



**RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB**  
(Established under Punjab Act No. 12 of 2006)  
(Accredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC)

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### **Justice Dipak Misra delves into Crime and Punishment**

Justice Dipak Misra, Former Chief Justice of India, inaugurated the Centre for Criminology, Criminal Justice and Victimology (CCV) during the virtual programme organized by Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab. Prof. Robert Peacock, Academic Head, Department of Criminology and President of the World Society of Victimology, University of Free State, South Africa; Prof. Michael O' Connell, Secretary-General, World Society of Victimology, Australia; Prof. Sarah Simons, Dean, Faculty of Psychology and Criminology, Frantz Fanon University, U.K; Prof. Xin Ren, Division of Criminal Justice, California State University, USA; Prof. Ranbir Singh, Advisor IIIDEM, Election Commission of India and Former Vice-Chancellor, NLU, Delhi; Prof. B.B. Pande, Former Professor of Law, Delhi University; Prof. K. Chockalingam, Chairperson, RGNIYD, Tamil Nadu; Prof. Sanjeev Sahni, Principal Director, JIBS, OP Jindal Global University; Prof. Arvind Tiwari, Dean, School of Law, Rights and Constitutional Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai; Prof. G.S. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, RGNUL, Punjab and Prof. Naresh Kumar Vats, Registrar RGNUL were present during the E-inaugural of CCV. While welcoming the guests, Prof. Bajpai elaborated on the objectives of the Centre. He said, "To advance research in disciplines of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Victimology, the Centre will undertake specific research projects and provide consultancy by way of legal start-ups and collaborations." Prof. Bajpai observed that CCV would assist law enforcement agencies, initiate Victim Advocacy Clinic and focus on capacity development programs. "Victim Justice, operation of criminal law, empirical research and student-centric activities will be taken up by CCV," he added.

Justice Dipak Misra reflected on the ideas of punishment, fundamental rights of victims, role of students in rendering assistance to victims, interests of the weaker section and social cultural hygiene. He alluded to the ideology of Plato, Jeremy Bentham and Immanuel Kant to explain various concepts related to justice. Citing the works of Sophocles and Dostoevsky, Justice Misra delved into ubiquitous notions on crime, guilt, punishment. He also talked about

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malicious persecution, crimes committed by aberrants, prolonged trials, unethical practices that obstruct fair trial and lacunae in Criminal Justice System. Justice Misra, while inaugurating the Centre, reiterated that investigation and prosecution wings should remain separated to provide victim space for seeking justice. He accentuated on the role of students in providing assistance to victims under the supervision of competent jail officials and faculty. “Connecting with victim is a great art,” said Justice Dipak Misra. Emphasizing on the importance of connecting and understanding victims, he referred to the words of E.M. Forster.

Prof. Robert Peacock expanded on the globalized and glocalized justice patterns. While speaking about the incongruity of patterns in western and indigenous communities, he pitched on the need to carve a people-oriented emancipatory agenda. Prof. Michael O’ Connell focused on the research component in higher education. “Research is the essence of University,” he said. Prof. Xin Ren emphasized on the role of students in service of justice. Prof. Sarah Simons expressed views on pushing knowledge boundaries, integrating diverse disciplines, assessing local reality along with global knowledge and contextualizing patterns to open new frontiers in the arena of Criminology and Victimology.

Prof. Ranbir Singh lauded efforts of the University in establishing the Centre to serve the cause of victimology. Prof. B.B. Pande deliberated on the changing concerns of criminology and victimology. Prof. Chockalingam said, “Justice is core value.” “New perspectives and victim support mechanism must evolve,” he added. Prof. Sanjeev Sahni underlined the contribution of psychologists and focussed on the mental health of victims. Prof. Arvind Tiwari said that criminology studies should be incorporated in social sciences. Prof. Naresh Kumar Vats said, “Learning from experience of experts is always enriching.” He thanked the distinguished guests from India and abroad for attending the program.