

MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

# MAR GREGORIOS COLLEGE OF LAW ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

### **INTRODUCTION**

Mar Gregorios College of Law was established in the year 2012 by the Malankara Syrian Catholic Church 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 multidisciplinary programme in legal education, consisting of the five- year integrated degree courses viz., BA LL. B, BBA LL. B and BCom. LL. B and also the LL.M course in Constitutional Law.

The college is located in the picturesque eco-friendly campus in the prestigious Mar Ivanios Vidyanagar that creates serene ambience for academic pursuits. Having excelled in all different streams of educational service, the Malankara Catholic Education Society under the dynamic and benevolent leadership of His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis, Catholicos, the Major Archbishop - Catholicos of Trivandrum, decided to establish a 'College of Law' in the campus in commemoration of His Grace Most Reverend Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios, who was the second Metropolitan Archbishop of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church. Besides being the first principal of Mar Ivanios College and a spiritual leader, Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios was a great linguist, an economist, an educationalist par excellence and above all, a profound humanist who epitomized love and compassion. It is indeed an honour and privilege that this college of law has been named after such a great and noble soul who embodied in himself the eternal verities of Dharma, The Law.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### (a) Institutional excellence Award:

By the Grace of the Almighty Lord, ever since its establishment, the College, under the patronage and blessings of His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios cardinal Cleemis Catholicos, the Major Archbishop of Trivandrum, has grown leaps and bounds and today it is one of the most pioneer and sought-after institution in its field. Within a short span of 5 years our college has bagged the prestigious SILF-MILAT Institutional Excellence Award - 2017. The award is



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

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instituted by the SILF-MILAT (Society of Indian law Firms (SILF) and Menon Institute of Legal Advocacy Training (MILAT) to identify and honour the best law teaching Institution in the country. Our college is the first college in Kerala and eighth in the country to get the award. His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios cardinal Cleemis Catholicos along with Academic Advisor of the college Prof. (Dr.) K. Vikraman Nair received the award from the Chief Justice of India on 23/11/2017 in the presence of jury members of the award committee.

### (b) University academic ranks:

Batch 2015-20

#### **BA LL.B**

Sl.No.	Course	Rank	Name of Student
1	BA. LL.B	Third Rank	Ms.Sherine Immanuel
	(5 year integrated)		
2		Fourth Rank	Ms.Kavya S.S,
3		Fifth Rank	Ms.Aswathy S. Nair
4		Sixth Rank	Ms.Mahima Manoj
5	,,	Eighth Rank	Ms.M.S.Malavika

# BCom. LL.B

Sl.No.	Course	Rank	Name of Student
1	BCom. LL.B (5 year integrated)	First Rank	Ms.Anie Susan Varghese
2		Second Rank	Ms.Maghna Praseeda G.S,
3		Third Rank	Ms.Swathy Nair
4		Sixth Rank	Ms.Anjana R.
5	,,	Nineth Rank	Ms.Archa S.A.
		Tenth Rank	Ms.Athira Krishnan B.A.

#### **BBA LL.B**



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

Sl.No.	Course	Rank	Name of Student
1	BBA. LL.B (5 year integrated)	Third Rank	Mr. Adithya Jayadev
2		Sixth Rank	Mr.Govind V.
3		Seventh Rank	Ms.Arya Chandran
4		Fourth Rank	Ms.Alina S.

#### PROGRAMMES THAT WE OFFER

The college is affiliated to the University of Kerala and recognized by the Bar Council of India. The college which was established with one batch of 5-year BA.LL. B course in the year 2012, has groomed and introduced the following courses in the subsequent years.

Sl.No.	Course	Year
01	B.A.LL. B (5 year integrated course)	2012
02	B.B.A.LL. B (5 year integrated course)	2013
03	LL.M (constitutional Law- 2 Year)	2014
04	B.Com. LL. B (5 year integrated course)	2015

Other than the normal routine education, with a view to enhance the creative aspects of study and to provide a platform of vast understanding has been organizing various functions and seminars like legal forums, seminars. etc. from time to time which were attended and enriched by eminent personalities in the field.

## Class wise strength of students presently studying: -

No.	Class	No. of Students
01	BA.LL. B- 9 <sup>th</sup> Semester	57
02	BBA.LL. B – 9 <sup>th</sup> Semester	55
03	B.Com. LL. B- 9 <sup>th</sup> Semester	54
04	BA.LL. B- 7 <sup>th</sup> Semester	59
05	BBA.LL. B – 7 <sup>th</sup> Semester	57



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

06	BCom. LL. B 7 <sup>th</sup> Semester	60
07	BA LL. B- 5 <sup>th</sup> Semester	59
08	BBA LL. B – 5 <sup>th</sup> Semester	57
09	B.Com. LL. B 5 <sup>th</sup> Semester	60
10	BA LL. B- 1st Semester	59
11	BBA LL. B - 1st Semester	58
12	B.Com. LL. B 1st Semester	57
13	BA LL. B- 1st Semester	60
14	BBA LL. B - 1st Semester	60
15	B.Com. LL. B 1st Semester	60
16	LL.M- 1	10
17	LL.M - 2	10
	Total	892

#### PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE

The academic programmes and teaching methodologies in the college are attuned to the knowledge, skills and ethical requirements of the legal profession. Inspired by the Servant of God Mar Ivanios, who was convinced that empowering people was only possible through education and by his desire to establish institutions which would open up new unconventional paths, the college seeks to motivate its students and teachers to think innovatively to meet new legal problems, tangles and challenges that come with the changing times.

### **College Journal**

The first edition of 'Journal of Mar Gregorios College of Law (JMGCL)' was released in 2017 in a memorable function by our Patron. The 'Journal of Mar Gregorios College of Law (JMGCL)' is published annually.

Mar Gregorios College Law Review (MGCLR) was launched in 2020. MGCLR is a doubleblind peer-reviewed Law Journal of the College. The Journal is a research initiative of the College, addressing the contemporary socio legal issues world over. It is a forum for



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

knowledge sharing and for building research in the field of Law amongst the research scholars, practitioners and academics.

## **Infrastructure Development**

The institution plans to develop into a research centre and in this regard the institution is developing the library. The Institution has started construction of an all-encompassing auditorium adjacent to the academic block to organize various events in the college which is in addition to the state-of-the-art seminar hall which we have already developed.

## Periodic Upgradation of the college infrastructure:

#### **Conference Hall**

The College has a spacious air-conditioned conference hall which hosts academic programmes, seminars, debates, competitions and other activities. The hall provides a space for institutional and departmental functions and is equipped with the latest audio-visual technology, with specialized staff to handle the equipment.

### **Moot Court Hall**

By integrating the theory and practice of Law through Moot Court and Mock Trial activities, the college aims to sharpen the layering skills of the students. The college is equipped with a state-of-the-art Moot Court Hall capable of hosting even international moot court competitions.

### **Computer Lab and ICT Tools**

Ours is a Wi-fi enabled campus with a fully equipped computer Lab with high bandwidth internet connection. Separate faculty in charge of computer lab will train the students online and offline database usage. All classrooms are equipped with wireless projectors. Faculty members have been provided with microphones for ease of teaching.

### Prayer Hall.

A prayer hall, built in the form of a chapel inside the college, provides a place for staff and students to spend time calmly & quietly in solemn prayer and introspection. Jesus Youth Ministry is also active in our campus involving students from all communities to participate in the institutional and individual transformation.



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

#### **Exam Hall**

A common exam hall has been erected on the roof of the main building to meet the examination purposes, which can accommodate about 300 students at a time.

#### **CCTV Surveillances**

In compliance to the directions of University of Kerala, all the examination halls/rooms and public places of the college has been brought under CCTV surveillances. As desired by university, the entire process of examinations being recorded and kept in safe custody to produce before the University authorities when ever asked for.

#### New Block with 12 class rooms

Construction of a new Block measuring 22,206 square feet with provision for 12 class rooms and allied facilities has started in the month of October 2015. Entire work of Ground floor and first floor and second floor has been completed and being used as classrooms. Eighty percent of the construction work of the third floor has been completed. The top of the building is being designed to be converted as a hall useful for various purpose.

#### **Students Achievement**

We have a vibrant student community which is proactive in the development of the college. They ensure their positions among top ranks in each and every semester examination, thereby bringing laurels to the Institution. Besides academic excellence, they represented the college in various National level Moot Court Competitions and also Model United Nations. They have won prizes in various other academic events including quiz competitions. They have presented papers in various National seminars around the state. In the cultural arena also, the students have won lot of laurels in various competitions in the state. In the sports arena too, our students have started to let know their presence in cricket, football and athletics.

#### PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED

### Faculty orientation programme on Open-source Learning Platform

Faculty orientation programme was organised Mar Gregorios College of Law Nalanchira. The Orientation was conducted on the topic "Open-source Learning Platform" on 21 January 2020. The prime objective of imparting the training programme was to integrate learning and teaching



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

with ICT and to equip them with the latest assessment tools in higher education. The orientation was conducted in the seminar Hall. The resource person for day was Prof. Sreejith R, Asst. Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery.

Awareness Programme on ADR mechanisms, in association with Kerala State Mediation and Conciliation Centre, District Legal Service Authority.

Mar Gregorios College of Law, in Association with Kerala State mediation and Conciliation Centre of District Legal Service Authority of India had conducted an Awareness Programme on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020, regarding the ADR Mechanisms for the final year students of Mar Gregorios College of Law. The session was inaugurated by Shri K.Babu, Honourable Principal and sessions Judge, Thiruvananthapuram. The felicitation address was given by Ms.Jubia, Sub-Judge, Thiruvananthapuram. The felicitation address was followed by a training session by Advocate Bhuvanachandran Nair, on the various ADR mechanisms available and how it is practiced. The discussion ended with a query session and the students actively participated in the discussion.

### **Orientation on Manupatra**

The orientation on Manupatra was given to both faculty and students on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The first semester LLB students attended the program along with the faculty members.

#### STUDENTS AS THE BRAND AMBASSADORS OF MGCL

# NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENTS IN VARIOUS COMPETITIONS HELD IN 2020

MGCL students managed to secure notable achievements in various events held in 2020.

Our second semester BBA LLB students Adithya raj D.R., Ronny Mammen and Govind Nair won the first prize in the National Level Management Fest 'AVENIR 2020' conducted by Kerala Institute of Cooperative Management (KICMA) on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020.



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

#### **KEY EVENTS AT MGCL DURING 2020-21**

## The international Webinar/Workshop on Discrimination and the Law

The international Webinar/Workshop on Discrimination and the Law was organized by Mar Gregorios College of Law, Nalanchira, Thiruvananthapuram on 26th September, 2020. The webinar had two main speakers – Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jaishankaran Nambiar, High Court of Kerala and Prof. (Dr.) Tarunabh Khaitan, Vice Dean, Law Faculty, University of Oxford. The webinar comprised of a introductory talk by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jaishankaran Nambiar on the need for activating the legal system so as to address horizontal discrimination in India. Prof. Khaitan led the participants through an exercise on uncovering the basis of antidiscrimination laws. Prof. Khaitan engaged with students on the idea of discrimination through a practical exercise based on John Rawls concept of the original veil of ignorance. The students through the exercise identified certain immutable characteristics that persons are 'born with' or 'born into' and how discrimination based on such characteristic can be problematic. The exercise brought out the theory behind discrimination law, namely, that the purpose of the discrimination law is reduce significant group disadvantage. Prof. Khaitan also took a few questions on discrimination law as practiced in US/UK at the end of the session. A total of 80 students and legal professionals attended the webinar. It was heartening to note that students from a cross section of law colleges in Kerala attended the webinar.

### **International webinar on Management**

An International Webinar was organized by MGCL on 14th November 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in the following two areas of management: The first session 'Covid 19 and Sectoral Development Prospects' was delivered by Dr.Jebamalai Vinanchiarachi, Former Principal Advisor to the Director General and Principal Advisor, Knowledge Management Associates, Austria and the second session 'Creating Jobs in the Post Covid World: How Entrepreneurs Play a Role in Rebuilding the Economy' by Prof.Rajesh Nair, Professor of Practice in Innovation & Entrepreneurship and Director of ASB Innovations & Entrepreneurship, Asia School of Business (Massachusetts Institute of Technology-SLOAN), Kuala Lumpur. The webinar



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

sessions could bring out the relevant changes in the industry and economy as a whole with respect to the Covid 19, the upcoming challenges and how industry could revive and adjust accordingly was also emphasized. The session had highlighted sectoral development perspectives with respect to the New Normal. The webinar had also come up with various best practices in fostering entrepreneurial spirit in rebuilding the economy. There were 235 enthusiastic participants which comprised of Directors, faculty, staff, research scholars and students from various Business Schools, Law Colleges in Kerala, Hyderabad and Chennai, University research departments, Kerala State Electricity Board, Central University of Kerala, Kerala State Council for Science Technology and Environment, etc. The feedback from the webinar participants highlighted that both the sessions were enriching and informative.

# Guest Lecture Webinar Series on Essential Legal Awareness organised by UGC Paramarsh Team from Mar Ivanios(Autonomous) College and MGCL

UGC-Paramarsh Team from Mar Ivanios College (Autonomous) in association with Mar Gregorious College of Law, Nalanchira, Thiruvananthapuram organized a Guest Lecture Webinar Series on Essential Legal Awareness from 5th to 14th October 2020. The Legal awareness program series was a nine-day program in which the following faculty members were the resource persons for the sessions: Dr.Thomaskutty P.G.,Ms.Sushma George Mathew, Mr.Manoj Krishna, Dr. Rathish, Ms.Rudra Chandran, Dr. Sajikumar N l, Dr.Deepthi U., Mr.M.V.George and Mr.Sreedhar Kusuman.

# International Webinar on Innovation and IPR: Where India Stands - Mr. Mathews P. George, IP & Competition Law Consultant, Munich (September, 2020)

The International Webinar on 'Innovation and IPR: Where India Stands' was delivered by Mr. Mathews P. George, IP & Competition Law Consultant, Munich on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. The webinar provided an insight into the current state of India's IPR policy and its need to promote innovation. The webinar also took a comparative look at India's position vis-à-vis other economies such as that of Germany's and China on promoting innovation both for the formal economy as well as for the informal economy. It was heartening to note that students from a cross section of law colleges in Kerala attended the webinar. Mr. Mathews P. George, spoke



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Affiliated to the University of Kerala & Approved by the Bar Council of India

about the various facets of IPR. He emphasized upon the fact that IP is only means to an end and innovation implies being creative in myriad areas of life. In simple terms, IPR would mean granting monopoly to patent holder over a product and so taking this perspective into consideration, the speaker stressed that the aim should be to calibrate the grant of patents in such a manner that innovation is promoted. A total of 147 students and legal professionals attended the webinar.

### **Training tutorial for Lexis Nexis**

There was a training Tutorial on Lexis Nexis on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The trainer explained in detail the materials available in the database and how to use the LexisNexis database.

National Webinar On The **Philosophy** Of International Aviation Law The National Webinar on the Philosophy of International Aviation Law was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) S.G. Sreejith, O.P. Jindal Global Law School on 22nd August 2020. The webinar took a close look at the nature of international aviation law and how it challenges the many assumptions of traditional international law on issues such as sovereignty of states. Through this perspective the webinar dealt in depth on the character and nature of the sources of international aviation law. A total of 253 students and legal professionals attended the webinar. The participants were from Kerala as well as from institutions in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. Students doing courses in Aeronautical Engineering were also attendees to the seminar. It was heartening to note that students from a cross section of law colleges in Kerala attended the webinar.

## Webinar on 'Budget 2021' - Standpoint on Woman

On 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021, Centre for Women and Law of Mar Gregorios College of Law organized a webinar on Budget 2021. Prof. Dr. Thomaskutty P G, Vice- Principal Mar Gregorios College of Law introduced the relevance of the budget and discussion on allotment for women in the budget. Dr. Mary George, Department of Economics (Former Professor), University of Kerala, explained the concept of demarcation of budget for different categories and the trend in allocation of budget for women over the years.



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

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### Women's Day Celebrations 2021-

The International Women's Day 2021 was celebrated on 8 March 2021at 9:00 am. The Chief Guest was Dr. Divya Gopinath IPS, Superintendent of Police, Information and Communication Technology. Dr. Divya Gopinath IPS inaugurated the function by highlighting the evolvement of rights of women over the centuries and the present status of women in society. As part of the women's day a video was released to honour the 15 women Constituent Assembly Members and their contributions. A photo exhibition of the W\women Members of the Constituent Assembly was also held in the institution. A book exhibition promoting women authors was also arranged as part of the Women's Day commemoration.

### Seminar on Theories of Sovereignty for LL.M students

A seminar on Theories of Sovereignty was delivered by Dr. Jalaj Goantiya, Asst. Professor, MPDNLU for LL. M students, an online programme for the LL.M students.

### Seminar on Company Law for the LL.M students.

On 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021, Dr. Deva Prasad, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode, delivered the talk on the topic 'Legislative Design of Director's Responsibility in India: In Search of Clarity'. Dr. Deva discussed on the role of director as per the company law. He said that Indian Companies Act, 2013 addresses the director's responsibility through specific statutory provisions. While highlighting certain nuances in the legislative design, and needs more clarification for the director's responsibility, specifically for non-executive and independent directors. There is a need to reform the existing statutory framework for according protection to directors of a company.

# IPR Single Credit Course – One week certificate course scheduled from 20.03.2021 to 24.03.2021 organised by MNLU, Mumbai, MGCL and MBCET

The Online Certificate Single Credit Course on Intellectual Property Rights in India and their Protection was conducted by Mar Gregorios College of Law (MGCL), Thiruvananthapuram in joint association with Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU), Mumbai, and Mar Baselios College of Engineering and Technology (MBCET), Thiruvananthapuram. The course



MAR IVANIOS VIDYANAGAR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

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was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Rajasree M.S., Vice Chancellor, APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University of Kerala. The online inauguration took place in the presence of other dignitaries including Prof. Dr. Dilip Ukey, Vice Chancellor, MNLU, Prof. Dr. W.H. Dhummane, IPR Chair, MNLU, Mr. Sajid Sheikh, MNLU, Prof. Dr. John P.C., Principal, MGCL and Rev. Dr. Koshy Issac Punnamoottil. The course coordinator from MNLU was Mr. Sajid Sheikh, Assistant Professor, MNLU. In total, 125 participants enrolled for the course. Participants largely consisted of students and faculty of MGCL, MBCET followed by students and professionals from across Kerala as well as India. Each day's course work consisted of a three-hour lecture session followed by interaction. Approximately 100 participants attended the course on a daily basis. After the conclusion of the course, an MCQ examination was conducted for all registered participants.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Even though there were several constraints in this Academic year due to the COVID 19 Pandemic the institution was able to complete a fruitful academic year. Majority of the classes were conducted remotely using the Microsoft Teams app. In spite of the difficulties of online education Mar Gregorios College of Law strived to actively engage in all academic and cultural activities.