

## **Theories of Punishment:**

Punishment is the immediate consequence that follows a criminal offence. Thus, punishment may be defined in terms of suffering, loss, pain, or any other penalty that is inflicted on a person for the crime by the concerned authority. There are different theories of punishment in practical ethics.

## **Kinds of Punishment:**

There are three different kinds of punishment that a person can face for any criminal offence. In order to understand them, first, we need to understand the theories of the punishment. There are majorly three theories of punishment in practical ethics. These theories are the retributive theory, preventive theory, and reformatory theory. Retributive theory will be discussed in brief below.

- **Retributive Theory**

Retributive theory of punishment is the most ancient justification for punishment. This theory insists that a person deserves punishment as he has done a wrongful deed. Also, this theory signifies that no person shall be arrested unless that person has broken the law. Here are the conditions where a person is considered as an offender is:

- The penalty given will be equivalent to the criminal offence caused by the person.
- Performed a crime of certain culpability.
- That similar punishment has been imposed for similar offenses.
- That person is only responsible for that crime.