Law refers to a set of regulations of and rules that govern a particular society.

However there are various definitions of law according to various schools of thought and scholars since their is no definite of law as analysed below.

Natural school of thought. Interpreted law to mean the principles that exist naturally and are discovered through right of reasoning in an individual.

Law is the command of a sovereign.” in other words, if it comes from a recognized authority and can be enforced by that authority, such as a king, a president, who has power within a defined area or territory.

The historical school of law believes that societies should base their legal decisions today on the examples of the past. Precedent would be more important than moral arguments.

Litigation refers to the legal process of settling disputes through courts of competent jurisdiction.

A court is a permanently organized body, with independent judicial powers defined by law meeting at a time and placed fixed by law for the judicial administration of justice.

The judiciary is established under chapter eight of the constitution and also exercises its powers in the name of the people.

Article 129 of the constitution lays down the court structure and system which comprises of the supreme court, court of Appeal/ constitutional court, high court and other subordinate courts ie chief magistrates’ courts.

The supreme court stands at the top of the judicial pyramid. Its the final appellant court in Uganda in its capacity as the constitutional court and in cases that involves death penalty as AG v Susan kigula and 417. It takes precedence from its ruling and may also revert it were it deems it fit. The supreme court also has unlimited original jurisdiction in hearing presidential electoral petitions per the case of

Court of Appeal under Article 134 has unlimited original jurisdiction to sustain all criminal and civil suits from the high court. It’s also the last resort court in election petitions of parliamentary level and Local government. The Court of appeal also seats as the constitutional court under Article 137 which also has unlimited original jurisdiction in hear constitutional petitions.

The high court is established under Article 138. It has unlimited original jurisdiction in all matters and such appellate and other jurisdiction as provided under the constitution. It has original jurisdiction in hearing elections petitions of parliamentary.

Magistrates’ courts. They are established under section 2 of the Magistrates Courts Act. The have limited pecuniary jurisdiction and they are divided into two i.e. the chief magistrates’ court and grade one magistrate. Since they are lower courts their jurisdiction is limited and guided by section 161 of Magistrates Courts Act in criminal cases and section 220 of the same Act in Civil

Local Courts. They are established under by section 3 of the Local council Courts Act 2006. cases. They are established at a very level, parish, town division and sub-county level and Their jurisdiction runs in hierarchy.

However Court ligation is not only the licit mode of resolving disputes there is also the option of Alternative Dispute resolution.

ADR refers to the processes of resolving disputes other than litigation. It has a number of modes in its application as analysed below.

1. Arbitration; is a process in which a third neutral person renders a decision on the merits of the case.
2. Mediation; Is a non- binding process in which an impartial third party facilitates the negotiations process between the disputants.
3. Negotiations; Is a form communication between or more people for the purpose of arriving at a mutually agreeable solutions.

In the case of Rabo enterprises v Commissioner of URA. Alternative Dispute resolution was used to resolve the matter.

**Relevance of law in society is that Law sets the standard for acceptable (and unacceptable) behaviours**, **provides access to justice, keeps everyone** safe, **protects the most vulnerable in society**, facilitates the **process of creating laws encourages civil and political engagement**, **offers people a variety of career options, important to maintaining peace**, aids in **social progress and make human rights a reality**

**In conclusion, I disagree with** Musa Settenda that meaning of the law is mystifying and that Law has no utility in any country and the only licit mode to determine disputes in Uganda is litigation as discussed above.