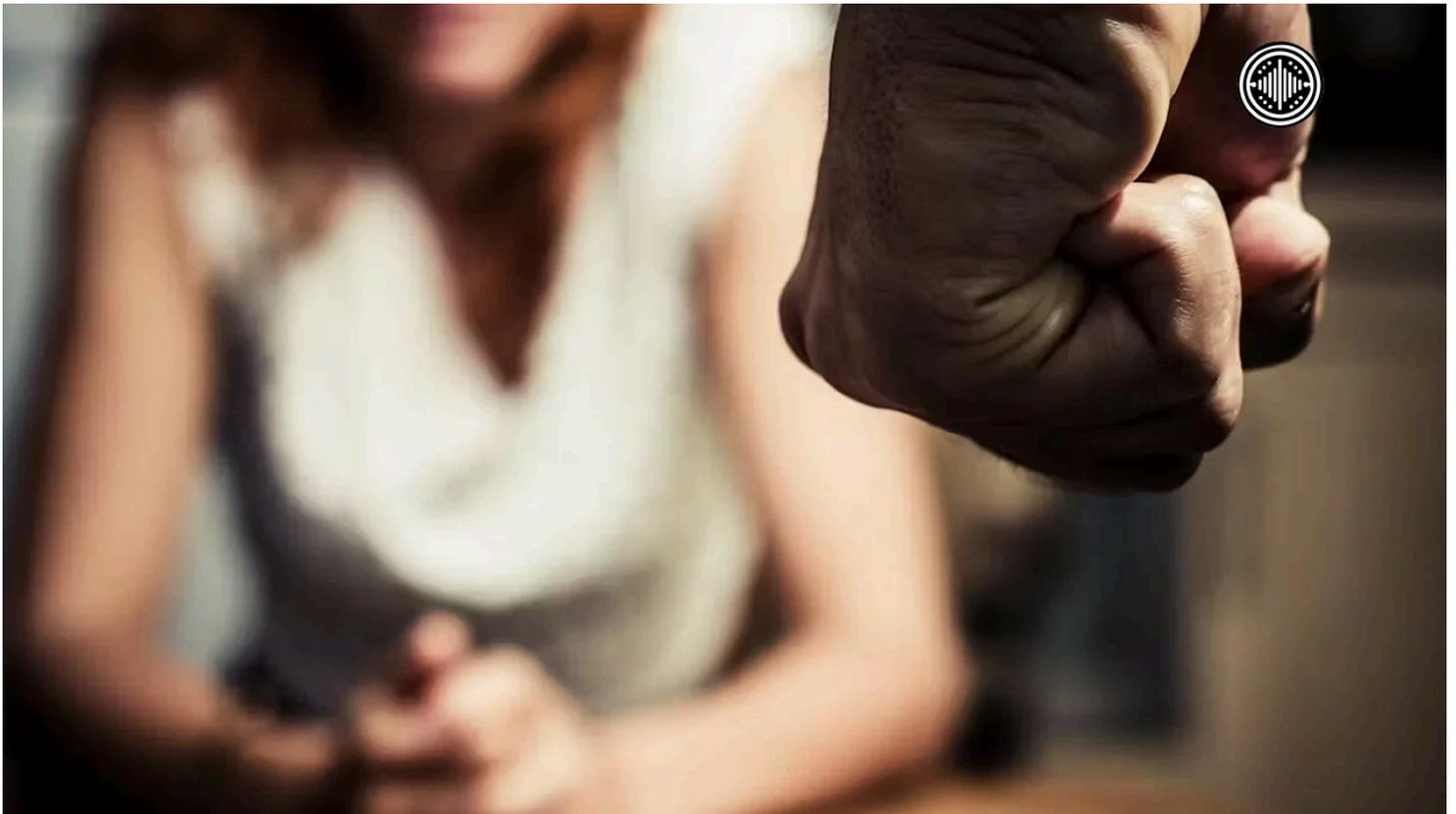
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Teen Bride Dies After Alleged Domestic Abuse in Lyari

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– Categories: Crime



A 19-year-old woman has died in Karachi's Lyari area following what police suspect was severe domestic abuse. The husband has been arrested as authorities launch a criminal investigation into the tragic case, raising further concerns about violence against women in Pakistan's urban centres.

Shanti, daughter of Chhango and a resident of the Saeed Building in Block D of Shah Baig Lane, died on Wednesday after battling serious injuries at the Trauma Centre of Karachi's Civil Hospital. She had been married for just over two weeks when the alleged abuse occurred, according to police statements. Her death has triggered renewed calls for stricter enforcement of laws protecting women in domestic settings.

The Baghdadi Police Station, which holds jurisdiction over the area, confirmed that Shanti was admitted to the hospital after sustaining multiple injuries reportedly inflicted by her husband. Authorities said the young woman remained under medical care for several days before succumbing to her wounds. A first information report (FIR) was filed, and the suspect was taken into custody shortly after.

The motive and exact circumstances surrounding the alleged assault are still under investigation, though officials have indicated the injuries were consistent with repeated physical violence. "We are treating this as a suspected case of domestic abuse leading to death," a police official stated, noting that postmortem results are pending to determine the full extent of her injuries.

Civil society organisations have long warned of the rising number of domestic abuse cases in Pakistan, especially in low-income urban neighbourhoods like Lyari. Despite existing legislation such as the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, enforcement remains weak, often hampered by local customs, social stigma, and insufficient policing resources.

While the issue of gender-based violence continues to draw international attention, the federal and provincial governments have largely failed to

implement durable reforms. Critics argue that, regardless of which political party is in power, meaningful change has been slow and often symbolic.

This case adds to a troubling pattern that requires more than just public outrage it calls for serious judicial follow-through and political will. Without strong institutional action and better protection for vulnerable women, such tragedies are likely to persist.

The investigation into Shanti's death is ongoing. Authorities have promised transparency, though many will be watching closely to see if justice is served in a system often criticised for its failure to protect the most vulnerable.