

Hon'ble Mr. A.K. Sikri, the Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court,
The Hon'ble Justices of the High Court of Delhi,
The Addl. Solicitor General of India Mr. A.S.Chandhiok,
Mr. Rajiv Mehra, Addl. Solicitor General of India, other Addl.
Solicitor
Generals,

District Judges, Retired Judges of High Court,

Vice-Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi, Mr. Vijay Sondhi,

All Standing, Councils & Addl. Standing Councils
Hony. Secretary Bar Council of Delhi, Mr. Murari Tiwari,
Members of Bar Council of Delhi,

Former Chairman of Bar Council of Delhi, Sh. Ramesh Gupta,

Sh. K. C. Mittal Sh. _____ Sh. _____

Senior Advocates,

Sh. P. H. Bhatnagar, Presi. S. C. J. P. Singh, Y. P.

The Presidents, The Hony. Secretaries and other office bearers of
all the Bar Associations of Delhi,

My esteemed seniors and colleagues,

I have immense pleasure to have the occasion to address the
Full Court and the distinguished legal fraternity on behalf of the
members of Bar Council of Delhi, to felicitate Mr. Justice A.K. Sikri on
his elevation as the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High
Court. Congratulations Sir from the core of our hearts.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sikri was born in the year 1954. His
father Mr. N.C. Sikri was also a senior designated advocate of this
Court, who died at the age of 86 years. Justice Sikri passed his
LL.B. examination in the year 1977 and later, LL.M. from Delhi
University. Justice Sikri did his LL.B. and LL.M. from Delhi
University and got first position and was a Gold Medalist. Justice
Sikri was a member of Academic Council of Delhi University in the

year 1976-77, and a member of Academic member of Governing Body of various collages and has been a lecturer in Law Faculty. Justice Sikri was enrolled as an Advocate in July, 1977 with the Delhi Bar Council and was designated as a Senior Advocate on 30th September, 1997.

Justice Sikri was elected as Vice-President of High Court Bar Association in the year 1986-870. Justice Sikri was appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Delhi in the year 1999 and today we feel honoured to see him elevated as the Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court. Justice Sikri is destined to be elevated to the Apex Court of India also. We wish him the best for this assignment.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sikri was chosen as one of the fifty most influential persons in intellectual property rights in the world, in the survey conducted by Managing Intellectual Property Association for the year 2007. Justice Sikri attended and chaired numerous National and International Seminars and workshops and presented well documented papers. His Articles were also published in various magazines and papers. In short, I say that Justice Sikri is an intellectual genius which is evident from his distinguished and illustrated^{ious} career in this court through the catena of judgements pronounced by him.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sikri earned love and respect from every corner due to his friendly, gentle, humble and down to earth

nature. Justice Sikri is extremely soft spoken with an ever smiling and pleasing personality. Justice Sikri has always maintained his composure even in tense situations.

He is holding various prestigious positions in various organizations such as National Judicial Academy, National Law University of Delhi, Judicial Academy, and Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee etc.

In a landmark judgement delivered by Justice A.K.Sikri with his brother Justice Ajit Bharihoke, it was held that the "Child marriage is a violation of human rights, compromising the development of girls and often resulting in early pregnancy and social isolation, with little education and poor vocational training reinforcing the gendered nature of poverty".

In another landmark judgement delivered by Justice Sikri along with Justice Ravindra Bhatt and Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw held that SC/ST candidates from other States are eligible for Delhi Govt. job quota.

Justice Sikri recently released a book authored by his colleague justice J.R.Midha and while speaking on the subject, Justice Sikri said, **I quote** " though judges are not meant to be catalysts, sometimes we have to perform even that role. We (judges) keep churning out judgments whatever may be the issue

involved. We deal with that issue, with that particular aspect and whatever is our view, we pen it down through our judgements. However, most of time, we carry out this task mechanically ” **I unquote.**

Justice Sikri in another landmark judgement has directed that signaled installation of Global Positioning System will help in tracking the position and movements of the auto-rickshaws in Delhi.

Yet again Hon'ble Justice Sikri issued historic guidelines to eliminate incarceration of children in jails.

Leo C. Rosten once said, **I quote** “ I cannot believe that purpose of life is to be “ Happy ”, I think the purpose of life is to be useful, to be responsible, to be compassionate. It is, above all, to matter; to count, to stand for something, to have made some difference that you have lived at all ” **I unquote.** This is true to the great contribution of Justice Sikri as an eminent lawyer of Delhi High Court as well as the Judge of the High Court.

The greatest irony of leadership is that the more you give, the more you get. And when all is said and done, the highest and most enduring gift that you will ever be able to give, is the gift of what you leave behind. Your legacy to the generations that follow will be how much value you have added to your organization and how

many lives you have improved. As the great humanitarian, Justice Sikri has believed in no higher religion than human service. To work for the common good is the greatest creed. Justice Sikri constantly focused leaving a rich footprint of services and contribution behind him while he is departing. Such leaders like Justice Sikri, link leadership to legacy. Also in doing so, he fulfilled his calling. ~~Justice Sikri fulfilled his duty to liberate the fullness of his personal gifts for a worthy cause.~~

Once Yogi Raman has said "What makes great things, is ^{the} beginning ^{of} something that does not end with you". Justice Sikri's legacy ^{will} ~~must~~ be ~~so~~ much more than that. His legacy will ultimately be ^a manifestation of the deepest and best that you ~~had~~ ^{have} to give in life. It will be a reflection of the person you now are and the person you aim to be. Leaving a legacy is not about impressing your friends or reaching the top. It is not about looking good but about doing good. It is more about fulfilling your duty and actualizing your humanity.

Today, there is joy for the elevation of Hon'bel Mr. Justice Sikri and sorrow for his absence from amidst us. The mixed feelings can aptly be expressed from the following couplet :

حیران ہوں {جی خدمت میں کیا تم عقدرت پیش کروں
Hairan hen unki khidmat men kya nazre aguidat pesh karen
اشکِ محبت نظروں یا قلبِ شکستہ پیش کروں
Ashke mohabbat nazr karen ya qalbe shkista pesh karen

21-9-2012

Thank you.

Ramahan Siddiqui

Rama Parveen Siddiqui