

a. Briefly describe either an important issue in your field of interest or a current legal problem facing a particular country, region, or the world, and then propose a theoretical framework or a legal analysis or strategy to address this issue.

The rickety Jonga merrily twisted and turned on the archaic curves of the muddy valley, the sound that rose in the air was replete of memories from yester-years when *Baba* (grandfather) drove us down to our ancestral home during that time of the year when festivities and gaiety marked the village's birthday. Away from the din and bustle of city lights, all of us loved being part of the celebration to mark the occasion. Small as it may sound, the village continues to be a treasure trove of ancient history. Of ancient temples and sculptures, valuable documented scriptures and manuscripts that had intellectual ancient know-how of most things like tips and tricks to remain young or beautiful, those that may or may not have been a part of the *Charaka Samhitā*, a Sanskrit Ayurveda text, but whether they are intact in their original form today, remains a debatable question. The jeep whizzed past twisted bends and our jaunty ride became merrier. Each one of us were oblivious of the mud that rose in the air to settle on us. Every speed that changed, got me closer to the village fare's venue and the whiff of lemon and coconut patisseries, my favourite. Sweet aroma filled the picturesque backdrop of the dotted blue-black sky that lit-up with the fare's twinkling lights like magic. I accelerated on, lest I got late in reaching there on time. The crafts on sale were priceless stuff, and so were the artisans who crafted them. I recalled from my memory lane when *Baba* told us of the importance of these craftsmen, they were once a part of the Kings Court that ruled the village many-many years ago, they kept the tradition alive by still selling some of the copies that their fore-fathers must have crafted. I recalled the beautiful portrait that lined the walls of our *bethak* (living room) they were priceless originals from the kings' artisans, gifted to our fore-fathers for their valuable contribution in the King's Court. *Baba* was extremely proud of those pieces, the salesman here still sold those plagiarised copies. Thinking all about it I drove down the lane and reached the Fare, taking in the blissful colours that overlooked my eyes. The amalgam of the noise and fragrance that filled the air was therapeutic, it felt so familiar as if time stood still in the village like before. I was catapulted back to where I was with a nudge on my arms, a little wide-eyed boy, in his soiled dhoti tugged at my arms, to visit his stall. I merely agreed as I was extremely famished and his mother sold my favourite patisseries that I was dreaming of while driving down. While I relished the mouthful of my favourite cuisine, I sauntered across to the paintings that were being sold on the stand. One particular painting caught the corners of my eye, it looked so familiar, I merrily picked and twisted it around, low and behold they belonged to my family collection. Stunned, I could not believe what awaited next! My home ransacked and paintings gone from the wall. My loss seemed immense, the shock of not having

valued them enough came when the curator explained how priceless they were. No amount of reporting could get me my ancestral heritage, and I knew that day, I had to take a bold step to curb such theft lawfully. Today when I look back, I feel my decision on zeroing in on Intellectual Property Law as a subject was not wrong, it entails a study of property right that can be protected under federal/state law which includes a gamut of subjects like copyrightable works, ideas, discoveries, and inventions. The subjects that it takes under its purview also relates to intangible property such as patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets. My concern for the theft of my paintings from home could have been protected under the patenting of property rights. Despite several studies under it, the gap remains. The lacuna needs to be filled with solutions that I am still seeking an answer to and aim for it with my higher studies.

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b. Please tell us something about yourself—in particular, why you wish to pursue an LLM. degree at Harvard and how doing so connects with what you have done in the past and what you plan to do in the future.

Legal discourses and the problems that seek a solution with it have always been of interest to me. The solutions leave a repercussion in society. They are ultimately intellectual property that become discourses for Law if debated with the right conviction and directives. Having graduated in 2012 and attained the current years of work experience in Corporate Law along with others, I seek admission in the LLM course 2019-20 at Harvard based on my avid interest in litigation. My key interest lies in generating meaningful legal opinions on the legal transactions and the legal dilemma therein, that occur within the country and across borders. It leaves a lot of scope for legal assistance that I enjoy delivering and thereby gain national and international expertise in it. I strongly believe that these domestic as well as international transactions are extremely essential for a healthy and progressive economy and my being a part of this growth cycle feels satisfying. However, I also feel strongly, and it is true, that my several years of work experience is yet not enough for what I wish to seek ultimately -- my future goal -- of getting me on the elevated platform of being a successful legal stalwart. Of being as a one-on-one with them, as ultimately I wish to see myself as a 'litigator for diversified subjects, practising independently,' therefore Harvard. The University moulds the individual's shape, their intellectual prowess and broadens their horizon for working on a broader framework. The gainful experience that you collect interacting with peers within the campus, the conducive environment for growth in all respects, the teachers that teach you and provide help to shape your own subject matter of interest within the purview set by Harvard Law School faculty; all add up to make a fruitful larger perspective -- of sharpening learning skills, learning to look at solutions within the

legal framework and beyond for better legal discourse that follows and provide a perspective in the right direction for future legal debates. The visibly diversified experience that an individual gains here, theoretically and practically, is important in shaping and completing the individual's intellectual journey on the subject that is undertaken. Harvard, because it hosts the best faculty with some of the most significant names known for coaching international law, my core area of interest. Their guidance on intellectual property matters of law would prove extremely lucrative futuristically.

I hold heartfelt empathy and gratitude for the underprivileged section of my country India, those that are denied any basic legal rights because of economic depravity. As a tribute to the gainful intellectual journey that I complete here, I will return to my country to help the underprivileged, deprived of even their basic legal rights by being subjected to exploitation at every step of their way in subjects like abuse of child rights issues, trafficking and human rights by being with them unmindful of gainful returns. After my intellectual gain here, it is my utmost pledge to myself to serve them as the issue, till date, remains extremely concerning to my country, where the underprivileged are deprived of even their basic legal rights and are subjected to exploitation at every step. My years of associations, in my initial days of studying law as a subject, with organizations like Help-Age India, platforms like ProBono India and the local NGOs have kept me attached to the burgeoning problems that concern them and despite several attempts to sort them, there is still room for more work to uplift the deprived. Hence, when I return from here to India, I aim to serve this section, besides my gainful practice as an independent lawyer, only then will my sojourn in life complete. -- words:615