

NEWSLETTER

इन्दारश्न



FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Readers,

I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to you for the inaugural edition of our newsletter at the School of Law, SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) Deemed to be University, Indore Campus. The purpose of this publication is to provide a platform for acknowledging the exceptional accomplishments of our students and highlighting their invaluable contributions in the field of legal opinion and advocacy.



The students within our institution have continually exhibited a steadfast dedication to achieving high standards of performance, as seen by the notable achievements highlighted in this edition. Our institution takes great pride in the accomplishments of our moot court teams, which have continuously demonstrated remarkable advocacy skills at both national and international contests. Our students have demonstrated their academic excellence by actively engaging in the provision of legal advice, undertaking research on crucial matters, and provision of pro bono services. These endeavors not only serve to increase their comprehension of legal principles but also afford students the chance to exert a beneficial influence on society.

I extend an invitation to peruse the contents of this newsletter, wherein one may delve into the multifaceted abilities and achievements exhibited by our student body. The success narratives of these individuals serve as a wellspring of motivation, and we eagerly anticipate observing their forthcoming accomplishments as they commence their professional journeys in the field of law.

Dr. Anshuman Jaswal

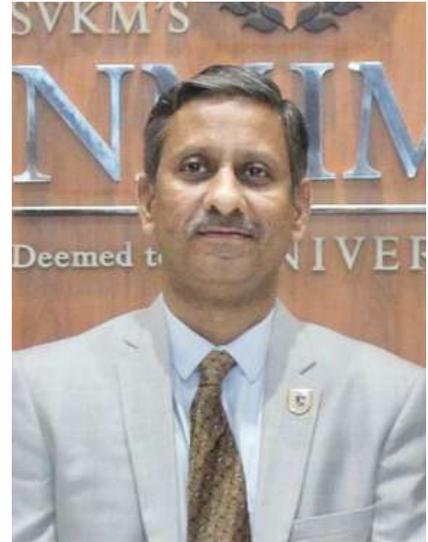
Director

SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Indore Campus

FROM THE DESK OF THE ASSOCIATE DEAN

Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to announce the launch of the first edition of the SVKM's NMIMS School of Law Newsletter. School of Law, Indore has always stood as a beacon of knowledge, fostering a community of dedicated individuals who are not only passionate about the law but also committed to serving society. As we continue to evolve in the dynamic world of legal education, our commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment in the legal field remains unwavering.



The legal profession thrives when it embraces a multitude of perspectives, and our student community actively engages in conversations that broaden our understanding of the issues at hand. Our students' achievements continue to reflect the caliber of excellence we strive for at the School of Law. Through this newsletter, we are sharing students' achievements, insightful articles, and legal updates from our students over the last six months.

Through this newsletter, we wish to stimulate intellectual curiosity and foster a deeper understanding of the multifaceted world of law amongst the student community. I hope that this edition of the newsletter is received by everyone to be enlightening as well as inspiring.

Best Wishes!

Dr. Ashutosh Hajela
Associate Dean, School of Law
SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Indore Campus

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRAGYAN EDITORS

Dear Readers,

We are delighted to announce the launch of our first newsletter, a platform that brings together the diverse legal minds within our student community. This initiative has been in the works for some time now, and it brings us great joy to see it come to fruition.

Our legal newsletter aims to be a valuable resource for all law students, providing insightful articles, updates on relevant legal developments, and thought-provoking commentary on issues shaping our industry. As we navigate the complex and ever-changing landscape of the legal world, we hope this newsletter will serve as a beacon of knowledge, keeping us informed and connected.

We want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated team of student editors who have worked tirelessly on this newsletter. Their commitment to excellence is evident on every page, and we are confident that our newsletter will quickly become a go-to source for legal insights within our organization.

To our contributors, thank you for sharing your expertise and contributing to the richness of our content. Your diverse perspectives will undoubtedly enrich the discussions within our legal community.

Looking forward to the exciting journey ahead!



Ms. Ritupriya Gurtoo
Assistant Professor

Mr. Sachin Bhardwaj
Assistant Professor

Career Guidance & Placement Cell- School of Law, Indore

SVKM's NMIMS-School of Law, Indore since its inception acknowledges that the change in legal paradigm is inevitable. Future Legal leaders should not only possess sound knowledge; but should also be equipped with skills and capabilities to tackle emerging legal challenges. The Placement Cell of the School of Law, Indore with this motto constantly endeavors, through its events, to bridge the gap between theoretical and practical facets of legal education amongst the students and the potential recruiters.

The Placement Committee comprising students from all semesters is a team of highly driven and committed people. The students, along with the Placement Coordinators, work around the clock to achieve the institutional objective of bringing the best recruiters on the campus to interact and recruit with our diverse and talented student community. The Committee oversees and coordinates the entire placement process, which includes organizing events, conducting placement drives, conducting on-campus placements, managing off-campus placements, and providing Soft Skill Training to the students.



August
19



PANEL DISCUSSION

The Placement Cell successfully hosted a panel discussion on August 19, 2023, on the contemporary topic of “The Advantages and Pitfalls of Artificial Intelligence in Dispute Resolution”. The panel discussion was graced by Mr. Manish Kumar Jha, Partner, JSA advocates & solicitors; Mr. Rajat Bose, Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co; and Mr. Sumit Attri, Partner, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas. Fourth and Fifth-year law students attended the event. Dr. Anshuman Jaswal, Director, of Indore Campus, apprised students about the nuances of the topic of the panel discussion. The panel discussion was divided into two sessions. In the first session, legal luminaries had an in-depth discussion surrounding the intersection of Artificial intelligence and the legal landscape. In the second session, all three legal luminaries shared their perspectives and gave an insight into the evolving work culture within the law firm. Dr. Ashutosh Hajela, Associate Dean (Law) acknowledged the panel’s enthusiasm and intellectual vigour. The lively discussion created excitement in the School of Law with students wholeheartedly participating in the event.

SAMVAAD COMMITTEE

Debating is one of the most important skills for law students to learn, as it equips them with the ability to craft compelling arguments and substantiate their viewpoints. Samvaad, the Debating Society of the School of Law, stands as a beacon aspiring to promote critical thinking and civil discourse through structured debates and discussions. Samvaad provides students with diverse platforms to refine their oratory prowess and enhance the substance of their arguments.

WAR OF WORDS

This semester, Samvaad has initiated a workshop known as 'War of Words' for the students of the School of Law. This workshop aims to prepare them for all kinds of debate formats and hone their oratory skills for national as well as international competitions. Under this workshop program, an intra-debate competition is organized every month on various debating formats. Law students from all semesters participate in this workshop. At the end of every workshop, judges provide personalized feedback to each participant, thereby guiding them to further enhance their arguments and debating skills. Notably, the winner is featured as the debater of the month on the official Instagram page of Samvaad, both acknowledging their efforts and motivating their peers.

In the very first session of this workshop, the students were taught the tag team format of debate, with the theme of the event being "youth.". The winner was Dipti Lunkad, a second-year law student. In the second edition, the public forum debate format was introduced. The triumphant duo in this edition were Sarthak Bobade and Vishesh Nagda from the second year. Due to the continuous efforts of the committee, aspirational debaters are encouraged and promoted, and a good debating culture within the college is sustained.



WORKSHOP

Samvaad, the Debating Society at NMIMS Indore for the third edition of War of Words recently orchestrated a thought-provoking workshop that left a lasting impact on the students. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Ms. Priyanka Kiran, an amazing young student who has several achievements added to her name in the field of debating. She is the President of the Literary & Debating Society at IIM Indore and also the Head Debating Society in the PSBBMS OMR. She has won First Place at a Debating Tournament at IIT Indore vs IIM Indore, and in Ampersand, Chettinad Vidhyashram's Debating Tournament held in BPD Format.

The workshop, titled "Argue to Win: Mastering the Art of Debate," was a comprehensive exploration of the intricacies of effective communication and the nuances of successful argumentation. Ms. Priyanka Kiran shared her expertise, insights, and practical tips, making the session an engaging experience for the eager students.

Overall, the workshop organized by the Committee was an exceptional opportunity for students to broaden their horizons and gain a deeper appreciation for the power of persuasive communication. As the event drew to a close, it was evident that the students had gained not only knowledge but also a newfound confidence in their ability to articulate their thoughts and opinions effectively.



MOOT COURT AND TRIAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (MCTAS)

The Moot Court and Trial Advocacy is a dynamic community of aspiring legal minds from the School of Law. This committee is dedicated to enhancing the advocacy skills of the students and preparing them for courtroom challenges. The MCTAS committee motto is “Empowering Voices, Shaping Justice.” It focuses on enhancing the argumentative prowess of young lawyers. The committee is committed to nurturing professional growth, cultivating critical thinking, and promoting ethical practice among students.



WORKSHOP

This semester, the Moot Court and Trial Advocacy Society of NMIMS Indore successfully conducted a workshop centered on the domain of trial advocacy. The workshop featured a distinguished guest, Adv. Nidhi Vohra, a practicing advocate at Madhya Pradesh High Court, Indore Bench. Through this workshop, she imparted valuable insights into the intricate art of advocacy. The learned advocate shared her personal experiences of working in various fields of law and the art of framing arguments for your clients. She elucidated the art of meticulously crafting arguments to champion the causes of one's clients, providing participants with invaluable guidance. The workshop was successful, with students acquiring immense knowledge and valuable skills for their respective career.

INTRA TRIAL ADVOCACY

The Moot Court and Trial Advocacy Society of NMIMS Indore also organized an electrifying open round for the selection of the best representative team for the MNLU National Moot Court Competition, 2023, giving students a stage that enabled them to demonstrate their legal expertise. To seek this wonderful opportunity, ten teams from all semesters showed their interest in participating. Considering this, MCTAS decided to conduct a preliminary open round to select the best team and to maintain a fair and healthy competition between the students. The Open Round saw teams competing against each other and setting the stage for intense legal arguments, rigorous analysis, and an exploration of the complexities of law.

The Winning Team of Intra Trial Advocacy comprised of Mr. Shivanshu Jha and Ms. Garima Jain. Mr Shivanshu Jha was also declared as the Best Researcher. Mr. Rajat Wadge, IV- Year student was adjudged as the best speaker from the Petitioner's side and Mr Vishwas Nagori was adjudged as the best speaker from the Defendant's side. Mr. Dhruv Saxena, Mr. Aalekh Lahari, and Ms. Anushka Dubey were declared as the First Runner-Up. Ms. Lavanya Sharma, Mr. Anubhav Patidar and Ms. Ritika Patak were declared as Second Runner-Up.



October 13 & 14

SAMADHAN COMMITTEE

In order to promote the concept of alternative dispute resolution, the SAMADHAN-ADR Committee of the School of Law was established. It aims to cultivate a deep appreciation for ADR among our students and sharpen their analytical and persuasive skills to resolve disputes through various other mechanisms. The Samadhan committee guides students about career options in various ADR procedures, such as arbitration, mediation, negotiation, and many more. It organizes seminars, conducts competitions, and prepares the students for national-level competitions.

SECOND INTRA-CLIENT COUNSELLING COMPETITION

SAMADHAN organized the Second Edition of Intra-Client Counseling on September 16, 2023. Its objective was to give law students an opportunity to explore the field of alternative dispute resolution. This intra-client counseling competition was in collaboration with the leading law firms in India: Samvad Partners, HSA Advocates, and Shrivastava & Chowksey Law Firm. The collaboration provided the students with the coveted prize-winning opportunity of securing internships with the above-mentioned law firms.



To adjudge this event, Samadhan invited 10 eminent advocates, namely- Adv. Yukta Joshi, a certified expert in Dispute Resolution Management and a member of various international arbitration institutions; Adv. Amrita Joshi, a practising lawyer at MP High Court, Indore bench dealing with civil cases; Adv. Gurdeep Singh Dang dealing in Litigation and Dispute Resolution and practising before Madhya Pradesh High Court, Indore Bench, District & Session Court, Indore; Adv. Nitin Singh Bhati, an experienced Startup lawyer, Arbitrator, Mediator, and Negotiator; Adv. Piyush Dubey, advocate in the High Court of Madhya Pradesh; Adv. Vivek Phadke, practising in civil law and appointed as the Standing Counsel for Enforcement Directorate in the year 2019; Adv. Harshit Tapadiy appointed as Assisting Counsel for all the matters of Economic Offences Wings (Indore and Ujjain), before the High Court of MP, Bench at Indore; Adv. Anurag Parashar, a practising lawyer at District Courts Indore and High Court and in various tribunals in Madhya Pradesh; Adv. Anshul Dabhade dealing in litigation practice in the High Court, District Court, and Consumer Forum; and Adv. Mranal Prajapati Arbitrator and also a practising lawyer at the High Court and Trial Court.



September 16



After due deliberation, the winners were announced. Aaheli Chaudhary, BBA LL.B.(H), and Harsh Kumar, BBA LL.B.(H), won the competition. The first runners-up were Arnav Tiwari, BBA LL.B.(H), and Viraj Shah, BBA LL.B.(H), who were all awarded a coveted internship opportunity with *Samvad Partners*. Second Runners Up were Shradha Tomar, BA LL.B.(H), and Prakhar Sharma, BA LL.B.(H), followed by Best Counsel Anushka Sharma, BBA LL.B.(H), and Best Client Garima Jain, BBA LL.B.(H), who were all awarded esteemed internship opportunities with *HSA Advocates*. First Runners Up Client Aditi Sharma, BBA LL.B.(H), and First Runners Up Counsel Savyasanchi Khare, BA LL.B.(H), who were all awarded esteemed internship opportunities with *Srivastava & Chowksey Law Firm*.

SAMATVA COMMITTEE

SAMATVA: The Legal Aid and CSR Committee of the School of Law epitomizes its core principles by serving the underprivileged and offering legal assistance to the marginalized section of society. In pursuit of this noble objective, the committee crafts strategic legal service programs designed to bridge socio-economic disparities and cultivate a just, accessible, and enlightened legal landscape, working in close collaboration with District and National Legal Services Authorities.

LEGAL AID CAMP



The committee organized a Legal Aid Campaign on July 22, 2023, in the Hatod district of Indore. There was participation from all the semesters. This camp provided vital assistance to over 50 villagers, addressing an array of legal issues through informative sessions and one-on-one consultations with legal experts during the Legal Aid Camp. The camp witnessed thought-provoking Nukkad Natak cantering on “Domestic Violence Against Women”. The street play shed light on the harrowing consequences of dowry deaths. Additionally, awareness programs were conducted to educate the villagers about various governmental schemes, such as the Jan Aarogya Yojana. A comprehensive door-to-door survey was undertaken by the volunteers to assess the implementation of governmental schemes.

SPEED MENTORING

The Legal Aid Committee this semester spearheaded an impactful series known as "Speed Mentoring Sessions" in government institutions such as Kendriya Vidyalaya, Shramodaya Awasiya Vidhalaya, and Indore Deaf Bilingual Academy across Indore. The objective of these sessions was to raise awareness about the legal rights of students aged between 13 and 18 years. Through myriad awareness workshops taken by SAMATVA volunteers, students in government schools received information on crucial topics such as education, child marriage, the rights of the elderly, domestic violence, child abuse, and sexual harassment. To ensure engaging and productive sessions, an array of activities were organized, such as the screening of short films, quizzes, thought-provoking questions with appealing incentives, and a hand-print activity.



STREET VENDORS' LEGAL AID BOOTH

The Committee also organized a Free Street Vendors' Legal Aid Booth in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority, Indore, at Jinsi Haat Ground, Malharganj, Indore, on August 8, 2023. The primary aim was to educate the street vendors about their legal rights and facilitate the registration of necessary documents. In order to accomplish these objectives, an awareness rally with slogans and a street play were conducted to disseminate awareness about their rights. The students distributed a booklet that contained the important schemes of the government, which are specifically curated for the street vendors, including helpline numbers. Approximately 50 students from the School of Law participated in this endeavor, embodying the spirit of legal advocacy.

PRISON AID

The Legal Aid Society of NMIMS Indore in furtherance of the ideal, set up bimonthly prison aid clinics at District Jail, Indore and Central Jail, Indore from July, 2023 to October, 2023, in order to reach out to the prison inmates in need of legal aid. The students of School of Law, NMIMS Indore worked in synergy with the Legal Aid Defence Counsels (LADCs) of the District Legal Services Authority(DLSA) Indore, studying and assisting them in handling the cases of the prison inmates. The experience of setting up prison aid clinics was an enriching one for the students as well, as it provided them with the necessary exposure and valuable guidance by the LADCs regarding the procedural aspects of legal system in India. The enthusiastic students also conducted a comprehensive survey of inmates of District Jail, Indore, and prepared a quantitative report highlighting their living conditions, their awareness regarding legal aid schemes of government, access to correctional services of the jail etc.

BREAKING BARRIERS: DEAF RIGHTS AND LEGAL ADVOCACY

The Committee in collaboration with Indore Deaf Bilingual Academy(IDBA), Indore organised a workshop themed “Breaking Barriers: Deaf Rights and Legal Advocacy” on the occasion of International Week of Deaf on 21st September, 2023.

The workshop was graced by the presence of Ms. Monica Punjabi, Director, Indore Deaf Bilingual Academy; President, the Indian Sign Language Interpreters Association (ISLIA) and Ex Asia Representative, World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI), who initiated the workshop by delivering the keynote address on rights of deaf and specially abled people, and importance of inclusivity and social responsibility in legal profession. Post her address, a comprehensive sign language workshop was conducted by Mrs. Monica Punjabi.



STUDENT COUNCIL INITIATIVE

A SESSION ON INSIGHTS ON PREPARING FOR JUDICIAL EXAMINATION IN THE LAW SCHOOL BY MR. ARHUM KHAN, JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE

The Student Council at SVKM's NMIMS School of Law, Indore arranged an online session on October 27, 2023, where Mr. Arhum Khan, a Civil Judge at the Ratlam Court, was invited, and he shared his valuable insights and expertise. The session was interactive and Mr. Arhum Khan advised students to keep certain things in mind when becoming civil judges: Clarity of Purpose and service to the Nation. He also underscored that the role of a judge involves more than prestige; it carries the weight of being the last resort for citizens seeking justice. Mr. Khan explained that the judicial examination process varies among states, lacking a central examination. He outlined the essential steps for effective exam preparation:

1. Review Past Syllabus: Study the syllabus from previous years' exams.
2. Analyse Question Patterns: Identify recurring question patterns in past exams.
3. Understand Exam Requirements: Grasp the specific demands and expectations of these examinations.
4. Master Legal Concepts: Gain a deep understanding of fundamental laws, such as Constitutional law, the Indian Penal Code, etc.
5. Practice Questions: Solve a significant number of practice questions to enhance your skills.
6. General Knowledge: Ensure comprehensive knowledge of the current affair.
7. Language: Be proficient in legal Hindi as well as English.

Furthermore, he stressed the importance of dedicating hard hours to succeed in the judiciary examination. He reminded students that success may not come on their first attempt, sharing his personal experience of being selected on his second try. He also highlighted the wide array of career opportunities in the field of law beyond the judiciary, including roles as advocates, researchers, etc. Mr. Arhum Khan emphasized the significance of managing pressure effectively. He advised against creating undue stress while preparing for the exam, as it hinders progress. Instead, he encouraged students to give their best effort. He concluded with the famous quote, "*With Great Power comes Great Responsibility*" underlining the weight of the responsibilities that come with the role of a judge.

SPARDHA - 2023

In a thrilling showcase of talent, unity, and sportsmanship, Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies Alphalete Sports Committee conducted "SPARDHA 2023." An exclusive School of Law sports event witnessed participation from all semester students. The event, held on October 11, 2023, witnessed an impressive display of competitive spirit and camaraderie, making it an unforgettable day for all. Spardha 2023 featured a variety of sports competitions, including pool, table tennis, chess, badminton, and foosball. As the day unfolded, the fierce battles on the field were matched by the unity and excitement of it. The presence of the esteemed faculty members added to the event's charm and encouraged students to give their best. The enthusiastic participants, dedicated coordinators, and the audience made Spardha a true celebration of sports. The event would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the Alphalete Sports Committee who meticulously planned and executed the event. After an intense competition and impressive performance by participants, the results were as follows: **First Position:** 2nd Year with 65 points; **Second Position:** 3rd Year with 45 points; **Third Position:** 4th Year with 30 points and **Fourth Position:** 1st Year with 25 points. Spardha 2023 concluded on a high note, with participants and attendees alike taking home cherished memories of a day filled with sportsmanship, unity, and competitive spirit.

STUDENTS' LAURELS

Dhruv Saxena representing MP Mr. Raghav Chadha in the Mock Parliament

Dhruv Saxena, a student of BA LLB(Hons.)-V Semester, participated in the 5th edition of the Public Concern for Governance Trust (PCGT) National Youth Parliament 2023, organized by SVKM's Praveen Gandhi College of Law, Mumbai. He was awarded with High Commendation by Justice Shri S.C. Gupte of the Hon'ble Bombay High Court.



The Youth Parliament was structured as a mock parliament consisting of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, and additionally, the Maharashtra legislative assembly, functioning identically to a parliamentary proceeding. Dhruv Saxena was part of the Rajya Sabha and was given to represent the portfolio of Mr. Raghav Chadha, a member of parliament from the Rajinder Nagar Assembly, representing the Aam Aadmi Party. He debated on behalf of the I.N.D.I.A alliance as well as Aam Aadmi Party's Member of Parliament. More than 50 students from prestigious colleges in India participated.

The first day had a zero hour and the discussion centered on Manipur Violence and the viability of the first three chapters of the Mediation Bill 2021. The second day had a zero hour, which had a discussion on the misuse of the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) by the central government. There was also a question hour during which Dhruv articulately defended his party policies in Delhi and Punjab.

Law Students Excel at National Level Competition

Client Counselling competitions are gaining popularity nowadays as they promote greater knowledge and interest among law students in the counselling functions of law practice. It is believed amongst the legal fraternity that one of the most important traits for a legal professional is to possess the ability to counsel people who seek assistance in understanding the legal implications of their actions. Therefore, Client Counselling Competitions prepare aspiring lawyers for the future.



August 2023

The SVKM's NMIMS, School of Law, Indore, takes immense pleasure in announcing that Ms. Kanishka Bhargava and Ms. Nupur, both in their third year of BBA LLB (Hons.), recently achieved a remarkable victory as they emerged winners of the Inter-Collegiate Client Counselling Competition, 2023 hosted by Oriental University, Indore, in collaboration with the Pro Bono Club (Union Ministry of Law and Justice).

Ms. Nupur and Ms. Kanishka beat out teams from all over India and emerged as victors. Their success is a testament to their hard work and dedication, presenting a shining example of what can be achieved through teamwork and collaboration.

Mr. Savyasanchi Khare and Ms. Shaurya Singh Bhadauria III-year students of BA.LLB. (H) participated in the National Law Institute University, Bhopal (NLIU)- National Client Counselling Competition held in collaboration with Singhanian & Partners LLP- 2023. Mr. Savyasanchi Khare brought laurels to the college by securing the Best Counsel Award, certificate and cash Prize worth INR 5000/-.



November 2023

STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

Jul'23 - Nov'23

Case Study Competitions

- Lavanya Sharma, Merit Position, NCRC International Case Study Competition, 24 August, 2023 by NorthCap University, Gurugram
- Ritika Pathak, Merit Position, NCRC International Case Study Competition, 24 August, 2023 by NorthCap University, Gurugram

Moot Court Competitions

- Atharva Vyas, 4th National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 14 October by Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla
- Archit Saxena, 4th National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 14 October by Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla
- Nikhil Sharma, 4th National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 14 October by Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla
- Rishika Agrawal, 1st NHRC National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 15 October, 2023 by Chanakya National Law University, Patna
- Savyasanchi Khare, 1st NHRC National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 15 October, 2023 by Chanakya National Law University, Patna
- Gopal Mishra, 1st NHRC National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 15 October, 2023 by Chanakya National Law University, Patna
- Sanidhya Vijayvargiya, 1st NHRC National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 15 October, 2023 by Chanakya National Law University, Patna
- Shashank Shekhar, 1st NHRC National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 15 October, 2023 by Chanakya National Law University, Patna
- Rishabh Malick, 1st NHRC National Moot Court Competition, 13 - 15 October, 2023 by Chanakya National Law University, Patna
- Vaishnavi Deshpande, Bar Council of India Trust National Moot Court Competition, 19 - 21 August, 2023 by Nims University Rajasthan, Jaipur
- Rajat Wadge, Bar Council of India Trust National Moot Court Competition, 19 - 21 August, 2023 by Nims University Rajasthan, Jaipur
- Vishwas Nagori, Bar Council of India Trust National Moot Court Competition, 19 - 21 August, 2023 by Nims University Rajasthan, Jaipur
- Aaheli Chowdhary, International Moot Court Competition, 12 - 14 October by Amity Law School, Noida
- Harsh Kumar, International Moot Court Competition, 12 - 14 October by Amity Law School, Noida
- Amod Paithankar, International Moot Court Competition, 12 - 14 October by Amity Law School, Noida
- Yash Sharma, 14th Dada Nari Gursahani Festival: National Moot Court Competition, 9 - 10 September by Nari Gursahani Law College, Mumbai
- Shreya Chandrakar, 14th Dada Nari Gursahani Festival: National Moot Court Competition, 9 - 10 September by Nari Gursahani Law College, Mumbai

- Riju Daiya, 14th Dada Nari Gursahani Festival: National Moot Court Competition, 9 - 10 September by Nari Gursahani Law College, Mumbai
- Anmol Awasthi, Samar Kumar Basu National Moot Court Competition, 28 July - 30 July, 2023 by Dream Law in collaboration with City Law College
- Harshit Malviya, Samar Kumar Basu National Moot Court Competition, 28 July - 30 July, 2023 by Dream Law in collaboration with City Law College
- Jainish Surana, Samar Kumar Basu National Moot Court Competition, 28 July - 30 July, 2023 by Dream Law in collaboration with City Law College
- Ilma FIza Usmani, National Moot Court Competition, 17 - 19 August by Kristu Jayanti College of Law, Bengaluru
- Ronak Sharma, National Moot Court Competition, 17 - 19 August by Kristu Jayanti College of Law, Bengaluru
- Anushka Tripathi, National Moot Court Competition, 17 - 19 August by Kristu Jayanti College of Law, Bengaluru

Blog Writing Competition

- Nupur, First Runner up, ADR Blog Writing Competition, 2023 by Amity University, Jaipur

Negotiation Competitions

- Abha Gupta, Devil's Advocate by Indore Institute of Management, Indore
- Khyati Kanoje, Devil's Advocate by Indore Institute of Management, Indore

Debate Competitions

- Shaurya Singh Bhadauria, National Asian Parliamentary Debate, 19 - 20 August by Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar

- Abha Vaidya, National Asian Parliamentary Debate, 19 - 20 August by Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar
- Tanima Tewari, National Asian Parliamentary Debate, 19 - 20 August by Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar
- Aryaveer Singh Pundheer, National Asian Parliamentary Debate, 19 - 20 August by Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar
- Samarth Tiwari, National British Parliamentary Debate, 27 - 29 August by Indian Institute of Management, Indore
- Aryaveer Singh Pundheer, National British Parliamentary Debate, 27 - 29 August by Indian Institute of Management, Indore
- Shivansh Nayak, National British Parliamentary Debate, 27 - 29 August by Indian Institute of Management, Indore
- Shrashti Chauhan, National British Parliamentary Debate, 27 - 29 August by Indian Institute of Management, Indore

Video Making Competitions

- Samarth Tiwari, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Yash Sharma, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Ayushi Verma, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Medini Manake, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Ansh Garg, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal

- Ankita Sao, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Aryaveer Singh Pundheer, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Dushyant Singh, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Amrita Sharma, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal
- Priyanshi Bhawalpuri, National Short Video Making Competition by National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Papers Presentation in Conferences

- Jain Ojal, International Seminar On Women, Children and Law: Concerns, Challenges and Future titled *Exploring the Intersection of Women's Health, Technology, and Data Privacy Laws in India: Balancing Innovations and Protections* [September 1-3, 2023]
- Sharma Anushka, International Seminar On Women, Children and Law: Concerns, Challenges and Future titled *Addressing the Unseen Scars: Mental Health of Rape Victims and Reforms in the Indian Legal System* [September 1-3, 2023]
- Shrivastava Nishtha, International Seminar On Women, Children and Law: Concerns, Challenges and Future titled *Addressing the Unseen Scars: Mental Health of Rape Victims and Reforms in the Indian Legal System* [September 1-3, 2023]
- Lahari Aalekh, International Seminar On Women, Children and Law: Concerns, Challenges and Future titled *Exploring the Intersection of Women's Health, Technology, Data Privacy Laws in India: Balancing Innovations and Protections* [September 1-2, 2023]

Papers Published in Journals

- Pherwani Kashish. (2023). Rise of Women Entrepreneur. *Indian Journal of Legal Review*, 3(2), 2583-2344.
- Narwaria Rishav. (2023). Judicial Intervention in Arbitral Process. *ILE Journal of Alternative Dispute Resolution Law Review*, 1(1), 978-81-964391-3-2.
- Narwaria Rishav. (2023). Emerging Perspective in Interpretation of Article 21. *White Black Legal International Law Journal*, 2(14), 2581-8503.
- Gupta Gourvi. (2023). Buy-Back to Exclusion of Insurance Contract. *International Journal of Scientific Research in Engineering and Management*, 7(7), 2582-3930.
- Dwivedi Madhav. (2023). Promoting Stalking by the Industry Giants Bollywood and OTT'S Platforms and the Laws Regulating Stalking in India. *Journal of Legal Research and Juridical Sciences*, 2(4), 2583-0066.
- Motale Rangai. (2023). Analysis on Mechanism of Corporate Governances in India. *LawFoyer International Journal of Doctrinal Legal Research*, 1(2), 2583-7753.

Papers Published in Books

- Bhawalpuri Priyanshi. (2023). *Laws and Society: The Right Permutation Required for the Human Rights of the LGBTQ+ Community*. Lex-Manthan, 42, 978-81-962128-8-9.
- Khare Savyasanchi. (2023). *Rise of Cybercrime in India: Key Laws and Countermeasures*. Global Thoughts and Opinions, 978-81-947778-0-9.
- Sharma Amrita. (2023). *Menstrual Leave: Law and Society*. Lex-Manthan, 43, 978-81-962128-9-6.

STUDENTS' OPINION

THE SECRET LIFE OF CASE LAW CITATIONS

- Jiya Khandelwal BBA.LL.B.(H)- V SEM

In the somber halls of legal academia, where the air is thick with the weight of precedent, there exists a clandestine world unbeknownst to many—a world where case law citations lead secret lives, complete with social circles, quirky habits, and occasional rendezvous. In the hallowed halls of legal scholarship, where the echoes of precedent reverberate through time, case law citations harbor secret lives beyond the pages of judicial opinions. Prepare to lift the veil on the mysterious and humorous existence of these overlooked entities. In this fantastical narrative, we peel back the layers of formality to reveal the whimsical lives of our scholarly companions, the case law citations, where the main characters are:

Mr. Stare Decisis:

- The wise and authoritative figure who's been around for ages
- Known for his consistent and firm demeanor.
- Fond of quoting himself and others.

Ms. Dicta:

- The flamboyant and opinionated citation
- Often caught in the act of overstating her importance.
- She loves attending legal soirées and being the center of attention.

Sir Footnote:

- The quirky, overlooked citation has a wealth of information.
- Always in the background but secretly holds the key to many legal mysteries.



Scene 1: The Legal Cocktail Party

Amidst the gilded arches where the flickering candlelight danced upon leather-bound tomes, the eminent Mr. Stare Decisis made a grand entrance. His arrival heralded a soft murmur amongst judicial nods, for when Mr. Stare spoke, the legal world listened. As he settled into his throne of wisdom, the room hushed, awaiting the sage utterances that would undoubtedly escape his seasoned lips. Meanwhile, at the edge of the room, a burst of color and charisma swept in—Ms. Dicta, resplendent in rhetorical flair and verbosity. Her entrance was nothing short of theatrical, as if the air itself bent to accommodate her presence. Ms. Dicta, a citation of bold opinion and unwavering conviction, reveled in the spotlight as a maestro of legal drama. In the quieter corners of the gathering, a figure often overlooked is observed with a knowing twinkle in his eye. Sir Footnote, the unsung hero of legal scholarship, bore the appearance of unassuming simplicity. Yet, beneath his unadorned exterior lay a treasure trove of information, waiting for the right moment to captivate the minds of those who dared to delve deeper.

Scene 2: Social Media Shenanigans

Transitioning from the tangible to the virtual, we find our citations navigating the complex web of “LegalBook.” Stare Decisis, the patriarch of profound musings, posted enigmatic statements that left legal enthusiasts in a frenzy of interpretation. Dicta, not to be outdone, flooded the platform with selfies of legal opinions and impassioned monologues, creating a digital spectacle. In the background, there was Sir Footnote, quietly solving legal riddles in comment sections; his presence felt like a whisper in the winds of virtual debate. The legal universe, unbeknownst to many, was a vibrant and dynamic space where citations held court in the realm of bits and bytes.



Scene 3: Citations on Vacation

Imagine a world where legal briefs were but relics of the past and citations embarked on vacations of whimsy. Stare Decisis, seeking higher wisdom, found himself at a retreat of profound contemplation, contemplating the very essence of stare decisis itself. Dicta, ever the performer, took center stage in a heated debate club, passionately arguing the merits of her own verbosity. In a corner, there was Sir Footnote, the humble adventurer, on a scavenger hunt for obscure legal trivia. With each discovery, he wove tales of arcane legal knowledge, turning every vacation into an opportunity to enlighten the curious minds that dared to follow in his footsteps.

Stay tuned for the unfolding chapters in the next edition, where footnotes become folk heroes and dicta dazzles in its dramatic splendor.

HUMANS OF BOMBAY V. PEOPLE OF INDIA AND ANR: WAR OF STORYTELLERS

- Pragyta Gupta B.A. LL.B.(H) -VII Sem

In the field of social media ethics and digital storytelling, the case “*Humans of Bombay v. People of India*” has drawn a lot of interest. It centers on concerns with copyright and intellectual property relating to the well-known “*Humans of*” photography projects. This controversy raises concern about the hazy boundary between creativity and infringement in the world of internet storytelling.



The brief factual matrix of the case is that the plaintiff claims that she runs a storytelling website where stories of different people are uploaded in the form of interviews, articles, posts, etc. The plaintiff makes the claim that she conducts in-depth research, and the aforementioned stories are then turned into audio-visual pieces and posted online on different channels. The complaint in the current lawsuit is that the respondents launched an identical portal or service with the same material as that of the plaintiff under the name "People of India." Pictures and videos from the plaintiff's platforms have been copied by the defendants and used on their own platforms. Plaintiff filed the case in order to obtain an injunction preventing the infringement of its copyrighted material, which includes (i) Plaintiff's content, (ii) literary works, (iii) materials, (iv) films, and (v) creative expressions released on its website, Instagram handle, and YouTube channel.

It has been alleged that the People of India (PoI) is attempting to "pass off" itself as the original producer of content that the Humans of Bombay (HoB) claims it has copied from itself. The term "passing off" refers to situations where two people's activities are so similar that no one else can tell them apart due to the similarities of their respective works. Through passing, individuals strive to defraud others and obtain financial gain that is not legally theirs.



HOB's plea said that the similarities between the infringing content and its own amounted to 'passing off and unfair competition'. POI had knowingly and deliberately published content that is identical or substantially similar to the popular content comprised of the plaintiff's works in an attempt to use their goodwill. In this case, the court found that the respondent "People of India" had directly or indirectly utilized part of the petitioner's work while using its name. It also concluded that PoI appeared to have "substantially" plagiarized the HoB after reviewing the arguments and evidence put forth by the HoB.

The "People of India" artwork was found to contain a "substantial imitation" of "Human of Bombay"'s work. The posted pictures or images on the two digital platforms also shared some similarities, according to the court. Now that the respondent "People of India" has received a notification from the court, HOB's interim application for temporary or ad-interim relief will be taken into consideration.

Considering the facts and the court's stance, in my view, this case does not pertain to the prohibition of a company's right to express beautiful human stories. Rather, it revolves around the issue of copyright infringement. In this context, the Humans of Bombay (HoB) should be granted the advantage, as the People of India (PoI) have used HoB's content without proper authorization. This content includes the diligent efforts of all the content creators involved. In my opinion, the matter should be examined not from an emotional perspective but from a legal standpoint, considering all the legal intricacies involved. Simply taking a quick look at the posts made on the People of India Instagram account demonstrates the material on the account's posts' startling resemblance and, in some cases, obvious duplication.

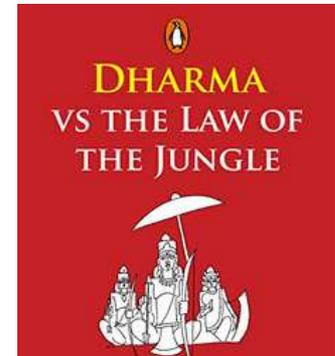
It's interesting to notice that PoI has opted to remain silent on the situation while this argument rages on social media. While the HoB v. PoI debate on social media has been framed as a David v. Goliath case where one privileged elite is taking on another emerging player, the actual legal dispute is solely about alleged copyright infringement. It is not intended to lessen competition. Even though it seems like an uncomplicated instance of alleged copyright infringement, if confirmed, a more serious problem with the ownership of the business concept over "Humans of" looms. Given that "*humans of...*" may be seen as a descriptive term, it will be intriguing to watch how the courts handle a contentious situation of this nature. This presents issues with regard to morality, originality, and misrepresentation in the larger scheme of things.



BOOK REVIEW OF “DHARMA VS THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE” BY DEVDUTT PATTANAIAK

- Ishna Bachle and Pratham Shivhare B.A. LL.B.(H) -III Sem

Devdutt Pattanaik, a medical professional turned mythologist, is today an admired figure in the literary realm. His writings include meticulous and vivid expressions of sacred stories, rituals, and other mythological connotations. “Dharma vs The Law of Jungle” is one of Devdutt’s much unexplored and lesser-known literary craft-work.



At the outset, the author emphasizes the concept that “*culture ought to thrive but not at the cost of nature*”. Devdutt attributes the untamed force of nature to the law of the jungle, where might is right. The Author tries to distinguish the law of the jungle from dharma, which he contends to often be misconstrued as righteous conduct. Further, he advocates for the term to be contextualized and understood as human potential, for he believes that dharma follows the virtue of reason, which inherently is vested with the potential to suppress desires. These desires often manifest themselves as the instinct to dominate the weak and find their express utterance in a footing rested upon the law of the jungle. On the contrary, dharma confers upon humans, the potential to discipline themselves through human attributes of rationality. The author also ascribes Asuras with an impulse to dominate while referring to specific instances in Hindu Mythology.

Devdutt, in contrast to his contemporaries, admits mythology to be subjective truth or a finite expression of *truth* or *Satya*, which is infinite. He further distinguishes the classification propounded by ancient seers between that of *satya* and *mithya*. He does not regard actual sciences to be absolute truth but instead recognizes them as an epistemological approach that limits beliefs to generalized evidence and experiences. Devdutt further opines that mythology furnishes means (in the form of stories, symbols, and rituals) to gather a limited acquaintance of *Satya* or *absolute truth*.

This piece draws its opinion alongside Devdutt's line of reasoning and is skeptical of the modern trend, which holds *sacred texts* to reveal *irrational plots and characters*. Devdutt cites the aforementioned belief, as a result of excessive emphasis on literal interpretation of the Holy Scriptures while completely ignoring the metaphorical meaning attached to them. For example, specific excerpts from the book, in this regard such as *Virgin births and parting seas* are sought to be taken as a metaphor suggestive of an entity that is greater than all forces of nature put together; *Gods and goddesses with multiple arms and heads* is similarly indicative of a reality with infinite possibilities.

Devdutt, while referring to the above-stated phenomenon, raises a sincere apprehension about generalizing the concept of Justice. Devdutt opines this sense of justice is not native to Indian roots and is moreover a borrowing from the Greek-mythological conception of justice.

Devdutt in this particular regard also mentions the conception of *dharma-sankat*, which posits the beholder with ethical problems and dilemmas related to his decision. Devdutt even cites the dilemma that would have been encountered by the perceived antagonists of Mahabharata that is the *Kauravas*, who eventually put to ablaze their kin in *Khandava-prastha*, owing to their rapacity to rule over the Kingdom of *Indraprastha*.

The book further poses quintessential questions, given our perceptions related to the material world and our instinct and quest for domination. The book in the end leaves us with certain questions including, whether we, humans are completely devoid of desire for domination. Is there unanimity in our eternal commitment to live by *dharma*? Is a cultured society, one that follows dharma better than an untamed society?

This book is a perfect read for any person who has a keen interest in exploring mythological ideas. The book deliberates upon facets of law (i.e., dharma vs the law of the jungle) and its cultural and societal implications, we strongly suggest budding lawyers go through this book at least once. Devdutt maintains eloquent and easily comprehensible language throughout the book. The book is an underrated gem.

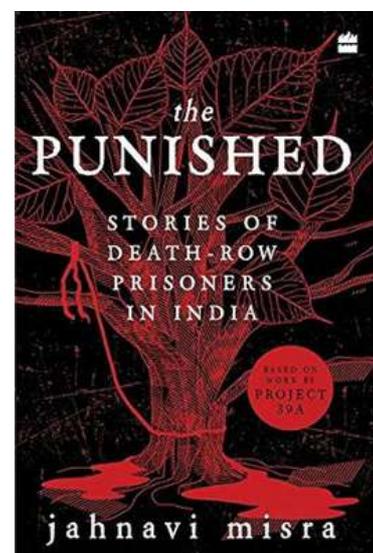
BOOK REVIEW OF “THE PUNISHED: STORIES OF DEATH-ROW PRISONERS IN INDIA” BY JAHNAVI MISRA

- Shivansh Nayak B.A. LL.B.(H) -VI Sem

Under the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860, the death penalty can be imposed for eleven offences. There have been many requests to remove the concept of capital punishment and replace it with life imprisonment. Our laws are very flexible about such punishments, where the convict can plead for their innocence or mercy from the Supreme Court to the President of India.

This book is based on interviews with death row prisoners and their families recorded between 2013 and 2016 as a part of Project 39A, a criminal justice research and litigation center that aims to trigger new conversations on legal aid, torture, forensics, mental health, and the death penalty. This initiative is based at the National Law University, Delhi. The book presents nineteen stories of such prisoners and their families and takes us on a journey into the lives and minds of the men and women often demonized by society and discarded by the state.

The author says that they, being total strangers, were suddenly prying into the darkest aspects of their lives, asking them to immediately trust them with their innermost feelings of anger, frustration, shame, fear, hope, and everything else in between. The author mentioned that across different states, death-row prisoners always saw them as people who came from Delhi with the power and resources to alter their fates. The stories in this book are an attempt at moral simplicity and comfort and present death row prisoners as individuals with complicated inner lives. The collection of these stories is an effort to bring the complex realities of death-row prisoners' stories to a much larger audience. These stories are meant to put forward a human understanding of those we condemn to a life of misery, suffering, and pain. The stories are written with the hope of making readers understand the people we want to kill.



A 20-year-old man named Rajni was accused of raping a minor. His family was taken into custody by the police and endured severe torture while their son remained missing. During this ordeal, one of the family members lost their hearing ability due to the brutality inflicted upon them. Rajni eventually surrendered to the authorities, finding himself in custody based on circumstantial evidence that was limited to the fact that he had been seen walking with the girl in question.

This marked the beginning of a harrowing journey that would ultimately lead to his execution. Rajni was just a 20-year-old when he found himself awaiting his grim fate, isolated from the world and trapped within the confines of prison. The parents, who had not seen their son for years, held little hope of ever being reunited with him. They were burdened not only by the prospect of losing their child but also by the weight of societal judgment. The community had turned its back on them, and they endured the silent condemnation of those around them. In the face of this bleak situation, Rajni's parents grappled with their own sense of injustice. They

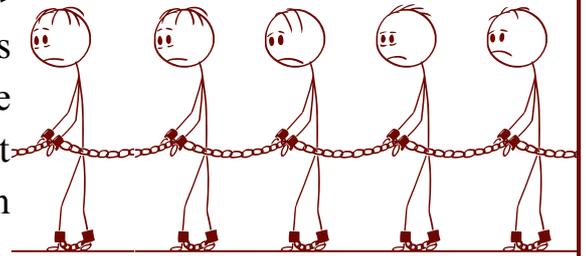
expressed their confusion, torn between not knowing whether their son had truly committed the crime he was accused of and the undeniable reality that they were the ones being punished for his actions. The question of whether they had allowed Rajni to study, which had once seemed like a trivial concern, now loomed as a poignant reflection of the choices that had shaped their lives and those of their family.



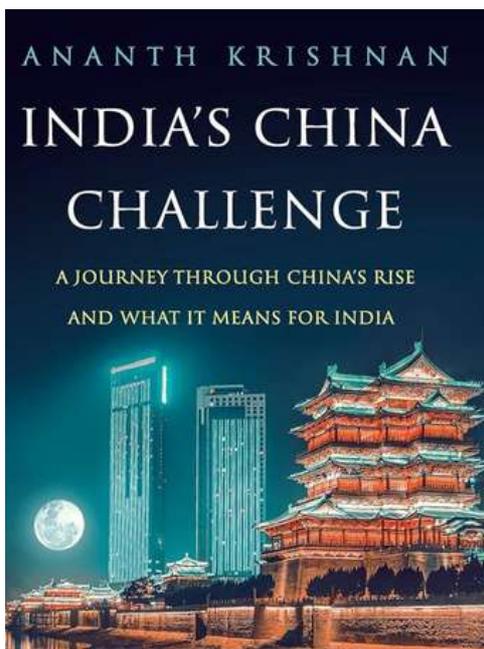
The second story is of a man named Sanjeev Sharma, accused of raping and killing a three-year-old girl. He describes the initial beating by the police, the Fastrack trial that lasted 3 days, and the trial, which was totally in English, which he could not understand. In just 3 days, he was pronounced to “hang till death,” and he is now waiting for his execution. When asked about why he didn’t appear in the high court, he said he never met the lawyer representing him, he never saw him, and he also never saw the medical report, which was the prime evidence for his punishment. All he knew was that he hated the food in prison and the mosquitoes in his cell.

These stories give us an idea of the suffering, pain, and confusion that death row prisoners and their families go through. As the author stated, the motive is neither to generate a sympathetic reaction from readers nor to play down the magnitude of the prisoner's offense but to evoke a sense of understanding in its readers, an understanding not just instinctual and sentimental but one that is measured and has the capacity to include both the victim of a crime and the accused in a crime.

The author's work helps us gain an understanding not only of the ethical aspects but also of the practical realities of the ways in which the justice system in India works. The author, through her work, urged the media to extend sensitivity towards both the victim and the accused when reporting a difficult crime. The author's attempt in these stories is to contextualize the convicts, not to justify their crimes in any way, but simply to show them as people embedded within their social systems, just like us all.



Book Review of India's China Challenge : A Journey through China's Rise and What It Means for India by Ananth Krishnan



- Anshuman Bisarya B.A. LL.B.(H) -IX Sem

India's China Challenge : A Journey through China's Rise and What It Means for India offers a unique perspective to its readers. In addition to pre-existing scholarly material on China, Mr. Krishnan lends authenticity to the book but also presents an unadulterated account of China, a country that is careful about what is said and shown to its public and to the world.

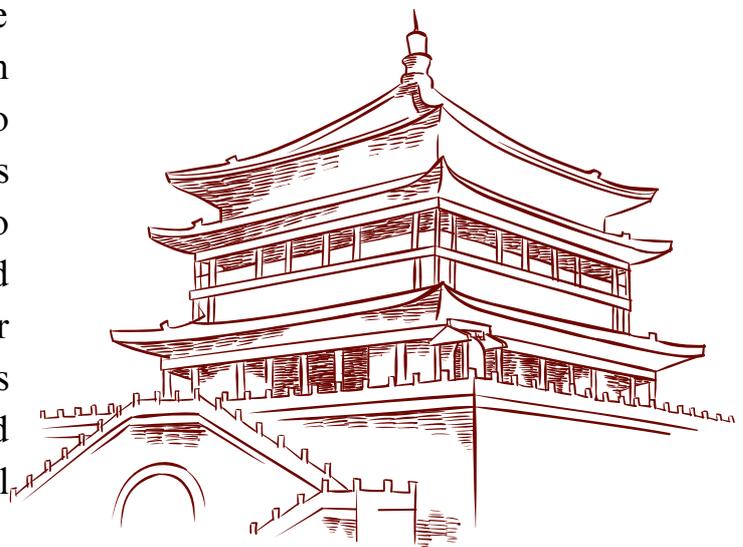
The book is divided into five parts. The book discusses China's transitions from Mao to the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) rise and gives a detailed insight into China under Mao. It also states China's economic rise under Mr. Deng Xiaoping to the present China under Mr. Xi Jinping. It also deliberates China's rising threat to the United States's supremacy and presents itself as a new leader for a new superpower led global order.

The book discusses the transition of the Chinese economy, the changes the Chinese society underwent economically, socially, culturally yet remained politically the same and highlights the necessity of having to transition and acceptance of having to become a capitalist economy by the CCP to ensure its control and maintain its legitimacy in the eyes of the Chinese people.

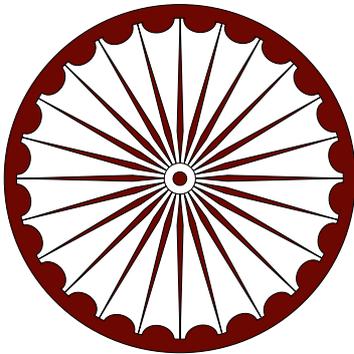
Krishnan then, with great detail highlights how CCP is at the centre of everything in China, how quintessentially the CCP is China and there is no China without the CCP. The book has discussed how CCP ensures its grip over the Chinese people and ensures it maintains its legitimacy in the eyes of the Chinese people.

One of the most interesting aspects of this book is that it dispels a lot of myths about the understanding of China and its people held by the West or even the East.

Mr. Krishnan through interviews and with great eloquence dispels the belief that globally everyone has, the one which the CCP often boasts about to stamp its legitimacy, of the Chinese people and their blind allegiance to the CCP and has included interviews and experiences of actual Chinese citizens who refused to pledge blind allegiance to CCP and subsequently who have taken the brunt of CCP's ruthless crackdown in its bid to silence any dissenting faction and exert influence and control over the Chinese people. The interviews in this book are enough evidence to show how even the CCP with its authoritarian stature of zero tolerance to opposition and challenge to it has like every other political setup dissenting citizens who will not pledge blind allegiance to the CCP and will stand up and rise to question it.



Krishnan also provides a rare insight to the readers on the 1962 Indo-China War. Contrary to the narrative among the masses that China was the aggressor and betrayed India and Nehru, the book relies on the Henderson Brooks-Bhagat Report that was commissioned post India's 1962 War defeat to understand the factors behind the War and discusses the history, the issues of Western and Eastern border and Nehru's aggressive Forward policy, how New Delhi turned away a blind eye to Indian Army's concerns and the subsequent impasse reached between Zhou Enlai and Nehru on the border discussion and the events which led to the 1962 War. This provides for an authentic account which shares the Indian side of things and dispels the myth that only China was to be blamed predominantly for the 1962 War.



The book has also discussed Xi's political rise and his vision for China and discusses One Road One Belt initiative and Common Prosperity for all Initiative as China's bid to show the superiority of the Chinese model and to counter the US led global order is discussed in great detail. The book also highlights China's expanding influence in the region and what it means for India albeit not in much detail.

Krishnan through the title India's China challenge left the door open for the readers to interpret the title in relation to the book discussing as either China posing a challenge to India or India posing a challenge to China yet throughout the book, Krishnan predominantly presents the Chinese story with its eccentricities to its readers and lays out the challenges India has and can be facing against China but critically, Krishnan has talked about challenges only restricted to military and border challenges posed by China to India and so does not comment on the economic and other challenges China poses to India and so the book does not fully encapsulate and provide the complete picture of the challenges China pose to India and additionally does not discuss how India poses a challenge to China and has not delved into giving much insight into what India can do to step up and face the challenges posed by China. The author appreciably has not engaged in any jingoism and has given China credit where it is due and suggested what pages India can take from China's playbook for its success and where India can in effect, take inspiration, for Indian context and pave way for its own success.

This book provides an intriguing read for those who are interested in knowing the Chinese story, its origins, its challenges of the past, present and the future, China's present and future aspirations and the omnipresence of CCP in Chinese society.

The book also provides for an intriguing read for readers who want to understand how India and China co-exist, how the neighbours perceive each other, the challenges both pose to each other and the complicated history the 2 neighbours share.

Karnataka-Maharashtra Border Dispute and Potential Resolution Strategies

- Aditya Juneja B.A. LL.B.(H) -VII Sem

The border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra is intensifying, as both state governments have jointly approved a resolution to facilitate a legal process for its resolution. In North Karnataka, there has long been a border dispute over Belagavi, Karwar, and Nipani. Belagavi became a part of the former Mysore state when state borders were redrawn along linguistic grounds in accordance with the States Reorganisation Act of 1956. The findings of the Justice Fazal Ali Commission, which was established in 1953 and issued its report two years later, formed the basis of the Act. Marathi is the predominant language in parts of Belagavi which should remain in Maharashtra. The Mahajan Commission was constituted in October 1966 by the Centre to resolve the border dispute between Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Kerala. Karnataka was advised by the Commission to keep Belgaum and 247 villages. Maharashtra challenged the findings in the Supreme Court in 2004.

The claim of Maharashtra to seek border adjustment was based on contiguity, relative linguistic majority, and popular preferences. The claim over Belagavi and nearby regions was based on Marathi-speaking people and linguistic homogeneity, it claimed over Karwar and Supa where Konkani is spoken by classifying Konkani as a Marathi dialect. Its logic was based on the concept of using villages as the unit of computation and counting the linguistic population in each village. Maharashtra underlined the historical fact that revenue records are also kept in Marathi in these Marathi-speaking districts.



Karnataka has maintained that the limits established under the State's Reorganisation Act are final. "The state's boundaries were neither tentative nor flexible. The State contends that the matter would revive border issues that were not addressed by the Act, and that such a demand should be denied."

The decades-old rivalry flared up again in 2022, when Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai claimed that the Karnataka government was considering claiming the Jath taluka in Maharashtra, sparking a strong outcry. Pro-Kannada and pro-Marathi protests erupted on both sides of the border, and the situation swiftly escalated. As a result, Union Home Minister Amit Shah barred the two states, both run by BJP-led governments, from claiming territory or making demands until the Supreme Court gave its ruling. Despite the intervention, the Karnataka Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a resolution on December 22 to protect its interests and refuse to cede any territory to Maharashtra, escalating the political crisis. CM Basavaraj Bommai said the BJP-led government was "seriously considering laying claim to Jath taluka and meeting with a team of senior advocates to resolve the boundary dispute with the neighboring state, sparking a war of words between BJP leaders in Karnataka and Maharashtra."

In 2021, all 40 gram panchayats in the drought-prone Jath taluka of Sangli district voted to join Karnataka, stating that the Maharashtra government failed to supply water to its people and mistreated them unfairly. They promised to provide special funds for the development of Kannada schools in Maharashtra through the Karnataka Border Development Authority. They also advocated for a pension for Kannadigas living in Maharashtra who fought in the freedom struggle, Karnataka unity, and Goa's liberation. Mr. Bommai remarked that the border dispute had become a political instrument for whatever Maharashtra party won power, and he encouraged the Maharashtra administration not to "create disputes between two states" with strong relations. He indicated that Karnataka was confident it could face legal challenges in court, pointing to the Supreme Court's admissibility ruling in 2017.

This heightened tensions between these two states, with Maharashtra's Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis declaring that the state will not relinquish even an inch of territory to Karnataka. "The Jath resolution is an old proposal that was passed in 2012." Karnataka has not yet submitted a fresh proposal. "The claim of Maharashtra on Belagavi, Karvar, and Nippani is non-negotiable" he remarked.

Attempts are frequently made to resolve inter-state problems with both sides' cooperation, with the Centre acting as a facilitator. If disagreements can be settled amicably, Parliament can pass legislation to change state boundaries, such as "the Bihar-Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act of 1968 and the Haryana-Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act of 1979. In the case of Belagavi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah met with the Chief Ministers of both states and requested them to establish a six-member team, three ministers from each side, to resolve all border concerns."

According to Article 131 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court has original jurisdiction in any dispute between the Government of India and one or more States, or between the Government of India and any State, or between two or more States. The President is authorized by Article 263 of the Constitution to convene an Inter-state Council to settle disputes between states. The purpose of the Council is to act as a forum for dialogue between the states and the Centre. In 1988, the Sarkaria Commission proposed that the Council be constituted as a permanent organization, and it was established by Presidential Order in 1990.

The hearing on the Belagavi boundary dispute issue was recently adjourned by the Supreme Court. Justice Aravind Kumar, a Karnataka native, recused himself from hearing the case concerning the border dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka. The case was being heard by a three-judge panel consisting of "Justice SK Kaul, Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, and Justice Aravind Kumar."

State boundary disputes can be resolved utilizing satellite mapping of actual border locations. Reviving the Inter-state Council as a means of resolving an inter-state conflict is an option. The Inter-state Council is expected to inquire and advise on conflicts, examine themes common to all states, and offer proposals for better policy coordination under Article 263 of the Constitution. Similarly, Zonal councils must be reactivated to debate issues of common importance to states in each zone, such as social and economic planning, border conflicts, inter-state transportation, and so on. India exemplifies unity in variety. To further deepen this unity, both the federal and state governments must embrace the cooperative federalist attitude.

LEGALLY WITTY QUOTES

Ms. Anika Tripathi and Ms. Rashi Jain, second- year students of BA.LLB(HONS), have compiled few legal quips to show the humorous side of lawyering

1.Law school is like a box of chocolates. You never know when you'll have a meltdown.



2.Why did the mathematician become a lawyer? He wanted to make real problems, not just theoretical ones!

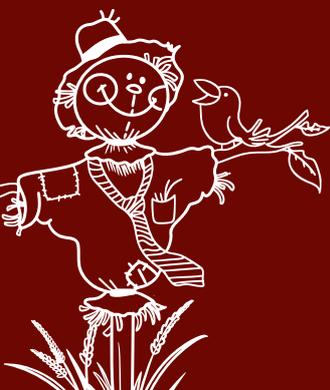
3.What's the difference between a good lawyer and a great lawyer? A good lawyer knows the law; a great lawyer knows the judge.

4.Why did the scarecrow become a successful lawyer? Because he was outstanding in his field!

5.What do you call a 1000 lawyers at the bottom of the ocean? The Great Barrister reef

6. What is a criminal's favourite type of coffee? Mug-shot!

7.Why did the lawyer name his daughter 'Sue'? Because he wanted to raise a Lawsuit!



LEGAL INSIGHTS AROUND THE GLOBE

- The Mexican Supreme Court, on September 2023, struck down the law criminalizing abortion. The Supreme Court stated that the denial of the possibility of a termination violated the human rights of women. The court reiterated that the violation of women's rights is more serious, not only because of her status as a victim but also best interests of women and minors should be considered. This judgment, welcomed by women's rights groups, the door for the federal healthcare system to provide abortions is now open.

- On June 2023 the Supreme Court of Nepal declared that LGBTQIA+ individuals have the right to marry, affirming the principle of equality for all. The LGBTQIA+ community and activists soon began celebrating the judgment. At least 200 couples decided to get their marriage licenses registered. However, they hit a roadblock as the lower judicial courts refused to recognize the validity of same-sex marriages. To resolve this issue, the court directed the government to establish a "separate register of marriages" for such couples from gender minority communities.



- 2023 witnessed the Prime Minister of Israel unveiling quasi-constitutional legislation as per which the Supreme Court of Israel is barred from striking down decisions of the Knesset, Israeli Parliament, by deeming it unreasonable. The Prime Minister said the unelected judges wield too much power over the parliament. This judicial overhaul plan plunged the country into unrest and exposed bitter divisions within Israeli society. The Opposition says that this move will push the country towards an authoritarian rule. This matter is sub judice as of now.

- El Salvador's recent legal reforms against Organized Crime is facing a massive threat to human rights. These reforms, pushed through by the Nuevas Ideas party, which is in power in the Legislative Assembly, will significantly lengthen penalties, permit collective trials involving up to 900 individuals, and endanger the fundamental right to due process. Tens of thousands of civilians have been jailed since President Nayib Bukele declared a state of emergency in March 2022, and they will be deprived of their right to a legal defense which has regularly been renewed.
- The Chief Justice of India Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud in a first, granted permission for an Indian Sign Language (ISL) interpreter to be present during virtual proceedings of the court on September 22nd, 2023. The presence of an ISL interpreter was allowed to facilitate India's first practicing deaf advocate in the court deliberations. 
- On International Arbitration Day, celebrated on October 7th, Supreme Court Judge Justice Hima Kohli highlighted the lack of diversity including gender diversity amongst international arbitrators. Justice Kohli said that even though between 2015 and 2021, the percentage of women appointed as arbitrators has nearly doubled from 12.6% to 26.1% it is not enough to ensure inclusivity and fairness in arbitration proceedings. Enhancing education and training through scholarships for women and revising institutional arbitration rules to appoint diverse arbitrators as a standard practice in the selection process is the need of the hour.
- A 46-year-old life convict serving life imprisonment at Open Prison and Correctional Home, Cheemeni, Kannur, Kerala has been allowed to pursue a three-year LLB Course by the division bench of Kerala High Court. The convict had sought bail to complete his admission process and to pursue the course. However, the Court has directed the admission formalities of the petitioner to be done through online mode. The aspect of the petitioner pursuing the course through an online mode would be deliberated upon by the College authorities and informed to the Court by the next date of posting.

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