

INVITATION

National Seminar

On

**Uniform Civil Code and Personal Laws
in India**

(13th & 14th December, 2014)



Organized By

**Nehru Memorial Law PG College
Hanumangarh Town (Raj.)**

Prof. V. Tayal
Director-Seminar

Dr. V. Mathur
Organizing Secretary

National Seminar on Uniform Civil Code and Personal Laws in India

[13th & 14th December, 2014]

About the Institution

The Nehru Memorial Law PG College, Hanumangarh Town (Rajasthan) was established in the year 1980 by the Management, Rashtriya Shikshan Sansthan Samittee with due permission from the State Government since then this institution is imparting legal education with excellence. The College is permanently affiliated to Maharaja Ganga Singh University, formerly University of Bikaner, Bikaner and was the first of its kind to be an independent Law College in the state of Rajasthan. The institution was established with the aim of imparting legal education and preparing the student to be excellent in legal profession. Later by introducing Post Graduate classes and legal research, this institution has become an excellent legal institution with research facilities i.e. Research Centre in the field of law. The college has touched the new heights of glory under the dynamic leadership of Prof. V. Tayal, Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Bikaner, Bikaner and Principal, Nehru Memorial Law PG College, Hanumangarh Town (Raj.). This college has the credit to produce many administrative officers and judicial officers' alongwith high profile lawyers of the higher courts of the country and noted academicians. The college provides a platform for a sound balance of academic learning, recreational atmosphere and infrastructural support for the students' alongwith cultural awareness, continuing endeavors of innovative teaching learning methods, self-learning through individual and collective projects, well researched and documented dissertations and importantly learning through group-discussions, periodicals tests, seminars, conferences, court visits, moot courts, legal aid camps and legal literacy camps. All these are distinct and unique features of this college and evolved as the region's premier institute.

About Hanumangarh

Carved out from Sriganganagar district and formally created on 12th day of July, 1994 as 31st district of Rajasthan State. Hanumangarh district situated at 29° 5' to 30° 6' north and 74° 3' to 75°3' east and shares its boundaries with Haryana state in the east, Sriganganagar district in the west, Punjab state in the North and Churu district in the South. The geographical area of the district is 9656.09 Sq. Km.

There are many heritage sites in and around Hanumangarh. The archeological locations around the district have many historical terra cotta utensils and ancient coins displayed. There are many such locations which can be seen in the neighboring areas and are very suitable for tourists having keen interest in history. The remains found at Kalibanga (Pilibanga) in 1951 reveal that this area was a part of nearly 5000 years old Indus Valley civilization. The fossils of human skeleton, unknown scripts, stamps, coins, utensils, jewellery, toys, statues, wells, bathrooms, fort, streets, markets etc., found in excavation tell the story of well developed life style of our ancestors. Besides Kalibanga, more than 100 other places are also there in the district where evidences of this old civilization have been found. The remains found at these places have been kept at Museum at Kalibanga and National Museum at New Delhi.

Earlier, Hanumangarh was known as Bhatner. In year 1805, Soorat Singh of Bikaner captured Bhatner after defeating Bhatias and as the day of his victory was Tuesday (known as the day of god Hanuman), he named Bhatner as Hanumangarh. Hanumangarh city guide is incomplete without a mention of the Fort 'Bhatner Durg', one of the oldest and strongest Forts in India, Sila Mata Temple, Bhadrakali Temple and Brahmani Mata Temple.

Climate

The climate of the district is semi-dry, extremely hot during the summer and extremely cold during winter. The maximum average temperature remains 18° to 48°C and minimum average is 2° to 28°C. The average rainfall during the year is 225 to 300 mm. The best season to visit Hanumangarh is the winter season. The temperature remains comfortable and is apt for sightseeing. The best months to visit are October, November, December and March.

Accessibility

Hanumangarh is well connected with most of the metropolitan cities of the country by Rail and Road.

Air

The nearest Airport from Hanumangarh is Chandigarh and Amritsar Airport, roughly five and half hour and four and half hours respectively drive from the city. Both the Airports are well connected to the major cities like New Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai, Goa, Ahmedabad, Jaipur and Leh.

Road

One can reach Hanumangarh Rajasthan by Road very easily since a network of National Highways and State Highways roads covers the state extensively. It is 240 km from Ludhiana, 355 km from Delhi, 361 km from Chandigarh, 400 km from Jaipur, 527 km from Jodhpur, 554 km from Jaisalmer and 677 km from Udaipur through Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC). While state road transport corporations do not have sleeper buses, private bus operators and bus travel companies operate sleeper bus services to major cities across the country. So, most of the tourists prefer to travel by road.

Railway

The town has its own Railway Station called as Hanumangarh Railway Station. Both Meter gauge and Broad gauge lines pass through this station. There is a Diamond-Railway-Crossing. It is well connected with other cities like Jalore, Jaipur and Agra. Few trains such as Dli Jsm Express, Ghy Bme Bkn Express, Hw Bme Link Express and Kik Bme Express are available from Delhi, Kalka, Haridwar and Guwahati for Hanumangarh District.

About the Seminar

India is a secular state that means the state does not owe loyalty to any particular religion and has no religion of its own. It protects all religions equally without any discrimination. All religions are governed by their personal laws. According to these laws, the conditions for marriage, divorce, adoption, maintenance, etc., vary from one religion to another, resulting in several problems and matrimonial conflicts. Article 44 of the Indian Constitution directs that the state shall endeavor to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory

of India. The judges, jurists, academicians and other distinguished personalities favor and strongly support the implementation of the uniform civil code. Article 44 under the Directive Principles of State Policy is not enforceable and an individual cannot approach the courts for enforcement of Article 44. This can be achieved only by a strong political will.

There have been many debates, articles, discussions and contradictions but neither our political leaders nor individuals have concentrated their efforts towards realization of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in India. The present seminar is a very timely call against the background of renewed insistence for enactment of UCC by the politicians and activists. Not only this, recently pronounced judgment of the Supreme Court in *Vishwa Lochan Madan v. Union of India* holding Shariat Courts, Fatwas and Dar-ul-Qazas not to be unconstitutional though its observance is not mandatory, communal tensions over use of loud speakers during the month of holy Ramadan and political blame game over rehabilitation of riot victims, cognize of difference of opinion in the civil society and political class on Prevention of Communal and Targeted Violence (Access to Justice and Reparations) Bill, 2011 and so many other heated instance advocated the demand of Seminar. Though want of the UCC has been suffered for years and now it is high time that India should adopt a uniform law dealing with marriage, divorce, succession, inheritance, maintenance etc. Even the western countries like Italy and France have enforced it but the scenario in India is a lot more complex. We have a strong and long history of personal laws and it cannot be given up easily. A broad consensus must be drawn among different communities to facilitate such a landmark step in India's religious, social, political and most importantly judicial history. India is secular but in reality it's yet to achieve that secularity in many dimensions of social affairs of the society. The present seminar will focus on such aspects and will help in providing a concrete stand regarding the efficacy and efficiency of law, ethics and uniformity in the society.

The proposed objective of the seminar that to secure real liberty, equality, secularism and gender justice, democracy and to empower Indian women in social, economic and political fields etc., we must eschew pseudo secularism and enact a UCC conferring equal rights on Women of all hues in India, irrespective of their religions, in matters of marriage, divorce and inheritance/property rights etc and forthwith remove the highly discriminatory personal laws in these spheres as ultimately, it is the Indian Constitution alone that is binding on all Indians and not the heavily skewed personal pseudo secular, undemocratic personal laws, which do nothing but please the patriarchs of the respective religions. Let us, altogether avoid playing vote bank politics and cleanse the system by bringing UCC and promoting real secularism and avoid divisive and fissiparous tendencies. Pandering to religious sentiments for the sake of narrow political gains at all costs should be avoided. Hence, attaining National Integration through enacting UCC must be our immediate goal.

In this background there is an incessant call to hold public debate through seminars, conference, workshops, symposia and discussion to elicit valuable inputs from the ground so as to effectively answer whether there is a need of UCC for achieving the social unity and solidarity of the nation as envisaged by the Preamble of the Indian Constitution? This National Seminar offers an opportunity to experts from various disciplines, be they are, Researchers, Academicians, Policymakers, Government Organization, Law Experts, International Lawyers, Judges, Negotiators, Diplomats, Government Representatives,

National Organizations, Media Representatives, Non-Governmental Organization and Students to come together and share their valuable thoughts, impression and research studies on the following issues relating to majors themes of Uniform Civil Code and Personal Laws in India:

- (i) Gender Equality vis-a-vis Personal Laws
- (ii) Muslim Personal Laws vis-a-vis Uniform Civil Code
- (iii) Codified and Uncodified Personal Laws vis-à-vis Judicial Response
- (iv) Uniform Civil Code vis- a-vis human rights perspective
- (v) Right of Women and Inheritance Laws in India
- (vi) Conflicts of Personal Laws in India
- (vii) Personal Law and Related Ethical Issues:
 - Live-in-Relationships
 - Surrogacy and Child Rights
 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) and Legal Issues related to them
 - Genetic Research and Ethics
- (viii) Any other topic relevant with the title

Call for Papers

Seminar papers are invited from the academicians, practitioners, researchers, scholars and students on the issues related to above themes. It is also proposed that the selected papers by the Committee will be published in a special volume on the seminar in the form of an edited book with ISBN No. Author of selected papers would be given an opportunity to present their papers as per requirement of the theme during sessions on the day of the seminar.

Guidelines for Submission

Interested authors should submit an abstract of their original research/conceptual papers and empirical studies/case studies briefly describing objectives, methodology, major results and its implications in about 500 words. All abstracts will be peer reviewed and evaluated before final acceptance. Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit and present full paper at the seminar. Accepted abstract are likely to be published in the souvenir of the projected Seminar. The length of the full papers should normally not exceed about 5000 words (excluding tables, figures, illustrations and references etc.) and it must be typed in Times New Roman font Size 12 on A4 size paper with 1" margin on all sides with 1.5 line spacing using MS Word. The Blue Book: A Uniform System of Citation (19th ed.) must be strictly adhered to while submitting the abstract and full papers.

All the Abstracts and Full length papers shall be sent as an attachment on email **id.: nmlpgcseminar2014@gmail.com**

Registration Procedure & Fees

Participants willing to attend the seminar should fill the enclosed Registration Form and submit it latest by **25th November, 2014** along with the requisite fee. Filled-in registration form can be sent electronically or by post. In case of electronic submission of registration form, requisite fee should reach the N M Law PG College, Hanumangarh Town (Raj.)-335513 by **30th November, 2014** Registration fee should be remitted through Demand Draft/Bankers

cheque drawn in favour of **The Principal, N M Law PG College, Hanumangarh payable at Hanumangarh, Rajasthan**

Types of Delegates	Registration Fee
Academicians	Rs. 500
Professionals (NGOs/Media Persons/ Policymakers)	Rs. 400
Research Scholars	Rs. 300
Students	Rs. 200
Foreign Delegates	US\$ 100

Registration fees in cash can also be paid at the Registration desks on the inaugural day at the venue.

Note

- Last Date for Submission of Abstracts by Post/E-mail (Softcopy): **25th October, 2014**
- Intimation on Selection of the Paper: **27th October, 2014**
- Last Date for Submission of Full Paper: **20th November, 2014**
- Soft Copy of the Submissions should be addressed at: **nmlpgcseminar2014@gmail.com**
- Hard Copy of the Submissions may be sent alongwith a CD should be addressed at: **The Principal, N M Law PG College, Hanumangarh Town (Raj.)-335513**
- Details of Conference Sessions will be posted on the web-site
- Spot registration is also permitted but in such case seminar kit is not guaranteed.

Venue

The venue of the Seminar will be N M Law PG College, Hanumangarh Town (Raj.)-335513

In Case of Queries and Clarification Contact Address the following may be Contracted:

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Vice-Principal
N M Law PG College
Hanumangarh (Rajasthan)

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Registration Form

Personal & Contact Details:

Full Name:

Designation

Department/Unit:

Institution/Organization

Postal Address:

Country/State:

Phone No.:

Mobile No.:

Email Id.:

Payment Details:

Category:

Academicians

**Professionals (NGOs/Media
Persons/Polycymakers)**

Students/Research Scholars

Foreign Delegates

Amount:

Demand Draft/ Banker's Cheque No.:

Bank Details:

Date:

Accommodation:

Whether contributing a paper to the Seminar:

Yes/No

Do you want Accommodation:

Yes/No

Expected Travel Plan:

Arrival:

Date:

Time:

Departure:

Date:

Time:

(Signature)

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

State:.....Registration No.:.....