



YUGANTAR

नास्ति सत्यात्परो धर्मः

Reclaiming Bharat's Legal & Governance Thought

RETRIAL OF HISTORY

“The Young Judiciary Experiment”



About the Competition:

Yugantar Law Conclave presents Retrieval of History, a unique constitutional simulation designed to examine how India's landmark judicial decisions might be reimagined in a future Republic rooted in civilisational values, constitutional morality, and technological realities.

Participants reopen a historic Supreme Court judgement and subject it to fresh scrutiny, asking:

- If Bharat were deciding this case today- with its cultural memory, democratic maturity, and technological future- what would justice look like?

This is not a moot court.

It is a civilisational re-examination of law.



Competition Philosophy:

The competition is designed around two distinct judicial roles:

- **The Preliminary Round identifies those who can think like judges-** who can weigh law, ethics, civilisation and the future to imagine what justice should be.
- **The Final Round identifies those who can argue like Lawyers-** who can rigorously apply facts and law to defend a side before a constitutional bench.

This structure ensures that Yugantar tests both judicial imagination and legal advocacy

Competition Format:

This is a team-based judicial simulation where all participants engage with one landmark judgement of the Supreme Court of India.

Each team consists of three members:

- Two arguing counsels
- One researcher- strategists

Teams are formed by the organisers to ensure diversity and fairness.



Objectives for each Team:

Using the same judgment, each team must:

- Analyse the facts and legal issues
- Examine the constitutional reasoning
- Question its ethical and civilisational foundations
- Consider its impact in a technologically advanced future
- Propose whether and how the judgment should be re-imagined

Event Structure:

Preliminary Round (The Court of Ideas)

All teams appear before a Screening Bench.

Each team must answer:

Should this judgment be re-written today? If yes, how? If no, why not?

They must use:

- The original facts
- Constitutional principles
- Civilisational ethics (Nyāya, Dharma)
- Future implications



Each team must present its re-interpretation of the judgment, explaining:

- What justice demands today
- What the court decided
- Whether it should change or stay the same
- How Indian values and future challenges affect it

The purpose of this round is to identify which teams think most like future judges. The top two teams qualify for the Grand Retrial.

Teams are not opposing each other in this round. They are presenting four different judicial views of the same case.

The Pre-Round will be conducted in a courtroom-style setting with:

- A bench table for three judges
- A visible countdown clock
- Seating for audience and teams
- A projector or screen (optional) for visual aids



Team Composition

Each team will consist of three members:

- Two speaking counsels
- One researcher–strategist

Allowed Materials:

Teams are permitted to use:

- Printed notes
- Printed copy of the judgment and laws
- One A4-size visual sheet (optional)

Use of mobile phones, laptops, or internet is not permitted during the round.

Time Structure (per team)

- Presentation: 7 minutes
- Judicial Questioning: 8 minutes

Total time per team: 15 minutes



Screening Bench

The Pre-Round will be judged by a three-member Screening Bench consisting of:

- One legal academic
- One practising senior lawyer
- One Indian Knowledge Systems / civilisational scholar

Judging Criteria (100 Marks)

Teams will be evaluated on:

- Legal reasoning and use of law – 30 marks
- Civilisational grounding (Nyāya & Dharma) – 20 marks
- Quality of remedy and practical enforceability – 15 marks
- Responses to judicial questioning – 15 marks
- Team balance and participation – 10 marks
- Presentation, clarity and courtroom decorum – 10 marks

Selection for Final Round

The two teams with the highest total scores will qualify for the Final Round (Grand Retrial).



Feedback

Each team will receive:

- One short written feedback note from the judges
- One area of strength
- One area for improvement

This feedback will be handed to the teams after the Pre-Round.

The Grand Retrial: The Court of Law

The two teams now argue the original case as opposing parties before the Yugantar Grand Bench.

They must rely strictly on:

- The original facts
- The law as it existed at the time
- Constitutional provisions and precedents

This round identifies those who can practice law with discipline, depth, and constitutional integrity.



Final Round — Grand Retrial (Day 2) — the “Court of Law”

Objective: Two finalist teams switch to adversarial roles (Petitioner vs Respondent) and argue the old facts using the law as it stood at the time.

Final round format

- Opening of Court & Bench introduction — 5 min
- Petitioners’ main argument — 20 min
- Respondents’ main argument — 20 min
- Petitioners’ rebuttal — 5 min
- Respondents’ sur-rebuttal — 5 min (optional)
- Bench questioning (interleaved, max 25 min)
- Bench deliberation — 10–15 min
- Pronouncement of the Yugantar Judgment — 5–10 min

Total ~90 minutes.



Constraints for final arguments

- Teams must argue only on the facts/law as of the original case (no new social tech facts that did not exist then), but may reference consequences for 2047 in answer to bench questions. This preserves legal realism while keeping the future lens in deliberation.

The Yugantar Bench

The Bench consists of:

- A retired judge
- A constitutional scholar
- An Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) expert
- A technology or policy thinker

Judging Criteria

Teams will be assessed on:

- Legal accuracy and reasoning
- Civilisational and ethical depth
- Constitutional understanding
- Future relevance
- Clarity, teamwork, and courtroom conduct



Awards

- o Winning Team (Yugantar Laurels)
- o Best Advocate (Best legal advocacy)
- o Bench's Choice (Most courageous argument)

Prize Pool: ₹ 10,000

Entry fee: ₹ 900 per team

**Kindly make the payment via the
registration link**

DEADLINE: 15th feburary



Registration Link



For more enquiries,

Contact:-

1. Gayatri Sangamkar: +91 7796417271

2. Aditya Vikram: +91 9368241758

General Queries:-

1. Shruti Rawat: +91 9309421556

For more updates follow:

