

Farewell Speech delivered on 13th March, 2019 (Reference-In Court No.1) by Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.N. Bhandari, Judge, Rajasthan High Court Bench, Jaipur on His Lordship's transer to Allahabad High Court

1. Hon'ble the Chief Justice Shri Pradeep Nandrajog
2. My esteemed Sister and Brother Judges on the Bench
3. Former Judges of this High Court
4. Shri M.S. Singhvi, Advocate General, State of Rajasthan
5. Shri C.L. Saini, Chairman, Bar Council of Rajasthan
6. Shri Anil Upman, President, Rajasthan High Court Bar Association, Jaipur.
7. Shri Rajesh Karnal, President, Jaipur Bar Association, Jaipur
8. Learned Senior Advocates and Members of the Bar
9. Spouses of Hon'ble Judges
10. Shri Satish Kumar Sharma, Registrar General
11. Officers of the Registry and Members of Judicial Services
12. Shri Bhuwan Goyalji, Principal Secretary to Chief Justice
13. Staff of the High Court
14. My family members and friends
15. Ladies and Gentlemen

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I am thankful to all of you for kindness and generosity bestowed upon me. You all have been very liberal in your assessment. I am extremely touched by love & affection. I accept it with all humility at my command.

I commenced my professional career under the able guidance of Justice Panachand Jain. I got opportunities to argue the cases immediately after joining the Bar. During

my days in the Bar, I was fortunate to have close association with Seniors. Their blessings always remained on me. I was lucky to be Member of Tree Club which has given seven Judges to this court. I shared joy and sorrow together with them.

I served the Bar Association in different capacities. It was initially as a Social Secretary and then President of the Bar Association. I also remained Executive Member of the Bar thereupon. With the active support of the Bar Members, the Association was moved to take decision in the interest of the Advocates.

I was then elevated as Judge of Rajasthan High Court in July, 2007. This institution has a history for imparting justice to the people of the geographically largest State of the Country. It is protector and custodian of justice and I remained part of this institution by now for quarter to twelve years. During this period, I could get opportunity to work with the Chief Justice Jagdish Bhalla, Justice Deepak Verma, Justice Arun Mishra, Justice Amitava Roy, Justice Naveen Sinha and Acting Chief Justice Shri K.S. Jhaveri and lastly with my esteemed brother Hon'ble the Chief Justice Shri Pradeep Nandrajog, a man of few words with great meaning. His kindness, intellect and grip on each and every issue is unparalleled. It was indeed pleasure to work with Chief Justice Shri Pradeep Nandrajog. I would be missing his company.

I would cherish the memory of working with colleague Judges, the friend and philosopher to guide me at every step.

Justice Mohd. Rafiq and Justice K.S. Ahluwalia always guided me while sister Justice Sabina, Justice Alok Sharma, Justice Veerendr Singh Siradhana, Justice Mahendra Kumar Maheshwari, Justice Banwari Lal Sharma, Justice Prakash Gupta and Justice G.R. Moolchandani have given wonderful company throughout. Justice Goverdhan Bardhar, my college-mate in LL.B., Justice Pankaj Bhandari, Justice S.P. Sharma, Justice Ashok Kumar Gaur and Justice Inderjeet Singh supported me at every step.

Justice Sangeet Raj Lodha was also my college-mate in LL.B. We jointly took many administrative decisions in the interest of institution and, for that, support of Justice Sandeep Mehta, Justice Vijay Bishnoi and Justice Arun Bhansali always remained with us. We shared various committees. My good wishes to brother Justice PK Lohra, Justice Manoj Kumar Garg, (Dr.) Pushpendra Pal Singh Bhati, Justice Dinesh Mehta, Justice Vinit Kumar Mathur. I sincerely and with all humility at my command bow down to each of them.

The Bar Members always supported for expeditious disposal of the cases. It is with their support that large number of cases could be disposed of. The Bar Members always shown courtesy, humbleness, fairness and modest

behaviour while appearing in the court. I extend my sincere thanks to them.

I find young lawyers to be upright and rising. The future of this institution is very bright in their hands. Their strength and support is suffice to uphold the expectations of litigants.

Here, I would recite few lines for young lawyers to lead the best life:

"अभी ना पूछो हम से मंजिल कहाँ है,
अभी तो हमने चलने का इरादा किया है,
ना हारे हैं, ना हारेगें कभी
ये किसी और से नहीं, खुद से वादा किया है।
अगर जिन्दगी में कुछ पाना हो तो, समय बदलो, इरादे नहीं।
जीत निश्चित हो तो, कायर भी लड़ सकते हैं,
बहादुर वे कहलाते हैं, जो हार निश्चित हो, फिर भी मैदान में उतरते हैं।"

This is the kind of firm determination I find in abundance in young and promising members of the Bar both at Jaipur and Jodhpur.

I shall be failing in my duty if I do not express my gratitude to entire subordinate judiciary of Rajasthan including the judicial officers serving in the Registry and Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority. With their help, I could effectively monitor implementation of Juvenile Justice Act under the able guidance of Justice Madan B. Lokur, the then Chairman of Juvenile Justice Committee, Supreme Court of India and brother Justice Sandeep Mehta.

In the same manner, I appreciate the non-judicial officers of the Rajasthan High Court and the Registry who are serving the institution as well as Judges with all sincerity. I am highly indebted to each of them for their valuable and qualitative assistance. They worked tirelessly to serve the institution for the benefit of litigants.

Whatever I am today, is out of the blessings of my parents. My father, Late Shri UN Bhandari was a senior lawyer and remained even the President of High Court Bar Association. He along with my mother guided me at every stage of life. My wife, Karuna stood by me at every stage. My son, Ujjwal, his wife, Anupama, my daughter, Mahima and son-in-law, Deepak made my every moment joyful. My brother, Shri PN Bhandari was a great support at the beginning of my career so as Justice Dalveer Bhandari, Judge, International Court of Justice.

To have smooth working, a Judge needs very dedicated personal staff. I appreciate devoted and efficient services rendered by my Private Secretary Shri BN Sharma, who is now Deputy Registrar, Shri Fateh Raj Bohra, Private Secretary, Shri Vijay Indian Senu, Court Master, Mrs.Preeti Asopa, Senior Personal Assistant, Mrs.Sunita Kanwar, Personal Assistant, Shri Satendra Saini, Shri Jai Singh, Shri Giriraj Katariya, Shri Jagdish Saini, Shri Gangasahai, Shri Rameshwar Yadav, Shri Amar Singh and Shri Daya Dharam

Singh and other members of the staff who had occasion to work with me.

I would like to appreciate services of Shri Mukesh Sharma, Sr. Deputy Registrar (Protocol). He had taken due care for all the arrangements of my visit to other places. It is with support of his staff and, for that, Shri Anil Sharma and Shri Ramesh Sharma. Shri Narendra Singhji also gave assistance all through.

I shall be failing in my duty if I do not extend my thanks to Dr. Ajay Purohit and Dr. Rajesh Gupta. They had taken due care of my family, especially of my mother.

I am also indebted to the staff members Shri Balveerji, Shri Ram Sahayji, Shri Kalyanji, Shri Neki Ram and Shri Sohan Kapoor. They served at my residence with full devotion and dedication. Shri Goma Ramji and Shri Babulalji have also taken care.

My dear friends, I might have hurt feeling of anyone. If it is so, it was unknowingly and not deliberately. My sincere apologies if I hurt anyone while at the Bar or the Bench.

Life goes on. What we hold today would be past tomorrow. Change is constant. However, what will not change is the relation we share, that of mutual respect, love and affection.

JAI HIND.

(M.N. BHANDARI)