

THE KERALA HIGH COURT ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION

Reg. No. ER 931/2004 High Court Building, Kochi - 682 031 Ph : 2393244, Fax : 0484 - 2394435, E-mail : k.hcaa@yahoo.com

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16.06.2021

To,

The President

Supreme Court Bar Association

Supreme Court of India, New Delhi

Respected Sir,

The Broadest unity of the Indian bar should be the prime objective of every sensible bar association functioning in any corner of this country. The gravity and importance of the fora is immaterial while reckoning the need to strengthen our unity. This cardinal aspect has been unfortunately discarded by the Supreme Court Bar Association which is respected by the rest of the bar associations in the country as our umbrella organization, though legally the Supreme Court Bar Association does not hold such a status. Clannish feelings based on caste, creed, language or geographical boundaries cannot be allowed to divide the bar and such attempts if any made by any member of the bar has to be strongly deprecated by one and all. Equally relevant is any heinous attempt to bring in division on the basis of the fora where we practice, as such options are made by lawyers on the basis of various reasons for which, they should not attempted to be belittled or discredited.

We cannot hold a lawyer practicing before the Supreme Court as a superior

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A grade lawyer, a lawyer practicing before the High Court as a B grade lawyer, those practicing before the District Court as a C grade lawyer and those practicing before the Munsiff Courts as a D grade lawyers as such illegal and improper approach has never been accepted with any credence in our fraternity.

Considering oneself as superior to certain others can only be the sort of a narcissistic feeling which normally lawyers do not promote in any group. We do recognize the merit of lawyers on the basis of performance, stature, character, integrity, knowledge and a lot more other virtues, but not on the basis of the comparative importance of the forum where they practice. The Supreme Court Bar Association unfortunately lost sight of this aforesaid important aspect and quite naturally, the Advocate-on-record Association also erroneously followed their elders.

The wish to attain heights and seeing the horizon as the limits is justifiable for anybody who enters the legal profession. But to collectively bargain for any better consideration and preference on the basis of reasons which do not have any legal, logical or any other reasoning can only bring discredit not only for the persons or for the organizations who raise such claims, but also for the entire legal fraternity itself. We fail to understand why the office bearers and members of the executive committee of the Supreme Court Bar Association miserably failed to see this basic concepts.

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The members in the fraternity in the rest of the country see the Supreme Court Bar Association as a lodestar in guiding the entire bar in the country in matters lacking clarity of vision, organizational or otherwise. This is owing to the reason that the stalwarts who led the Supreme Court Bar Association in the past never allowed that bar to have a myopic approach while raising requests before the Supreme Court Administration, the Government or any other authorities. Not even a single case can ever be traced in the history of the Indian bar where the Supreme Court Bar Association took any approach confining to narrow interests in conflict with the interests of the rest of the bar in the country. It is quite shocking to find that this also has happened at the behest of the executive committee of the Supreme Court Bar Association currently in office.

It is high time that the SCBA realizes its Himalayan blunder in having given a request to select its members as Judges of the High Court stating certain queer reasons which cannot be sold outside the four walls of the SCBA office. Even among the sensible members of the SCBA including Senior Counsel, we know that there is much anguish against such a patently irrational decision which they have recognized as one challenging their rationale. In the light of the above, please refrain from taking any further step in pursuance of the legally untenable request made in your representation submitted before the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India. Even if A High the same may not yield any positive results, the mere existence of the



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request can definitely have serious ramifications on the strength and unity of our fraternity which we are all bound to protect with care and caution. Therefore, we expect that prudence will prevail upon all further decisions so that recurrence of such errors can be averted in future.

Copy to: (i) Chairman, Bar Council of India, New Delhi

(ii) Chairman, Bar Council of Kerala, Bar Council Building, Ernakulam.

(ii) President, Supreme Court Advocate-on-Record Association, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.

Adv. Thomas Abraham President

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Adv. Renjith T. R Secretary