

# LEGAL PRESS



# AU CONTRAIRE

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"Man is born free, yet everywhere he is in chains". 'Freedom' is an oft-discussed topic. I agree, but this time we have decided to add a little twist to the subject, because this time the manacles have clenched a little bit too tight, a little bit too close to home.

I am talking about freedom of the press. At this day and age where the world is fast materializing into a global village, all praises be to the advancement of communication devices, some people have the gall to determine what should be broadcast and what should not.

These people proclaim themselves as the powers-that-be and that they have the sole right in determining which news belongs on air and which belongs in the garbage bins.

Are they justified in compromising news reports? Or does the public reserve the right to know all that is going on? By what sort of yardstick should a piece of news be judged upon? By that of conscience, of security, or of self-interest?

I am afraid I do not have an answer to these complex conundrums. All I know is that those who strive hard to curb the freedom of the media must surely believe that 'the pen is mightier than the sword'.



**CONSULTANT EDITOR**

Microphones for the Mute - feature article for "FREEDOM OF THE PRESS"

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# THE PRESS: PROGRESS OR PANDEMONIUM

by Kauthar Ali

***The role of the Press  
in society is like the  
waves on the surface  
of the ocean .***

***Sometimes rippling  
calmly, sometimes  
lashing and swirling  
furiously, but never  
still. In stormy seas,  
the waves can  
jeopardise vessels  
sailing by. But in the  
calm, the waves  
and currents bring  
ships safely home  
with the tide.***

The ability to communicate verbally and willfully is one human characteristic which places man a cut above the rest of creation on earth. An animal, for instance, can be trained to understand gestures and sound, but it reacts on instinct, not by will. Men have been communicating with each other ever since the dawn of existence. God communicated the names of all things to Adam, who in turn, conveyed them to his descendents. The decipherable ancient symbols on the walls of caves and rocks attest to this. Then came the genius of the ancient Egyptians who invented algebra and, more importantly, the papyrus. From rocks and bits of wood man could now transmit his thoughts and vision on to paper. It was a catching fad and the papyrus was improved upon.

The process began as a leisurely stroll, but somewhere along the history, communication began to lope, then run, and race over illusory boundaries of tribes, villages, districts, states, continents and even the heavenly bodies. Fleetfoot messengers, fast horses, town criers standing on crates and ringing bells, royal proclamations nailed on to tree-trunks have now changed to

the eight o'clock news, the CNN reports, Times magazine, the BBC eavesdropping on Moldavian rebel communications, zoom lenses ensnaring the latest disgusted expression on HRH Prince Charles face and satellites hanging lazily in the deep silence of space. Technology and hardware now underline our freedom (in more ways than one) of speech and expression.

High-Tech advancements have geared the world towards a global community with one part of it always aware of the crisis or problems embroiling another part of the earth. "No man is an island" is more true than ever. The mass media today has profited immensely from these developments. Television, newspapers, the VCR, radio, magazines and other publications wield enormous capacity to disseminate information and news into the homes of multitudes of people. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to a new epoch: the Age of Information.

The might of the media depicts its potential and apparent impact on the masses. With the dissipation of language barriers, ideas can be voiced in such a way as to reach out to others, influence and shape their thinking. The Press, long before

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***"Read!" said God to Pro.Muhammad s.a.w. 1400 years ago in the resounding depths of cave, and Prophet Muhammad turned cold and weak. What a wealth of meaning lies behind that deceptively simple commandment. Yet he caught the staggering significance of it almost at once.***

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television, has been the pulse of the media. The influential strength of the written word has never been underestimated, as it is said that the "pen is more powerful than the sword".

"Read!" said God to Pro.Muhammad s.a.w. 1400 years ago in the resounding depths of cave, and Prophet Muhammad turned cold and weak. What a wealth of meaning lies behind that deceptively simple commandment. Yet he caught the staggering significance of it almost at once. Readings and writings, or rather writings then reading have been the bearers of the torch of ideas and ideals which have set men alight through the years. In the early centuries, nothing was looked upon with more awe and admiration than the activity of learning, thinking, developing, discussing and disseminating ideas as proven by the preserved written works of the great early scholars.

Journalist and journalism have always claimed to be immersed in the quest for truth. Indeed they revel in it and claim justifiably to fulfill a social need- the need to know, the right to know anything which affects the preservation and quality of human life.

At a glance, global news coverage today can be generally be divided into two different kinds. The first are those sober in outlook, consisting of the more serious issues, highlighting different aspects of politics, culture, civilisation, art

and the business world. The topics are reported matter-of-factly and there are discursive, analytical essays which are of great interest to the serious reader. The second kind are the tabloids: the sensational press who thrive on sexual exploitation and scandal, rumour-mongering and gossip greedily devoured by an enthralled audience. It is a mixture of the principled and unprincipled of late, the sensational Press have provoked certain sections of society to protest strongly against some of their questionable tactics used to create news.

In the United Kingdom, politicians, angered by the indiscriminate reports of their activities, have proposed a Bill which will strongly curb the disputable tactics of newshounds while protecting the individual's right to privacy. In the United States of America, several public personalities have been awarded some of the biggest sums of money as damages in libel suits against the Press. In Malaysia, a political affiliation exhibited their frustration at one-sided Press coverage by burning piles of the newspapers in question. These are just some of the examples of the Freedom is indeed vital, but unrestricted freedom could be fatal. Should freedom be restricted? Rather a contradiction in terms, but nevertheless it stems from rationale. Freedom of the Press is no different. In most democratic states today, the legislators or law-makers attempt to strike a balance between public and private rights, i.e. the public's right to know versus the individual right to privacy. The demarcation is often obscure. In fact the debate as to where to draw the line is an on-going one.

The recent uproar concerning Salman Rushdie's 'The Satanic Verses' highlights the confusion regarding freedom of speech and expression which lies at the foundation of press freedom. The book, which manifestly and scandalously insulted the basic

tenets of the religion of Islam, was defended as stemming from the liberty of the author to express his imagination. However when videotape was produced to counter his writings, the authorities banned it inciting disruption of the public peace. If Rushdie could freely and yet so scandalously express his corrupted imaginings, why shouldn't others be allowed to do so? Didn't Rushdie's falacies disrupt public, if not global, peace?

Muslims have never been at the center of World Press control. Most of the world's information centres are located in the West. Ignorance or else antagonism towards Islam has sometimes prompted reports prejudicial to Islam and the Muslims. The Palestinian predicament, for instance, receives less favourable coverage than South African apartheid for a no less pressing problem. When will Muslims wake up to the fact that the man with a pen can do more for his cause than one with a gun? We need proponents of Islam at the helm of information technology to champion the Islamic cause.

The role of the Press in society is like the waves on the surface of the ocean. Sometimes rippling calmly, sometimes lashing and swirling furiously, but never still. In stormy seas, the waves can jeopardise vessels sailing by. But in the calm, the waves and currents bring ships safely home with the tide. The Press, when it conforms to its role of upholder of truth and good values as well as a forum to field questions and answer about every aspects of the quality of life, is a great benefactor of society: it enables the progress of the people's intellectual, spiritual and rational strengths. But if it compromises this role for the sake of sensationalisation, biasness, dollars and cents or negative propaganda, it causes nothing but pandemonium. A social pain rather than panacea.



# ROLE OF MASS MEDIA *in Preventing Sex Violence*

In the last few years, media coverage of some brutal rape cum murder cases has drawn society's attention to the shameful fact that the heinous crime of rape is on the rise.

Many newspapers have joined hands with women's groups and other organisations to propose legislative changes in the law relating to rape. Some of these changes have already been effected. Others wait further discussion.

The purpose of this note is to point out that the problem of sex violence cannot be solved through the instrumentality of the law alone. An inter-disciplinary approach which probes deep into the psychology and sexuality of rapists is needed to understand this brutal phenomenon. Such a study should also investigate the family backgrounds and the socialisation, behavioral and work patterns of the rapists and the raped.

The mass media, as the conscience-keeper of society, is well suited for this challenging task because it has a power and a responsibility unmatched in any other non-governmental organisation. It has the network and the resources which can be deployed to stir the conscience of the community and to inform and influence the citizenry on this issue.

Four areas can be outlined in which journalists and members of the publishing industry can make useful contributions towards the understanding of the causes of and cures for sexual violence. Improvement of knowledge in these areas is crucial if we are to devise schemes for the protection of women against sex assaults.

1. Commissioning of studies to understand the nature of rape and its varied causes.

2. Commissioning of studies to understand the efficacy of preventive and punitive measures.

3. Promoting public awareness of the incidence of rape and offering aid and advice to victims of sex crimes.

■ ■ ■ by Shad Salim Faruqi

4. Evolving a new code of ethics to stop abuse of women in the media.

## The Nature And Causes Of Rape.

To assist in the formulation of schemes for the protection of women against rape, members of the media can commission, finance or undertake studies to investigate the nature of rape and its multiple and varied causes. Specifically, the following issues need to be addressed:

- a) In rape cases is sex the primary motive or is rape essentially an act of violence in which sexuality plays only a secondary part? Is it true that few men commit rape for sexual pleasure? American and English researches tend to answer this question in the affirmative. They believe that most rapists fear and hate women and desire to prove their power and domination by humiliating and hurting members of the female sex. Such thinking has influenced law-makers in Western Australia to assimilate rape into a category of 'aggravated criminal assault' and to abandon the term 'rape'.<sup>1</sup>

A 'psychological' explanation of rape (which depicts all rapists as women-haters whose primary motive is to inflict physical harm on their victims) appears to be a gross oversimplification. Psychological theories are, undoubtedly, of some relevance in understanding human behaviour. But they tend to be highly speculative and are founded on assumptions which are incapable of verification and proof. In our attempt to understand the nature of rape, psychological theories should be read side by side with insights into historical, cultural, biological and biochemical aspects of male sexuality.

Without doubt while every rape or attempted rape involves violence, the

primary motive in most cases is sexual gratification. Violence is merely incidental and consequential. It is entirely possible that most rapists have uncontrollable sex urges for whose expression they constantly seek legitimate and illegitimate outlets. Far from being women-haters it is possible that most perpetrators of sex crimes are constantly pining or lusting for female companionship and find the female physical form absolutely irresistible. They lack the usual restraints associated with civilised human behaviour.

- b) Is rape an urban or rural phenomenon or does locality make no difference at all? Does the socio-economic status of the victim or the violator have anything to do with rape's incidence? Are women in some professions or some types of jobs (e.g. those involving night shifts) more exposed to the danger of rape than others?

- c) Is there a clear-cut profile of the sex-offender? Or is every male of sexual capacity a potential rapist and therefore unsafe to be with or to trust? Many women activists here and abroad point a suspicious finger at the entire male population. They assert that the rapist is not always a shadowy character who lurks in the gutters to pounce on innocent passers-by. Step-fathers, uncles, friends, neighbours, office-mates, teachers and other acquaintances are involved in the crime of rape more often than total strangers.

Perhaps interviews with convicted rapists should be conducted to discover if any common traits bind together men who forcibly ravish women. In the meantime it must be stated that the opinion that every male is a potential rapist is offensive, unfair and irrational. A very large number of men are devoted husbands and caring and concerned

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parents and rape is farthest from their minds. Except for some women who may have a psychological need to hate men, others do not subscribe to this extremist view which treats the sins of a few hundred males as reflective of the potential behaviour of eight million other males in the country.

d) Is the high incidence of rape a manifestation of the decline of religious and cultural values? Or in societies with strict moral codes, is rape a manifestation of the destructive release of repressed sex urges?

Those with a liberal attitude towards sex believe that measures to delegitimise prostitution, homosexuality and pornography will provide safety valves and acceptable channels of sex gratification. But those who value religion and morality oppose such immoral solutions on the ground that one evil should not be suppressed by tacit encouragement of other evils. Means and ends must both be permissible and in conformity with religious values. In support of the 'conservative' or religious attitude it can be pointed out that sexually permissive societies with all sorts of outlets for sexual gratification have not been able to solve the problem of sex offences. Rape is on the rise in several Western societies even though free sex is not frowned upon. This may indicate that a sexually permissive atmosphere, instead of reducing the incidences of rape, feeds and fans the depravity of those already depraved and affords greater opportunity for criminal attempts to satisfy lust.

e) Was rape prevalent in earlier times? Historical evidence indicates that ancient soldiers customarily ravished their conquered women. In some African societies the punishment meted out to an unfaithful wife was the infliction of gang-rape organised by the angry husband! The embarrassing question needs to be asked: Is the desire to conquer and humiliate a woman a latent but inherent part of the male psyche? Do external stimuli trigger a psychological flashback across the centuries to our not so civilised past? Will the reduction of such external stimuli reduce the incidence of rape?

Hopefully this line of questioning will not be misunderstood. There is no intention to offer a biological or genetic rationalisation for man's cruelty towards woman. Instead the attempt is to understand the nature of the crime so

that preventive measures can be devised.

f) Do rapists suffer from pathological disorders (hormonal deficiencies or excesses) or are they 'normal' people losing control?

### Preventive And Punitive Measures

From the perspective of deterrence or prevention the following issues come to mind and they can be explored by media assisted research.

a) How do our statistics on rape compare with societies with which we have socio-cultural affinities?

b) Will better street lighting or modified work hours for women reduce the danger of rape?

c) Will return to the extended family system offer some protection to females who, when alone may become victims of sexual attacks?

d) Should women or some categories of them be allowed to carry weapons for self-defence? Should school training in martial arts be made compulsory for female students? Should community involvement in crime control be increased? Should the Rukun Tetangga concept be revived?

e) If the media spreads knowledge on the existence of severe penalties for rape, incest and etc., will knowledge of such penalties deter potential offenders? Some studies in the USA indicate that awareness of adverse consequences in no way deters the commission of crimes—at least not in the case of habitual offenders.<sup>2</sup> Malaysian students are needed to corroborate or contradict American findings.

f) Should the penalties for rape be increased? On general theories of crime and punishment, is the severity of punishment a deterrent to potential offenders? In the USA studies have shown that certainty of punishment is much more important than severity in reducing the incidence of crime.<sup>3</sup>

g) Should rapists or habitual sex offenders be castrated? Will that neutralize them? The capacity to commit rape will of course come to an end with the removals of the gonads. But will the sexual impulses also cease?

Some commentators suggest that it is a fallacy to regard sexuality as being purely a product of the body rather than the being, in part at least the product of the mind.<sup>4</sup> Mayers puts it graphically: "The cause of, and answer to the sexual

psychopath's abnormal urges lie in his cranium, not in his scrotum".

If, on moral or utilitarian grounds the propriety of therapeutic intervention is acceptable in cases of habitual sex offenders, then psychosurgery which is aimed at the mind, or castration, which is more aimed at the gonads, should be considered as more effective alternatives to the present system of jail sentences. A rapist in jail may continue his conquests by sodomising his fellow inmates.

h) Does modern society's practice of marrying late contribute to the build-up of uncontrollable sexual tensions in some males thereby leading to attempts at forced sex? Is early marriage, as in the olden days, a recommendation worthy of consideration?

### Promoting Public Awareness.

The media can play a useful role in educating women on the precautions to take in order to avoid rape. Some of these precautions may entail sacrifices of some personal liberties like not going out with strangers (non-muhrs), not staying out late at night and changes in the mode of dress and patterns of socialisation.

Admittedly this is a sensitive area and may provoke some women to observe that the burden of avoiding rape is being laid on the shoulders of the victims. It must be stated plainly that no woman ever invites rape; nor is she to be blamed for being violated. But faced with the unpleasant reality of rape, some preventive measures make good sense.

In an Asian cultural setting, Western modes of dress, behaviour and socialisation are easily capable of being misunderstood because of male prejudices and pre-conceptions. These pre-conceptions and myths are deeply rooted in history, culture and traditions and may never be overcome. To deny their existence and social importance is a folly. Women's groups, besides crying out for vengeance against erring males, must also turn their attention towards educating their kind on preventive and precautionary measures to protect themselves against the lunatic fringe of marauders and maniacs who, unfortunately, inhabit every society.

The media can also assist and encourage women who have been

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# ADVERSA



by Radlan Rahman

## MICROPHONES FOR THE MUTE

I used to think that the idea of having an internal press was to allow students the avenue to express themselves on issues that stir their passion, on matters that tug their heart strings, on events that trouble their conscience.

I guess I was wrong.

The Legal Press has always endeavoured to utilise objective reporting skills, and though we may have failed at a few junctures, overall I'd say we've done a pretty good job.

Yet I recently got a firm rebuke from the powers-that-be for a recent article of mine in which I have been

## C'est La Vie

accused of conducting partial news-reporting. I do admit that I did not seek clarification from both parties. I fail to scrutinise both side of the coin, but things do get a bit frustrating when one side keeps stone-walling you all the time. So what does a reporter pressured by an impending deadline do? He goes to the party that is ever willing to

*To give something a voice,  
and then proceed to gag it, is  
like giving microphones to the  
mute-no matter how high you  
turn up the volume you can never  
hear the voices....coz the mute  
can't speak!*

open its mouth and spill the beans, that's what he does.

News reporting is a thankless task, and it does not help to lessen the burden when someone slaps restrictions on you. For goodness sake, what's the purpose of having an internal press in the first place?

To give something a voice, and then proceed to gag it, is like giving microphones to the mute-no matter how high you turn up the volume you can never hear the voices....coz the mute can't speak!

At this juncture I am inclined to quote the words from the hit song of yesteryear: My Way. Sung by the immortal Elvis Presley:

"For what is a man, What has he got,

If not himself, Then he has not,  
To say the words he truly feels...."

by Fakiyah Azhari

**T**he theme for this issue is 'FREEDOM OF THE PRESS'. Among our feature articles are a clarification letter from the Kulliyah accompanied by commentaries and a general overview of the role of the media.

Freedom in general means the emancipation of oneself, the liberty and the autonomy to carry out one's will without being subject to any constraints; either imposed by man or religion.

Islam teaches us about the equality of man. Therefore no man is born to be the slave of another. Man is equipped with the mental faculties and logical reasoning to choose his own life and destiny, between good and evil. That is the freedom a man is given. However, such freedom is subject to certain limits and constraints. Man may exercise his freedom of choice as long as it does not go against the teachings of Islam.

Therefore, in Islam at least absolute freedom does not exist. In life, in our everyday affairs we are bounded by law, moral concepts,

obligations. The Law that we submit to is Islam which has its basic tenets of enjoining good and prohibiting evil.

**THAT IS THE PHILOSOPHY WHICH WE, IN THE PRESS FOLLOW.**

The responsibility of the Press (media) is relaying information to the public of injustices, of happenings that concerns the welfare of the community and creating a sensitivity towards our surroundings. It has a duty to be unbiased, impartial, stoic and unpersuaded by elements or people in trying to propagate truth. Thus the workings of the Press is within the confines of enjoining good and prohibiting evil.

There are times when freedom of the Press intrudes on a person's privacy; or when truth are better not known to the public. This is for the protection of the public interest. It is a delicate matter to be handled and so the Press has to consist of people who are of competent judges. What we will try to avoid in the Press are the actions of back biting or things that might amount to slander.

In a close knit community like IUI, whatever incident that occur have its repercussions. In view of this, we seek to find the truth and to convey it to those who wish to see justice done.

It would be more expedient and convenient to share the

information that would affect our lives- for as students who form the majority of the population we do have an interest. Therefore there is a need for clarification on certain matters that has a direct bearing on the students' welfare. Some light should be shed on those unanswered questions that we all seek. Wassalam.



# MALAYSIA AND THE ASIAN WALL

## COMPETING VIEWS OF JOURNALISTIC FREEDOM

**O**n 26 September 1986, the Malaysian government announced a three-month ban on distribution of the Asian Wall Street Journal and the expulsion of AWSJ correspondents John Berthelsen and Raphael Pura. Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad subsequently explained to a New York gathering of American businessmen that these actions were a direct response to the AWSJ's "tendentious, scurrilous and non-factual writing" about Malaysia. He alleged that the newspaper had printed a number of articles - including reports of conflict - of - interest allegations against Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin and stories on the Malaysian government's 1981 intervention in the world tin market - in which "Nothing factual was reported" and that it had deliberately timed publication of these articles to coincide with international "meetings that may affect the economy of Malaysia." In reply, AWSJ Managing Editor Barry Wain maintained that Dr. Mahathir had "invoked the ground of bad faith...as an excuse to punish the Journal for

- by Faruq abd ul- Rafi
- Department of Philosophy,
- International Islamic University.

publishing facts which the government finds politically unpalatable.

Six weeks before the ban on AWSJ distribution was to expire, it was abruptly repealed after the Malaysian Supreme Court ruled that the expulsions of Berthelsen and Pura had been improperly executed and were consequently illegal. However, although the government admitted that it had erred in not following proper procedures, its allegations about the newspaper's coverage of the country were never publicly withdrawn. In fact, similar complaints against the AWSJ were repeated by the Prime Minister as recently as June 1990.

A 1988 study of this incident indicates that the Asian Wall Street Journal's coverage of Malaysia did not deviate from standard Western news practices. The newspaper's coverage "was essentially neutral...and undeniably objective. Although the researcher found that greater emphasis was given to negative events than to positive ones, lending "credence to some of the governments criticisms of the AWSJ," she could not agree with the Prime Minister's assertion that the newspaper's coverage was "not factual at all. In light of these findings, the incidents appears not so much as the plot of Zionist-controlled" Western newspaper to "sabotage" the economy of tiny but outspoken Third World nation as a collision of differing conceptions of the nature and purpose of journalism. This was not a case of

two players accusing one another of violating the agreed-upon rules of a game, but a fundamental dispute over the kind of game being played and over what the rules ought to be.

The Malaysian government shares with most Third World governments the view, often referred to as "development journalism," that the mass media should serve as conduits of information in support of nation-building and development. All media in the country are expected to be junior partners in government efforts to attain national development goals. Malaysian print media therefore practice self-restraint, steer away from investigative reporting, fill their pages with government speeches and campaigns, and ignore the opposition. Information in news reports is customarily supplied by and supportive of the government. Opinion articles and editorials generally address international subjects or non-controversial local issues; those that tackle controversial issues ordinarily parrot the government line.

Legislation - such as the Printing Presses Act, Official Secrets Act, Sedition Act, and Internal Security Act - complements and reinforces this relationship between government and media. Due to these regulations, self-censorship is pervasive among reporters and editors alike, so that few domestic newspapers have ever been closed or had their licenses suspended.

A 1974 amendment to the Printing Presses Act further structured the nation's mass media system to the needs of the government by requiring that

# STREET JOURNAL

Malaysians maintain majority shares in all of the country's newspapers. As a result, several newspapers changed from foreign ownership to control by the ruling elite, making them unofficial extensions of the government. For example, the News Straits Times Press and the Utusan Group of publications, both tied to the United Malays National Organization through a network of nominee companies and affiliated individuals, are often said to be biased in their election coverage towards candidates from the Barisan Nasional.

More effective, however than any set of formal regulations or even the structure of media ownership are Malaysian newspaper lack of an investigative-reporting tradition and the characteristically strong reluctance of civil servants to speak with journalists. In a forum on Malaysian press freedoms, Raphael Pura pointed out that accuracy of reporting depends upon the availability of information sources. He recommended that those in official positions who are unhappy with unbalanced presentation of news remember that "if (a reporter) gets good cooperation from those people and they are frank with him, then most likely the story would come closer to (giving) that balance and rounded picture." By the same token, if one of the disputants in a controversy refuses "to explain its side of the story then the reporter cannot be expected to accurately represent the position of the party concerned." Since journalists in Malaysia are barred - whether by law or by the simple reluctance of government officials

to grant candid interviews - from access to a variety of views, especially on controversial issues, balance in reporting is almost impossible to maintain.

There are significant differences between press in the Third World and in the West. According to Western tradition, the role of the press is not only to inform but to scrutinize the social order. The media are often viewed as "watchdogs" against potential government excesses, especially in the United States, where freedom of the press enjoys strong constitutional safeguards premised on the belief that a well-informed public is essential to the functioning of a free, democratic society.

Central to this conception of journalism is the myth of the "free marketplace of ideas," in which the diversity of reports and opinions guarantees that on one view, no single purveyor of news, and no one medium will monopolize the channels of communication. This fundamental presupposition of Western journalism contrasts sharply with the reality of news media in the developing world. Unlike the majority of industrialized nations, most developing countries have no tradition of an independent press. Third World newspapers have always served as mouthpieces for the advocates of some social or political cause. Malaysian newspapers, for example, have been used to bolster colonialism, to propagate Christianity or Islam, and to further the struggle for independence.

Western news values and concepts are rejected by Third

World governments on the ground that developing countries have totally different needs to be filled by their news media. Malaysian authorities claim, for example, that the country cannot afford the same kind of press freedom prevailing in more developed societies and the some restrictions must be imposed to avoid coverage that can cause anarchy. Incompatibility of Western-style journalism with the cultural temperament of the country is another reason typically given as justification for restricting press activity. Meanwhile, Western journalists understandably expect to continue the practices in which they have been trained and to apply the standards to which they are accustomed.

A government like Malaysia is likely to consider insistence on pursuing Western methods of reporting an example of the arrogant and prejudiced refusal of foreign correspondent to consider the needs of his host country. Western journalists, on the other hand, deem the proposition that they should cooperate in putting forward the best possible representation of government motives and actions as an attempt to turn them into yet another propaganda tool of the local ruling elite, even assuming the best of intentions on all sides, when these differing perceptions come into conflict, problems are bound to arise.

Editor: The writer had referred to many sources which are available. Any inquiries please contact the writer himself. No citation without prior permission.



# The Algerian Revolution: An Islamic Perestroika?

by Osman Jammeh

These include among others the French Colonial administration, the post Colonial government and Islamic political movements.

The first phase which saw the intervention of France in this predominant Muslim State was unmarked by a long period of political instability. The French colonial doctrine is based on "Assimilation" or the civilisation of the colonised according to the culture and norms of the metropolitan French people. As such, a confrontation with Islam and the ruling clerics became inevitable. With continuing European migration, Western civilization and parochialism penetrated into the Arab and berber

Committee of Algeria. The eventual consequences being a degeneration of Muslim social economic and political power and influence.

The post war era however marked an epoch in the French educated Muslim Algeria. With the emergence of the Federation of Muslim Councillors under Ferhat Abbas whose demands for more political and economic autonomy were ignored by France. This was however fatal to all French designs for Algerian nationalism and events that followed led to a civil war and eventual independence from France under the leadership of Ferhat Abbas and Ben Bella. The ( Fronte De Liberation Nationale ) or the National Liberation Front government was replaced in 1965 by Housain Boumedine, the Defence Minister in the previous government

in an apparent bloodless military coup d'etat.

Much of the government policies however continued to be dominated by the unfortunate legacy of Algeria's colonial past and increasing French influence which was once diminished by nationalistic fervor began to consolidate itself. Much can be attributed to the French educated Muslim leaders. However the transition of power from the late Boumedine to Chadhi Ben Djedid in the late 1970's marked the beginning of another phase. the growing Islamic resurgence which has been complimented by greater demands for Arabisation and Sharia Law came to a explosive level in recent years despite government interference.

These campaigns and growing demands for legitimisation of such movements is yet another blessing for the Islamic "Perestroika" that is sweeping through the Muslim world. Thus the recent election victory of the Islamic Salvation Front, though a shock to the incumbent government is but a clear message that the will of the people is the eternal truth. It also manifested that there is no turning back against the will of the people. One should therefore reflect that whatever takes place in Algeria might happen elsewhere. For the meantime we should watch and see the course of events there and we should pray for the lasting success of these Ansars. Their task is not unassailable.

**T**he recent municipal elections in the North African State of Algeria has yet again demonstrated the growing political reassertion in the Muslim world. Perhaps it would sound parochial to describe this scenario as one of thoughtless optimism but it is nonetheless worth an appraisal. The political history of Algeria and its Muslim neighbours in the Maghrib or North Africa is characterised by these dominant phenomenas.



# The earthquake. A Demonstration? A Dictation?



Iran amidst  
the rubbles

**T**hree earthquakes: the ones in Armenia, Iran and Baguio have caused pandemonium on our earth. The pain and suffering are shared by mother earth and her unfortunate children -man.

A familiar adage, 'When it rains, it falls', seems to fit the scenario of disasters that have taken place thus far. An earthquake doesn't seem to be an isolated event. Instead it triggers of a domino effect whereby one earthquake follows close behind the heels of another.

These heart wrenching events throw this writer into deep contemplation. Despite the tragedy these events evoke, they do in an ominous way reflect and reaffirm the power, might and sovereignty of Allah. It's just too bad that man forgets them so soon by lodging the happenings in the subconscious of his mind as a bad memory -only to be reminded again in the future.

Iran is geologically fragile and particularly vulnerable to seismic upheaval because it sits on top of the intersection of two giant land masses- the Arabian Peninsular and the Eurasian plate- where relentless grinding away against each other create the conditions for earthquakes. However, the earthquake that happened on a Thursday sometime late in June was the worst ever to hit the region. In a matter of hours, cities, buildings, villages and fertile land were levelled and razed to the ground by ensuing fire. Families were torn apart with men, women and children becoming widows, widowers and orphans within a day.

The devastating effect of the Iran earthquake forced Iran to relax her foreign policies. Iran had to face the grave truth of not being able to cope with the consequences of the earthquake. As a result she had to open her doors to foreign aid from France, Japan, America, England and Iraq. However, she staunchly refused aid from Israel and South Africa.

In this writer's opinion, the restriction of much needed foreign aid wasn't appalling. After all Iran was forced to relax her foreign policies and just wasn't ready to consign it to the wind! However it was surprising that Iran agreed to receive

aid from her three sworn enemies: America, England and Iraq.

Each of the above named countries have an axe to grind with Iran. The Americans probably hold a grudge against Iran for the taking of American hostages in the American embassy in Iran, 1977. As for the British, they may still feel that they deserve an apology for the outburst created by Iran against her resident writers, for his blasphemous book. Lastly, Iraq, Iran's unnerving neighbour, has regarded Iran as an enemy for the past eight years.

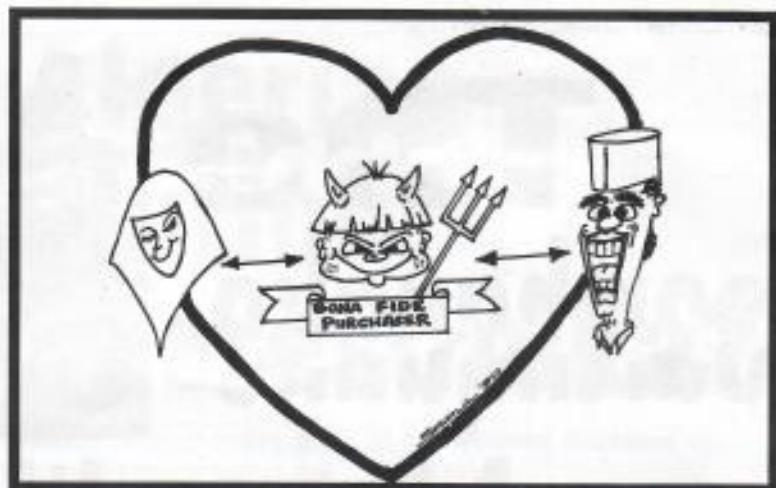
It's peculiar isn't it that these countries are so willing to ostracise, badmouth and even be at arms with each other in order to make their stand; only to be brought together during times of calamity. The humanitarian values which were absent during times of war are reasserted when one nation, be it an old foe, is visited with uninvited disaster. If only tolerance and mutual goodwill were present during periods of non-natural disaster as well; perhaps the achievement of global peace will become a more meaningful endeavour. Perhaps such a hope leans more towards fallacy than fact. If dreams can become realities perhaps the fallacy into fact.

It is this writer's hope that Iran and Iraq being muslim countries should take the first step in this direction. This is because the 8 year war between them has resulted in the loss of an estimated one million Iranians, be they killed or wounded. Furthermore, 600 billion worth of damages is incurred by Iran as a result of the Gulf war. Food prices are soaring to 60% and the local currency is valueless. This has affected the livelihood and prosperity of the muslim inhabitants. The deterioration of one muslim country could spell disaster for others.

To put it succinctly the eight year war has debilitated Iran and if indeed an unofficial war is still pursuing its course the future looks more dim. This is because the recent earthquake has left her severely paralysed. If nothing is done to remedy the situation she-Iran-may die.



# Bona Fide Purchasers For Value Without Notice :



## The Non-Legal Aspect

■ Illustration and article by Saiful Lizan .....

I beg your indulgence in permitting me to digress from the legal meaning of Bona Fide Purchasers for Value Without Notice to the non-legal aspect of it, keeping the meaning of the third party intact. This aspect that I so wish to note is that of third parties in the social circle or to be more specific, in courtships.

I must first admit that what triggered me to write on this subject is a programme of the Cosby Show which, in this particular one, centered around the son in the Cosby family, Theo Huxtable. Briefly, the facts were that Theo had a crush on a girl and sought the help of a friend to mediate as a third party between him and the girl. As it turned out, Theo's friend hit it off with the girl. Poor Theo was dropped like a hot potato!

Thus in the case of Theo Huxtable V Third Party (1990) 1 Heartbreak Rep. xxxoooo, we observe a social practise so deeply ingrained in many so much so that it's like an old movie being played over and over again. One can almost say that in Theo's case, his bona fide purchaser has bought his "value" without his "notice"!

If having recourse to an action which

could be deemed to be that of the lowest creature on the face of the earth is an offence, Theo's friend would probably hang for it. For want of such a statutory creature, it is submitted that he had not put his friend in such a "precarious" position so as to entice him to do what he did.

Taking the topic on a more limited scope, it is rumoured that there is an official match-making body in the campus. For want of concrete evidence (since it's so hush-hush) the writer prefers not to probe further but perhaps the Legal Press would do well to do a report on that under a column, "What will they think of next!"

It can be said that it is a matter of choice after all. Some would prefer to trust a third party only for the introduction and some also for whatever ensues thereafter. Then again, there are some who would prefer to take matters into his/her own hands from the beginning and lastly those who just wait... and wait for Mr or Miss Right (or maybe in this context Br. and Sis. Right) to come along and knock on their doors (hostel doors?)- that would be a riot!

If I were asked what one can do in anticipation of "something" to crop up, I would say, drink coffee... and I mean lots of it. Why? Well, research

has shown that coffee-drinkers make better lovers! (Seriously, folks!). It is however, a point of argument whether an analogy can be drawn to say that instant coffee-drinkers will become better lovers instantly!

In furtherance to this, it is highly advisable not to read too much into sentimental songs on those cold, lonely nights, especially those with lyrics reflecting a situation which is in pari materia with your pathetic situation.

Looking at this issue more objectively, a possible though improbable defence that could be awarded for these bona fide purchasers is that they, being humans, may fall into the tendency of thinking more with their hormones than anything else. Blame it on the rain!... Blame it on the hormones! Oh, what the heck! Just say you're having your mid-life crisis-early!... or that you're going through a difficult stage in your life- the selfish stage!

Perhaps what it boils down to is that we all need a little push now and then, at one time or another, however slight or vigorous and if Newton's rule of Physics will have its day, for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction!

## PROF. TAN SRI SYED AGIL BARAKBAH

by Farah Deba Mohd Sufian

**I**t took us quite a while to garner all the courage we had to actually knock on his door. None of us had met or encountered him - the ex-Supreme Court Judge: an office for the few capable men.

Their team was cordially invited to the seats. A humble man he is. He broke the ice by admitting one fact which he thinks he does not deserve; "I am publicity shy," as he looked into our 'Communism' issue.

"Few universities offer both Islamic and Civil laws. IIU is the place. I have the duty to teach what I know. With the necessary knowledge and experience in Civil Law, I am here to teach the professional side of it."

Questioned on the ideals of these fusions of the laws; this is what he has to say, "it's still premature. let's give it some time".

Professor Syed Agil was born in 1923 into a family whose first love is to see justice done. The late Chief Malay Judge of Kedah was his father and following that, Professor Syed Agil's elder brother, Tun Syed Barakbah was made the first Malaysian Lord President of the Federal Court, who later became the Governor of Penang: a heritage for the Barakbahs to be proud of.

"Comparative Law is by no means an easy task, though it is a

good way of comprehending the Law. Research must be thorough. To pursue, one must have a strong foundation on each side of the Law."

The Professor's love for Islam dates back from his early years when he attended the Almasoor Islamic school in Penang for his religious and Arabic education. On retirement after more than four decades of service in the judiciary, he joined the University to become a full time academician. The learned Professor had served PERKIM as Secretary-General and later, as chairman of the Kedah and the Wilayah Persekutuan PERKIM. Since the last ten years, he is the Deputy Chairman of PERKIM MALAYSIA. In carrying out his Islamic da'wah he has visited many towns and villages in the country including the orang asli settlements. The Professor said that he had always looked forward to these weekends and spare times "an activity so different from his daily routine in the court house".

When asked to comment on the incorporation of Islamic law into Malaysia, he has this to say:

"There are many preliminary stages to all these. First the hearts of both Muslims and non-Muslims must be won. Islamic values should be introduced in all spheres - not merely a sudden implementation of the legal aspect. We must prepare them otherwise they will not accept it. Perhaps gradual changes can be



### Profile :

1940-passed Senior Cambridge examination  
1941-49 Joined Kedah Civil Service and served as Asst. Director of Rural Industries, Asst. Superintendent of Customs and Excise, Asst. District Officer, Kota Setar.  
1950-54 Magistrate at Alor Setar, Taiping & Sg. Petani.  
1955-read Law at Middle Temple, U.K.  
Feb 1958-called to the Bar in the Inns of Court, U.K.  
1958-59-First Magistrate, Penang.  
1959-60-President of Sessions Court, Alor Setar.  
1960-63-President of Sessions Court, Johor Bahru & Deputy Public Prosecutor, Johor.  
1963-Director of Anti Corruption Agency in Kuala Lumpur  
1966-Senior Federal Counsel Treasury Solicitor in A-G Chambers, Kuala Lumpur.  
1969-Appointed as High Court Judge & Chairman, Royal Commission of Inquiry of Collapsed Building, Jin Raja Laut, K.L.  
1983-Federal Court Judge  
1985-Supreme Court Judge  
1988-Retired  
1988-1989-Commissioner, Royal Commission of Inquiry of Jetty tragedy, Pulau Pinang.  
Nov. 1989-joined IIU.

made and this takes time."

Still looking at the pages of Legal Press, he commented :

"Oh yes, judges can refer to expert opinions as guidance (as allowed by Law)".

He ended the interview with a diplomatic remark,

"Judicial turmoil? It's for the public to judge..."



# The Game That Never Was

by Fakhiah Azhari

**L**ast June Italy became the world. All roads lead to Rome. Viva Italia 1990.

**What a sham !.** The beauty of the game- its soul and lifeblood was drown under the roars of commercialisation and so was the honour of holding aloft the Cup.

The World Cup is a showcase of talent and the gathering of the best teams in the world- games of refined skills where one expects to see creativity come to life, of beautifully executed passes and moves and memorable goals. All were lost under the doctrine of

J.M. Keynes. Instead of the pursuit of excellence in sport, there was only the pursuit of the Cup and dollars and cents. Only winning was important; entertainment was compromised. Argentina scraped, bruised and struggled through to the finals. They were never worthy opponents for the Germans. We all cried at the premature demise of the more deserving teams as Italy, Cameroon, Yugoslav and the like. For these are the teams that showed the finer points of football where others were playing footies. The tenacity, skill and the precise execution and the brand of soccer they had displayed was reminiscence of how football ought to be played. The artistry, the joy of playing soccer and watching one was beautifully exhibited by the Cameroons, the Yugoslavs, Romanians, Colombians, Italians, etc. Alas, all that is left is only the images in the wake of their inevitable exit.

We had to be contented with the game of hit and hope the English played where one would consider switching off the channel or go to sleep.

The games of the Germans left a lot to be desired leaving us football

aficianados in despair over the lack of creativity and commitment to create goals. Chances were there but the opportunities were not taken. The Germans and the Brazilians played the only kind of football which they knew- boring and mechanical. The other teams in the meantime were content to play to a draw rather than to win, content to be mediocre when they could have reached the heights of glory. No doubt there were the beautiful moments and the stars of the games - eg the samba swaying Roger Milla, the suave Lacatus, the precise Matthaeus, the deadly Schilacchi, the exquisite Hagi, the up and coming Brolin, the flamboyant Caniggia, the crazy Higuaita and not forgetting Lineker the opportunistic. To list down the soccer stars is impossible for the list is endless. Perhaps with the resurgence of the so called Third World countries football could again wear the crown of the King of Sports. And a word on America- though in this world cup minnows but to me personally they were the biggest stars- unskilled, inexperienced and unequipped as they were, not having a chance in the world against the other teams yet they played their hearts out. They gave their best, played clean but simple football- the spirit of football which was lacking in the other great teams.

However, one doubts whether to hold the next world cup in the USA is a wise decision for it does not have a rich tradition in soccer. Soccer might be a victim to commercialisation yet again. What had prompted USA to take up the honour of hosting the world Cup could be economic reasons- USA is ever ready to catch on to any multi million dollar enterprise. So what is the future for soccer? The present World Cup might be put in the words of Lazaroni - to the effect that "it is not important to entertain but rather to win the Cup."



ACADEMIC ARTICLE : FAMILY LAW

# The Ancillary Relief Of A Divorced Woman

By: Mukhtar bin Abdullah

In ROBERT V UMI KALTHUM it was held that the divorced spouse is not entitled according to the Malay Adat over Harta Sepencarian. Therefore the husband is also entitled to half share of the property acquired during the marriage.

However, harta sepencarian is only applicable to property acquired during marriage and not before. Either spouse must have put in money or labour to that property and are entitled to claim what is known as 'upah' or remuneration for work done. This situation can be found in the case of TEH BINTI CHIK V KALSOM HAJI ABBAS (1999) MLJ 289.

In the Terengganu's case of HAJJAH SULONG V MAMAT (1952) it was held that a divorced wife was entitled to a half share in Harta Sepencarian. This decision was confirmed in the case of MOHAMAD V COMMISSIONER OF LAND AND MINES, TERENGGANU (1968).

Again in BOTO' BINTI TAHA V JAAFAR BIN MOHAMD (1985) 2MLJ 48, during their marriage the husband bought a matrimonial home, fishing boats, nets, stores etc. The wife later left her job. She claimed half share of the property upon divorce of Harta

Sepencarian. The Court found that all accounts were in the husband's name. According to Salleh Abbas; "Once it is proved that a property was acquired during marriage and the claimant assisted and contributed in it, the Law presumes it is harta sepencarian and the share of one half was awarded to the wife." If the parties have children, problems may also arise regarding hadhanah or custody of children and maintenance. In this case, the mother (wife) has a prior right over all other persons to the custody of a young child during the connubial relationship and after the marriage has been dissolved refer to section 81) provided that she is a muslim, sound mind, sufficient maturity to give the care and love etc. (Sec. 82 a-e)

During the Prophet's time there came a woman who reported that she had been divorced by her husband and left with their small children. Then the Prophet (s.a.w) said to her :

انت احق به مما تنكي

"You are most worthy of him (the children) so long as you remain unmarried."

In other words, a woman who has divorced has the right to the

children so long as she remains unmarried. However, the husband is still responsible for the maintenance of the child. (refer to sec. 72).

The right of hadhanah terminate upon the child attaining the age of seven years in the case of a male child and nine years for a female child. However, upon application, the court may allow the woman to retain the custody of the child until the attainment of the age of nine years in the case of a male and the age of eleven years old in the case of a female ( sec. 84 (1) ). Upon reaching the age of discernment (mumayiz) the child have the choice of living with either of the parent. ( sec. 84 (2) ).

Abu Hurairah r.a. narrated, a woman came to the prophet s.a.w. and told that the former husband wanted to take away the son. The Prophet said to the boy:

هذا أبوك وهذه أمك فخذ  
بيد أيهما شئت فخذ بيد  
أمه فانطقت به

"This is your father and this is your mother. Take whom you like." The boy took both his mother's hands and she took him away.

Again, Abu Hurairah r.a. reported:

ان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم خير علا ما بين ابه وامه

"Verily the Prophet gave an option to a boy of his father or mother."

In a Penang case: ZAWIYAH V RUSLAN (1980) 1 JH Part 11P. 102 the parties who were divorced had a girl about 3 years old. The Chief kadhi gave custody of the child to the mother. The kadhi referred to Kitab Kifah al-ikhyar where it is stated to the effect "when there is a divorce between the husband and wife, and they have a child, the wife is entitled to custody, until the child is seven years old."

In a Perlis case of MANSOR V CHE'AH (2975) 2HJ; 261 the parties

had three children aged nine, eight and two years (who was still breast feeding) with the mother. Subsequently the husband claimed custody of the children. The elder children chose to live with the mother. He relied on the Hadith of the Prophet to the effect that if the child is of tender years the mother has a better right to the custody of the child and also a hadith which says that if the child is mumayiz he can choose either to follow the father or mother.

In the Kelantan case of AHMAD V AISHAH (1977) 1JH 55 the parties had three children aged ten months, two years and four years at the time of divorce in 1975. The two younger children remained with the mother while the eldest child remain with the father. The father had remarried again and the second wife had given birth to a child. The mother claimed

custody of the eldest child and she succeeded in the Kadhi's Court.

As a conclusion we may say that the Malaysian law provides that talaq should be registered and it is allowed only after the court has certified that a maintenance of children, divorced wife and other rights such as joint property, muta'ah and custody of children are agreed in the prescribed form. It is easy for the court to provide necessary judgement regarding the claims especially applied by the wife on such rights. On the other hand the husband should realise and fulfill his responsibility especially on maintenance which depends on his ability and capacity. This concerns the amanah and responsibility towards Allah s.w.t. which are mentioned in the number of verses before.



## CONTINUE FROM PAGE 6

assaulted but who are too embarrassed or humiliated to report to the police, to approach Legal Aid Centres or Women's Organisations for assistance and advice.

The media can help to instill moral values amongst males to provide the internal restraints necessary to desist from unlawful expressions of lust. Similar values can be instilled in women to prevent them from falling prey to men. But before the media preaches morality to others, it must practise it itself.

### Abuse of women in the Media.

There is no doubt that media tendencies indirectly contribute to the atmosphere of moral laxity and permissiveness in which sex often thrives.

There is a fixation with sex in some of our TV programmes, advertisements, newspaper stories and photographs. Sunday newspapers are the worst culprits. We seem to be a society which makes enormous financial success of literature, movies and advertising which celebrate or imply all manner of sexual exploits and bodily functions. Whether it is an advertisement for male socks,

shaving lotion or office computers, the female physical form - often scantily clad - must appear. Many popular TV programmes which are aired during prime time have no redeeming social importance. They only titillate the libido.

Newspapers give unnecessary prominence to sex scandals, khalwat arrests, trials for zina, incest or sodomy. Such reports appeal primarily to the prurient interest of readers. Such reports are not in keeping with Islamic ethics and the ongoing process of Islamisation. There seems to be no regard for the impact such incessant stimulation of sex impulses will have on our underaged children to whom newspapers and TV are freely available.

Women are exploited in advertisements and in TV programmes. They are depicted as sex objects for the pleasure of man. This only serves to reinforce the cultural myths and presumptions that most males grow up with here and abroad. Most studies on rape indicate that rapists suffer from a feeling that women are inferior and not worthy of decent treatment. The treatment of the female in the media probably reinforces the rapists' fantasies and feelings.

From the newspapers' sale and financial point of view, it must be conceded that news about sex sells well and newspapers are under some financial pressure to cater to reader demands and needs. But if the battle against rape and sex violence is to be successful, the media has got to stop depicting females as mere adornments and playthings of men. Otherwise media efforts in one field will be wiped out by conflicting behaviour in another.

### Footnotes.

- 1) Mason & Mc Call Smith, *Law and Medical Ethics*, 2nd edition, p.28. Law reformers in Western Australia expect that with the assimilation of rape into the concept of criminal assault, the conviction rate for sex offenders will increase substantially. This is because juries tend to be reluctant to return verdicts of 'guilty' in rape trials. Such reluctance may now cease with the change of nomenclature from rape to aggravated criminal assault.
- 2) Refer generally to Stanley Grupp (editor), *Theories of Punishment*, Indiana University, 1971, pp. 138-228.
- 3) Ibid
- 4) Mason & Mc Call Smith, *Law and Medical Ethics*, p. 314
- 5) D.W. Meyers, *The Human Body and The Law* (1970), p.46



## **Australasian Law Students' Association Conference 1990; Western Australia Univ., Perth, 1990.**

Reported by Lukman Sheriff

Without being biased, well may be a little, I think the moot team performed satisfactorily. The team which comprised our Deputy Dean, Mr. Samsar Kamar, Mohd. Ridza Abdulla, Suryana Ali and I, were in fact, I personally feel, handicapped for the third round and was truly deserted by lady luck in the first round. During the third round, the moot was on company law. None of us had any idea what it was actually about and we were supposed to prepare it within a day. The question was supposed to be on contract, torts or statutory interpretation and it indeed caught us and many other teams by surprised. Whilst in the first round the moot was evenly contested and could go either way. However on the day itself it was truly a day of misfortune for us. Everything did not go our way and so the result, to me, was not unexpected.

Other than that it was truly an occasion to remember. Being overzealous to win the moots we arrived early to familiarize ourselves with the library and the surrounding. We were met by the co-convenor (well, here in Malaysia she would be called director), Miss Jane Penberthy. She was very friendly and took us on a tour of Perth- a very picturesque city. We talked a great deal and I noticed that she always used the expression 'alright' after almost every statement we made. I suppose this is equivalent to 'Al say man' in Malaysia.

The moot was on Saturday. We thought we were well prepared. Upon submitting our lines of

arguments to the organizer, they dropped a bombshell by asking us for copies of cases which we didn't have. It was not expressly stated in the regulations that we were to submit one and so it not only caught us off guard but others too. There we were searching frantically for a photostating machine. All the shops were closed and when we finally found one near the college it was out of order. There was only a few minutes left before deadline when lady luck finally showed up. We found a photostating machine at a nearby college.

We didn't manage to grab a bite at all that afternoon because of this delay. As for me it was truly hectic. Immediately after photostating I had to catch an ALSA council meeting which to my chagrin discussed matters mostly concerning Australian interests. I left early for the moots and was indeed lucky to catch hold of the bus. But that is not the end of our bad luck. Upon arriving at the court, our judge did not appear. The organizer persistently apologized to us and only after a two-hour delay and when others had finished did they manage to get a replacement. Despite being soporific, and as for me, famished, I think we did quite splendidly. But so did our opponents. It was evenly contested and could go either way. In the end it was not our way. We felt depressed and if not for the delectable dinner that night I would have gone home in solemnness.

In the next moot we did not actually fare well. On top of the unexpected moot question, we

presided by the most critical judge I have ever seen. He knows the law and cases so well that at times we needed only to mention the name of the case and he did the rest. We were severely interjected and it would seem that none of our grounds were accepted. Neither did the opponent's but they performed better.

Besides truly adhering to the conference schedule, we also had our 'I should say, 'extra-curricular activities'. We did manage to find time to visit a muslim school and had our subuh prayers. On the last day, we spent the whole time at the principal's house. It was certainly enlightening. He told us of the muslim ummah there and the problems they and the school are facing. Presently the school needs financial support and most importantly they need material support such as books of sunnah, Qurans and other religious books. Insyaallah we will bring their plight to the relevant authority.

Despite all the shortcomings, the trip was especially fruitful. We not only enjoyed ourselves but learn many things. For instance, we managed to witness a cross-examination competition which was very interesting. It is a competition where participants pit their advocacy skill and wit. I have yet to see such a competition here. This is among the many things which could be introduced here. I hope next year I would be given another chance to represent the university to make up for this loss. My ardent hope for the future team is that they would perform better than we did. If possible bring the 'title' home.

**P.S.** There's a lot more to write but due to space and time constraint, this is all that I could manage. Maybe next time I would be able to narrate more on our experience there. Wassalam.



# The Moots Training Programme

by Ummu Kolsome

Mooting basically means organising on points of Law which have arisen from hypothetical cases in an appellate court. The University has an internal programme - The Moots Training Programme- which is organised by the Moots and Debate Secretariat of the IIU's Law Society.

The objectives of this programme are: to train mooters who will represent IIU in the Inter-varsity moots or any mooting competition, to achieve recognition of the credibility of the IIU team and lastly to endeavour to bring back the Piala Ahmad Ibrahim trophy.

This programme involves the University, the Mooters, the Staff of the Kulliyah of Laws and the Moots and Debate Secretariat of the IIU's Law Society. A special thanks is extended to Br. Sulaiman Azmil, (4th year LLB) for his valuable contribution in ensuring

the smooth running of the Moot Training Programme (MTP).

Part and parcel of the MTP which has in fact been conducted prior to the 1990/91 academic session is an intensive training programme. It dealt with details on research and on mooting proper. In addition continuous mooting will take place during the month of July and August, which will be culminated with a 3 week preparation for the 1990/91 Inter Varsity Moots.

The Asean Law Students Conference 1990 was recently held in Perth, Australia. Three IIU mooters from the third Year represented IIU. They were: Mohd Redza Abdullah, Lukman Sheriff Alias and Suryana Ali. The team was

accompanied by Mr. Samsar Kamar, the Deputy Dean of Student Affairs of the Kulliyah of Laws IIU.

The students of the Kulliyah of Laws are encouraged to participate in the MTP. Notices will be released shortly as to when and to whom the application for participation in the programme can be made.

## THE NATIONAL LEGAL ESSAY COMPETITION

The "National Legal Essay Competition" is primarily aimed to provide a forum for the public including students of higher learning to express their legal views and other related issues which are of paramount importance to the legal fraternity.

It will be noted that through this effort the IIU Law Society aspires to explore and augment its role to the society proper. It is hoped that the seeds of affiliation on the part of the society will be further sown and naturally cultivated henceforth.

Participants may dwell in any of the following subject matters:-

- a) on any issues pertaining to the Shari'ah or
- b) on any issues pertaining to the Civil Law.

A comparative approach of the Shari'ah and Civil Law is permissible. It must be written in Bahasa Malaysia.

So far, the response has been encouraging. Fifteen essays has been singled out as worth for consideration.

For further information, please contact Ainul Azam (3rd LL.B).

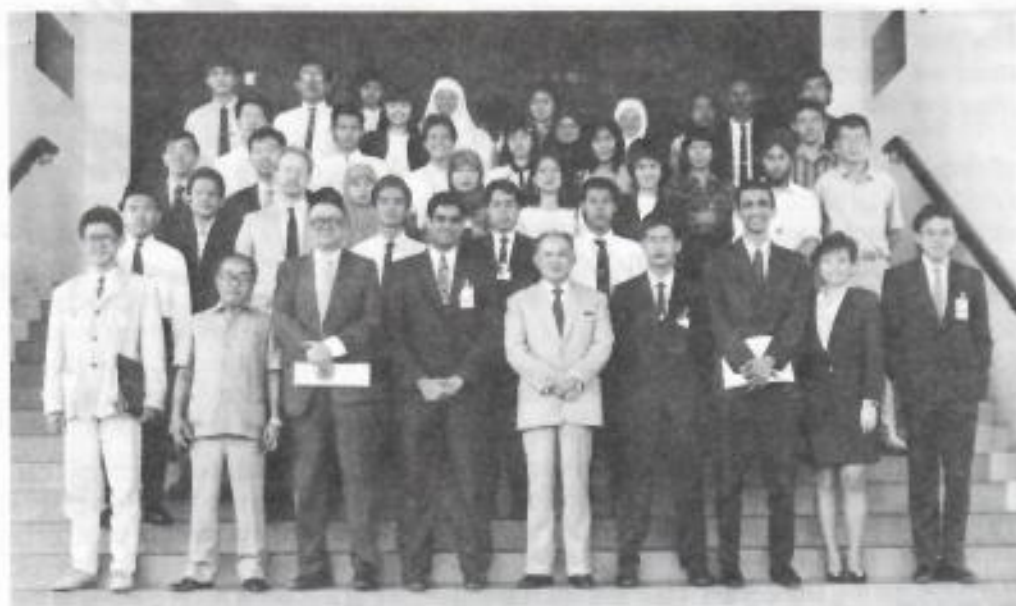
## Second ASEAN Law Students Conference

It was indeed a very well organised seminar. Everything went smoothly and I am sure that most of the participants went home feeling more than satisfied. Heartiest congratulations to the organiser.

The Second ASEAN Law Conference was graced by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, Rt. Hon. Marcelo B. Fernan. It was a one week long conference commencing on Monday 18 June 1990 and ending on 23 June 1990 which was a Saturday.

The opening ceremony on Monday was held at the Al-Malik Faisal Hall and officiated by the Minister of Justice, Datuk Dr. Sulaiman Hj. Daud. The Hall was decorated with splashes of colour, especially the stage, where the backdrop was beautifully done by the technical committee. A bit of Malaysian culture was also displayed by the 'bunga manggar' bearers while the participants were given the 'bunga telur' and 'bunga rampai'. The resplendent view was however marred by the partially empty hall which was only occupied by some dignitaries, participants, committee members, the press and a few students. I suppose this is due to lack of real publicity around the campus.

In the afternoon there was a talk on jurisprudence by Prof. Dr. Syed Jaffar Hussein. Although the talk was in the evening when it is normally 'siesta time', the audience was very attentive as the learned speaker had prepared a very interesting paper that managed to open the eyes of future lawyers to the wide scope of jurisprudence. Congratulations Prof. Syed Jaffar for a paper well presented.



*Participants of the conference*

The participants were then introduced to our traditional games in the evening. They had a go at playing congkak, sepak takraw and selambut. It was certainly fun watching the male participants play selambut.

The day ended with a dinner talk on Legal Ethics by Tuan Haji Sulaiman Abdullah. The dinner was what I would call fantabulous\* (fantastic and fabulous). We were served with the ASEAN Menu specially prepared by the chefs. We had lobster cooked Thai style, chicken cooked Indonesian style, beef cooked ala Malaysia and others were a variety of the ASEAN dishes. Despite the sumptuous spread in front of the participants, Tuan Haji Sulaiman in no way failed to muster their attention.

On Tuesday morning there was a talk on 'Piracy in the Music Industry' where individuals of their respective fields in the music industry came to talk about piracy and how they are fighting against this racket. The participants then had a tour of Kuala Lumpur and lunch at the Central Market.

The talk on Government and Law in the evening was delivered by Rt. Hon. Marcelo B. Fernan. After the

talk the students had discussion groups in which they discussed the sources, nature and objective of the Islamic law which they gathered from the working paper presented by the Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Hashim Kamali. At night, the IIU hosted a dinner after a slideshow of beautiful Malaysia sponsored by TDC.

Wednesday was another day filled with impressive presentations by distinguished speakers. In the morning, the Lord President of Malaysia, YAA Tun Abdul Hamid Omar delivered his working paper on 'Introduction to the Malaysian Judicial System'. After some light refreshment there was another talk by none other than our own Dean, Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Ahmad Ibrahim on 'The Development of ASEAN Countries in Common Law'. The Chief Justice of The Philippines again delivered another talk in the evening this time on the topic 'Independence of the Judiciary in ASEAN Countries in the 21st Century'. There was another dinner that night at the Kampo Hall at IYC itself, sponsored by the Muslim Lawyers' Association.

Thursday was an outing day. The participants visited EON, Bukit Cerakah, the famous blue mosque and were given a tour of Selangor.

Later in the evening they went out to Yaohan and Subang Parade to shop.

On Friday there was an AGM of ASEAN Law Students Conference during which they resolved not to change the post of the Asst. Sect. General yet, as the Asst. Sect. Gen. for Thailand and the participants from Thailand were not present. The acting Secretary General was Mr. Ilya Utama from Indonesia and it was agreed that next year the host for the 3rd. ALSC would be the Republic of The Philippines.

Saturday was the last day of the Conference which was officially closed by the Menteri Besar of Selangor, YAB Tan Sri Datuk Mohammad Taib.

All in all, compliments were indeed due to the organiser. The idea of accommodating the participants at the International Youth Centre was well thought of. It is an excellent place for a Conference venue. Combined with the smooth running of the programmes and the careful deliberation in choosing the topics, a fine and positive image was carved in the minds of the participants. An image that will surely be reminisced.

# Postcards from beyond.

**A**nybody who has read *To Kill a Mockingbird* will know that Harper Lee started her work with Charles Lamb's assertion that 'lawyers, I suppose, were children once'. So what happens when they grow up? of course, they become lawyers, but don't you ever wonder what these people are really like? How different are these creatures if compared to us, actually? The All Inquiring Reporter ( this time sans pictures ) got hold of a couple of non-UIA graduates who have been working for more than three years and forced the following out of them:

Both of them made me swear on the outset, that I shall not reveal their names. With or without anonymity, you would not know who they are, so it did not make any difference. They remembered enough of Tort to adopt Donoghue and Stevenson as their pseudonyms, and I thought I was lucky that they forgot cases like *La Societe Anonyme de Remorquage a Helice V Bennetts*, because that would be quite a mouthful to repeat. Anyway, both are Monash University end-products (by-products?), but only Stevenson is a practising lawyer while Donoghue chickened out of chambering and decided to honour his scholarship contract by working as a legal advisor to his sponsor. This was how they described themselves:

Stevenson: Law graduate from Australia currently in practice attempting (unsuccessfully) to develop a name for himself.

Donoghue: law graduate from Australia who still wonders in amazement as to how he ever

graduated, currently working as an in house legal advisor, would not be able to make a name for himself even if he tried.

Donoghue has this refreshing self-deprecating attitude-which is a trait that hardly occurs among lawyers and law students alike- and this is evident throughout the interview. Stevenson was very serious, which was what I was afraid of, as I had hoped that they would come across as fun-loving Robin Williams impersonators, assuaging my fears about what lies beyond graduation. But it was not to be. What lies beyond, apparently, is no joke.

My first question dealt with the difference what we learn in Law school and the real stuff they have come up against in working life. I asked them where the discrepancy lies.

Stevenson: Much of the Law has got very little to do with principles of Law and more to do with how systems and structures work. An example of what you don't learn in school is eg. How the banking system works, namely, how a cheque got cleared, or, what is the mechanism behind a letter of credit.

( which, the A.I.R adds, is just as well, because some lawyers know enough about banking to misappropriate money stealthily, even without lessons in school)

Thus, in practice, one will need to know the chain of events occur in any given transaction in order to establish the events that give you

the elements upon which you can then conclude that there has been a breach of contract, or of trust, or of duty of care.

( at this point A.I.R cringes at the thought that cases then would come without headnotes)

The difference lies in knowing when, where and how the law regulates the conduct of the parties, as opposed to just knowing that some law exists.

Hmm. I have trouble even when it comes to knowing that some laws exist, never mind anything else. Donoghue attaches the difference to 'experience', which is the deciding element between a novice and a Tok Guru in any realm-be it parachute jumping or marriage or in our case, the legal profession. Donoghue related that "....in a corporate context, one always fall back on first principles - about all I remember from my undergraduate days - when drafting the framework of a legal document. Once the framework is completed, the finishing touches are applied. These finishing touches are basically application of knowledge which comes from experience and not between the pages of any book. A lot of the so-called real stuff comes part and parcel of working life and all go towards contributing to one's experience which in a way is far removed from undergraduate days."

I tried to press upon them the idea that perhaps all of this is just a move to preserve the thinking that what we undergrads do (i.e. study)

is miniscule compared to what they have to do (i.e. work). Stevenson flatly denies this. "For what you will learn at the university," he explained, "will be vastly less than minimum as compared to what you will try to learn and unlearn in practice."

However, Donoghue adds: "Don't be depressed if after reading the above you feel that you have wasted four years of your life, for you will be given nine months during chambering to catch up, failing which you could always use your degree to impress your relatives and potential lovers."

We then moved on to questions about the effectiveness of university education. I asked them what they think was the most useful skill they acquired while they were studying.

Stevenson : The ability to use a library effectively.

Donoghue : The ability to think, although I think Edward de Bono had a bigger contribution here than the university.

(Don't talk to me about lateral thinking, I can't even think straight - A.I.R.)

I further enquired as to what skill they should have paid more attention to because they need it now. They said that it was hard to tell as they never paid much attention to anything. What a relief! It is comforting to know that people like these still get their LL.Bs.

Alternatively, I asked what skill they think should have been taught because of its utility now. Their answers were varied.

Stevenson : Computer Literacy, Latin, Time Management and Basic Management studies.

Donoghue : Additionally, Quantum Physics, Gastro Intestinal Medicine, Hard Rock Geology and in depth studies of the Kama Sutra may also have proved useful.

I then addressed them about the most frequently heard complaint

from those with a job : the boredom of work. I wanted to know whether it was true that working life is less exciting than studying. Both of them answered in the negative. "Where else," says Donoghue, "would one be able to act exactly as one acted at university and still get paid for it?" Money, it seems, is still the lawyer's adrenalin.

What's the best thing about working in the legal field? I asked since working life is not so dull after all.

Stevenson : That you can honestly and truthfully tell someone that you lead a dog's life (Uh-oh! That much work huh? - A.I.R.)

Donoghue : That you can be pompous and arrogant but everybody will forgive you cos that's the way they expect you to behave.....so why disappoint them?"

The bummiest thing of working in the legal field, in the opinion of Stevenson, is that "....everyone expects you to be a mindless yuppie - in addition to being pompous and arrogant - which is not really surprising since most law graduates will always remain mere law graduates and never a real lawyer..."

"Apart from the above," Donoghue points out, "too many people typecast lawyers as being extremely myopic in thinking and vision, which again is not surprising given the fact that most lawyers I've met are so. Law grads generally must realise that the learning process does not stop upon the receipt of the scroll....it is just about to begin."

To deter them from getting a tad too corny, I implored them to comment on the (mis)conception (due largely to L.A. Law) that lawyers are awfully attractive people. Stevenson became even more clichéd : "Beauty is in the eye of the Beholder, surely you have learnt enough in law school to realise this..."

Donoghue : "I'm not as cynical as

Mr. Stevenson. I will definitely agree with your statement.....we may not be mental giants but being attractive will suffice!"

While on the subject of the public's opinion of lawyers, I asked what their reaction would be if someone were to tell them that lawyers are stuffy old bores who are unimaginative (especially because they only wear black and white), unnecessary, and people who cheat and swindle generally. Donoghue and Stevenson are in agreement that :

"Lawyers wear black and white out of respect for our institution of justice. The decorum of courtroom requires that the public and lawyers are not dressed in last week's Lambada outfit. As for being unimaginative, you can clearly see from our comments that we are extremely imaginative. As for being cheats and swindlers, it is our clients for the most part, not us, who must carry this label. (Think about this carefully without being overly swayed by the existence of such people like Che'Man Che'Mud). May we also add that the Bar is the only professional body that regulates not only the professional conduct but also the honesty and integrity of its members.....can one say the same about other professional bodies?"

Whoa. That certainly tells them. But they could also tell us. They emphasise that "Admit you know nothing, strive to know everything, and never be content or complacent with what you think you know" is the advice that we badly need to hear.



Our All Inquiring Reporter for this piece is Tengku Elida Bustaman, who wishes to apologise profusely to the Editress for not sending this any sooner (like when she needs it)

## FEEDBACK

Dear Editor,

I have been a reader of Legal Press ever since the publication of its first issue. Credit to be given where deserved, I must congratulate the editorial board for work that has been first-rate.

Conversely, when criticism is due, it should be given without much mincing of words.

Some of the articles - authored by students for whom I have the highest regard - tend to be more of an avenue for magniloquence than sources of information and instruction. I can't help feeling that in the course of their writings, words are indiscriminately wrenched from the thesauruses that are kept close at hand.

The result: literary pieces dominated by verbiage with a few cumbersome words thrown in for good measure. Precision and succinctness are lost somewhere along the line.

At this point, I am reminded of a letter referred to and commented upon in Handy Hints on Legal Practice (1985). The letter was written by an Australian solicitor to his client. It was as follows:

"I refer to my letter of 26th ultimo wherein I enclosed interrogatories for your examination together with draft answers for your perusal, consideration and return. This matter is now one of extreme urgency as the plaintiff's solicitor has threatened to take out a summons (sic) to enforce delivery of answers. Please deal expeditiously with this matter."

Grammatically, the letter is perfect. Stylistically, it smacks of prolixity.

Why does this happen? Why is the unnecessary usage of blustering words misconceived as 'mature writing'? Why is brevity no longer in vogue? Why am I beginning to sound like the very articles that I'm criticising?

The answer lies perhaps in the fact that we are all law students. Consequently, there exists this notion that we're granted a license each to indulge in legalese and verbosity. We then proceed to use them as the norm rather than exception in our essays and compositions.

This malady affects not only undergraduates but practitioners too as the illustration given indicates. For the former however, it is not too late to return to the basics.

Let our writings be appreciated not only for the ideas which they contain but also for the simplicity and conciseness in which those ideas are expressed. That to me is 'mature writing'.

Yours sincerely,

Sulaiman Azmil

Mr. Sulaiman - Thank you. Your comments are very much appreciated. But, after all, we are potential lawyers and this is an idiosyncrasy of lawyers, which distinguishes them from other laymen. I'd like to present this pertinent quotation:

"My dear, a rich vocabulary is the true hallmark of every intellectual person"  
Auntie Maine, Patrick Dennis (1955)

- Ed -

Note: Contributions in the form of articles, views and comments, etc are welcomed. They should be addressed to the Editorial board and accompanied by the sender's name

# ATTACHMENT BLUES!

**S**heikh & Co - Advocates & Solicitors. The name was emblazoned boldly on the shiny glass doors leading into the reception area of the office building. Rose and I stared at it nervously, and then looked at each other enquiringly. You go first, no lah, you first. Rose sighed, shifted her coat and notebook on her arm, and pushed the door open.

We walked directly towards the harassed-looking receptionist who was talking animatedly into one telephone, with another one put on hold. She lifted her eyebrows at us questioningly. "Attachment students" We mouthed at her silently. "Library!" was the answer. After a few moments of confusion, we managed to locate the library. Already inside were two equally wide-eyed "attaches" from the Malayan University. Sara was a small and sweet girl with big eyes and a soft voice, while Chris had hair that stood on end and an entertaining sense of humour. Within a few minutes, we were getting acquainted and swapping horror stories about campus life with each other.

"MU students have to do their attachment in the second year."

"Really? We do ours every year except the final year of course. first at the Magistrates' and Shari'ah Courts, then at the High Court and the Legal Aid Bureau, finally at a legal firm or with a DPP or Legal Advisor."

"What's the point of all that? You can't absorb everything properly

until you work anyway."

"Well, not if you just choose to sit in court all the time. At the High Court, the Senior Assistant Registrar lets us examine different case files and study as well as observe how legal theory is translated into practice. There are many lawyers who are approachable and will willingly answer your questions. The interpreters in court are also friendly and can teach you a lot about the "under-currents" of the legal process i.e the little little things which can make a big difference in a case. The Judges (at least, some of them) don't mind opening their doors to law students if they're not too busy. One Judge even let us try on his wig!" We all tried to imagine how a dignified-looking wig would look perched precariously on our heads and then abruptly broke into chuckles and laughter. That broke the ice and established a sort of friendly rivalry among the four of us.

We were continuing happily in this vein when the library door suddenly burst open and a big guy walked in - really big, you know. He strode to the head of the long teak table, placed his fists on the shiny surface and frowned at us beneath black bristly brows. For one moment, you could almost hear a pin drop on the carpeted floor! He had that kind of an imposing presence.

"Attachment students?" he fired. We gulped and nodded. "Okay."

What's the first step taken by a lawyer in handling a case?

....What would you do if your client admitted to committing rape?

..... Would you and can you drop the case?....What if your client wants to back out from an already on-going litigation process?...What if your prime witness changes his story while in the witness\_box?....."

We sweated and squirmed throughout the first two hours of that first day. No one could get anything right; if you answered correctly, you get burned into a little pile of ashes; if you give the answer correctly, you get bombarded with another one that's sure to trip you up. I've never had to think so hard or so carefully in my life.

"Tuan Sheikh, phone call!" The tall glamorous-looking lady, presumably his Secretary, grinned at us sympathetically. And no wonder, for we were all sitting in a row in one side of the table looking and feeling like sitting ducks! When Tuan Sheikh had gone out, Chris tip toed to the door and locked it; he strode to the table, glared at us and groaned: "Attachment students!" we laughed, feeling immensely relieved that the grilling was over, at least for the moment.

In this way, our period of being attached to Sheikh and Co began. It was an exciting, exhausting, illuminating, sometimes disillusioning but definitely eye opening experience.

In the first place folks, you better start polishing your Bahasa Malaysia because when they say it is in force they were not kidding. And 'Legal' B.M is almost as bad as

legal English, or French, maybe even Russian. Furthermore, drafting a legal document requires brevity, clarity and a straight to the point approach.

Since we were working with students from another University, we really had a lot to prove. You have to match them stride for stride as they happened to be very good. The lawyers observed everything, from our punctuality, dressing and bearing, attitude and aptitude, besides our written work.

Never say die before you try. In one short month, you get thrown with everything; Injunction cases, Divorce, Rape, manslaughter, Custody of children, Defamation, Contracts over Land and furniture, labour Law..... the list is endless. Some concerned things we haven't studied, but even that's no excuse. We were made to dig up ancient precedents, extract the points of Law favourable to a case, pinpoint those grounds against us and prepare counter arguments, read and define thoroughly the provisions of Statutes, etc. Once in a while the lawyers would hold what they call a 'brainstorming' session in which arguments are forwarded, rebutted and justified concerning a particular important case. We had to sit through a few such sessions in which the debates were fast and furious, almost as dizzying as the smoke permeating the air from their cigarettes. We stumbled out of the conference room once with a lungful of smoke and watery eyes. 'Ugh! How can they even think through that smog?!'.

One of the more interesting cases we had to deal with concerned rape. The major newspapers were going all out for the throat of the accused who was alleged to have raped his daughter and videotaped the act. That was a landmark case as far as the evidence was concerned. For the accused, the case was, in my opinion, damaging, at least on points of facts. So why pick up the case? Well, we were told a criminal conviction can only be given on the

correct legal premises and method. Substance and procedures have to be clearly well established. It is not enough for you to have merely the content of the Law without following the form. After all, didn't the Prophet s.a.w himself turned away a woman three times even after her voluntary admission of having committed Zina? Everyone deserves a chance to be heard- even those hard bitten criminals. In any criminal trials, the defence is not saying "Look, we didn't commit the crime". Instead it is saying to the prosecution "If you accuse us of doing it, prove it". If such prove is missing or insufficient in fact or in law, then clearly no conviction is merited.

"Want to see the videotape- seriously?" All three girls chorused "No!". It was in perfect synch with Chris' "Yes!". We glared at his cheekily grinning face. That's another aspect of the murky world of criminal law. If you are interested in this field and wish to be involved in it, you should better be prepared to roll up your pants and step your feet into the murky depths of Criminal waters. Going in and out of prison to consult clients, learning all you can about the tricks of the criminal trade, dealing with the Police, viewing stomach- turning pieces of evidence are all a part of it.

'Women should stay out of it!'

\* Why? Some of the best prosecutors are women. Also, don't women commit crimes too? Another woman might have a better insight into what makes the accused tick in such a case". Upon hearing our answer, the lawyer, who was a man, sigh mournfully and threw his hands up in the air.

Character and personality play an important part in the legal process. It's always an advantage to know your opposing colleagues as well as the judge. Strategy counts, after all. It's just a portion of the human psychological make up. Lawyers are self therapist. You have to maintain an upbeat, energetic,

optimistic demeanour in order to give your best to the clients. Anything like depression, moodiness and lethargy could be detrimental to your presentation of a case. Self control is paramount, especially when in Court. There are times when you feel like snapping at your learned colleagues retorting hotly at the eminent judge, or taking out your frustration on your clients or witnesses. All these are big No No. Chronology-candour-clarity are the code words of an advocate.

We learned so many things within that short space of time. Sometimes it was hard work, but most of the time it was interesting and fun. One important thing we all realised is the question of what kind of lawyer or professional we want to be. If it's the professional and principled kind, then we have to be constant and uncompromising in upholding our dearly held values in whatever situation we find ourselves in. How we translate this ideal into practise is a question we have to keep reminding ourselves off. So let's make the most of our attachment programmes to make the seemingly dry black letter word of the Law in textbooks come to life.



## LEGAL AID CLINIC

by The Research And Development Secretariat

The Research and Development Secretariat of Law Society had appointed Brother Wali Nazrin Hamid as the Chairman of Task Force in charge. All students are invited to give their suggestions to the Task Force. He has been assigned to find ways and means in overcoming problems encountered by students in doing chambering.

The Law Society held a Legal Information Clinic in conjunction with the Fourth Convocation of IJU. This clinic was opened to the public and conducted free of charge. It was held on Saturday and Sunday consisting of two sessions per day. The clinic was successfully managed with the cooperation of three IJU lecturers and six students. The lecturers were Mr. Nik Ahmad Kamal, Mr. Syed Ahmad Alsagoff and Miss Madiah. They were assisted by law students: Wali Nazrin, Rosemah Hassan, Sharifah Zubaidah, Asghar Ali, Lukman Sherrif and Kamal Ariff. The response from the public and students were encouraging. Enquiries mostly centered around Family Law, Land Law and remedies for breach of trust. The Law Society is seriously considering to continue having such clinic.

**With Compliments From :**

**International Islamic University**, Petaling Jaya, **Syarikat Kejuruteraan Berjasa**, 2 Jalan Perisa 1, Taman Gembira Off Jalan Kuchai Lama, **Syarikat Perniagaan Hayammim**, 45B Jln Sri Gombak 1/8, Taman Sri Gombak Jln Batu Cave, **Anar Paper Sdn. Bhd.**, 276, Jln Tun Sambanthan, Kuala Lumpur, **Anwar Trading**, 2109, Malayan Mansion, Jln Masjid India, K.L., **SPK Tenaga Sdn. Bhd.**, 13th Floor Wisma SPK, No 22, Jln Sultan Ismail, P.O.Box 10019, 50700 K.L., **Urusjaya Tekno**, 16B-1 Jln. Sg. Besi, 57100 Kuala Lumpur.

# People Are Talking Behind Our Back.

Don't Just Talk About Us,  
Write To Us.