

**Farewell speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Augustine George Masih, Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court on the eve of retirement of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Kumar Gaur, Judge Rajasthan High Court on 22.09.2023 at 03.45 PM through Video Conferencing.**

My Esteemed Colleagues on the Bench

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Rastogi  
Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

Hon'ble Former Judges of this Court

Shri Mahendra Singh Singhvi,  
Learned Advocate General, Rajasthan

Shri Kapil Prakash Mathur,  
Vice Chairman, Bar Council of Rajasthan, Jaipur

Shri Deepak Thanvi,  
Joint Secretary, Rajasthan High Court Advocates  
Association, Jodhpur

Shri Ravi Bhansali  
President, Rajasthan High Court Lawyers Association,  
Jodhpur

Shri Mahendra Shandilya  
President, Rajasthan High Court Bar Association, Jaipur

Shri Kamal Kishore Sharma  
President, The Jaipur Bar Association, Jaipur

Learned Senior Advocates

Learned Members of the Bar

Members of Judicial Service and Registry

Madam Mrs. Indu Gaur and other dignified family  
members.

Ladies & Gentlemen.

**1.** We have gathered here once again in a short span of less than one month to bid farewell to our warm and affectionate esteemed colleague and brother Justice Shri Ashok Kumar Gaur, who is demitting Office after rendering spotless, selfless, impact filled and meaningful tenure of more than six years.

**2.** Brother Justice Gaur was born on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 1961 in the family of a renowned lawyer Late Shri Omprakash Ji Gaur at Alwar. After receiving his early education at Alwar, he did B.Com. from PMB Gujarati College, Indore in 1980 and obtained the Degree of Law from University Law Campus Jaipur in the year 1984 and enrolled himself as an Advocate with the Bar Council of Rajasthan in the same year itself. He started his practice in Rajasthan High Court in the year 1988 and soon established a flourishing practice in almost all branches of law having specialization in the field of Service, Constitution, Revenue & Tax. He remained Standing Counsel for the Income Tax Department and also Panel Lawyer of the Rajasthan High Court.

**3.** In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the legal field, he was designated as Senior Advocate by the Rajasthan High Court in January, 2011, whereafter he also practiced in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. His aptitude in legal profession resulted in his appointment on

Government panels, like Medical & Health Department, Irrigation Department, Ajmer Vidhyut Vitran Nigam Limited, Sanskrit University etc.

**4.** As an Advocate, brother Justice Gaur enjoyed good reputation, illustrious practice and earned a prominent place in the Bar. Looking to his intellectuality, merit and roaring success in the legal profession, he was called to the Bench of Rajasthan High Court as an Additional Judge on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 and took oath as a permanent Judge on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2018.

**5.** Brother Justice Gaur is such a popular and familiar personality who needs no introduction and I take this opportunity to share some of his qualities and contributions made to the administration of justice.

**6.** To my mind, brother Justice Gaur is an ordinary man with extraordinary abilities. He is ordinary in his humility and extraordinary in his approach. He is a brilliant and complete Judge besides being a multi talented personality. He is a fine human being, who is known for his gentle manners, simplicity, generosity and punctuality. Forthrightness and straightforwardness are his forte. He never believed in pretensions and continues to be the same inside as well as outside the courtroom. He always gives priority to quality in work and dispensed justice with even hands with significant degree of humanity and

understanding of the human nature.

**7.** It is said that "best leaders operate in four dimensions i.e. vision, reality, ethics & courage" and all these four attributes he possesses to the hilt. In His Court, there has never been any hustling or unpleasantness, rather even the losing side departed with a feeling of satisfaction. Through his industry, patience, sound knowledge of law and fairness in conducting cases, the trust that people repose in our judicial system has been greatly enhanced. Always encouraging and guiding the junior members of the Bar in the skills of legal profession, but uncompromising, firm and unbending when it came to upholding the rule of law and independence of the Judiciary.

**8.** At this juncture, I would refer the quote of the great philosopher Confucius- *"The superior man is modest in his speech but exceeds in his actions"* and I have no hesitation to say that brother Justice Gaur is that kind of persona. No one can really say he was not what a Judge is expected to be.

**9.** Throughout his distinguished career as a Judge, he maintained consistency and momentum to clear the backlog of cases in whatever roster he was assigned with. He has disposed of number of cases while sitting in Single Bench and Division Benches and while doing so he has

shown his prowess and legal acumen. Uncanny ability coupled with extraordinary intellect and a desire to decide even the most complex and difficult issues are palpable and reflected in his judgments. There would be no branch of law which remained untouched during his tenure. He penned down number of landmark and path breaking judgments on varied subjects of law which are occupying a dominant place in the Law Journals and are often cited. It can, therefore, be summed up that the decisions rendered by him stand out for their incisive analysis, clarity of expression, scholarship and depth of legal knowledge.

**10.** Brother Justice Gaur not only made a mark on the judicial side, but he has shown his commitment to institutional development as well on the administrative side being member of various committees. He was a restless striver eager to ensure and fulfill the task he was assigned with. His esteemed views and suggestions were of immense help for us to resolve the complex issues with ease.

**11.** Rule of law can only be maintained if there are Judges of quality as brother Justice Gaur, who are true custodians of the Constitution. He has rendered all possible assistance that an Institution expects from a Judge in discharging his constitutional obligations. The

fragrance emitted by his outstanding work reached everywhere. He performed in such a manner which not only brought glory to him but also enhanced the credibility of the Institution, thereby consolidating the faith of the litigating masses in the justice delivery system. He shall always be remembered for his tremendous support in all court related activities as well as the discipline he maintained on and off the Bench.

**12.** There is no doubt that with the superannuation of brother Justice Gaur, the Bench and the Bar of Rajasthan High Court will be losing a brilliant and illustrious Judge, however, he shall always remain in our hearts. His distinguished career will continue to glitter and inspire the legal fraternity. I am sure that in future also, he would dedicate himself with same commitment and spirit to serve the cause of justice and humanity.

**13.** It is said that retirement marks the end of working for someone else and the beginning of living for self. I am sure that now brother Justice Gaur would be free to pursue his passions and hobbies which he has not had enough time for all these years during which he has strived long and hard to achieve the goals that his assignment demanded.

**14.** Before concluding, I would like to wish Madam Indu Gaur a life time of togetherness with the man she has

stood by in his remarkable journey. I also convey good luck and best wishes to their beloved sons Avadhesh and Anirudh for a bright career and to reach the goals that they set for themselves.

**15.** I, on behalf of my brother and sister Judges and on my own behalf, wish brother Justice Gaur all the very best in all his future pursuits, continued good health, long life and fulfilling occupations in future as well.

THANK YOU.

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