

**OBITUARY REFERENCE BY MS. MUKTA GUPTA,
STANDING COUNSEL (CRL.) GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI**

Hon'ble the Chief Justice, Hon'ble Judges, Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi, Ld. Addl. Solicitor General, President, Delhi High Court Bar Association and esteemed friends.

While proceeding on summer vacation, hardly did we know that we will lose an eminent jurist and a multidimensional personality on the first day of vacation the 1st June, 2005. Born in 1915 Justice Ranjit Singh Narula did his schooling at Nankana Sahib. He was endowed with humble and pious upbringing, the imprints of which were visible through out his life. After doing graduation, he obtained LLB degree from Lahore in 1937. Even after obtaining a high educational qualification, he did not hesitate to join Audit and Accounts office as a clerk, though that job could not retain his caliber for long and he joined the Bar in 1938 and soon became an Agent (now known as Advocate on Record) both in Federal Court and Supreme Court of India. Soon thereafter he became an outstanding lawyer of the Circuit Bench of Punjab High Court in Delhi and was designated as Senior Advocate. Being an undisputed leader of the Bar, he had the distinction of being both the President of the High Court Bar and the Chairman of the Delhi Bar Council.

In 1965, he was elevated as Judge of the East Punjab High Court and became the Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court in 1974 and remained so till 1977, when he resigned three days prior to his day of retirement. He is known for his lucid judgments which he delivered on intricate question of law while presiding over a large number of full benches, most of which were upheld by the Supreme Court. Guru Nanak Dev University conferred the Degree of Doctor of Laws on Justice Narula in 1976.

Contd.....P/2

After his distinguished performance as Chief Justice, Justice Narula practiced in the Supreme Court as Senior Advocate and appeared in various High Courts of the country as he was much sought after by the litigants. Beside practicing as Senior Advocate Justice Narula had been associated with a large number of national and international Associations and had been a champion of Human Rights. He also received a number of prestigious awards. He devoted most of his time to social service and philanthropic work. In the death of Justice Narula, the Bar has lost a crusader of Justice. He was aptly awarded the 'Living Legend of Law' award by International Bar Association.

May I request my Lord Hon'ble the Chief Justice to convey the heart felt condolence to the bereaved family on behalf of the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, on behalf of my colleagues representing Government of Delhi and on my own behalf. May God give strength to the members of his family to bear this loss.



(MUKTA GUPTA)
STANDING COUNSEL (CRL.)
GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI

Dated: 7th July, 2005