



CENTRE FOR FAMILY LAW

National Law University, Jodhpur

presents

1st CFL–NLUJ ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

on the theme

***“Reproductive Rights &
Bodily Autonomy”***

***With exciting Cash Prizes,
Casemine AI Pro Subscription, and
Publication Opportunities!***

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY



National Law University-Jodhpur (NLU Jodhpur) is one of India's leading law schools situated in the vibrant and colourful city of Jodhpur, Rajasthan. Since its establishment in 1999, NLU Jodhpur has endeavoured to produce exceptional lawyers and legal scholars who aim to push and challenge the existing boundaries of knowledge.

NLU Jodhpur is known for its rigorous academic curriculum and its commitment to providing students with a comprehensive education in the field of law. The faculty consists of experienced and well-respected legal scholars, and the university is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and resources to support student learning and research.

In addition to its academic programs, NLU Jodhpur is also known for its strong commitment to social justice and human rights, and for its focus on practical skills training.



ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR FAMILY LAW



The Center for Family Law (CFL) was established in 2023 at National Law University, Jodhpur, with the aim of fostering open and informed discussions in the arena of Family Law. The centre has been functioning under the able guidance of **Ms. Preeti Badola** (Executive Director of CFL).

At CFL, we recognise that Family Law is no longer confined to traditional norms but extends into gender equality, civil rights, and progressive perspectives. CFL has organised discussions and sessions on contentious family law topics, such as Marriage equality and the Uniform Civil Code.

ABOUT THE BLOG

The Centre's key initiatives include its flagship blog, The Family Law Chronicle (**The CFL Blog**). The CFL Blog seeks to foster critical dialogue on emerging and contemporary issues in Family Law. In furtherance of this objective, we welcome original, analytical, and interdisciplinary submissions from students, academicians, and practitioners. You can read more about the Blog at: <https://www.centreforfamilylaw.com/>

ABOUT CASEMINE

Our Knowledge Partner



CaseMine is a leading AI-powered legal research platform that has spent over a decade transforming the way legal professionals, academics, and students conduct legal research. Founded in India in 2013, CaseMine combines world-class engineering with a robust legal data infrastructure to develop intelligent research solutions that cater to the evolving needs of modern legal practice.

Trusted by leading law firms and universities, CaseMine leverages advanced artificial intelligence and machine learning to deliver faster, more accurate, and context-driven legal research. Its suite of innovative tools – including AMICUS, an AI-powered legal assistant, document review, and contextual search capabilities – enables users to efficiently identify relevant precedents, analyse judicial reasoning, and strengthen legal arguments with confidence.

We are delighted to have CaseMine as the Knowledge Partner for this Essay Writing Competition. As part of this collaboration, CaseMine has generously sponsored three complimentary one-year subscriptions to CaseMine AI Pro, which will be awarded to the authors of the top three winning entries.

ABOUT THE ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

The CFL, NLU Jodhpur, is proud to present the first edition of its Inter-College Essay Writing Competition on the theme of:

“Reproductive Rights & Bodily Autonomy.”

Examining the intersection of family law with questions of reproductive choice, bodily integrity, and evolving family structures is essential to understanding how legal systems shape and regulate intimate spheres of life. Further, exploring the ways in which reproductive rights and familial relationships interact with factors such as class, culture, gender, and access to healthcare reveals the various nuanced ways in which inequality, exclusion, and control remains obscured in narrower legal analyses.

Through this competition, CFL seeks to provide a platform for participants to engage critically with contemporary issues at the forefront of family law discourse. The competition aims to foster thoughtful and nuanced discussions on the evolving contours of family law, particularly in relation to reproductive rights, bodily autonomy, and diverse forms of family and kinship.

INDICATIVE SUB-THEMES

The theme of “*Reproductive Rights and Bodily Autonomy*” encompasses a wide range of legal, social, and ethical issues that shape individual agency and family relationships.

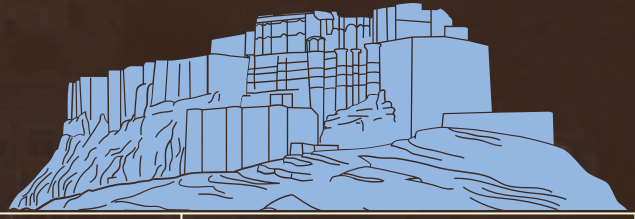
To guide participants, the following indicative sub-themes are provided:

- *Abortion: Reproductive Choice and State Control*
- *Female Genital Mutilation: Bodily Integrity*
- *Surrogacy and Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021: A Critical Analysis of the Regulatory Framework*
- *Maternal Health and Post-Partum Care: Rights, Access, and Challenges*
- *Child Marriage and Reproductive Autonomy*

Participants are encouraged to explore these themes from interdisciplinary and critical perspectives.

The above list is merely indicative and not exhaustive.

TIMELINE



Call for Papers and Registration	July 27, 2026
Last Date of Registration	August 24, 2026
Last date of Submission	September 10, 2026
Review Stage I & II	September
Review Stage III	First week of October
Release of Results	Mid-October

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Participants are required to complete the registration process before submission. The registration fee shall be as follows:

- Submissions by a single author: Rs. 300/-
- Co-authored submissions (*maximum 2 authors*): Rs. 600/-

Payment is to be made on the following [Payment Link](#) (Click [here](#)).

Note: Payment for both co-authors is to be made by one person. After completing payment, a clear screenshot or photograph of the payment receipt must be uploaded along with relevant details on the following [Registration Link](#) (Click [here](#)).

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions must be made in **Microsoft Word format** (.doc or .docx) on the google form link that shall be circulated later.

- Co-authorship of up to **two (2) authors** is permitted.

The word limit for the essay submission is **2,500–3,000 words**.

Anonymity: Disclosure of information regarding the identity of the author(s), including but not limited to name, institutional affiliation, or professional details in the manuscript, is prohibited.

Originality: Submissions must be original and unpublished work of the author(s). Authors shall be solely responsible for ensuring the accuracy of the facts, authorities, and opinions expressed in their submissions.

- All submissions will be screened for **plagiarism**. Manuscripts with a similarity index exceeding 15% will be summarily rejected.

Referencing: wherever possible, references must be incorporated through hyperlinks within the text. Where an online source is unavailable, footnotes may be used. All footnotes must conform to the Oscola Citation Style.

Formatting Guidelines: Garamond font; Size 12 for the main text and Size 10 for footnotes; Justified alignment; 1.5 line spacing for the main text and single spacing for endnotes.

- Verbatim quotations must be enclosed within double quotation marks and appropriately italicised.

REVIEW PROCESS

To ensure fairness, transparency, and academic rigour, all submissions will undergo a multi-stage review process.

Stage I: Technical Screening

Upon receipt of submissions through the designated Google Form, all entries shall undergo an initial compliance review. Submissions will be screened for adherence to the competition guidelines, including formatting requirements, anonymity standards, plagiarism thresholds, and originality requirements.

As specified in the Submission Guidelines, entries with:

- a plagiarism score exceeding 15%,
- or any detectable use of generative artificial intelligence tools,

shall be disqualified and will not proceed to the substantive evaluation stage.

Stage II: Editorial Review

Submissions that successfully clear the technical screening stage shall be evaluated by the Editorial Board of the Family Law Chronicle. The Editorial Board will assess entries on the basis of the various evaluation parameters, including originality, quality of research, depth of analysis, structure, coherence, and contribution to contemporary discourse on family law.

Based on the cumulative scores awarded during stage II, the Top Ten submissions shall be shortlisted for the final round of review.

Stage III: Faculty Review and Final Adjudication

The shortlisted submissions shall be forwarded to an independent panel of faculty reviewers possessing expertise in family law, constitutional law, gender studies, and allied disciplines.

The faculty reviewers shall independently evaluate the shortlisted entries and determine the final rankings. Based on their assessment, the First, Second, and Third Position Winners shall be selected.

Please note that the decision of the reviewers shall be final and binding.

Special Recognition

In addition to the winning entries, the Review Board may, at its discretion, consider entries for publication in the Family Law Chronicle, subject to editorial review and publication standards.

PANELISTS' PROFILES

The final round of evaluation shall be conducted by an esteemed panel of faculty members from NLUJ, whose scholarship and expertise span the fields of family law, constitutional law, gender studies, and socio-legal research.

DR. ASHA BHANDARI

Dr. Asha Bhandari is an Associate Professor of Humanities and Social Sciences at NLUJ. Her academic interests include Gender Studies, Legal Reasoning, and interdisciplinary approaches to law & society.



DR. SAYANTANI BAGCHI

Dr. Sayantani Bagchi is an Assistant Professor of Law, NLUJ. Her research and teaching primarily focus on Constitutional Law, with particular interest in Rights-Based Jurisprudence and contemporary constitutional developments.



DR. RASHMI MATHUR

Dr. Rahsmi Mathur is an Associate Professor of English at NLUJ. Her areas of interest include Language of Law, Modern Feminism, Post-colonial writing and Intersectionality.



In case of a tie, Ms. Preeti Badola, Executive Director of CFL, would determine the tie-breaker.

PRIZE SCHEME FOR WINNERS

The Centre for Family Law seeks to recognise and reward scholarly excellence through a combination of monetary awards and publication opportunities:

First Position: Cash Prize of ₹5,000 along with a Certificate of Achievement and publication of the essay in the CFL Blog.

Second Position: Cash Prize of ₹ 3,000 along with a Certificate of Achievement and publication of the essay in the CFL Blog.

Third Position: Cash Prize of ₹2,000 along with a Certificate of Achievement and publication of the essay in the CFL Blog.

Furthermore, CaseMine will provide complimentary one-year subscriptions to CaseMine AI Pro to the authors of the top three winning entries.

Additional Recognitions

- **Certificate of Merit** for the other top ten shortlisted entries.
- **Publication opportunities** for select high-quality entries, irrespective of final ranking, subject to editorial review.
- **Participation Certificates** for all eligible participants whose submissions successfully complete the review process.

Note: Publication decisions shall remain subject to editorial review and compliance with publication standards.

REACH OUT TO US

For any queries regarding registration, submissions, payment, eligibility, timelines, or other aspects of the competition, please feel free to reach out to us via email.

Email: familylawcentre@nlujodhpur.ac.in

Address: National Law University, Jodhpur
NH-62, Nagour Road, Mandore
Jodhpur, Rajasthan – 342304

Website: <https://www.centreforfamilylaw.com/>

Follow the Centre's Social Media handles for Updates:

Instagram: [@cfl_nluj](https://www.instagram.com/cfl_nluj)

LinkedIn: Centre for Family Law, NLU Jodhpur

You may also reach out to our student coordinators at:

- **Mr. Leela Krishna Reddy** (*Convenor*): + 91 98493 98947
- **Ms. Saachi Minocha** (*Deputy Convenor*): +91 92892 86477

We look forward to your participation and to fostering meaningful discussions on reproductive rights, bodily autonomy, and the evolving contours of family law.

Ms. Preeti Badola

Executive Director

Centre for Family Law

National Law University, Jodhpur