

# MAR GREGORIOS COLLEGE OF LAW

MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India
First NAAC Accredited Law College in Kerala

# **Annual Report 2022-23**

Mar Gregorios College of Law was established in the year 2012 by the Malankara Catholic Educational Society under the patronage of His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos, the Major Archbishop of Malankara Catholic Church, in commemoration of the legacy and services of Late Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios. The College, envisaged as a centre of excellence in legal education, provides a comprehensive programme of legal education, consisting of B.A LL. B, BBA LL. B and B.Com. LL. B as well as an LL.M course in Constitutional Law.

The college is affiliated to the University of Kerala and is recognized by the Bar Council of India. Over the past few years, the college has made an exponential growth in its performance. In 2017 the institution received the prestigious SILF-MILAT Institutional Excellence Award, being the first college in Kerala and the eighth in India to receive the same.

In 2022 National Assessment and Accreditation Council of UGC accredited our college with B+ grade. MGCL is the first and the only legal education institution in Kerala receiving NAAC accreditation. I take this opportunity to place on record my sincere gratitude to one and all who worked relentlessly to make the institution worthy of the accreditation.

Rev. Dr. Koshy Issac Punnamoottil served as the Director from 2019-February 2023 under his able leadership the institution has grown to be the 1<sup>st</sup> NAAC Accredited law college in Kerala. Fr. Adv. Joseph Venmanath took charge as the new Director from 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Fr. Adarsh Kumbalath has been appointed as the first Bursar of the institute from 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023. We hope that under the new leadership institution will achieve even greater heights.

# **Admissions**

With sheer determination, committed hard work and confidence, Mar Gregorios College of Law within a short span of 11 years has grown as the most sought-after Law College in the State of Kerala. The institution has had almost 100 % student admissions in the last five years. At present we have 931 students in our roll.

# **Initiation Ceremony – 2022**

In the year 2022-23 198 students were inducted to the 1<sup>st</sup> year through the initiation ceremony on 01/12/2022. His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos blessed the new

entrants. Sri. Manoj Abraham IPS, DGP inaugurated the ceremony and addressed the newcomers and their parents.

A weeklong orientation programme was also organized for the new entrants to acquaint them to the course and help them to plan their studies. Justice M R Hariharan Nair, Sri. Jacob Punnoose, IPS, Sri Hemachandran IPS, Prof. Dr. Sanoj Rajan, Zhejiang Gongshang University, China, Dr. Arun Nair, Clinical Psychologist, Thiruvananthapuram took classes in different sessions.

## **Development Programmes**

In addition to the curricular activities, the college organizes various development programmes which enhance the overall development of the students such as Mar Gregorios Public Law Lectures, Seminars and conferences in which dignitaries of national and international eminence take part.

This year we started a unit of National Service Scheme, the work of which is inaugurated by Sri. Shaji A, Programme Co-ordinator of NSS, University of Kerala, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023. A clean-up drive was organized in our college on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The NSS unit celebrated International Women's Day by presenting a handmade greeting card and flower to all women employees of this college. A flash mob was also arranged to convey the message of the day.

# **Faculty Members**

During the academic year 08 persons with excellent academic and professional achievements have joined as Asst. Professors in our college. Presently we have 32 teachers on our roll. I express our sincere thanks to all teachers who relieved of their duties in this college during the report period.

As part of Faculty Development a Research Mentoring Programme was conducted on 29 December 2022 by Dr. S Sivakumar, Senior Professor, Indian Law Institute. A Research workshop on Reference Management Software was held for the faculty members on 12 January 2023.

# **University Ranks**

We have a vibrant student community which is proactive in the development of the college. By their sheer hard work, they also found place among top ranks in university examinations. Ever since its establishment, the college has consistent reputation in securing University ranks. Following the footsteps of their seniors, our students of 2017-22 batch has also brought laurels to the College.

#### BA. LL.B

Sl.No.	Course	Rank	Name of Student
1	BA.LL.B	1st Rank	Gowri Krishna
2	"	3rd Rank	Anna Irene Biju
3	"	7 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Shifa S Dilip

## **B.B.A LL.B**

Sl.No.	Course	Rank	Name of Student
1	BBA LL.B	1st Rank	Shilpa Sanjeean
2	"	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rank	Sara John
3	"	4th Rank	Shilpa Pradeep
4	"	6 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Megna Mariam M
5	"	7 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Anna Jes Bino
6	"	8 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Angel Shaji
7	"	9 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Ashlin Elsa George
8		10 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Ahia Mary Babu

# B.Com. LL.B

Sl.No.	Course	Rank	Name of Student
1	B.Com.LL.B	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rank	Arya S
2	٠٠	4 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Airine Anna OOmmen
3	٠.	6 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Irene Elizabeth Anup
4	٠.	7 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Neethu Elsa M Jojo
5	"	8 <sup>th</sup> Rank	Bhavya A B

# **Internal Quality Assurance Cell**

IQAC has been actively functioning for the NAAC Accreditation process. A Workshop on NAAC Accreditation for Law Colleges was held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Principals, Faculty members and Management representatives of 11 law colleges in Kerala participated in the workshop. The data for NIRF ranking has been submitted in February 2023.

#### **Moot Court**

The college is equipped with a state-of-the-art Moot Court Hall capable of hosting even international Moot Court Competitions which was opened by Sri.P Rajeev, Hon'ble Minister for Law and Justice, Govt. of Kerala. The Moot Court Society (MCS) of Mar Gregorios College of Law (MGCL) was constituted in 2015. Since then, it has promoted and trained students in mooting activities. The following were the regular activities of the MCS:

- 1. Regular conduct of Annual Internal Moot Competition
- 2. Invited classes and training sessions by advocates and mooters for students to gain oral skills and research skills in mooting. These classes are conducted every two months.
- 3. Organising debates and quizzes for non-mooters in college to ensure constant engagement with academic activities and to build the articulation skills of the students. These intra-college events also promote an interest in mooting activities among non-mooters.

In addition to the above, the second focus area of the Moot Court Society is to groom students for attending external moot courts, trial advocacy, ADR and client counselling competitions.

MGCL teams have performed well and have very often been ranked among the first ten teams in an external competition. Following are some of this year's noteworthy achievements:

- 1. Team Comprises Ms. Varsha, Mayuri and Abhiramy Anil won the prestigious Adv.M K Nambiar National Moot Court Competition held at Kannur University
- 2. Team Comprises Ms. Athera Gopan, Aleena Johnson and Shibina Nujum won the runners-up trophy of the Justice V R Krishna Iyer National Moot Court Competition held at Govt. Law College, Thiruvananthapuram
- 3. Team comprises Ms. Varsha, Sri Muhammad Nihal and Ms. Christa Ann Jai were the semi-finalists in the prestigious NR Madhava Menon Jural Conclave SAARC National Moot Court Competition 2023 held at Lloyds Law College, Noida. The team won the best memorial award also.
- 4. Christa Ann Jai and Navami Gopan were adjudged as best researchers in SAARC National Moot Court Competition Noida and Adv. T S Venkateswara Iyer Moot Court Competition GLC Ernakulam respectively.
- 5. Our team comprises Ms. Athulya Anna Ponnachen, Aleena Johnson, Shibina Nujum were the runners up in the 3<sup>rd</sup> BS Goel Memorial National Virtual Moot Court Competition held at IPEM Academy for Legal Studies New Delhi
- 6. Namitha Ann Binu was awarded with Best Speaker award in the 4<sup>th</sup> VITSOL National Moot Court Competition held at VIT Chennai.

## **Other Competitions**

Besides the Moot Court Competitions our students participated in various Model United Nations Competitions and won prizes.

Sr. Ann Julie Sebastian won second prize in the elocution competition organized by The Kerala Lokayukta.

Gopika Kurup won the first prize in the essay writing competition and Belita Rose Babu won the first prize in the painting competition organized by Central Excise and GST department in connection with Vigilance Awareness Week.

Aneeta Mary Alex won first prize in the world Soil Day painting competition organized by State Soil Museum

Acculeen Biju John won the spot photography competition in the  $3^{rd}$  DNG Fest organized by Kerala Law Academy Law College

Our students have presented papers in various National seminars around the state. In the cultural and sports arena our students have brought laurels and have made their presence felt in the fields of cricket, football, basketball, athletics etc.

## **Legal Aid Clinic**

As an extension of imparting quality education, the Legal Aid Clinic of the college is organizing various programmes from the very inception of the clinic. The clinic started a programme called NIYAMA MITRA in Nellanadu panchayat for minimizing litigation in the Panchayat.

As a preliminary to this programme we organized a legal awareness class for the members of the local body, kudumbasree, and social workers of the panchayat. We conducted a survey on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in Nellanadu to ascertain the number of litigations pending in the court or before other officials.

The clinic organized one week awareness programme on narcotic abuse from 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022.

Prominent social worker Daya Bai visited our institution and had a dialogue with the students on 15<sup>th</sup> No. 2022.

The Legal aid Clinic of this college started another social work in Rajaji Nagar During December 2022. In connection with this, under the auspices of Legal Aid Clinic served 50 kits which consists of Christmas cake, necessary provision and other households.

Legal Aid Clinic also conducted an orientation on ADR in association with District mediation centre, Thiruvananthapuram.

An extension of our Legal Aid Clinic is also working in Snehaveedu, a Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Centre, Thiruvananthapuram.

# Library

The college has a well-equipped and fully automated library with renowned books and a computer lab which has access to various legal databases. The library is digitally catalogued consisting of 7000 books and various periodicals and journals along with a well-equipped reprographic centre attached to the library. Digital databases like SCC, CDJ Law Journal, N- List etc. are made available in the Library with remote access, which are easily accessible to the faculties and students. The campus is WIFI enabled with a high bandwidth. The college also has a computer lab with adequate infrastructure to enable the students to conduct their legal research.

# **Management Committees and Governing Bodies**

The institution has established a College Council and Academic Council to monitor and assist the principal for the effective functioning of the college. The College has established various bodies for student support and grievance redressal such as the Internal Assessment Grievance Redressal Committee, Internal Complaints Committee / Anti - Sexual Harassment Committee, Anti - Ragging Committee, Student Grievance Redressal Committee, Counselling Cell, IQAC - Internal Assessment Monitoring Committee etc.

# **CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE**

As part of the decentralization process and to promote research activities, the institution has established twelve centres of excellence. In order to achieve academic and non-academic excellence, these centres, headed by the faculty members, plan and execute various research activities and programmes.

- 1. Dr. N R Madhava Menon Chair on Legal Education
- 2. Centre for Competitive Studies. Internship & Placements
- 3. Centre for Constitutional studies
- 4. Centre for Criminal Justice Studies
- 5. Centre for Cyber Law and Cyber Forensics
- 6. Centre for Environmental Studies and Eco club
- 7. Centre for Human Rights
- 8. Centre for Intellectual Property Rights
- 9. Centre for International Trade and Maritime Law
- 10. Centre for skill development & Entrepreneurship
- 11. Centre for Women and Law

Major programmes undertaken by these centres are: -

#### 1. Centre for Environmental Studies and Eco Club

Centre for Environmental Studies and the Eco Club is formed with a view to create environmental awareness and to carry out ecofriendly activities in the campus.

The centre organized an international conference and workshop on 'Legal and Ethical Challenges for Effective Waste Management and Recycling in the Post Pandemic World' on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2022 in association with National Law School of India University, Bangaluru and Clean Kerala Company Ltd.

The Centre organized an inter-collegiate quiz competition on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, in connection with the International Year for Millets, in which 24 teams participated. Government Law College Thiruvananthapuram, University college Thiruvananthapuram and Mar Ivanios college, Thiruvananthapuram secured first, second and third places respectively.

World Environment Day (June 5) International Yoga Day (June 21) World Soil Day (December 5) International Polar Bear Day (February 27) were commemorated by the centre.

## 2. Centre for IPR

Organized a lecture on IPR and Engineering Profession by Ms. Manju Ann Mathews, MBCET, Mar Ivanios Vidya Nagar on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

In association with the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment conducted a patent clinic on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022. Experts from Saurashtri Associates have taken classes.

The Robotics Club of SCTCE invited Faculty Members of MGCL for a talk on Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights and Patent Processes. Three teachers from our college (M/s Sushma George Mathew, Ancy Varghese, Arya A V) have taken classes on IPR.

#### 3. Centre for Women and Law

The Centre for Women and Law and Women Development Cell of Mar Gregorios College of Law conducted various programs to honour the Global 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence from November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) to December 10 (Human Rights Day) 2022. A glossary of terms with respect to cybercrimes was released during the 16 days of Activism.

On 30 November 2022, a talk on 'Personal Hygiene and Women's Health was conducted in college. The speaker for the session was Dr. Rema Sreejith, Senior Consultant, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Cosmopolitan Hospital, Trivandrum.

An Experience Sharing session was conducted on December 8, 2022. Ms Dhanuja Kumari, President, Wings of Women, an initiative of the Women of the Rajaji Nagar Colony, formed to curb the sale of illegal drugs in the colony.

On 7 December 2022, a panel discussion was conducted for the students of the college on the topic 'Virtual Violence: Misogyny and Cyberspace'.

International Women's Day 2023 was celebrated as Women's Empowerment Week and Legal Awareness Campaign. Work Readiness Programme & Personality Development Training for Women was conducted in association with Kerala Knowledge Mission and ASAP and Centre for Internship and Placement from 9 to 13 March 2023.

On 10 March 2023 a session was conducted on Women & Law in association with the National Women's Commission, District Legal Services Authority and Legal Aid Clinic which was inaugurated by Dr. Shirley Stewart, Vice-Principal, Mar Ivanios College and session was led by Adv. Bhuvana Chandran Nair.

## 4. Centre for Constitutional studies

Centre for Constitutional Studies organized a national webinar on Role Of Ambedkar in Transforming the Indian Legal System and the resource person was Prof. Dr. Vijayakumar, Vice-chancellor, National Law institute University, Bhopal, on April 14, 2022, to mark the 131st birth anniversary of Dr. B. R Ambedkar.

The centre organized three competitions in the academic year.

First is a debate competition on the subject 'Constitution need a revamp' on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Second is a logo preparation competition on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 to create a logo that best represents the values and objectives of the Centre. Third is an inter school quiz competition on 29-11-2022 to promote a deeper understanding and appreciation of the principles and provisions of the Constitution among school students. 31 high school teams from various schools participated in the competition. The team from Sarvodaya Central Vidyalaya, Nalanchira, emerged as the winner and the team from Navajeevan Bethany Vidyalaya and Government Girls HSS Pattom won the second and third prizes respectively.

The centre started a program titled Niyamamitra Outreach Program which was formally inaugurated by the honourable Upa Lokayukta Justice Babu Mathew P Joseph at Sarvodaya Central Vidyalaya. It was presided over by Rev Fr Santhan Cheruvil, Principal, Sarvodaya Central Vidyalaya. Students of the Sarvodaya Central Vidyalaya took the oath of fundamental duties at the inaugural function and a replica of fundamental duties was handed over to the School by the Principal and the Director.

Memorandum of understandings were signed with various schools and colleges for the smooth running of the program. The Centre hosted Constitutional awareness classes at

- 1. Mar Ivanios College Nalanchira
- 2. Chinmaya Vidyalaya vazhuthacaud
- 3. Leo XIII Higher Secondary School Pulluvila
- 4. Sarvodaya Central Vidyalaya Nalanchira
- 5. Government Model HSLPS, Thycaud
- 6. Government Model Boys High School Thycaud
- 7. St.Johns School Nalanchira
- 8. Sarvodaya ICSCE School

# 5. Centre for Internship & Placements

Placement started this year. RR Donnelley, Technopark, ESAF Bank, Surana & Surana International Attorneys have selected our students through campus placement.

M/s. CHALY ASSOCIATES, Ernakulam expressed their interest to conduct an oncampus placement drive at Mar Gregorios college of Law in this month.

The centre organized one Add-on Course on Skill Enhancement for Placement. From 28th November 2022 to 02nd December 2022. The objective of the Add-on course is to familiarize the students with the requisites of corporate world and give them an idea about how to present themselves in the recruitment process, especially in interviews and group discussions.

The Centre has organised "RENDEZVOUS WITH THE LEADER" on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Mr. Joseph Varghese, Managing Director, Scientific Vision Pvt Ltd was the guest of honour.

A session by Mr. Robin Tommy, author, technologist and involved in the enabling social entrepreneurship ecosystem and inclusion was held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

## 6. Centre for Human Rights

Conducted an awareness programme on Anti Child labour Day on 16th June 2022. The chief guest of the programme was Adv. K.V. Manoj Kumar, Chairman, Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

Conducted a seminar on United Nations Day in association with centre for International Trade and Maritime Law on 25th October 2022. The guest of honour was Shri. T. P. Sreenivasan, IFS, Ambassador and permanent representative of India in United Nations. The theme of the programme was 77 years of UN.

Organised professional seminar series on the topic Russia- Ukraine conflict and international law on 16th November 2022 by Professor Dr. A. David Ambrose former Head of the Department of Legal studies University of Madras.

Celebrated World Aids Day on 1st December 2022. An awareness video was telecasted on the induction programme for the first year law students and Aids badge was distributed as part of the programme.

Human Rights Day 2022 was celebrated on 9th December 2022 and the chief guest of the programme was Hon'ble Mr. Justice Antony Dominic, Chairperson, Kerala State Human Rights Commission and centre launched a yearlong campaign of the 75th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Organized professional seminar series on medical law and ethics on 22nd February 2023, the guest of honour was Dr. Karthika Jyothish, Associate Professor, Pondicherry institute of Medical sciences.

# 7. Centre for Criminal Justice, Cyber Law and Cyber Forensics.

Organized a seminar on 2nd February 2023 on Cyber Law and Cyber Forensics. Sri. Rishi Raj Singh I. P. S(Retd) former DGP was the resource person.

# 8. Centre for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

In order to give career training two seminars were organized by the centre. First one was the seminar on the topic 'Study Programme for Company secretaryship' on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Mr. CS Balamurali, company secretary of Adtech systems Ltd. Was the resource person for the seminar.

Second seminar was on 'Relevance of Insurance Studies for Law Students' on 13-01 2023. The seminar was inaugurated by Mr. S Premkumar, Senior Manager, LIC Thiruvananthapuram division.

The Centre has started an add-on-course on Computer Training for Law Students from 13 March 2023

# 9. Dr. N. R Madhava Menon Chair on Legal Education

In order to promote quality of legal education, life mission of Padmasree Prof. N R Madhava Menon, a Chair on Legal Education was established in this college in his name. As part of this motto, the Chair organized lecture series invited eminent speakers and judges to deliver their experience in the field of law.

This year the Chair in association with Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA) organized the South Asian rounds of Moot Court Competition on 10 to 12 November 2022 Sri. P Rajeev, Minister for Law and Justice and Industries inaugurated the Competition. Hon'ble. Attorney General of India Adv. R. Venkataramani delivered the valedictory address. Judges of Kerala High Court Sri. Dias, Kunjukrishnan, and Muhammad Nias, JJ. were adjudged the finals. Teams from CMR law college Bangaluru and Sastra Law School Thanjavur are the winners and runners-up of the competition.

#### **Add-on Courses**

This academic year the college conducted five Add-on courses. The Centre for Placement and internship organized Add-on Course on Skill Enhancement for Placement, from 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to 02<sup>nd</sup> December 2022. The second session of the Add-on Course on Skill Enhancement for Placement was conducted from 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Another course was on Criminal Trial and Forensic Process and course on Computer Training for Law Students was organized.

A Work Readiness Programme & Personality Development Training for Women was organised by Centre for Internship & Placement, Centre for Women and Law, IQAC Mar Gregorios College of Law, in association with Kerala Knowledge Mission & ASAP. The programme was for enhancing and developing the personality and work readiness of women in the modern era. The programme was conducted from 09<sup>th</sup> March to 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Various centres of the college organized several seminars and webinars in this academic year.

# **College Students Council**

A college students Council was constituted for the first time in the college. The following persons were selected as office bearers of the council.

- 1. CHAIR PERSON KOSHY PHILIP JOSEPH X SEM BA LL.B.
- 2. VICE CHAIRPERSON JANAKI JAYARAJ VISEM BBA LL.B
- 3. GENERAL SECRETARY ALRAJ N VIII SEM BA LL.B
- 4. JOINT SECRETARY SEEMATI BRIDGET SAVIO- VIII SEM BA LL.B
- 5. ARTS SECRETARY SIDDHARTH T N VI SEM BA LL.B
- 6. SPORTS SECRETARY RICHU SAJI VI SEM BBA LL.B
- 7. TREASURER ADARSH M S X SEM B.COM LL.B
- 8. MAGAZINE EDITOR BHARATH A S VIII SEM BBA LL.B

The student council was formally inaugurated by Dr. Ramdas Narayan, International Lawyer & Arbitrator, London.

#### **Celebrations**

The college conducts events to commemorate the important National and international days. Days of National importance like Republic Day and Independence Day are celebrated by hoisting the National flag. Other days of importance like Constitution/Law Day, Gandhi Jayanti, Yoga Day etc. International days like Human Rights Day, Women's Day, Aids Awareness Day, Anti Narcotic Day are organized by the college wherein the importance of these days is enlightened to the students by the invited speakers or experts in the subject.

We celebrate all culturally relevant days which help the students to understand the vibrant cultural diversity of the Country. Onam, Christmas, and Arts and Sports day including College Annual day are celebrated keeping in line with the heritage and to showcase the talents of the students.

# **Important Personalities Visited the Institution**

Sri. P Rajeev, Minister for Law & Justice and Industries Kerala, Adv. Venkataramani, Attorney General of India, Justice Dias, Justice Kunjukrishnan, Justice Muhammad Niyas, Sitting Judges of the High Court of Kerala, Justice Antony Dominic, Chairman HR Commission, Justice Abraham Mathew, Chairman Debt Relief Commission, Justice Babu Mathew P Joseph, Upa Lokayukta, Dr. Dilip Yuke Vice-Chancellor MNLU Mumbai, Dr David Ambros, Former HoD Law School Madras University, Professor Dr.Thomas Biju Mathew, Head, Pesticide Residue Lab, Kerala Agricultural University, Sri Rishi Raj Singh Former DGP Kerala, Ms. Dayabhai, Social worker, Sri TP Sreenivasan Former Ambassodor and Permanent Member of India to UN, Dr. Karthika Jyothish,

Associate Professor, Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences, are some of the personalities visited this institution this year in connection with various programmes

#### Conclusion

The motto behind establishing several streams of educational service, including the Mar Gregorios College of Law, by the Malankara Catholic Education Society was not to offer the world increased robotic knowledge and diminished values but was to mould successful human beings rich in ethical values. We believe, it is important to provide education that focuses on the overall development of human personality. Guided by this principle, Righteousness is immortal we prepare our students not only for academic success but also to face the challenges that life has to offer.

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