



CCHECKMATE



NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

29th-30th, Oct 2021

**11th EDITION
(VIRTUAL COMPETITION)**



Army Institute of Law

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INVITATION
CHECKMATE-2021
(Virtual Rounds: 29th – 30th Oct 2021)

The Army Institute of Law, as a part of its endeavors of providing and facilitating its support to the student community of the Country, takes immense pleasure in announcing the 10th Edition of its National Moot Court Competition, "Checkmate 2021". This year the rounds are to be held via Virtual mode.

The previous editions of the Checkmate National Moot Court Competition have proved to be an enriching experience for the participants, especially in the field of Criminal Law owing to its unconventional and challenging moot propositions and high standards of judging. The discipline and transparency with which this competition is conducted have contributed immensely to its previous successful chapters leading to increased participation every year since its inception.

The current Covid-19 situation poses a serious public health risk, disrupting our everyday daily routines. We need to prepare ourselves by adopting simple methods like social distancing to keep going on at this time. Moreover, therefore, to keep the spirit of mooting and learning, we announce Checkmate-National Moot Court Competition-2021, the 11th Edition via virtual mode.

The registration form, rules, and the moot problem have been attached herewith. We look forward to receiving a positive response from your Institution. Kindly confirm your participation via provisional registration by 30th September 2021.

In case of any queries regarding the competition, you may write to us at:-
ailcheckmate2021@gmail.com

Warm Regards
Moot Court Society
Army Institute of Law
E-mail: mcs@ail.ac.in



SCHEDULE
CHECKMATE-2021



1. **Release of Moot proposition : 20th September 2021**
2. **Deadline for provisional registration: 30th September 2021.**
3. **Deadline for submission of the registration form and the fee: 5th October 2021**
4. **Deadline for seeking clarifications to the proposition: 7th October 2021**
5. **Release of clarifications: 9th October 2021**
6. **Deadline for submission of soft copy of Memorial: 20th October 2021 11.59 PM**
Please do not send Hard Copies
7. **Declaration of the result of the Memorial based round: 26th October 2021**
8. **Researcher' test will be conducted on 29th October 2021**
9. **Rounds (via video conferencing)**
 - a. **Octa Final and Quarter Final: 29th October 2021**
 - b. **Semi Final and Final Round : 30th October 2021**



RULES
CHECKMATE-2021



1. GENERAL

DATES:

The Checkmate 2021 - Army Institute of Law National Moot Court Competition will be held via video conferencing from **29th – 30th October 2021**.

2. TEAM PRE-REQUISITES

- a. Only one team from each participating college shall be registered for the competition. Each team shall comprise of either three members (two Speakers and one Researcher) or two members (two Speakers)only.
 - **Note- No faculty member, coach, observer, or a designated observer or fourth member is allowed to accompany the team, and neither will be allowed to join the video-conferencing nor the chat room during the session.**
- b. The language for the Competition shall be English only.
- c. Participation is restricted to bona fide law students either enrolled in the 3-year LL.B course or the 5-year integrated law course.
- d. The oral rounds shall comprise of:
 - **Preliminary Rounds (Memorial based selection)**
 - **Octa/Quarter/Semi and Final Rounds (via videoconferencing)**

3. REGISTRATION

- a. **The teams should provisionally register through by sending an E-mail to:**
ailcheckmate2021@gmail.com **(with subject Moot Court Registration Checkmate 2021)**
- b. Only 32 teams will be registered to participate in the competition on first-come-first serve basis.
- c. Once the provisional registration is confirmed, **Registration Fee: Rs 2500/- (NON-REFUNDABLE)** for each participating team, is to be **submitted by 5th October 2021** through online transaction by clicking on the link

<https://www.onlinesbi.com/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm?corpID=593474>

d. The scanned copy of the receipt (of payment of non-refundable amount of Rs. 2500/- paid using online mode) along with the duly **filled registration form** should be sent on or before **5th October 2021**, via e- mail to ailcheckmate2021@gmail.com **with the following details**

- **Details of Payment of Registration Fee:** -
- Transaction ID: _____ Bank: _____ Date of payment: _____
- **Teams are required to send the scanned copy of their Institute's Id card with this form.**

e. No change in the names of the participants shall be permitted unless the same has been communicated to the organizers a week before the event in exceptional circumstances only after the participating college has attached the due proof.

4. DRESSCODE

The dress code for the oral rounds shall be advocate's attire, i.e., Black and White combination, including Blazer.

5. MEMORIALS

a. The following requirements for memorials must be strictly followed. Non- conformities will be penalized:

b. Each team must prepare memorials for both parties to the dispute.

c. Once the memorials have been submitted, no revision, supplements, or additions will be allowed.

d. Each team must send its Memorial via e-mail to ailcheckmate2021@gmail.com by 20th October **2021, by 11:59 P.M.**

e. Please note that **NO HARD COPIES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED.**

f. The Cover Page of the memorials for the Prosecution shall be in **Blue**, and the Defense shall be in **Red**.

g. Late submissions will result in a 1-point penalty per team per day per side.

h. The written memorials shall conform to the standards mentioned below:

- Written submissions shall be on white A4 size.
- The font and size of the text used in all parts of the written submissions (except the covers) shall be in Times New Roman, 12-point and footnotes shall be in Times New Roman, size 10.

- The text in all parts of each written submission shall have 1.5-line spacing except the text of footnotes and headings, which shall be single-spaced.
- The arguments with appropriate citations shall be contained in the pleadings. The teams shall follow the 20th Edition of the Bluebook mode of citation.
- The Written Submission/memorial should not exceed the maximum limit of 35 Pages (excluding Cover Page and Table of Contents). The Pleadings (Arguments Advanced) shall not exceed 20pages.
- Memorials must have a one-inch margin on all sides of each page.

The memorials must contain:

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts (Argumentative statement of facts would attract penalties)
- Questions of Law
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced
- Prayer
- Appendix(Optional)
- Exhibits (Optional)

The cover page of the memorials must state the following:

- The Case Title
- Identity of brief as Prosecution or Defense

Marking Criteria for Memorials

- Knowledge of facts and law (20)
- Proper and articulate analysis (20)
- Extent and use of research (20)
- Clarity and Organization (20)
- Citation of sources (10)
- Grammar and Style (10)

NOTE: The identity of the Institution or the members shall not be revealed anywhere in the memorial. Violation of this provision shall result in disqualification. The decision of the organizers will be final.

RESEARCHER'S TEST

The rules for the Researcher's test are as follows:

1. The test will be conducted **via a google form/online on Oct 29th, 2021.**
2. The Researcher's Test contains both subjective and objective type questions.
3. The test will be subject to the maximum time period of 30 minutes. The Link will only be active for accepting the answers for the desired time period, beyond that the form will get lapsed.
4. Only the Researcher of the team is supposed to give the test.
5. It is mandatory for the all the teams to give the Researcher's Test.
6. The details of the Google form link and time lines for the researcher test shall be shared on the email/WhatsApp of the researcher one day prior to the day of the test.

6. ROUNDS

There will be Preliminary Rounds (Memorial based), Octa Final, Quarter Final, Semi Final and ultimately the Final.

Preliminary Round

- Preliminary rounds, participants will be judged on the basis of the memorials from both sides- Prosecution and Defense which they shall send to the official e-mail ID ailcheckmate2021@gmail.com
- The winners of the memorial rounds will be declared on **26th October 2021.**
- Based on the score of the memorials top sixteen teams will qualify for further rounds.
- The meeting Id & password and timings of the next rounds will be informed to the qualifying teams through e-mail/WhatsApp.

Octa Final & Quater-Final Rounds

- **The Octa Final & Quarterfinal Rounds shall take place on 29th October 2021.**
- It shall be conducted through video-conferencing, via Zoom/or any other online

platform.

- The meeting Id & password and timings of the rounds will be informed after the preliminary rounds to the qualifying teams through e-mail/WhatsApp.
- The Octa Final & Quarter-final round of competition will consist of 30 minutes for oral pleadings.
- Each team shall strictly get a total time of **30 minutes** to argue subject to a **minimum of 12 minutes per speaker**. The said 30 minutes should include a **maximum of 3 minutes for the Rebuttals**.
- **At the beginning of the round, the teams shall specify the time distribution for each speaker and rebuttal to the moderator.**
- **Only after being allowed by the moderator a speaker shall unmute his mic and speak.**
- The rebuttal round proceeding shall be initiated once the moderator informs the team about the commencement of the time limit. Only after being allowed by the moderator, a speaker shall unmute his mic.
- These rounds will be mark based, and eight and four teams will qualify for the semi-final round.
- The meeting Id & password and timings will be informed to the qualifying teams through e-mail/WhatsApp.

Semi-Final Round

- The Semi-final round would be conducted on **30th October 2021**, via video-conferencing/an online platform which will be intimated to the participants.
- Each team shall get a total time of **40 minutes** to argue subject to a **minimum of 15 minutes per speaker**. The said 40 minutes should include a maximum of 4 minutes for the Rebuttals.
- The meeting Id & password will be given to the qualifying teams via e-mail/WhatsApp

Final Round

- The final round would be conducted on **30th October 2021**, via video-conferencing/

online platform, which will be intimated to the participants.

- Each team shall get a total time of **45 minutes** to argue subject to a **minimum of 18 minutes per speaker**. The said 45 minutes should include a maximum of 4 minutes for the Rebuttals.

7. **AWARDS**

- **Best Team** **Rupees 18,000/-**
- **Runners Up** **Rupees 12,000/-**
- **Third Best Team** **Rupees 6000/-**
- **Best Memorial** **Rupees 9,000/-**
- **Best Speaker** **Rupees 6000/-**
- **Best Researcher** **Rupees 4,000/-**

Note: All winners and participants will get E-certificates. E-Certificates shall be mailed to the teams within fifteen days from the event.

For the researcher's award, an online written test shall be conducted on 29th October 2021.

8. **ANONYMITY**

- a. Student Council may introduce him/herself to the court in the usual manner and may also state their names. However, the team's college affiliation shall not be indicated to the judges at any time.
- b. Further, all team members shall refrain from identifying a team's college at any time and in any manner, including, but not limited to, wearing any identifying items (such as college clothing, ties, badges, patches, or pins) or carrying/showing material (such as books with a college logo or college seal, among others).

9. **GENERAL ETIQUETTE**

- a. The participants are expected to behave in a dignified manner and not cause any unnecessary inconvenience to the organizers. Deference to the Judges of the Moot Court Competition is expected to be maintained in the virtual Courtroom.
- b. The Organizers reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional, or immoral conduct.

10. **MARKING CRITERIA FOR ORAL ROUNDS**

- a. Knowledge of the law and its application to facts (45points)
- b. The research content of arguments and ability to answer questions (35points)

- c. Mannerism, reverence to the court, and time management (20points)

11. DISCLAIMER

- The material in the Moot Court proposition is not intended to and does not attempt to resemble any incident or any person living or dead. All material in the problem is fictitious and any resemblance to any incident or person, if any, is not intended, but merely coincidental.

12. INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

- a. The Organizer's decision as regards the interpretation of rules or any other matter related to the competition will be final.
- b. If there is any situation, which is not contemplated in the rules, the Organizer's decision on the same shall be final.
- c. The Organizers reserve the right to vary, alter, modify, or repeal any of the above rules if so required and as they may deem appropriate at any time before and/or during the competition.
- d. Any dispute arising in the moot courtrooms during the rounds would be at the discretion of the presiding officer of the respective courtroom.
- e. In any conflict, the decision of the Principal, Army Institute of Law, Mohali, would be final.

Event Coordinator:

Dr. Bajirao A Rajwade

[9988813531/9814013531]

Organizing Committee:

Dr. Puja Jaiswal (Incharge Institute's Moot Court Society)

Mrs. Jasleen Chahal (Faculty of Law, AIL, Mohali)

Student Convenors

Ms. Dilisha D Nair [9818519686]

Mr. Devyang Bahri [7986784257]



REGISTRATION FORM
CHECKMATE-2021



NOTE – PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS ONLY TO FILL IN DETAILS
SOFT COPY OF THE FORM TO BE SUBMITTED.

Teams are required to send the scanned copy of their Institute's Id card with this form

1. Name & Address of Participating College/University:

2. Contact Number of College: _____

3. Name of Head of the Institution(Principal/Director) _____
Contact Number: _____

4. Name of Faculty Coordinator of Institute's MCS _____
Contact Number: _____

5. TEAMDETAILS:

Name of Counsel I: _____
Phone No. _____
E-mail: _____
Gender: _____
Sign: _____

Name of Counsel II: _____
Phone No. _____
E-mail: _____
Gender: _____
Sign: _____

Name of Researcher: _____
Phone No. _____
E-mail: _____
Gender: _____
Sign: _____

6. Details of Payment of Registration Fee:

Transaction ID: _____
Bank: _____
Date of payment: _____



MOOT PROPOSITION CHECKMATE 2021



1. On the 19th of May 2020, thana-in-charge of village Ramgarh, in Haryana received a message in the early hours that there was a dead body lying outside the House no. 321 near Gandhi Chowk. He along with his team immediately reached the spot, to find the corpse with head injuries. The body was of a male aged about 35years. On further enquiry it was found that the deceased was Atul. He was a regular visitor to the house in front of which he was found dead.
2. On entering the house, the police team found Madan Lal aged 58 years lying unconscious in the front courtyard. Inside the house, they found Anju, a 17-year-old girl who was crying inconsolably and was in a terrible state. The Police team tried to speak to her, but she was not in a position to say anything. The police in their search found a wrist watch near the gate, which was taken into custody.
3. While the police were conducting the investigation, Nandini, a lady aged 39 years came from the back door. She looked perplexed and asked the police as to why they were there. Police informed about the incident and asked if she could reveal anything. Nandini told them that the girl who was crying was her daughter, while the unconscious person was her father-in-law. She said that she had gone to the field. On being asked why she had gone out so early, she fumbled and said obviously for work and what else but did not remember clearly.
4. Further investigations revealed that the deceased person lying outside Madan Lal's house was the caretaker of his agricultural land. Neighbors also confirmed that Atul used to visit the house on a regular basis. Some of the neighbors were of the opinion that Atul used to visit Madan Lal due to Nandini. In fact, this was happening since Nandini's husband died in 2017. Though they also said that Nandini did not interact with them too often.
5. The police over the next few weeks took statements from Nandini and Anju but could not question Madan Lal, as he went into coma and admitted in hospital. He had a fracture on the right arm and two of his front teeth were broken. The doctors attending him informed that nothing can be said that when he will be in the fit state to give statement. Anju changed her statement quite often, and gave the police conflicting answers. Her mobile phone was taken into custody. While Anju stated that she only knew about Atul, but the police recovered a

huge amount of data on WhatsApp between her and Atul. Apparently, Anju was infatuated with Atul and his friendship with her mother made her very angry. In her other chats the police found that she had asked for help from friends about her mother's para-normal behavior.

6. Anju also confessed to the police that her mother was suffering from some ailment. On many occasions she used to get into an uncontrolled rage, as though she was possessed by some being. She used to scream and get violent, and later did not remember anything.
7. Police team had recovered from the spot an iron rod which had the fingerprints of both Anju as well as Atul. The rod had a blood stain on it, but it was not of Atul. It was also established that the watch which was found near the gate belonged to Atul. Police also found a knife in his pocket. His mobile phone and wallet were never recovered.
8. The police wanted to conduct a Polygraph test on Anju as she gave multiple versions of the incident. She refused to give her consent to it. Nandini was silent on taking of the Polygraph test. She confessed to the police that she was relieved that Atul was out of their lives as she thought that he had an evil eye on her daughter and on their property.
9. The post mortem was conducted on Atul the very next day. The report disclosed the following:
 - Death due to an injury with blunt object/fall on the side of the head and excessive bleeding.
 - Viscera report showed presence of alcohol and traces of Opium were found in the blood report.
 - Aberrations on the elbows and back
 - Time of death between 4.30 -5.30am
10. Police filed the chargesheet in time after which the Court framed charges against both Nandini and Anju for the murder of Atul under Sections 302 read with 34 of the Indian Penal Code and under Sections 325 for the injuries to the Madan Lal. The Police also file an application to grant permission to conduct the Polygraph test of Anju and Nandini. Anju through the defense counsel files application for her right to refuse to conduct the test.

11. Argue the case from both sides