

THE KING

v

1. SAQLAIN ALI,
2. BASIT ALI,
3. SAKIB ALI KHAN,
4. ASIM AKRAM,
5. FAIZAAN AKRAM,
6. ZEESHAN KHAN

SENTENCING REMARKS

Introduction

1. Just after 8.15 pm on Saturday 12th July 2025, Shamus Hussain suffered a fatal knife wound and died very shortly thereafter at Crow Nest Park, Dewsbury.
2. Saqlain Ali, Basit Ali, Sakib Khan and Zeeshan Khan you have been found guilty of his murder. Asim Akram and Faizaan Akram you have been found guilty of Manslaughter.
3. Shamus Hussain was 39 years old and was a much loved, son and brother to his six siblings. His five children will never see their father again. His loss has devastated his close family. They each have a life sentence of grief and refer to a hole in the family that will never heal. You have caused that devastating loss and also caused you own families shame and turmoil by taking matters in your own hands that night to teach Shamus Hussain a lesson.

History

4. It is necessary to set out the background to your offences. Shamus Hussain's sister and family lived a few doors down for where you Basit and Saqlain Ali and you Sakeeb Khan lived on Pilgrim Drive. There had been issues between Hussian family members and your families and lasting enmity. Why, does not matter as it is lost in history.
5. On 21st August 2019 Shamus Hussain was convicted of possession of a bladed article and during the trial a clip was played of Shamus Hussain and his brother entering No 24 Pilgrim Drive with knives in Shamus Hussain's case with the knife behind his back

6. Wider than that incident Shamus Hussain had a significant history, reflected in part by nine other convictions of violence and the carrying of weapons including knives and an axe. He was also diagnosed with depression and had been prescribed anti-psychotic medication. He could be intimidating and was a big man; six feet five inches and over 17 and half stone.
7. In the evening of 11th July and the early hours of the 12th he had been ringing 999 and stating that his head was fried. His sister has explained that he was struggling to come to terms with the death of his father, for whom he was a live in carer, only weeks earlier.
8. On the evening of Saturday 12th Shamus Hussian was being driven along Pilgrim Drive by Mohammed Luqman who was giving him a lift when he saw three of you, Basit Ali, Zeeshan Khan and Sakib Khan standing by a car in the drive of no 17/19 with Farid Ali, your father or uncle. You were minding your own business. Shamus Hussain, he shouted “pussies” as he passed, and then got out of the car to approach you. He was carrying a small axe. He retreated when the Farid Ali spoke to him and waved him away. It can plainly be seen that he had some respect for Farid Ali and was not aggressive to him; rather his aggression was focussed on one or more of the three of you.
9. As this was happening you Basit Ali, Zeeshan Khan and Sakib Ali ran around the back of the property, Sakib Khan entering the property and emerging with a baseball bat.
10. You Basit Ali picked up a hockey stick, you Zeeshan Khan searched for a weapon in a gulley by a fence where you knew weapons were located but could not find one. As was later discovered the houses 13/15, 17 and 19 contained numerous weapons; apart from a ceremonial knife and sword and other items included three knives (two hidden in a meter cupboard) six baseball bats, two knuckle dusters and three axes.
11. The altercation in the persisted with Shamus Hussain backing off to the other side of the road and both you Basit Ali and you Zeeshan Khan had to be physically ushered away by family members.
12. A combination of Farid Ali and Mr Luxman got Shamus Hussian back into the car There was no violence and he was driven off at 8.06.
13. I am sure that the evidence shows there was then a dispute between family members living at No 13 to 19 and I have no doubt it concerned what to do given this unprovoked show of serious aggression by Shamus Hussain. The two camps were plain to see. Farid Ali, your father Basit and Saqlain Ali and some female family members were trying to calm matters down. Others, in particular your father Zeeshan and Sakib Khan, were very far from calm.

Weapons in the car and intent

14. Eventually after about six minutes the location of Shamus Hussain had been obtained through a call and two cars then drove off with eight people in them. You six, Zubair Khan and Asim Akram. The cars headed to Crow Nest Park although there was initially some confusion as to which entrance to go to. The aim was to find Shamus Hussain and make sure he did not trouble you or our families again.
15. Shamus Hussain had started this whole incident and his behaviour was not only totally unacceptable but criminal. You also knew he was an unpredictable man who could be violent. However at the time of leaving Pilgrim Drive there was no imminent threat to any of you or the wider family; that had passed. The Police had been called. Instead of waiting for the Police, or heeding what the more sensible Farid Ali and female relatives were clearly urging you all chose to seek Shamus Hussain out and deal with him.
16. When in the car you all had weapons save for you Zeeshan Khan as you had your bat snatched off you as you got in the car.

Zeeshan Khan and knife

17. There is an issue as to whether you Zeeshan Khan handed a knife to Saqlain Ali before you left Pilgrim Drive. Saqlain Ali had a knife when in the car and you accepted that during the 6-7 minutes before the cars left you went in the house at Saqlain Ali's request; you said to get him his vape.
18. The Prosecution case was that the CCTV showed you handing something to Saqlain Ali immediately before you got in the cars. You said it was the vape as did Saqlain Ali. After the attack when the car was searched a vape with Saqlain Ali's DNA was found in the car.
19. I must give you the benefit of any doubt on the issue. In my view the CCTV is inconclusive on the issue. I accept Mr Worsley KC's point that given the knife was at least a foot long it would have been clear to see and that what was handed over would appear to have been much smaller. Also there were a number of people in the gardens and road of Pilgrim Drive, others got in the car and, as I have indicated weapons inside each of the properties and by the fence.
20. I am not sure that you handed the knife to Saqlain Ali.

The two cars

21. You were divided into two cars

Car one BMW BL13

22. One car was driven by you Sakib Khan with Saqlain Ali, Basit Ali and Zubair Khan as passengers. Zubair Khan disappeared after incident, in all probability to Pakistan and has not been traced.
23. When you emerged from the car having reached the park.
24. You Saqlain Ali had a knife which you were to use to stab Shamus Hussain.
25. You Basit Ali and Sakib Khan had baseball bats.
26. Zubair Khan had a hockey stick.
27. A factual issue that falls for determination is whether you Basit Ali and you Sakib Khan knew that Saqlain Ali, your brother or cousin, had a knife when in the car. As I indicated during the hearing that issue is for me to determine.
28. I have considered the issue very carefully, given its importance and been particularly careful to give you the benefit of any doubt. However I am satisfied so that I am sure that you did.
29. The knife is shown on the stills of the CCTV in the Park being carried by you Saqlain Ali. Given that one wound you inflicted was 9 inches deep and the knife had a handle its overall length was at least a foot or 30 cm. It would have been very difficult to conceal indeed in the car given your clothing.
30. Also given what can be seen transpiring at Pilgrim Drive and what you had agreed to do, it is very difficult indeed to see why you Saqlain Ali would conceal the weapon in the car from your brother and cousin given they were armed with weapons. Also without the knife you would have had no weapon at all.
31. It was your evidence Saqlain Ali's that after the attack on the way back from the Park, the knife was visible to the other occupants of the car; but nobody asked you where it had come from and why you had it. It can be seen that you got out of the car back at Pilgrim Drive with the knife plainly in view; just as it was plainly in view as you ran at Shamus Hussain in the Park. Concealing the knife on the journey home would be nonsensical but you Basit Ali and Sakib Khan both denied seeing the knife any stage.
32. Sakib Khan, you said that after the stabbing you did not know how Shamus Hussain was injured, did not see blood and did not see Saqlain Ali carrying anything during the car journey back and you did not know that there had been a stabbing. These were clearly lies. Basit Ali you also said that you were unaware that Shamus Hussain had been stabbed and also denied seeing the knife in the car on the way back. Again I am sure lies. You both knew Shamus Hussain had been stabbed by Saqlain Ali. So there was no evidence that on the way back from the Park either of you asked Saqlain Ali what had just happened and where the knife had come from. The reason why, I am sure, is

because you knew he had a knife; probably taken because when last seen Shamus Hussain had an axe and was known to have carried a knife in the past.

33. The Jury differentiated between and you Basit Ali and Sakib Khan on the one hand and you Faizaan Akram on the other. I should add that they had no psychological evidence or evidence Faizaan Akram was below average intelligence. Given there was little or no material distinction on the evidence between what was known to be said, or done, by any of you at Pilgrim Drive, the other similar weapons you had in the two cars, your similar acts at the Park in hiding behind the cars then running as part of the group whilst carrying broadly similar weapons and that none of you being seen on CCTV to strike Shamus Hussain, it is a conclusion that the jury could have reached that they were satisfied that you Basit Ali and Sakib Khan's had intent to cause really serious harm as opposed to just some harm as was the case with Faizaan Akram because they were satisfied that you Basit Ali and Sakib Khan knew Saqlain Ali had a knife. Mr Csoka KC is correct that I cannot be sure that this was their reasoning, but my finding is in no way inconsistent with their verdicts.

Car two BMW EL 17

34. The other car was driven by Asif Azeem and contained you Faizaan Akram, Asim Akram and Zeeshan Khan.
35. The verdicts reflect a difference between the intentions of occupants of the different cars.
36. Asif Azeem, who drove to the Park was found not guilty so the jury were not satisfied that he shared any intention that Shamus Hussain suffer any harm.
37. Faizaan Akram, you had a silver coloured baseball bat you kept throughout events.
38. I shall return to what Zeeshan Khan knew in a moment. He took the hockey stick which you Asim Akram had brought into the car and when you got out you had no weapon.

At the Park

39. The two cars carrying you all arrived at Crow Nest Park around 8.15. CCTV shows Shamus Hussain standing by a black car which then drives off. He appears to acknowledge the driver. He was some distance from where your two cars were parked and you were hiding. He was topless, this being a summer, with his T shirt in his hand and posed no threat to any of you.

40. The fact that this was a summer evening in a popular park did not matter to any of you. Only a minute or so before your attack on Shamus Hussain a young boy is seen cycling around the car park; two cars leave and I am sure that a number of people were not far away enjoying the amenity.
41. You initially all stayed behind parked cars and out of view assessing the situation.
42. I am satisfied that Shamus Hussain had no weapon. What he had done with the axe that he had earlier in the intervening period is unknown. I find the whole of the CCTV evidence before and during the attack, including the T shirt he held in his hand waving in the wind and obviously not concealing a weapon, the evidence of the eye witnesses Riaz Ali and Bilal Ali (I unhesitatingly reject any notion that they were in any way partial) and the lack of any axe found at the scene, including after a search to be utterly compelling on this issue.
43. You Zeeshan Khan were the first person to emerge, shouted “are you guys with me” and led the way. As shown on CCTV coverage you walked towards, and then ran at, Shamus Hussain and you attempted to strike his head with a hockey stick as he was backing away and raising his hands to deflect the blow.
44. You were followed by the others five of you. Save for Asim Akram you each had a weapon.
45. After the initial attack by Zeeshan Khan the rest of the attack is not caught on CCTV. You are all out of sight for only 10 seconds or so. The attack was deliberate, swift, merciless and efficient. To use the phrase of Bilal Ali you were leathering him and he was swarmed, forced to the ground was struck at least five times by a linear object around the head arms and body. One blow, which required substantial force, fractured his skull. He was stamped upon and kicked whilst he was curled up in a ball. Save for Asim Akram in his police interview, none of you admitted inflicting any injury or indeed even seeing Shamus Hussain being hit by anyone. You all lied about this.
46. During the course of this attack and whilst he was engaged in struggling with others he was stabbed in the back deliberately twice by you Saqlain Ali. Two separate similar deep stabs delivered with at least moderate force, sufficient to damage a rib and causing deep unsurvivable wounds; one was 9 inches deep the other not as deep but incising the kidney. I am satisfied that you intended to kill Shamus Hussain when you stabbed him twice in this manner. No other sensible conclusion can be drawn from your purposeful actions. The fact that you may have immediately regretted what you had done does not negative any intention that you held at the time to do it. Mr Stone correctly described it as a moment of madness. It was an act that took one life, ruined yours and had a huge and permanent impact on the lives of many others.

47. The seven of you then ran back to the cars and left Shamus Hussian bleeding and fatally injured on the floor. He died at the park where he fell despite the best efforts of the emergency services to save his life.
48. After leaving the Park car one drove back to Pilgrim Drive, entering the drive at speed. Weapons were either thrown away or taken into the houses where they were some stage concealed by someone; moved from No 19 to 17. I cannot be sure who.
49. Car two was switched for another car.
50. You then all hurriedly left Dewsbury all eventually ending up in Birmingham where you stayed the night. Three of you were arrested in Birmingham as you prepared to meet a solicitor and you Saqlain Ali, Basit Ali and Sakib Khan eventually made your way back to Bradford and handed yourselves in.

Aggravating features common to the six Defendants

51. I start with some aggravating features common to the six of you.
52. You acted as a group, and it needed a group to carry out your plan and to deal with any eventuality; there was strength in numbers.
53. There was a degree of planning and/or premeditation. There was a co-ordinated decision was made to find Shamus Hussain's location and then to drive to the park as a group of eight armed with weapons to deal with him. It matters not that given the likelihood of detection it was not a very good plan. Although the planning and/or premeditation arose within the space of only six to seven minutes, some of which were engaged with the family dispute, the attack was not spontaneous and there was time for reflection and to listen to those who were giving wiser advice.
54. Importantly, this was 8.15pm on a summer Saturday evening afternoon in a public park. Members of the public were nearby and a child had cycled by moments earlier. You turned this park car park turned into a murder scene.
55. After the offence you all immediately left area in an initial attempt to avoid arrest (which Zubair Khan has managed to do).

Mitigating features common to all

56. I have carefully considered all the evidence of what happened before, during and after the attack. I am not satisfied that you Basit Ali, Sakib Khan and Zeeshan Khan intended to kill Shamus Hussain at any stage. I am a sure that you intended that he suffer really serious harm, a permanent lesson that would

stop him ever bothering your families again but no more. This is a statutory mitigating feature.

57. There was no element of self defence. Shamus Hussain was unarmed and was backing away. I reject the argument that he moved forward in any significant way. I also do not accept that you believed that Shamus Hussain was still armed when attacked. You had taken time to observe him and did not rush straight from the cars to attack him. You could see he had no top on and see that he had nothing in his hand but a T shirt.
58. It is said that you were provoked and as I have already said Shamus Hussain had started this whole incident and his behaviour was not only totally unacceptable but criminal. I accept that it was a peaceful evening until he arrived and that he carried an axe. You also knew he was an unpredictable man who could be violent and carry weapons.
59. Whilst at the time of you choosing to leave Pilgrim Drive to track him down there was no imminent threat to any of you or the wider family, and quite properly the Police had been called, the events in the park were not long after the incident in Pilgrim Drive and not that far away and it would be wholly wrong and unrealistic not to recognise the context of your offences and that they were solely in response to what Shamus Hussain had done in the past, that evening, and what I accept you all believed he might do again at some stage in the future given his previous criminal conduct. For you Zeeshan Khan in particular given your age. I also recognise that your father was clearly very agitated. The unusual context does provide mitigation.
60. Although you fled the area four of you subsequently handed yourselves in and I am satisfied that the others preparing to do so when arrested.
61. You are all genuinely remorseful.
62. I treat all of you as men of good character; not just because of a lack of previous convictions; but positive good character as evidenced by the numerous references, including from the Prisons.
63. I should add that I do not consider the driving convictions of Basit Ali as of any relevance.
64. I turn to the four of you who have been convicted of murder.

Schedule 21

65. For the grave offence of murder there is only one sentence prescribed by law that is imprisonment for life or on your case Zeeshan Khan, given that you are aged 19 a sentence of Custody for Life.

66. That is the sentence I shall impose upon you in due course. However, for each of you I am required to determine the minimum period you should serve in prison before you are eligible to be considered for release on parole.
67. It is most important that you, and everyone concerned with this case, should understand what the minimum term means. The minimum term is not a fixed term after which you will be automatically released but the minimum time that you will spend in custody before your case can be considered by the parole board. It will be for the parole board to say at that time whether or not you will be released. If and when you are released, you will still be subject to licence and this will be the case the rest of your life. If for any reason your licence were to be revoked, you would be recalled to prison to serve your life sentence in custody.
68. In coming to the appropriate minimum term I must first decide where this case falls within schedule 21 of the Sentencing Act 2020.
69. The starting points set out in the schedule do not create impenetrable compartments and to a degree should be applied flexibly and with common sense. Every case will be subject to its own specific and individual features of aggravation and mitigation and in all cases what must be achieved is a just result. The starting point is by no means necessarily the end point.

Saqlain Ali

70. You took a knife to the park and used it to murder Shamus Hussain. The starting point with the schedule for you is 25 years.
71. I have already set out the aggravating factors. You also disposed of the knife on the way to Birmingham. It has never been found.

Mitigating factors

72. As I have stated there was some planning and your intention when you stabbed Shamus Hussain was to kill him and not just to cause serious bodily harm. You alone had this intention.
73. You were aged 21 at the time of this offence. You were not a very young man but you were still a young man.
74. I take into account, as I do in respect of Zeeshan Khan, Asim Akram and Faizaan Akram the Guideline for sentencing Children and young people many of the principles being relevant to young adults aged 18-25).
75. Young people are not fully developed and they have not attained full maturity. This can impact on their decision making and risk taking behaviour and make them susceptible to peer pressure.

76. Also the impact of punishment is likely to be felt more heavily by a young person in comparison to an older adult as any sentence will seem longer due to their younger age.
77. I make it clear I have detected no signs in the evidence or the trial of a lack of maturity beyond that to be expected of man your age.
78. You have no previous convictions.
79. I have considered and take into account your letter and seven references. They set out how much your family has struggled to come to terms with your offence, particularly your mother and how you have always been a caring, respectful, responsible and hard working man of faith. However it should be understood that for the offence of murder a starting point is mandated and your family circumstances and past good behaviour can only be of limited weight when you have taken a life.

Basit Ali

80. You are 10 years older than your brother.
81. As I have set out I am satisfied that you knew your brother was taking a knife to the scene and shared an intention with him to cause at least really serious harm; in his case it was more than that.
82. A secondary participant who knew that the principal was taking the knife used in the murder to the scene with the intention of using it to commit an offence or to have it available to as a weapon falls within paragraph 4 of the schedule and provides a starting point of 25 years.
83. I should make it clear that had I not been satisfied you knew about the knife there would have been a very significant movement up from the starting point to reflect the fact that you took weapons that were used in the attack although were not the weapon that inflicted the fatal injury.
84. However the starting point is just that and a significant distinction between the minimum terms is appropriate to reflect your lesser culpability as you did not stab Shamus Hussain and did not intend that he be killed.
85. I also must weigh up the relevant aggravating and mitigating factors which I have set out.
86. I have considered your letter and references. You ask for mercy and leniency but must understand how Parliament has determined the approach that I must taken and the starting points for murder. Your references speak to you being hardworking, respectful and honest family man.

Sakib Khan

87. You were aged 32 at the time of these offences.
88. As I have set out, I am satisfied that you knew your cousin was taking a knife to the scene and that you shared an intention with him to cause at least really serious harm. Again as a result the starting point is 25 years.
89. As with Basit Ali I am not satisfied that you shared Saqlain Ali's intention to kill as opposed to cause really serious harm.
90. Again I must weigh up the relevant aggravating and mitigating factors which I have set out.
91. I again have read your letter and references. I accept you were a hard working family man with three young children.

Zeeshan Khan

92. The Jury were sure that your intention was that Shamus Hussain suffer really serious harm but not that he be killed. I have to determine a basis for the finding of that intention.
93. In doing so I have to decide whether I am sure that you knew Saqlain Ali had brought a knife to the scene.
94. You were not in the car with Saqlain Ali and the no other occupant of the vehicle in which you travelled to the park has been convicted of murder.
95. Unlike the other Defendants the Jury could readily assess your intent by what they saw; you leading the way in the attack and trying to strike Shamus Hussain twice over the head with a hockey stick. These were the only strikes by with a weapon caught on CCTV; so in respect of which the person doing it was identifiable. I accept Mr Worsley KC's and Mr Khokar's point that if the jury were satisfied that this showed your intent that the group cause him at least really serious injury it was not necessary for them to conclude that you knew about the knife.
96. This throws the focus back on the issue of whether you handed the knife to Saqlain Ali at Pilgrim Drive. As I have said I am not sure that you did.
97. I am therefore not satisfied that you knew that Saqlain Ali had a knife, rather that you intended that Shamus Hussain be caused really serious injury through blows with whatever weapons the others had.

98. I also accept the argument that I should construe the phrase in paragraph 4 “and used that knife or other weapon in committing the murder” narrowly and that it refers solely to a knife or other weapon that inflicted the fatal violence, which in this case was the knife. Whilst the sticks or bats caused a fractured skull and other injuries, they did not cause death.
99. Whilst the starting point in your case is 15 years as you did not stab Shamus Hussain or know that he had a knife, given your knowledge of, and involvement with, weapons taken to the scene to inflict violence and your individual participation by leading the attack there must initially be a substantial increase from the starting point. You took the weapon, a hockey stick, that Asim Akram had brought into the car as the weapon you had tried to bring into the car was taken off you as you were in the process of getting in. It matters not whether he handed it over or you took it during the journey or as you got out ; part of the intent behind paragraph 4 of the schedule is to differentiate between weapons spontaneously obtained, or of which a person only becomes aware at the scene; so in respect of which there was no planning and those deliberately taken with intent that they would or could be used . You intended to travel with a weapon, you knew there were weapons in the car and you took one of them. You then used that stick during the murder by leading the way and starting the attack on Shamus Hussain by trying to strike him twice on the head with the intention of causing him at least really serious harm by the use of that weapon or similar ones used by others in the group. As he was in the process of and pre-occupied with grappling with you for control of the stick the rest of the group joined in the attack.
100. I should add that I accept the point made by Mr Worsley KC and Mr Khokar that whilst you swung the stick at Shamus Hussain’s head the first blow was avoided/parried and when you swung it at him again he caught it and started to grapple and there is nothing to indicate either of those blow caused head injury; indeed quite the reverse. I am satisfied that it was during the attack that followed your strikes with the stick when he sustained his injuries and apart from the stabbing, I cannot determine who did what.
101. In your case age is a significant mitigating factor; you were 18 years old at the time of the offence.
102. I have considered your letter and references that refer to your positive good character.

Credit for time on remand

103. For each of you credit must be given for time on remand. and I must deduct it from the minimum term.

Manslaughter

104. I now turn to you Asim Akram and you Faizaan Akram. You have been found guilty of manslaughter.
105. There is a sentencing guideline which I am required by law to follow. It covers the offence of Manslaughter which may be committed in very many different ways.
106. I have to assess your culpability to arrive at the correct starting points for sentence set out in the guideline.
107. In my Judgment I must start on the basis that you both had high culpability. Death was caused in the course of an unlawful act which either involved an intention by the offender to cause harm falling just short of GBH or carried a high risk of death or GBH which was or ought to have been obvious to the offender.
108. The Starting Point for a Culpability B case is 12 years with a range of 8-16 years. However the guideline sets out that responsibility which is substantially reduced by learning disability or lack of maturity, which builds in age, is a category D factor. As I shall set out that is the case with both of you. Taking all relevant factors into account, it is my view balancing factors that culpability is best placed towards the bottom of the range in Category B and at the top end of category C.
109. I then have to consider aggravating and mitigating factor. I do not include the use of weapons as that would be double counting as they provided the high risk.

Asim Akram

110. I take into account your age. You were aged 20.
111. I do not accept that you were forced into a car or told the others to stop; this was not heard by the witnesses and you gave no evidence to support what you said in interview.
112. However you had no weapon and were towards the back of the group ; consistent with having given your weapon away or having it taken from you. The Jury's verdict that the driver of the vehicle you both travelled was not guilty of any offence means the jury were not satisfied that whilst you were travelling to the park you discussed in any detail what you intended to do.
113. Whilst you supported the attack you cannot have inflicted the injuries caused by a weapon. As for other injuries which were caused by stamping and

kicking by one or more of the group I cannot determine which of the group inflicted them.

114. I have considered the very detailed psychological report prepared by Dr Moses who has concluded that your actions may have been influenced by some limitations to cognitive ability and maturity, impulsivity under stress and susceptibility to influence from family and peers contributing to impaired decision making, reduced foresight and impulsivity.

115. As I have stated under the guideline responsibility which is substantially reduced by learning disability or lack of maturity is a category D factor.

116. You have also been assessed as having borderline clinical depression which will make period in custody harder.

117. I have considered the references supplied.

Faizaan Akram

118. You were aged 18 at the time.

119. You had a weapon. As with the others I cannot determine who in the group caused the injuries other than the stab wounds.

120. I have considered the psychological report prepared by Dr Farhy. I heard you give evidence and was surprised by its content. However I accept the accuracy of the assessment and that you have been assessed as functioning at significantly below average, indeed in the bottom 5%, this being compounded by your age and also with a lack of maturity. You are far likelier than most to be incautious and easily led.

121. Your responsibility is reduced by learning disability and lack of maturity to a greater degree than your older brother.

122. Again I have read the references supplied on your behalf which speak to you being kind and hardworking.

123. I do not consider either of you to be dangerous having regard to the criteria contained in the Criminal Justice Act 2003. You do not pose a significant risk to members of the public (including young children) of serious harm occasioned by your commission of further violent offences.

124. You will serve two thirds of your sentence before you are eligible for release on licence. Your release will not bring your sentence to an end. If, after your release and before the end of the period covered by your sentence, you commit any further offence, or breach any condition of your licence, you may

be ordered to return to custody to serve the balance of the original sentence outstanding at that time, as well as being sentenced for any further offence.

125. Credit must be given for time on remand.

Associated matters

126. I direct that if the surcharge applies in this case in respect of any of you it should be drawn up in the appropriate amount.

127. In respect of you Saqlain Ali, Basit Ali, Sakib Khan and Zeeshan Khan a transcript of these sentencing remarks be attached to your file for the benefit of the Parole Board.

128. I wish to praise the work of the police and the prosecution team. The public has been well served by your professionalism. I also wish to acknowledge the professionalism of, and assistance that I had from, all defence Counsel during what was at times a complex trial.

Conclusion and sentences

129. Can you all please stand.

130. Saqlain Ali, Basit Ali, Sakib Khan and Zeeshan Khan I shall deal with you first.

131. Saqlain Ali for the offence of murder I sentence you to life imprisonment with a minimum term of **22 years** less time spent on remand which is a minimum term of 21 years and 56 days.

132. Basit Ali for the offence of murder I sentence you to life imprisonment with a minimum term of **16 years** less time spent on remand which is a minimum term of 15 years and 56 days.

133. Sakib Khan for the offence of murder I sentence you to life imprisonment with a minimum term of 16 years less time spent on remand which is a minimum term of 15 years and 56 days.

134. Zeeshan Khan for the offence of murder I sentence you to custody for life with a minimum term of **11 years** less time spent on remand of 304 days which is a minimum term of 10 years and 61 days.

135. Asim Akram and Faizaan Akram you have been convicted of manslaughter.

136. Asim Akram I sentence you to **7 years** less time spent on remand which I told is 305 days.

137. Faizaan Akram I sentence you to **7 years** less time spent on remand less time spent on remand which I told is 305 days.

138. Take them down