

The 8th Mahamana Malaviya National Moot Court Competition (June 26-28, 2020)



The Mahamana Malaviya National Moot Court Competition started its journey eight years ago as an initiative to increase awareness and interest in this field among the legal fraternity across the country. For its 8th edition this year, we passionately bring to you the new challenges through this moot court. Throughout the 7 editions of this moot, the institution has witnessed top notch performances by teams from different parts of this country. Arbitration is gaining light amidst an overstressed judicial system and that is why we decided to set this year's theme as Arbitration. The moot proposition is carefully constructed and facilitates legal research through it.

The Faculty of law, Banaras Hindu University organised this competition in collaboration with PSL, Advocates and Solicitors, a Top Tier law firm in the field of Dispute Resolution specifically, arbitration and under the Patronage of Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar (Vice-Chancellor, BHU). The event was supported by the International Chamber of Commerce, Young Arbitrators Forum and Agrawal and Sikaria Associates. Further, the event was assisted by FTI Consulting as "Expert Partner" and EBC/SCC Online as "Knowledge Partner".

The organizing committee left no stones unturned to make this event a success, Prof. R. P. Rai (Head & Dean) Director, Prof. C. P. Upadhyay Joint Director, Prof. G. P. Sahoo Treasurer, Dr. Rajnish Kr. Singh Organising Secretary, Dr. Kabindra Singh Brijwal Joint Organising Secretary, Dr. Anoop Kumar Joint Organising Secretary and the student members Jyotsna Hans, Apurv Pratap Singh, Isha Rai, Mritunjay Sah, Shubham Rathore, Prajwal Shukla, Prachi Jain, Shivang Tandon, Shriya Pandey, Ligin Joseph, Saumya Tripathi, Kanchan Dahiya, Janhvi Tripathi, Bhanu Prakash Pandey, Shivam Gurdasani and Shubham Jaiswal worked day and night to make this event possible.

We feel immense pride in presenting this detailed account of the *8th Mahamana Malaviya National Moot Court Competition*, that was held from 26th June, 2020 to 28th June 2020 in this SCC Online blog.

This year we had 18 teams from some of the best law colleges in the country, who all gathered to battle for the exciting prizes and to finally put all their preparation to the test. This moot consisted of Learned High Court Judges, expert practitioners and esteemed scholars who adjudicated the rounds and provided valuable feedback. The moot piqued the interest of the participants in the challenging field of Arbitration, as it promised an engaging and learning experience and attractive rewards, and thus provided a valuable experience to all the participants.

Day 1-

Preliminary Rounds

In the Preliminary Round, a total of 18 teams battled to reach the Quarter Finals and they presented their either side of the cases in two rounds.



PRELIMS- JUDGES: JAYASHREE PARIHAR, KARTIK SUNDAR

The **First Preliminary Round** was conducted from 9:30 AM-12PM.

The **Second Preliminary Round** was conducted from 2:30 PM- 5:00PM.

The Mahamana Malviya Moot Court Competition conducted Preliminary Round 2 (Reverse Prelims) as well. This was to ensure that every team had equal chances of presenting their best arguments from both the sides and also helped maintain a balance in the scoring. This was a perfect way to test the teams' knowledge of law and grip on the facts.

The Preliminary Round 2 concluded at 5 PM and subsequently at **7:00 PM-Results for Quarter-Finals were announced.**

The following teams had qualified to the Quarter-Finals (in alphabetical order):

1. FACULTY OF LAW, BANASTHALI VIDYAPITH
2. GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE, MUMBAI
3. INDORE INSTITUTE OF LAW
4. MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR
5. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, LUCKNOW
6. SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, PUNE
7. UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES, GGSIPU, DELHI
8. VIVEKANANDA SCHOOL OF LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES VIPS, DELHI

The Quarter-Finalists were applauded and congratulated. As this eventful day came to an end, memorials were exchanged according to the matchups. On the 2nd day, the Quarter Finals and the Semi Finals were scheduled to be held.

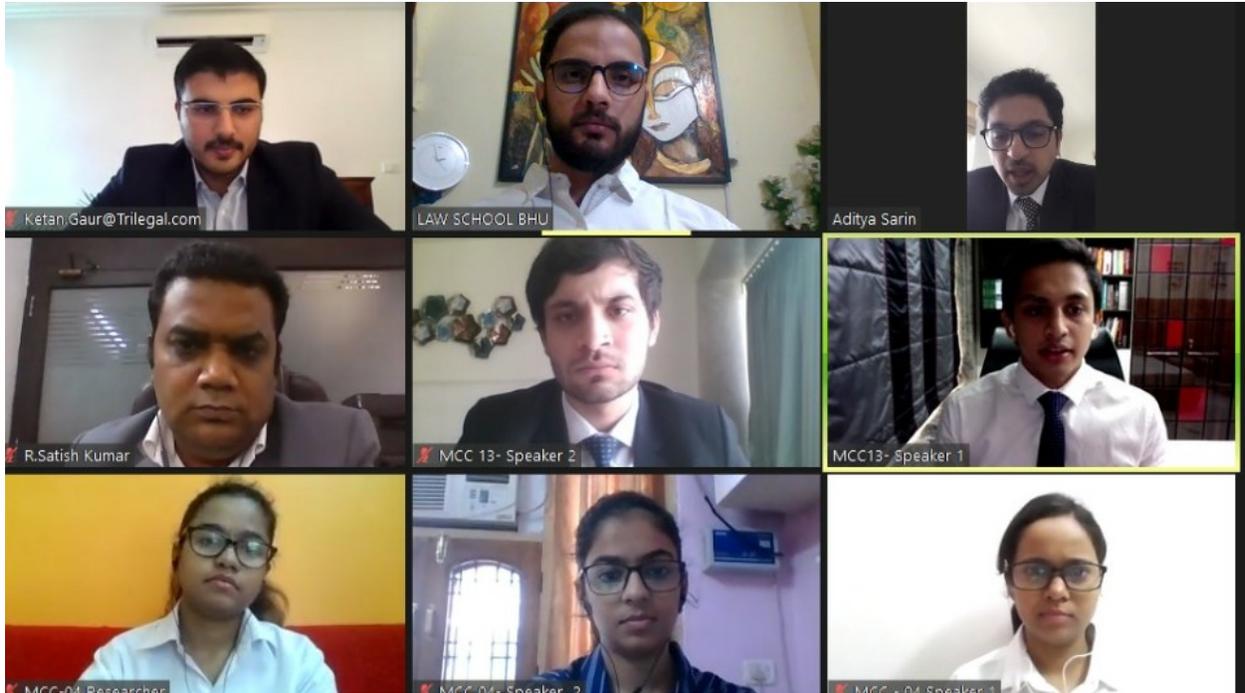
DAY 2-

It was a new day with bright shining sun, setting the perfect pace to encounter some exceptional quality of mooting!

The Quarter Finalists were all set for the further proceedings of this competition as they looked confident and the end moment preparations for the upcoming round were at its full swing.

The Quarter-Finals commenced at **10 AM**, and finally concluded at **11:30 AM**.

By the time the Quarter Finals came to an end, all the eight teams had successfully shown their exemplary mooting skills that was worth praising in every way. It was a tremendous learning experience for all the participants.



QUARTER FINALS- JUDGES: KETAN GAUR, R SATISH KUMAR, ADITYA SARIN

1:00 PM-Results for Semi-finals were Announced

It sure was a tough call for the judges, but the decision as to who will move forward, was finally made.

The following teams had qualified for the Semi-Finals (in alphabetical order):

1. FACULTY OF LAW, BANASTHALI VIDYAPITH
2. GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE, MUMBAI
3. MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR
4. SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, PUNE

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL TEAMS FROM LAW SCHOOL, BHU FAMILY.

Inaugural Ceremony

At **2:00 PM** the Inaugural Ceremony was held.

The 8th Mahamana Malaviya National Moot Court Competition was inaugurated in the presence of Prof. R. P. Rai (Head & Dean), Ms. Geeta Luthra, Advocate Supreme Court of India and Mr. Sameer Jain, Founder and Managing Partner, PSL Advocates & Solicitors.



INAUGURAL - MS. GEETA LUTHRA, ADVOCATE, SUPREME COURT OF INDIA



MR. SAMEER JAIN, FOUNDER AND MANAGING PARTNER, PSL ADVOCATES AND SOLICITORS

3 PM-4:30 PM Semi-Finals

Participants had pulled up their socks and were beyond pumped for the Semi-Final Round. All the participants gave in their best efforts with sheer enthusiasm to qualify for the finals and be declared as the ultimate winner of the competition.



SEMI FINALS- JUDGES: SAMEER JAIN, SONALI MATHUR, HARSH SAHU

Results for Finals:

At **6:30 PM** the most awaited results of the day were announced as the teams who had successfully qualified for the Finals were declared:-

1. FACULTY OF LAW, BANASTHALI VIDYAPITH
2. GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE, MUMBAI

The Semi-Final Round Judges thoroughly appreciated the hard work that was put in by all four teams. It was a well deserved win for the two teams.

DAY 3-

The Final Rounds commenced at **10:30 AM**, and finally concluded at **12:00 PM**.

After the end of rebuttals and surrebuttal, the judges need a few minutes to gather their thoughts. The judges really pushed the students to hone their understanding of the law and facts with their questioning.



FINALS- JUDGES: HON'BLE JUSTICE VIBHU BAKHRU (JUDGE, DELHI HIGH COURT), HON'BLE JUSTICE PRATIBHA M. SINGH (JUDGE, DELHI HIGH COURT), MR. ABHINAV BHUSHAN (DIRECTOR, SOUTH ASIA, ICC ARBITRATION & ADR)

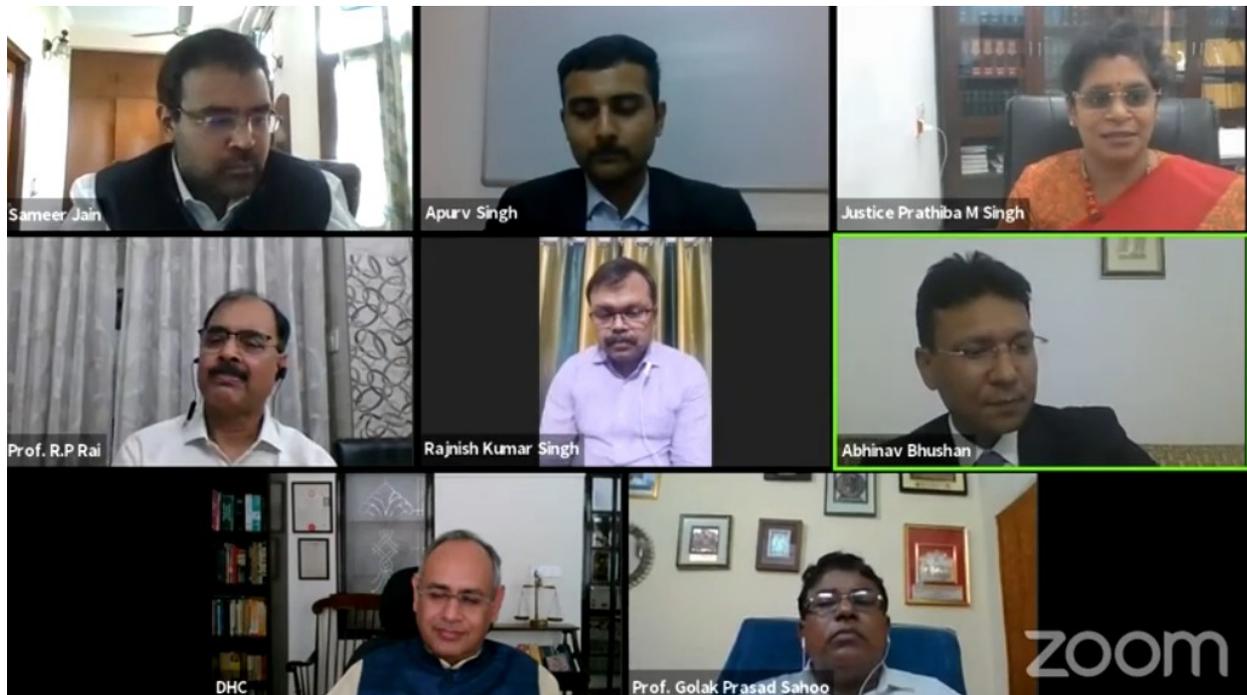
1:30 PM- Valedictory

The valedictory ceremony of the 8th Mahamana Malaviya National Moot Court Competition has begun.

Prof. R. P. Rai (Head & Dean) addressed the audience . In his speech he thanked each judge for attending and being a part of Mahamana Malaviya National Moot Court Competition.

MR. ABHINAV BHUSHAN (DIRECTOR, SOUTH ASIA, ICC ARBITRATION & ADR) addressed the gathering with dedication to help the children understand the importance between a mission and a vision. He explained the importance of mootng and the importance of people gathering in one place to exchange ideas and exchanging knowledge among each other.

HON'BLE JUSTICE PRATIBHA M. SINGH (JUDGE, DELHI HIGH COURT) addressed the assembly delivering an impressive speech about the importance of mootng which would help in shaping the skills of the students. She said that the students who participated were very impressive and added that the judges were very impressed with the performance of the students in the final round.



VALEDICTORY CEREMONY

HON'BLE JUSTICE VIBHU BAKHRU (JUDGE, DELHI HIGH COURT) in his address congratulated all the teams for participating in moot competition and experienced a whole lot of new things in this competition.

Results-

The most awaited moment is here! The teams are eager to find out the results of the rounds. All their months of hard work boils down to this one moment. The result was declared by **Dr. Rajnish Kr. Singh (Organising Secretary)**, as follows.

Best Memorial : (Team code-MCC 03) SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, PUNE

Best Speaker: (Team code-MCC 13) Speaker-1 Divyesh Doshi, GLC MUMBAI

Runner Up: (Team code- MCC 05) FACULTY OF LAW, BANASTHALI VIDYAPITH

Winner : (Team code-MCC 13) GLC MUMBAI

Prof. G. P. Sahoo (Treasurer) delivered the vote of thanks on behalf of the Faculty of Law, BHU to all the dignitaries, advocates, participants and student volunteers for making the event a success, keeping in mind that they had to adapt from the conventional offline moots to online moot.

The last three days were no less than a roller coaster ride from the beginning to the end. But each person of the Organizing Committee was well prepared for this. The moot saw an intense

competition this edition, but our members and volunteers were burning the midnight oil to ensure everything runs smoothly on time.

This wasn't just a successful competition, but also a learning experience for each and everyone.