

**ADDRESS BY HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GOVIND MATHUR ON
THE EVE OF TRANSFER OF HON'BLE MISS JUSTICE
JAISHREE THAKUR, JUDGE, RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT, TO
PUNJAB & HARYANA HIGH COURT.**

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DATE :: 29th SEPTEMBER, 2016

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My dear Justice Jaishree Thakur,

My esteemed colleagues,

Shri Kantilal Thakur,
Additional Advocate General,

Shri Jagmal Singh Choudhary,
Member, Special Committee,
Bar Council of Rajasthan,

Shri Ranjeet Joshi,
President, Rajasthan High Court Advocates' Association,

Shri Jitendra Singh Khichi,
Vice President, Rajasthan High Court Lawyers' Association,

Learned Senior Advocates,

Members of the Bar,

Members of the Rajasthan Judicial Service,

Officers of the Registry,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

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Today, the task in my hand is to speak about Hon'ble
Justice Jaishree Thakur.

To speak does not mean to give framework of
biography only.

It demands a gentle touch to every shade of life spectrum of the subject. It is always difficult and delicate to look into different colours of life spectrum, specially when the subject person is close to your heart, to whom you adore, who is exceptionally humble and genuinely brilliant.

The difficulty is, to come out from subjectivity to assess such a bright personality objectively. But I am a Judge, I must know to over come the subjectivities. By coming out from that, my candid statement is –

“Today my High Court is looser and the High Court of Punjab and Haryana, where Justice Jaishree Thakur is going, is gainer. My High Court is extending send-off to a brilliant Judge and the Punjab and Haryana High Court must be anxiously waiting to receive its own asset with open arms.”

I had occasion to share Division Bench with Justice Jaishree Thakur for good about a year. We had a great understanding, not only to unfold the cases which were before us, but to pack those up expeditiously by arriving at a common

conclusion. This was possible only due to the harmony in the frequency of our thinking process.

While sharing Bench with Justice Jaishree Thakur, I found her a Judge fully prepared with facts, complete control over the law having application and open to examine the issue under adjudication till last. I found her a person of even temper and good manners, worthy of being trusted, courteous to everyone and firm on her principles.

Light but spontaneous sense of humour is her special asset. I witnessed very stylish use of this quality by her on several occasions including while travelling deep, even in very tough cases.

These qualities are not adopted but are inbuilt in her personality.

She is a daughter of a very illustrious family of pre-independence Punjab.

Her great great grand father Raja Sir Sahib Dayal of Kishen Kot, K.C.I.E., was a member nominated to Indian Legislative Council from 1862 to 1892. The nomination was

made looking to his extraordinary academic qualities and also being a Zamindar from Amritsar region of Punjab.

Shri Navin Chand Thakur, father of Justice Jaishree Thakur, was owner of a multi dimensional personality. An alumni of Oxford, was a Professor of English with great command on Persian as well as Urdu. Shri Navin Chand Thakur was honoured by "Openheimer Award" for English literature. He authored two books, one on "Virginia Woolfe" and other on "AASHAAD KA EK DIN", the well known play of great play writer Mohan Rakesh. Shri Navin Chand Thakur was also honoured with Sangeet Natak Academy Award from the President of India for his contribution to Indian Theatre.

Smt. Nirmala Thakur, mother of Justice Jaishree Thakur, was an alumni of Miranda House, New Delhi and was a student of English Literature.

Shri Meru Thakur, brother of Justice Jaishree Thakur, is a scholar in Disaster Management at Wharton School of Management, Philadelphia, United States of America. His wife is also a practicing doctor there.

Justice Jaishree Thakur is also having a very rich and

illustrious background from her maternal end.

Her Nana Pandit Gombti Prasad, after acquiring initial studies from Srilanka, went to Oxford as a student of law. He preferred teaching law vis-a-vis practice in law.

Her Nani Smt. Radha Prasad, was from Lucknow. She did her B.A. in Economics from Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow. She was in close relation to Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore. Smt. Radha Prasad was an extraordinary Tennis player too.

With the background as above, stress on education for Justice Jaishree Thakur was obvious. She did her Bachelors in Law from Chandigarh and also Masters in Company Law from Punjab University, Chandigarh. Though she was a meritorious student throughout, she never ignored other curricular activities. She was a Basketball player of National Level. In the age of 15 years, she participated in All India Basketball tournaments at New Delhi. She represented her State for consecutive five years. She also had college colours for sports. She is also a known Golfer.

Being inherited from her father, she also participated

in Theatre activities. She revived an old Theatre group known as "Chandigarh Amateur Dramatics Society".

Justice Jaishree Thakur, after completing her Masters in Law, got herself enrolled as an Advocate. She practiced almost in all fields of law before Punjab and Haryana High Court at Chandigarh. She also remained Deputy Advocate General from March, 1992 to November, 1992. She was also Additional Senior Standing Counsel for Chandigarh Administration. While practicing in law, she also remained reporter of Indian Law Reporter for several years.

Being coming from a family of a well known teacher she also had an instinct for teaching, and that prompted her to be a Teacher. Justice Jaishree taught law for good six years as a part time lecturer at Chandigarh Law College.

Justice Jaishree Thakur also travelled extensively in India and out of India. She has visited most of European and American countries. Justice Jaishree Thakur made herself as a person admirable by living life and also by learning from life.

She was appointed as Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court on September 25, 2014 and was transferred to Rajasthan High Court where she assumed charge on 5.1.2015.

A gentle lady with a broad vision, proved herself as an excellent Judge. As a Judge of Rajasthan High Court, for a brief tenure of about 20 months, she delivered several important judgments either speaking on behalf of Division Bench or while sitting in Single Bench.

In a case relating to grant of sanction for prosecution of a Government servant, said to be involved in a case under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, she held that a public servant involved in corruption must be penalised but not by ignoring law. She emphasised that the authority competent to grant sanction for prosecution holds an important responsibility which is required to be discharged cautiously, diligently and with all objectivity and without any outer interference. In an important case of Hindustan Zinc Limited, she while speaking for Division Bench, interpreted the term "Motor Vehicle". The interpretation made by her is having not only large implications, but huge acceptance too. I also had occasion to read several Single Bench judgments given by Justice Jaishree Thakur. I always found her mandate supported by adequate reasons, after

discussing facts with necessary application of law.

Justice Jaishree Thakur represents best in our judiciary. She commands affection of the Bar, respect of litigants and cooperation of her colleagues. She is firm without being harsh, she is quick of grasp without being impatient, she is gentle without being weak, she is unbending against arbitrariness and injustice, but never shunned the quality of mercy, the quality necessary to impart justice. She is full of courage, intelligence, impartiality, objectivity and integrity.

She is true to what Ovid said "Justice shines by its own law".

On personal note, I have had the benefit of sharing views on different issues with Justice Jaishree Thakur even outside the court. I will miss her presence as a loving sister and a very good friend. She has left an unvanishable mark of her presence with the judiciary of Rajasthan and also in personal life of her colleagues at Jodhpur.

She is going to her parent High Court at her home town. I wish her rise to higher echelons of success and happiness throughout. No need to remind that Jodhpur will

remain her home forever.

On this special day, while bidding farewell, I would like to extend open invitation to Justice Jaishree Thakur to visit Rajasthan, specially Jodhpur, as and when we miss her or she miss us.

May God grant her a very happy and successful life.

Thank you sister Justice Jaishree for being with us.

JAI HIND.

(GOVIND MATHUR)