MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR

CENTRE FOR SHAASTRIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN LAW (CSSRL)

Innovation in Law by Exploring Shaastric Wisdom

Organizes

राष्ट्र स्तरीय जसमंथन वादः प्रतियोगिता

JUSMANTHAN VĀDAH

(ANISHIDDHAM ANUMATAM - THAT WHAT IS UNOPPOSED WILL BE CONSIDERED AS AGREED UPON)

AN INDIC KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM (IKS) BASED BILINGUAL NATIONAL LEVEL DEBATE COMPETITION

About Our University

Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur (MNLU, Nagpur) was established by the Government of Maharashtra by way of enactment known as the Maharashtra National Law University Act (Maharashtra Act No. VI of 2014). Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Judge, Supreme Court of India, is the Chancellor of the University. It is a residential University engaged in teaching and promoting research in law and allied disciplines. The University has been recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the University has also received necessary affiliation from the Bar Council of India (BCI). It is also a member of Association of Indian Universities (AIU). The objectives of the University are manifold: to advance and disseminate learning and knowledge of law and legal processes and their role in nation development; to develop sense of responsibility within the students and research scholars; to serve society in the field of law by developing skills in regard to advocacy, legal services, legislation, law reforms and the likes; to organize lectures, seminars, symposiums, conferences and capacity building programmes; to promote legal knowledge and to make law and legal processes efficient instruments of social justice and development; to promote traditional, cultural, legal and ethical values with a view to promote and foster the rule of law and the objectives enshrined in the Constitution of India; and to liaison with institutions of higher learning and research in India and abroad. The University has established thirty-one centres for advanced legal studies and research to address the socio-legal issues and challenges, and to conduct cutting edge research on the thriving issues of law, social sciences, humanities, and management.

About CSSRL

The University has established Centre for Shaastric Studies and Research in Law (CSSRL) to promote quality teaching-learning pedagogy and research in Indic studies. Through the Centre, the University offers certificate courses, undertakes research activities to develop necessary literature and understanding of the interface between Shaastras and modern law in association with Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University, Ramtek. We were IKS Research Project Awardee by Ministry of Education, Government of India.

Vision
"Innovation in Law by Exploring Shaastric Wisdom"

The Centre is dedicated to promote legal and justice education, law-making process, legal and factual inquiries, argumentation, interpretation, and justice dispensation by exploring the Indic jurisprudence in the context of modern legal studies.

Mission

To explore Indic knowledge, create novel expertise, and develop resources compatible with contemporary socio-legal issues.

About Sanskrit Week

Sanskrit is an ancient language that holds immense historical, philosophical, and literary value. It is considered the mother of all languages and provides access to knowledge systems that form the foundation of modern educational disciplines. By dedicating a week to revive and reclaim the old past glory of Sanskrit language, the Centre aims to foster a sense of pride and appreciation for this ancient language among students, scholars, and the general public.

The Centre for Shaastric Studies and Research in Law (CSSRL) is celebrating Sanskrit Week in the first week of August. This week aims to celebrate the rich heritage and cultural significance of Sanskrit. The event will feature a series of activities and programmes designed to promote awareness and highlight the significance of Sanskrit in modern education.There will be week long celebrations that'll include various activities based on Sanskrit like Street Play, JusManthan Vādah -(an IKS based Bilingual National level Debate Competition), CSSRL podcasts, CSSRL merchandise and also JusManthan Manchah.

JusManthan-The Research Brand of CSSRL

CSSRL formalises its research activities by according a nomenclature to its vision, objectives and creating a brand of its own - "JusManthan". '*Jus*' is a Latin word which means law as a system/aggregate/a whole; and '*Manthan*' literally means brainstorming/churning. This nomenclature is a Sva-Sangna or a term designed to suit the intended meaning. Going by the fusion of disciplines that CSSRL creates and provides platforms for, this name of a fusion character resonates with the vision of CSSRL. The vision of CSSRL's JusManthan finds inspiration from the Rig Vedic mantra of "*Aa no bhadraaha krtavo yantu vishwatah*" which means "Let noble thoughts come to us from everywhere" which has been adopted as a value statement of JusManthan.

JusManthan Vādah

One of the unique platforms of JusManthan is JusManthan Vādah which was launched in our first Shaastric Wisdom Fest- Shaastrotsav 1.0. It is a flagship debate tournament which is held amongst the students on a motion relating to Shaastric ideas on quarterly basis. The tag line of this event is "*Anishiddham Anumatam*" which means that what is unopposed will be considered as agreed upon. The first two edition of this event were successfully held amongst the students of MNLU Nagpur in January and April 2023 respectively The highlight of this event in Shaastrotsav, was the Professor v. Professor debate wherein the internal faculty members were invited to participate in the debate competition for throwing more light on the motion.

This time, we are organizing a national-level event called "Rashtra Stariya JusManthan Vādah Pratiyogita" (JusManthan - An IKS Based Bilingual National Debate Competition), inviting teams from different institutions to participate in this prestigious competition.

Format of the Debate

1. A debating team shall consist of two speakers: one who proposes the motion (referred to as 'Vaadin') and one who opposes it (referred to as 'Prativaadin').
2. The moderator will facilitate the debate and the timekeeper will be responsible for keeping a track of the time allotted to each speaker.
3. The style of the debate will be according to the modus operandi specified in brochure.
4. The Indic style of debate will be followed. The jury will be referred as Prāśnika and the audience will be referred as Sabhya.

Rules

a) Date and Venue

The Competition will be held in two phases- Phase 1 comprising of preliminary and quarter-final rounds and Phase 2 comprising of semi-final and final rounds. Phase 1 will be held on 14th and 15th July, 2023 in virtual mode. Phase 2 will be held on 4th and 5th August,2023 in the university campus (offline mode).

b) Eligibility

1. Members of the team must be undergraduate students pursuing a recognized course in any University certified by Universities Grants Commission (UGC).
2. Maximum three teams per institution can register for the competition.
3. Cross-institutional teams are NOT allowed to participate.

c) Time allotment of rounds

2. The Format and Time allotment for Preliminary rounds & Quarter Finals are mentioned below.

KEEP IN MIND !!

The Time allotment for Preliminary Rounds & Quarter Finals are as follows:

Opening Speech	Each Speaker: 3 minutes
Rebuttal Round	1 minute
Sur-rebuttal Round	1 minute
Closing Speech	Each Speaker: 2 minutes

Time allotment for Semi- Finals & Finals are as follows:

Opening Speech	Each Speaker: 4 minutes
Rebuttal Round	2 minutes
Sur-rebuttal Round	2 minutes
Closing Speech	Each Speaker: 3 minutes
Question and Answer Round	5 minutes (May be extended to 7 minutes on the discretion of the judges)

4. Opening Speeches: Participants are required to present their constructive arguments in their opening speeches. The Vaadins will deliver their speech first, followed by Prativaadins.

5. Rebuttal Round: The opening speeches shall be followed by a two (2) minute rebuttal round wherein opposite team members may pose two questions to the speaker.

6. Closing Speech: Participants are responsible for summarizing, analysing, rebutting, and concluding the arguments presented in the opening speeches and rebuttal round. No new constructive arguments can be introduced in the closing speeches. However, participants are permitted to refine existing arguments and provide additional relevant facts.

7. **Question & Answer Round:** The Prāśnika may, at their discretion, pose questions to the teams during the question-and-answer round after the closing speeches of the respective speakers. In this round, questions can be posed from Sabhya too. This round only applies to the participants qualified for the final rounds.

d) Motion(s)

1. The motion(s) for each round will be based upon Shaastric ideas, Indic Knowledge Systems, Sanskrit and Contemporary issues.
 2. There will be seperate motions for each round.
3. The motion for Preliminary and Quarter-final Rounds will be released after Final Registration and motion for Semi-Final and Final Rounds will be released after the declaration of Phase-1 results.
4. The motion(s) shall be released prior in time through contact mail provided by teams while registration.
5. The motion(s) shall be released on all social media handles as well.

KNOW THE RULES!

Important Dates

Last Date of Final Registration & Payment of Registration Fee	12 July, 2023
Date of Release of Team Codes	13 July, 2023
Date of Release of Motions for Phase-1	11 July, 2023
Date for Preliminary Rounds (virtual)	14 July, 2023
Date for Quarter Final Rounds (virtual)	15 July, 2023
Date of Release of Result(s) of Phase-1	15 July, 2023
Date of Release of Motions for Phase-2	15 July, 2023
Date of Release of Accommodation registration forms for Phase-2	16 July, 2023
Latest date(s) of Reporting of teams to the University Campus	3 Aug, 2023
Date for Semi-final Rounds (offline)	4 Aug, 2023
Date for Final Rounds (offline)	5 Aug, 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Content

1. Content refers to the issues, arguments, and facts presented in a debate.
2. Prioritize and order the issues under debate based on their importance and relevance.
3. Ensure that the matter is logical, well-reasoned, and coherent.
4. The content should be relevant to the topic being debated and support the arguments being made.
5. Persuasiveness is an important aspect of the content presented.
6. Evaluate the content from the perspective of an average reasonable person.
7. Avoid bias and discrimination based on religion, sex, race, nationality, sexual preference, age, social status, accent, or disability.
8. Content should not contain any unconstitutional words or phrases which may disrupt the decorum of the debating house otherwise, the organizing committee reserves the rights to disqualify the team.

Presentation(Structure and Conduct)

1. Conduct refers to the style of presentation and delivery of a speaker (Vaadin and Prativaadin).

2. Conduct includes various elements that contribute to a speaker's style, but it is the overall effectiveness in advancing the argument that matters.

3. Elements of Conduct in a presentation include eye contact, voice modulation, hand gestures, language, the use of notes, and other factors affecting effectiveness.

4. Eye contact enhances persuasion by creating a sense of sincerity.

5. Voice modulation helps persuade the audience (Sabhya) by emphasizing important points and maintaining their attention through variations in pitch, tone, volume, and the use of pauses.

6. Hand gestures can be used to highlight key arguments, but excessive movements may distract the audience (Sabhya) and diminish their focus on the arguments.

7. The dress code for the competition is business formal. Participants must adhere to the same.

8. The Speakers (Vaadin and Prativaadin) shall not disclose their identities and shall only represent themselves by the Team Codes allotted to them. Team codes shall be provided to each team after their successful final registration for the competition.

9. No book, document, or electronic gadget shall be allowed to the participant during the competition.

10. The videos of the participants shall be switched on throughout the virtual rounds.Any discrepancies/malpractices found will lead to the team's disqualification. Kindly ensure a proper internet connection and good video quality.

Language

1. Medium of Communication can either be Hindi or English.
2. Language should be clear and simple to ensure the audience (Sabhya) understands the message. Overly verbose or confusing language can distract the argument and lose audience (Sabhya) 's attention.

Interjection

Interjection Style for Phase-1: Vākovākya

This interjection style consists of rebuttals and sur-rebuttals which will stand on the time-tested style of Vākovākya wherein Vaadin and Prativaadin both will get maximum number of chances for cross-questioning under the time frame specified in Modus Operandi. There is no limitations in the number of chances.

Interjection Style for Phase-2: Šatpakśi

This interjection style consists of rebuttals and sur-rebuttals which will stand on the time-tested of practice of Satpakśi which means that Vādin and Prativādin both will get only two chances each for cross-questioning where Vādin makes a statement, the Prativadin gives rejoinder and if the Vādin is unable to point out the logical flaw in this rejoinder, then the Prāśnika can then and there stop the next round of interjection.

Note: For both the Interjection Styles ,the moderator will have sole discretion over whom he allows opportunities from opposing side to question the speaker during the time frame of rebuttals and sur-rebuttals.

Modus Operandi

1. The Vaadin will start by presenting their arguments for the motion.
2. After the speaker finishes, the opposition participant(s) (excluding the speaker's teammate)- Prativaadin will have the opportunity to rebut or interject the views presented by the speaker supporting the motion.
3. The Vaadin will then have the right to reply to each interjection within the given time frame.
4. Then the speaker may conclude giving his closing remarks within the stipulated time period.
5. The same process will be followed for the Prativaadin.
6. The debate will continue, adhering to time limits and rules, until the last speaker presents their arguments and responds to any interjections.
7. In Phase-1 (virtual debate), the timing for the reminder bells for opening speeches is as follows:
- The first bell will ring at the 2nd minute.
- The second bell will ring 30 seconds before the completion of the 3rd minute.
- The final bell will ring at the completion of the 3rd minute.

For rebuttals and sur-rebuttals:
- The first bell will ring at the completion of the 1st minute.
- The second bell will ring 30 seconds before the completion of the 2nd minute.
- The final bell will ring at the completion of the 2nd minute.

For the closing speech:
- One bell will ring when there is 30 seconds left for the completion of the 2nd minute.
- The last bell will ring at the completion of the 2nd minute.

8. In Phase-2 (offline debate), the timing for the opening speeches is as follows:
-    The first bell will ring at the 3rd minute.
-    The second bell will ring 30 seconds before the completion of the 4th minute.
-    The final bell will ring at the completion of the 4th minute.

For rebuttals and sur-rebuttals:
-    The first bell will ring at the completion of the 2nd minute.
-    The second bell will ring 30 seconds before the completion of the 4th minute.
-    The final bell will ring at the completion of the 4th minute.

For the closing speech:
-    One bell will ring when there is 30 seconds left for the completion of the 3rd minute.
-    The last bell will ring at the completion of the 3rd minute.

For the question-and-answer round (5 minutes):
-    The first bell will ring at the completion of the 4th minute.
-    Another bell will ring when there are 30 seconds left for the last minute (last bell will ring on the completion of the 5th min but the participant may be given an extension upto 2 mins on the discretion of the Prāśnika in which case 1 last bell will ring on the completion of the 7th min).
-    The final bell will ring for the completion of the last minute.

Marking of the Debate

1. If a team does not arrive at the spot of the debate more than five minutes prior the scheduled time, they shall be disqualified.

2. Prāśnika may unanimously agree to disqualify a team if they find that a member or members have engaged in harassment towards another debater based on factors such as religion, sex, race, colour, nationality, sexual preference, or disability.

3. The participants will be evaluated on the following parameters in Phase-1:

Parameter	Maximum Points
Content	50
Presentation (Structure and Conduct)	25
Language	10
Interjection	15
Total Marks	100

4. The participants will be evaluated on following parameters in Phase-2:

Parameter	Maximum Points
Content	50
Presentation (Structure and Conduct)	20
Language	10
Interjection	10
Responses to Question- Answer Round	10
Total Marks	**100**

5. Individual marks shall be given the following interpretation for Phase-1:

Marks	Meaning
85-95	Excellent to flawless. tournament. This speaker has many strengths and few, if any, weaknesses.
75-84	Above average to very good. This speaker has clear strengths and some minor weaknesses.
65-74	Average. The speaker has strengths and weaknesses and roughly equal proportions.
55-64	Poor to below average. The speaker has clear problems and some minor strengths.
45-54	Very poor. This speaker has fundamental weaknesses and few, if any, strengths.

6. Individual marks shall be given in accordance with the following interpretation for Phase-2:

Marks	Meaning
85-95	Excellent to flawless. tournament. This speaker has many strengths and few, if any, weaknesses.
75-84	Above average to very good. This speaker has clear strengths and some minor weaknesses.
65-74	Average. The speaker has strengths and weaknesses and roughly equal proportions.
55-64	Poor to below average. The speaker has clear problems and some minor strengths.
45-54	Very poor. This speaker has fundamental weaknesses and few, if any, strengths.

7. The best Speaker for the motion and against will be decided on the basis of maximum overall marks in the final round(s).

8. The best Interjector will be decided on the basis of the maximum marks in rebuttals and sur-rebuttals in the final round(s).

9. The best team and runner up team will be decided on the basis of maximum collective overall marks of the team i.e. addition of individual scores of the members of the teams in the final(s).

10. Participants will be awarded full marks in case no questions are asked to them.
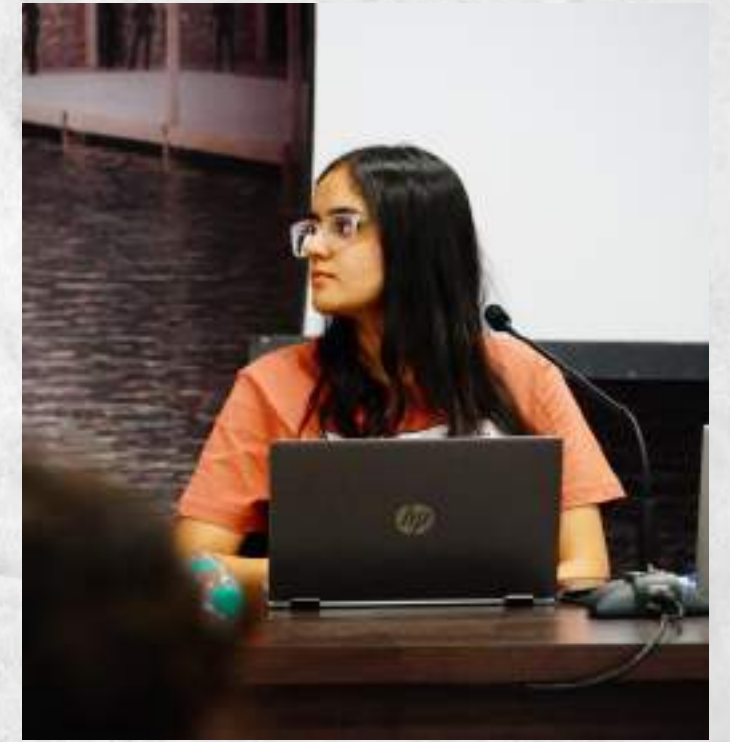
Basis for Ranking Teams

The number of teams advancing to the Quarter-final, Semi-final, and Final Round(s) will depend on the total number of teams participating or registering for this event.The criteria of ranking will be based upon the overall points as marked by the Prāśnika. In case of tie between two teams, the team having higher marks in interjection will be considered further.

Changes in Rule

Any or all of the above rules, regulations, and guidelines are subject to change at the discretion of the organizing committee.

Grievance Redressal

Any grievances during the course of the competition may be communicated freely to any of the co-ordinators.

Registration Details

1. To get registered for the competition, teams are required to register through the following link:
   https://forms.gle/VC94ZxSZHKWnyggd9

2. The Registration fee is non-refundable. Click on this link for payment:
   https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm

3. Registration fee: Rs. 1250

4. The qualifying teams for Phase-2 wil be given the option for accomodation.

5. Upon successful submission of Registration form, the teams will receive an email from the Organizing Committee, providing them with their specific Team Code and informing them of their successful Registration

6. Teams may contemporaneously send an email with its registration details to jusmanthan.cssrl@gmail.com or directly contact the student co-ordinators.

Awards

The following achievers will be awarded trophies and cash-prizes:

a) Best Speaker for the Motion: Rs. 3000
b) Best Speaker Against the Motion: Rs. 3000
c) Best Interjector: Rs. 2000
d) Best Team; Rs. 7000
e) Runners-Up Team: Rs. 5000

E- certificates will be provided to all the participants who have participated in Phase-1 of the competition. Certificates will be handed over to other participants who qualified to Phase-2, after the completion of the event in University Campus itself.

PATRON
Prof. (Dr.) Vijender Kumar

ORGANISING COMMITTEE
Coordinator: Prof. (Dr.) Himanshu Pandey
Co-Coordinator: Dr. Ila Sudame
CSSRL Student Sadasyas (Members) and Sahacharis (Associates)

Contact Us

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