



AMITY
UNIVERSITY
RAJASTHAN

DEBATING SOCIETY
Amity Law School Jaipur
presents

SHABDH VYUH
"THE PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATE COMPETITION"



Date: - 13TH APRIL 2023

Time: - 12 PM - 6 PM



AMITY
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RAJASTHAN

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About the University

Amity University Rajasthan is one of the latest proud additions in the legacy of the 25 yearsold Amity Education Group of India, set up with a vision to contribute in nation-building through excellence in higher education, research and innovation. Amity University is ranked among top 3% Universities globally by QS- 2018 ranking Amity University Rajasthan is a part of Amity India's leading education group with more than 1,50,000 students, 11 universities, 150 institutions, 25 schools & pre-schools, 10 overseas campuses in Singapore, Mauritius, USA, Beijing, Nanjing, South Africa, London, Dubai, Abu Dhabi & Romania.

Amity University Rajasthan is built on a foundation which embodies all the qualities that have made Amity institutions world class over the last two decades. Located in a sprawling 150 acre green campus on Delhi Jaipur Highway, the University with its state of- the-art infrastructure has instituted global standards in education, training and research with focus on the latest teaching methodologies.





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About Amity Law School

The School has been established under Amity University Rajasthan to achieve world-class legal education in the state and the country. In its constant pursuit to excellence, it is always endeavoring to create a legacy of leadership, professional acumen and excellence. The Amity Law School (ALS), Amity University, Rajasthan has been established in the year 2008. ALS is offering courses in PhD, LL.M (1Year), BA-LL.B(H), B.Com-LL.B(H), BALL.B(H). Amity Law School trains a new cadre of legal professionals through comprehensive and contemporary body of integrated knowledge, rigorous educational practices and research programs. The institute has a well-qualified, experienced and dedicated faculties who are committed to the cause of quality legal education. ALS is affiliated to Amity University and approved by the Bar Council of India. Amity Law School has been included among the top law schools by the Forbes Legal Powerlist, 2020. The methods of teaching in the Law School include lecture discussions, case law analysis, moot court training, project assignment and placement programmes. In addition, the School organizes seminars on contemporary legal issues, conducts clinical courses and trains students in legal research and legal writing. By the time a student completes the programme, he/she will be fully equipped with the required theoretical knowledge and practical experience in the field of law to become a full-fledged responsible member of the legal profession.





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About the Competition

The Asian Parliamentary Debate Competition is not only a platform for participants to showcase their debating skills, but also an opportunity for them to engage in meaningful dialogue and exchange ideas with peers from different backgrounds and cultures. The competition promotes the values of critical thinking, civil discourse, and respectful disagreement, and encourages participants to develop their communication and leadership abilities.

The format of the competition is based on the Asian Parliamentary Debate style, which is characterized by its focus on the principles of democracy, inclusivity, and fairness. Each debate features two teams, consisting of three members each. One team argues in favor of the motion, while the other argues against it. The debates are typically structured around three main speeches, with each team given a chance to present their arguments and rebut their opponents' points.





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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE COMPETITION RULES

- Each team must consist of only three members
- Topics will be based on current affairs and shall be communicated to the participants, on the day of the competition.
- REGISTRATION FEE: ₹300 per team i.e ₹100 per member, through the link provided in the Odyssey Website.
- Teams shall register on first come first serve basis, wherein 24 slots shall be kept available.

These rules shall hereby be referred to as the Shabd Vyuh Parliamentary Debate rules and must be conformed to, whilst participating in this edition of the Amity University Rajasthan Parliamentary Debate.

Shabd Vyuh Parliamentary Debate 2023 will follow a '3-on-3' Asian parliamentary style of debate governed by the following rules, regulations, and guidelines.

ODYSSEY WEBSITE: - <http://odysseyaur.com/events.php>



FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

a) Each debating match will consist of two teams; one to propose the motion and one to oppose it. The team proposing may be known as ‘The Government’. The team opposing may be known as ‘The Opposition’. Teams will be designated as the Government or the Opposition for each round of the competition.

b) Each debate shall be adjudicated upon by an adjudicator.

c) Each debate shall be timed by a timekeeper. In the absence of a timekeeper, a member of the adjudication panel will time the speeches.

d) Teams will comprise of the following members.

i. GOVERNMENT

1. Prime Minister.
2. Deputy Prime Minister.
3. Government Whip.

ii. OPPOSITION

1. Leader of the Opposition or First Negative.
2. Deputy Leader of the Opposition or Second Negative.
3. Opposition Whip or Third Negative.



SPEAKING ORDER FOR THE COMPETITION

Debaters will speak in the following order:

- 1) Prime Minister
- 2) Leader of Opposition
- 3) Deputy Prime Minister
- 4) Deputy Leader of Opposition
- 5) Government Whip
- 6) Opposition Whip

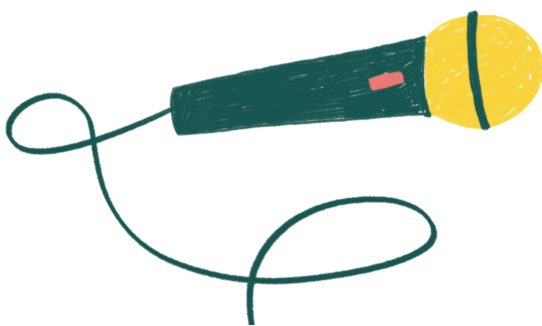
Speakers not 'holding the floor' may not rise during a speech unless it is to offer a 'Point of Information'. Speakers doing so, or considered to be heckling, barracking or whose behavior is interfering with the acceptable course of a debate will be declared 'out of order' or will be 'called to order' by the Chairperson.





PREPARATION

- Match-ups and venues will be announced before motions are revealed.
- From the time of release of the motions, teams have 30 minutes preparation time until the commencement of the debate in that round.
- Printed and prepared materials may be used during the preparation period. Access to electronic media or electronic storage or retrieval devices is permitted after motions have been released. This includes but is not limited to, all kinds of computers, electronic data banks, cellular phones, etc. Printed and prepared materials may be accessed during a debate, but may not be used by a speaker holding the floor.
- Teams must prepare on their own. Once motions have been released, there must be no contact between debaters in a particular team and coaches, trainers, friends, observers or any other individual for the purposes of assistance in the context of the debate. Such contact and assistance is deemed as ‘cheating’ and will be punished strictly.
- Teams failing to arrive in time for the debate will forfeit that particular round.





TIMINGS

i.It is the duty of the timekeeper, or of a panel member or Chair (in absence of a timekeeper), to time all the speeches in each round.

ii.The timing of each speech starts at the moment the member begins speaking.

iii.Times for speeches:

·Preliminary rounds and Quarter Finals substantive speeches: 5 minutes.

·Semi Finals: 6 minutes.

·Finals: 7 minutes.

iv.Time signals will be given in the following manner:

·One minute remaining - single knock of the gavel.

·Completion of time- double knock of the gavel.

v.Once the double knock of the gavel has sounded, speakers have a 20-second 'grace period', during which they should conclude their speech. After this grace period has elapsed, there will be a continuous knocking of the gavel, and adjudicators must disregard the rest of that particular speech. Speakers continuing after the 'grace period' can also be penalized by the adjudicators.





POINTS OF INFORMATION

i.Points of Information (POIs’) may be offered during the six substantive speeches only. Points of Information may not be offered during the first and last minutes of substantive speeches. If a Point of Information is offered in the first or the last minute of a constructive speech, it is the duty of the speaker holding the floor to reject the same as being out of order. Only if the speaker holding the floor fails to do the same, the chair of the adjudicator panel may very briefly intervene and call the house to order.

ii.A POI must be indicated by a member of an opposing team rising from his/her seat. A member offering a Point of Information may draw attention to the offer by saying “on that point Sir/Madam,” or a short word calling attention to the member of the opposing team raising the point of information. If entire questions are posed in the tag this can be marked down.

iii.A member holding the floor must respond to an opposing member, or members offering POI’s, in one of the following ways.

- A verbal rejection of the offer, or
- A verbal acceptance of the offer.



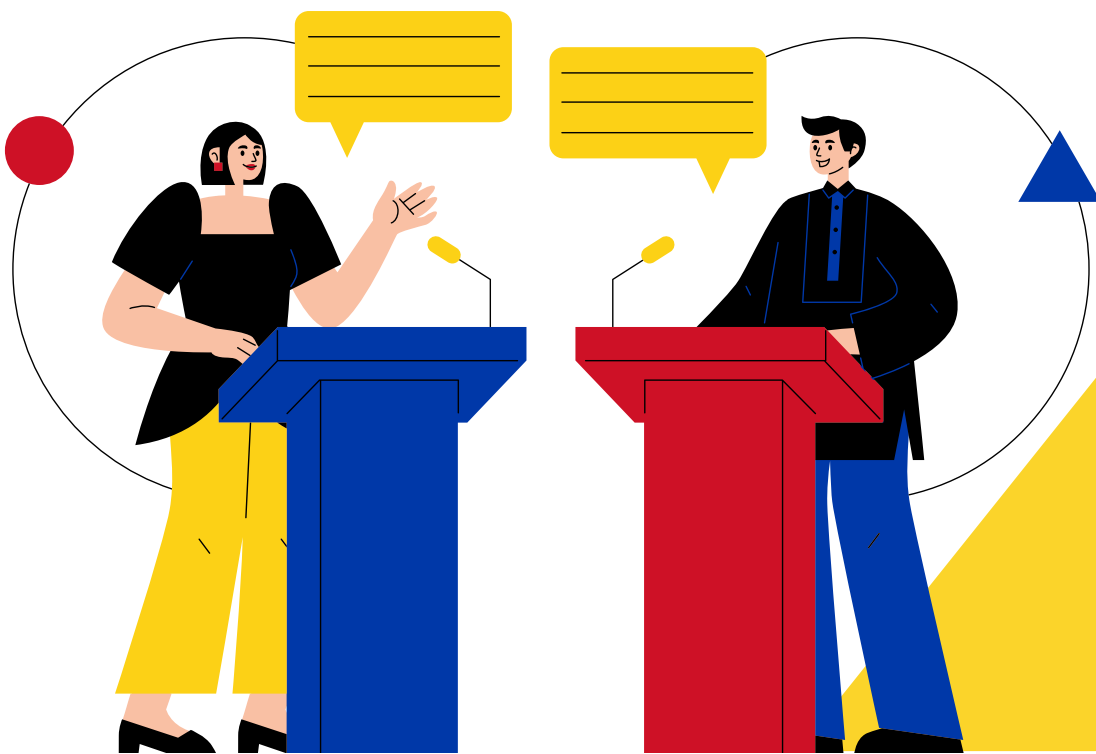


iv. If a POI is accepted, the point should be phrased as a question, or clarification, or comment, and ideally made in no more than 15 seconds. Points of Information should be such that they allow the member holding the floor some chance of responding.

v. After a POI has been offered, no further clarifications may be sought either by the speaker holding the floor or by the member offering the Point of Information, except strictly in situations where the Point of Information is clearly inaudible, and therefore a repetition of the same is necessitated.

vi. Once a POI is accepted the speaker holding the stage is bound to give adequate time for the completion of the question.

vii. Points of Information are marked for their strategic use under Method, and for their content under Matter. Unwarranted use of points of information can be marked down under Manner.





DEFINITIONS

i. The definition is the interpretation of the motion as put forward by the Prime Minister, or First Affirmative, in his opening remarks. The onus for establishing how the definition ties in with the given motion lies completely upon the Prime Minister. All subsequent speakers have a purely clarifying role (if any) in this regard.

ii. The definition should be reasonable.

iii. The definition should state the issue or issues arising out of the motion to be debated, state the meanings of any terms in the motion requiring clarification and display clear and logical links to the wording and spirit of the motion.

iv. The definition should not be: -

·A truism (a matter stated as fact).

·A tautology (a definition which, in development, proves itself).

·Place set (setting an unnaturally restrictive geographical or spatial location as its major parameter).

·Time set (setting an unnaturally restrictive chronological duration as its main parameter).

v. Wholly unreasonable (displaying no clear or logical links to the motion).

This is referred to as 'squirreling'. As mentioned earlier squirreling essentially implies that a definition has been proposed which is clearly not in keeping with the spirit of the motion.



vi. The Negative may only challenge the definition advanced by the Affirmative on the basis of one of the above-mentioned conditions, and must clearly state which individual condition based upon which it is challenging the definition.

vii. The Negative may not challenge a definition supplied by the Affirmative on the basis that:

- The definition does not adhere to the theme provided for the round.
 - Its own definition is MORE reasonable.
 - A better debate will result. Nor may the Negative re-define terms or words contained in the motion so that a completely different debate is thereby set up.
- However, a Negative may contend with the specific or general approach to terminology supplied by the definition of the Affirmative.

CHALLENGING THE DEFINITIONS

i. The definitional challenge must be made in the speech of the Leader of the Opposition, following a clear statement that the definition is being rejected. The onus for establishing the definitional challenge lies completely upon the Leader of the Opposition. Subsequent speakers are strictly permitted a purely explanatory role (if any) in this regard.



- ii.** In the event of a challenge, the Leader of the Opposition must justify his/her rejection by supplying the grounds on which the original definition has been rejected. Furthermore, a substitute definition must be supplied, which the Opposition benches must then go on to negate. The opposition is also expected to, in the case of the definition being a squirrel, place or time set to submit some arguments to negate the definition proposed by the government, in the sense of an even if, i.e. that even if the challenge doesn't stand, these arguments would negate the government's case.
- iii.** If the Leader of the Opposition does not challenge the definition, no other speaker may do so.
- iv.** The onus to prove that a definition is unreasonable is on the Opposition, and should not be presumed by the adjudicators.
- v.** Adjudicators should not indicate during the debate whether the definitional challenge has succeeded. They cannot indicate which definition they find to be (more) acceptable. The final decision as to whether a definitional challenge has succeeded must take into consideration all 8 speeches in any debate.
- vi.** Neither team should abandon either the definitions or the challenges of its opening speakers.

vii. Definitions should not require members of the house to have access to, or possess, specific or expert knowledge.

viii. If a definitional challenge is upheld, the team making the challenge does not necessarily win by the largest possible margin. If the definitional challenge fails, then the team making such a challenge does not necessarily lose by the largest possible margin. Adjudicators are expected to make a holistic decision about the debate on the parameters including the success or failure of the challenge, as well as how well both teams defend their definitions and fulfil their rule in proposing and opposing the definitions they have assumed. A definitional challenge should take place in the rarest of rare cases.

MATTER

i. ‘Matter’ relates to the issues in debate, the case being presented and the material used to substantiate argumentation. The issues under debate should be correctly prioritized (by teams) and ordered (by individuals), dealing with the most important/pertinent first. This guideline may be departed from, in order to preserve logical continuity and coherence and the matter should be logical and well-reasoned. Matter should be relevant, both to the issue in contention and the cases being advanced.

ii. Matter should be persuasive and the matter will be assessed from the viewpoint of ‘the average reasonable person’. Adjudicators must disregard any specialist knowledge they have, even though pertinent to the issues under debate. A debater should ideally take at least two points of information during a speech. The Opposition Whip shall not introduce any new matter in to the debate.



MANNER

i.Manner refers to the presentation and delivery style of a speaker.

ii.The following list represents some of the elements which are, or may be, subsumed under Manner. The list is intended as a guide, rather than as a number of marking categories. It is the combination of these elements (rather than the accomplishment of each), in various proportions that contributes to an individual speaker's style.

iii.The following are to be considered: -

- Vocal Style: Volume, clarity, pronunciation, pace, intonation, fluency, confidence, and authority.
- Language: Conversational.
- Use of notes: Should not distract, should not be read.
- Eye Contact: With audience.
- Gesture: Natural, appropriate.
- Stance
- Dress: (only an issue if really inappropriate to the place or occasion).
- Sincerity: Believability
- Personal Attacks
- Humor: Effectiveness of and appropriateness.

- iv. Debater and adjudicators in the competition must be aware that they will experience many different debating styles different colleges and countries. There is no single ‘correct’ or ‘right’ style to adopt in this competition. Nor should a speaker’s style be dismissed as inappropriate in the national or regional context of the adjudicators or debaters who witness it.
- v. As with Matter, personal bias must not be allowed to influence an adjudicator’s assessment of Manner.

METHOD

- i. Method shall be comprising of individual method, team method, overall response to the debate
- ii. Individual Method pertains to the structure and organization of an individual speech. This may be evident in a reasonably clear outline of the responsibilities of the speaker and the order of the issues to be dealt with in his/her speech. It may also be apparent in the degree of fluency with which a speech moves from one point to another in a clearly logical sequence. Similarly, a speaker may ‘signpost’ his/her transitions from one phase to another.
- iii. Team Method pertains to the effectiveness of the team’s case organization and structure as a whole.
- iv. Team Method pertains to an equal division of roles (speakers) and responsibilities during a debate and the effective discharge of those roles and responsibilities.
- v. Response to the dynamics of the debate pertains to the reactive abilities of speakers and teams to the ongoing strategies being employed by both sides, and the shifts in the balance of power from one side to another.
- vi. Team members may keep time and signal members holding the floor. Time signals may not be spoken aloud. Speakers may also keep their own time.



MARKING THE DEBATE

For constructive speeches, marks shall be awarded to speakers based on the following:

- 1) Matter: 20
- 2) Manner: 20
- 3) Method: 20
- 4) Total: 60

GENERAL RULES

- i.** Each team representing a particular college/ institution shall comprise of ONLY 3 participants. Any other person(s) accompanying the team shall NOT be entertained within the AMITY UNIVERSITY RAJASTHAN Law School premises.
- ii.** All participants are required to be dressed in COURT ROOM ATTIRE.
- iii.** There is no Provision for travelling, accomodation as well as food tokens for the participants although the participants are eligible to suit themselves at lucrative food stalls provided by Amity.

CONTACT DETAILS

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