

**TEXT OF THE SPEECH DELIVERED BY SH.VED PRAKASH SHARMA,
CHAIRMAN, BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI IN THE FULL COURT
REFERENCE TO BID FAREWELL TO HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE,
JUSTICE A.P. SHAH**

Hon'ble The Chief Justice, Justice A.P. Shah

**Respected Mrs. A.P. Shah & other family members of
Justice A.P. Shah**

Hon'ble Justice Madan B. Lokur,

Hon'ble Judges of the High Court,

Former Judges of the High Court,

**Addl. Solicitor General & President, Delhi High Court
Bar Association, Sh. A.S. Chandhiok,**

Standing Counsels of Central and Delhi Govt.,

My Fellow Colleagues of Bar Council of Delhi,

**Presidents and office bearers of various Bar
Associations of Delhi,**

Judicial Officers, Officers of the Registry,

Esteemed Members of the Bar,

Ladies & Gentlemen,

**It is indeed a very great honour to be associated
with this occasion to pay respect to Hon'ble the Chief
Justice, Justice A.P. Shah.**

We bid farewell to Justice Shah with a heavy heart. It is quite understandable because of the love, affection, admiration and fondness, he commands among members of the Bar, Bench and all others.

Justice A.P. Shah did not get all that he deserves, but his lordship gave us all that we deserve. Justice A.P. Shah has left an indelible mark in the legal arena by providing a clean judicial administration, a pure and honest administration of justice, a new meaning and direction to the humane and progressive face of law through epoch making judgments, which will forever capture the attention of every student of law, lawyers, judges and social activists.

For about two years, justice Shah nourished the Delhi High Court and Courts subordinate to it as a relentless and resolute keeper and custodian.

Family Courts which had been eluding Delhi for over 25 years, Arbitration Centre in the Delhi High Court, E-Court at the High Court and the District Court level and Evening Courts are some of the examples that will go down in the judicial

history of Delhi as a resplendent contribution made by Justice A.P. Shah. Due to his efforts and guidance as Chairman of the governing body, the National Law School University, Dwarka, is today, a top ranking legal education centre of the Country.

Thousands of years ago, Sukraniti declared the following attributes of a great and ideal judge :

व्यवहारविदः प्राज्ञा वृत्तशीलगुणान्विताः
रियो मित्रे समा ये च धर्मज्ञा सत्यवादिनः
निरालसा जित क्रोध काम लोभा प्रियंवदा
राज्ञा नियोजित व्यास्तै सम्यक् सर्वसु जातिषु

Translated into English :

It is " One who is well versed in civil and criminal law and procedure, spritful, of sterling character, impartial towards friends and foes, of Dharma abiding nature, truthful, ever active and who has established control over anger, desire and greed and pleasant in speech and demeanor, is an ideal judge " (unquote)

I take pride in saying that Justice A.P. Shah made judgeship more meaningful than what was perceived by the enlightened author of Sukraniti.

Yesterday, a leading newspaper carried views of former Chief Justice of India, Justice J.S.Verma and Fali S. Nariman, two prominent jurists of the country about Justice A.P. Shah. Their views truly represent the sentiments of the entire legal fraternity of the country.

Justice A.P. Shah is so highly elevated in the estimation of one and all that he does not need recommendation of a collegium for any recognition.

On behalf of Bar Council of Delhi and its members, I join each one of you in wishing Justice A.P. Shah, the best of health, happiness and many many more active years of service to the field of law.