

Law and Our Rights

Legal Education in South Asia

A Note on Tasks and Strategies For SAARCLAW

by Dr N R Madhava Menon

SAARCLAW has now grown to become not just a vehicle for professional exchanges...

region reflecting the ideas which they consider relevant at the turn of the century in respect of legal education.

partment of legal education and research.

One campus in each country will strive to specialise in an agreed area of professional development.

There is immediate need for organised efforts on the part of bar councils and bar associations to conduct continuing legal education courses for members of the profession including the judiciary.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION TO BE A PRIORITY ITEM FOR SAARC CO-OPERATION

With some adaptation, the proposed legal institutes can cater to the needs of not only the initial training of the new entrant to the bar but look after continuing education as well.

Similarly, there can be judicial academies jointly organised for specialised training of judicial officers at different levels on common problems of judicial administration.

CONCLUSION Legal education in the SAARC region is in a state of decay both socially and professionally.

There are several fundamental questions on whom these programmes can be organised in order that they are professionally significant and socially relevant.

The South African Institutes for Legal Practice are joint ventures of the bar council and select law schools in that country.

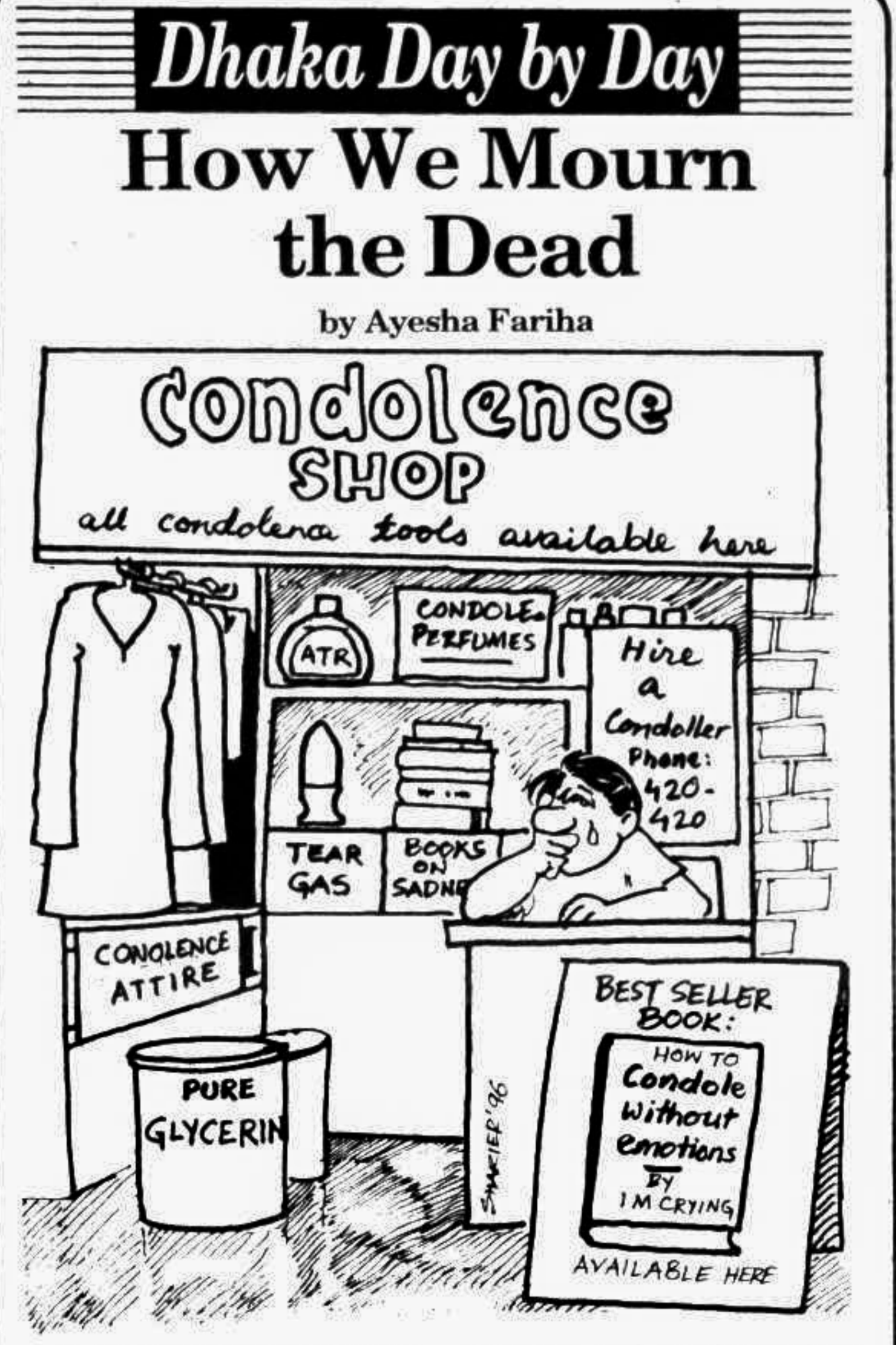
Legal education in the SAARC region is in a state of decay both socially and professionally.

administrators, adjudicators or reformers has to respond to the challenges if democracy and constitutional government have to be sustained and strengthened.

SAARCLAW has a unique role in acting as an umbrella organisation mobilising and co-ordinating the national professional bodies — bar councils and bar association — towards an agreed agenda of legal education improvement initiatives.

SAARCLAW will prepare a blue print for setting up a multi-campus law school with specialised centres in each country for research, education, training and extension services on the whole range of issues which confront human rights and development in a globalising economy.

The writer, the Director of the National Law School of India is the President of the Commonwealth Legal Education Association.



In Dhaka society these days one observes particular norms when one hears of the demise of a fellow being. The reasons for this are not clear, but of course how can they be otherwise when one acts purely out of custom that has been subtly and subconsciously acquired over the years.

curiosity, and people are determined to get the answers, preferably accurate ones. They him their questions at an authority — a second cousin, a business partner, or whoever else they can find.

It is a source of encouragement that in the human rights programme of the United Nations in recent years, attention has been given not only to dealing with violations, but to providing assistance to governments, at their request, in strengthening their laws and institutions for restoring respect for human rights.

Frequent and serious violations of human rights across the South Asian region prove that there should be suitable machinery and structure to ensure effectiveness of human rights both domestically and internationally.

The states concerned are principally entrusted with ensuring human rights to people by the international community. However, if the state concerned fails to ensure protection to the people or if it violates the fundamental principle of the Charter of the United Nations and when the states are far from being protectors of individual's fundamental rights and become tormentors, the is-

ue of international action becomes imperative. We are at the fine edge of the 21st century and the authoritarian regimes can not be allowed to advance the concept of sovereignty for undermining the rights guaranteed under the constitution and by the instruments of the United Nations.

Effective mechanisms nationally and/or regionally are to be evolved and flourished for the sake of protecting, promoting and enforcing human rights specially at the administrative and judicial levels. The possibility of setting up regional court of human rights as has been done in Europe may be debated. A brief look at the European system can be of great help.

A prominent regional achievement is the European Convention for the protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The European Convention established a Commission and a Court for handling both state and individual complaints.

In the law of human rights, it has long been apparent that the mere creation of international standards may be meaningless if it is unaccompanied by appropriate institutional enforcement mechanisms at the transnational level.

The European Convention on Human Rights represents more than a common standard of achievement. It imposes upon the contracting state parties a certain body of legal principles which they are obliged to conform to. In specific cases compliance with this law is ensured by the integral part of the domestic law of many of the contracting state parties.

Not only from the above consideration of the European system but also from international experiences it seems that considerable progress in securing human rights can be made through the establishment of specialised bodies vested with general or specific responsibilities for enforcing them.

Human Rights Commission

The Next Agenda for Action?

by Abul Hasnat Manjurul Kabir

ing of Human Rights Commission dominates the agenda for action to enforce human rights. In 1994, India passed the Protection of Human Rights Act 1994 for better protection of human rights.

The basic objective of a Commission is to promote respect for and observance of human rights in the administration of the province or the state. This objective may relate either to particular instruments, domestic or international, or to human rights more generally.

establishing codes of conduct to guide various parties (e.g. employers, professionals, trade unions) in this regard.

Regional Commission on Human Rights or even Court of Human Rights as has been done in Europe may be debated, but the issue of establishing Human Rights Commission at national level for rest of the South Asian countries has already gained due currency.

The writer, a researcher, is a student of Law, University of Dhaka. This is a part of the paper 'Human Rights Enforcement Mechanism in South Asia' presented in the 5th SAARCLAW conference.

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Sunday 19th January (All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programmes).

BTV 3:00 Opening Announcement All-Curran Program Summary 3:10 News in Bangla 3:15 Patriotic Songs 3:20 Recitation from the Bible 3:25 Release of Drama 4:50 Marami 5:00 News in Bangla 5:25 Sports Programme 6:00pm Gaitimalya 6:35 Mayerder Janyo 6:50 Open University 7:00 The News 7:25 Documentary on Freedom Fighting 8:00 News in Bangla 8:25 Women in Freedom Fighting 9:00 Film Series: Akbar The Great 10:00 News in Bangla 11:30 News in Bangla 11:35 Monday's programme 11:40 Close down

6:05 World Focus: Pole to Pole — Crossing the Line 7:00 BBC World Headlines 7:05 Breakfast with Frost 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 Time Out: Travel Show 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 Horizon — Doding Doomsday 10:00 BBC World News 10:20 Earth Report 10:30 Time Out: Film 97 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 World Focus: Top Gear 12:00 BBC World News 12:20 On The Record 1:00 BBC World News 1:20 Window On Europe 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 World Focus: State of the World: A Nuclear Warning 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out: Tomorrow's World 4:00 BBC World Report Inc. World Business Report/24 Hours 5:00 BBC World Report Inc. World Business Report/24 Hours

Hai 12:30 First Day First Show 1:00 Rewind VJ Sophia 2:00 Speed Easy 2:30 Videocore Flashback 3:00 Asian Top 20 VJ Trey 5:00 The Vibe Weekend VJ Luke 6:00 The Vibe Weekend 7:00pm Fashion Police 7:30 Soul Curry 8:00 The Indian Top 10 9:00 Launch Pad VJ Samira 10:00 House Of Noise VJ Luke 11:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 12:00m m Big Bang VJ Alessandra 1:00 The Ride 2:00 BBC World News 1:20 Window On Europe 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 World Focus: State of the World: A Nuclear Warning 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out: Tomorrow's World 4:00 BBC World Report Inc. World Business Report/24 Hours 5:00 BBC World Report Inc. World Business Report/24 Hours

Angels 7:30 The Simpsons 8:00 The Addams Family 8:30 Life Line 9:00 Reporter 9:30 Chandrakanta 10:30 STAR News Sunday 11:30 Dynasty 12:30 India Business 1:00 Living on the Edge 1:30 Amul India Show 2:00 BBC Documentary 'Around the World in 80 Days' 3:00 Movie Classic: Pimpernel Smith 5:00 Backup

Tour of South Africa India v S Africa 3rd Test Match Day 4 H/L 2:30 US PGA Tour Mercedes Championship Day 4 4:00 NBA Game of the Week New York @ Phoenix

From Shantung 18 (English Subtitles) 4:30 Kodak Klick Klick 5:00 Jagran

Ba Ru 10:00 Stand By 10:10 Hollywood Se Bollywood 10:30 Navras 11:00 Manoranjan 11:30 Kinetic Pride Haseen Pal 11:40 Karz

Sadi Nahi Ho Sakht 2:30 RAVEN 3:30 Gaane Jaane Maane 4:00 O'Maria (Serial) 4:30 Nirlep Raso Show 5:00 Boogie Woogie 5:30 Cover Story — Hostel (Serial) 6:00 Jeevan Mirtu (Serial) 7:00 Bindass Bol 8:00 Cine Classics — Hindi Feature Film 11:00 The Young And The Restless 12:00 Ghaav 12:30 Aahaat (Serial) 1:00 Faslee (Serial) 1:30 Surf-Wheel Of Fortune 2:00 Premier 2:30 Closed

6:00am BBC World Headlines

6:00am Frame by Frame 7:00 Rewind VJ Sophia 8:00 Frame by Frame 9:00 Big Bang Weekend VJ Alessandra 11:00 BPL Oyer 12:00 Sansu Mangta

6:00am Live The 1997 Australian Open Day 7 From Melbourne, Australia 1:00 Asia Sport Show 1:30 India Tour Of South Africa India v S. Africa 3rd Test Match Day 3 H/L 2:30 Live India Tour Of South Africa India Vs South Africa 3rd Test Match Day 4 From Johannesburg South Africa 9:30 Australian Open Day 7 H/Ls 10:30

7:30am Adventure: Golden Needles 15 9:30 Classic: The Eagle PG 1:30 Movie 11:30 Family: Gulliver's Travels G 1:30 Classic: The Malta Story 12 (Hindi Subtitles) 3:30 Sunday Show Time: Pee-Wee's Playhouse 4:30 For Laughs 5:30 Sunday Family Double Feature: Honeymoon in Vegas 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 7:30 Sunday Family Double Feature: Monkey Trouble 9:00 Int'l Film: Fest Of India Highlights 9:30 Gold: Hidden Fears 11 11:30 True Story: Vigilant Cop 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 1:30

5:30am Surtal 6:00 The News 6:30 Jagran 7:00 Suno Bhai Sadho 7:30 Maa 8:00 Mythological Hindi Film 10:30 Aap Ki Adalat 11:00 Siyaram's Cine Magic 11:30 Lakme Khoobsurat

00:30 Best Of The Best 1:30 Tarane 2:30 Hit Gunns 3:30 Devotional 4:30 Ghungroo 5:30 Best Of The Best 6:30 Tarane 7:30 Hit Pairs 8:30 Kandhos Its My Choice 9:00 Aaloo Ru-Ba-Ru

8:00am Tilawat Aur Tarjuma/Ham/Naat 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khabran 8:45 Fun Time 9:05 TV Encyclopedia 9:25 Khaz

11:10 Sports Hour 12:05pm Biscop 95/Gasmi Hahani 12:55 Quran-e-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 Aaj Di Kahani 1:40 Aaj Di Shaam 2:00 Kinara Ep-66 (Drama Serial) 2:55 Ghost Writer 3:55 Karabar 4:15 Education 5:25 Razi for 9th 5:55 Zameen Per Zindagi (Drama Serial) 6:25 Aou Cousins 7:00

English News 7:30 English Film: Star Trek Deep Space Nine 8:20 Hawwa Ki Naam 9:00 Break for Headlines News 9:20 Sur