



1st DR. K. L. THAKRAL
NATIONAL MOOT COURT
COMPETITION



1st Dr. K. L. THAKRAL NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

DATES

Prelims:

15th September 2023 (Online)

Finals:

13th & 14th October 2023 (Offline)

Knowledge Partner



YOUR ONE STOP FORENSIC SOLUTION

**Prizes Worth
₹ 84,000/-***



1st DR. K. L. THAKRAL
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ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY



Oriental University is the first self-financed Private University of Indore established in 2011. Oriental Group is one of the top names in education in Central India since 1995. Oriental Group the most sought – after name for quality education in Madhya Pradesh. Oriental University is spread over 77 acres of lush green sprawling campus on Indore-Ujjain highway near the international airport and new proposed railway station.

The philosophy of Oriental University (OU) is to contribute in a broader sphere, thereby offering diverse courses in Agriculture, Management, Law, Pharmacy, Education, Engineering and ITI.

Faculty of Law is a constituent unit of Oriental University, Indore, established with the objective of bringing intellectual awakening and overall development of people of our country through education. It aims to be a self-sustaining institution of higher learning and research in quality legal education transcending national boundaries which is intellectually stimulating and imbibes a culture of justice in young professionals.



DR. K. L. THAKRAL
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ABOUT DR. K. L. THAKRAL



The indomitable spirit of a leader, the enthusiasm, and the dream of a visionary marked the personality of Dr. K.L. Thakral, who brought the Oriental Group to reality. Fondly referred to as 'Babuji' his towering presence and essence can be sensed in the traditional 'Guru Shishya Parampara' inculcated in the Oriental campus.

His indomitable spirit reverberates on the campus, even after his passing away. Not deterred by the strains & striving during the pre & post-partition era, he has truly attempted to make the Country proud.

His astute business acumen, passion for discipline and efficiency, meticulous planning, drive & sense of mission with comfortable dynamism ultimately defines the work culture of the Group.

"Oriental University stands as a living testimony to a man, who has poured his life, blood, and undaunted efforts into a monument, which has become life with myriad colors and the canvas, to reflect the thoughts of its founder"



1st DR. K. L. THAKRAL
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MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF VC



I am delighted to announce the upcoming National Moot Court Competition, a celebration of legal excellence and intellectual prowess.

As the Vice Chancellor of our esteemed institution, I extend my warmest invitation to all law schools and institutions across the nation to participate in this prestigious event.

The National Moot Court Competition promises to be a rewarding experience for each competitor, offering a rewarding setting to hone your persuasive communication abilities, legal knowledge, and critical thinking.

I encourage all of you to embrace this opportunity, challenge yourselves, and embrace the spirit of fair competition while contributing to the advancement of the legal profession. Together, let us make the National Moot Court Competition an outstanding success!

Prof. (Dr.) Sunil K. Somani
Vice Chancellor, OUI



1st DR. K. L. THAKRAL
NATIONAL MOOT COURT
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MESSAGE: DESK OF DIRECTOR



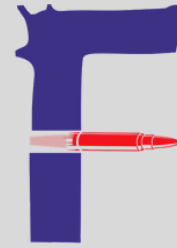
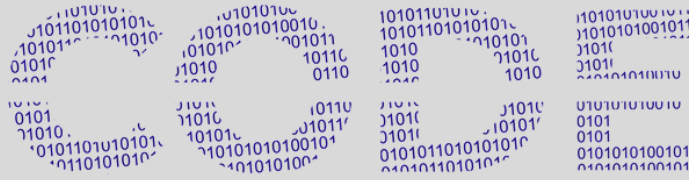
The 1st Dr. K.L. Thakral National Moot Court Competition is an opportunity for the participants, to showcase their legal knowledge, critical thinking, and persuasive advocacy. The competition showcases the fundamental nature of the legal profession, emphasizing the importance of articulating arguments, quick thinking, and compelling cases. Participants are called upon to confront and overcome obstacles, showcasing their passion for equity and upholding legal principles. The competition aims to shape an individual's legal education and identity as a lawyer. Participants should trust their preparation, believe in themselves, and take chances. The dichotomy between triumph and defeat is present in the courtroom, and those who exhibit courage and capitalize on opportunities will ultimately achieve success. The competition serves as a catalyst for personal growth and development, offering valuable insights, enduring connections, and indelible recollections that will greatly influence their career in law. Let these words kindle your fire, feed your drive, and motivate you to do your best. I extend my sincerest well wishes to all individuals involved, expressing hope for the triumph of justice.

Mrs. Sonia Thakral
Director, Faculty of Law



1st DR. K. L. THAKKAR
NATIONAL MOOT COURT
COMPETITION

ABOUT CODE F SOLUTIONS PVT. LTD.



YOUR ONE STOP FORENSIC SOLUTION

Code F Solutions is an ISO 9001:2015 and MSME-certified private Forensic organization having a skilled hand in providing confidential private investigations and special investigation services to individuals, Law firms, Insurance Companies, Financial Institutions, Private Business holders & Government officials, etc. They also provide hands-on training and supply customized forensic kits and standard equipment to government and private entities. Their extensive experience, training, and knowledge enable them to provide a winning edge. Their endeavor is to provide their clients the professional and reliable forensic solutions based on ground evidence with assured confidentiality.

They are uniquely qualified to provide their clients with the best forensic solution possible, with maximum results delivered in a timely and cost-efficient manner. They have a diligent team of trained professional forensic investigators and fraud risk managers who are equipped with all the latest hi-tech investigation skills to generate quality results in a short span of time. They also provide modern forensic technologies to law enforcement agencies for building a smart forensic lab, training to students and professionals in order to upskill them with required forensic skills. They offer a holistic anti-fraud and cybersecurity solutions to private entities, helping them to prevent financial frauds and cyberattacks.



ABOUT THE COMPETITION



The Oriental University, known for its commitment to academic excellence and fostering a culture of legal knowledge, is proud to host the highly anticipated Oriental University's 1st Dr. K. L. Thakral National Moot Court Competition. This annual event stands as a testament to the university's dedication to providing law students with a platform to enhance their advocacy skills, immerse themselves in legal research, and engage in spirited arguments.

The Oriental University's 1st Dr. K. L. Thakral National Moot Court Competition aims to attract participation from esteemed law schools and universities across the nation, making it a melting pot of legal brilliance and intellectual curiosity.

The moot problem, carefully crafted by legal experts, presents participants with complex legal issues that test their analytical abilities and knowledge of the law. As participants navigate through intricate legal scenarios, they must conduct exhaustive research, analyze case laws, and present well-reasoned arguments before a distinguished panel of judges.

Throughout the competition, participants are encouraged to demonstrate not only their legal acumen but also their ability to work cohesively as a team. Mooting requires collaboration, compromise, and effective communication between teammates. It is a reflection of the attributes essential for success in the legal profession.

IMPORTANT DATES

PARTICULARS	DATE
Release of Moot Proposition	22 July 2023
Last date of Registration and Payment of Fees	21 August 2023 [23:59 IST]
Allotment of Team Codes	23 August 2023
Last date of clarification of Moot Proposition	28 August 2023
Last date of submitting the Softcopy Memorial	11 September 2023 [23:59 IST]
Researcher's Test [ONLINE]	14 September 2023
Prelims Round [ONLINE]	15 September 2023
Result: Declaration of List of Qualifying Teams	16 September 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

PARTICULARS	DATE
Last date of payment of remaining amount [Qualified Teams only]	21 September 2023
Release of 1st Waiting List	22 September 2023
Last date of payment of remaining amount [Waitlisted Teams only from 1st Waiting List]	26 September 2023[23:59 IST]
Release of 2nd Waiting List	27 September 2023
Last date of payment of remaining amount [Waitlisted Teams only from 2nd Waiting List]	30 September 2023[23:59 IST]
Last date of receipt of Hardcopy Memorial	07 October 2023
Quarter Final Round + Semi Final Round [CAMPUS]	13 October 2023
Final Round + Valedictory Ceremony[CAMPUS]	14 October 2023

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. This document comprises the Rules and Regulations for the **1st Dr. K.L. Thakral National Moot Court Competition**.
2. The National Moot Court Competition is organized by the **Faculty of Law, Oriental University, Indore (M.P.)**.
3. The Competition is scheduled to be held on-
 - **14th September 2023 & 15th September 2023:**
Researcher's Test & Preliminary Round [Online]
 - **13th October 2023 & 14th October 2023:**
Quarter Final, Semi Final, and Final Round [Campus]
4. The Organizers shall be responsible for all administrative matters concerning the competition and shall publish and disseminate all necessary information to the participating teams.
5. The official email id for all the correspondence is **mootcourt@orientaluniversity.in**.

B. INTERPRETATION

Unless otherwise stated, the following shall be construed herein:

1. **“Organizer”** shall mean Faculty of Law, Oriental University, Indore.
2. **“Competition”** means 1st Dr. K.L. Thakral National Moot Court Competition, 2023.
3. **“Campus”** means the campus of Oriental University, Indore.

The address of the Campus is-

**Faculty of Law, Oriental University,
Opposite Revti Range, Gate No. 1,
Sanwer Road, Jakhya, Indore (M.P.)
Pin- 453555**

4. **“Participating Team”** means the team which has registered itself for the 1st Dr. K.L. Thakral National Moot Court Competition as per the rules given below.
5. **“Moot Court Society”** means the Moot Court Society of the Faculty of Law, Oriental University, Indore.
6. **“Participating College/University/Institution”** shall be presumed to be the parent institution of the Participating Team.
7. All the rules are only inclusive and not exhaustive for the competition.
8. The Competition shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations mentioned hereunder. Participants are required to comply with the rules and regulations prescribed herein. Any deviation thereof would attract disqualification or other penalties mentioned subsequently.
9. For all purposes and in any dispute, the decision of the Moot Court Society of the Faculty of Law, Oriental University shall be final and binding.

C. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. All students enrolled bona fide in an **undergraduate i.e., 3 years/ 5 years**, and **post-graduate law program** conducted by any college or university shall be eligible for participation in the competition.
2. Each College/University/Institution shall be allowed to register **only one team** in the competition.
3. The participating team shall comprise **a minimum of two and a maximum of three members**. In a team of two members, both members shall be designated as Speakers. In a team of three members, two members shall be designated as Speakers and the third member of the team shall be designated as a Researcher.
4. Any change in the composition of the team will not be entertained once the memorials have been submitted except in cases of medical emergencies or as per the discretion of the Organizer.

5. No additional student member is allowed to accompany the team. However, a team coach (Law Faculty) from the participating College/ University/ Institution may accompany the team. Additional accommodation charges will be applicable under such circumstances.

D. REGISTRATION

1 The teams may register themselves by filling out the following Google Form, latest by **21st August 2023 (23:59 IST)**.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceM18aazeV1YPpqGVnU5xdyWZhwryrv1euJWetkMBep5oBBA/viewform?usp=sf_link

2. Teams are required to duly fill out the registration form. Before filling out the registration form, the payment shall be made to the following UPI ID and a screenshot shall be uploaded in the Google form.



3. After successful registration and payment, the team will receive a confirmation mail. All further communication between the organizers and the team shall be done via email.

E. REGISTRATION FEES

1. The amount specified below is applicable to one team comprising 2/3 members.

PARTICULARS	AMOUNT
Registration for Competition (To be paid by each participating team)	INR 3,000
Accommodation Fees (To be paid by the Qualifying Teams only)	INR 4,500
Extra charges: Faculty Escort accompanying the team (if any)	INR 2,000

2. Participants shall adhere to the timeline with respect to registration and payments.
3. **The Registration Fee is non-refundable.**

F. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

The Moot Court Competition shall consist of the following **FOUR Oral Pleading Rounds and Researcher's Test.**

- **PRELIMINARY ROUND:**

To be conducted online via the Cisco WebEx platform on 15th September 2023.

- **QUARTERFINAL ROUND:**

To be conducted offline at the Campus of Oriental University, Indore (M.P.) on 13th October 2023.

- **SEMI-FINAL ROUND:**

To be conducted offline at the Campus of Oriental University, Indore (M.P.) on 13th October 2023.

- **FINAL ROUND:**

To be conducted offline at the Campus of Oriental University, Indore (M.P.) on 14th October 2023.

- **The Researcher's Test will be conducted online on 14th September 2023.**

G. ANONYMITY OF TEAMS

1. All teams that have duly registered will be allotted a team code after the expiry of the last date for the registration.
2. No team shall reveal their identity except by means of their team code during the course of the competition.
3. The memorials or any other materials (compendium, etc.) to be submitted shall not contain any sign, logo, name, etc. revealing the identity of the college/institution/university/team members.
4. Any violation with regard to anonymity shall be penalized in accordance with **Rule R**.
5. The decision of the Organizers shall be final and binding.

H. CLARIFICATION OF THE MOOT PROPOSITION

1. Participating Teams may request clarifications to the official moot problem by sending an email to mootcourt@orientaluniversity.in on or before **28th August 2023 (23:59 IST)**.
2. Requests for clarifications sent after the provided deadline shall not be entertained.
3. The clarifications, if any, will be reverted back to the participant via email only.

I. ACCOMMODATION, FOOD, AND TRANSPORTATION

1. Qualifying teams, on successful payment of the remaining fees, will be provided with accommodation at Campus Hostel from **12 pm on 12th October 2023 to 11 am on 15th October 2023**.

2. The participants shall be provided with:-

12th October 2023	Lunch, Evening Snack & Dinner
13th October 2023	Breakfast, Lunch, Evening Snack & Dinner
14th October 2023	Breakfast, Lunch, Evening Snack & Dinner
15th October 2023	Breakfast

3. The scheduled timeline of 2 days (13th and 14th October 2023) and coupons for breakfast, lunch, snacks, and dinner shall be given to the participants at the time of desk registration at the campus.

4. Please note that **no transportation facilities** will be provided to the participants from the railway station/ bus stand/ airport to the campus. The participants shall reach the campus on their own.

5. Changes, if any, to the above scheme shall be intimated to the participants.

6. The participants not opting for accommodation shall make sure that they strictly adhere to their reporting time paying special heed to the traffic conditions and campus location outside the city.

J. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

1. The official language of the Competition shall be English. All Rounds including the memorials shall be in English.

K. WRITTEN SUBMISSION

1. Each team is required to prepare Memorials (memorials) for both sides, i.e., the Claimant/Applicant and the Respondent.
2. The soft copy of the memorials shall be submitted in **PDF format** as well as in **Word format** via email at **mootcourt@orientaluniversity.in** on or before 11th September 2023 [23:59 IST]. Any submission made after the official date will be subjected to a penalty as per **Rule R.**
3. For the purpose of softcopy submission of memorials in PDF and Word format, the teams shall name the file in the following manner-
 - The file of the memorial on behalf of the Respondent as R accompanied by the team code and the file of the memorial on behalf of the petitioner as P accompanied by the team code. For example, for a team assigned a code of 05, the PDF and Word files for the respondent should be named “**R05**” and the PDF and Word files for the petitioner should be named “**P05**”.
 - Memorials for both sides (PDF and Word copies) must be submitted in the same email. The subject line should indicate team code only. For example, the subject line for Team 05 will read as follows: ‘Team 05 Memorials’. No other information revealing the identity should be included in the email.

- The cover page of the memorials, for both the soft and hard copies, shall clearly mention the word “A” for memorials on behalf of the Appellant, and the word “R” for memorials on behalf of the Respondent, followed by the team code for both the instances. It shall be clearly inscribed on the top right-hand corner of the cover page of the memorials. For example, if a team had been assigned a code of 05, the memorials submitted by such a team shall have “Team A05” and “Team R05” (Format of the Team Code) clearly marked on the top right-hand corner of the cover page of the respective memorials. Use of any other format (for example “Team 05A” or “Team 05R” or “T05A” or “T05P”) will be penalized.

4. The teams shall not disclose the identity of their University/Institution anywhere on the memorial. Violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification.

5. The memorials shall contain the following:-

- Cover page
- Table of Contents
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts (not exceeding two pages)
- Statement of Issues
- Summary of Arguments (not exceeding two pages)
- Arguments Advanced (not exceeding twenty pages)
- Relief (not exceeding one page)

6. No memorial shall exceed the maximum limit of 40 pages including the Arguments Advanced which shall not exceed 20 pages.

7. The formatting requirements for the memorial shall be as follows:

- Typed on Standard A4 Size Paper
- Font Type (including footnotes): Times New Roman
- Font Size: 12
- Spacing: 1.5
- Font Size for Footnotes: 10
- Spacing for Footnotes: 1.0
- Margin: 1-Inch margin on each side of the A4 Size page

8. The citations shall comply with the **Bluebook method of citation (20th Edition)**.

9. The footnotes shall include only relevant citations and any other explanatory or illustrative footnotes supporting the arguments shall not be included.

10. The numbering shall be on the bottom center of each page.

11. Each Memorial shall have only the following on its Cover Page:

- The team code on the top right-hand corner of the cover page
- The name and place of the forum
- The relevant legal provision under which it is filed
- Name of parties and their status
- On whose behalf the Memorial is filed

12. It is the responsibility of each Team to ensure that the softcopies of the memorials:

- Shall be opened and read with Adobe Acrobat Reader and Microsoft Word (through the use of compatibility mode) and do not contain any viruses;
- Shall be submitted as four (4) separate file attachments: two (2) as the memorials for the Petitioner(s) (one each in PDF and Microsoft Word (.docx/.doc) format) and two (2) as memorials for the Respondent(s) (one each in PDF and Microsoft Word (.docx/.doc) format);

- Shall be named according to the Team Code and the side for which the memorial is prepared. (For instance, Team 01 will name its Written Submission for the Appellant(s) as “A01 ” and Written Submission for the Respondent(s) as “R01”.) Use of any other format (for example “Team 01A” or “Team 01R”) will be penalized.
13. Hard Copy presentation of the Written Submission
- The hard copy of the memorials shall be spiral bound only.
 - The print shall be taken only on one side of the A4 sheet.
 - The cover page of the soft copies and hard copies of the memorials shall comply with the following color scheme:
 - Applicant(s)/Appellant(s)/Petitioner(s) – **Blue**
 - Respondent(s)/Defendant(s) – **Red**
 - Each **Qualified team** shall submit **4 hard copies (for each side i.e., a Total of 8 copies)** of such memorials on or before 7th October 2023, addressed to:

**The Registrar,
Faculty of Law, Oriental University,
Opposite Revti Range, Gate No. 1,
Sanwer Road, Jakhya, Indore (M.P.)
Pin- 453555**

- Delays caused by courier services shall not be considered by the Moot Court Society. Teams are required to send the soft copies and hard copies of the memorials well in time, taking all contingencies into account.
- The hard copies of the memorials must be identical to the soft copies of the memorials submitted by the Team. Any violation of this rule shall attract a penalty as determined by the Moot Court Society.
- Teams shall carry their own hard copies of their memorials for their personal use. No hard copies of memorials submitted by the Team to the Moot Court Society shall be provided to such Team for their personal use.

L. ORAL ROUNDS

1. General Rules-

- The competition will be held in two phases-

Phase-I: Preliminary Round & Researcher's Test [ONLINE]

Phase-II: Will be conducted over a period of 2 days and will comprise of three rounds-

i. Quarter Final Round

ii. Semi-Final Round

iii. Final Round

- The right of the teams to present rebuttals and sur rebuttals is at the sole discretion of the bench.
- For rebuttal and sur-rebuttal, only one speaker shall be allowed to present. The time reserved for rebuttal and sur-rebuttal cannot be divided between the speakers. Rebuttal time shall not be reserved beyond 3 minutes in Preliminary Round, 5 minutes in Quarter Final and Semi-final Round, and 10 minutes in Final Round.
- The researcher shall sit with the speakers during the oral rounds and at no point of time shall the researcher be allowed to speak or address the bench.
- The speakers can provide copies of the compendium, only if the same is permitted by the panel of judges in their respective courtrooms.
- Use of any electronic device during the course of the proceedings shall not be allowed, violation of the same shall attract a penalty as per **Rule R.**

2. PRELIMINARY ROUND-

- The preliminary round will be conducted online. The meeting link, timings, and other protocols with respect to the online preliminary round will be shared with the participants via email before 14th September 2023.
- Each Team shall appear from either the Applicant's side or the Respondent's side but the memorials shall be prepared for both the sides. The arguing side of the participant's team will be informed to them prior to the preliminary competition via email before 14th September 2023.

• Rules of the Oral Submissions-

1. Each team will get a total of 20 minutes to present their case. This time will include rebuttal and sur-rebuttal time. Exceeding the stipulated time will result in the deduction of marks.
2. The division of time per speaker is left to the discretion of the team subject to a lower limit of 5 minutes per speaker and an upper limit of 10 minutes per speaker.
3. The top eight teams decided on the basis of the cumulative score of oral rounds, and memorials shall qualify for the Quarter Final Round. In case two or more teams have the same cumulative score, their researchers' test scores shall be taken into consideration.

3. QUARTER FINAL/ SEMI-FINAL ROUND-

- The Quarter Final Round shall be a knock-out round.
- Draw of lots shall determine which two teams would face each other, as well as the side that shall be represented by each team.
- In case of a tie, the team with the higher memorial score will stand qualified for the semi-final round.

- The Semi-Final Round shall be a knock-out round. The draw of lots shall determine which two teams would face each other, as well as the side that shall be represented by each team.
- In case of a tie, the team with the higher memorial score will stand qualified for the final round.

- **Rules of the Oral Submissions-**

1. Each team shall get a total of 25 minutes in the Quarter Final Round and 40 minutes in the Semi-Final Round to present their case. This time will include rebuttal and sur-rebuttal time. Exceeding the stipulated time will result in the deduction of marks.
2. The division of time per speaker is left to the discretion of the team subject to a lower limit of 10 minutes per speaker and an upper limit of 15 minutes per speaker in the Quarter Final Round.
3. The division of time per speaker is left to the discretion of the team subject to a lower limit of 15 minutes per speaker and an upper limit of 25 minutes per speaker in the Semi-Final Round.

4. FINAL ROUND-

- The two teams qualifying from the Semi-Final Round shall compete in the final round.

- **Rules of the Oral Submissions-**

1. Each team will get a total of 60 minutes to present their case. This time will include rebuttal and sur-rebuttal time. Exceeding the stipulated time will result in the deduction of marks.
2. The division of time per speaker is left to the discretion of the team subject to a lower limit of 25 minutes per speaker and an upper limit of 35 minutes per speaker.

M. MEMORIAL EVALUATION

1. The memorials shall be evaluated on the following criteria:

CRITERIA	MARKS
Application and appreciation of facts	20
Structuring and presentation of arguments	20
Application of legal principles, authorities and precedents	20
Ingenuity and logical reasoning	20
Lucidity and writing skills	10
Footnoting and formatting	10
TOTAL	100

N. EXCHANGE OF MEMORIALS

1. There shall be an exchange of memorials between the respective opposing teams, in accordance with the fixtures as determined by draw of lots, prior to all the rounds of the Competition.
2. For the purpose of the Preliminary Round, the memorial of the opposing team will be sent to all the teams via email before 14th September 2023.
3. The participants are prohibited from making any marks on the exchanged Memorials.
4. The participants are prohibited from making any copies of the exchanged Memorials.

5. At the conclusion of their respective rounds, the participants are required to return the exchanged Memorials to the Organizers.

0. EVALUATION OF THE ORAL ROUNDS

1. The oral rounds shall be judged on the following criteria:

CRITERIA	MARKS
Knowledge of Law- Application of Legal Principles, Use of Authorities & Precedents	30
Application of Law to Facts	25
Ingenuity and Ability to Answer Questions	25
Style, Poise, Courtesy & Demeanour	10
Time Management & Organization	10
TOTAL	100

2. The evaluation of the total marks for each speaker shall be the average marks awarded by each judge.

P. COMPENDIUM

- 1.No Compendium is allowed in the Preliminary Round.
- 2.For the purpose of all the other rounds, the Compendium (if any) shall not reveal the name of the participating University/ Institution. These compendiums shall be provided to the judges before each hearing only if the judges allow.

Q. SCOUTING

- 1.Scouting shall be deemed to have happened if the speakers, researcher, or any other person affiliated with a team is found:
 - Witnessing, hearing, observing, etc. the oral submissions in a Round, except where the Round is one in which the team which he/she is affiliated is participating in; or
 - Reading a Memorial of a team except where: it is of the team to which he/she is affiliated; or the Memorials have been obtained on account of an exchange of Memorials before a Round of the team to which he/she is affiliated.
 - The participants shall not be allowed to observe the oral rounds of another team. Scouting is strictly prohibited.
 - Scouting by any participant shall entail instant disqualification.

R. PENALTIES AND VIOLATIONS

- 1.**Penalties for Violation of Personal Identity Disclosure:**
 - Any team member revealing their personal identity or the identity of their college/ university during the competition may face penalties.
 - Penalties may include the deduction of marks, disqualification of the team from the current round, or even disqualification from the entire competition.

2. Penalties for Solicitation of Other Teams:

- Any attempt by a team to solicit or influence other teams, either directly or indirectly, may result in a negative marking.
- Penalties may include deduction of marks, disqualification from the current round, or even disqualification from the entire competition.

3. Penalties for Using Unfair Means or Violating Competition Rules:

- Any team found using unfair means or violating any rule of the competition may face penalties.
- Penalties may include deduction of marks, disqualification from the current round, or disqualification from the entire competition, depending on the severity of the violation.

4. Penalties for Procedural, Oral Rounds, and Memorial Submission Violations:

- Failure to adhere to the prescribed time limits for oral arguments may result in negative markings for the team.
- Unauthorized interruptions, such as speaking out of turn, may lead to negative marking.
- Breach of the prescribed courtroom decorum, including disrespectful behavior towards the judges, opponents, or co-counsel, may result in penalties in the form of negative marking for the whole team or may also lead to disqualification.
- Failure to follow the prescribed formatting or submission guidelines for written memorials may lead to mark deductions.

5. Penalties for inadequate Legal knowledge:

- Presenting misleading or false information, misquoting legal authorities, or misrepresenting facts may lead to negative marking.
- Failure to respond to questions from the judges or inadequate knowledge of the case law or legal principles may lead to marks deduction.
- Lack of clarity, disorganized arguments, or failure to present a coherent legal analysis may result in point deductions.
- Violation of any ethical or professional conduct rules, such as using offensive language or disrespectful remarks, may lead to marks deduction or disqualification.

6. Overall Performance Evaluation:

- Judges may consider the overall quality of arguments, including legal research, presentation skills, persuasiveness, and professionalism.
- Penalties or negative markings may vary depending on the severity and frequency of the violations.
- The organizing committee reserves the right to disqualify a team in case of serious or repeated violations of the rules.

7. Discretion of the Organizers and Judges:

- The competition organizers and judges have the authority to impose negative marking, or disqualifications in case of any violation by a team.
- Their decisions regarding negative marking or disqualification are final and binding

8. Negative Marking Scheme For Written Submission:

S. NO.	VIOLATIONS	PENALTIES
1	Disclosure of team identity by any means	5 marks
2	Exceeding the page limit	1 mark per page
3	Violation of formatting rules	0.25 Mark for each violation
4	Delay in submission of memorial	2 marks for the first hour of delay, followed by 1 mark for every next hour.No memorial shall be accepted after 24 Hours of the deadline for memorial submission.

9. Negative Marking Scheme For Oral Submission:

S. NO.	VIOLATIONS	PENALTIES
1	Use of any internet sources/ inadequate legal citation during the Oral Rounds	2 marks (for each source/ citation)
2	Using unfair means/ breach in courtroom decorum/ disruptive behavior during Oral Rounds	Disqualification
3	Scouting/ Soliciting	Disqualification
4	Violation of Time Limits	2 marks for the first minute followed by 1 mark for each following minute.
5	Using any language other than English for arguments during Oral Rounds	1 mark

S. MISCELLANEOUS

1. The time split between the speakers must be communicated to the Timekeeper before the commencement of each Round. Once so informed, these timings shall not be changed.
2. The participants shall not disclose, in any manner whatsoever, for the entire duration of the Rounds, either their own individual identities or the identity of the institution that they represent, even if asked by the judges.
3. The participants can pass on the compendium of the sources they cite in their Memorials if permitted by the judges. The participants are required to inform the court clerks about the same in advance.
4. Delay in appearance for a round exceeding five minutes will render disqualification of the team for that round. In such a case, their opponent shall make their oral submissions ex parte.
5. If any one of the members of a team is notified or informed of any detail or information concerning the Competition, it shall be deemed as if the said team as a whole has been duly notified or informed.
6. The dress code to be adhered to for the duration of the Competition is- **Ladies: Black Western or Indian formals; Gentlemen: Black Western formals.**
7. The Proposition neither intends nor attempts to resemble any incident or any person, living or dead. Any such resemblance is purely coincidental. The Proposition is a fictitious factual account prepared for the purpose of the present Competition only and it does not attempt to influence or predict the outcome of any matter whatsoever.
8. The Organizers reserve the right to alter the rules and regulations during the course of the competition which shall be promptly communicated to the participating teams.

9. The Organizers shall have the **copyright in the memorials**. The Organizers shall not be responsible for any loss caused to any person or institution by virtue of any content in the memorials.

10. The right of audio and videotaping including any other form of such reproduction, or any part thereof, of the oral submissions in all rounds of the competition shall vest with the Organizers.

11. Any complaints with regard to any participating team or conduct of the competition shall be made to the Organizers in written form.

12. The Organizers reserve the right to interpret the Rules and Regulations of the competition and such interpretation shall be final and binding.

13. The Organizers shall have the discretion to decide with regard to any subject that has not been covered under the Rules and any such decision shall be final and binding.

14. The certificates for the participating teams shall be posted via Indian Postal Service within one month of the completion of the competition at their university's address. The Certificates of the other qualifying teams who will be visiting the campus for quarter, semi and final rounds shall be presented to them at the valedictorian.

T. Prize Money

WINNERS	Rs. 20,000 + Certificate Course on Insurance Fraud Investigation + Internship opportunity on Forensic Analysis of Evidences at Code F Solutions
RUNNER UPS	Rs. 10,000 + Internship opportunity on Forensic Analysis of Evidences at Code F Solutions
BEST SPEAKER	Rs. 5,000 + Internship opportunity on Forensic Analysis of Evidences at Code F Solutions
BEST RESEARCHER	Rs. 5,000 + Internship opportunity on Forensic Analysis of Evidences at Code F Solutions
BEST MEMORIAL	Rs. 5,000 + Internship opportunity on Forensic Analysis of Evidences at Code F Solutions

*Certificate Course worth Rs. 2499/- per student.

*Internship costing Rs. 3499/- per student.



MOOT PROBLEM



The Case of Internet Censorship and Fundamental Rights

Background:

The **Indiana Constitution** guarantees fundamental rights, including the **right to freedom of speech and expression (Article 19)** and the **right to privacy (Article 21)**. These rights play a crucial role in upholding democratic values and protecting individual liberties. In this moot court problem, the court will examine a case involving the alleged violation of **Article 19** and **Article 21** of the **Indiana Constitution**.

Facts of the Case:

The Central Government of Indiana, under **section 87 of the Information Technology Act, 2000** established a statutory/regulatory body, called the **Internet Content Regulatory Authority (ICRA)**, to monitor and regulate online content. The **ICRA** was granted broad powers to restrict, block, remove, or even modify online content that it deems objectionable or harmful to the public interest.

Several social media influencers, journalists, and advocacy groups challenge the constitutionality of these regulations. Mr. Ravi Teja, a social media activist, alleged that the **ICRA's** regulations violate their fundamental rights to freedom of speech and expression and the right to privacy.



The petitioner argued that the regulations grant excessive discretionary power to the **ICRA**, leading to the arbitrary restriction of online content and chilling the exercise of their fundamental rights. He alleged that the regulations lack adequate safeguards and transparency, thereby infringing upon the principles of democracy and individual liberties.

Mr. Teja also alleged that new regulations impinge upon their right to freedom of speech and expression, as they grant the **ICRA** unchecked powers to restrict and edit online content without proper legal scrutiny.

The petitioner also alleged that the regulations lack adequate procedural safeguards, transparency, and an effective mechanism for redressal, resulting in the arbitrary and disproportionate restriction of online content. The broad discretionary powers granted to the **ICRA** pose a threat to democracy, as they allow for the suppression of dissenting voices and stifle the free flow of information and ideas.

The Government asserted that the new regulations aim to regulate online content and protect the public interest, such as preventing hate speech, incitement to violence, and the spread of misinformation.

The regulations are necessary to address the challenges posed by the digital realm and ensure the responsible use of online platforms. The establishment of the **ICRA** is a step towards effective content regulation, as it allows for better coordination and prompt action in addressing objectionable online content.



Issues to be Considered:

- Do the new regulations enacted by the Central Government of India infringe upon the fundamental rights to freedom of speech and expression (Article 19) and the right to privacy (Article 21)?
- Does the establishment of the ICRA with broad powers violate the principles of reasonableness and proportionality in restricting online content?
- Are the new regulations consistent with the principles of democracy and individual liberties?



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