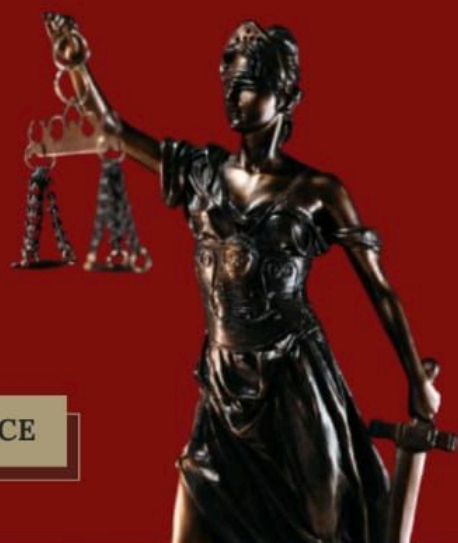








NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CUSTOMARY LAWS AND CUSTOMARY RIGHTS

29-30 JANUARY 2026

OFFLINE CONFERENCE



THEMES:

- | | |
|---|---|
|  CUSTOMARY LAW AND CUSTOMARY RIGHTS |  CUSTOMARY PRACTICES AND CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS |
|  CULTURAL PRACTICES AND SOCIAL JUSTICE |  INTERSECTION OF CUSTOMARY LAW AND FORMAL LEGAL SYSTEMS |
|  INTEGRATION OF CUSTOMARY LAW INTO MODERN LEGAL SYSTEMS |  GENDER AND LEGAL SYSTEMS |

PATRONS

Chief Patron - Padma Shri Prof. (Dr.) Mahesh Verma, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor


Advisor - Dr. Kamal Pathak, Registrar

Conference Chair - Prof. (Dr.) Shivani Goswami, Dean, USLLS

Organising Secretary - Prof. (Dr.) Deepshikha Agarwal

Faculty Convenor - Dr. Zubair Ahmed Khan

CONTACT-

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 **Katyayini Singh Bhadauria (7827506505)**

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Jalaj Khulbe (9212908001)

Student Convenors:

Samriddhi Aggarwal

Yash Jain

GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW & LEGAL STUDIES

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CUSTOMARY LAWS & CUSTOMARY
RIGHTS (29th & 30th January, 2026)**

DETAILED PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

29th January 2026 (Thursday)

Inaugural Session

Time	Activity Details
09:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Registration of the Participants Venue: Outside C Block Seminar Hall
Inaugural Session 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Venue: C Block Seminar Hall	
10:00 AM – 10:05 AM	Lighting of the Lamp
10.05 AM- 10.15 AM	Kulgeet of University
10:15 AM – 10:25 AM	Introduction to the Conference <i>by</i> Prof. (Dr.) Shivani Goswami, <i>Dean, USLLS</i>
10:25 AM – 10:40 AM	Welcome Address <i>by</i> Bratin Sengupta, <i>Former MP, Rajya Sabha (Guest of Honour)</i>
10:40 AM – 11:00 AM	Welcome Address <i>By</i> Retd. Justice Sanjeev Jain, Principal District & Session Judge, New Delhi (<i>Guest of Honour</i>)

Day 1 (After Inaugural Session)

29th January 2026 (Thursday)

Kindly Note:

The Technical Sessions will be held simultaneously in the following rooms:

1. **C-413 [C Block, 4th Floor]**

Room In-Charge: Sujal, Session Management Team[Ph. No.: +91 9810361294]

Session Moderator: Pushpendra, Session Management Team[Ph. No.: +919013324222]

2. **C-412 [C Block, 4th Floor]**

Room In-Charge: Deepanshu, Session Management Team [Ph. No.: 8368912843]

Session Moderator: Smriti Parmanandka, Session Management Team[Ph. No.: +91 7428707949]

Session Moderator In-charge: Priyansh & Bhoomi [Ph. No.: +91 8178292861 & 9711197776]

In case of any confusion regarding your room and session, you may kindly contact the respective Room In-charges or the Session Moderator.

Time	Activity/session details
11:30 AM – 01:30 PM	<p style="text-align: center;">Technical Session – 1</p> <p>Venue: C-412 [C Block, 4th Floor] Chair: Prof. Ritu Gupta, Faculty of Legal Studies, South Asian University Co-chair: Dr. Altaf Hussain, USLA</p> <p>Paper 1: <i>“A Critical Study of Customary Marriage and Divorce Laws: Exploring Legal Pluralism and Modern Reforms”</i> Presenter: Prof (Dr.) Kamaljit kaur& Payal Singh Designation: Prof of Law & B.A. LL. b. (Hons.) Student, Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law</p> <p>Paper 2: <i>“Absorbed Realities: How Advertisements Rewrite Cultural Imagination in Contemporary India”</i> Presenter: Anuja Saklani & Dr. (Prof). Ravinder Kumar Designation: Research Scholar LAW USLLS, GGSIPU & Professor, USLLS, GGSIPU</p>

	<p>Paper 3: <i>“Mediation as an Expression of Customs and Volksgeist: A Jurisprudential Analysis of India’s Conflict Resolution Culture”</i> Presenter: Dr. Priti Ramani Nayyar Designation: Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi</p> <p>Paper 4: <i>“Evolving Dimensions of Customary International Law: Intersections of Trade, Human Rights and Gender Norms in a Globalising World”</i> Presenter: Dr. Raveena Bhargava Designation: Associate Professor of Law, Delhi Metropolitan Education, DME Law School, Affiliated to GGSIPU, Delhi</p> <p>Paper 5: <i>“Gender and Customary Rights: Protecting Indigenous Women’s Land and Cultural Rights in India”</i> Presenter: Harshvardhan Goutam & Dr. Nitesh Saraswat Designation: Research Scholar & Assistant Professor (Sr.), Faculty of Law, University of Delhi</p> <p>Paper 6: <i>“Changing Roles of Khap Panchayats of Haryana in Contemporary Times”</i> Presenter: Mohit Hooda Designation: Research scholar, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University Delhi</p> <p>Paper 7: <i>“Customary Notion of Honour and Community Morality: Their role in over criminalisation of consensual adolescent relationships under POCSO”</i> Presenter: Samreen Warsi & Sukaina Mehdi Designation: Assistant Professors, Jamia Hamdard University and Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies- TC</p>
01:30 PM – 02:00 PM	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Venue: C block Seminar Hall</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Technical Session – 2</p> <p>Venue: C-413 [C Block, 4th Floor] Chair: Prof. Kanwal DP Singh, Professor, USLLS, GGSIPU Co-chair: Dr. Priti Ramani Nayyar, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi</p> <p>Paper 1: <i>“Customary Laws and Environmental Protection: Understanding Supreme Court of India’s Evolving Jurisprudence”</i> Presenter: Kavita Designation: Assistant Professor (Law), TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi</p>

<p>02:00 PM – 04:00 PM</p>	<p>Paper 2: <i>“There is No Compulsory Custom or Customary Law: Every Practice is only a Need of Its Time”</i> Presenter: Darshan Meena & Priyanshu Tawar Designation: LLM, Students, University school of law and legal studies</p> <p>Paper 3: <i>“Customary Marriage and Inheritance Practices: Challenges in Aligning with Statutory Family Law”</i> Presenter: Shefali & Richa Arora Designation: Assistant Professors, Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies-TC</p> <p>Paper 4: <i>“An Inquiry into the Gendered Architecture of Customary Inheritance Regimes in India: Re-situating the Contemporary Status of Tribal Women's Proprietary Claims”</i> Presenter: Akanksha Yadav & Ishita Bisht Designation: Assistant Professors, Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies- Technical Campus</p> <p>Paper 5: <i>“Displacement and Customary Rights: Assessing the Social Justice Impact of Development Projects on Indigenous Communities”</i> Presenter: Devvrat Shivhare&Kanakshi Nema Designation: Ph.D. Scholar & Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi and School of Law, UPES, Dehradun</p> <p>Paper 6: <i>“Reconciling Customary Law with Investment Rights: Challenges and Policy Innovations in Modern Legal Systems”</i> Presenter: Manmeet Dhillon Designation: Research Scholar, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (USLLS)</p> <p>Paper 7: <i>“Codification of Bru (Riang) Customary Law: A Socio-Legal Study Under the Sixth Schedule Framework in Tripura”</i> Presenter: SharyauraiRiang Designation: Doctoral Scholar, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Technical Session – 3</p> <p>Venue: C-412 [C Block, 4th Floor] Chair: Prof. Versha Vahini, Registrar and Professor at School of Law, Bennett University. Co-chair: Dr. Shikha Sharma, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, University</p>

02:00 PM – 04:00 PM	<p>Paper 1: <i>“Legal framework supporting indigenous entrepreneurship, sustainable economic initiatives and customary practices in Health and well-being”</i> Presenter: Gulista Zehra Designation: Research Scholar, Mangalayatan university, Aligarh</p> <p>Paper 2: <i>“Customary Law in Contemporary India: Challenges and Policy Recommendations”</i> Presenter: Vung Suan Chingi Designation: Research Scholar, Department of Law, Assam University, Silchar</p> <p>Paper 3: <i>“Rebuilding the Bhartiya concept of constitutional morality”</i> Presenter: Akash Tripathi Designation: Research Scholar, JNU, New Delhi</p> <p>Paper 4: <i>“Aligning Indigenous Customs in an Era of Modern Legal Systems: Ensuring Repressive and Restitutive Justice in Zo Society”</i> Presenter: Chinggelniang & L Do Sian Mung Designation: Research Scholar, Independent Researcher, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi</p> <p>Paper 5: <i>“Custom v Constitutionalism: Survival of Indigenous Norms with Formal Legal Standardization”</i> Presenter: Kunjal Bhatnagar Designation: Student, ICFAI Law School, IFHE Hyderabad</p> <p>Paper 6: <i>“Avatar Jurisprudence and the Virtual Commons: Pixels, Precedents, and the Accelerated Birth of Customary Law Through Virtual Opinio Juris in Borderless Digital Realms”</i> Presenter: Dr. Vinayak Jhamb & Mr. Dev Maheshwari & Mr. Kunwar Ansh Designation: Assistant Professor in Law, VSLLS; 5th year student, USLLS, GGSIPU and 5th year student, IIMT, GGSIPU</p> <p>Paper 7: <i>“Customary Environmental Stewardship as a Framework for Climate Justice”</i> Presenter: Shubham Kumar Jha & Mahi pandit Designation: Students, PES UNIVERSITY</p>
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For the Presentations that are to be done Online:

Kindly Note:

The Technical Sessions will be held on Google Meet:

Room In-Charge: Bhavya, Session Management Team [Ph. No.: +91 8851056432]

Session Moderator: Karan, Session Management Team [Ph. No.: +9179827 40364]

Session Moderator In-charge: Aanya Singh [Ph. No.: +91 9911159696]

Schedule for Online Presentations

29th January 2026 (Thursday) from 5.30 pm onwards

Time	Activity Details
	<p>Venue: Virtual Session (through Google meet) Chair: Prof. Vandana Singh, USLLS, GGSIPU</p> <p>Co-chair: Dr.Tulishree Pradhan, Associate Professor, KIIT School of Law, KIIT University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha</p> <p>Paper 1: <i>“Legal Pluralism Across Continents: Lessons from Customary Law in the Balkans for India’s Indigenous Legal Traditions”</i> Presenter: Prarthana Puthur& Keerthana Puthur Designation: Students, DamodaramSanjivayya National Law University</p>
	<p>Paper 2: <i>“CUSTOMARY LAW AND GENDER: A study with reference to state of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab”</i> Presenter: Ms. Perna Designation: Assistant Professor, School of Law and Legal Studies, DAV University, Jalandhar, Punjab, India.</p>
	<p>Paper 3: <i>“Reimagining the proof of custom: A proposal for a Customary Practices Digital Library in India”</i> Presenter: Komal Designation: 4th year law student, RGNUL, Patiala</p>

	<p>Paper 4: <i>“Customary Law and Formal Legal Frameworks: A Socio-Legal Analysis of Barriers to Women’s Inheritance Rights among the Naga Tribes”</i></p> <p>Presenter: LopiloHuntsoe</p> <p>Designation: Research Scholar, Nagaland University, Lumami</p>
	<p>Paper 5: <i>“Understanding Customary Law in the Contemporary India: A Study of Communities Practice vs. Constitutional Balance.”</i></p> <p>Presenter: Ram Pandey</p> <p>Designation: B.A.L.L.B (Hons.) Student, City Law College, Lucknow</p>
	<p>Paper 6: <i>“Pluralism or Paradox? Polygamy under Muslim Personal Law and the Challenges of Aligning Customary Practices with Modern Indian Law”</i></p> <p>Presenter: Sainoornayab & Nandini rauthan</p> <p>Designation: Students, Galgotias university</p>
	<p>Paper 7: <i>“Customary Dispute Resolution Forums in India: Gender Exclusion, Constitutional Guarantees and the Absence of Statutory Regulations”</i></p> <p>Presenter: Dr. Ashu Dhiman</p> <p>Designation: Assistant Professor (Sr.), Vivekananda School of Law & Legal Studies</p>
	<p>Paper 8: <i>“Tribal People their Customary Rights and the Law: Regulating Commercial Use of Biological Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in India”</i></p> <p>Presenter: Dr Irwin Lalmuanpuii Hnamte</p> <p>Designation: Assistant Professor (Selection Grade), Law Centre II, Faculty of Law, Delhi</p>
END OF DAY 1	

Day 2

30th January 2026 (Friday)

Kindly Note:

The Technical Session will be held in the following room:

1. C-413 [C Block, 4th Floor]

Room In-Charge: Jivitesh[Ph. No.: +91 8586875025]

Session Moderator: Bhavya Batra [Ph. No.: +91 8851056432]

Session Moderator In-charge: Jaya [Ph. No.: +9170119 53248]

In case of any confusion regarding your session, you may kindly contact the respective Room In-charges or the Session Moderator.

Time	Activity/Session Details
10:30 AM – 12:50 PM	<p style="text-align: center;">Technical Session – 4</p> <p>Venue: C-413 [C Block, 4th Floor] Chair: Prof. Deeksha Katyal, Professor, University School of Environment Management, GGSIPU Co-chair: Dr. Prem Chand, Associate Professor, National Law University</p> <p>Paper 1: “<i>From Customary Debt to the IBC: A Comparative Study of India’s Evolution from Ancient and Medieval Debt Resolution Mechanisms to Modern Insolvency Law</i>” Presenter: Manas Raj Singh & Trisha Shankar Designation: PGIP-LLM Candidate & Student, National Law University Delhi</p> <p>Paper 2: “<i>Recalibrating Custom and Modernity: Examining the Negotiation of Customary Law within Contemporary Legal and Public Health Frameworks</i>” Presenter: Pranav Raj & Vanshika Gupta Designation: Students, Gitarattan International Business School</p> <p>Paper 3: “<i>From Fluid Customs to Solid Codes: The White Man’s Burden in Colonial India’s Legal Crystallization</i>” Presenter: Divyanshi Gangwani & Aadya Kumar Designation: Students, IP UNIVERSITY</p>

	<p>Paper 4: <i>“Between Faith and Flow: Addressing the Impacts of cultural rituals on River ecosystem and finding harmony between custom and conservation.”</i> Presenter: Saamya Gautam & Shailja Yadav Designation: Students, USLLS, GGSIPU and South Asian University, New Delhi</p> <p>Paper 5: <i>“Environmental Issues AndThe Question of Social Justice”</i> Presenter: Palak Anand & Komal Singh Designation: Students, JIMS EMTC, GGSIPU</p> <p>Paper 6: <i>“Revisiting Customary Law Through a Gender Lens: Challenges to Women’s Legal Rights in India”</i> Presenter: Rakshit Dhingra & Disha Designation: Students, University School of Law and Legal Studies, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi</p> <p>Paper 7: <i>“Customs to Code: Examining Hindu Women’s Property Rights from Customary Practices to Modern Legal Frameworks”</i> Presenter: Dr. Ankita Kumar Gupta & Dr. Gunjan Ahuja Designation: Assistant Professor, VIPS, New Delhi</p>
	<p>Paper 8: <i>“Harmonizing Traditional Practices with Modern Public Health: Challenges and Opportunities in Contemporary times”</i> Presenter: Dr. Amita Designation: Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies-Technical Campus, Delhi</p>
01:00 PM – 02:15 PM	Valedictory Ceremony
END OF DAY 2	

Valedictory Ceremony

Time	Activity Details
Valedictory Ceremony 01:00 PM – 02:15 PM Venue: C Block Seminar Hall	
01:00 PM – 01:10 PM	Conclusion to the Conference <i>by</i> Prof. (Dr.) Shivani Goswami, <i>Dean, USLLS</i>
01:10 PM – 01:45 PM	Valedictory Address <i>by</i> Prof. R.P Mitra, Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi (<i>Guest of Honour</i>)
01:45 PM – 01:55 PM	Concluding Remarks/Closing Remarks <i>by</i> Prof. (Dr.) Deepshikha Aggarwal, <i>Organising Secretary</i>
1:55 PM – 02:10 PM	Presentation of Certificates To the presenters and the student team
2:10 PM – 02:15 PM	Vote of Thanks <i>by</i> Dr. Zubair Ahmed Khan, <i>Faculty Convenor</i>
Tea 02:15 PM Onwards	