## Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights, Alliance School of Law

# Guest Lecture Report: Jurisprudence in the Contemporary Era



Alliance School of Law,
Alliance University, Bangalore
Submitted report on 26-02-2024

Jurisprudence in the Contemporary Era

Guest Lecture was conducted by the **Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights**,

### Profile of the speaker



**Prof.** (Dr.), Sudesh. Vasudeva the Dean and Head, University Law College, Jnana Bharathi, Bangalore University. Bangalore.

Date: 22nd February, 2024

**Venue**: Seminar Hall – III, 3rd floor, Learning Centre

Centre for constitution and human rights

**Time:** 10.30AM TO 12.30 PM

**Topic**: "Jurisprudence in the Contemporary Era"

#### Introduction

On the 22nd of February 2024, an intellectually stimulating Guest Lecture on "Jurisprudence in the Contemporary Era" was held at Seminar Hall III, 3rd floor, Learning.

The lecture was graced by the esteemed presence of Prof. (Dr.) Sudesh Vasudeva, the Dean and Head of University Law College, Jnana Bharathi, Bangalore University. This report aims to describe the primary themes and scope of the discussion that took place during this fascinating session.

#### **Overview of the Lecture**

The lecture commenced with an introduction by **Dr. V. Shyam Kishore Professor & Dean of Alliance School of Law**, highlighting the imperative need for jurisprudence in the contemporary era.

This was followed by Prof. Vedashree introduction of Dr. Sudesh V, emphasizing his notable contributions to the field of law and legal education.



#### **Philosophical Foundations**

**Dr. Sudesh V.** initiated the lecture by emphasizing the **need to reconstruct and fortify human values through higher education**. bringing attention to how important it is for teachers and educational institutions to establish the foundation for jurisprudence. He posited that jurisprudence serves as the bedrock of law and order, providing a philosophical underpinning to legal systems. The discussion delved into the **inherent diversity and beauty of jurisprudence**, **which is not derived from a singular authority but encompasses various philosophical schools.** He addressed the challenges that emerge from the various and philosophical nature of jurisprudence, which frequently interacts with real-life scenarios like same-sex marriage and women's rights. He emphasized that jurisprudence, while not binding in courts, serves as a guiding principle for legislation, especially in empowering marginalized groups.

#### **Multidisciplinary Nature and Contemporary Challenges**

The lecture traversed through the philosophical underpinnings of jurisprudence, illustrating its relevance in addressing contemporary dilemmas such as women's rights, same-sex marriage, and ethical conundrums like the commodification of the human body in surrogacy arrangements. Dr. Sudesh V. underscored the interdisciplinary nature of law, citing examples from the Ananda Chakraborty case and the challenges posed by artificial intelligence (AI) in the private sector.





#### **Evolution and Interpretation of Law**

The lecture described how laws have developed from their early discovery to their current interpretation based on a variety of scientific and cultural viewpoints. Dr. Sudesh V. pointed out how jurisprudence is dynamic, evolving, and giving society norms a sense of purpose. He distinguished between Eastern and Western jurisprudence, highlighting the cultural nuances that shape legal frameworks.

#### **Practical Application and Writing Judgments**

The lecture reflected on the practical application of jurisprudence in day-to-day legal proceedings, such as criminal cases and family jurisprudence. Dr. Sudesh V. addressed concerns regarding the decline in writing quality among present-day lawyers and judges, advocating for a multidisciplinary approach to enhance writing and critical thinking skills. He recommended literature, including Richard Ponser's "Problems of Jurisprudence," as a means to cultivate analytical prowess.

#### **Student Engagement and Questions**

The session fostered vibrant interactions between students and Dr. Sudesh V., with students posing thought-provoking inquiries on topics ranging from the legal implications of AI-powered autonomous weapons to the ethical dimensions of surrogacy.

#### The questions raised by students

- 1. where does the legal liability stand concerning Autonomous Weapon Systems (AWS) and their attack on non-combatants in war and conflict? (focus on Israel-Palestine conflict)
- 2. personal views on surrogacy?
- 3. The development of medical jurisprudence should be used for good purposes not for exploitation which can be seen in commercial surrogacy, views of speaker?
- 4. In a secular country all religions should be respected as in a multi-religious country, is it difficult to tackle people's interests and laws?
- 5. It is said that the purpose of the law is to serve justice but especially in India where there is so much delay in the disposal of cases, justice is delayed and as it is said justice delayed is

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- denied, So till the time judgment is delivered, the destruction is already done. (rape example) So how to tackle this?
- 6. Why rape is not gender-neutral?
- 7. As it is said that fundamental rights in the constitution are natural rights of the person but there are various laws which are prima facie in violation of these rights. So why does it take so much time to strike them down?
- 8. Need to change in the punishment system in heinous crime cases like in camera proceedings to avoid the accused full as prey to the system despite acquittal?

Dr. Sudesh V. adeptly navigated these queries, elucidating the subjective nature of jurisprudence and the importance of critical inquiry in legal discourse.





#### Conclusion

The Guest Lecture on "Jurisprudence in the Contemporary Era" provided invaluable insights into the evolving nature of law and its intersection with diverse disciplines. Dr. Sudesh V.'s erudite discourse and engaging interactions with students underscored the importance of critical inquiry and interdisciplinary perspectives in navigating the complexities of contemporary legal issues.

He concluded with the point that,

"Jurisprudence is the tonic to your Brain" Bring all thoughts to your mind but do not stagnate them.

#### **Vote of Thanks**

Prof. Mamata, extended a heartfelt vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to Dr. Sudesh V. for his enlightening lecture and to all attendees for their active participation and thoughtful contributions.





Report by
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