



REPORT OF THE IVTH PROFESSOR LOTIKA SARKAR MEMORIAL LECTURE

Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi, in collaboration with the Centre for Women's Development Studies (CWDS) organized the IVth Professor Lotika Sarkar Memorial Lecture on Saturday, March 4, 2017. The lecture was held at the Seminar Hall of the Campus Law Centre from 11AM to 12.30PM. The lecture entitled "Women's Unequal Status in Family laws in India Today" was delivered by Ms. Kirti Singh, Advocate, Supreme Court of India and Former Member (Part-time), Law Commission of India. The programme was presided over by Prof. Kumud Sharma, Honorary Chairperson, CWDS.



The session commenced with a welcome address and introductory remarks delivered by Prof. Usha Tandon, Professor-in-Charge, CLC. Many eminent luminaries including Prof. Lotika Sarkar's colleagues - Hon'ble Dr. Justice S. Muralidhar (Judge, High Court of Delhi), Prof. B.T. Kaul (Chairperson, Delhi Judicial Academy), Prof. Ved Kumari (Dean



and Head, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi), Prof. M .K. Dikshit (Former Professor, CLC), Prof. Indu Agnihotri (Director and Professor, CWDS), Mr. S. K. Gupta (Associate Professor, CLC) and Prof. Uma Chakravarti (Former Professor, Miranda House, University college for women) remembered the life and teachings of Prof. Lotika Sarkar and shared their anecdotes.



The Remembrances were followed by the Memorial Lecture by Ms. Kirti Singh. It entailed a detailed analysis of all family and personal laws and highlighted the inherent nuances that led to discrimination against women. It highlighted that not only were the laws and their implementation done in a manner so as to victimize women, but also that this contributed towards women's unequal status in present-day society. The secondary position of women in India continues to be a glaring reality as a result of various laws that impact their property as well as other rights at home.



Various reasons for the current scenario were also discussed, which included discriminatory civil and criminal laws as also their enforcement and interpretation. The absence of laws in certain critical areas which, significantly affect women, was also discussed. While focusing on the current status of law, the lecture also threw light on the origins and

evolution of these laws.

The lecture was then followed by the presidential address delivered by Prof. Kumud Sharma, Honorary Chairperson, CWDS. The Memorial Lecture concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Parikshet Sirohi, Assistant Professor, CLC, who was also the Programme Coordinator for this function. Ms. Isha Wadhwa, Assistant Professor, CLC, was the Master of Ceremonies. The Memorial Lecture was followed by High Tea organized at the auditorium, CLC.





CAMPUS LAW CENTRE

University of Delhi

Any organization especially an educational institution, while eyeing development and progress, derives its strength and motivation from its glorious past. It is only the roots that give nourishment to the branches. The



association of Prof. Lotika Sarkar with Campus Law Centre



is an important illustration of the above. For the students and faculty of the campus alike, the Memorial Lecture brought back cherished memories and reiterated what this institution believes in - namely the fact that progress is made possible only by ensuring equality for all and equal growth opportunities to all.

