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29/9/06

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Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vijender Jain, Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court

Hon'ble Judges and Former Judges of Delhi High Court

Respected Mr. Justice D.P. Wadhwa for Mr. Justice S. Ram Swarup

Judges of Delhi Judiciary,

Mr. A. S. Chandiok, President High Court Bar Association

Kishan Vohra Secy High Court

Members of Bar Council of Delhi,

President and Office Bearers of Bar Associations of Delhi Courts,

Family Members of Late Shri Kundan Lal Arora, Senior Advocate

Distinguish Guests, Dear Colleagues,

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Mr. Kundan Lal Arora was born on 15.12.1912. He did his graduation, post graduation and law from Lahore and started his profession as an Advocate with Punjab High Court at Lahore

The glorious life and professional career of Mr. Kundan Lal Arora is a journey from a small town in District Lahore to his rise as a great prolific practicing lawyer in Delhi, which is an inspiring and motivating one for all of us. After the partition Mr. Arora started his practice initially at Tis Hazari and Parliament Street before finally establishing himself at the Delhi High Court as the leading Criminal Lawyer specialising in defending matters pertaining to commercial fraud and economic offences.

The competence and the greatness of Mr. Arora lies in the fact that he was equally successful in prosecuting and in defending matters.

Mr. Arora was an institution in himself as an immaculate defence lawyer at the trial as well as at appellate stage and shot to prominence in defending Sanjay Gandhi in 'Kissa Kursi Ka' case and George Farnandiz in 'Baroda Dynamite Case'.

With equal competence, he prosecuted matters of Tax Evasion the most significant was that of Mr. Surender Singh Kairon which eventually resulted in his conviction and that of Usha Advani under Customs Act where Mr. Arora appeared for the customs department. Mr. Arora has also appeared as special prosecutor on behalf of the CBI in notorious passports scandal case.

Mr. Arora earned a great name in prosecuting persons accused of assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

Sh. P.P. Malhotra
Sh. J.R. Mittal
Mukta Gupta
Standing committee
(Criminal)

Before retiring from active practice in year 2000, after putting 64 glorious years, Mr. Arora served even as Standing counsel (criminal) and after retiring from the active practice his entire library enriched the library of Karkardooma Bar Association

Mr. Arora always enjoyed great reputation and trust at Bench as well as Bar as he was always prepared with the facts and the law and at great reputation of honesty integrity and fairness. His excellence lied in his skill of Court Craft which he mastered over the years and he never lost his temper in the Court and remained not only punctual but also respectful to everybody alone.

Mr. Arora's office has produced many judges like justice D.P. Wadhwa, Justice Taranjit Talwar, Justice D.K. Jain, Justice N.K. Chawla, Justice Satpal and even our current law Minister Mr. H.L. Bhardwaj lawyers like Mr. P.P. Malhotra, Mr. Krit Mehta, Mr. Harish Gulati, Mr. Sunil Mehta, Mr. Arvind Nigam and Mr. Anil Kher, Mr. B.R. Handa, Mr. R.D. Jolly have roots in that office only. Its not only the Junior Lawyers who worked in his chamber benefited from him but others have also learnt a lot from him.

Gandhiji in his autobiography My Experiments With Truth said, I quote, "But the path of self purification is hard and steep. To attain to perfect purity one has to become absolutely passion free in thought, speech and action; to rise above the opposing currents of love and hatred, attachment and repulsion."

Late Mr. Kundan Lal Arora was among the few one, who was able to follow this path of self-purification.

Being a bachelor he lead a saintly life. He encouraged plain living and high thinking, demonstrated the superiority of mind over body, of soul over mind. He overcame evil by good, sorrow by joy, cruelty by kindness, ignorance by wisdom.

Members of Bar Council feel that if the road leading to Delhi High Court is renamed as Kundan Lal Arora Marg, that would be a tribute to the departed soul. May I request the Chief Justice to convey this feelings to the concerned authorities, I also request the Chief Justice to kindly convey our respect and condolences to the family of departed soul.

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Ramesh Gupta
Chairman
Bar Council
Delhi