

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-21

Centre Name: CENTRE FOR WOMEN AND LAW

Logo:



About Us:

The Centre for Women & Law (CWL) is a Research Centre of National Law University Odisha which works with the combined effort of faculty members and students of NLUO. The Centre was established with a view of having a platform for unremitting study of the structural, societal, legal and regulatory issues associated with gender from a multi-disciplinary perspective. The CWL aims to look at regulatory process through the lens of gender justice, and to disseminate the research work through varied mediums such as academic publications, training programmes, webinars, government consultation projects with a view to apprise the policy, initiate change that would promote equitable justice for women in Indian society.

Vision and Mission:

VISION

The Centre envisions to undertake studies and raise awareness through holistic approach to gender issues, working towards equity and justice for all and provide a deeper legal and cultural appreciation of power imbalance. CWL operates as a research support group undertaking research projects, training and capacity building programmes for women's organisations and formal bodies involved with the execution of laws affecting women. It also works towards dissemination of knowledge and sensitization of society through its publications, webinars and conferences.

MISSION

The Centre has been established with the goal of promoting and encouraging research, new ideas, views, approaches, discussions and disseminating high-quality literature on issues concerning 'women and law'. In this context, the objective of the Centre is to

- To establish, promote, and support interdisciplinary studies and research in the subject of gender justice that are at the crossroads of law and policy.
- To undertake policy review and conduct a thorough evaluation of existing legislation and propose fact-based, concrete solutions to address current public policy concerns.
- To engage in comprehensive research and capacity building on issues concerning women's wellbeing and gender justice in India.
- To engage in an interdisciplinary research consuetude for augmenting the appreciation of legal, cultural and social issues in gender studies for law graduates and professionals.
- To improve public policy in the areas of women's rights, education, mental health, and overall welfare by conducting independent, nonpartisan, and thorough research and analysis.

Objectives of the Centre: The Centre for Women and Law aims to empower women by increasing their understanding of their legal rights and entitlements. This involves conducting workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns to educate women about various laws that affect them, such as those related to marriage, property rights, domestic violence, workplace harassment, and inheritance. The Centre engages in rigorous research to analyze existing laws and policies related to women's rights. It identifies gaps, inconsistencies, and areas in need of improvement, and then advocate for policy changes based on evidence-backed research. This involves engaging with policymakers, lawmakers, and government bodies to influence legal reforms. This Centre focuses on gathering and analyzing data related to women's legal issues, such as cases of violence against women, discrimination, and economic disparities. Data-driven insights can inform policy decisions and highlight areas where interventions are most needed. The Centre provides training programs and resources for legal professionals, judges, police officers, and other stakeholders to enhance their understanding of gender-related legal matters. This contributes to more effective implementation of laws and fairer outcomes for women in the legal system.

Contact Us:

E-mail – cwl@nluo.ac.in

Other Links:

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/centre-for-women-and-law/>

Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/cwl_nluo/

Activities:

Date: 2021

Event: ASSISTANCE IN DRAFTING ANTISEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY OF NLUO

About the Event: The Centre for Women and Law began discussing and drafting the Sexual Harassment Policy for the College to ensure that the college remains a safe place for everyone and that anyone not abiding by it shall be held accountable. The Policy has been drafted keeping in mind the provisions of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act) and the University of Grants Commission (UGC) (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2015. The Policy has been drafted by a committee of students for this purpose under the guidance of the professors in charge and has been peer-reviewed and reviewed by the student members of CWL. The CWL along with the Student Council also welcomes suggestions from the Student Body of the College, making the entire process inclusive and transparent. The Sexual Harassment Policy for the College is gender-neutral.

Date: 15 March 2021 – 6 April 2021

Event: WOMEN AND LAW SPECIAL LECTURE SERIES

About the Event: The Centre for Women and Law at National Law University, Odisha hosted a “Special Lecture Series” on various social and legal themes that cover different dimensions of feminist engagements with the law in India. The 1st from among these series of

virtual lectures was conducted on March 15th, 2021 about "Acid Attack as gendered violence" and was taken by our guest speaker Dr.

Vageshwari Deswal. The 2nd lecture from among these series of virtual sessions was conducted on 18th March 2021 on the topic "Property Rights of Women" and was taken by our guest speaker Dr. Kiran Gupta, a professor of Law at the University of Delhi, an avid writer with an extensive contribution to the field of law. The 3rd Lecture of the Special Lecture series was delivered by Dr. Usha Ramanathan on March 22, 2021. Dr. Usha Ramanathan is a well-known Human Rights activist who'd also been awarded the prestigious 'Human Rights Hero' by Access Now Organisation in 2018. The 4th Lecture of the Special Lecture series was delivered by Prof. Mrinal Satish on April 6th, 2021. Prof. Mrinal Satish, an NLSIU and Yale Law School Alumni, is a member of the Supreme Court of India's Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee.

Date: 29 January 2021

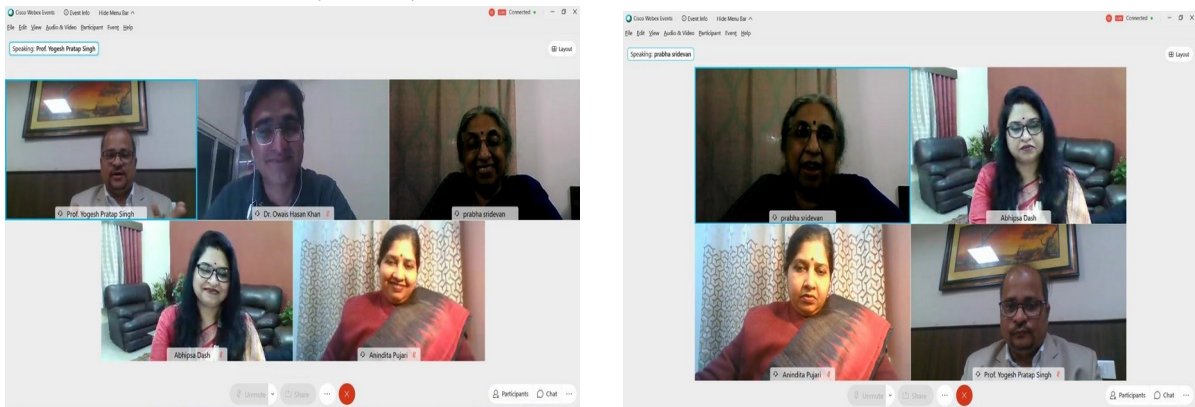
Event: Third Smt. Sailabala Pujari Memorial Public Lecture by Hon'ble Ms. Justice (Retd.) Prabha Sridevan

About the Event: The Centre for Women and Law at National Law University, Odisha, organized the 3rd Smt. Sailabala Pujari Memorial Public Lecture on 29th January 2021. The public lecture was organized in memory of Smt. Late Sailabala Pujari, the first-ever women legal practitioner and APP of western Odisha. A social reformer and prolific writer she has authored numerous books on various social and legal subjects. The virtual guest lecture was on "Law, Language and Gender" and was delivered by Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Prabha Sridevan Ji, Former Judge of the Madras High Court and former Chairperson of the IPAB (Intellectual Property Appellate Tribunal). Her session covered the significance of language as a means of social interaction and its power as a medium for the construction and transmission of culture. She talked

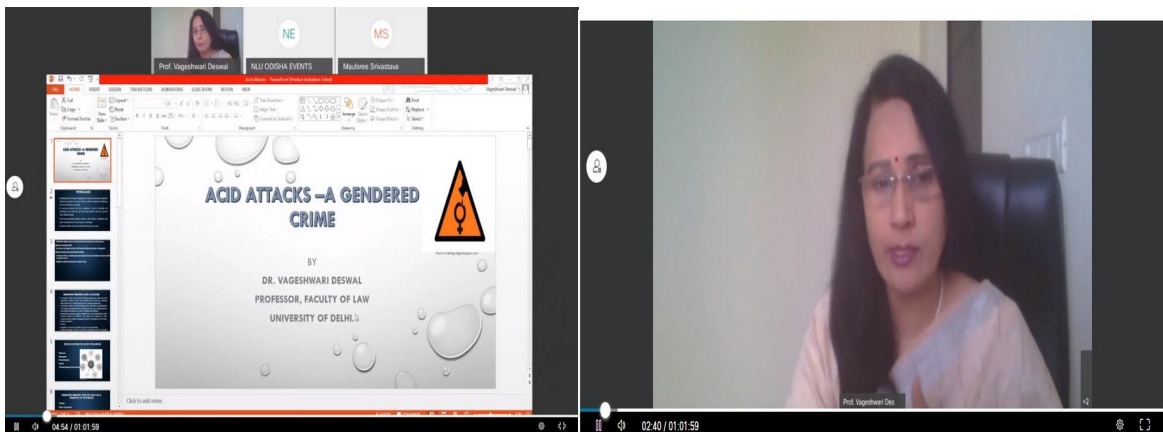
about how language has been used as an expression of power, how legal language reinforces the dominance of one gender over the other, what ought to be done about it, and the progress made by the lawyers and scholars of language and gender.

Photo Gallery:

EVENT – 3RD SMT SAILABALA PUJARI MEMORIAL PUBLIC LECTURE BY HON’BLE JUSTICE (RETD) PRABHA SRIDEVAN – 29TH JANUARY 2021

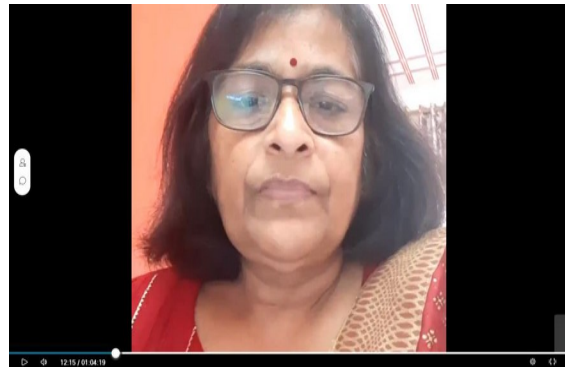
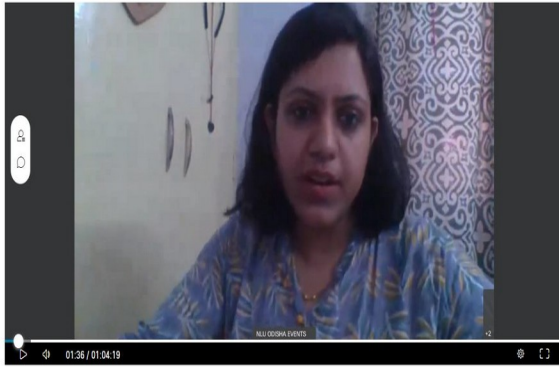


EVENT - First Guest lecture of the Special Lecture Series by Prof. Dr. Vageshwari Deswal – 15TH MARCH 2021

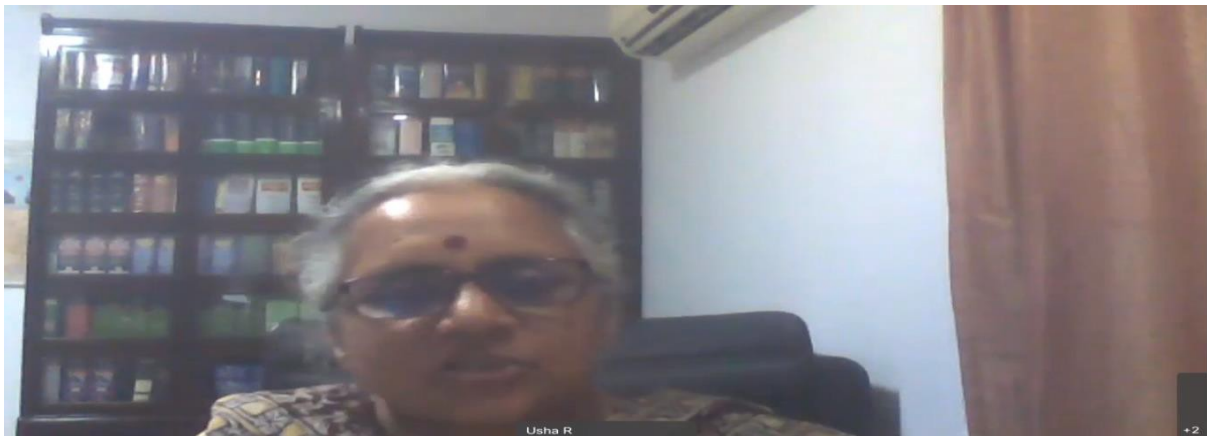


EVENT - Second Guest lecture of the Special Lecture Series by Prof. Dr. Kiran Gupta
– 18TH MARCH 2021

Women and Law Special Lecture Series 2-20210... ↓



EVENT - Third Guest lecture of the Special Lecture Series by Dr. Usha Ramanathan
– 22ND MARCH 2021



EVENT - Fourth Guest lecture of the Special Lecture Series by Prof. Mrinal Satish –
6TH APRIL 2021

