



LEGAL BALM - EVERYDAY LAW FOR EVERYBODY (2010). By Ravi Sodhi. Universal Law Publishing Co. Ltd., C-FF-1A, Dilkush Industrial Estate, (Near Azadpur Metro Station), G.T. Karnal Road, Delhi-110 033. Pp. xv+104. Price Rs.195/-.

THE BOOK *Legal Balm* runs into 104 pages. The author has touched upon subjects which are extremely relevant to the contemporary society. Author's treatment of various subjects shows his deep concern about the wrongs being done to have-nots of the society and failure of the justice delivery system to protect weaker segments of the society. The author has done an in-depth analysis of varied topics relating to "Right to Life"; "Different manners of Death Penalty"; "Police is for our Protection"; "Law for strengthening the truth; Protection for Handicapped"; "Needs Indian own model of jury system"; "Public Interest Litigation; Curbing the Menace of Road Accidents"; "Speedy Justice; Disposal of pending cases"; "Justice at grass-root level; Need more Judges"; "Uphaar Cinema Verdict"; "New Law to curb Abortions," etc.

The broad spectrum of topics covered in a simple but powerful manner is socially most relevant today. The author while narrating the issues, has referred to landmark judgments of the apex court like *All India Judges Association; Bandhua Mukti Morcha; Common Cause; M.C.Mehta; Nilabati Bebra; Rudal Sab; Sabli; Sunil Batra; Vishaka, etc.*, and quotations from thinkers, experts, jurists like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Martin Luther King Jr., William Shakespeare, Thomas Fuller, Benjamin Disraeli, John Sturt Mill J, V.R.Krishna Iyer J, M.C. Chagla J, Malimath J, Nani Palkival, etc. Author has also compared the Indian laws with developed countries laws in each issue. The reader can understand each topic easily by reading title of the topic, jurists' quotations and important points in bold letters, and seeing the opening picture. *Legal Balm* is indeed a complete jurisprudential recipe for disaster prevention of the country's deteriorating systems.

The author has mentioned that the conventional law of torts has not developed in India due to heavy court fees involved and red tapism in the system but it would be more appreciated if he would have discussed the recognized tortious principles under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and merits of this legislation. The author should have followed a uniform method of citation for all the cases mentioned in the book.

The work is original and outstanding. The practical suggestions for tuning in the law to the prevailing conditions, when implemented, would go, a long way in providing a long needed relief to the common man. The author has used very simple language, and has provided a table of contents, table of cases which makes



it handy for immediate reference. The book has an attractive get-up with good printing and is also reasonably priced. The book will be very useful to the students, teachers, researchers, judges, social scientists, members of the bar and bench and all those who are interested in the democratic values and human rights.

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