

JUDICIAL (JR) REVIEW



February was supposed to be a relatively quiet month at SIL given that exams are approaching soon but trust us to make every day a happening one! From court visits to critical thinking seminars to photography workshops to the brilliant functioning of our Law Clinic.....we are giving law students all over something to get inspired from :)

As we approach an EVEN BUSIER March with tons more inspiration for everyone....happy reading!

Editorial Team JR

The workings of the SIL Law Clinic: workings from August 2012 to February 2013



The ideology upon which the SIL Law Clinic was formed was to fill the gap of practical experience which the student faced upon starting professional legal work. This is why the initial phase of the Law Clinic had the students encompassing generally all areas of law, from tortious liability to corporate consultancy.

As the student's workload increased, a general consensus was held to opt specially for pro bono cases, specifically with some sort of public service element, giving the students more motivation than simply experience.

Henceforth the SIL Law Clinic quasi-affiliated itself with organisations such as Sahil, a non-governmental organisation working specially on the area of child sexual abuse, and Women Aid Trust, whose areas of legal aid are self-explanatory. Cases granted a certain specific perspective of working towards a cause which has led to an increase in productivity. The aspect of dividing the students into a prosecution and a defence allows the students to gain insight into the subjective side of the argument, imposing on them the superiority of the rule of law, allowing them to critically think in an objective manner when required. Overall, the response had been positive among both the students and the "clients" along with the impact on the surrounding legal environment as many other law schools seem to have been inspired by the SIL Law Clinic, leading to concept of free legal aid spreading through Islamabad.

1. Sexual harassment in a public body case - Barrister Masroor Shah & Company

The first case concerned research for the sexual harassment of a woman working in a public body, against two men from her organisation. From the facts it could be established that one of the accused's seniority to her in the organisation was an extenuating factor which should allow the case to be appealed in front of a specialised bench.

2. Work safety regulations case - Barrister Masroor Shah & Company

The services of the Law Clinic were put to use researching all work safety related rules, regulations and laws. The research was divided into groups of 4 each to experiment with the idea of providing a sense of competition. Members of a group were allocated to work on either statutes and their amendments, case law, Sharia and legal commentary. The element of injecting competition amongst the groups was successful in providing sufficient information in the significantly short amount of time.

3. DNA case - Barrister Masroor Shah & Company

The applicability of DNA evidence in the Criminal Justice System of Pakistan was researched upon. When it was found that it was not given due consideration and was even sometimes inadmissible in most cases due to the general mindset of the society and the apparent conflict with Sharia, the direction of the research shifted towards procedures towards creating precedent in favour of DNA evidence.

4. NAB Ordinance case - Barrister Masroor Shah & Company

An employee of NAB appealed his termination of employment on grounds of the NAB Ordinance having no retrospective effect. Arguments against retrospection itself were separately created, followed by how the NAB Ordinance had previously been interpreted by the court.

5. Human Rights curriculum - Alif Trust

An upcoming trust based on providing street children with a basic human rights education sought help in creating the curriculum of their course. Keeping in mind the audience, the Law Clinic divided the curriculum into 12 broad sessions, not specifically based on human rights itself but also on duties one has in adherence to respecting another human's rights. In a week, through proper delegation the curriculum was finalised and sent for translation into Urdu and then to be printed.

6. Maintenance of Christian woman case - Woman Aid Trust

Pakistani family law on Muslims and Christians was studied and compared due to the fact that the husband who abandoned the Christian woman had converted to Islam and married another woman. Sharia law was researched upon to tip the case in her (the Christian wife) favour further.

7. Japanese fruit import and export - Identity withheld

The Law Clinic then aided a farmer for southern Punjab look into the technicalities of exporting fruit.

8. Laws on disabled people in the Pakistani constitution - Angels Trust

The services of the Law Clinic were called for when a trust for the disabled was holding a press conference and the absence of the word "disability" from our Constitution was put to question. The legal jargon and technicalities were simplified for the layman.

9. Sahil case no. 1 - Sahil

Cancellation of bail for a person to be brought to court for the rape of a 8 year old girl, based on the absence of DNA evidence. New amendments and their commentary were given special attention.

10. Woman Aid Trust case no. 1 - Woman Aid Trust

Research took place on the distinction between the civil proceedings and criminal proceedings in Pakistan and how the wife leaving with her maintenance against the will of her husband was still a civil matter rather than a criminal matter.

11. Options for a charitable organisation - Numerous

The options a body / charitable organisation with charitable intentions has in registering to have a separate legal identity of its own were explored ranging from charitable organizations, endowment funds to trusts.

Over the course of this year the diversity of case law handled by the students speaks for itself. We hope that the SIL Law Clinic continues to provide free legal access to the general public while allowing the students to enrich their experience as lawyers in the making in the process.





Pakistani Politics: A Commentary by Ehsan Ejaz

In recent times, our country has faced much havoc from not one, but several fronts, the most disconcerting being that of the increasingly incessant political turmoil which has become a daily fixture of our lives.

Political parties, both established and new, have begun to personify natural disasters in the most fitting manner, whereas the future has become one big gamble. It's anybody's game at this point, and worrying, not just for the potential law graduate, but for any member of society who aims to make a future for themselves in this nation.

On one hand, we have our current government, most reminiscent of a heat wave. In the last five years alone, they have dehydrated the nation of its last few drops of patience, and the common man faces many a difficulty as far as survival is concerned.

On the other hand, we have a tsunami, led by none other than the nation's cricketing hero and heart throb, Imran Khan, who vows to bring a tide of much needed change. But this leaves us asking the question "What kind of change do we need at this point?" Is it the kind where there needs to be a complete renovation of political culture? Or one where just the government changes, but the mind set remains the same? The delicate balance which needs to be found can only be garnered if the players within the game are worthy of such power. In order to assess that, one must carefully take a look at who exactly the contenders *are*.

Imran Khan's tsunami had indeed gained momentum in the previous few months, however, Hurricane Qadri seemed to have shifted the balance of power and focus over the last few weeks. Tahir Ul Qadri, a sudden new emergence within the political arena, shocked the whole nation with his claims of destabilizing the current situation to create a political revolution so strong it would remind the world of the ousting of the government in Egypt. Everyone sat with bated breath on the 14th of January, 2013, as Qadri Marched forward with his army of followers towards the capital city of Pakistan, focused on the goal of having his demands met.

But what was immensely disappointing to see was that the man who rallied thousands of people at Minaar-e-Pakistan just a few weeks before the March, could not even find it in himself to come out of his box of bullet-proof glass, to deliver his "message" to the people who stood in freezing weather to listen.

Our people have become desperate; for hope, salvation, and survival. And why shouldn't they be? In a nation where electricity, gas and water are no longer available, and where they hope to live a comfortable life may as well be part of mythical folklore, the common man can do nothing but look up to any man who comes forward bearing a loud speaker, and speaks even two words of sense.

And in these times, when Hurricanes and Tsunamis fail to deliver their well-worded promises, we also see the occasional eruption of volcanoes which remain dormant for the most part. Yes, we do indeed refer to the Sharif brothers in this regard. Volcano lava is known to solidify after an eruption and bury entire cities. Shahbaz Sharif has done something similar with Lahore; buried it under his blanket of underpasses and overhead bridges, and nothing more. The PML N erupt with fury sporadically, attacking the PPP and their system of governance and policy, but then retreat back into their holes, never to be heard from again (until of course, the next opportune moment to hold a press conference). What good is this? How is it that even the largest political party of the Punjab holds no real desire to change the ever deteriorating state of this nation?

If we were to focus our attention to Sindh, we see how the MQM's stronghold in Karachi shows no signs of weakening. Their party politics can best be related to the moving of the Earth's tectonic plates; an earthquake, every now and then. The friction between them and every other political party, and the way they leave the voter-base guessing as to whom they are actually allied with causes much unease within the government, and even more instability within the province, and country.

Having spoken of the key players within this Game of Thrones, we see that there is a common theme. They are all natural; having formed and established themselves over a period of many years. They are all, disasters; having done nothing substantial to help this nation move forward.

What remains to be seen is how many more years Pakistan and its people can take being rocked by these natural disasters.

How many more heat waves, tsunamis, hurricanes, volcano eruptions and earthquakes can this nation withstand before we finally realize, that we are in fact caught in a vicious circle, a spiral of decline?

Who will it take to help Pakistan see that the sun is indeed capable of coming out soon? That the rainstorm of drone attacks, the constant thunder and lightning caused by bomb explosions, and the hailstorm of bullets causing the target killings *will* in fact, end.

The blood that has seeped onto this beautiful nation's flag may take some time to wash itself off. The deaths caused by insurgency, genocide and ignorance must end.

The clinking of glasses at fund raisers in our elite circles to "help the poor or displaced" does not provide the solution we need.

This feeling of doom and gloom is not unwarranted.

It is real.

And no amount of sugar coating it is going to solve it.

What we need is a collective decision on our parts. We need to decide between the devil and the deep blue sea, until a better choice comes along. But the decision *needs* to be made, and fast.

And whilst it is true that most commentaries on the current political conundrum faced by Pakistan are far from sounding positive, it is *also* true that a spade must be called a spade, no matter how dire the situation.

Things are known to get worse before they can get better. So let us assume that the worst is over. That it cannot get worse than powerless, penniless, and hopeless homes.

That the streets cannot be filled with more blood; that the treasuries have nothing left to be robbed of.

Let us assume that the last five years were a lesson learnt. And that in a few months time, it is in *our* hands to bring the change we desire, and so desperately need.

Let us not face any other natural disasters, but let us instead prepare to strengthen our buildings, learn how to swim, and hope for the best.

The views expressed are those of the author. The Editorial Team doesn't necessarily agree or disagree with any political comments made in the newsletter contributions.



"Angels on Earth" by Mahrukh Shahid

Helen Keller once said, "Science may have found a cure for most evils; but it has found no remedy for the worst of them all-the apathy of human being". The Angels Foundation is a foundation for the disabled children in Rawalpindi founded by Nadeem Joseph. It is sad to know how we are unaware of such people in our society working for such a good cause. But now that we do know, we would like to help them in the best way that we can and also spread awareness for such foundations.



We were invited by the Angels Foundation to carry out a presentation about the legal aspects regarding the rights and welfare of disabled people in Pakistan. Unfortunately, there is nothing in the Pakistani Constitution about the rights of disabled people. As the SIL Law Clinic found out, there are provisions in the Constitution dealing with fundamental rights, equality and discrimination where caste, creed, religion and gender are mentioned, but there is no express mention of disability. There was only one Ordinance about Employment named The Disabled Persons (Rehabilitation and Employment) Ordinance 1981 which, in 2012, has been incorporated in statute. But the implementation is still non-existent. The researchers compared disability laws of Pakistan with that of US, UK and India. Not surprisingly, these countries had done more work for their disabled population than Pakistan, with US being at the top. After collecting all this information, Ma'am Rabia Pasha made a concise and self-explanatory presentation, using the Helen Keller quotation that I also used to start off.

On Wednesday 13th February, we were asked to reach the college at 10 a.m as we had to reach the venue by 11. Accompanying Ma'am Rabia were Suleman Zeb , Osmaan Khan, myself - Mahrukh Shahid, Mashaal Shaukat, Ahmed Afridi, Naba Zehra Rizvi, Bisma Khan and Mariam Rajper. After dragging ourselves from bed the next morning, we left the college at 10:30, listening to the radio on the way, solving I.Q riddles, getting stuck in traffic and losing our way twice, and yet we finally reached the Press Club. We met the founders, the guests attending the function and the cute children just made our hearts melt.

The function started off with recitation from the Holy Quran done by myself, followed by a naat. After a brief introduction by a doctor about the disabled people, Ma'am Rabia a.k.a Ma'am Rubina Pasha :P presented her work. She explained everything very well and also promised that our school would help the Angels Foundation as much as they could. After Ma'am Rabia's presentation, there were multiple presentations from doctors and teachers who talked about this topic. The editor of Samaa News gave a concluding speech followed by a lucky draw, in which winners were announced. Sadly we won nothing, despite having sold a great number of tickets to our students.

Overall, this seminar and the days spent researching were an eye opener to how little our laws contribute to the welfare of the disabled population. The children we met at the seminar may be disabled but they still have the right to a prosperous life with proper education and fun activities, they too have the right to enjoy life and not feel discriminated or at a disadvantage. We realised that there is dire need for initiatives to be taken to help these little angels and all the disabled population in Pakistan. And at SIL, we hope and will to do all that we can to contribute to such a noble cause.

High court visit by Bisma Khan

We had a visit to the Islamabad High Court on the 29th Feb, 2013, which was arranged by ma'am Nida and ma'am Zainab Effendni. We were accompanied by Ms. Zainab who is a practicing lawyer herself and had a hearing on a case she was working on that very day. It was an educational and informative experience for all of us who went there which include myself, Mahrukh Shahid, Pernia Rathore, Zainab Samantash and Mashaal Shaukat, and our seniors Zohaib Khalid, Amen Nazir, Atiqa Sikander and Mariyum Qureshi.



We had the opportunity to observe an ongoing case which involved rape of a woman by a (so-called) spiritual leader. It was a bail after arrest application, one that got rejected. The procedure was a simple one with the prosecution stating why the Defendant should not get bailed and the defence arguing the opposite. The judge, Justice Iqbal Hameedur, was very direct in giving out the verdict of the application.

After sitting there for a while, we were asked to get up one by one and leave the Courtroom to see another case's proceedings going on in the other Courtroom. There, the Judge was sitting in a black gown behind his desk on the podium facing towards the people. There was a Court usher dressed formally who was passing the documents; there was a registrar present to record the case; and the lawyers standing in front of the Judge presenting their case. Some of the lawyers, also wearing black gowns, were seated at the front row awaiting their turns. A friendly but serious atmosphere prevailed in the Court, an unintentional oxymoron.

Before we took our tour around the rest of the High Court to get to know the structure of the court a bit more, we were taken to cafeteria and have a little chit-chat amongst ourselves and the teachers regarding how was the experience so far and what was our take on the case that we had just seen and how was the experience so far.

We visited the court of some other Judges to watch the ongoing proceedings and try to grasp the way the court functions. Most of the court rooms were packed with lawyers, most of whom were awaiting the turns for their cases. Right when we had had the tour of the Courts it was time for us to go back. On an ending note, it was a good experience in itself, and now we need to see how things work at the lower Courts.



A man named Mohammad Shahid Nazir originally from Pattoki, which is a small town near Lahore, had migrated to UK. He went in the hope of a bright future, and boy! was he in for a surprise! Nazir was a student like us, and a part-time worker at a local shop in London, where he used to sell fish. He was asked by the stall owner, where he worked, to shout in the crowd in order to attract people towards his product. Nazir, a polite man had never in his life screamed before.

According to his interview on the internet, he tried a unique, appealing style of selling his product: he 'sang' to the ladies shopping nearby. His marketing technique did not only provide free entertainment with his imaginative strategy but it also helped him to come into notice of those passing by. The words to what he sang were:

"Come on ladies, come on ladies; one pound fish! Have-a, have-a look, one pound fish! Very, very good, very, very cheap, one pound fish"

These very words not only fascinated consumers by the catchy tune and lyrics, but one fine day, even got recorded and uploaded to YouTube. His song got more than four million likes, and before long he was approached and asked to make a proper video as per the public demand. A British recoding company transformed this raw jingle into a widely appreciated melody, featuring Muhammad Nazir himself, along with a few eye-catching dancers on his either side. However, what is interesting to notice in the transformed recording is the perfect blend of two cultures – a South Asian male surrounded by white women, dressed in clothes with very Middle Eastern embellishment making it alluring on a whole new level.

I believe that the recognition of this song took-off on or after the sheer amusement but we cannot overlook the fact that the video gave us a break from the typical everyday music. As a universal phenomenon, human beings are mostly attracted to change, which is why people are fascinated towards it as they were earlier attracted to the hilarious dance moves, specifically speaking 'the gangnam style'. Muhammad Nazir is now a recognized name in the UK. The views of 'One Pound Fish' on YouTube are continuously increasing regardless of the ban on YouTube in Pakistan. His song has not remained an average fish monger's voice but has now been performed by renowned celebrities such as Timbaland, Alesha Dixon and Mindless Behavior.

After the immense success, when Nazir, who was on a student visa, was told to fly back to his home country and sort out his paperwork. Unfortunately his visa restrictions did not allow him to sign the contracts with the music companies and yet on his departure, he was greeted like a superstar at the airport by his supporters and fans. Yes, he hasn't won a major tournament or a medal but he has won the hearts of many. Talent comes in many forms and Pakistanis have proven that they have no dearth of this.

A Fish Monger Turns to Be A pop Star

Aimen Nazir

Ignorance of Hindu Marriage Law by Suleman A Zeb

With no significant legislation in Pakistan on Hindu personal law since 1947, Pakistani Hindus (which make up Pakistan's largest minority) are still devoid of a marriage bill that will give their marriages any legal effect. The Muslims have their Nikka Namma, the Christians register their marriage under the Christian Marriage Act 1872. The Hindus however, don't have that luxury. According to Article 20 of our beloved Constitution, "every citizen shall have the right to profess, practice and propagate his religion." With marriage playing an important part in religion, as different methods are prescribed for people of different faiths, then does Article 20 not apply to marriage as well? India's Parliament passed the Hindu Marriage Act in 1955, which required all Hindu marriages to be registered. However in the 18 years that have passed since then, we still have not been able to make heads or tails of Hindu marriages, there have been proposed bills, but the final plunge has not yet been taken. Why? Is it due to opposition of the bill? Would the bill be able to fit in our complex and highly standardized legal platform? Or are we just not bothered to actually do something about it?

On the 23rd of November 2010, the Supreme Court gave a suo moto ruling on the matter, today on the 19th of February 2013, no action apart from a proposed bill has taken place. A proposed bill that is still under debate (well, if a debate is what bickering in our National Assembly is passing for nowadays).

On a serious note though, this level of discrimination towards the Hindus does not only occur in relation to marriage. However it does not help better the situation.

"In Pakistan no one listens to us, we are helpless; our married women are forced to convert and are abducted by influential people and raped, sold or re-married to non-Hindus" said Chami Mai, a resident of Bahawalpur.

More and more Hindus are leaving the country because their voices are not being heard. Are they not subject to the same rights as any other person in this country? Save a few articles in our constitution.

The lack of a marriage bill in effect causes many issues to arise in the daily life of a Hindu. Let us take for example the preparation of one's National Identity Card. A married Hindu woman makes her way to the appropriate office to have her ID card made. Her marital status is a mandatory checkpoint when preparing the ID. However, does she confirm her marriage? If she does, then she has to provide the appropriate legal paperwork, meaning, her marriage certificate, which she obviously does not possess. In this situation the proof of marriage seems to be unimportant, as long as she's registered as a citizen of Pakistan all's well that ends well.

Let's move on to a more serious and dampening situation. A married Hindu woman suffers domestic violence on a regular basis (keep in mind although hypothetical, a very common situation), her complaint to the government offices is of no use since she cannot claim domestic violence.

Since the marriage between two Hindus is not given any legal effect, we also find a loophole in our legal system. Under Pakistani law, for both Muslims and Non-Muslims, all consensual extramarital sexual relations are illegal. If a Hindu cannot give legal effect to his marriage, then is he not committing extramarital sex? As a result, is he liable for an imprisonment of a term exceeding up to five years or/ and a fine exceeding up to ten thousand rupees?

With Hindus making up the largest minority in Pakistan, there still seems to be an ignorance of their presence. No major legislation has been made for them since 1947, and for some reason, we still can't give their marriage any legal effect.



Visit to Federal Tribunal Services Islamabad by Atiqah Sikander

On the 10th of February 2013, a trip was arranged to the Federal Services Tribunal Islamabad for the students of SIL. Apart from different court visits and legal activities being held at SIL, being aware of the tribunal services of our country was of the essence. However, a number of students couldn't make it, not being early risers. I along with Roqaiya, Nauman and Mashhood did make it. With no doubt, the courts of our country have taken steps towards the upgrading of the judiciary and legal system. This includes the better facilities and working of the tribunal services throughout the country. These services surely intend to show how the courts in the country are striving to provide expeditious justice to the public. Tribunals will also enable the courts to ensure transparency and accountability to the justice system. The claims brought to these tribunals were mostly by employees of different institutions. However there are a numerous tribunals being successfully operated throughout the country for instance the Income Tax Appellate Tribunals are functional since before partition, three of the benches which are Islamabad. Each bench consists of one Judicial and one Accountant member. Other operative tribunals include the Environmental Protection Tribunals, Insurance Appellate Tribunal, Customs, Excise & Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal, Services Tribunals. Other advantages of these tribunals, as observers were that claimants were able to represent themselves where legal advisers/lawyers weren't available. Most of all at least it is more of a private sort of discussion with the bench hearing your case. Unlike the district & High courts of the country, it wasn't a place over populated with almost every claimant unable to convey their message to the judge. Thus tribunal services should be expanded throughout the country because this is something that will help reduce the burden on the courts and help provide more justice to the public which is probably really needed in the country.

Seminar by Jonathan Brooker, Humanitarian Affairs Officer at the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs by Nauman Masood



Resilience is the ability of getting back on your feet, to recover or adjust from a setback, disaster or something uncalled for. It's not just about ability, it's how quickly and efficiently one does it. Pakistan has faced repeated crisis in form of natural disasters from the earthquake of 2005 to unprecedented floods in 2010; such disasters have brought Pakistan face to face with the challenges of climate change. Natural disasters especially the floods in Pakistan have made the country realize that it needs a solution. A solution, that is not just long term or sustainable, but one that strengthens resilience. This is what Jonathan Brookers of the United Nations came to SIL to talk about.

In such a discussion, the eye opening point was not how disastrous the floods were but how Pakistan continually failed to make a change because with every little improvement it was then hit by more floods and ended up in a possibly far worse situation than before. With the floods having caused major infrastructural damage to Pakistan, there is a great deal of work to be done in rebuilding the community's physical infrastructure. Due to the vast destruction from the floodwaters with roads, drains, irrigation systems, and other community assets destroyed, people are facing serious challenges. Farmers cannot transport items to and from the market. People and recovery agencies cannot access locations with materials to rebuild homes. People cannot move freely due to open pollution from damaged drainage or sewerage systems. Moreover, as a critical part of recovery, in such a situation, the UN has a role to support the public sector get back to a position where it is capable of supporting the overall recovery from the floods for the general public, with continued UN assistance. Jonathan Brookers also stressed that with over 18 million people affected over vast geographical areas, scattered in hugely varied locations and varying densities, the capacity of the UN or any other humanitarian organization was severely tested. The importance of a community was also emphasized upon, the humanitarian community as a whole has to continue to learn how to be more organizationally, institutionally, and systemically flexible in order to be able to adapt to the consequences of a disaster and the needs of the people in need of support. It was shown that early recovery is critical as it prepares with mitigating the effects of another disaster especially one which is not anticipated. However, if early recovery is under supported the overall recovery of the country on the whole will be delayed and the long term goals regarding development will be heavily impacted.

On a side note Jonathan Brooker having played cricket in England also wishes to set up a cricket camp for young Pakistanis who cannot afford proper coaching. He came up with this idea after seeing young raw talent in the streets and clubs of Islamabad who with a bit of coaching and guidance can polish their talent and have greater chances to excel in this field. This was something that most of the SIL students showed support for as far as helping in organising is concerned. The Law Clinic took up the responsibility of researching the legal requirements that are necessary to set up this venture.



Be the change you want to see! by Anisa Shaban

"It is not always the same thing to be a good man and a good citizen." (Aristotle)

In a very recent class of critical thinking we had a guest, Masoora Ali from VSO, over at SIL who briefed us on how we can be active citizens. She shared her experiences and explained that by contributing little towards your country you can make a huge change and bring smiles back to innocent faces.

We, as part of the youth can do much more than we even know. Ms Masoora put forward many options on how we could become active in our society. Tasks as simple as painting a classroom in a rural sector, distributing necessities, helping people affected by natural disasters and many more.

There are many organisations in Islamabad who are willing to work with young volunteers like us. I don't see why we should miss this opportunity.

Thanks to Allah that he has blessed us with all we need. But have we ever stopped for a moment and thought we could make someone else's life as easy as ours too..? Together we can make a CHANGE! And I think it's high time we recognise our responsibilities towards our nation.

The Photography Workshop by Roqaiya Sana Abid

The photography workshop was conducted at SIL by Zeeshan Jamal, a professional photographer. We were introduced to the basics of photography, and it was certainly an informative and engaging session. We learnt that the exposure of pictures results from a combination of three main factors; the aperture, the ISO and the shutter speed. All three balance light with other elements such as the focus, the brightness and the clarity of a picture. He structured the session around the light in stops concept which surprisingly turned out to be technical and mathematical in its nature(not our most favorite areas =p).We learnt that light and focus are inversely related .We were made to realize how complex and calculated the art of photography really is and we amassed a list of handy tips to make our amateur photography more satisfying and aesthetic. We were also made to brainstorm on ways to overcome problems, such as how to brighten a focused picture without adding external light, with surprisingly intelligent and well thought out answers coming forth. Hence it proved to be an interactive session overall and by the end of it when our guest speaker invited us to use his cameras and put our newly learnt concepts to the test, most of us responded with eagerness and zeal and the experimenting began. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience, of a sort quite rare for most law students to come across and there is talk of further building upon the session which is eagerly awaited!



Hirra Junaid..

Things that you simply MUSN'T do right about now

Now plenty of you may be going all hysterical about the upcoming exam frenzy and if you aren't then just be a little patient; it WILL come to you and when it does, feel free to contact God and use all other means of spiritual enlightenment because you will surely need it. My intention is not to scare you but merely to prepare you for what is about to unfold in the coming three months; a lot of crying, hysterical panic attacks including statements such as 'OH MY GOD! I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING. I JUST CAN'T TAKE THE EXAM' and of course the frantic phone calls to Ma'am Nida who, by now, is expected to have mastered the art of consoling, counseling and coping with such dramatic situations.

Well around this time, you are likely to be bombarded with tips as to how you should plan your studies, how you MUST make a time table, how to start preparing for the exams, what all you must learn and how to attempt papers. I, however, have a few things to say in terms of what you most certainly MUSN'T do during these few formidable months to save yourself from much of the hassle and lots of regrets.



It is absolutely imperative that I start with the first thing first and if you're able to relate to it somehow, consider yourself in deep waters my friend. Do I have any guesses coming my way? Are you possibly thinking in terms of ...Face book perhaps? If so, it gives me great pleasure to announce that you and I happen to be on the same page and that this *book* needs to be put to rest in order for you at least function properly let alone start studying. Let us put an end to all the distractions that accompany all these notifications and move on with the realities of life i.e. the fact that more important than the likes and the comments on our pictures are going to be the very special comments by our teachers on our mock exams and let's not even think about what the examiner might have to say (for details; feel free to read the beautifully written remarks on the examiner reports).

Secondly and of almost equal significance is 'What you shouldn't do in the Library'. These, of course encompass literally each and everything that we SIL-ians, in actuality, do in the library, which also unfortunately excludes any parched sign of studying. So let's try to mend our ways and stop switching off the lights and creating a perfect 'mahol' to enjoy our OPTP fries, Kins Crunchy Meals (which are very cheap as opposed to McDonald's and equally yummy if not more- but of course must be eaten in the common room), tea parties and the very exciting lunch breaks that are accompanied by latest bollywood songs being played in the background. The library should be strictly reserved for those intellectual individuals who wish to study and ensure a better future for them. But the chances of that happening are minimal so let's keep in touch with reality and just change the name to the 'Lunching Lounge' perhaps?

Thirdly; and this one is especially for the graduating batch and those fortunate enough to be taking jurisprudence; the philosophy of Law. What you essentially MUSN'T be doing is reading H.L.A Hart's letter to his wife and instead be reading his exquisite piece of weird literature that is 'the concept of law' irrespective of how that may make you 'feel like a vegetable'! It is not the intricacies of Hart's life itself that we are to be tested upon but sadly his thoughts about LAW itself. Although, I do agree that learning about his personal life would have made things much more interesting.

Lastly and almost very importantly; this entire table tennis excitement must, rather sorrowfully come to an end now. Other than the fact that *some people* need to drink Pepsi and play cricket; all you others need to really avail the excellent library facility that you have so generously been provided with. It's about that time of the year that you actually start using the library for purposes other than eating, chilling, discussing dramas and trying out different hairstyles.

Also, just as an added note; despite the fact that this article is more like a *note to self* for the author, all these things must be taken seriously. After all, it has been written by winner of the SIL IQ Test. OH YES!!!