



# Current Affairs

MODULE

December Edition

VOLUME 2

[www.ailf.in](http://www.ailf.in)



## FOREWORD

More has been said about the writing of lawyers and judges than of any other group, except, of course, poets and novelists. The difference is that while the latter has usually been admired for their writing, the public has almost always damned lawyers and judges for theirs. If this state of affairs has changed in recent times, it is only in that many lawyers and judges have now joined the rest of the world is complaining about the quality of legal prose.

My best wishes to all these student contributors, for their future endeavours. My best wishes and assurance to the readers that this will add a lot to the knowledge after reading this perfect case compilation. It's not just for the legal fraternity but for anyone who has an interest in the field of law.

By Vrinda Khanna

WHERE LAW MEETS QUALITY

---

## PREFACE

May there be Peace in Heaven, may there be Peace in the Sky, may there be Peace in the Earth,  
May there be Peace in the Water, May there be Peace in the Plants, May there be Peace in the  
Trees, May there be Peace in the Gods in the various Worlds, May there be Peace in all the  
human beings, May there be Peace in All,

**PEACE, PEACE, PEACE.** Our age-old culture prays for peace and happiness for one and all.  
Family is the first and oldest social group. It has played an important role in the stability and  
prosperity of the civilization. Almost everything of lasting value in humanity has its roots in  
the family. Peace and harmony in the family are important for the all-round development of  
children. This Compilation of Judgments of the Supreme Court of India and High Court of  
India by All India Legal Forum is aimed at bringing about desired sensitivity in all duty holders.  
We're glad to be a part of the All-India Forum. Here's an introduction to my team:

**Patron- in-Chief:** Aayush Akar

**Editor-in-Chief:** Shubhank Suman

**Senior Manager:** Vrinda Khanna

**Manager- Shubh Ojha**

**Researchers- 1.**

sree darshna

**2. Yash malviya**

**3. muskan Kumari**

**4. Mallikasree c sureshbabu 5. Shambhavi Srivastava**

**Editor:** Sunshine Anand Swain

## **DISCLAIMER**

Team AILF India has made all efforts to summarize the cases from original cases  
retrieved from AIR and SCC. In some cases, the team has tried to summarize  
cases from the available sources as they could not find original ones.



---

**INDEX**

Cultural and Arts.....	5
Political National .....	9
Political International.....	11
Sports International.....	14
Sports National .....	15




---

**CULTURAL AND ARTS**

**Later Vedic Age (1000-600 B.C.)**

**During the Later Vedic Age the Aryans thoroughly subdued the fertile plains watered by Yamuna, Ganges and Sadanira. They crossed the Vindhya and**

settled in the Deccan, to the north of Godavari. During the Later Vedic Age popular assemblies lost much of their importance and royal power increased at their cost. In other words, chiefdom gave way to kingdom.

During the Later Vedic Age (1000-600 B.C.) the Aryans thoroughly subdued the fertile plains watered by Rivers like: Yamuna, Ganges and Sadanira.

### **Chronology**

The period of 1500 B.C and 600 B.C was divided into Early Vedic Age (Vedic Period) and Later Vedic Age.

- Vedic Period: 1500 B.C- 1000 B.C; It was in this period; Aryans were supposed to have invaded India.
- Later Vedic Period: 1000 B.C- 600 B.C

### **Characteristics I. Later Vedic Compositions**

- This period is based on the Vedic texts compiled after the Veda.
- The collection of Vedic hymns or mantras is called the Samhita.
- Since the hymns were sung, the Veda was set to tune and was then named the Sama Veda Samhita.
- Two more collections were composed during this period: the Yajur Veda Samhita and the Atharva Veda Samhita.
- The hymns in the Yajur Veda are accompanied by rituals that reflect the sociopolitical structure of the society.
- The Atharva Veda contains charms and spells that were supposed to ward off evil. They reflected the beliefs and practices of the non-Aryans.
- The Samhitas were followed by a series of texts called Brahmanas which explained the social and religious aspects of rituals.

### **II. The Painted Grey Ware**

- Excavation in the upper Gangetic basin has led to the discovery of earthen bowls and dishes made of painted grey pottery.

- These wares are part of the same area and the same period (circa 1000-600 BC) as the post-Vedic compilations.
- Thus, these sites are called Painted Grey Ware (PGW) sites.
- These sites can be found in western Uttar Pradesh and adjoining areas of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.

### III. Iron Phase Culture

- Iron gained prominence from around 1000 BC and was also found inside burials in Pakistan and Baluchistan.
- Iron was used to make weapons such as arrow-heads and spear-heads in Uttar Pradesh from around 800 BC.
- The terms 'Syama' or 'Krishna ayas' are used to refer to iron in the later Vedic texts.
- Although agriculture was primitive, it was widespread and the prevalence of rice and wheat grew in the later Vedic age.
- Introduction of metals led to the rise of diverse arts and crafts. Occupations like those of smelters, iron and copper smiths and carpenters came into existence.
- There were four types of pottery in the later Vedic age: black-and-red ware, black-slipped ware, painted grey ware, and red ware.

### Ancient Historical monuments and builders

Monuments	Builders
Sanchi Stupa	Ashoka
Bharhut Stupa	Sungas
Amaravathi Stupa	Satavahanas
Peshawar Stupa	Kanishka

<b>Sarnath Stupa</b> <b>Ajanta Painting</b> <b>Dasavathara Temple</b>	<b>Guptas</b>
<b>Chaitya of Karle</b> <b>Chaitya of Bhaja</b>	<b>Satavahanas</b>
<b>Shore Temple</b> <b>Kailashanatha Temple</b> <b>Vaikuntha Perumal Temple</b>	<b>Narasimha II</b>
<b>Virupaksha Temple</b>	<b>Chalukyas Of Badami</b>
<b>Mahabodhi Temple</b>	<b>Palas</b>
<b>Ellora Kailashanatha Temple</b>	<b>Krishna I (Rashtrakut)</b>
<b>Elephanta Caves</b>	<b>Rashtrakutas</b>
<b>Brihadesvara Temple</b>	<b>Rajaraja I</b>
<b>Lingaraj Temple</b>	<b>The Eastern Gangas</b>
<b>Jagannath Temple of Puri</b>	<b>Anantvarma (E.Gangas)</b>
<b>Sun Temple Konark</b>	<b>Narasimha I</b>
<b>Khajuraho Temple</b>	<b>Chandellas of Bundel</b>
<b>Sun Temple at Modhera</b>	<b>Solanki of Gujarat</b>
<b>Hazara Temple</b>	<b>Krishnadevaraya</b>

<b>Meenakshi Temple</b>	<b>Tirumala Nayak</b>
<b>Gol Gumbaz of Bijapur</b>	<b>Mohamed Adil Shah</b>
<b>Vitthalaswami Temple</b>	<b>Krishnadevaraya</b>
<b>Vijaya Stambha</b>	<b>Rana Kumbhakaran</b>
<b>Statue of Gometeswara</b>	<b>Chamundaraya</b>
<b>Nalanda University</b>	<b>Kumaragupta</b>
<b>Vikramasila University</b>	<b>Dharmapala of Palas</b>

### **POLITICAL NATIONAL**

Centre speaks to Punjab, Haryana governments over tolls.

NEW DELHI: The Centre has taken up the matter of the protesting farmers making toll plazas free in Haryana and Punjab with both the state governments given the big losses being faced by the concessionaires on the national and the state highways.

While toll plazas in Punjab have been “free” for commuters for the past three months, the farmers protesting against the new farm laws announced on Sunday that toll plazas in Haryana will also be “free” indefinitely till the Centre meets their demands. Earlier, they had said they would make toll plazas free for only three days from December 25-27.

Janata Dal (United) ‘unhappy’ over ‘anti-love jihad’ law in BJP-ruled states. New Delhi: In a major political development, RCP Singh has been unanimously appointed national president of Janata Dal (United), replacing Nitish Kumar.

Kumar, the chief minister of Bihar, proposed the name of the Rajya Sabha member as JD(U)'s new president, said party spokesman KC Tyagi during a press conference after its national executive and national council meeting in Patna. Singh (62) was the party's national general secretary (organization) previously.

He is considered close to Kumar. Before joining politics, Singh was an IAS officer from the UP cadre.

Narasimha Rao did not get due recognition: Vice President Venkaiah Naidu.  
NEW DELHI: Paying tributes to the late P V Narasimha Rao, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Sunday said bold economic reforms initiated by the former prime minister have helped accelerate the country's development.

Describing him as a multi-faceted personality, Naidu said Rao was a great scholar, litterateur and multi-linguist

He, however, did not get due recognition, Naidu said, according to an official statement.

Releasing a Telugu book titled "Viplava Tapasvi: PV" written by journalist A Krishna Rao in Hyderabad, Naidu said the country was facing severe economic crisis and political uncertainty when Rao took over as the prime minister. UP Panchayat polls: Akhilesh Yadav accuses government of hurting democracy?  
LUCKNOW: Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday accused the BJP-led state government of hurting the "foundation of democracy" by dissolving village panchayats without conducting elections for them.

Yadav's allegation prompted a rebuttal from UP BJP vice-president and party's in-charge of panchayat elections Vijay Bahadur Pathak who said Yadav had been

the state's chief minister and should know that the panchayat elections could not have been held amid the Covid-19.

Pathak also expressed the UP government's commitment to holding the panchayat elections within six months.

“The BJP government in Uttar Pradesh has dissolved the village panchayats without conducting the fresh elections for them. Major elections are being conducted, but the government has been finding itself unable to hold elections of the smallest units of public representation. How will this government-run Uttar Pradesh?” Yadav said in a tweet in Hindi on Sunday.

PM Modi, other top BJP leaders pay tributes to Arun Jaitley.

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday paid tributes to his former cabinet colleague and late BJP leader Arun Jaitley on his birth anniversary, and said his warm personality, intellect, legal acumen and wit are missed by all those he closely interacted with. Other BJP leaders also remembered the former finance minister who for many years remained the most articulate party voice on a gamut of issues and was considered one of its sharpest political minds.

Born in 1952, Jaitley died in August last year. He made a lasting contribution to Indian polity and served the nation with great passion & devotion. My heartfelt tributes,” he said.

BJP president J P Nadda said Jaitley will be remembered as an articulate orator and capable strategist.

### **POLITICAL INTERNATIONAL**

- **U.K., EU reach post -Brexit trade agreement**

Just a week before the deadline, Britain and the European Union struck a free trade deal on December 24 that should avert economic chaos and bring a measure of certainty for businesses after years of Brexit turmoil. Once ratified by both sides, the agreement will ensure Britain and the 27-nation bloc can continue to trade in goods without tariffs or quotas after the U.K. breaks fully free of the EU and will not be bound by its rules.

### **What is Brexit deal?**

The United Kingdom formally exited the European union and the country then entered the transition period and tried to negotiate the deal with the European union. This deal that will determine the relationship of UK and EU is called Brexit trade deal.

### **Article 50**

Article 50 of Treaty on European Union states that “Any Member State may decide to withdraw from the union in accordance with its own constitutional requirements.

- **US senator blocks the bill that will give Hong Kongers refugee status (Dec22, 2020)**

The Bill, called the Hong Kong People’s Freedom and Choice Act, would have given Hong Kong citizens special refugee status and would have allowed Hong Kong citizens to reside and work in the US was blocked by the republican Senator Ted Cruz.

### **Why was the bill blocked?**

Cruz said in his statement that democrats were using this bill “to advance their long-standing goals on changing (US) immigration laws”. Cruz also said that China would be using this legislation to exploit US immigration laws and to recruit spies working in the interest of China.

### **Significance of the bill**

The bill is important because it sought to protect the Hong kongers from facing persecution under the Chinese Government. It tightens the grip by permitting the residents already residing in the United States to remain in the country if they feared harassment by the government authorities in Hong Kong.

### **About Hong Kong**

Hong Kong is a special administrative region of china. it is a metropolitan area located in the eastern pearl river Delta of the south china sea. Hong Kong is the eight largest trading entity in the world.

#### **• Gateway Treaty(Dec19, 2020)**

NASA and the Canadian space agency recently signed a historic agreement under which Canada is to be part of the Lunar Gateway space station. Canada will contribute a new robotic arm called “Canadram3”. Also, a Canadian is to be a part of the Artemis || mission. The mission is to be launched in 2023, this agreement is called “Gateway Treaty”.

### **What is Lunar Gateway space station?**

The Lunar Gateway, or simply the Gateway is one-sixth of the size of the international space station and is a planned small space station in lunar orbit intended to serve as a solar-powered communication hub, science laboratory, short term habitation module and holding area for rovers and other robot.

### **What is gateway?**

It is an outpost orbiting the moon. It provides vital support for long term and sustainable human return to the lunar surface. It will also act as a staging point for deep space exploration.

- **Agreement between Russia and China on notification on launches of ballistic missiles and space missiles carriers (dec19, 2020)**

Recently, Chinese state Councilor, defense minister and the Russian defense minister signed a protocol to extend the “agreement between Russia and China on Notification on Launches of Ballistic Missiles and Space Missile Carriers”. This protocol is expected to further deepen the comprehensive strategic coordination between two countries.

### **About the agreement**

The agreement states That both the countries should notify each other before conducting ballistic missile test or space rocket launches. This is done to express deep trust between the countries. This makes the international relations peaceful.

**SPORTS INTERNATIONAL**

6. Washington Football Team owner Dan Snyder claims he's being extorted by one of team's minority owners

Dan Snyder, the majority owner of the NFL's Washington Football Team, claimed in a court filing Wednesday that he's being extorted by one of the franchise's minority owners, Dwight Schar.

Snyder said in the filing that Schar threatened to release information if Snyder didn't sell the team.

This filing comes a day after The Washington Post reported the Washington Football Team paid \$1.6 million to a former employee in 2009 to settle a sexual misconduct claim she made against Snyder. Details of the alleged incident and settlement were also reported by The New York Times.

7. Female jockey makes history in famous Boxing Day steeplechase

Bryony Frost made horse racing history as she became the first woman jockey to win the prestigious King George VI Chase with a "dream" Boxing Day success on 20-1 outsider Frodon.

The 25-year-old Frost led from start to finish to give trainer Paul Nicholls his 12<sup>th</sup> success in the race at Kempton Park on the outskirts of London as more fancied contenders fell away.

### **SPORTS NATIONAL**

8. Tokyo Olympic Games: Opening and closing ceremonies to be pared back

The opening and closing ceremonies of Tokyo's Olympic Games will be carried out with a "simpler, more restrained approach," the Organizing Committee announced on Wednesday. The ceremonies will be designed to "reflect the overall simplification of the Games" with Covid-19 countermeasures in place.

Tokyo's Organizing Committee made no announcements about how the opening and closing ceremonies format would be different or modified. "It is appropriate to make ceremonial events and programs simpler and have them in some way reflect and respect the world's experience of the Covid-19 pandemic," the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee statement said on Wednesday.

#### 9. Lionel Messi scores his 644<sup>th</sup> goal for Barcelona to surpass Pele record

Lionel Messi scored his 644<sup>th</sup> goal for Barcelona on Tuesday, surpassing Pele's longstanding goal scoring record for a single club.

The Argentine drew level with the Brazilian legend's total of 643 last weekend and set the new landmark after slotting home against Valladolid on Tuesday, as netted the third goal in Barcelona's 3-0 victory.

#### 10. Tiger Woods and son Charlie capture hearts and minds during PNC Championship

The sight of Tiger Woods wearing his red shirt on the final day of majors has long shot fear into the hearts of fellow competitors and electrified golf fans. So the sight of both father and son Charlie in matching red shirts and black trousers had on-watchers equally captivated in the PNC Championship over the weekend.

With their matching attire, synchronized golf ticks and with Tiger fist-pumping whenever Charlie sunk a putt, Team Woods stole the show at the Ritz-Carlton Golf Club in Orlando, Florida.

While Justin Thomas and his father Mike won the title, Team Woods – who finished seventh among a 20-team field – went back home with “memories we’ll have for our entire lives,” according to the 15-time major champion.

8.AICF elections: Chauhan faction flags violation of Sports Code in nominations from rival camp

All India Chess Federation (AICF) secretary Bharat Singh Chauhan on Friday challenged the nomination of Venkatrama Raja for the post of president for the elections scheduled on January 4 on the ground of violation of the Sports Code. Chauhan claimed that the nominations of Raja and Ravindra Dongre – for the post of secretary – violated the Sports Code, as both of them are not elected members of any state association. He said under rules Raja and Dongre cannot contest elections as their names cannot be in the voters’ list.

“The names of Raja and Dongre cannot be in the voters’ list because they are not elected representatives of their respective state associations. Only those whose names appear in the voters’ list are eligible to contest AICF elections,” he told PTI.

Chauhan, seeking his second term as secretary, has urged the court-appointed Returning Officer Justice (retired) K Kannan to reject their (Raja’s and Dongre’s) nominations. He said he has filed an objection to the Returning Officer, who will

hear it on Saturday. Kannan had released the list of nominated candidates for 15 posts.

#### 9. Government sanctions 40-day Hungary training camp for Vinesh and her team

The central government has sanctioned a 40-day training camp for champion wrestler Vinesh Phogat along with her personal coach Woller Akos, sparring partner Priyanka Phogat and physiotherapist Poornima Raman Ngomdir for a total cost of Rs 15.51 lakh. The camp was sanctioned under the government's Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS). The camp will take place from December 28 to January 24 at the Vasas Sports Club in Budapest, Hungary and from January 24 to February 5 at the Olympic Training Centre in Szczyrk in Poland.

The total cost includes airfare, local transportation, boarding and lodging charges and out of pocket allowance. Vinesh is a part of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme and is a medal prospect at the Tokyo Games.

#### 10. Russia banned from using its name, flag at next two Olympics

Geneva: Russia was banned Thursday from using its name, flag and anthem at the next two Olympics or at any world championships for the next two years. The Court of Arbitration for Sport's ruling also blocked Russia from bidding to host major sporting events for two years. Russian athletes and teams will still be allowed to compete at next year's Tokyo Olympics and the 2022 Winter Games in Beijing, as well as world championships including the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, if they are not implicated in doping or covering up positive tests. The

punishments are less than the four-year ban the World Anti-Doping Agency had proposed. One small win for Russia is the proposed team name at major events. The name “Russia” can be retained on uniforms if the words “Neutral Athlete” or “Neutral Team” have equal prominence, the court said.

Still, the court’s three judges imposed the most severe penalties on Russia since allegations of state-backed doping and cover-ups emerged after the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

#### 11. Leonard Leaves Bloodied, But Clippers Beat Nuggets 121-108

DENVER: Kawhi Leonard had 21 points before taking an elbow to the face in the fourth quarter, Paul George scored 23 points and the Los Angeles Clippers beat the Denver Nuggets 121-108 on Friday night. The Clippers led by 11 with 6:11 left when Serge Ibaka went up for a rebound and caught the side of his teammate’s face with his right elbow. Leonard lay bleeding on the court before walking to the locker room.

Leonard was ruled out shortly thereafter, but the Clippers didn’t need him to close out a Nuggets team that upset them in the second round of the Western Conference semifinals last season.

---

Nikola Jokic finished with 24 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds for Denver, which has dropped its first two games of the season. Jamal Murray added 23 points, 13 coming in the fourth.

#### 12. Injured Imam-ul-Haq ruled out of Pakistan’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Test against New Zealand

Opening batsman Imam-ul-Haq has been ruled out of the second Test due to the thumb injury and he will be returning home from New Zealand on Sunday, Pakistan Cricket Board said on Saturday. Imam had sustained the injury during training sessions in Queenstown. The PCB said Imam would be returning home on Sunday and would undergo rehab at the high-performance centre in Lahore. Pakistan has been left to deal with a spate of injuries with all-rounder Sha Khan being ruled out of next month's home series against South Africa starting on January 26 due to a thigh injury.

Pakistan skipper Babar Azam is also on the injury list with a thumb fracture and has missed the T20 series and first Test in New Zealand. Babar, who has been Pakistan's top run-scorer across all three formats since last year, suffered the injury during a throw-down session in Queenstown on December 12.

### 13. Lower-tier English soccer hit by virus outbreaks

While the Premier League charges ahead, several lower-tier English soccer games have been suspended because of coronavirus cases. Rotherham's scheduled Boxing Day game at Middlesbrough in the second-division Championship was suspended after the visitors had "recent positive COVID-19 tests."

Rotherham's previous match against Wayne Rooney's Derby County had also been called off. The club discovered more cases this week after "an increased series of testing." Millwall this week announced an outbreak that forced the suspension of Saturday's game against second-place Bournemouth. It's been rescheduled to Jan. 12.

Several third-tier League One games have also been postponed because of coronavirus cases. Doncaster's match against Accrington Stanley was suspended hours before kickoff Saturday. The day's other suspended games include league leader Portsmouth against Swindon Town.

14. Shikhar Dhawan, Ishant Sharma named in Delhi's Syed Mushtaq Ali trophy squad

India pacer Ishant Sharma is set to make a comeback to competitive cricket after being named in Delhi's Mushtaq Ali Trophy squad, which will be led by senior opener Shikhar Dhawan. Ishant was forced to miss the Australia tour due to side strain suffered during the IPL. It has been learnt that Ishant will not be available for all matches. Dhawan featured in the T20 series against Australia, scoring a half-century in the second match.

The selection panel named a jumbo 42-member squad that also has Under-19 World Cup winning captain Unmukt Chand, Nitish Rana, Pawan Suyal and Manan Sharma. The panel met on Friday to pick the squad and has asked all the players to report to chief coach Rajkumar Sharma and coach Gursharan Singh.

15. BCCI general body approves 10-team IPL from 2022 edition

---

New Delhi: The BCCI general body on Thursday approved 10-team Indian Premier League (IPL) from 2022 edition at its 89<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting in Ahmedabad.

The inclusion of two new teams couldn't be done in time for IPL 14 considering there is little time for tenders to be floated for new teams. 14<sup>th</sup> edition of IPL will be held in April 2021 and the teams will be discussed by the executives. BCCI is doing exemplary work for cricket," said Amin Pathan, Vice-President of Rajasthan Cricket Association. BCCI decided to back ICC's bid for cricket's inclusion in 2028 Los Angeles Olympics after some clarifications from International Olympic Committee (IOC), said a source to PTI. Also, it was decided that all first-class players, both men and women, will be suitably compensated for the curtailed domestic season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The BCCI plans to get the domestic season underway, after several months' delay, in January with the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 championship.

#### 16. Finland Beats Short-handed Germany In World Juniors

EDMONTON, Alberta: Vasili Ponomaryov scored twice and Russia beat the United States 5-3 on Friday night in their world junior hockey championship opener. Ponomaryov, Zakhar Bardakov and Ilya Safonov scored in the second period to give Russia a 4-1 lead and chase U.S. goalie Spencer Knight. Knight allowed four goals on 12 shots before Dustin Wolf took over. John Farinacci and Trevor Zegras scored in the third to cut it to 4-3, with Zegras connecting with 2:18 left. Yegor Chinakhov sealed it with an empty-netter with 21 seconds to play. Cam York also scored for the United States in the Group B game.

Historical Events

Bhakti Movement

An important landmark in the cultural history of medieval India was the silent revolution in society brought about by a galaxy of socio-religious reformers, a revolution known as the Bhakti Movement. This movement was responsible for many rites and rituals associated with the worship of God by Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs of Indian subcontinent. For example, Kirtan at a Hindu Temple, Qawaali at a Dargah (by Muslims), and singing of Gurbani at a Gurdwara are all derived from the Bhakti movement of medieval India (800-1700). The leader of this Hindu revivalist movement was Shankaracharya, a great thinker and a distinguished philosopher. And this movement was propounded by Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, Namadeva, Tukaram, Jayadeva. The movement's major achievement was its abolition of idol worship.

The leader of the bhakti movement focusing on the Lord as Rama was Ramananda. Very little is known about him, but he is believed to have lived in the first half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. He taught that Lord Rama is the supreme Lord, and that salvation could be attained only through love for and devotion to him, and through the repetition of his sacred name.

Chaitanya Mahaprabhu was an ascetic Hindu monk and social reformer in 16<sup>th</sup> century Bengal. A great proponent of loving devotion for God, bhakti yoga, Chaitanya worshiped the Lord in the form of Krishna. Sri Ramanuja Acharya was an Indian philosopher and is recognized as the most important saint of Sri Vaishnavism. Ramananda brought to North India what Ramanuja did in South India. He raised his voice against the increasing formalism of the orthodox cult and founded a new school of Vaishnavism based on the gospel of love and devotion. His most outstanding contribution is the abolition of distinctions of caste among his followers.

Followers of Bhakti movement in 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Century included saints such as Bhagat Namdev, and Saint Kabir Das, who insisted on the devotional singing of praises of lord through their own compositions.

Guru Nanak, the first Sikh Guru and founder of the Sikhism, too was a Nirguna Bhakti Saint and social reformer. He was opposed to all distinctions of caste as well as the religious rivalries and rituals. He preached the unity of God and condemned formalism and ritualism of both Islam and Hinduism. Guru Nanak's gospel was for all men. He proclaimed their equality in all respects. The sixteenth and seventeenth centuries continued to witness the rise of many religious reformers. The exponent of the Rama cult and the Krishna cult among the Vaishnavas branched off into a number of sects and creeds. The leading light of the Rama cult was saint-poet Tulsidas. He was a very great scholar and had made a profound study of Indian philosophy and literature. His great poem Ramacharitha manasa, popularly called Tulsi-krita Ramayana is very popular among the Hindu devotees. He set before the people the image of Sri Rama as all virtuous, all powerful, the Lord of the World, and the very embodiment of the Supreme Reality (Parabrahma). The followers of the Krishna cult founded the Radha Ballabhi sect under Hari Vamsa in 1585 A.D. Sur Das wrote 'Sursagar' in Brajbhasha, which is full of verses of the charm of Lord Krishna and his beloved Radha.

### Sufism

---

The terms Sufi, Wali, Darvesh and Faqir are used for Muslim saints who attempted to achieve development of their intuitive faculties through ascetic exercises, contemplation, renunciation and self-denial. By the 12<sup>th</sup> century A.D., Sufism had become a universal aspect of Islamic social life as its influence extended over almost the entire Muslim community. Sufism represents the inward

or esoteric side of Islam or the mystical dimension of Muslim religion. However, the Sufi saints transcending all religious and communal distinctions, worked for promoting the interest of humanity at large. The Sufis were a class of philosophers remarkable for their religious catholicity. Sufis regarded God as the supreme beauty and believed that one must admire it, take delight in His thought and concentrate his attention on Him only. They believed that God is Mashuq and Sufis are the Ashiqs. Sufism crystallized itself into various Silsilahs or orders. The 4 most popular among these were Chistis, Suhrawardis, Qadiriyaahs and Naqshbandis. Sufism took roots in both rural and urban areas and exercised a deep social, political and cultural influence on the masses. It rebelled against all forms of religious formalism, orthodoxy, falsehood and hypocrisy and endeavoured to create a new world order in which spiritual bliss was the only and the ultimate goal. At a time when struggle for political power was the prevailing madness, the Sufi saints reminded men of their moral obligations. To a world torn by strife and conflict they tried to bring peace and harmony. The most important contribution of Sufism is that it helped to blunt the edge of Hindu-Muslim prejudices by forging the feelings of solidarity and brotherhood between these two religious communities.

### Rise of the Sikh Power

Sikhism was founded by Guru Nanak Dev at the beginning of the sixteenth century. Guru Nanak was born on April 15, 1469 in the Western Punjab village of Talwandi. Even as a child, he was given to deep thinking with no interest in worldly life. At the age of thirty, he got enlightenment. Thereafter, he travelled almost the whole of the country and went over to Mecca and Baghdad, preaching his message. On his death he was followed by nine other Gurus in succession. Guru Angad Dev Ji (1504-1552) was Guru for thirteen years (1539-1552). He created a new script gurmukhi and gave the Sikhs a written language. After his

death Guru Amar Das Ji (1479-1574) followed in succession. He showed great devotion and made the langar an integral part of Sikhism. Guru Ram Das Ji took over as the fourth Guru, he composed hymns, which were later incorporated in the sacred writings. Guru Arjan Dev Ji became the fifth Guru of Sikhism. He built the world famous Harmandir Sahib, popularly known as the Golden Temple in Amritsar. He also compiled the holy Granth Sahib, a sacred religious book of the Sikhs. Guru Arjan Dev suffered martyrdom in 1606 and was followed by Siri Guru Hargobind, who maintained a standing army and symbolically wore two swords, representing spiritual and temporal power.

Guru Siri Har Rai, the seventh Guru was born in 1630 and spent most of his life in devotional meditation and preaching the teachings of Guru Nanak. He passed away in 1661 and ordained his second son, Harkishan as the Guru. Guru Siri Har Krishan Ji got enlightenment in 1661. He gave his life while serving and healing the epidemic-stricken people in Delhi. The place where he breath his last is the one where, the renowned Gurdwara Bangla Sahib stands in Delhi. Siri Guru Tegh Bahadur became Guru in 1664. When Mughal Governor of Kashmir resorted to forcible conversion of Hindus, Guru Tegh Bahadur decided to fight it out. Gurdwara Sisganj in Delhi stands at the place of Guru Sahib's martyrdom and Gurdwara Rakabganj at the site of his cremation. The tenth guru, Guru Gobind Singh, was born in 1666 and became guru after the martyrdom of his father Guru Tegh Bahadur. Guru Gobind Singh, at the time of his death invested the 'guru Granth Sahib' as the supreme head of the sikhs, thus bringing the practice of nominating a religious head to a grinding halt.

### The Mughal Empire

In India, the Mughal Empire was one of the greatest empires ever. The Mughal Empire ruled hundreds of millions of people. India became united under one rule,

and had very prosperous cultural and political years during the Mughal rule. There were many Muslim and Hindu kingdoms split all throughout India until the founders of the Mughal Empire came. There were some men such as Babar, grandson to the Great Asian conqueror Tamerlane and the conqueror Genghis Khan from the northern region of Ganges, river valley, who decided to take over Khyber, and eventually, all of India.

Babar (1526-1530): the great grandson of Tamerlane and Genghis Khan, was the first Mughal emperor in India. He confronted and defeated Lodhi in 1526 at the first battle of Panipat, and so came to establish the Mughal Empire in India. Babar ruled until 1530, and was succeeded by his son Humayun.

Humayun (1530-1540 and 1555-1556):

The eldest son of Babar, succeeded his father and became the second emperor of the Mughal Empire. He ruled India for nearly a decade but was ousted by Sher Shah Suri, the Afghan ruler. Humayun wandered for about 15 years after his defeat. Meanwhile, Sher Shah Suri died and Humayun was able to defeat his successor, Sikandar Suri and regain his crown of the Hindustan. However, soon after, he died in 1556 at a young age of 48 years.

Sher Shah Suri (1540-1545):

Was an Afghan leader who took over the Mughal Empire after defeating Humayun in 1540. Sher Shah occupied the throne of Delhi for not more than five years, but his reign proved to be a landmark in the Sub-continent. As a king, he has several achievements in his credit. He established an efficient public administration. He set up a revenue collection system based on the measurement of land. Justice was provided to the common man. Numerous civil works were

carried out during his short reign; planting of trees, wells and building of Sarai (inns) for travellers was done. Roads were laid; it was under his rule that the Grand Trunk road from Delhi to Kabul was built. The currency was also changed to finely minted silver coins called Dam. However, Sher Shah did not survive long after his accession on the throne and died in 1545 after a short reign of five years.

Akbar (1556-1605):

Humayun's heir, Akbar, was born in exile and was only 13 years old when his father died. Akbar's reign holds a certain prominence in history; he was the ruler who actually fortified the foundations of the Mughal Empire. After a series of conquests, he managed to subdue most of India. Areas not under the empire were designated as tributaries. He also adopted a conciliatory policy towards the Rajputs, hence reducing any threat from them. Akbar was not only a great conqueror, but a capable organizer and a great administrator as well. He set up a host of institutions that proved to be the foundation of an administrative system that operated even in British India. Akbar's rule also stands out due to his liberal policies towards the non-Muslims, his religious innovations, the land revenue system and his famous Mansabdari system. Akbar's Mansabdari system became the basis of Mughal military organization and civil administration. Akbar died in 1605, nearly 50 years after his ascension to the throne, and was buried outside of Agra at Sikandra. His son Jehangir then assumed the throne.

---

Jehangir:

Akbar was succeeded by his son, Salim, who took the title of Jehangir, meaning "Conqueror of the World". He married Mehr-un-Nisa whom he gave the title of Nur Jahan (light of the world). He loved her with blind passion and handed over

the complete reins of administration to her. He expanded the empire through the addition of Kangra and Kistwar and consolidated the Mughal rule in Bengal. Jehangir lacked the political enterprise of his father Akbar. But he was an honest man and a tolerant ruler. He strived to reform society and was tolerant towards Hindus, Christians and Jews. However, relations with Sikhs were strained, and the fifth of the ten Sikh gurus, Arjun Dev, was executed at Jehangir's orders for giving aid and comfort to Khusrau, Jehangir's rebellious son. Art, literature, and architecture prospered under Jehangir's rule, and the Mughal gardens in Srinagar remain an enduring testimony to his artistic taste. He died in 1627.

Shah Jahan:

Jehangir was succeeded by his second son Khurram in 1628. Khurram took the name of Shah Jahan, i.e. the Emperor of the World. He further expanded his Empire to Kandhar in the north and conquered most of Southern India. The Mughal Empire was at its zenith during Shah Jahan's rule. This was due to almost 100 years of unparalleled prosperity and peace. As a result, during this reign, the world witnessed the unique development of arts and culture of the Mughal Empire. Shah Jahan has been called the "architect king". The Red Fort and the Jama Masjid, both in Delhi, stand out as towering achievements of both civil engineering and art. Yet above all else, Shah Jahan is remembered today for the Taj Mahal, the massive white marble mausoleum constructed for his wife Mumtaz Mahal along the banks of the Yamuna River in Agra.

Aurangzeb:

Aurangzeb ascended the throne in 1658 and ruled supreme till 1707. Thus Aurangzeb ruled for 50 years, matching Akbar's reign in longevity. But unfortunately he kept his five sons away from the royal court with the result that

none of them was trained in the art of government. This proved to be very damaging for the Mughals later on. During his 50 years of rule, Aurangzeb tried to fulfill his ambition of bringing the entire Sub-continent under one rule. It was under him that the Mughal Empire reached its peak in matter of area. He worked hard for years but his health broke down in the end. He left behind no personal wealth when he died in 1707, at the age of 90 years. With his death, the forces of disintegration set in and the mighty Mughal empire started collapsing.



# ABOUT ALL INDIA LEGAL FORUM

All India Legal Forum (AILF), the brainchild of several legal luminaries and eminent personalities across the country and the globe, is a dream online platform which aims at proliferating legal knowledge and providing an ingenious understanding and cognizance of various fields of law, simultaneously aiming to generate diverse social, political, legal and constitutional discourse on law-related topics, making sure that legal knowledge penetrates to every nook and corner of the ever-growing legal fraternity. AILF also houses a blog that addresses contemporary issues in any field of law. We at AILF don't just publish blogs but we also guide the authors when their research paper is not up to the mark.

## AIM OF AILF

Legal Education is regarded central in providing access to justice by ensuring equality before the law, the right to counsel and the right to a fair trial. All India legal Forum aims to bring out a platform to provide resourceful insight on law-related topics for the ever-growing legal fraternity. Through ambitious and studious legal brains across the country, AILF aims at providing valuable contributions on developments in the legal field and contemporary assessment of issues, putting forward quality legal content for the masses. We provide constant legal updates and make quality law notes available for law students across the country.

## PEOPLE BEHIND AILF

The biggest asset of AILF is our team of more than 400 law students across the country to tackle basic problems which a legal researcher encounters in day to day life. Putting forward the basic tools and ideas needed for researching and drafting, AILF seeks to help and encourage people to write research papers efficiently and effectively. AILF is not just a blog but a platform to make legal research effortless and undemanding. We at AILF consider dedication and determination as ultimate requisition to be a good researcher and we thrive to instill these values.



[www.ailf.in](http://www.ailf.in)

