



RAMAYANA

An Instrument for Indianising Socio-Legal Approaches

Edited by

Dr. Pratik Salgar

Makarandbuva (Ramdasi) Sumant



“येथे बहुतांचे हित”

Marathwada Mitra Mandal's

Shankarrao Chavan Law College, Pune, India

(Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University & Accredited 'A' Grade by NAAC)

March 2024

**Ramayana:
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ISBN 978-93-5980-554-2

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January 2024

ISBN 978-93-5980-554-2

Printed in India

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Published by

Marathwada Mitra Mandal's Shankarrao Chavan Law College, Pune, India
(Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University & Accredited 'A' Grade by NAAC)

Developed by

Columbus Publishing & Services

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Patrons' Message



Prin. Mr. B. G. Jadhav
Executive President,
Marathwada Mitra
Mandal, Pune (INDIA)



Dr. Kranti Deshmukh
Principal, Marathwada
Mitra Mandal's
Shankarrao Chavan Law
College, Pune (INDIA)

Being established through an inspiration of socially and educationally charged personalities, we, Marathwada Mitra Mandal established in 1967 as a charitable trust, serve with the motto “येथे बहुतांचे हित” (Welfare of the Masses). At its various educational campuses, excellent facilities of education are provided to more than 12000 students pertaining to Architecture, Management, Law, Commerce, Pharmacy and Engineering, etc. Marathwada Mitra Mandal's four colleges are accredited with 'A' Grade and one with 'A+' Grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council of India (NAAC). Under the patronage of Marathwada Mitra Mandal, the Shankarrao Chavan Law College was established in 2003 with the objective of nurturing future legal professionals and researchers with the ideals and values required to play a constructive role in creating a better world. The college is affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, approved by the Bar Council of India, recognised by the Government of Maharashtra with an ISO certification and accredited with an 'A' Grade by NAAC. And thus it stands as one of the premier law colleges in India. Our college has a motto - 'Quality Legal Education for the Masses'. Since inception, our college has been encouraging students to develop themselves into legal professionals having legal knowledge, acumen and expertise suitable for the dynamic and globalised legal industry. With this view, apart from academic excellence, we nurture the students with several co-curricular and extra-curricular

activities. We have international collaborations with the University of Colombo (Sri Lanka), Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (Lima, Peru), Transforming Mediation LLC (Georgia, USA), University of Chieti-Pescara (ITALY) and Lex Aquila Training and Consulting Services Ltd. (MAURITIUS) and are honoured to have speakers from Nepal, China, Malta, Israel, Canada, etc.

On the backdrop of the Interdisciplinary Approach introduced in the New Education Policy, 2020 in higher education; we established the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies with the objective of exploring the interconnections between law and other disciplines. It also aims to conduct research regarding various interdisciplinary studies. Through the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies, we introduced a very innovative concept titled "Jidnyasa", which explores Indian Traditional Knowledge in relation to Law. This is a very innovative experiment in the field of education and a unique one. Jidnyasa is a culturacademic experiment as it is the combination of Indian Culture and Academics, which will imbibe affinity towards Indian Culture and an unconventional understanding of Indian Jurisprudence among students.

In 2023, we conducted "Jidnyasa 2023: Bridge Lecture Series on Ramayana and Law" from 25th to 26th September, 2023, to understand the true essence of the Ramayana with reference to Indian Jurisprudence. Renowned Kirtankar-Pravachankar Makarandbuva (Ramdasi) Sumant was the guest speaker for Jidnyasa-2023. Many researchers, students and luminaries from various fields had participated in Jidnyasa-2023. In this light, we are greatly honoured to publish this edited book. We extend our gratitude to all the contributors from distinguished institutions across the country for taking this research further and enlightening others on Indian Jurisprudence. We also extend our warm wishes to all the August readers.

26th January, 2024

Regards from Patrons,

Acknowledgements

We are deeply indebted to Prin. B. G. Jadhav Sir (Executive President, Marathwada Mitra Mandal, Pune) and Dr. Kranti Deshmukh Madam (Principal, Marathwada Mitra Mandal's Shankarrao Chavan Law College, Pune) for their constant support to innovative ideas in our esteemed institution Shankarrao Chavan Law College, Pune. With this support and inspiration, we established the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies with the objective of studying the interconnections between law and other streams of study through innovative ideas.

Through “Jidnyasa-2023”, we as an educational institute, were the first to conduct a pravachanmala on the Mahabharata for students and researchers. In the second edition of “Jidnyasa 2023”, we conducted a pravachanmala on the Ramayana. It was a path-breaking event in terms of change in the teaching environment and method, imbibing the values and culture among students, and also to understand our Indian knowledge systems in scriptures from a legal-jurisprudential point of view. The innovative concept of Jidnyasa also achieved an Interdisciplinary approach in education as laid down by the New Education Policy, 2020, and contributed to rejuvenating Indian languages and preserving the intangible cultural heritage of Maharashtra. This would not have been possible without the constant support of our patrons Prin. B. G. Jadhav Sir and Dr. Kranti Deshmukh Madam.

We extend our gratitude towards all the teaching and administrative staff of Shankarrao Chavan Law College, Pune, as well as student volunteers and researcher contributors of this edited book. We are grateful to Columbus Publishing & Services and their team for designing such an eye-catching and beautiful cover page and also for the editing-printing of this book.

Finally, we thank all the researcher contributors of this edited book and everyone who has been instrumental in bringing this book into reality.

26th January, 2024

Dr. Pratik Salgar
Makarandbuva (Ramdasi) Sumant
(Editors)

Preface

One who is haughty, who does not know whether what he does is right or wrong and who has taken to the wrong path is to be disciplined even if he is a guru, parent or an elder in age or learning.

History and law are the most effective disciplines for understanding any state or society. The study of the process of evolution helps us to understand the normative behaviour of its members and the role of the state or community to guard, mould and control the actions of its members. The nature of the relationship between the state and its subject/citizen and the community and the member can be determined well with an understanding of its legal system. The legal system here means both the state legal system and the non-state legal system, which regulates the socio, political and economic relations among them.

A huge gap exists, which has distanced us from our original legal system. This is primarily because of learning and understanding law only from the Western perspective. In these 270 years, western law, western scholars, western jurisprudence, western legal education, western legal literature, etc., made us understand and think of law only from the western perspective. We did and still do our learning of the Indian legal system as discriminative, irrational, punitive, based on caste system, anarchy, etc. This attitude has restricted research and learning of the Indian legal heritage at a mass level.

The Ramayana is very significant, useful and inspiring in the contemporary era, which is to be studied by bright young minds today. It is not just the story of Rama but an encyclopaedia of the detailed analysis of Bhartiya Tatvadyan (Indian Philosophy), Dharmashastra, Nitishastra (Science of Strategy), Rajyashastra (Science of State Governance), Vyavaharshastra (Science of Day to Day Affairs), Itihas Shastra (History), Samajshastra (Sociology). Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak used to say that Indian rulers failed to administer the state due to the ignorance of Indian Knowledge systems. Unlike other rulers, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was successfully able to administer the state as per the concept of 'Ramrajya', as he used to listen to stories from Ramayana in childhood. Whenever Indian Society was on the verge of downfall, many leaders, rulers, stalwarts and social workers had referred to the Ramayana for getting solutions to many social-political concerns at that time. Thus, it is high time now to have a confluence of ideas enshrined in Ramayana and the contemporary issues in the society.

On this backdrop, the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies of Shankarrao Chavan Law College introduced an innovative idea of “Jidnyasa” to promote research of Indian knowledge systems present in the form of scriptures. We have chosen the Ramayana this year as the main theme and Introduction to Valmiki-Ramayana; Ideal Family System in Ramayana and Contemporary World; State Administration in Ramayana and Contemporary Polity and Developed Technologies in Ramayana as sub-themes. These sub-themes are significant in the contemporary world and thus need a more detailed study from the socio-legal perspective. The expected outcome of Jidnyasa is this edited book where students, researchers, academicians and experts from the fields other than law have contributed. The chapters of the book cover diverse aspects of the Ramayana from a socio-legal point of view. We wish to thank all the contributors, their respective esteemed institutions and the readers of this book.

Dr. Pratik Salgar
Makarandbuva (Ramdasi) Sumant
(Editors)

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