

**FULL COURT REFERENCE TO BE HELD ON 04.09.2014 AT 3.00 PM
ON THE SAD DEMISE OF LATE SH. O.P. DWIVEDI, FORMER JUDGE,
DELHI HIGH COURT**

JUSTICE G. ROHINI

My esteemed brother and sister Judges,

Shri Rajeev Khosla, President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Shri Sanjay Jain, Additional Solicitor General,

Shri K.K. Manan, Chairman, Bar Council of Delhi,

Shri Puneet Mittal, Hony. Secretary, Bar Council of Delhi,

Shri Jatan Singh, Vice-President, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Shri Abhijat, Hony. Secretary, Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Ms. Zubeda Begum, Standing Counsel (Civil), Govt. of NCT of Delhi

Shri Salim Ahmed, Standing Counsel (Criminal), Govt. of NCT of Delhi

Other Standing Counsel of the Central and State Government,

Executive Members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association,

Office-bearers of other District Bar Associations,

Senior Advocates,

Members of the Bar,

District & Sessions Judges,

Law Secretary,

Family

Members of the bereaved families,

Ladies and gentlemen.

We have assembled here today to express our profound sense of grief on the sad demise of Justice O.P. Dwivedi, one of the finest judges of this Court.

Justice Dwivedi was born on 1st April, 1944 to Shri B.N. Dwivedi and Smt Kesar Devi. He belonged to a remote village in district Jhansi in the State of Uttar Pradesh. He belonged to a family of zamindars. His father passed away when he was five years old. Justice Dwivedi did his graduation in B.Sc. (Hons.) and M.Sc. in Maths from Allahabad University. He was a Gold Medalist which shows that he was a great academician. Thereafter, Justice Dwivedi acquired a degree in Law from Allahabad University. He joined Uttar Pradesh Public Service (Judicial) on 17th April, 1970 and then Delhi Judicial Service on 11th November, 1971. He was promoted to Delhi Higher Judicial Service on December 19, 1980 at the age of 35. As a member of the Delhi Higher Judicial Services he held various judicial assignments including the Rent Control Tribunal, Appellate Tribunal - MCD, NDMC, DDA and presided over special courts under TADA, Prevention of Corruption Act etc. and also held the post of District Judge.

Justice Dwivedi was elevated as Additional Judge of this Court on 1st December, 2000 and permanent Judge on 10th December, 2001. This period saw him turning into a great thinker capable of understanding the finer points of law, ~~and appreciating legal nuances.~~ The experience he gained during this period by analytically and critically assessing the fact situation in each case helped him later in discharging his functions remarkably as the Judge of the High Court. After serving the judiciary for nearly 35 years, Justice Dwivedi retired on 31st March, 2006. Post retirement, Justice Dwivedi was also appointed as Chairman of the MRTP Commission in September, 2006 and remained there till March, 2009.

His uprightness, erudition, vision and learning is acknowledged by members of legal fraternity. I am told by my colleague Judges that Justice Dwivedi was a very hard working and conscientious judge. He was well known for his excellent behaviour, honesty, integrity, ~~gracious,~~ ^{and dignified} ~~and~~ ^{as well as} sober approach towards ~~not only~~ the members of the Bar ~~but also~~ ~~towards the~~ litigant public. He always kept cool temperament and was full of grace, sophistication and dignity.

Justice Dwivedi had delivered numerous judgments covering all spheres of law and upheld the law in letter and spirit. His unbiased approach towards work and fine sense of judgment earned him laurels and accolades amongst the legal fraternity.

Justice Dwivedi got married to Mrs. Beena Dwivedi in the year 1972 who predeceased him in the year 2010. He is survived by three daughters Ms. Deepali Sharma, Ms. Deepti Jaitley and Ms. Preeti Kumar. Ms. Deepali and Ms. Deepti are practising advocates and Ms. Preeti is an IT professional.

The inevitable happened on 24th July, 2014 and Justice Dwivedi left for heavenly abode. On the death of Justice Dwivedi, we have lost a stalwart, a legal luminary, a man who has left no parallel. It is irretrievable loss for the judicial fraternity as a whole and a personal loss for his family members.

I on my own and on behalf of my esteemed colleagues mourn the sad demise of Justice O.P. Dwivedi and pray to the Almighty to bestow strength on the bereaved members of the ~~families~~^{family} to bear the loss. May ~~the~~ Almighty bestow eternal peace to the departed soul.

(AFTER REFERENCE BY LAWYERS IS OVER)

I request you all to pay homage by standing in silence for two minutes in the memory of the departed soul.

(The Hon'ble Judges will take their respective seats for a moment after the silence, and it will be announced by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice as under:

As a mark of respect to the departed souls, the court work shall remain suspended for the rest of the day".