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School of
**Law, Governance,
and Public Policy**



Chanakya Moot
Court Society

1st Chanakya Moot Court Competition

24th – 25th May, 2025

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Creating a Pathway from Classroom to Courtroom



Dates to Remember



About Chanakya University

In a world grappling with complex challenges that often clash with dharma and nature, Chanakya University emerges as India's premier institution dedicated to nurturing transformative leaders and pioneering new paradigms. Established in 2022 through a State Legislature Act, Chanakya University is a beacon of excellence, committed to addressing developmental challenges with innovative solutions. Our mission is to expand knowledge through world-class scholarship and impactful research, preparing students with abundant wisdom (jñāna), indomitable will (ichhā), and meaningful action (kriyā) that honor both Indian traditions and universal values. Guided by the vision outlined in the National Education Policy 2020, Chanakya University stands at the forefront of multidisciplinary education, seamlessly integrating global perspectives with India's rich knowledge systems. Our commitment extends beyond national boundaries, aiming to contribute to global progress through exceptional teaching, research, and societal service. With over 1000 students from 25 states across India, and encompassing six vibrant schools, three centres of excellence, and two research chairs, the University exemplifies a unique blend of global academic excellence and deep-rooted civilizational wisdom. Chanakya University is not just an academic institution, but a transformative force dedicated to shaping future leaders and advancing scholarship on a global scale.

Chanakya University is envisioned as a global centre of learning to offer an interdisciplinary learning experience with special emphasis on Indian Knowledge Systems. A philanthropy-driven university patronised by social entrepreneurs, philanthropists, educationists, and industry leaders, we are enriched by the vision of the National Education Policy 2020 to offer an inclusive and inspiring learning experience. Established in the year 2022 and spread over a 116-acre campus near Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru, we have students and faculty from across 28 states of India.



About School of Law, Governance and Public Policy

Chanakya University's School of Law, Governance and Public Policy (SLGPP) aims to develop ethically grounded and skilled legal professionals and policymakers who can navigate today's complex and interconnected world. Recognizing the global nature of legal challenges, from human rights to environmental crises, the school emphasizes a curriculum that integrates legal principles, governance structures, and public policy frameworks.

A distinctive feature of SLGPP is its deep engagement with Bhartiya Jurisprudence, drawing from centuries of indigenous legal wisdom to inform modern legal education. The school values the fusion of tradition and modernity, encouraging students to be rooted in cultural heritage while adapting to contemporary realities.

The state-of-the-art moot court facility serves as a platform for experiential learning, where students practice advocacy, legal reasoning, and courtroom procedures under expert guidance. The school promotes interdisciplinary learning and critical thinking, offering practical exposure through internships, moot courts, and clinical legal education programs.

SLGPP's distinguished faculty, comprising experienced legal professionals and policy experts, contribute actively to scholarly and policy discourse at both national and international levels. The school also fosters community engagement through public lectures, policy dialogues, and capacity-building initiatives, shaping well-rounded graduates ready to lead in law and public policy domains.

Highlights

- 🌐 In-depth knowledge of national and international laws
- 🌐 Enabling teaching-learning in an interdisciplinary ecosystem
- 🌐 Robust linkages with industry-institute interface with internships and hands-on experience
- 🌐 Proactive engagement by professionals and senior advocates
- 🌐 Experienced faculty members
- 🌐 Emphasis on integrating the local context with a global outlook
- 🌐 A unique blend of understanding law in the context of public policy

The School offers five-year integrated B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) and B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) undergraduate programmes in a dual degree mode. It also has a one-year L.L.M. programme specialising in Corporate and Business Law and Chanakya Fellowship in Social Sciences (CFSS). The School also has a thriving doctoral programme in the fields of law, policy, and governance.

Dean's Message

Prof. Chetan Basavaraj Singai

Dean,

School of Law, Governance, and
Public Policy; Academic Lead



It is with great pride and purpose that we welcome you to the Chanakya Moot Court Competition – 2025, the first of many milestones in our journey to shape the next generation of legal minds.

This competition is more than an academic exercise—it is a platform for aspiring lawyers to rise to challenge, test their convictions, and find their voice in the world of law. Moot court cultivates the discipline, clarity, and courage that define great advocates and responsible leaders.

We invite law students from across the country to participate, observe, and be inspired. Whether you're competing or watching from the gallery, this is a chance to grow, connect, and dream bigger.

Let this be the beginning of a tradition that not only hones skill but also sparks ambition and builds community.



About Chanakya Moot Court Society




At the School of Law, Governance and Public Policy, Chanakya University recognizes the value of advocacy skills, legal knowledge, and importance of practical experience in the field of law and has hence established the Chanakya Moot Court Society. The society is committed to fostering a culture of excellence, professionalism, and ethical conduct. The Chanakya Moot Court Society provides a platform for law students to develop their advocacy skills, engage in legal research, and participate in moot court competitions. The Chanakya Moot Court Society (CMCS) at Chanakya University is a student-led body dedicated to fostering a culture of mooting excellence and ensuring the effective administration of all mooting-related activities. CMCS plays a pivotal role in nurturing advocacy skills, legal research, and courtroom etiquette, preparing students for the rigors of legal practice.

About the 1st Chanakya Moot Court Competition

The First Chanakya Moot Court Competition will focus on constitutional law, with a specific emphasis on the legal challenges surrounding the administration and governance of Waqf properties. The moot proposition raises critical questions on the constitutional validity of certain provisions of the Waqf Act, 1995, allegations of encroachments and commercial misuse of Waqf lands, and the broader implications of religious endowment management in a secular legal framework.

The Competition will be witnessed at Chanakya University on 24th and 25th of May 2025 and is expected to witness participation from premier law schools across the country, providing students with an opportunity to hone their advocacy skills while engaging with pressing constitutional and public law issues.

Moot Proposition

-  The Waqf Act, 1995, was enacted to ensure that Waqf properties are used exclusively for religious, pious and charitable purposes as intended by the donor. The Act prohibits their sale, unauthorized transfer, or repurposing. In the State of Nizampur, the Nizampur Waqf Board (NWB) is the statutory body responsible for the management and protection of Waqf properties within the State of Nizampur. However, in recent years, widespread allegations of encroachments, commercial misuse, and governance failures have surfaced, raising concerns about the Board's effectiveness and the constitutional validity of certain provisions of the Waqf Act, 1995. These concerns have gained national attention, especially considering the recently introduced Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which proposes sweeping reforms to increase transparency, diversify board composition, and enhance oversight mechanisms. The Bill has also been criticized for potentially infringing upon the autonomy of religious institutions, making the debate around Waqf properties more contentious and politically sensitive.
-  The properties of Waqf have traditionally played a vital role in religious and charitable activities. The NWB, entrusted with their administration, is expected to ensure that these properties remain protected and are used for their intended purposes. However, recent investigations by an independent audit agency called Seloitte, have brought to light significant irregularities in their management, including cases of unauthorized disposal, misappropriation and encroachment which lead to the public outcry. Three major cases have been highlighted as part of this growing controversy:
-  **Greenfield Mosque Land:** This Waqf property originally consisted of 50 acres, intended for the mosque and associated religious activities. However, over the years, a substantial portion of this land has been encroached upon by private businesses. Currently, only 20 acres remain under NWB's control, while the remaining 30 acres house unauthorized shopping complexes and residential apartments. These commercial structures generate substantial revenue, yet there is no official record of funds being allocated for the upkeep of the mosque or other religious activities.

- ☀️ **Sunrise School:** Established as a charitable institution on Waqf land, Sunrise School was intended to provide free or affordable education to underprivileged students. However, over the past decade, the school has increased its fees significantly, making it unaffordable for the economically weaker sections of society. Investigations have revealed that the management, in collaboration with private investors, has transformed the school into a high-end institution catering primarily to affluent families, thereby violating the original terms of the Waqf endowment. Parents and community leaders have raised objections, arguing that this transformation contradicts the intended charitable purpose of the institution.
- ☀️ **Rishikhera Temple and Asthagrama Village:** It is also alleged that the Nizampur Waqf Board (NWB) has laid claim to the 1,500-year-old Rishikhera Temple, asserting it as Waqf property. The Board has issued a notice declaring Asthagrama Village as Waqf land, directing its residents to vacate within 30 days. Notably, 95% of the villagers are non-Muslims. Under the provisions of the Waqf Act, 1995, the burden of proof rests on the temple management and the villagers to establish that the land does not belong to the Waqf Board, rather than requiring the Board to prove its claim.
- ☀️ Responding to the allegations of mismanagement and encroachment by the NWB, the NWB has claimed the allegations to be false and that the Board has taken several measures to regulate the properties under the Board to ensure transparency and accountability.
- ☀️ The widespread misuse of Waqf properties has led to public outrage, with various civil rights organizations and religious groups demanding accountability. Amid these concerns, a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) has been filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Nizampur by an NGO called TRUST which was established with the object of social transformation.

Issues for Consideration

1. Whether the PIL is maintainable.
2. Whether the unauthorized occupations and commercial uses of Waqf properties has violated the essence of Waqf Act, 1995.
3. Whether the transformation of Sunrise School into a high-fee institution contravenes the charitable objectives of the Waqf endowment.
4. Whether the NWBs claim over Rishikhera Temple is justified?

It is expressly stated that all laws applicable to the present case are in pari materia with the laws of India, and any reference to statutes, precedents, or legal principles shall be interpreted in alignment with the Indian legal framework.

- ☀️ Participants are not permitted to insert additional issues or alter the issues as provided in the moot proposition.

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. General Rules

- The First Chanakya Moot Court Competition is organized by the School of Law, Governance, and Public Policy, Chanakya University.
- The competition will be held in May 2025.
- The competition will be conducted in offline mode at the university campus.
- The official language of the competition shall be English.
- The decision of the Chanakya Moot Court Society (CMCS) shall be final in all matters of dispute and interpretation of rules.
- The theme of the competition is Constitutional Law with special emphasis on the Waqf Board.

2. Eligibility

- The competition is open to students enrolled in 3-year and 5-year LL.B. programs in recognized law schools, colleges, and universities across India.
- Each institution may send only one team.

3. Team Composition

- Each team shall consist of three members – two speakers and one researcher.
- No team member can be replaced or substituted after registration without the approval of the CMCS.
- Each team will be given a team code. Teams shall not disclose their identity or that of their institution during the competition rounds. Such disclosures shall lead to disqualification. The decision in this regard by the Moot Organizing Committee shall be final.

4. Registration

- All teams that desire to participate in the competition must fill the Google registration form
- Early Bird Registration for the Moot Court Competition – ₹1000 (On or before April 20, 2025; 6 pm IST) (Link to be opened for payment from April 11, 2025 from 10 am IST)
- Note: participants can seek refund on the Early Bird Registration for the Moot Court Competition through formal request on or before April 25, 2025; 6 pm IST)
- Early Bird registration link: <https://forms.gle/hBRkxQM3BvnhUUdz6>
- Early Bird payment link: <https://rzp.io/rzp/jvrt2fZ>
- Registration for the Moot Court Competition with Accommodation – ₹2500 (On or before April 26, 2025; 6 pm IST)
- Registration for the Moot Court Competition without Accommodation – ₹1500 (On or before April 26, 2025; 6 pm IST)
- Registration for Additional Accommodation – ₹1500 per person/per night (for those requiring stay on May 23rd or 25th or both the days) (participants must formally write to the Moot Court Society on or before May 10, 2025; 6 pm IST)
- Accommodation is provided by the CMCS for one night, that is 24th May 2025.
- Confirmation of registration will be sent via email upon successful completion of the process.
- Only the first 20 teams to register will be allowed to participate in the competition.
- After confirmation of registration, any request for a refund of the registration fee will not be entertained under any circumstances.
- No spot registration shall be entertained.
- The nominee from the team is required to register through the form, no double entry is allowed. The name on the registration form will be considered final for the purpose of certificates.
- The details of Speaker 1, Speaker 2, and Researcher must be furnished in the registration form, and the same shall be final. No changes in team composition will be entertained once registration is confirmed.
- Teams must submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from their institution along with the registration form.
- A declaration form must be signed and submitted by all team members, agreeing to abide by the rules and regulations of the competition.
- Forms received after the Deadline shall not be considered for registration.
- One-hour Online training session on SCC Online for all the participants before the events starts. This is a mandatory session.

5. Competition Rounds

- The Competition shall consist of four rounds: Preliminary, Quarter, Semi and Finals.
- Teams shall argue cases against each other, for the said purpose, fixture of teams will be decided by draw of lots prior to each round of the competition.

6. Preliminary Rounds

- In the Preliminary Rounds, each team shall argue for the side picked by them during the draw of lots.
- During the Preliminary Rounds, each team will be allowed 20 minutes to argue. The division of time between the two speakers is left to the team. Before the commencement of each round, the team shall indicate their division of time to the Court Officer.
- Top 8 teams will be selected to the Quarter-final round based on the preliminary rounds scores.

7. Quarter - Final Rounds

- The teams shall argue only one side. The side shall be determined by way of draw of lots prior to the commencement of the quarter-final round.
- Each team will be allowed 15 minutes to argue. The division of time between the two speakers is left to the team. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate their division of time to the Court Officer.
- After the arguments by both the teams, 2 minutes for Rebuttal and 2 minutes for Sur Rebuttal will be given.
- The top 4 teams will be selected to the semi-final round based on the quarter final round scores.



8. Semi-Final Round

- The teams shall argue only one side. The side shall be determined by way of draw of lots prior to the commencement of the semi-final round.
- Each team will be allowed 20 minutes to argue. The division of time between the two speakers is left to the Team. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate their division of time to the Court officer.
- After the arguments by both the teams, 2 minutes for Rebuttal and 2 minutes for Sur Rebuttal will be given.
- The top 2 teams will be selected to the final round on the basis of the semifinal round scores.

9. Final Round

- The team shall argue only one side. The side shall be determined by way of draw of lots prior to the commencement of the final round.
- Each team will be allowed 30 minutes to argue. The division of time between the two speakers is left to the Team. Before the commencement of the round, each team shall indicate their division of time to the Court Officer.
- After the arguments by both the teams, 3 minutes for Rebuttal and 3 minutes for Sur Rebuttal will be given.
- The winner of the Final Round will be declared as the winner of this Moot Court Competition.

10. Note

- No exchange of memorials.
- Participating teams are required to follow the time limits strictly for all the rounds.
- If any dispute arises with respect to any round, the decision of the Judges of that round shall be final.
- All participants shall maintain decorum in the court hall during the competition and expected to properly conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.
- Judges may extend or reduce the time at their discretion.
- Strict adherence to the dress code is required (black and white formals with blazers)
- Use of electronic device during the competition shall not be allowed.

11. Memorial Submission

- Each team must prepare memorials for both the petitioner and respondent.
- Memorials must adhere to the following format
- Font: Times New Roman, size 12 (text), size 10 (footnotes)
- Line spacing: 1.5 (text), 1.0 (footnotes)
- Margins: One inch on all sides
- Citation: Bluebook 20th Edition
- Word Limit: 6,000 words (excluding footnotes and cover page).
- Memorials must be submitted in both soft copy (PDF format) and hard copy before the specified deadline.
- Late submissions shall incur penalties as determined by the Chanakya Moot Court Society.
- CMCS will hold the copyright for the memorials submitted.
- The best 3 memorials will be published in SCC Online.
- Teams are expected to submit 4 hard copies of the memorials, which has to reach to "Chanakya University Global Campus is:

NH – 648, Haraluru – Polanahalli, Near Kempegowda International Airport, Devanahalli, Bengaluru – 562165" by 20th May 2025.

Chanakya Moot
Court Society



Evaluation Criteria

Memorials (Total: 50 marks per team)

- 🏆 Clarity and coherence (10 marks)
- 🏆 Legal reasoning and argumentation (15 marks)
- 🏆 Use of precedents and authorities (10 marks)
- 🏆 Formatting and citations (10 marks)
- 🏆 Overall presentation (5 marks)

Oral Rounds (Total: 100 marks per team)

- 🏆 Knowledge of facts and law (25 marks)
- 🏆 Articulation and presentation (25 marks)
- 🏆 Ability to respond to questions (20 marks)
- 🏆 Courtroom etiquette (15 marks)
- 🏆 Persuasiveness (15 marks)

Awards & Prizes

- 🏆 Prizes shall be awarded in the following categories:
- 🏆 Winning Team: **75,000/- worth Prizes/ coupons** + Trophy + Certificate + one-year complimentary subscription to SCC Online Web Edition for each winner, Total value = Rs. 72,000
- 🏆 Runners-Up Team: **45,000/- worth Prizes/ coupons** + Trophy + Certificate
- 🏆 Best Male Mooter: Trophy + Certificate
- 🏆 Best Female Mooter: Trophy + Certificate
- 🏆 Best Memorial I: Trophy + Certificate
- 🏆 Best Memorial II: Trophy + Certificate
- 🏆 Best Researcher: Trophy + Certificate
- 🏆 One month access to the SCC Online Web Edition to all participants valued at Rs. 1099 each.
- 🏆 Participation certificates shall be provided to all the teams.

Code of Conduct & Disqualification

Participants must maintain courtroom decorum and always use parliamentary language.

Any form of plagiarism in memorials shall lead to disqualification.

Disclosure of institution identity during rounds will result in immediate disqualification.

Any disputes or disciplinary issues shall be decided by the CMCS, and their decision shall be final.

Participants must adhere to formal courtroom attire throughout the competition.

For Male Participants:

- Black suit with a white shirt and black tie.
- Black formal shoes

For Female Participants:

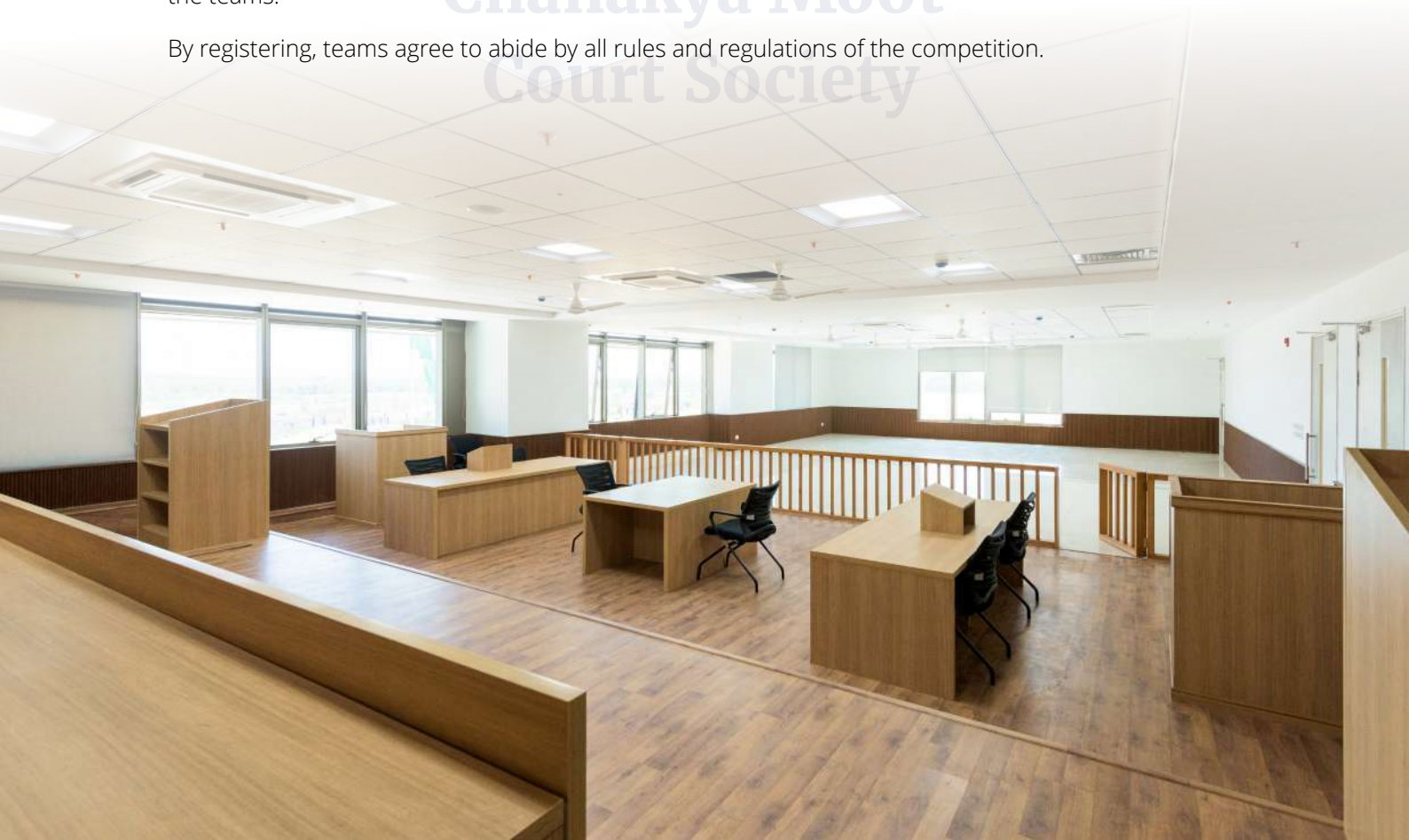
- Black suit with a white shirt OR white saree/salwar with a black blazer.
- Black formal shoes.
- Any participant failing to adhere to the dress code may be **disqualified** or **penalized** at the discretion of the Organizing Committee.

Miscellaneous

It is advised not to use AI for drafting memorials. If the use of AI is detected, marks will be deducted accordingly.

The organizers reserve the right to amend the rules if required. Any changes will be communicated to the teams.

By registering, teams agree to abide by all rules and regulations of the competition.



Chanakya Moot Court Society Executive Board

Chairperson

Prof. (Dr.) Chetan B. Singai

Professor & Dean,

School of Law, Governance, and Public Policy; Academic Lead



Faculty Convenor

Ms. Ambika Bhat K S

Assistant Professor,

School of Law, Governance, and Public Policy.



Faculty Members



Dr. Pradeep Kumar

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Sri Arpit

Assistant Professor,

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Dr. Harshita Kulkarni

Assistant Professor,

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Chanakya Moot Court Society Student Executive Board

Convenor



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Gowrika .R. Konaraddi

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Sharanya Gopakumar



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Udit Parashar



Bindu N.R



Hemanth R

Chanakya Moot Court Society



Stuthi J.K.



Patchala Sharon Pranati



Rudra Nath



Aarya Shobharaj





॥ नास्ति ज्ञानसमं सुखम् ॥

No happiness greater than
acquiring knowledge.



Chanakya Nīti

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