# CENTENNIAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE
# ON
# LEGAL EDUCATION IN INDIA: RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT
# (DEFINING THE FUTURE OF LEGAL EDUCATION IN INDIA)

***(IN THE COMMEMORATION OF THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF LAW SCHOOL)***

3RD & 4TH FEBRUARY, 2024

***Organized by***

Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India

***Venue***

***Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 221005***

Website: ***https://bhu.ac.in/Site/UnitHomeTemplate/1_185_1173_Faculty-of-Law-Home***

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# BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY

The establishment of the Banaras Hindu University was a landmark in the history of University education in this country. It was the first residential University to be established in Bharatvarsh. The prime instrument of the Divine Will in this work was Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya Ji, one of the greatest sons of our motherland. In the educational field, Banaras Hindu University remains and will remain a permanent monument to his life and personality. The ideal before Pandit Malaviya Ji in establishing this University was to make available to the country in every field, men and women of high character with patriotism. Banaras Hindu University is an internationally reputed temple of learning and ranks among the top universities of Bharatvarsh in the field of academic and research output, situated in the holy city of Varanasi. The university comprises 8 Institutes, 15 Faculties, 146 Departments, 4 Interdisciplinary Centres, a constituent college for women, 4 affiliated colleges and 3 Constituent Schools, spanning a vast range of subjects about all branches of Humanities, Social Science, Law, Technology, Medicine, Science, Fine Arts and Performing arts. More than thirty thousand students are enrolled in university for different courses and research degrees.

# FACULTY OF LAW

The Faculty of Law has been a pioneer of Legal Education of Bharatvarsh. Law School has introduced the three-year LL.B. course and two-year LL.M. Programme in the country. It has taken the lead in introducing a Two-year full-time Master's in Human Rights and Duties Education (HRDE) and presently offers a Five-year B.A.LL.B. integrated course and One-Year LL.M. under the scheme-special courses of studies. The Faculty of Law also runs post-graduate part-time Diploma courses in various fields - Taxation, Corporate Governance, Media, Forensic Science and Human Resource Management and Service and Industrial Law. Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, the founder of Banaras Hindu University, served many years as Dean of Law School. The legal luminaries like Sir Ras Behari Ghosh and Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, were the earlier Deans. The Banaras Law School was one of the Six Law Faculties in India to start Clinical Legal Services. The model developed by Law School has been judged as the best model by Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.N. Bhagwati, former Chief Justice of India. The Law school publishes a highly reputed Law Journal, 'Banaras Law Journal' since 1965. The Faculty is also organizing the Mahamana Malaviya National Moot Court competition since 2013. The illustrious alumnus Justice Giridhar Malaviya Ji is presently Chancellor of the University.

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# KASHI/BANARAS/VARANASI

Kashi, Banaras or Varanasi has been the prime centre of Hindu thought and culture radiating spiritual lights and wisdom from time immemorial. This is the place where great Vyasa wrote Mahabharata and the eighteen Puranas. This is the place where Lord Buddha preached his first sermon after attaining enlightenment and *"set in motion"* the *"Wheel of Dharma"*. Varanasi is a city of traditional classical culture, glorified by myths and legends and sanctified by religion, it has always attracted a large number of pilgrims and worshippers from time immemorial. To be in a holy city is an experience in itself an experience in self–discovery of an eternal oneness of the body and soul. To every visitor, Varanasi offers a breath-taking experience. Varanasi is also renowned for its rich tapestry of music, arts, crafts and education. In fact, the real Varanasi is super physical and spiritual rather than physical or material.

# CONCEPT NOTE

The Chandogya Upanishad states that *"सा विद्या या विमुक्तये"* translated as *"knowledge is one that liberates"*. Since knowledge is the essence of education, therefore, education is fundamental for attaining full human potential, making an equitable and just society, and promoting national development. The objective of education is to lead the 'full development of the human personality' has been reflected in many International documents including the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century's Report on *'Learning: The Treasure Within'* submitted to UNESCO. The objective of BHU is to promote the building up of character in youth by Dharma and ethics as an integral part of education.

In the present formal world, law become an integral part of society and is reflected in the *'Collective Consciences'* (Durkhim),*'Volksgeist'* (Sevigney), and *'time-honoured customs of the flok'*(Ross). The working of law and the effectiveness of the legal System in the life of the nation are somehow dependent on Legal Education. Therefore, Legal education reform is taking place around the globe to make it more responsive than ever before to meet the legal needs of the community and nation as well as global requirements.

The National Education Policy, 2020 in para 20.4, noted that *"Legal education needs to be competitive globally, adopting best practices and embracing new technologies for wider access to and timely delivery of justice. At the same time, it must be informed and illuminated with Constitutional values of Justice - Social, Economic, and Political - and directed towards national reconstruction through the Instrumentation of Democracy, Rule of Law, and Human Rights."*

However, even after 75 years of our independence, we have not been able to develop an indigenous or Indic school of jurisprudence. Any legal system that lacks the native and ethnic character of the society will ultimately fail the test of time in the course of society's transformation. Contemporary legal education in India has largely been coaxed by colonial notions. There is an Indian imperative not only to decolonise laws but also to radically restructure legal education in the same context.

*(Cont...)*

The National Education Policy, 2020 in para 20.4 further states that *"The curricula for legal studies must reflect socio-cultural contexts along with, in an evidence-based manner, the history of legal thinking, principles of justice, the practice of jurisprudence, and other related content appropriately and adequately. State institutions offering law education must consider offering bilingual education for future lawyers and judges - in English and in the language of the State in which the institution is situated."*

Coming to the Vision Statement of the Bar Council of India (2010-2017), it identified inadequate quality of legal education and infrastructure and lack of relevant skills training to meet the ever-changing demands of the modern world. In the present geopolitical era, India is transforming into a leading geo-economic power. Hence, the need of the hour is to revise and revamping of all aspects of the legal education structure, including its regulation and governance, with aspirational goals.

Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University has been in existence ever since the University was inaugurated. On the 21st July, 1923 Dr. Sir Tej Bahadu Sapru, Dr. M.L. Agrawal, Dr. Kailash Nath Katju, Sri. Anandi Prasad Dube, Munshi Mahadev Prasad, Sri. P. N. Sapru, Sri. Sankar Saran, Sri. A. N. Sanyal, Sri. K. N. Malviya, Sri. Abdul Hamid, Sri. Banshidhar, and Dr. Walliullah were appointed as honourary Professors of Law for a period of two years. On 4th August, 1923, the Law classes were inaugurated by Sri. Asutosh Mookerjee. We decided, in 1960 that: *"The Banaras Law School should be a pioneer institution of legal education in India with an excellent team of teachers and a selected student body and, thereby, carrying further the all-important task of an educational renaissance in the country in a manner befitting the monumental efforts of the founder of the university."* As an institution, we believe that legal education will produce men adept in tailoring legal prescriptions to the needs of contemporary Bhartvarsh.

Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University has significantly contributed to the legal education of our country over last 100 years. In the centennial year of the Law School, we want to explain the present state of legal education and want to define the future of legal education for the nation as well as for our institution.

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The objective of the Conference is to understand the gap between the current state of legal education and what is required. The gap must be bridged through undertaking major reforms that bring the highest quality, equity, and integrity into Legal education.

The Bhagavad-gītā states that **तद्विद्धि प्रणिपातेन परिप्रश्नेन सेवया। उपदेक्ष्यन्ति ते ज्ञानं ज्ञानिनस्तत्त्वदर्शिनः ॥4/34॥** "translated as....*try to learn the truth by approaching the scholar, Inquire from him submissively and render service unto him. Self-realised souls can impart knowledge to you because they have seen the truth.*"

In this background, we are calling and requesting legal Scholars, academia, professionals and administrators for their participation in the conference. The themes and sub-themes for the National Conference include the undermentioned themes.

## THEMES/SUB-THEMES

***HISTORY AND EXPERIENCES OF LEGAL EDUCATION:***

An Assessment of 100 Years of Legal Education in India and Law School, BHU.

***VALUES OF LEGAL EDUCATION:***

Philosophical foundation of Legal Education, Legal Education: Journey from Modernity to Postmodernity, Critical Role of Legal Education in Civil Society and its Progress.

***INDIGENIZATION, DECOLONIZING LEGAL EDUCATION AND NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY, 2020:***

Deconstructing Colonial Ideologies of the Superiority and Privilege of Western thought and Approaches in Legal Education. Indigenization of Legal Institutions/ University/ Faculty. Constitutional values and Legal Education, Incorporation of Indic civilization values into Legal Education, History, Cultural Initiatives and Collaboration with other Departments.

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***ROLE OF REGULATORY BODIES IN LEGAL EDUCATION:***

**Working of Bar Council special reference in Legal Education, Evaluating Regulation and Working of Bar Council. Developing Physical Infrastructure and Financial Resources for Legal Education.**

***CURRICULUM OF LEGAL EDUCATION:***

**Exploring how the Curriculum Could Benefit Students, Syllabi, Best Practices for Teaching and Learning in Legal Education, Matching Law Practice with Legal Education, and Practice-Based Learning.**

***GLOBALIZATION AND LEGAL EDUCATION:***

**Global Collaboration, WTO and Legal Education, World-Class Legal Education and Institutional Excellence, Legal Professions to sustain the challenges posed by Globalization.**

***EMPIRICAL RESEARCH IN LAW:***

**Socio-Legal Research in Law, Empirical Research, Bridging the existing gaps between Theory and Practice of law.**

***CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME:***

**Legal Aid & Service Clinic, Clinical Legal Educational Programme, Development of Counseling, Drafting, Negotiating, and Problem Solving etc. skills.**

***THE FUTURE OF LEGAL EDUCATION:***

**Reviewing Diverse Approaches for Student Success, Problem-Solving, Negotiation and Transnational Practice, Addressing the Access to Justice Crisis through Legal Education, Preparing law students to be civic leaders, learning technologies in Legal Education, and Linking Law Schools with Public Policy. Legal Education and continuing dialogue with academics, practitioners, judges, licensing authorities, and the general public about how best to accomplish.**

***The above-mentioned themes are not exhaustive. Other topics relevant to the themes may also be discussed during the conference.***

# GUIDELINES FOR PAPER

For the preparation of Manuscript (Article/Research Paper) general guidelines are as follows:

- Manuscript may be submitted in English or Hindi.
- The matters of the Manuscript shall be computer typed only in Microsoft Word format with -
- Text Font: English - Times New Roman, Hindi - Kruti Dev 10 or APS Priyanka.
- Font Size: 14 point for Title (All Bold Caps); 11 point for Author's name (All Caps Italic black without prefix); 11 point for Abstract; 12 point for the Main Text| |10 point for the Footnotes |Line Spacing- 1.5 (Auto) for main text and 1.0 (Auto) for footnotes.
- The submission of Manuscripts shall include Educational Qualifications, Designation/Professional Status, University/Organization's name, and E-mail Id on the first page in the footnotes.
- The Article/paper shall consist of 4,000 to 8,000 words, inclusive of footnotes
- The full text of the Articles and research papers shall be preceded by-
- An *ABSTRACT* in about 250 words;
- *KEYWORDS* not more than 5 words; and
- The Contents of the main text shall be divided under different levels of headings.
- Level one heading- main headings (all bold caps) numbered in Roman numerical (upper-case) in the centre;
- Level two heading-subheadings shall be in Roman numerical (lower-case) left-aligned in bold letters;
- Level three heading-parts of subheadings shall be in small (Alphabet) letters left-aligned in bold letters italic;
- The paper must include an Introduction and Conclusion.
- The full text of the Articles and papers should not go beyond the maximum limit prescribed for the same. Contributors are required to follow a set pattern of footnoting (The guidebook for References is attached with the brochure).
- Papers submitted shall be original contributions and must be checked by Anti-Plagiarism norms prescribed by the University Grants Commission, New Delhi. It should not be under consideration for any other publication at the same time. Papers shall be submitted in MS Office Word. Papers shall be accepted for presentation and publication only after scrutiny and evaluation.
- All submissions shall be accompanied by a cover letter and a brief CV of the author. The Manuscript shall be E-mail Id: *legaleducation@bhu.ac.in*

## TIMELINE OF THE CONFERENCE

- Last Date of the Abstract Submission: 15th January 2024
- Conformation regarding Abstract: 18th January 2024
- Last Date of the Full Paper Submission: 30th January 2024

*Note:* Only selected Full Papers (or PPT) shall be permitted for presentations in the conference sessions.

## REGISTRATION FEES FOR PARTICIPATION

- Faculties/Research Scholars/Professionals and Others: ₹1000/-
- Students (UG & PG): ₹800/-

## ACCOUNT DETAILS

- Account Name: Legal Education Conference 2024
- Account No.: 42515250013
- IFS Code: SBIN0000211
- Bank Name: State Bank of India, BHU
- UPI ID: 4251520013@sbi

Scan for Payment

## REGISTRATION FOR PARTICIPATION

- Link of Google form for Registration:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe7LOL55hFQtX3e2PRJWoKcIjvCt-EGG13DPJR2H3kFWDnzHw/viewform

Scan for Registration

# IMPORTANT NOTES

- On receiving the registration form with the accommodation request, the organizers will review and inform the accommodation status to the delegates.
- Allotment of rooms will be done on a first-come-first-serve basis, and after receipt of the registration fee only.
- Limited accommodation available for the conference.
- No general rule for TA & DA.

# ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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