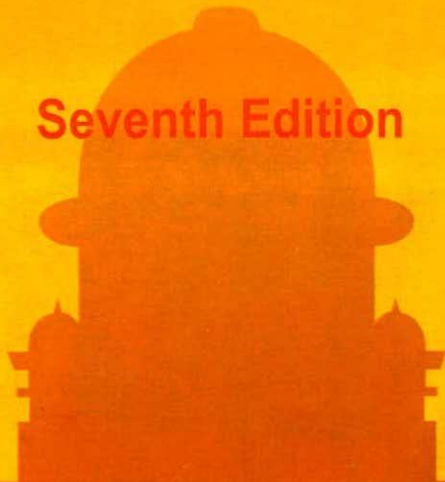


V.D. KULSHRESHTHA'S

LANDMARKS IN INDIAN LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Seventh Edition



EASTERN BOOK COMPANY

V.D. Kulshreshtra's
Landmarks in
Indian Legal and
Constitutional History

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MANAV LAW HOUSE
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Opp. Bishop Johnson School,
Allahabad—211 001
Phone : (0532) 623551
Fax : (0532) 623584

First Edition, 1959
Second Edition, 1968
Reprinted, 1969
Reprinted, 1972
Third Edition, 1975
Fourth Edition, 1977
Fifth Edition, 1981
Reprinted, 1984
Sixth Edition, 1989
First Reprint, 1992
Second Reprint, 1993
Third Reprint, 1994
Seventh Edition, 1995
Reprinted, 1997
Reprinted, 2001
Reprinted, 2004

Rs. 220.00

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PUBLISHERS : EASTERN BOOK COMPANY, 34, LALBAGH, LUCKNOW—226 001

PRINTERS : LAW TIMES PRESS, 56/C, SINGAR NAGAR, LUCKNOW—226 005

Foreword

Mr. Kulshreshtha has done well in presenting in the form of an essay the constitutional developments in India during the British period, with a brief reference to the judicial systems in ancient and medieval periods. To the practising lawyer as well as the academician the subject is of great interest. A history of the development of administrative and judicial institutions since the setting up by the East India Company of its settlements in the east, the south and the west coasts early in the seventeenth century till 1950 when the authority of the British Rule finally ended is a fascinating study of the evolutionary process by which the people of India reached unity with the rule of law as their guiding force and achieved a modern administrative mechanism, a system of parliamentary democracy and a judicial system independent of executive interference.

Mr. Kulshreshtha has presented in a readable form the various landmarks in the Indian development—legal as well as constitutional. I hope the book will be useful to the students for whom it is primarily meant and to the busy lawyers as a reference book.

NEW DELHI
January 1, 1969

—J.C. SHAH
Judge, Supreme Court of India

Opinions

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

November 15, 1969

The treatment of the subject is comprehensive and up to date, and is testimony of considerable industry and thought expended by the author. The book will prove eminently useful for students and others interested in the subject.

DR. P.K. TRIPATHI

Dean, Faculty of Law

NEW DELHI

January 15, 1969

I have perused Mr. V.D. Kulshreshtha's treatise with interest. He has by dint of keen research produced a comprehensive work which should be of ready assistance to all interested in the development of the law, constitutional and other, who would otherwise have to collect the information from a vast number of sources. The material has been arranged systematically and with great care. Of particular value is the reference to the work of the Law Commission and the discussion on codification. Mr. Kulshreshtha's book is a valuable addition to the literature on legal history.

C.K. DAPHTARY

(Formerly Attorney-General of India)

Preface to Seventh Edition

The present seventh edition of this book is a mark of its popularity.

Wherever necessary the present edition seeks to revise and revitalise the discussion without disturbing the continuity of the subject. At the same time by incorporating the current events and developments in the field, the edition has been updated.

Current events, such as, government liability for compensation for breach of Fundamental Rights (p. 408), and Breach of Contract (p. 409) ; its liability in Tort (p. 410) ; discarding of traditional view of the doctrine of Promissory Estoppel (p. 412) and the new enforcement directions by the Supreme Court (p. 413) ; enforcement of economic rights through Public Interest Litigation (p. 414) and the Consumer Protection Movement involving issues of inclusion of Medical Profession and Government Hospitals in the Consumer Protection Act (pp. 418-419) ; non-legislative initiative in environmental control measures (p. 420) ; Legal Aid Programmes and the Lok Adalats (p. 421) ; The Common Civil Code issue and related decisions (p. 423) ; The Motion of Impeachment against a Supreme Court Judge and Article 124(4) of the Constitution (p. 429) ; The Ayodhya Problem and its aftermath ; Darshan Judgment, 1992 and *Ismail Faruqui case*, 1994 (p. 431) ; use and misuse of Article 356 (p. 432) ; Secularism and the Constitution Amending Bill, delinking Religion from Politics (p. 434) ; The Kashmir issue and suitability of Article 370 of the Constitution (p. 437) ; The Mandal Commission, the *Indra Sawhney case* (1992) and the Reservation Policy (p. 441) have all been highlighted so as to make the students aware of the situation and ponder over its legal implications.

Note has also been taken of C.D.C.'s unique report regarding Indianising and modernising the Legal Education (p. 461) and Computer-Aided Search of Case Law Scheme — JUDIS (p. 469) and SCC ONLINE Scheme (p. 469). List of Reference material is also enriched.

All this, I think, should make the publication useful for one and all who use it.

My heartfelt thanks are due to Shri Surendra Malik, Chief Editor, S.C.C., his zealous staff and my friends, particularly Arvind L. Soni

of New Gujarat Law House Ahmedabad who extended their helping hand in carrying out this arduous task.

15-8-1995
Ahmedabad

—B.M. GANDHI

Preface to Sixth Edition

Legal History is one of the major divisions of legal science. In its general aspect it is concerned with the origins and development of legal institutions, systems, principles and thought about law from the most ancient times. It also includes the study of the historical development of particular legal systems, of particular institutions therein and of particular branches of law. Such particular legal history is one of the facets of the general history of the country or community in question, and overlaps on the political, constitutional, social, economic and other facets of that country's history, because facts primarily political, social, economic or other constantly react upon and influence legal development and in turn are influenced by it. Legal History is particularly closely connected with constitutional history; in a broad sense legal history may include constitutional history, but more usually constitutional history is concerned with developments in public law and legal history with developments in private law and criminal law. As it is only by examining the origins, course of development and reasons for particular developments, that the true scope and rationale of a particular rule can be found or understood, the study of such particular legal history is not only intrinsically interesting but frequently of practical utility (Walker : *Oxford Companion to English Law*, 1980, pp. 744-45). Succinctly it should instigate a reader to probe deep into its study.

The British occupation of India between 18th Century and 1947 resulted in political awakening and consequent political unification of India on ideological level. The governmental and legal system created during this time bear heavy influence of English Law and ideas. This book attempts to lay down the major events right from the appearance of the East India Company and before up to independence of India and after.

As to the arrangement of the book it has 21 chapters. It can be viewed in three parts : part one (Ch. 1) dealing with history of judicial systems in ancient and mediaeval India, part two (Chs. 2 to 16) dealing with history of the early administration of justice in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras (Ch. 2), History of Mayor's Courts and Courts of Requests (Ch. 3), the Adalat System in Bengal (Ch. 4), Judicial reforms by Warren Hastings, Lord Cornwallis and others (Chs. 4, 6, 7), the Evolution of High Courts (Ch. 8), Privy Council (Ch. 9), Federal Court (Ch. 10), Supreme Court of India (Ch. 11), Evolution of writs (Ch. 16) and Codification of law (Ch. 14) in India. Part three (Chs. 17 to 21) lays down the Constitutional History of India (Ch. 17) bringing it up to date (Ch. 18) till the 59th Constitutional Amendment.

As a result of revision five new Chapters and three new appendices are added to the book incorporating therein the 'Racial Distinction' (Ch. 13), emergence of Muslim Communalism (p. 350), rise of 'Nationalism' and the birth of Indian National Congress (p. 352), India since Independence (Ch. 18), Concept and Sources of Law (Ch. 19), the Rule of law and Constitutional Developments (Ch. 20) and Legal Profession, Legal Education and Law Repor-

ting (Ch. 21) in India. In doing this and in refurbishing the old material attempts have been made to bring into highlight how the principles of natural justice were applied into India (Ch. 15), what injustice did the British do in building, consolidating and in sustaining the empire in India by applying the wrong law which consequently cost Indians their lives (p. 114), liberty and property (p. 53). A serious conflict between executive and judiciary for power arose as early as 1730 in *Shimpy case* (p. 66) and later on it spread to Madras and Calcutta too (pp. 23, 25, 122, 128, 139, 147-172). Bold and honest judges were sacrificed at the altar of power-politics for their independent thinking. This evil, the reader may see for himself still continues.

While the British were ruling this country the whole country irrespective of caste and creed was one and against them. Today, when we are free and independent the country is wallowing in the mire of communalism, factionalism, corruption and unprecedented scandals. This aspect of the situation is brought into light pleading for a common Civil Code to preserve the unity and integrity of India (pp. 440-448). Special attention is drawn to the march of law in welfare State (Ch. 18) and the Court's struggle to control the separatist tendencies taking note of the *Shah Bano* (p. 442), *Mary Roy* (p. 444) and *National Anthem case* (p. 444). Landmark decisions (pp. 427-434), recent development (pp. 434-448) of law in the area of fundamental rights (p. 434), Public Interest Litigation (p. 435-37), Consumer's Protection Movement (p. 437), Environmental control measures (p. 437), Lok Adalats (p. 438-40) and Uniform Civil Code Bill (p. 447) would add to the utility of the book no less than the discussion on Constitutional developments (Ch. 20) and the topics on Legal Profession, its pathology and future (pp. 459-60), the aims of Legal Education and its future (pp. 462-63). Incorporation of information about various Law Reports (p. 478), Legal Periodicals (p. 482), Legal Research and Methodology (p. 485) and an up to date Bibliography have been added to further enhance the utility of this book. It may not be an exaggeration to say that this may be the first book of its kind to incorporate therein such a wealth of ready information to be helpful to a law student and researcher in Indian Legal History.

My heartfelt thanks are due to Shri Surendra Malik, Chief Editor, Supreme Court Cases, and his staff for their vigilance and zeal and my friends and colleagues who extended their helping hand towards me in carrying out this task.

31-10-1988
Ahmedabad.

—B.M. GANDHI

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Landmark Years in the Legal and Constitutional History of India

<i>Years</i>	<i>Particulars</i>
Before 1100	.. Ancient Hindu Period.
1111	.. First attack of Muhammad of Ghor.
1206-1290	.. Slave Dynasty.
1290-1320	.. Khilji Dynasty.
1320-1399	.. Tuglaq Dynasty.
1414-1444	.. Tuglaq Dynasty.
1444 and 1451-1526	.. Lodi Dynasty.
1536	.. Hindu Kingdom of Vijayanagar was founded along river Tungabhadra.
1526	.. Babar defeated Ibrahim Lodi and laid foundation of the Moghul Empire.
1540-1545	.. Sher Shah ruled over India.
1556-1605	.. Moghul Emperor Akbar ruled over India.
1600	.. Queen Elizabeth issued a Charter incorporating The London East India Company.
1609	.. Another Charter was granted to the Company.
1612	.. An English Factory was established at Surat due to Firman by King Jehangir.
1623	.. Charter issued to the Company ; introduction of English Law into India.
1639	.. Privileges granted to the Company by Hindu Raja in the South.
1657	.. Charter issued to the Company.
1660	.. The Company changes its character from a trading concern to a territorial power.
1661	.. The Charter of Charles II for the first time provided for the exercise of Judicial powers by the East India Company.
1666	.. Madras was raised to the status of Presidency.
1669	.. Bombay was given by Charles II to the Company which he got as dowry from the Portuguese King.
1683	.. The Charter empowered the Company to establish a Mayor's Court at Madras.
1693	.. Company's Charter was reissued by the King of England.
1698	.. Another Company "English East India Company" was incorporated by the Charter's of Willam III.
1698	.. Privileges granted to the Company by Prince Azim-ush-sha in the East.

<i>Years</i>	<i>Particulars</i>
1708	.. Lord Godolphin gave his famous award which established one company, by uniting the existing two companies, came to be known as "The United Company of Merchants of England Trading in the East Indies."
1726	.. The Charter of George I established the Mayor's Courts at three Presidencies of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay as King's Courts.
1753	.. This Charter re-established the Mayor's Court at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.
1757	.. Battle of Plassey.
1764	.. Battle of Buxar.
1765	.. Moghul Emperor granted 'the rights of Diwani' of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the Company. Acquisition of Diwani.
1772	.. Warren Hastings prepared the First Judicial Plan.
1774	.. The Supreme Court of Judicature was established at Fort William.
1775	.. Trial and Execution of Raja Nand Kumar.
1781	.. The Act of Settlement.
1784	.. Pitts India Act.
1793	.. The Charter Act granted to the Company.
1793	.. Cornwallis Code and "Judicial Plan" were introduced in Bengal.
1797	.. Recorder's Courts were established at Madras and Bombay.
1800	.. The Supreme Court was established at Madras in place of the Recorder's Court.
1813	.. The Charter Act granted to the Company.
1823	.. The Supreme Court of Judicature was established at Bombay in place of Recorder's Court.
1833	.. This Act of British Parliament modified the constitution of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.
1833	.. The Charter Act was the legislative mainspring of law reform in India.
1834	.. The First Law Commission was appointed.
1853	.. The Charter Act provided for the appointment of the Second Law Commission.
1857	.. First War of Indian Independence.
1858	.. The Government of India Act. Proclamation by the Queen. Indian Government was transferred to the British Crown.
1861	.. Indian Councils Act. The Third Law Commission was appointed.

<i>Years</i>	<i>Particulars</i>
1864	.. Act XI abolished the office of Native Law Officers (Pandits and Maulvies).
1879	.. The Fourth Law Commission was appointed.
1892	.. Indian Councils Act.
1909	.. Indian Councils Act (Morley-Minto Reforms) and distribution of seats on basis of castes, communities and interests.
1919	.. The Government of India Act (Montague-Chelmsford Reforms).
1927	.. The Simon Commission
1928	.. The Nehru Report (Pt. Moti Lal Nehru).
1930	.. The First Round Table Conference.
1931	.. The Second Round Table Conference.
1932	.. Communal Award. Third Round Table Conference.
1933	.. White Paper issued by the British Government.
1935	.. The Government of India Act.
1937	.. The Federal Court of India established.
1939	.. The August Offer.
1942	.. The Cripp's Mission. Quit India Movement.
1944	.. C. Rajagopalachari's Formula.
1945	.. The Wavell Plan.
1946	.. The Cabinet Mission Plan.
1947	.. Mountbatten Plan. Indian Independence Act was passed by British Parliament.
15-8-47	.. India granted Independence.
1949	.. The Abolition of (Privy Council Jurisdiction) Act.
26-11-49	.. The Constituent Assembly passed new Constitution of India.
26-1-50	.. The Constitution of India came into force. India became "Sovereign Democratic Republic".
27-1-50	.. The Supreme Court of India Inaugurated.
1951	.. The Constitution (First Amendment) Act.
1953	.. The Constitution (Second Amendment) Act.
1954	.. The Constitution (Third Amendment) Act.
1955	.. Fifth Law Commission was appointed. The Constitution (Fourth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Fifth Amendment) Act.

<i>Years</i>	<i>Particulars</i>
1956	.. The Constitution (Sixth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Act.
1960	.. The Constitution (Eight Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Ninth Amendment) Act.
1961	.. The Constitution (Tenth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Eleventh Amendment) Act.
1962	.. The Constitution (Twelfth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Thirteenth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Fourteenth Amendment) Act.
1963	.. The Constitution (Fifteenth Amendment) Act. The Government of Union Territories Act.
1964	.. The Constitution (Sixteenth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Seventeenth Amendment) Act.
1966	.. The Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Nineteenth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Twentieth Amendment) Act.
1967	.. The Constitution (Twenty-first Amendment) Act.
1969	.. The Constitution (Twenty-Second Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Twenty-third Amendment) Act.
1971	.. The Constitution (Twenty-fourth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Twenty-fifth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Twenty-sixth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Twenty-seventh Amendment) Act.
1972	.. The Constitution (Twenty-eighth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Twenty-ninth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Thirtieth Amendment) Act.
1973	.. The Constitution (Thirty-first Amendment) Act.
1974	.. The Constitution (Thirty-second Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Thirty-third Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Thirty-fourth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Thirty-fifth Amendment) Act.
1975	.. The Constitution (Thirty-sixth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Thirty-seventh Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Thirty-eighth Amendment) Act. The Constitution (Thirty-ninth Amendment) Act.
1976	.. The Constitution (Fortieth Amendment) Act.

<i>Years</i>	<i>Particulars</i>
	The Constitution (Forty-first Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act.
1977	.. The Constitution (Forty-third Amendment) Act.
1979	.. The Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act.
1980	.. The Constitution (Forty-fifth Amendment) Act.
1982	.. The Constitution (Forty-sixth Amendment) Act.
1984	.. The Constitution (Forty-seventh Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Forty-eighth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Forty-ninth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Fiftieth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Fifty-first Amendment) Act.
1985	.. The Constitution (Fifty-second Amendment) Act.
1986	.. The Constitution (Fifty-third Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Fifty-fourth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Fifty-fifth Amendment) Act.
1987	.. The Constitution (Fifty-sixth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Fifty-seventh Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Fifty-eighth Amendment) Act.
1988	.. The Constitution (Fifty-ninth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Sixtieth Amendment) Act.
1989	.. The Constitution (Sixty-first Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Sixty-second Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Sixty-third Amendment) Act.
1990	.. The Constitution (Sixty-fourth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Sixty-fifth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Sixty-sixth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Sixty-seventh Amendment) Act.
1991	.. The Constitution (Sixty-eighth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Sixty-ninth Amendment) Act.
1992	.. The Constitution (Seventieth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Seventy-first Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Seventy-second Amendment) Act.
1993	.. The Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Seventy-fourth Amendment) Act.
	The Constitution (Seventy-fifth Amendment) Act.
1994	.. The Constitution (Seventy-sixth Amendment) Act.

The Commission on the Status of Women
 was established in 1946 by the
 Economic and Social Council of the
 United Nations. Its mandate is to
 promote gender equality and the
 empowerment of women. The Commission
 has been instrumental in the
 development of international
 instruments such as the Convention
 on the Elimination of All
 Forms of Discrimination
 Against Women (CEDAW) and
 the Beijing Declaration and
 Platform for Action. The
 Commission also monitors
 the implementation of these
 instruments and provides
 technical assistance to
 governments. The Commission
 is composed of 18 member
 states, each of whom
 elects a representative to
 the Commission. The
 Commission meets annually
 in New York City. The
 Commission's work is
 carried out through its
 secretariat, the Division
 for the Advancement
 of Women, which is
 part of the United
 Nations Secretariat.
 The Commission's
 work is also supported
 by the United Nations
 Trust Fund for
 Technical Cooperation
 in the Field of
 Human Resources
 Development. The
 Commission's work
 is also supported
 by the United Nations
 Development Programme
 (UNDP). The
 Commission's work
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