



III BENNETT NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2021

Regulatory Concerns Regarding OTT Platforms



 **Organized by:**
Moot Court Committee, School of Law

 **Date:**
5-7 February, 2021

 **Venue:**
Microsoft Teams

ABOUT BENNETT UNIVERSITY

Bennett University has been established by the 'Times Group', India's largest media conglomerate through Act No. 24 of 2016 passed by the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The University at present offers unique interdisciplinary and contemporary courses through its Schools of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Management, Law and Media & Liberal Arts. In addition, the University has also established the Centres for Innovation & Entrepreneurship and External Relation & Executive Education; Centre for Law, technology, and Innovation; Centre for Post Graduate Studies; and Centre for Social Sciences. Bennett University as part of its plan to excel as the frontline multi-and inter-disciplinary University has established partnerships with Cornell Law School, Johnson Cornell University, Babson College, Georgia Institute of Technology, EDX.org, Coursera and will collaborate with leading knowledge players in the world.



ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF LAW

Bennett University established the School of Law with a vision to strive for excellence in teaching, research and advocacy towards Justice for all by shaping thought leaders in public policy of National and International dimensions. The school at present is offering B.A.LL.B. (Hons.); B.B.A.LL.B. (Hons.); 3 years LLB (Hons) ; and PhD courses and imbibes the best practices of national and international law schools in terms of curriculum, pedagogy, innovation in teaching methods and to add new interfaces addressing emerging new issues. Invested and promoted by the largest media enterprise, which is a natural ally in voicing people's rights has envisaged this school to educate and train the future pioneers.

Legal education is no exception to the general criticism on the chasm between theory and practice. Redefining, reforming and reshaping such gaps for a seamless integration of theory and practice are the hallmark of progress. Keeping this need in mind, Bennett University not just added another law, but intends to establish a law school with best national and international practices in pedagogy, and strives to provide an innovative and intellectual environment to indulge in critical thinking and learning. The School of Law, Bennett University is a knowledge space not only to acquire a professional degree but also to shape the compassionate individual under the professional robe.

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Law and Technology have often shared a unique relationship. Not only does law seek to govern various operational aspects in the usage of technology, it has also used technology for the purposes of its implementation. Technological advancements have often posed various challenges to law which the latter is frequently struggling with.

One such prominent and important area in which this struggle has manifested itself is the emergence and popularity of OTT Platforms. OTT platforms have spread their wings to encompass all genres of entertainment, that provide various interesting and appealing entertainment for all generations. In 2020, the worldwide COVID Pandemic resulted in the exponential increase in the subscription and demand for OTT Platforms. They proved to be the most popular and best mode of entertainment for everyone during the pandemic period. OTT platforms provided a space for the producers, artists, story-tellers to showcase their talent, however regulations on the content shown on OTT platforms is a major concern which gives rise to major legal questions.

The School of Law, Bennett University is conducting its third National Moot Court Competition from February 5 to 7, 2021 which revolves around this theme of law and technology focusing on the Regulatory Concerns Regarding OTT Platforms. The Moot Court Competition aims to dwell upon this relationship between Law and Technology and its implication on the legal system.

THE MOOT PROPOSITION HAS BEEN DRAFTED BY ADV. PULKIT AGARWAL, ADVOCATE ON RECORD, SUPREME COURT OF INDIA WHO OFTEN DEALS WITH THE INTERFACE BETWEEN TECHNOLOGY AND LAW.

MOOT PROPOSITION

FACTS

- 1 The Democratic Republic of Kromlic is a country with 1.6 billion population. The elected government at Kromlic opened its economy for foreign players in various fields which led to technological revolution in the past 5 years. Consequently, smartphone reached the hands of maximum citizens of Kromlic and the telecom operators also started providing bulk internet data to its users at cheap rates in the highly competitive market.
- 2 The scope of public internet grew over the decades. It allowed a telecom subscriber to access almost all the services required for information, education, and entertainment etc. It altogether redefined the conventional marketplace. Even personalized services, such as a taxi ride could be accessed on a person's fingertips. This growth also brought about a fundamental shift in other spheres including telecom and TV. Earlier, networks used to be built around specific applications, say voice, internet, or Pay TV. But what followed technological revolution in Kromlic was a rapid proliferation of voice, video and Over-the-top ("OTT") application services being delivered over networks.
- 3 Based on the kind of service which were provided in Kromlic, there were basically three types of OTT applications:(i) Messaging and voice services (Communication services);(ii) Application eco-systems (mainly non-real time), linked to social networks, e-commerce; and (iii) Video / audio content.
- 4 While films in Kromlic were required to follow certification rules under the Cinematography Act 1952 and broadcasters of programs on television at Kromlic are required to adhere to the Program Code and the Advertising Code, the owners of web series, films and other content exhibited only online or on digital OTT platforms (such as Coldmoon, Amflix, Netazon etc) were free from the hassles of censorship or any code, subject to provisions of the Information Technology Act, 2000 (the "IT Act") of Kromlic. This position was confirmed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of Kromlic wherein it stated that the Central Board of Film Certification of Kromlic solely certifies films for theatrical release and has no control over online content.

This allowed OTT Platforms in Kromlic to showcase any kind of content which was earlier either not approved by the Censor Board of Kromlic or approved only with age appropriate certification due to various reservations. On the one hand, Producers enjoyed the unrestricted creative freedom guaranteed through OTT Platforms and it generated a lot of viewership but on the other hand, there were mixed reviews about the content being overtly indulgent in violence, obscenity and seditious content.

- 5 Due to outbreak of COVID-19, all the cinema halls and amusement centres such as parks, auditoriums, theatres, sports stadiums etc in every state of Kromlic were shut down to prevent the spread of pandemic. The citizens of Kromlic in search of entertainment were not left with any other option but to watch movies, web series, stand-up comedy gigs on internet and mostly on OTT platforms. This increased the popularity and viewership of content at OTT platforms to such a level that every OTT platform registered huge increase in subscription by people of Kromlic thereby generating huge revenues. This encouraged OTT platforms in Kromlic and they started production of original content at Kromlic investing huge sums of money.
- 6 The popular OTT Platform ColdMoon came up with a unique idea of one of its kind of a reality show in the form of web series whereby the lifestyle of 12 influential elite families of Omaxe, the national capital of Kromlic were to be shown and the entire shooting was to be done via drones. The show was decided to be produced by Coldmoon itself. A contract was entered into by each and every member of the 12 participating families whereby the consent to shoot everyday events of their life was granted to the producers at Coldmoon. The contract also provided that the entire content arising out of shooting shall belong to the producers and the producers shall have the sole liberty to showcase the web series in the cinematographic set which they deem fit for the storyline they wish to create and showcase to the audience.
- 7 After commencement of shooting, the shooting went on for 6 months and recorded various events, outings, discussions, interactions, and opinions of the families in their day to day life. The promotional trailer of the web series was released before the premiere of the show, one Mr Yuzi realised that some shots in the promo are from a private bachelors party organised on his terrace and the guests at his party did not have the knowledge that they were on camera.
- 8 The bachelor party was privately hosted by Mr. Yuzi for his friend and it was attended by around 50 guests, all adult men and some female provocative dancers were also invited to entertain guests at the party. The drone captured the entire party and Mr Yuzi realised that some private moments of a few guests could be a part of the finally edited show which is likely to air on screen of the OTT Platform next week.
- 9 Mr Yuzi also realised that if his private party is showcased on screen to public at large then it would hamper his reputation because a lot of dirty language, curses, language that objectified women etc. was being used at the party. Mr Yuzi wanted to maintain his image as that of a 'Family Man' and feels that the 'party' was outside the scope of the contract signed with the producers wherein he had agreed for shooting his 'family time' and the party was his private event.

- 10 The fact that the drone had been shooting the families and their actions even outside their knowledge, alerted the rest of the families as well. One Mr. Bizi, who owns the biggest export house in the country realized that his only son who is 15 years old has been in the habit of consumption of herbal and synthetic drugs and it is possible that this has been caught on camera as well. He must not take any risks with the reputation of his son as he is the sole heir to his business empire.
- 11 Mrs. Ponri and Mrs. Wedy have thrown parties and organized religious gatherings wherein they have made personal remarks attacking the only family following Sorti Religion in the show- The Sortikars, a very politically connected and influential family residing at the capital. They feel that if such content is aired, it will hurt the religious sentiments of the Sortikars and other members of the religious community and could potentially lead to communal hatred and riots.
- 12 In the meanwhile, people shot clips from the portion showing the party in the promo wherein Mr. Yuzi is seen in an objectionable position with a woman and started circulating it and creating memes on social media such as Bookface, WhyApp etc., thus attacking his reputation and defaming him.
- 13 A famous stand-up comedian Ms Xo with a fan following of more than 1 million on social media platform claimed that she had performed a private stand-up comedy gig at the terrace of Mr Yuzi on that night and the theatrical trailer showcases a punchline of one of her jokes on which she claims her copyright as her entire content is her brainchild. Ms Xo approaches Mr Yuzi to ensure that Coldmoon does not use her content.
- 14 Mr Yuzi approached the producer OTT Platform Coldmoon seeking removal of party scenes from the promo and, also demanded complete exclusion of party scenes from the web series stating reasons of privacy apart from written apology. However, Coldmoon rejected the suggestion of Mr Yuzi on behest of the contract signed by Mr Yuzi. Coldmoon also stated that the content shot by drone belonged entirely to producers and Mr Yuzi had no rights over the same.
- 15 Mr Yuzi, miffed at the decision of Coldmoon approached the High Court of Omaxe seeking interim stay on the further circulation of the promo of web series; permanent injunction on release of the web series until the dispute is resolved; regulation of content of the OTT platforms by the government of Kromlic thereby framing appropriate laws for the same; Coldmoon be held liable for defamation caused to the image of Mr Yuzi and compensation for infringement of his privacy accorded with written apology. At this stage, the other families along with Ms Xo approach him to join as parties against the Producers, also praying that the show should be shelved as it has violated their privacy.
- 16 The Government of Kromlic stated before the High Court that it has received unofficial complaints from numerous citizens that a lot of obscene and uncivilised culture is depicted on the OTT platforms but the government cannot censor the content of the OTT Platforms. The Government pleader also stated that the online content, as it stands today, appears to be unbridled and the creators of such content are exercising their creative liberties to the fullest only because there

exists no regulatory framework categorically setting out the manner of censorship or certification of the online content or guidelines outlining dos and don'ts for the creators of online content. The Government of Kromlic apprised the High Court that Sections 67A, 67B and 67C of the Information Technology Act of Kromlic provided for penalty and imprisonment for publishing or transmitting obscene material, sexually explicit material and also material depicting children in sexually explicit acts, in electronic form. Additionally, provisions of the Kromlic Penal Code, 1860 ("IPC") are also applicable to the OTT platforms which criminalizes dissemination of defamatory content.

17 In addition to the above, the counsel for the Government of Kromlic also made suggestions to include online content explicitly within the ambit of the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, which currently prohibits indecent representation of women in advertisements, books, films, paintings, and writings etc.

18 The OTT platform Coldmoon vehemently denied all the averments of Mr Yuzi and the Government of Kromlic in the entirety. Coldmoon contented that Presently in Kromlic, the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), as per the Cinematograph Act, 1952, is a body for certification of films only for public theatre audience. Also known as the Censor Board, it certifies a movie for public viewing based on the content and whether it is in contrary to the national interest, morality, and decency. In complete contrast to films and other traditional mediums, there is no regulation of digital content and thus Coldmoon cannot be prevented from showcasing the web series as per its content and the entire copyright of the content also belonged to Coldmoon being the producers. Coldmoon being an OTT service provider does not fall under the ambit of intermediaries under the IT Act, and therefore did not require a licence from the Ministry was also a ground raised before the High Court. The reliance on Article 19 of Constitution of Kromlic was placed by counsel for OTT platform.

19 The High Court of Judicature at Omaxe passed a landmark verdict in itself regarding the OTT Platforms with far reaching impact on all the operating existing OTT platforms in Kromlic as well. The High Court held that prima facie such content related to the party of Mr Yuzi showing female dancers in bachelor party objectifies women and portrays them in a bad light, hence making them susceptible to indecent thoughts and hampering their fundamental right to life and therefore the available content is uncertified, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, and legally restricted. They remarked that the show could potentially have more content which is likely to spread communal hatred, influence children into taking drugs and other content which may also be seditious.

20 The High Court held that films, serials, and other multimedia content being transmitted, broadcasted, or exhibited through internet platforms and online streaming platforms like Coldmoon, Amflix, Netazon can be regulated under the Cinematograph Act, 1952.

21 The High Court also held that these OTT players should be brought under the definition of intermediaries of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and be held liable for offences under Sections 67, 67A, and 67B of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

22 The High Court also recommended for setting up of pre-screening committees before the content is put up on digital OTT platforms.

23 The High Court ordered the government to consider constituting an interdisciplinary committee to scrutinize the regulatory frameworks for online broadcasting and content on OTT Platforms.

24 The judgment had far reaching impact on all the other OTT platforms as well. All the OTT platform players made a consortium and decided to challenge the High Court's impugned order in a Special Leave Petition before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Kromlic under Article 136 of Constitution of Kromlic read with Article 142 of Constitution of Kromlic.

25 The major question of law made by the Consortium of OTT Platforms of Kromlic is that whether the broadcasting of content on such digital streaming platforms exceeds the reasonable restrictions under Article 19 Clause 2? The other questions of law being the ownership of copyright of the content of the OTT Platforms, how much interference can be provided by the Government of Kromlic etc.

26 In an attempt to avert censorship concerns, the online streaming platforms contended that in February 2021 after the impugned judgment of the High Court, the OTT platforms have signed a code of best practice and adhered to this self-regulatory code regarding non-exhibition of any sort of content which they believe depicts hatred or disrespect towards religious sentiments and national interests. The objective of this code is to empower consumers to make informed choices on age-appropriate content and protect the interests of consumers in choosing and accessing the content they want to watch, at their own time and convenience.

27 The OTT platforms have also mentioned in their Special Leave Petition before the Supreme Court that the constitutional conventions are deviating towards a liberal establishment, and in lieu of offences related to the content, with Article 19 being principally active, these reasonable restrictions are being seen as extraordinary constraints.

28 The Government of Kromlic also added further questions of law before the Supreme Court that whether the OTT platforms have led to the creation of another class of broadcasters and if the same rules as cable operators shall be applicable to them in terms of display of content? The other question of law being that if the OTT platforms' content can be brought under regulation, on the lines applicable for print and electronic media?

29 The Supreme Court of Kromlic has granted leave to appeal on the Special Leave Petition filed by the Association of OTT Platforms of Kromlic against the Union of Kromlic & Mr Yuzi leaving open all the questions of law and contentions to be advanced by the contesting parties at the time of final arguments.

30 Note: The Democratic Republic of Kromlic has adopted the Constitution of India verbatim and all the laws and regulations including the prevailing circumstances as in India shall be squarely applicable to Kromlic verbatim. All the statutes cited for Kromlic may be read and applied verbatim as per the Indian statutes and all the sections of every law in India are open inter alia ambit of question of law.

NOTE - The moot proposition has been drafted by Adv. Pulkit Agarwal, Advocate on Record, Supreme Court of India. Any attempt to contact the said person for the purposes of the moot proposition on or before the competition dates shall result in immediate disqualification from the competition.



COMPETITION RULEBOOK

Administration and conduct of the competition.

- The Bennett University, 3rd National Moot Court Competition 2021 is administered by the Bennett University National Moot Court Competition Organizing Committee (hereinafter 'Organizing Committee').
- There is a limit of 32 teams for the Competition.
- The Competition will be held from the 5th to the 7th of February 2021.
- Oral and written submissions shall be in the English language only.
- The competition will include two preliminary oral rounds and advanced rounds i.e. Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Finals. There will be no memorial elimination round.
- Dress Code: Participants shall strictly adhere to the following Dress Code:-
Men
Black Formal Coat, White Shirt, Black Tie, Black Formal Pants, White Socks, Black Formal Shoes
Women
a. Black Formal Coat, White Shirt, Black Tie, Black Formal Pants, Black Formal Shoes
b. Black Formal Coat, White Shirt, Black Tie, Black Executive Skirt, Black Formal Shoes
c. Black Formal Coat, White Long Kurta, White Salwar, White Dupatta, Black Formal Shoes

Eligibility

Only regular students enrolled in a five-year integrated undergraduate law programme or three-year graduate law programme are eligible to register for the competition.

Each team shall consist of two speakers and one researcher. Teams are to notify which members are the respective speakers and researcher. No change of speaker to researcher or vice-versa shall be permitted except upon application to the Organizing Committee.

Registration and fee

Teams shall register for the competition on or before **23:59 Hours 25th December 2020** by sending an email with the subject 'Registration for Bennett National Moot Court Competition 2021' to bnmcc@bennett.edu.in after completing the online registration form.

The registration fee for the competition is Rs. 4,000/- (Rupees Four Thousand Only) per team.

The registration fee must be paid through NEFT payment mode and the scanned copy of the transaction receipt of the same must be sent in the registration email mentioned in clause (a) above. The following are the details of the bank account for payment of the registration fee-

Name of the Bank and Brank	HDFC Bank, Sector Omega I/P2
Account Name	Bennett University
Account Number	50200022532364
IFSC Code	HDFC0002845

A scanned copy of the Bona-fide Certificate of the Head of the Institution/Principal/Head of the Department/Dean certifying the team consisting of the three members are bona fide students of the respective institution is to be uploaded through the online registration form.

Teams will be assigned a team code after registration. All communication thereafter will be through the team codes and teams are not to mention any other details to the Organizing Committee till the completion of the competition.

Memorials

Each registered team will submit one memorial on behalf of the petitioners and one memorial on behalf of the respondents. Soft copies of the memorials must be submitted to bnmcc@bennett.edu.in no later than 23:59 Hours on 24th January 2021 with the subject of the email as "Memorial Submission - (Team Code). The memorial files should be either in .doc, .docx or .pdf formats with the file names as Team code- Party. For eg:- BU00I-PET or BU00I-RES.

Memorial Format

- I. The memorial shall not exceed 40 pages excluding the cover page.
- II. The color of the cover page must be Blue in case of petitioners and Red in case of respondents.
- III. The pages of the memorial must be typed on separate A4 size pages (i.e. printed on one side only) and spiral bound.
- IV. **Formatting of the contents of the memorial:**
 1. **Main Text**
 - a. Font Type: Times New Roman
 - b. Font Size: 12
 - c. 1.5 line Spacing
 - d. Margins: 1 inch on each side.

2. For Footnotes

- a. Font Type: Times New Roman
- b. Font Size: 10
- c. Single (1) line spacing

- V. Teams shall cite authorities in the memorial with footnotes following a uniform system of citation.
- VI. Pages should be numbered at the bottom and spaced in middle of each page of the memorial.

Memorial Content

- I. Cover Page
- II. Table of Contents
- III. List of Abbreviations
- IV. Index of Authorities/List of References
- V. Statement of Jurisdiction
- VI. Statement of Facts (not exceeding 3 pages)
- VII. Statement of Issues
- VIII. Summary of Arguments (not exceeding 4 pages)
- IX. Arguments Advanced (not exceeding 25 pages)
- X. Prayer (Not exceeding 1 page)

Additional details regarding the memorials

- I. Teams are strictly prohibited from mentioning their personal details anywhere in the memorial.
- II. After submission of memorials, no revision, supplements or additions shall be allowed.
- III. Teams must strictly adhere to the mentioned structural format.
- IV. **The Title/Cover page shall include:**
 1. The Team Code on the upper right-hand corner of the cover page
 2. The name and place of the forum
 3. The relevant legal provision under which it is filed
 4. Name of the parties and their status
 5. Memorial Filed on Behalf of Petitioners/Respondents
 6. Counsel Appearing on Behalf of Petitioners/Respondents

V. The criteria for evaluation of memorials is as follows:-

WRITTEN MEMORIALS	
Criteria	Marks
Knowledge of facts and law	20
Extent of legal research	30
Proper and articulate analysis	30
Grammar and style	10
Format and citation techniques	10
Total	100

Researcher's test

Researcher's Test will be held on 5th February 2021. The test will consist of multiple-choice questions based on the moot proposition and relevant legal provisions. Only the researcher in each team is permitted to participate in the Researcher's Test.

Oral rounds

- I. The oral rounds will be virtual and platform would be decided in due course of time.
- II. The oral rounds will consist of preliminary rounds followed by the quarter- final, semi-final and final rounds on a knockout basis.
- III. The petitioners will first submit their arguments, followed by the respondents. Both rebuttals and sur- rebuttals are allowed.
- IV. The draw of lots for the preliminary rounds and exchange of memorials will be held following the Inauguration Ceremony on 5th February 2021.
- V. Each team will get a total of 30 minutes to present their case during the rounds followed by three minutes per team for a rebuttal or sur-rebuttal.
- VI. Rebuttals and sur-rebuttals are limited to issues raised in the arguments raised during the oral rounds by the opponent teams.
- VII. Teams can choose the division of time per speaker at their discretion. However, each speaker must speak for a minimum of twelve minutes.
- VIII. Oral arguments are limited to issues disclosed in the moot proposition.
- IX. Teams may submit a compendium of cases, scholarly articles and papers and statutory provisions to support their arguments during the oral rounds.

- X. Use of any electronic gadget is not permitted during oral rounds.
- XI. There will be two preliminary rounds on 6th February 2021 wherein each team shall argue for the petitioners and respondents.
- XII. The top eight teams from the preliminary rounds on the basis of preliminary rounds won and combined scores in the said rounds will qualify for the quarter-finals to be held on 6th February 2021. There will be a draw of lots for the quarter-finals after announcing the qualifying teams.
- XIII. The winner of each round in the quarter-finals will qualify for the semi- finals to be held on 7th February 2021. The draw of lots for the semi-finals will take place following the declaration of results of the quarter final rounds.
- XIV. The winner of each round of the semi-finals will qualify for the finals. The winner of the finals will be declared the winner of the competition.
- XV. The criteria for the oral arguments is as follows:-

ORAL ROUNDS	
Criteria	Marks
Knowledge of facts and law	20
Ability to answer the court's queries	25
Use of authorities	25
Court mannerism	10
Time management	10
Effective rebuttals and sur-rebuttals	10
Total	100

Plagiarism and scouting

Plagiarism and scouting of any manner are strictly prohibited and teams or any member thereof found indulging in the same shall be disqualified from further participating in the competition. The decision of the Organizing Committee regarding plagiarism and scouting will be final.

Prizes and awards/criteria

Winning Team	Runner-Up Team
Awarded Rs. 40,000/- and Trophy	Awarded Rs. 25,000/- and Trophy

Best Researcher

The best researcher male will be awarded **Rs. 5,000 (Rupees Five Thousand Only)** and Trophy and the best researcher female will be awarded **Rs. 5,000 (Rupees Five Thousand Only)** and Trophy. This award is given to the researchers scoring the highest marks in the Researchers' Test.

Best Speaker

The best speaker male will be awarded **Rs. 5,000 (Rupees Five Thousand Only)** and Trophy and the best speaker female will be awarded **Rs. 5,000 (Rupees Five Thousand Only)** and Trophy. This award is given to the speakers scoring the highest points in the preliminary rounds.

Best Memorial

The best memorial for petitioner will be awarded **Rs. 7,500 (Rupees Seven Thousand Five Hundred Only)** and Trophy and the best memorial for respondent will be awarded **Rs. 7,500 (Rupees Seven Thousand Five Hundred Only)** and Trophy. This award is given to the teams scoring the highest points for the petitioner and respondent memorials.

Anonymity

During the oral rounds of the competition teams shall refrain from disclosing their personal names or the name of their home institution.

Disputes and Clarifications

Regarding the results of the competition, the decision of the judges and the Organizing Committee is final.

Any clarifications regarding the problem may be mailed to bnmcc@bennett.edu.in on or before January 2nd, 2021 with the email subject 'Request for Clarifications'. These clarifications will be answered by January 2nd, 2021 in the form of a clarification note to all the registered teams.

SCHEDULE

Time	Particulars	Venue
Day I: February 5, 2021		
16:00 to 17:30	Inauguration of the III Bennett National Moot Court Competition 2021	Microsoft Teams, Facebook
17:30 to 18:30	Draw of Lots & Exchange of Memorials	Microsoft Teams
18:30 to 19:30	Researcher's Test	
Day II: February 6, 2021		
9.30 to 10.30	Judges' Briefing	Microsoft Teams
10:30 to 11:45	Preliminary Round - I	Microsoft Teams
11:45 to 12:15	Break	
12:15 to 13:30	Preliminary Rounds - II	Microsoft Teams
13:30 to 14:30	Lunch	
14:30 to 15:00	Declaration of Results & Draw of Lots	
15:30 to 17:00	Quarter Finals	Microsoft Teams
17:00 to 17:30	Break	
17:30 to 18:00	Declaration of Results & Draw of Lots	Microsoft Teams

Day III: February 7, 2021

10:30 to 11:30	Judges' Briefing	Microsoft Teams
11:30 to 13:00	Semi-Finals	Microsoft Teams
13:00 to 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 to 15:30	Final Rounds	Microsoft Teams
15:30 to 16:00	Break	
16:00 to 18:00	Valedictory Function & Distribution of Prizes	Microsoft Teams, Facebook

CORE ORGANIZING TEAM



Dr. Nuzhat Parveen Khan
Dean, School of Law, Bennett University

Dr. Nuzhat Parveen Khan is currently working as the Professor & Dean, School of Law. She has twenty eight years of academic experience in a Central University i.e. Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. She has authored dozens of books on conflicting and contemporary legal issues. To name the few, Women and Child Related Laws (LexisNexis India), Women and the Law, Child and the Law (Lexis Nexis India), Comparative Constitutional Law (Satyam Law International), Legal Control of Air Pollution: Problems and Perspectives (Metropolitan Book Company Pvt. Ltd.), Socio-Economic Offence (Central Law Publications) etc. Prof. Khan has contributed and presented modules on Jurimetrics for the UGC e-Pathshala Project at graduate and post graduate level. She has also authored study materials for various universities and colleges across the nation. Her Ph.D. on the topic 'Air Pollution: Problem of Its Legal Control with Special Reference to NCT of Delhi, was awarded publication grant by the Indian Council for Social Sciences Research, Ministry of HRD. It was published as a book accordingly. Prof. Khan has published more than 50 research papers in prestigious refereed and peer reviewed journals covering diverse areas of laws.

FACULTY MEMBERS



Ms. Swarnim Swasti
Assistant Professor & Faculty Convenor, Moot Court Committee

Swarnim holds a graduate degree from Jindal Global Law School, and a Master Degree from the University of Oxford, United Kingdom. She has spent a year of her undergraduate study at the University of California, Davis where she also interned with the United Nations Special Rapporteur in the field of Cultural Rights. Her areas of interest and research include Public International Law; International Human Rights Law; and, International Humanitarian Law. She is a Commonwealth Scholar and has been actively involved in various conferences in capacities of member of organization team, participant, and speaker.



Dr. Manjula Rani Mallepalli
Associate Professor & Faculty Co-Convenor, Moot Court Committee

She is an ACS (ICSI) and a Ph.D. from NALSAR University of Law, research is focussed on International Trade Law, India, and the Dispute Settlement System under WTO. She holds a Post Graduate degree in Corporate Laws and Post Graduate diplomas in ADR and Business Management with (Marketing and Advertising as major). She has a career spanning over more than two decades which includes Law Practice, Secretarial and Teaching; during her tenure at NALSAR, besides teaching was also Convenor – Examination Committee (CMS); Area Coordinator – Corporate Governance; and in-charge of Internships; had conducted sessions for IRS officers at National Academy of Direct Taxes (NADT), Nagpur. She was also associated with Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Bangalore, as Manager-Litigation in Tax Advisory Services, Transfer Pricing, and International Taxation. She has also participated and presented papers in national and international conferences

Mr. Arpan Acharya
Assistant Professor & Faculty Co-Convenor, Moot Court Committee



Arpan is a lawyer by training and have written special papers in LLM that were related to constitutional and international law. His LLM dissertation was on the idea of merit and reservations in India. Presently He is at the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi where he wrote my MPhil dissertation on international refugee law under Prof. Jaivir Singh. Presently he is working on law and public sphere, specifically on the question of higher judiciary and what they have had to say about accountability for fundamental rights vis-a-vis the definition of 'state' in article 12 of the Indian Constitution; essentially the governance of public spaces and public utilities. A part of his PhD thesis will revolve around questions of common property resources and rights regimes around the same. He is trying to see how and where the judiciary can borrow ideas from political theory and economics to answer questions about state action better. Hence, He is using the spectrum of commons to anti-commons literature as a framing device for the idea of state action.



Mr. Mohammad Umar
Assistant Professor & Faculty Co-Convenor, Moot Court Committee

Mr Mohammad Umar is an Assistant Professor Law at Bennett University. Before joining here, he was working at Galgotias University for more than 3.5 years where he also founded and coordinated the Centre for Studies in International Law. He earned graduate/postgraduate degrees from Hidayatullah National Law University, Jamia Millia Islamia and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Mr. Umar has published in areas like technology transfer and TRIPS, regulation of fake news, illicit wildlife trade, trade and competition, trade and environment, UN Peacekeeping, gender and personal law etc. His areas of interest are – International Trade Law, Global IPR Regime, Religion and Law, TWAIL and International Environmental Law.

STUDENT MEMBERS



Ms. Sanjana Sahay, IV Year, B.B.A L.L.B (Hons.) & Convener Moot Court Committee

Confidence and leadership are some of her strengths. She is quiet, determined and has passion for learning. She believes that law is not law if it violates the principles of eternal justice. She hopes to make the Moot court Committee a platform which will nurture and hone the skills of budding lawyers



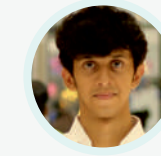
Ms. Chinmai Kapri, IV Year, B.B.A L.L.B (Hons.) & Co-Convenor Moot Court Committee

She believes that to become a good lawyer you need to become a good strategist. Knowledge and uncertainty of law is the most important weapon for a lawyer. She is determined and believes that for a lawyer, a day without learning is a day wasted. She credits practice as perfection.



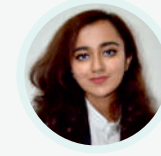
Mr. Aryamann Oberoi, IV Year, B.B.A L.L.B (Hons.) & Member Moot Court Committee

He firmly believes that potential is not an endpoint, but a capacity to evolve and learn, and hence, he continuously strives to better himself and learn from his pitfalls. He is fuelled by his ambition, persistence and vehemence. He is compassionate, diligent, intuitive and rational and he strongly feels that it takes perseverance, drive and allegiance while overcoming obstacles to achieving success.



Mr. Gaurang Mandavkar, IV Year, B.B.A L.L.B (Hons.) & Co-Convenor Moot Court Committee

He believes that the power of a lawyer is in the uncertainty of Law. He's adamant and determined and holds the mindset to not settle. He's humble and believes in earning it and then appreciating it.



Ms. Swadheena Joardar, IV Year, B.B.A L.L.B (Hons.) & Co-Convenor Moot Court Committee

She believes that determination and passion in your work is imperative for a good lawyer. She has a creative bend of mind with an aptitude towards art and music. She believes that law is reason, free from passion. She is analytical and believes in focusing her hard work in the right direction.



Mr. Anubhav Lamba, III Year, B.A L.L.B (Hons.) & Member Moot Court Committee

He's assertive and not aggressive and believes that it is rain that grows flowers and not thunder. He's a documentarian and sees the world through his lens. He's versatile learner and maintains a good balance between various tasks.



Ms. Riya Kharab, III Year, B.A L.L.B (Hons.) & Member Moot Court Committee

Sincerity is the word which defines her. Being a law student she has good research as well as articulation skills. Sculpting herself everyday with these skills, she looks forward to achieve more in her life. Other than aiming to do well in academics, she is a keen reader and cinephile.



I Bennett National Moot Court Competition 2019 - A Glimpse



School of Law Shines



II Bennett National Moot Court Competition 2020 - A Glimpse





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