



CHRIST
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Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Nabeela Siddiqui, Registration Number: 2090094, PhD Scholar at the School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Thursday, 21 May 2026 at 12.30 pm in Seminar Hall, A Block, 3rd Floor, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Delhi NCR Off-Campus, Ghaziabad - 201003, Uttar Pradesh, India.

- Title of the Thesis** : **A Critical Study of the Transboundary Water Sharing Laws with Special Reference to India and Its Neighboring Nations**
- Discipline** : **Law**
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The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

Registrar (Academics)

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 13 May 2026

ABSTRACT

Water is central to all forms of life and development, particularly in regions where river systems, aquifers, and lakes cross national borders. These transboundary water systems—including the Indus and Ganges Rivers—are shared by multiple nations and thus necessitate cooperative governance to ensure equitable use, sustainability, and peace. However, recent developments, including India's modification notices issued in 2023 and 2024 under Article XII(3) of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), have exposed structural vulnerabilities in its dispute resolution mechanisms (Article IX). Similarly, the Ganges Water Sharing Treaty (GWT), set to expire in 2026, faces criticism for its rigid quantitative allocation (Article II), which fails to account for dry-season flow volatility and environmental base flows. Adopting a doctrinal approach primarily with a part being empirical in nature, this study combines doctrinal legal analysis with empirical data gathered from 45 key stakeholders (policy experts, water law practitioners, and riparian community representatives) selected via purposive sampling. The doctrinal arm contrasts South Asian bilateralism with evolving principles of international water law, specifically the 'no harm rule' and 'equitable utilization' as codified in the 1997 UN Watercourses Convention. The empirical findings reveal a significant consensus (75% of respondents) on the necessity of incorporating climate-resilient clauses and third-party mediation protocols. The study concludes that the current static treaty frameworks are insufficient for the dynamic hydrological reality of the 21st century and proposes to modernize these instruments.

Keywords: *Transboundary Water Governance, India, Water-Sharing Treaties, International Water Law, Indus Waters Treaty, Ganges Treaty, Treaty Reform, Equitable Utilization, Legal Frameworks.*

Publications:

1. "Ganga and Yamuna Rivers: Through the Lens of the National Green Tribunal" N. Siddiqui*†, T. Faiyaz** and V. S. Tari*** *Nature Environment and Pollution Technology*, Vol. 21 pp. 1657-1664 2022, e-ISSN: 2395-3454, <https://doi.org/10.46488/NEPT.2022.v21i04.018>
2. "Reassessing The Ganges Water Treaty in the Age of Climate Change: A Systematic Review of Legal, Hydrological, and Governance Dimensions" Nabeela Siddiqui, Dr. Khushboo Malik, *International Journal of Environmental Sciences*, pp. 2297 – 2308, ISSN: 2229-7359, Vol. 11 No. 6, 2025, <https://theaspd.com/index.php>