

**NATIONAL WEBINAR** 

On

# Dilemma of the Age of Marriage and Women's Rights



Organized by

Faculty of Law University of Lucknow

Under the Aegis of

Higher Education
State Government, Uttar Pradesh



January 18, 2025 (Saturday)
Faculty of Law
University of Lucknow
Lucknow-226031



# Dilemma of the Age of Marriage and Women's Rights

**Date**: 18/01/2025 **Time**: 9AM

Platform: Google Meet

Registration Link: <a href="https://forms.gle/T9FTWKWdTZxUCUdU9">https://forms.gle/T9FTWKWdTZxUCUdU9</a>

#### **About the University**



The University of Lucknow, established in 1921, traces its roots to Canning College, founded in 1864. Initially aimed at enhancing education in the region, it became a significant center for learning, merging with the university upon its formation. The university's establishment was propelled by local leaders and educationists who envisioned a comprehensive institution for higher education in Uttar Pradesh.

The university offers diverse programs across faculties such as Arts, Science, Commerce, Law, and Medicine. It has gained recognition for its academic excellence, ranking 101st in the NIRF 2023 overall category and A++ grade in NAAC. The campus features impressive Indo-Saracenic architecture and modern facilities, fostering a conducive environment for learning.

With a commitment to research and innovation, the University of Lucknow houses several specialized departments, including Mathematics and Astronomy, which pioneered the study of Hindu Mathematics in India. The university also emphasizes cultural activities and student engagement through various societies and events.

Over the years, it has evolved into a hub for intellectual growth and social development, contributing significantly to the educational landscape of India. As it continues to adapt to contemporary educational needs, the University of Lucknow remains dedicated to nurturing future leaders and professionals.

#### **About Faculty of Law**

The Faculty of Law, University of Lucknow is a pioneer legal institution of India. It was established in 1921 with three teachers. Mr. Jag Mohan Nath Chak was its first Dean. The real architect was Prof. R. U. Singh with great zeal and enthusiasm organized teaching and research in the faculty in the systematic way. He held office of the dean, faculty of Law till 1956. He also structured the Law Faculty of Delhi University and Law School, B.H.U. The distinction goes to him that he drafted the Constitution of Nepal.

Dr. V. N. Shukla, the well-known authority on Constitutional Law was the first LL.M. of the University. His book on the Constitution is an authoritative Volume. Dr. A.T. Markos was the first LL.D. of the faculty. He also held the office of the Director, Indian Law Institute.

The first Post Graduate Diploma in Criminology was started in 1964. The Post Graduate Diploma in "Environmental Pollution Law", "Consumer Protection Law", "Labour and Personnel Management" were started in 1994. The Post Graduate Diploma in "Criminal Procedure and Advocacy" was started in the year 1995. The Faculty has introduced LL.B. (Hons.) Five Year Course in 1995. The Faculty offers Undergraduate, Post Graduate, Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Programmes. The Faculty has introduced CBCS System in LL.M. Programme. The Faculty is running a Centre of Excellence on Gandhian Dream of Litigation Free Village. The Faculty was runner up in K.K. Luthra Memorial Moot Court in 2018. The Faculty hosts Dr. R.U. Singh Memorial National Moot Court.

#### **Campus of the Faculty**

The Law Faculty was separated from main Campus and shifted to the new Campus having a total area of more than 75 acres located on the Sitapur Road, Lucknow from 2002-03. The newly constructed three storied building has twenty-four lecture rooms, 2 model class rooms with smartboard, libraries, legal aid hospital etc. Distance from Lucknow Railway Station is nearly 12 kilometers. The Faculty has residential facilities for students and staff. The campus has two Girl's hostel, two Boy's hostels, staff quarters and a well-equipped Canteen, Play-ground among others including Bank and Police outpost. Thus, the campus is a self-contained unit to provide all infrastructural facilities to teachers as well as students. A congenial atmosphere and environment have been created where professional excellence and human virtues are being cultivated.

#### **Overview of the Conference**

The issue of the age of consent and the legal age of marriage is a critical intersection of law, human rights, and social justice. It is an area that directly impacts women's autonomy, health, and opportunities for socio-economic advancement. Despite the global progress in recognizing women's rights, child marriage remains a prevalent issue in many regions, particularly in developing countries. Legal frameworks governing the age of consent and marriage continue to evolve, yet their implementation often remains inconsistent and influenced by cultural norms, economic pressures, and political agendas.

This conference seeks to provide a comprehensive platform for exploring the multifaceted issues surrounding the age of consent, child marriage, and their implications on women's rights. The primary goal is to bring together legal scholars, policymakers, gender activists, and social scientists to engage in a dynamic dialogue on how national and international laws address these challenges and what reforms are needed to protect young girls from early marriage and its harmful consequences.

The discussions will cover several critical areas, including the historical evolution of age-related marriage laws, the role of international human rights conventions, and the influence of social, religious, and cultural factors on marriage practices. Experts will also delve into the socio-economic impact of early marriage, focusing on women's health, education, and overall empowerment. Through the lens of socio-legal analysis, the conference will explore the barriers to legal reform and offer concrete policy recommendations to combat child marriage and improve legal protections for women.

Ultimately, this conference aims to foster a deeper understanding of the legal, cultural, and societal dynamics at play and inspire actionable strategies for creating a more just and equitable society where women and girls can exercise their fundamental rights, free from the constraints of early marriage and coercion.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore the history, evolution, and challenges related to the age of consent and marriage, analyze national and international legal frameworks, and reflect on the intersection of law and societal norms.

#### **Key Topics of Discussion**

#### 1. Historical Context of the Age of Consent and Marriage Laws

- Origins of age-related marriage laws and their evolution.
- The social, cultural, and political factors influencing these laws.

#### 2. The Legal Landscape: National and International Perspectives

- Comparison of age of consent and marriage laws in various countries.
- International conventions and treaties addressing child marriage and the protection of minors.

#### 3. The Intersection of Law, Culture, and Women's Rights

- How cultural norms shape the legal status of women in different societies.
- The role of education, social movements, and advocacy in challenging harmful practices.

#### 4. Challenges and Controversies: The Debate Over Legal Reform

- Debates over increasing or decreasing the age of consent.
- The role of family law, religious laws, and customary practices in shaping the legal framework.

# 5. Impact on Women's Health, Education, and Empowerment

- The long-term consequences of early marriage and early sexual consent on women's physical, mental, and emotional well-being.
- The link between early marriage and limited opportunities for education and economic independence.

#### 6. Women's Rights Advocacy: Policy Recommendations and Solutions

 Effective strategies for advocacy and reform to protect young girls and women's rights. • The role of governments, NGOs, and international organizations in strengthening legal protections for women.

#### **Call for Papers**

We invite scholars, researchers, legal professionals, and activists to submit original papers for presentation during the webinar. The papers should engage with the legal, socio-legal, and cultural dimensions of the age of consent, marriage, and women's rights, and address any of the above-mentioned Key Topics of Discussion.

#### **Submission Guidelines:**

- Papers should be between 4000-8000 words in length.
- English papers: Please format the paper using Times New Roman, Heading 14 pt, Body 12 pt.
- Hindi papers: Please format the paper using Unicode, Heading 16 pt, Body 14 pt.
- Submissions must be formatted according to the Indian Law Institute (ILI) citation style. Citation Style Guide.
- All papers will undergo a peer review process.
- Abstracts (300-500 words) and the full paper must be submitted to researchprojectlkouniv@gmail.com by 31-12-2024.

# Why Attend?

- Gain insights into the complex interplay between law, culture, and women's rights.
- Understand the legal frameworks surrounding age of consent and marriage and their impact on women globally.
- Learn about current legal reform efforts and how you can contribute to positive change in your community.
- Engage with experts and network with fellow attendees interested in women's rights and legal advocacy.

#### Who Should Attend?

- Legal professionals and students
- Policymakers and human rights advocates
- Sociologists and gender studies researchers
- Activists and advocates for women's rights and social justice
- Anyone interested in the intersection of law, culture, and gender equality

# **Registration Information**

# **How to Register:**

- 1. Visit: <a href="https://forms.gle/T9FTWKWdTZxUCUdU9">https://forms.gle/T9FTWKWdTZxUCUdU9</a>
- 2. Fill out the registration form with your details.
- 3. Join WhatsApp group for further information.

# ORGANISING TEAM PATRON-IN-CHIEF



Prof. (Dr.) Alok K. Rai Vice-Chancellor University of Lucknow

# **PATRON**



Prof. (Dr.) B.D. Singh
Dean & Head
Faculty of Law, University of Lucknow

# **CONVENER**



Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh K. Singh Principal Investigator, Director (IInd Campus) & Professor of Law Faculty of Law, University of Lucknow

# **ORGANISING SECRETARY**

Mr. Pradeep K. Singh Project Fellow

For further inquiries, please contact us at: Email: researchprojectlkouniv@gmail.com