

Two Day National Seminar on Sensitizing Human Rights- A Third World Countries Approach

21st & 22nd October 2016

Jointly Organized by

**National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi
&
Department of Studies in Law, University of Mysore,
Manasagangotri, Mysuru**

**Venue: Auditorium, Vignan Bhawan
University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysuru**

About University of Mysore

Mysuru, the erstwhile capital of the princely State of Mysore, now a part of Karnataka in South India, is a city of many attractions. A city of palaces and eye-pleasing Indo-Saracenic buildings, it has the straddling Chamundi Hill crowning the old royal headquarters. The iconic Palace draws thousands of visitors every day. Mysore is also an academic centre having many prestigious institutions – from traditional ayurveda to modern medical sciences, business management to engineering, law to commerce. It is also the headquarters for the University of Mysore, which pioneered higher education in the then State of Mysore. It opened on July 27, 1916. Its first chancellor was the Maharaja of Mysore; the first Vice Chancellor was H. V. Nanjundaiah. The university became the first outside of the Britain administration in India, the sixth in India as a whole, and the first in Karnatak. It is a state university of the affiliating type, and became autonomous on March 3, 1956, when it gained recognition from the University Grants Commission. Krishna tells Arjuna in the battlefield of Kurukshetra, “Nahi jnanena sadrusham pavitram iha vidyate” – certainly, there is no purifier in the world like knowledge. This is an advice Lord Krishna gives to Arjuna. This advice of the Lord is the motto of the University of Mysore and has stood by it’s steadfastly over the last century of its existence. “Nahi jnanena sadrusham”, the University’s motto, is inscribed on the portals of the headquarters of the University, the Crawford Hall. This sacred objective is part of its logo.

In 1960, a major development was the conglomeration of all the post-graduate studies of the University at one location. Maharaja Jayachamaraja Wadiyar gifted the sprawling lands in Vijayasripura area on the outskirts of Mysore, when Prof. N.A.Nikam was the Vice-Chancellor.

But, the post-graduate campus got its unique identity during the tenure of the Vice-Chancellorship of Dr. K.V. Puttappa, poet laureate popularly known as 'Kuvempu'. The honour of christening the just coming up post-graduate centre as "Manasa Gangotri" goes to this poet, author of the magnum opus "Ramayana Darshanam". 'Manasa Gangotri' means 'eternal spring of the mind'.

The campus, located in the idyllic area and adjacent to Kukkarahalli Lake that has inspired many writers, lies within the heart of the heritage city of Mysore in a picturesque area of 739 acres. The creation of Manasa Gangotri, bringing together the entire post-graduate department in one campus, was a unique event in the annals of the University. This example has been emulated by other Universities in Karnataka.

The year 1966 was commemorated as the Golden Jubilee year of the University. The celebrations were inaugurated at a colorful function by none other than the President of India, Dr. S.Radha Krishna, who was Professor of Philosophy in the Maharaja's College earlier. Hundred years is a milestone in the history of any institution. On the threshold of this milestone, University of Mysore can look back with pride and satisfaction over its achievement in spreading knowledge to hundreds of boys and girls who from the days of its inception have occupied prestigious positions and won national and international acclaim, bringing laurel to themselves and to their alma mater. During these 100 years, the University has stood by its objective and vision of its founding fathers, and its motto '*nahi jnanena sadrusham*' acting as a shining guide for thousands of students. In the words of the present Vice-Chancellor, Prof. K.S.Rangappa, who had planned the centenary celebrations on a grand scale and in a unique manner with a number of ambitious projects to commemorate the occasion: "Our University has produced eminent personalities – men of excellence and globally acclaimed personalities. It has won national status and international recognition, achieving academic excellence. Now, our vision is to take it to the global level, make it an international level academic centre."

As of July 2013, the University of Mysore was accredited "Grade A" by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).

Department of Studies in Law

The Department of Studies in Law was established in 1972 with its vision and mission. It is offering BA.LL.B, Bcom LL.B, LL.M, & Ph.D. programmes. The specialization subjects include Constitutional Law, International Law & Business & Trade Law. Known for intensive teaching and research, the Department has gained a respectable name in the World of higher education. Its alumnus are settled in varieties of legal professions and made indelible mark in legal service in various parts of India. It has committed to focus on multi-disciplinary approach to enable more students to access affordable and quality legal education. It focuses on creating a system by which participation in an opportunity including internships in courts and like bodies for students so that there is upward mobility for every legal profession at the High Courts and Supreme Court. It emphasis on identifying and nurturing talent by providing opportunity to every individual in order to

create a pool of talent based expertise and core competence. The Department tries to guarantee a legal education system of global standards and be a global leader in the global legal industry. The need of the hour is to build for the future and create access across this honorable profession. The department strives to achieve the goal of excellence in legal education to meet the challenges of legal profession with dedicated team of experienced teachers in the department.

About NHRC

The Rights Commission (NHRC) of India is an autonomous public body constituted on 12th October 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Ordinance of 28 September 1993. It was given a statutory basis by the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The NHRC is the national human rights institution, responsible for the protection and promotion of human rights, defined by the Act as "rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in the International Covenants". Ever since its inception it is catering to the preservation of human rights of various strata of society. The purpose of NHRC is, *suo moto* or through the petition of a person, to investigate the violation of human rights or the failures of the State or other to prevent a human rights violation. The Commission can visit state institutions where people are detained such as jails to examine the conditions of the institutions and make sure they are in compliance with human rights provisions. They can also examine any law or constitutional provisions to ensure human rights protection. They are to advise the state to take on measures to prevent terrorism and related violations as well as on effective implementation of human rights treaties. The commission carries out research about human rights, create awareness campaigns through various mediums and encourage the work of NGOs. In case of any violation of human rights, a petition can be directly made to the commission.

Concept Note:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a half a century old foundational document is the humanity's *magna carta*. It was adopted at the time when most Third World Countries were still under colonial rule. 'Human rights' then, were only a cover for Western intervention in the affairs of the developing world. Developing countries as such could not afford human rights since the tasks of nation building and economic development were still unfinished. Suspending

or limiting human rights was thus a sacrifice of the few for the benefit of the many. Today, human-rights concept is understood and upheld only by a small westernized minority in developing countries; it does not extend to the lowest rungs of the ladder. Universality of human rights in these circumstances would be a universality of the privileged. There are many specific rights which reflect western cultural bias: the right, for instance, to political pluralism, the right to paid vacations and, most troublesome of all, the rights of women. How can women's rights be universal in the face of widespread divergences of cultural practice, when in some societies marriage is seen not as a contract between two individuals but as an alliance between lineages, and when the permissible behavior of womenfolk is central to the society's perception of its honour. In addition to these, some religious leaders argue that human rights can only be acceptable if they are founded on transcendent values of their faith. The Universal Declaration claims no such heritage but there is an in-built conflict between the universality of human rights and the particularity of religious perspectives in many Third World Countries. It has also proposed for an alternative standard for human rights concerning only the Third World. But such alternatives poses a question as to how far these Third World perspectives of human rights can ensure the protection of the minorities and the vulnerable sections of population, particularly the women and children within the Third World and can these alternative perspective help in fighting the Third World problems like poverty, hunger, corruption, despotism, social exclusion like the caste system, communism etc? However, these perceptions have also called for possibility of reconciliation between Third World perspective and the Western perspective of human rights.

This seminar focuses on the various issues concerning human rights protection in third world countries and aims to widen the awareness and knowledge of academia, students and public on the various issues concerning human rights.

Themes of the Seminar

- Euro Centric Approach
- Asio-Afro Centric Approach
- Universalization and Globalization of Human Rights
- Rights of Marginalized
- Constitutional and International Discourse on Human Rights
- Conflict Resolution on Human Rights
- Role of Regional Organizations in Protecting Human Rights
- Role of UNO and its internationalization Approach
- Multiculturalism and Ethnic Pluralism
- Judicial response to Human Rights
- Role of NHRC & SHRC

Call for Papers

Seminar papers are invited from academicians, practitioners, research scholars and students.

Guidelines for Paper Submission

An abstract should contain no more than 250-300 words accompanied by a brief profile of the authors indicating their name, designation, email-id, contact number and official address. The paper should be original, problem and result oriented. The full paper must not exceed a maximum of 6000 words (excluding foot notes). The abstract and full paper must be formatted in adherence to the following guidelines:

- Font Size- Times New Roman, 12 for text, 10 for footnote.
- Line spacing- 1.5 for text, single for footnotes
- For Citation and Reference: Bluebook Method of Citation.
- File Format: Microsoft Word Document.
- The full paper to be sent to maruthismgconference158@gmail.com

Tentative Important Dates

- **Seminar dates**-21st & 22nd October 2016
- **Submission of Abstract**- 18th October 2016

Registration Fee

For Academicians/Teachers:	500
For Research Scholars:	300
For Students:	200

- Demand Draft should be in favor of “**The Chairman , Department of Studies in Law , University of Mysore payable at State Bank of Mysore, Manasaganotri Campus , Mysore**”

Accommodation

The participants are requested to make their own arrangements for travel and accommodation however, the Department will take care of local hospitality.

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