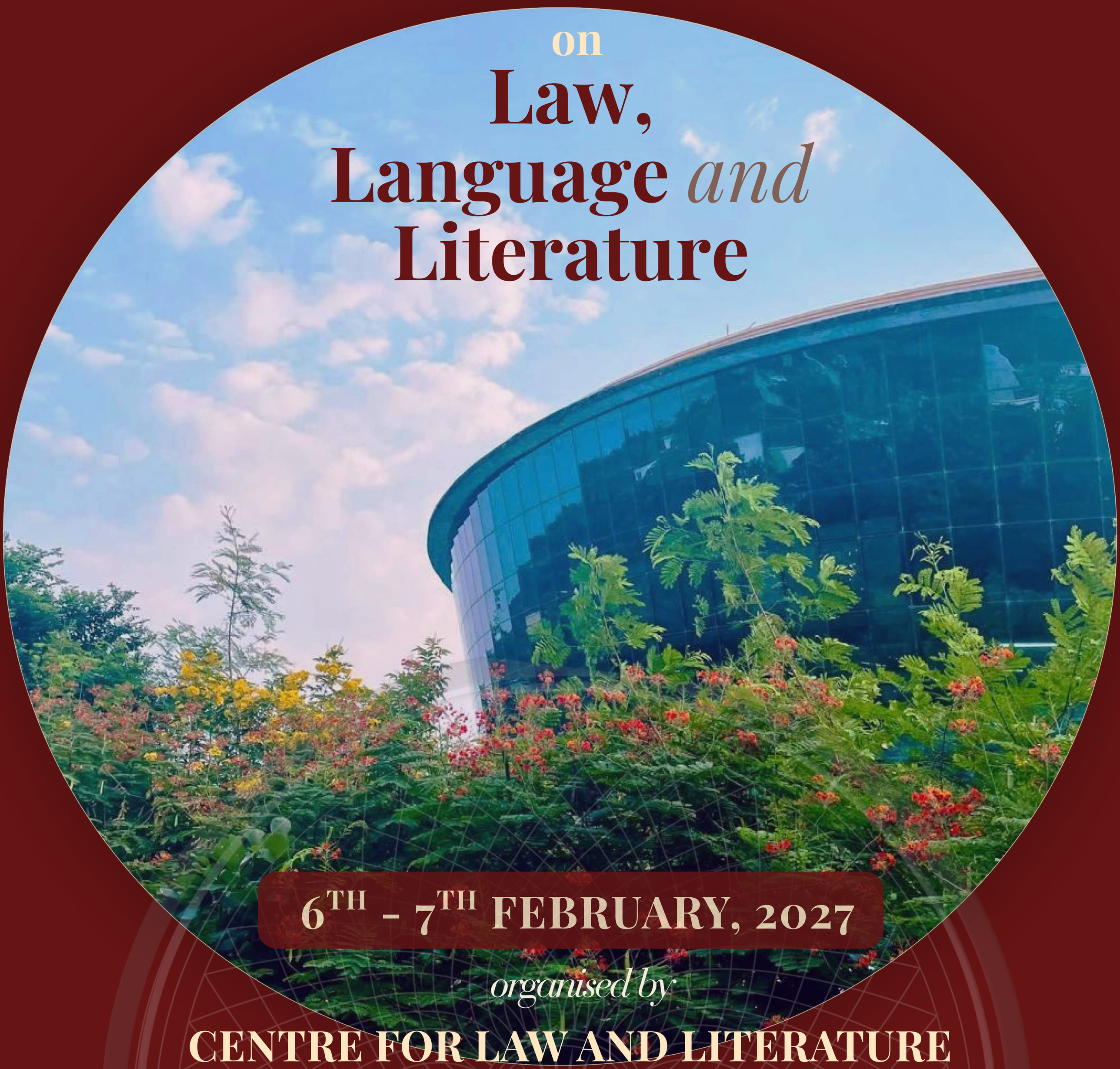
NATIONAL LAW INSTITUTE UNIVERSITY, BHOPAL

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

on

Law, Language *and* Literature



6TH - 7TH FEBRUARY, 2027

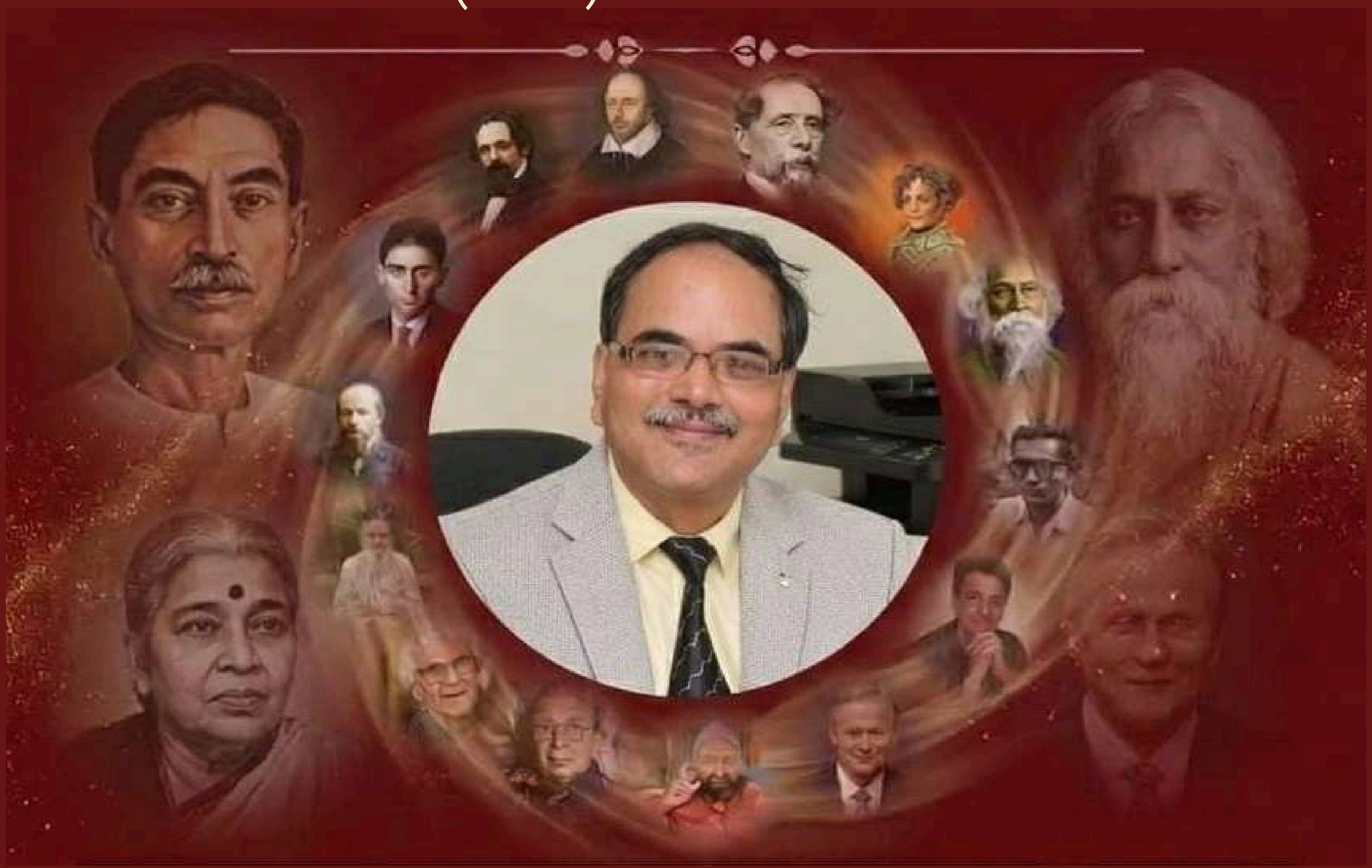
organised by

CENTRE FOR LAW AND LITERATURE

VENUE: NATIONAL LAW INSTITUTE UNIVERSITY, BHOPAL

Remembering

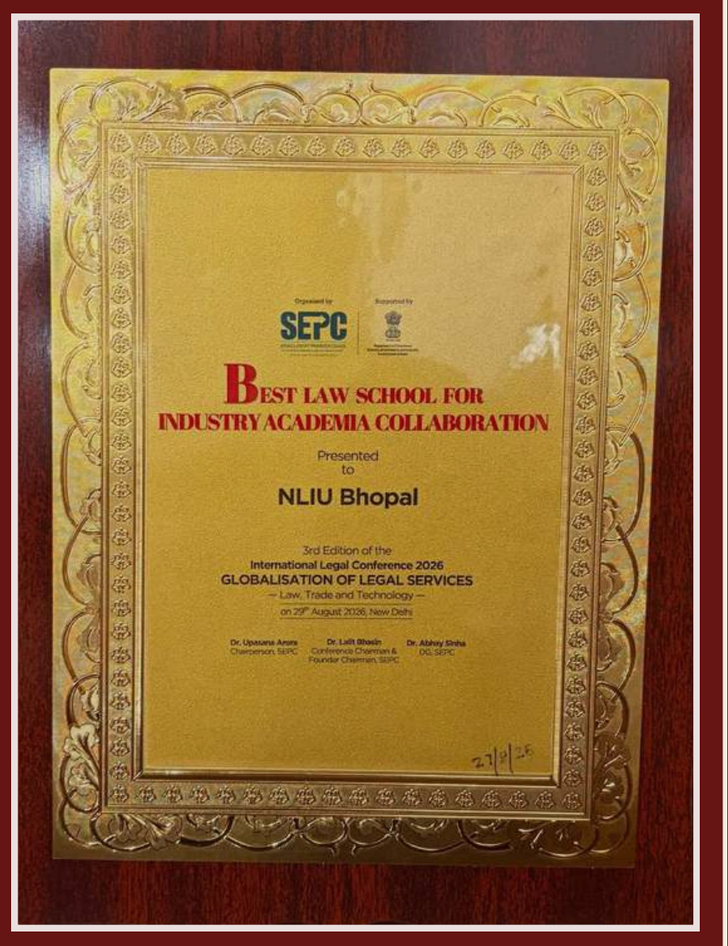
LATE PROF. (DR.) MUKESH SRIVASTAVA



Prof. (Dr.) Mukesh Srivastava was a revered scholar, devoted teacher, and compassionate human being. He served NLIU with distinction from 1999, first as Associate Professor and later as Professor of English since 2007. Over the years, he played a pivotal role in shaping the academic and cultural life of the university. His illustrious academic journey included teaching stints at the University of Chicago, IIM Ahmedabad, Osmania University, Hyderabad and the Jagran Institute of Communications & Management, Bhopal. A distinguished researcher in Cultural Studies and Law & Literature, he authored several critical works. Beyond his academic excellence, he was a warm-hearted and generous mentor, always extending support not just to students but also to the non-teaching staff and the larger NLIU community. His multifaceted contributions, including various administrative roles and his commitment to inclusive education, have left an indelible mark on NLIU. His legacy will remain etched in the heart of NLIU forever.

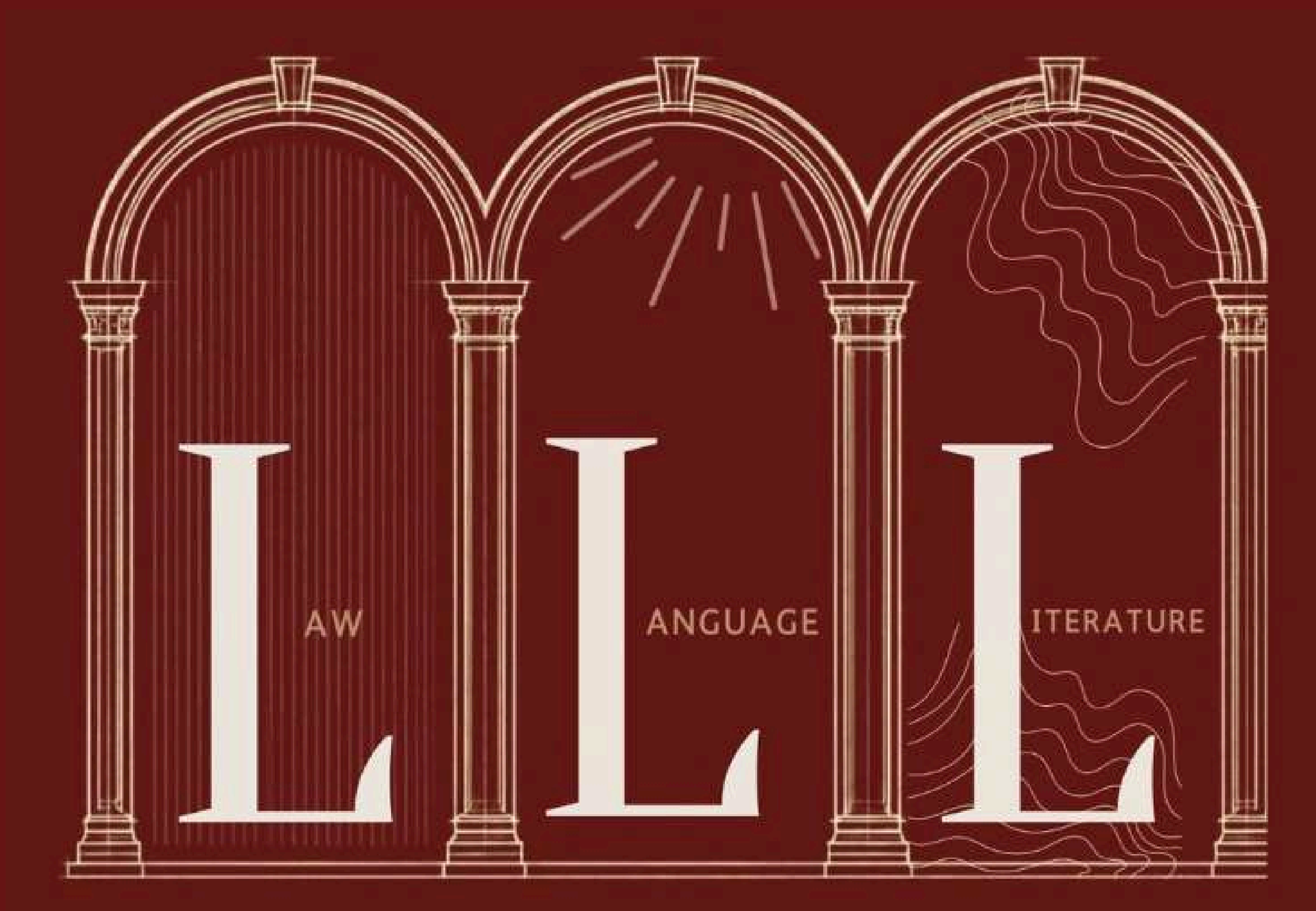
ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The **National Law Institute University** is a renowned law school located in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India. Established in 1997, it is one of the premier National Law Universities in the country. NLIU offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs in law, including the five-year integrated B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) and B.Sc., LL.B. (Hons.) [Cyber Security] programs, one-year LL.M. programs in various specialisations, a two-year Master of Cyber Law and Information Security program (MCLIS), P.G. Diploma programs in various specialisations, and Ph.D. programs for advanced interdisciplinary research. NLIU boasts a strong alumni base and takes pride in the quality of its students.



NLIU is proud to have been conferred the title of '**Best Law School in India for Industry–Academia Collaboration**' at the 3rd International Legal Conference 2026, themed 'Globalisation of Legal Services – Law, Trade and Technology'. The conference was organised by the Services Export Promotion Council under the aegis of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE



We are pleased to announce that the **Centre for Law and Literature (CFLL)** at the **National Law Institute University (NLIU), Bhopal**, proposes to organize a **Two-Day International Conference on Law, Language and Literature** on **February 6–7, 2027**.

The conference is dedicated to the fond memory of **Late Prof. (Dr.) Mukesh Srivastava** (*served as Professor of English, NLIU*) in recognition of his dedicated service of over two decades and his invaluable contribution as one of the founding pillars of NLIU. We cordially invite your esteemed participation and presence at the conference.

CONCEPT NOTE

The Law and Literature movement, which began in Europe and the U.S.A., has deep roots in democratic traditions and the celebration of individual freedom and liberty. The movement may also be related, even if indirectly and tangentially, to Critical Legal thinking and methods of analysing not only literary texts, but larger historical, social and cultural formations, legal institutions and practices. While traditional jurisprudence claims to reveal, through pure reason and juristic techniques, a picture of universal principles and truth beneath the historical and social variability of laws, institutions and practices, the Law and Literature enterprise, when allied to critical legal theory, opens up such models of jurisprudence for further scrutiny.

Since the publication of *The Legal Imagination* by James Boyd White, the argument that law as an intellectual discipline is constituted more as a discursive form of the liberal arts than as social sciences or logic has been gaining momentum. Several noted philosophers, including some legal theorists, have supported this argument using diverse methods of inquiry and tools of analysis. These inquiries into jurisprudence, legal doctrines, and institutional practices question the founding assumption of law as a discrete and autonomous intellectual discipline, supported by specific rule-based rational practices and seek to restore it to a humbler place of narrativity, storytelling or a highly stylised register of language use. Thus, narrative logic lies at the heart of the Law and Literature movement, where attention to rhetoric and imagination is central to understanding parallels between legal and literary interpretations and indeed, interpretations of the world of 'objective reality'. In this endeavour, the search for meaning and the best interpretation becomes a matter of ethical and moral responsibility, rather than of mere rational conclusion.

While in Europe and the U.S.A. the movement gained traction and to a limited extent, influenced some policymakers, in India it is still a work in progress. The proposed conference aims to bring together leading scholars, academicians and practitioners from diverse backgrounds to explore the intricate and dynamic relationships between law, language and literature. The conference will also address emerging challenges and innovations across these disciplines. The event will feature keynote speeches, paper presentations, panel discussions, etc.

THEMES
For Paper Presentation

THE PRINCIPAL THEMES INCLUDE:

1. Legal language, legalese and plain-language law
2. Law, literature and legal interpretation
3. Artificial intelligence, legal reasoning and literary creativity
4. Law, language, translation and multilingualism
5. Literature, law and access to justice
6. History, mythology, fiction and legal imagination
7. Censorship, freedom of expression and artistic representation
8. Law, cinema, music and popular culture
9. Copyright, authorship and the legal protection of literature
10. Poetic, restorative and retributive justice
11. Post-truth, narrative, evidence and public belief
12. Literature's influence on law-making and social transformation

* The above themes are suggestive in nature. Participants may exercise creative freedom and choose their own phraseology and topic under the broad area of *Law and Literature*.

** ***Publication Opportunity:*** *Abstracts selected for the conference will be included in the conference proceedings. A limited number of papers presented at the conference may be considered for publication in a peer-reviewed journal or in a university publication carrying an ISBN, subject to the applicable editorial and review processes.*

"Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become."

C. S. Lewis

IMPORTANT DATES

Last date for submission of Abstracts: **15th November, 2026**
Notification of Abstract acceptance: **20th November, 2026**
Last date for registration: **30th November, 2026**
Last date for full-paper submission: **25th January, 2027**

AUTHOR GUIDELINES

Eligibility:

- We welcome participation from national and international scholars, faculty members, researchers, students, legal practitioners, English language professionals, and writers engaged in academic or professional work in law, language, literature, and allied disciplines.
- Co-authorship is allowed for up to **two authors** only. The co-authors must register and pay for the Conference separately.

Technical Criteria:

- Length of Abstract: **250-300 words.**
- Word limit for full Paper: **3000-5000 words.**
- All submitted abstracts and full papers will be checked for similarity. A similarity index of less than 10% is permissible.
- The referencing style: APA / OSCOLA 4th Edition

Detailed Submission Guidelines for the Presentation and Final Paper submission will be shared upon selection of the abstracts.

DETAILS REGARDING
Registration & Submissions

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION PROCESS

Abstracts should be submitted through the Google Form provided here. During the submission of the abstract, the document should be saved with the name of the submission, the name of the participant, and the title of the paper. E.g., *Abstract - B. Dhruva- Law, Language and Literature.*

REGISTRATION FEES

For Paper Presenters

Faculty/ Professional/ Writers: **INR 1500**

Students (Undergraduates, Masters & Research Scholars): **INR 1000**

For Non-Paper Presenters

Faculty/ Professional/ Writers: **INR 1000**

Students (Undergraduates, Masters & Research Scholars): **INR 500**

For Foreign Presenters

Faculty/ Professional/ Writers: **USD 70**

Students (Undergraduates, Masters & Research Scholars): **USD 35**

REGISTRATION PROCESS AND FEES PAYMENT

The details regarding the registration process and fee payment will be communicated separately to authors whose abstracts are accepted.

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION CHANNEL

Please note that all official communication regarding this conference must be addressed to and will be received via cfll@nliu.ac.in. For any additional queries or clarifications, you may contact the Faculty Convenor or Student Convenors of the Organizing Committee using the details provided on the following pages.

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

Accommodation Charges:

Single Occupancy: Rs. 1500/- per Presenter (Faculty) / USD 20 (Foreign Faculty)
Double Occupancy: Rs. 1000/- per Presenter (Students) / USD 15 (Foreign Students)

** As accommodation facility is limited on campus, allotment will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.*

Please note that accommodation will be provided for the conference dates. Accommodation for any additional night before or after the conference dates may be arranged upon payment of the applicable additional charges for each night. If the participants do not wish to avail the accommodation provided by the university, they may opt for other options available in Bhopal.

The following hotels are located near the university for participants who prefer to arrange their own accommodation.

Hotel	Location	Distance from University	Contact Number
Taj Lakefront	Prempura	6.3 km	+91 75543 70000
Jehan Numa Retreat	Prempura	7.5 km	+91 99 8112 2282
Courtyard by Marriott	DB City Mall	12.3 km	+91 755-6661666

- *Transportation will be provided from the above-mentioned hotels to NLIU on the conference dates.*

ESTEEMED DIGNITARIES

Chief Patron

Hon'ble Shri Justice Alpesh Yeshvant Kogje

Chief Justice, High Court of Madhya Pradesh &
Chancellor, National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Patron

Prof. (Dr.) S. Surya Prakash

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,
National Law Institute University, Bhopal

FACULTY CONVENOR

Dr. Narasinga Rao Barnikana

Chairperson, Centre for Law and Literature &
Assistant Professor of English
National Law Institute University, Bhopal
Email: narasingarao@nliu.ac.in

ADVISORY BODY

Prof. (Dr.) Srikrishna Deva Rao
Vice-Chancellor, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad

Prof. (Dr.) K.V.S. Sharma
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NLUJA, Assam

Prof. (Dr.) Harpreet Kaur
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NLU, Jodhpur

Prof. (Dr.) Nandimath Omprakash V
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, WBNUJS, Kolkata

Prof. Dr. Bindu S. Ronald
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, MNLU, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar

Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, DNLU, Jabalpur

Prof. (Dr.) Ashok R. Pati
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NUSRL, Ranchi

Prof. (Dr.) Prasannanshu
Professor of English,
National Law University, Delhi

Prof. (Dr.) K. Sree Ramesh
Department of English, Adikavi Nannaya University,
Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh

Prof. (Dr.) Urmila Atul Paralikar
Department of English, Government College of Education, Ramai Ambedkar Square,
Ambejogai (Beed), Maharashtra

Prof. S. Mohan Kumar
Department of English, MVGR College of Engineering (A),
Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prof. (Dr.) Ghayur Alam
Senior Professor of Law, National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Prof. (Dr.) Uday Pratap Singh
Professor of Human Rights, National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Prof. (Dr.) Rajiv Kumar Khare
Professor of Law, National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Prof. (Dr.) Raka Arya
Professor of Political Science, National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Prof. (Dr.) Sanjay Kumar Yadav
Professor of Law, National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Prof. (Dr.) Bir Pal Singh
Professor of Panchayat Administration and Nyaya Panchayat,
National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Prof. (Dr.) Atul Kumar Pandey
Professor of Cyber Law, National Law Institute University, Bhopal

Dr. N. Manohar Reddy
Assistant Professor of English, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad

Dr. Shivender Rahul
Assistant Professor of English, MNLU, Nagpur

Mr. Jeevan Sagar
Assistant Professor of English, HNLU, Raipur

Ms. Mahenaz Azizul Haque
Assistant Professor of English, MNLU, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Student Convenors

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Joint-Convenor, Centre for Law and Literature
Batch of 2027 | B.A., LL.B. (Hons.)
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Ms. Ananya Gupta

Co-Convenor, Centre for Law and Literature
Batch of 2027 | B.A., LL.B. (Hons.)
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Student Body

Arpita Singh (Ph.D. Research Scholar in English)
Isha Mandlekar (Ph.D. Research Scholar in English)

Avani Raj | Dhruv Pratap Singh Chandel | Aditya Pathak | Kshitij Gondal | Shaily Navadia | Vibhuti Sharma | Yashvi Bansal | Aadi Dhruvansh Dussa | Advay Khatri | Anya Shukla | Akshita Choudhari | Bhavya Singh | Devansh Verma | Harshil Thalore | Jitesh Meena | Jiya Dixit | Mridulika Karanwal | Nripangana Deka | Rakshitha Rao A | Ridhima | Samarth Srivastava | Siddharth Mewara | Subha | Sujhen Vanshkar | Tanisha Tahalyani | Tanishq Bajaj | Vanlalpekhlua | Yashmita Nandan

Nearby
TOURIST PLACES

Explore the Heritage, Nature and Culture of Bhopal

While you are at the National Law Institute University (NLIU), Bhopal,
take the opportunity to experience the city's stunning landscapes, rich heritage and vibrant culture.

Kerwa Dam

Location: Kerwa, Bhopal

Distance from NLIU: 4 km

Highlights: Scenic surroundings, greenery and photography

Upper Lake (Bhojtal)

Location: Bhopal

Distance from NLIU: 10 km

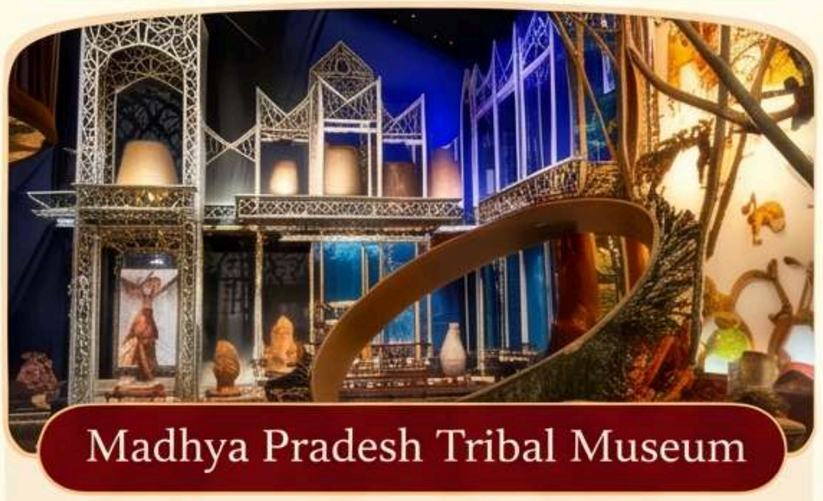
Highlights: Boating, lake views and sunsets

Van Vihar National Park

Location: Shyamla Hills, Bhopal

Distance from NLIU: 10 km

Highlights: Wildlife, nature trails and birdwatching

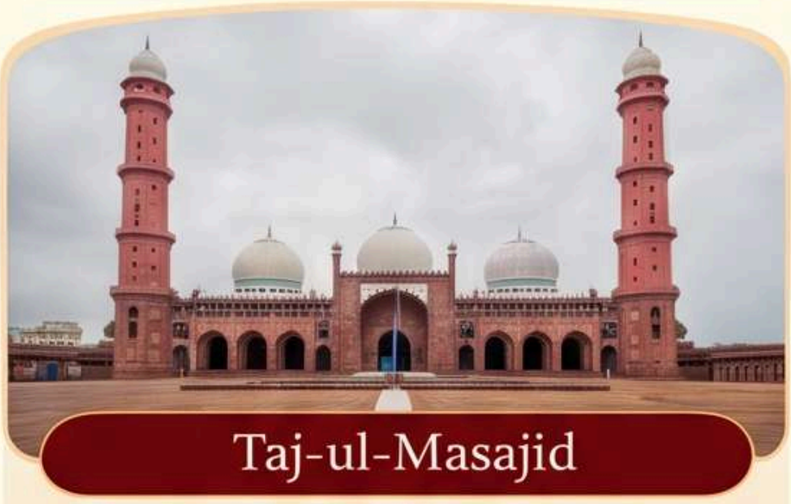


Madhya Pradesh Tribal Museum

Location: Shyamla Hills, Bhopal

Distance from NLIU: 11 km

Highlights: Tribal art, culture and heritage

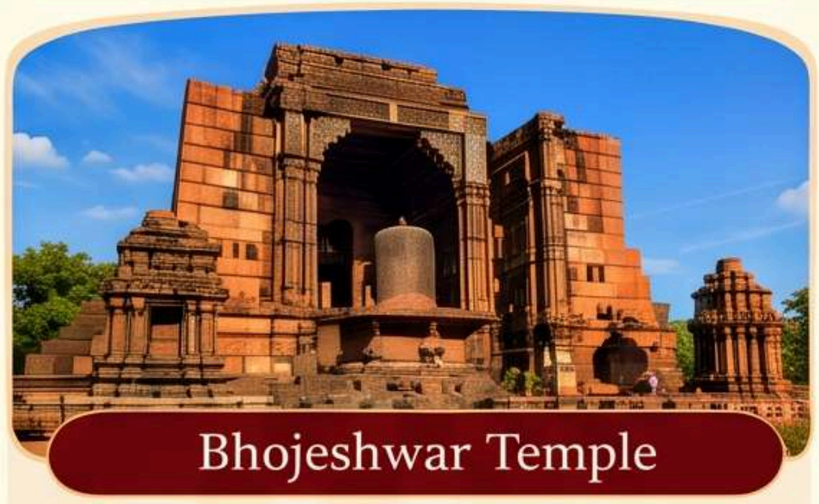


Taj-ul-Masajid

Location: Old Bhopal

Distance from NLIU: 15 km

Highlights: Historic mosque and impressive architecture

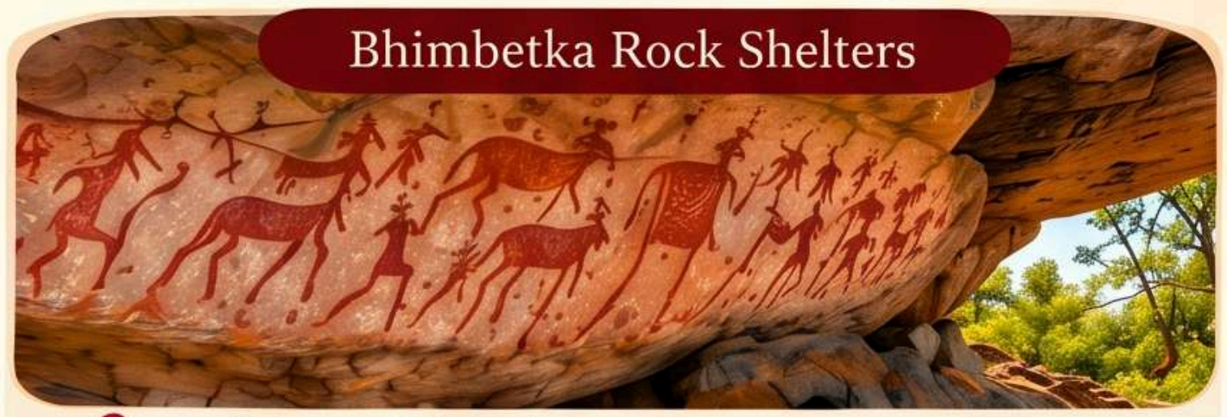


Bhojeshwar Temple

Location: Bhojpur

Distance from NLIU: 32 km

Highlights: Ancient Shiva temple and monumental stone architecture

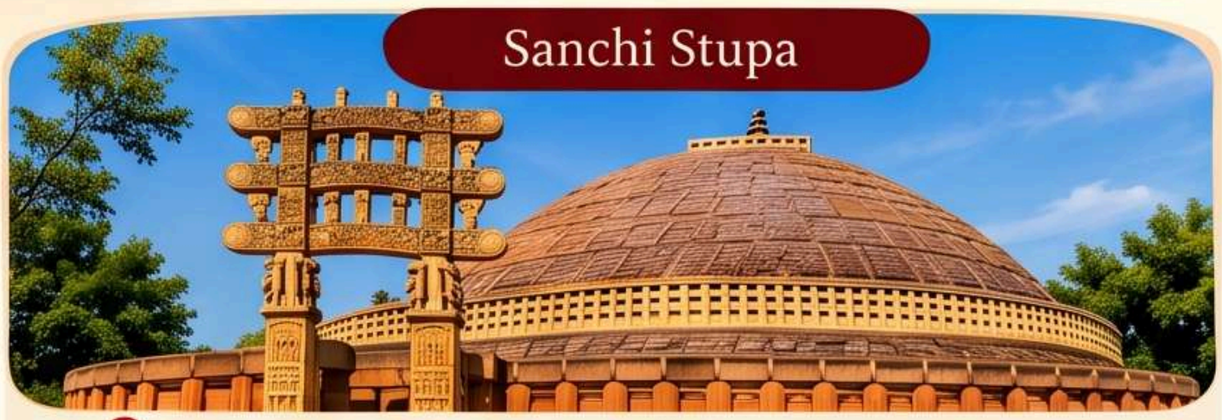


Bhimbetka Rock Shelters

Location: Raisen district

Distance from NLIU: 48 km

Highlights: Prehistoric rock paintings; UNESCO World Heritage Site



Sanchi Stupa

Location: Sanchi

Distance from NLIU: 60 km

Highlights: Buddhist monuments and UNESCO World Heritage Site

LOCAL SIGHTSEEING

Local sightseeing will be arranged for interested participants, subject to the time available - selected places shall be visited.

SIGHTSEEING CHARGES

Indian participants:
₹1,000 per person
Foreign participants:
USD 50 per person

PAYMENT

Participants wishing to avail themselves of local sightseeing must pay the applicable sightseeing fee along with the conference registration fee.