

First International Multidisciplinary Law Conference

COHERENCE - *Forming a unified whole....*

(9th – 10th October, 2015)

A Report



Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad
Expertise | Justice | Service

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Introduction:

Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, which began its operations in 2014, organized the First International Multidisciplinary Law Conference, COHERENCE – *forming a unified whole* on 9th -10th - October, 2015.

BACKGROUND TO THE CONFERENCE: The modern legal systems are just not products of conceptual and theoretical categories but are extensions of a special ideological structure, which consisted of Christian morality, feudal domination, and Roman law. This forms the base to think that legal philosophy is interdisciplinary because this domain is between the territory of law and the field of philosophy.

The subject of Law has grown to include normative and critical approaches calling for multidisciplinary involvement to make the field of Law more substantial. Andrew Button (2009) observed that much has been written about the law in disciplines other than law. Nowadays inter- and multidisciplinary research and interpretation come to the foreground more and more at universities and institutions. To further substantiate the significance of multidisciplinary in law, Coates, Fried & Spier (2014) of Harvard Law School identified that subjects like Economics, Accounts, Public Finance and business strategy are essential for Law students besides Law courses in order to become efficient Corporate Lawyers or Litigation Lawyers.

Any legal issue in this fast moving society necessarily embraces the ‘peeping and application’ of other disciplines. That is why there is all around discussion and deliberation to launch single integrated multidisciplinary studies keeping the man in the centre of it.

OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the conference is to,

- Cohere the multidisciplinary ideas to the field of Law thus forming a unified whole.

The sub-objectives are to,

- Critique the relevance of multidisciplinary in Law
- Create a platform to integrate research ideas of different fields of study into the academic stream of Law to create a synergistic value to field of Law.

About the title of the Conference:

To echo the purpose of multidisciplinary in Law, the Conference has been aptly titled as “COHERENCE” with a caption “Forming a unified whole”. The word, COHERENCE is put in capitals and written in multiple colors. It is in capitals to denote the emphasis for multidisciplinary *loudly* and multiple colors to denote multiple academic disciplines different in every aspect but ultimately unifying to form the vital substance to the vast discipline of Law. The caption, “forming a unified whole....” is the essence of the conference and also the title of the conference. The dots after the word “whole”, is to indicate the continuance of multidisciplinary.

LOGO of the conference:

The logo of the conference is SUN which is at the centre with extended colorful rays. The sun indicates the powerful discipline of LAW while the extended rays indicate the strong multiple academic disciplines enriching the Law discipline.

Day-Wise Break Up of the Program

Day 1 (9th October 2015):

PROCEEDINGS:

The first day of the conference began at 10:00 a.m. with an opening address about the conference by Dr. Prageetha G Raju, Associate Professor, SLSH. Advocate MC Mehta, Public Interest Attorney, was the chief guest of the conference, Dr. N Jayaprakash Narayan, General Secretary - Foundation for Democratic Rights, was the Guest of Honour, and Dr. Purushotham Reddy K, an eminent environmentalist in Andhra Pradesh and Telengana was the special guest The

Inauguration was presided by Dr. Shashikala Gurpur, Director, SLS, Pune, Fulbright Scholar, Dean, Faculty of Law, Symbiosis International University, and the welcome address was given by Dr. MI Baig, Director, SLS, Hyderabad.



Inaugural Programme: Adv. M C Mehta Lighting the Lamp, Dr. Shashikala Gurpur, Dean, Faculty of Law, SIU, Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan, Gen Secretary, Foundation for Democratic Reforms and Dr. MI Baig Director Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad present.



Dr MI Baig, Director SLH giving Welcome Speech. Prof. (Dr.) Shashikala Gurpur, Dean Faculty of Law, SIU & Director, SLS, Pune.
Delivering Key Note address.

The Welcome Speech given by the Director Dr MI Baig of Symbiosis law school, Hyderabad and a Key Note address was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Shashikala Gurpur, Dean Faculty of Law, SIU & Director, Symbiosis Law School – Pune. She emphasized on the fact that science without philosophy is blind, she believes that the law is incomplete without other aspects, she suggested the need for continuous reforms and opined that songs of compassion and justice are the only factors that will cement together the fragments of life and that is where the word ‘*Coherence*’ fits perfectly.



The Guest of Honor Dr. N. Jayaprakash Narayan, Former IAS, and MLA;
Founder-Loksatta, Delivering Speech.

The Guest of Honor was Dr. N. Jayaprakash Narayan, Former IAS, and MLA; Founder-Loksatta, he felt that law is an art and the rigidity of science must not be applied to law, the fields of medicine and law are heading towards becoming radical monopolies, this needed to be avoided because law especially is an interdisciplinary field and involves all aspects of society without limitation. He said that in India the conviction rate is a meager 6 percent only, since technology does not reach the people which makes legal illiteracy prevalent. He concluded by advising us to utilize the potential of the judiciary to initiate change.



The Chief Guest Shri. M.C. Mehta Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, An eminent Public Interest Attorney, Delivering Speech.

The Chief Guest of the conference was Shri M.C. Mehta Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, and an eminent Public Interest Attorney. He is a Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Public Service and a recipient of Goldman Environmental Prize for his relentless fight against pollution-causing industries. He is a dedicated and fearless man who believes that nature and the universe are the foremost important aspects of life. He said that the world lacked environmental justice and that we have forgotten how to be compassionate and show respect, we let our greed overpower us. He advised us to see the real world and experience the field which will awaken in us the duty to protect the environment. He said that ignorance on the part of a doctor, a lawyer, or an engineer is no excuse. The environment must be made everyone's concern.

A renowned environmental activist, Dr. K Purushotham Reddy, was the Special Guest who also addressed the gathering. Many eminent legal luminaries and scholars were also present on the occasion.

Conference Proceedings: We received 64 papers in all and 49 papers were selected for presentation for the conference here. These papers were categorized into 6 research tracks. We have received two papers from Sri Lanka and Tanzania. There are 18 papers which are empirical

in nature, while the rest of them are conceptual, reflective, and review papers. The presenters belong to different strata of the academic world such as students, doctoral scholars, and professors.



Release of Conference Proceedings by Guests

Coherence Sessions:

Day 1: On the first day, two tracks were running parallelly in two different rooms.

Track 1: Track 1 is Environmental Regulation and Sustainability. The session was chaired by Mr. B V Subba Rao, International Consultant in Environment and co-chaired by Dr. C Manikyala Rao, Principal, MP Law College, Aurangabad.

Track 2: Track 2 is International Trade, Corporate Law and theoretical approaches. The session was chaired by Dr. G B Reddy, Professor, Dept of Law, Osmania University and co-chaired by Dr. Rasheed Shaikh, Dean, Faculty of Law, Pune University.

Day 2: The Second day of the conference began at 10:00 a.m. with the plenary session of Dr. Rama Melkote, Professor and Women Activist. The second plenary session was delivered by Dr. Gurjeet Singh, Dean and Former VC, Gurunanak Dev University, Amritsar.

Today, i.e., the second day of the conference hosted 4 research tracks running parallely in different rooms.

Track 3: Track 3 is Law as Mirroring Societal Values. The session is chaired by Prof P Kamala Rao, Professor (Retd), Dept of Sociology, Osmania University, Consultant and Activist. The session is co-chaired by Dr. Radhika Desai, Gender Development Consultant and Researcher.

Track 4: Track 4 is criminal laws and cultural values. The session is chaired by Dr. M V Lakshmi Devi, Principal, Keshav Memorial Institute of Commerce and Science. The session is co-chaired by Dr. Sukhvinder S Dari, Deputy Director, SLS, Hyderabad.

Track 5: Track 5 is impact of technology on globalization – Legal Issues. The session is chaired by Dr. Anjali Hastak, Principal, SP College of Law, Chandrapur, and Co-chaired by Dr. Aseem Prakash, Associate Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

Track 6: Track 6 is ideals reflected in human rights charters and legal education. This session has two chairs given their accomplishment. Dr. Vishnupriya, Dean, Faculty of Law, Osmania University, Dr. Hemalatha V Devi, Dean ICFAI Law School.



The conference was concluded with certificate distribution to the participants, in the concluding remarks the Director Dr. MI Baig congratulated all the participants. The Dy. Director Dr. Sukhvinder Singh Dari expressed his vote of the thanks to all the participants, students, media and faculty for making the event grand success.