



Orpheus Sabha Foundation

&

Kshitizz NGO



KSHITIZZ

fostering a new horizon

Presents



Vakriya

1st National Online Moot Court Competition



27-29 September
2024

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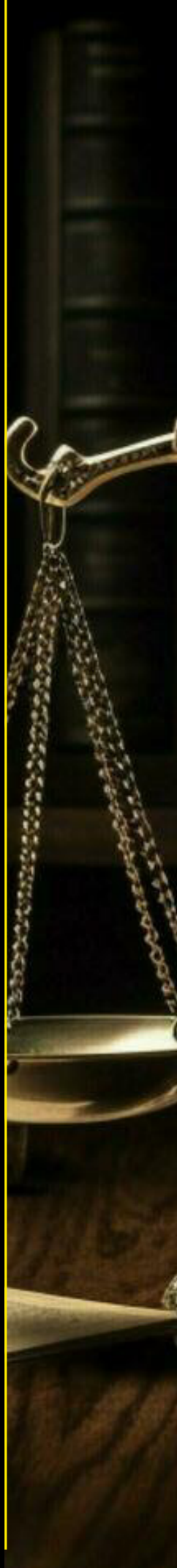


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About Orpheus Sabha Foundation

Orpheus Sabha Foundation is a not for profit company which is Registered and incorporated as per the Companies Act, 2013. We seek to give the youth a chance and platform to express their views, hone their research skills, develop their public speaking abilities, and be part of a community that is holistic, inclusive and diverse. Orpheus has always been dedicated to providing a vibrant platform for public speaking, stimulating discussions, and fostering essential debating skills. Orpheus have established their pioneer in conducting various Drafting and Speaking competition. Our best interest lies in helping the leaders of tomorrow, that is India's promising youth, broaden their sphere of knowledge and equip themselves with skills such as strategy-making, negotiation, decision-making, and diplomacy. We aim to achieve it by hosting events, competitions and conferences so that they can get hands on exposure and develop a practical understanding of problems aimed at testing their confidence, problem solving and research abilities



About Kshitizz NGO

In the heart of India's transformative spirit lies Kshitizz, a hindi word that means "Horizon," an NGO conceived and nurtured by the visionary students of Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University, Visakhapatnam. Assembled from diverse academic backgrounds, this dynamic team is united by an unquenchable thirst for change, a burning desire to reshape the world, and an unwavering commitment to usher in a brighter tomorrow. Kshitizz, rooted in the ethos of compassion and progress, is an India-based not-for-profit and non-political organization that resonates with the rhythm of empowerment. The organization's noble mission unfurls across a tapestry of beneficiaries – the Underprivileged Children, Youth, Old Age, and Women – each stitch carefully woven with the threads of Empowerment, Creativity, Innovation, Peace, Harmony, and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set forth by the United Nations. United by purpose, driven by vision, and fortified by action, Kshitizz "Horizon" is the embodiment of change – a beacon of hope illuminating the path towards a world where every individual's potential is realized, and every life is touched by the transformative power of compassion and progress.

ABOUT VAKTRITA

Our Moot Court Competition is designed to break down barriers and provide aspiring lawyers from all backgrounds with an equal opportunity to hone their skills in a real-world setting. Whether you're a seasoned participant or new to moot court, this competition offers a platform for everyone to showcase their talent and build essential legal skills. Engage in rigorous debates and enhance your legal research, writing, and oral advocacy skills. Interact with fellow students, esteemed legal scholars, and distinguished professionals, and build connections that can support your future career. We believe that talent knows no boundaries; our competition is open to participants from all walks of life, ensuring a diverse and enriching experience for all.

Why Vaktrita ?

- Experience the most cost-effective moot court competition with unparalleled quality.
- Benefit from the flexibility of cross-teaming.
- Compete for a substantial cash prize pool of ₹1.3 lakh.
- Gain valuable skills through complimentary workshops on Memorial drafting and Oral Rounds.
- Engage in insightful interaction sessions with esteemed retired judges and practicing counsel.

Participants will experience firsthand the dynamics of courtroom procedures, from crafting compelling written briefs to delivering persuasive oral arguments. This comprehensive exposure is designed to equip you with the confidence and competence required to excel in your legal career. Moreover, you will develop critical soft skills such as teamwork, time management, and strategic thinking, which are essential for success in any professional environment.

The moot court competition is also a fantastic way to expand your professional network. You will have the chance to meet and collaborate with peers from various institutions, exchange ideas, and build lasting relationships. Additionally, interacting with legal scholars and luminaries will provide you with mentorship opportunities and insights into the diverse career paths within the legal field.

Be a part of an inclusive event that not only tests your legal acumen but also broadens your horizons. Our Moot Court Competition is more than just a contest; it's a stepping stone to your future in law. Don't miss this chance to learn, grow, and connect with the legal community.

OUR PATRON

Mr. Arjun Raghavendra M

ABOUT HIM

Mr Arjun Raghavendra M is an Arguing counsel practicing in Supreme court, High Courts and Tribunals dealing predominantly with direct & indirect taxes, companies law and foreign trade. He was the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to the Finance secretary between 2016-18 in North Block. Ex IRS officer (2009-2019). Arjun Raghavendra M. Works at IIMA in domain of India International Bullion Exchange, IFSCA. He Won over 300 prizes in oratrical and writing contests as a student, and wants to play his part in providing an apt environment to aspiring.

MESSAGE TO THE PARTICIPANTS

It is with great enthusiasm that I address you today regarding the Vaktrita Moot Court Competition. This initiative is designed to make moot courts accessible to all, providing a valuable platform for aspiring lawyers like yourselves to hone your skills and gain practical experience. Moot courts are not just about the technical knowledge of the law; they are about mastering the art of persuasion, critical thinking, and effective communication skills that are indispensable for a successful legal career.

Throughout my career, as a legal practitioner, I have witnessed the transformative power of skill such as problem solving, drafting, public speaking etc that can be acquired and mastered by participating in the competition. They offer a unique opportunity to engage with complex legal issues, collaborate with peers, and receive mentorship from seasoned professionals. Moreover, they help in bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, preparing you to tackle real-world legal challenges with confidence.

I understand the importance of a supportive environment in nurturing talent. Vaktrita aims to provide just that—a platform where you can showcase your abilities, learn from feedback, and continually improve. It is my firm belief that each one of you has the potential to excel, and this competition will be a stepping stone towards realizing your full potential.

I encourage all of you to participate in Vaktrita with enthusiasm and dedication. Embrace this opportunity to learn, grow, and challenge yourselves. Remember, the skills you develop here will not only serve you in your legal careers but will also empower you to make meaningful contributions to the field of law and justice.

Wishing you all the best for your preparations and looking forward to witnessing your remarkable performances.

*Warm regards,
Arjun Raghavendra M.*

DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 "Advanced Round" means the Final Round, Semi-Final Rounds and Quarter-Final Rounds of the Competition.
- 1.2 "Applicant"/"Defendant" means the side that argues on behalf of the Applicant/Defendant at any given point in the competition.
- 1.3 "Bench Memorandum" means the memorandum of law, issues and authorities concerning the competition problem prepared by the Authors/Organizers.
- 1.4 "Clarifications" refer to any clarification(s) issued by the organisers pursuant to the Moot Court Competition.
- 1.5 "Competition" means the 1st edition of Vaktrita by Orpheus Sabha Foundation and Kshitizz NGO.
- 1.6 "IST" means Indian Standard Time.
- 1.7 "Memorial" means the written arguments submitted by each team, submitted according to these Rules.
- 1.8 "Moot Proposition" means the official hypothetical case study of the Competition released by the organisers.
- 1.9 "Oralist" refers to a participant who presents oral arguments in any given round.
- 1.10 "Oral Round" means a team's pleadings, comprising two oralists, submitted orally in front of judges, acting as adjudicators, on behalf of one of the parties against another team representing the opposing party.
- 1.11 "Organizer(s)" means the Organising Committee of the Vaktrita 1st Online National Moot Court Competition, and also includes the Moot Court Committee of, , members thereof, and any person/persons appointed for the administration and conduct of the Competition, by the said Moot Court Committee.
- 1.12 "Participant" refers to any member of any team representing any themselves in the competition.
- 1.13 "Penalty" refers to the deductions imposed on the memorial scores of a participating team.
- 1.14 The Organizers define plagiarism as follows:
- i. Direct copying of someone else's work, including books, articles, and internet sources, without proper acknowledgement.
 - ii. Significant copying of someone else's work, including books, articles, and internet sources, without proper acknowledgement. This includes instances where at least ten continuous words from the original work are present in the contested memorial.
 - iii. Direct or significant copying of another moot memorial, regardless of whether it is a competing memorial or not, and regardless of whether it is acknowledged or not.
 - iv. Significant copying refers to cases where sentences have been largely duplicated, with at least ten continuous words from the original work appearing in the contested memorial and/or where a portion of the contested memorial has been paraphrased from another memorial with minor changes, maintaining the essence of the original.
- 1.15 "Preliminary Rounds" refer to the oral rounds conducted before the advanced rounds to determine which teams qualify for the advanced stages.
- 1.16 "Rebuttals" are the arguments made by the Applicant in response to the Respondent's submissions, presented at the end of the main pleadings by all the oralists.
- 1.17 "Scouting" refers to the act of a person observing the Oral Rounds of a team other than the one they are associated with.
- 1.18 "Team Code" refers to the unique identifier assigned to a participating institution by the administrator upon completion of registration.

ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION

1. Administration

- a. VAKTRITA 1st NATIONAL ONLINE MOOT COURT COMPETITION shall be administered by the Kshitiz Ngo and Orpheus Sabha Foundation.
- b. The Competition is scheduled to be held from 27 September to 29 September 2024 in an online format for all teams.

2. Language

English shall be the language of the Competition; all oral and written submissions are required to be made in English.

3. Structure of the competition

Competition shall comprises 2 stages

a. Preliminary Round

Two preliminary rounds will be conducted on the specified dates according to the given timeline. The average marks of both preliminary rounds will be combined with the memorial marks.



b. Final Rounds

The final rounds include the octa-finals, semi-finals, and the final of the competition. These will be knockout rounds.

4. Interpretation of the Rules

- a. The Organizers have the final authority to interpret and amend the provisions contained in the Rules.
- b. The Organizers reserve the right to make changes when necessary. Any changes made will be communicated to the participating teams through the official Email Id (vaktrita@gmail.com).

TIMELINE

20th July 2024		Release of Brochure, Moot Proposition & Rules/ Commencement of Registration
1st September 2024		Last Date To Register
5th September 2024		Release of Clarifications
15th September 2024		Submission of Memorial
27-28-29th September 2024		Oral Rounds

PRIZES & AWARDS



WINNER TEAM: CASH PRIZE OF Rs. 45,000/- + Letter of Recommendations from Ex-Beauraucrat

RUNNER UPS: CASH PRIZE OF Rs. 25,000/- + Letter of Recommendations from Ex-Beauraucrat

SEMI-FINALISTS: Letter of Recommendations from Ex-Beauraucrat

BEST MEMORIAL: TOP 3 MEMORIALS WILL GET A CASH PRIZE OF Rs. 11,000/-, Rs. 9,000/- & Rs. 7,000/- Respectively + Letter of Recommendations from Ex-Beauraucrat

BEST SPEAKER: TOP 3 SPEAKERS WILL GET A CASH PRIZE OF Rs. 11,000/-, Rs. 9,000/- & Rs. 7,000/- Respectively + Letter of Recommendations from Ex-Beauraucrat

PARTICIPATION & ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY

- a. The Competition is open to students currently enrolled in LL.B. Undergraduate Degree Courses or LL.M. Postgraduate Degree Courses across the country.
- b. A team is permitted to have members from more than one institution. (Cross teaming)
- c. More than one team from one institution can register.

Team Composition

- Each team shall comprise a minimum of two members wherein both the members will be required to perform the role of a speaker,
- b. Teams may comprise a maximum of three members, wherein two members shall perform the role of a speaker, and one member shall perform the role of a researcher.
 - c. The substitution of any Team Member is not allowed after the registration deadline except in extenuating circumstances and only with permission of the Organizers.
 - d. Team composition can include members from different institutions rather than being strictly from one institution.

PROCEDURE OF REGISTRATION:

1. Interested teams must register for the Competition by filling out the online Registration Form. The Registration form can be accessed by scanning the QR code at the end of the brochure.
2. While completing the online registration form, teams must select a primary contact person. All communications regarding the competition will be sent from the official email address to this designated contact person, who will be responsible for relaying and distributing all relevant information to the participating team. It should be noted that the Organizers are not responsible if the designated contact person fails to convey or distribute any relevant information to their team.
3. After submission of the Registration Form, a mail confirming the provisional registration will be sent by the payment wall consisting of transaction id and a successful payment confirmation.
4. The last date for completion of all the registration formalities is September 1, 2024 (11:59 P.M. IST).
5. Teams will be notified of their registration confirmation by giving the Team Code by Organizers after all registration formalities have been completed and verified.

A google form shall be made available to the team by an email post registration for submission of clarifications. The deadline for submitting clarifications on the Moot Proposition is on or before 1 September (11:59 P.M. IST). All requests must be submitted using the Google form provided. Clarification requests should be concise and pertain strictly to the facts of the case, excluding substantive arguments. Clarifications will be communicated via email to the designated contact person of each team by the organisers.

MEMORIAL EVALUATION

MEMORIAL SUBMISSION

- a. Each registered team must prepare two memorials for the competition:
 - i. A memorial representing the Applicants. ii. A memorial representing the Defendants.
- b. All teams are required to submit digital copies of their memorials for evaluation to “email address” with the subject line "Memorials (Team Code) – [Competition Name]"
- c. Cover Page of the Applicant’s side Memorial should be Blue and the Defendant’s side Memorial should be Red.
- d. A penalty of 1 point per hour per Memorial shall be imposed for any submission made post the stated deadline.
- e. Memorials submitted 48 hours beyond the deadline specified shall not be evaluated.
- f. After the completion of the Competition, the Organizers reserve the right to use the memorials as they deem appropriate.

MEMORIAL FORMAT

- a. All submitted Memorials must be in Microsoft Word Document format (.doc/.docx) and PDF format (.pdf), resulting in a total of four files.
- b. Each Memorial should be contained in a single file named after the allocated team code followed by 'A' for Applicants or 'D' for Defendants. For example, the Applicants' memorial for team code 35 should be named '35A'.
- c. All pages of the Memorial must be of A4 size, with a 1-inch margin on each side.
- d. The text font throughout all sections of the Memorial, except for the Cover Page, must be Times New Roman, size 12, with 1.5 line spacing. Footnotes should be in Times New Roman, size 10, with single spacing. The memorials will undergo plagiarism checks, with a permissible limit of 25%

MEMORIAL CONTENT

The Memorials are required to contain the following sections:

- i. Cover Page
- ii. Table of Contents
- iii. List of Abbreviations
- iv. Index of Authorities (List of Sources)
- v. Statement of Facts
- vi. Issues
- vii. Summary of Arguments
- viii. Arguments Advanced
- ix. Prayer/Submissions
- ix. Each Memorial must not exceed 30 pages.
- xi. The Substantial Submissions (Arguments Advanced) must not exceed 18 pages, which includes Arguments Advanced and Prayer. Violations of this article are sanctioned by penalty points as per Sub-rule 4 of this Rule
- xii. Footnotes should follow the format of either the '21st Edition of the Bluebook' or '4th edition of Oxford University Standard for Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA)' throughout the Memorial.
- xiii. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty of as per Sub-rule 4 of this Rule. c. The Cover page of the Memorial must contain the teamcode in the upper right-hand corner, followed by an 'A' for the Applicants Memorial or 'D' for the Defendants Memorial. Non-compliance shall result in a penalty as per the table mentioned below.
- xiv. No new issues can be added other than those mentioned in the Moot Proposition

MARKING CRITERIA

Sr. No	CRITERIA	MARKS
1	Knowledge of Law and Facts	20 MARKS
2	Proper and Articulate Analysis	20 MARKS
3	Extent and Use of Research	20 MARKS
4	Clarity and Organisation	20 MARKS
5	Grammar and Style	20 MARKS

DEDUCTION OF MARKS

CRITERIA

Breach of memorial anonymity	Disqualified from the competition
Missing or added section	2 points for every violation
Incorrect order of section	2 point (One time deduction)
Incorrect font size in the main body	1 point for every page on which there is a violation.
Incorrect line spacing in the main body of the Memorial	1 Point for every page on which there is a violation
Missing team code or necessary information	1 point per piece of information missing
Exceeding the page limit of the written submission section	2 Page per extra page
Extra information in footnotes or non compliance with the specified format	1 point for each violation
Use of endnote	3 points

ADVANCE ROUND PROCEDURE

General Procedure –

- a. The Oral Rounds will be conducted online and include Preliminary Oral Rounds, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, and Final Rounds.
- b. The team representing the Applicants will present their arguments first, followed by the team representing the Defendants. After the arguments, the Applicants may optionally present rebuttals, followed by the Defendants. The allowance of sur-rebuttals will be at the discretion of the judges.
- c. During the advanced rounds, student counsels may state their names but must refrain from disclosing their institution's name and should use the Team Code instead.
- d. Participants are strictly prohibited from using any electronic devices during courtroom sessions. Violations of this rule may result in penalties determined by the Organizers, including potential disqualification.

Procedure for Oral Submission

- a. Each team will have 20 minutes to present their case in the Preliminary and Quarter Final Rounds, including time for arguments, rebuttals, and, where permitted, sur-rebuttals. For the Semi-Finals and Finals, each team will be allotted 30 minutes for their presentation.
- b. The allocation of time between the two speakers is at the discretion of the team, but each speaker must speak for a minimum of 8 minutes in the preliminary rounds and 14 minutes in the advanced rounds.
- c. Prior to the start of the Oral Round, each team must specify how it wishes to allocate its total time between its (i) first speaker and (ii) second speaker.
- d. Oral submissions during the preliminary rounds should adhere strictly to the issues raised in the memorials.
- e. Researchers are required to attend the oral rounds.
- f. Attire: Participants must be dressed in formal courtroom attire. Participants who cannot access formal attire may wear an adequate formal outfit deemed suitable for the occasion; no marks will be deducted for not wearing full formal courtroom attire.
- g. Each judge may award a maximum of 100 marks per speaker for the oral rounds.
- h. The oral rounds will be evaluated out of 100 marks, based on the following criteria
The judges' decisions concerning the outcome of the rounds shall be final.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Sr. No	CRITERIA	MARKS
1	Knowledge of Law	20 MARKS
2	Application of Law to Facts	20 MARKS
3	Ingenuity and ability to Answer	20 MARKS
4	Style, poise, Courtesy, Organisation, and Demeanor	20 MARKS
5	Time Management	20 MARKS

Preliminary-Rounds:

a. There will be two (2) Preliminary Rounds: Prelims Round – I and Prelims Round – II. The match-up for both Preliminary Rounds will be determined by a draw of lots conducted by the Organizing Committee. Each team will present their Oral Submissions on behalf of both parties across the two (2) distinct Rounds. Rebuttals or Sur-Rebuttals are generally not permitted during the Preliminary Rounds, unless allowed at the discretion of the Judges.

Quarter-Finals:

a. The top 8 teams with the highest points will qualify for the Quarter-Finals. In case of a tie, memorial scores will be used as the first tiebreaker, followed by speaker scores if necessary. b. For the Quarter-Final Rounds, teams will be matched based on their rankings from the Preliminary Rounds: (Team1 vs. Team5; Team2 vs. Team6; Team3 vs. Team7; Team4 vs. Team8).

Semi-Finals:

a. The winners of each Quarter-Final Round will advance to the Semi-Final Rounds. b. In the Semi-Final Rounds, the matchups will be as follows: the winner of Match 1 vs. the winner of Match 4, and the winner of Match 2 vs. the winner of Match 3.

Finals:

a. The winners from each of the two Semi-Final Rounds will compete in the Final Round. The winner of the Final Round will be declared the overall winner of the competition.
b. Scouting : eliminated from the competition. Any form of scouting is strictly forbidden and will result in immediate disqualification if detected

NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

Scope and Application of Policy

This Policy applies to all individuals involved in the Competition, including Participants, Judges, Volunteers, and Organizers.

The Organizers acknowledge that discrimination and harassment undermine the integrity of the Competition and harm its participants. They are committed to ensuring that every member, including Participants, Volunteers, Organizers, and Judges, can participate and work in an environment free from any form of illegal discrimination based on national origin, race, color, religion, caste, disability, sex (including sexual misconduct), sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and marital status. The Organizers recognize their responsibility to foster an environment where diversity is celebrated, and equal opportunities are promoted for all.

1. Prohibited Conduct

Prohibited conduct refers to any form of Discrimination or Harassment based on the criteria mentioned above. This includes verbal, written, or physical actions that degrade, show hostility toward, or demonstrate aversion to an individual due to characteristics related to a discriminatory ground. It encompasses, but is not limited to, making jokes, using epithets, innuendos, singling out individuals for humiliation, engaging in negative stereotyping, or making comments related to discriminatory characteristics.

2. Sexual or gender-based Discrimination

Sexual or gender-based Discrimination is defined in accordance with clause (k) of Section 2 of the University Grants Commission (Prevention, prohibition, and redressal of sexual harassment of women employees and students in higher educational institutions) Regulations, 2015.

The organizers urge all participants in the Competition to take reasonable and responsible steps to prevent or address any prohibited conduct. This may involve directly intervening when safe, seeking help from friends, or involving individuals in authority. Those holding positions of authority within the Competition bear a special responsibility to refrain from actions that could violate this Policy or be deemed unprofessional

MOOT PROPOSITION

Click Here For Moot problem

REGISTRATION



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER

OR VISIT:

<https://rzp.io/l/a9RTtoTRuPW>

CONTACT US

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