

Activities of the Society for Critical Legal Studies (SCLS) (December 2017 - May 2018)

During January 2018 - May 2018, the Society for Critical Legal Studies (SCLS) has been round clock busy in organizing different types of events and activities aimed at fostering intellectual enrichment of the students of law.

Public Lectures: SCLS has organized three public lectures on three important and contemporary issues. All are cited below as a sequel:

- **1st Public Lecture:** A Lecture on “**The Ship Breaking Industries of Bangladesh: A quest for Environmental Justice**” was held on Monday, 25th December 2017. The keynote Speaker of this seminar organized by ‘Society for Critical Legal Studies’, held in Press Conference Room of Dainik Azadi was **Dr. Saiful Karim**, the senior lecturer of Queensland University of Technology, Australia. He presented an analytical piece on the applicability & necessity of different laws in the one & only ship breaking yard of Bangladesh situated in Sitakund. The participating students were spellbound by his lecture. There was pin-drop silence in the whole Conference room as the students listened to this mesmerizing lecture, which was quite different to the lectures they are accustomed to listening in the classrooms. Dr. Saiful Karim illustrated the damage caused to the environment, the death & paralysis of workers due to the ship breaking yard, the greedy profit-mongering owners and different international organizations, government, ministry and NGOs in the light of prevalent International conventions, articles and instruments. The Lecture focused on how Ship Breaking Industry grew in Bangladesh since 1972. The business began to flourish after 1971. The programme which was chaired by **Nirmal Kumar Saha**, Professor of Department of Law, University of Chittagong and Moderator of SCLS, was graced by guests like **Amena Begum**, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Chittagong; **Barrister Akkas Chowdhury**, Advocate of Supreme Court; **Nabila Farhin**, Lecturer, Department of Law, East-West University & **Maria Kibtia**, Lecturer, Department of Law, Southern University, **A.H.M. Zonaid**, advocate and students from various public and private universities of the country.
- **2nd Public Lecture:** SCLS finishes the year 2017 through a colourful morning with **Dr. Mostafa Haider** from Australia. Research enthusiasts at SCLS got useful insights into the role of law in modern global governance. A 6th Batch alumnus of CULAW, Dr Haider has been a Lecturer at Flinders University until December 15, 2017. He is scheduled to join the Curtin University, Australia from mid-January 2018. SCLS Moderator Professor **Nirmal Kumar Saha** chaired the Public Lecture. **AHM Jonaid**, Assistant Judge, Brahmanbaria, also a CU alumnus, was present among the students as a distinguished guest.
- **3rd public lecture:** 46 participants of the SCLS Climate Change Talk passed an intellectually enriching afternoon with **Dr Mostafa M Naser** from Edith Cowan University, Australia. SCLS remained grateful to **Ms Maria Kibtia**, Lecturer from the Department of Law, Southern University Bangladesh and also **Mr Mohtasim Billah**, the founding Chairperson of SCLS (2016-2017 EC Committee) for being there as sources of encouragements. The sub-committee responsible for this Talk deserves a heartfelt appreciation for making the afternoon an intellectually begotten

one. We bestow cordial thanks also to the co-organizer Newcastle Law Academy, Chittagong. Dr Mostafa M Naser's one to one counselling and interaction with the focused group participants was an addition on the top of the cake.

Monthly Seminars: SCLS arranges seminars in every month on different significant issues. 8 of those monthly seminars are being ascribed in first issue of SCLS Law Review. The abridge description of others are given below:

- **9th Monthly Seminar:** Seven Rings sponsored SCLS Omor Ekushey Lecture, which was held in the premises of Chittagong Zilla Milonayoton was graced by Honourable Judge of High Court **Justice Md. Ashraf Kamal**, Divisions & Sessions Judge of Chittagong **Md. Helal Chowdhury** and former Dean of Faculty of Law, University Chittagong, **Dr. Abdullah Al Farooque**. The programme was chaired by **Nirmal Kumar Saha**, the moderator of SCLS and ended with a lively question-answer segment. SCLS expresses its deepest gratitude towards Seven Rings Cement and Mr **Ashique Yousuf Chowdhury** for their help & co-operation in organizing the programme successfully.
- **10th Monthly Seminar:** Solicitor of England and Wales **Mr Md Moin Uddin** conducted a resourceful and enlightening Seminar on Lawyering Experiences in the International Arena in 21st Century. The seminar was Organized by SCLS and supported by SUB LAW, the Seminar was attended by around 100 participants from different law schools.

SCLS-Intra Debate Competition: Following the footstep of Intra-SCLS Moot Competition of 9 December 2017, the SCLS DEBATE WING came forward with their version of the Intra-SCLS Debate Competition held on January 26, 2018. Supported by the Rotary Club of Chittagong Central, the competition was held at BAWA School and College Auditorium in Chittagong Town. The prize giving ceremony was enlightened by the presence of **Mr Arshad Chowdhury**, President; **Advocate Shawkat Awal Chowdhury**, General Secretary of Rotary Club of Chittagong and also **Mr Sarwarul Azam**, Executive Officer of the United Commercial Bank (UCB).²⁴ debate enthusiasts from CU Law participated in the competition. Team comprising Muhsina Drishty and Rashpiatur Rashpi became the Champion. And the team comprising Tanvir Haider Siddique and Shah Poran bagged the Runners up Trophy. With Sumaiya Emu as the Best Debater of the Competition, Muhsina Drishty was declared the Debater of the Final. The competition was adjudicated by Mr Wasim Akram Shanto and Anamul Karim, from Finance and Business Debate Association (FBDA) at CU and Mr Nur Islam Biplob and Ferdous Mohammad Shafi from Chittagong University Debating Society (CUDS). SCLS remains humbled by the presence of these brilliant adjudicators.

English Station: SCLS has successfully completed three episodes of its English Spoken Program named 'English Station'.

- **English Station 4: Dreams Towards The Horizon:** After finishing three phases of English Station, it is running the 4th phase of it. As part of the program, 25 registered participants are going through two months long English Training during March-May 2018. Expert public speakers, teachers, judges, phonologists, debaters, English Language trainers, MUNers (mock ambassadors of the Model United Nations) and

Debaters conducted the classes on theoretical and empirical basis. Later, alumnus of the English Stations started working as research assistant, co-editor, fluent public speaker etc. in different sphere of law and other disciplines.

Workshop:SCLS organized its fourth training workshop during the January-April corridor of 2018.

- **Workshop on Career with Bangladesh Judicial Service:** From March 23 to March 24, 2018, “**Workshop on Career with Bangladesh Judicial Service**” was held where students from Chittagong University participated. 12 Judicial Officers from the Judicial Service of Bangladesh imparted practical instructions to the participants for two consecutive days. The judicial officers who were the resource persons of this workshop were -Mr Ismail Hosen Amim (Addition District and Sessions Judge, Barguna), G.M. Farhan Isteaq Symoom (Assistant Judge, District and Session Judges' Court, Feni, Mr Jewel Deb (Assistant Judge, Chittagong), Mr. Shahriar Mahmud Adnan (Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Law), Mr. Rajesh Chowdhury (Senior Assistant Judge, Dhaka), Mr. Md. Ibrahim Khalil (Assistant Judge, Moulavibazar), Kazi Shariful Islam (Recommended in 11th BJS) Mr. A.H.M. Zonaid (Assistant Judge, Brahmanbaria), Mr Sajid Ul Hasan (Recommended in 11th Judicial Service),. All those judicial officers are CU Alumni.

Introduction of WINGS at SCLS: SCLS has reorganized its organogram and introduced three separate wings that will work for the intellectual development of SCLSians. A brief discussion is given hereinafter.

- **SCLS RESEARCH:** With a compact plan, with a promise of quality, intellectuality and with a number of research enthusiasts of CULAW; SCLS Research Wing started its new journey through conducting thematic session on selected topics. On 17th April, 2018 the session started with a festive mood of the Novice researchers and ended with the cheerful “CHORUS of SCLS”. And every participant was brought under a tie of formalized curiosity tamed by SCLS through the beginning of ‘SCLS Research Wing’.
- **SCLS MOOT:** 16thApril 2018 heralds the old journey of firm advocacy with the happy and zealous faces of CU Law.They have a dream to represent CU Law and SCLS in the field of Moot Court Competitions. And SCLS Moot Court Wing will elevate the journey of excellence by triggering the art of advocacywith efficient and comprehensive guidelines.
- **SCLS DEBATE:**‘**Debate is fate**’ is being set as the new motto of "SCLS Debate Wing". A person who wants to increase his Analyzing skills he must debate, which is the essence and spirit of Debate Wing.Following the spirit of SCLS and other two wings; SCLS Debate Wing will also start making new achievements in the Horizon of CU Law in future. From 19thApril 2018 SCLS has triggered its third important wing with full force.With those wings with New Policies SCLS is fulfilling its motto:"**Exploring Opportunities, Expanding Possibilities.**"