

ADDRESS BY HON'BLE SHRI V.G. PALSHIKAR, ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY, AT THE REFERENCES TO LATE (1) SHRI PURUSHOTTAM SITARAM MALVANKAR, (2) SHRI JUSTICE VASANT VISHNOO JOSHI AND (3) SHRI JUSTICE SHANKARRAO BHIMRAO BHASME FORMER JUDGES, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, BOMBAY, ON 24TH JANUARY, 2006.

My learned colleague, Hon'ble Smt. Justice Nishita Mhatre, Mr. Desai, Additional Solicitor General, Mr. Kadam, Advocate General of Maharashtra, Mr. Rajiv Patil representing Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa, Mr. Dada, President of the Bombay Bar Association, Mr. Joshi, President of Advocates' Association of Western India, Mr. Zaiwala, Vice-President of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society, learned Members of the Bar, distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have assembled here this morning to mourn the sad demise of three former Judges of this Court, (1) Shri Justice Purushottam Sitaram Malvankar, (2) Shri Justice Vasant Vishnoo Joshi and (3) Shri Justice Shankarrao Bhimrao Bhasme, who left for their heavenly abode on 14th December, 2005, 21st December, 2005 and 15th January, 2006.

I

Justice Malvankar was born on 31st December, 1912. He joined judicial service as a subordinate Judge of the Bombay State on 21st November, 1945. He was promoted as Assistant Judge on 8th October, 1957. Shri Malvankar became District Judge on 11th April, 1960. He was appointed as Election Tribunal for Goa, Daman and Diu by Government of India from 1963 to 1965. In 1966, Shri Malvankar was appointed as Judge of City Civil Court and Additional Sessions Judge, Greater Bombay. On 27th March, 1967 he was appointed as Registrar of this Court and worked as such till 10th May, 1967.

Shri Malvankar was appointed as an Additional Judge of this High Court on 26th November, 1970. He became permanent Judge on 12th September, 1972 and retired on 31st December, 1974. During his tenure as a Judge of this Court, Justice Malvankar had delivered number of landmark judgments.

After retirement also Justice Malvankar led an active life. In 1975 he was appointed as Legal Adviser by Government of India under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act; in 1979 he was appointed as Vigilance Commission, presently Lok Ayukta, for the State of Nagaland; in 1983 he was appointed as Commission for inquiry into the irregularities alleged to have been committed by the Government of Maharashtra in appointing Special Executive Magistrates in the city of Greater Bombay; and in 1986 he was appointed as a one man Commission under the Commission of Inquiry Act for enquiring into the Hindu Muslim riots in the Districts of Nashik and Beed. In the same year he was also appointed as a Commission to enquire into the riots alleged to have been committed by Shetkari Sanghatana in the Districts of Nanded and Parbhani. In 1987 he was appointed as a Member of the Advisory Board under the Maharashtra Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Slumlords, Bootleggers, Drug Offenders and under the Black Marketeers Act. He was also appointed as Arbitrator in several disputes involving multinational companies.

Justice Malvankar is survived by two sons, one of whom, Vijay, is amongst us as a successful Government Pleader.

II

Justice Vasant Vishnoo Joshi was born on 28th September, 1921. After education at Government Marathi High School, Amravati; Patwardhan High School, Nagpur, Christian High School, Jabalpur, Monroe High School, Bhandara. Justice Joshi had his higher education in College of Science, Nagpur and University College of Law, Nagpur, from where he obtained his law degree. He stood first in order of merit in the University. He was awarded Diwan Bahadur Ramkrishnarao Pandit

Medal for obtaining the highest number of marks at the Law Examination. Justice Joshi practised as a Pleader at Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh from July 1943 to June 1945. In June 1945, he was appointed temporary subordinate Judge at Chindwara. He was appointed as a Civil Judge on probation from 8th December, 1947 and was confirmed as such from 8th December, 1949. Justice Joshi was appointed as Assistant Sessions Judge in 1960 and was appointed as District and Sessions Judge from 4th May, 1974. He was conferred Selection Grade on 1st August, 1974. He worked as Registrar of this Court from 1976 till his elevation as Judge of this Court on 20th January, 1978. Justice Joshi retired on 28th September, 1983.

During his tenure as a Judge of this Court, Justice Joshi had rendered many landmark judgments.

III

Shri Justice Shankarrao Bhimrao Bhasme was born on 21st November, 1925 in Islampur, District Sangli. He took his primary education at Lamington High School, Hubli and Chintamanrao High School, Shahpur, Belgaum. He had his college studies in Lingarai College, Belgaum and R.L. Law College, Belgaum. Justice Bhasme was enrolled as an Advocate of this Court on 12th February, 1951. After a brilliant academic career, Justice Bhasme joined the bar at Belgaum in the old State of Bombay. In a short span of time, he acquired large and lucrative practice. However, finding Belgaum to be too small a sphere for his ambitions, Justice Bhasme shifted to Bombay and started practice on Civil, Criminal and Constitutional Laws on the Appellate Side. He was associated with a number of associations in Bombay. He was very popular as a teacher of law and served the cause of legal education and profession by taking active part in the deliberations in the meetings of the Bar Council and the Bar Association. The qualities of fearlessness and frankness gave him a place of distinction in the Bar. He was a part-time Professor of Law for 7 years from 1954 to 1961 and was associated with the Bombay University for studies in the law faculty. He also served as Honorary Professor of Law to the Indian Navy by imparting law lectures to the Naval Officers undergoing training in Bombay. He was Additional Government Pleader for some time. He was appointed as an Additional Judge of this Court with effect from 17th September, 1969 and as a Permanent Judge on 9th April, 1970. While on the Bench he was appointed as a one-man commission of enquiry to inquire into the causes of the BDD Chawl riot in Bombay between upper caste Hindus and Scheduled Castes during the period of 1974-76. He also headed a one man Court of Enquiry to investigate the cause of the Caravel Aircraft crash in October, 1976 of the Indian Airlines Flight between Bombay and Chennai. His findings in both these Commissions were accepted in toto. He had also actively participated in several public debates and also in TV/Radio interviews on legal issues. Justice Bhasme was always helpful to everyone and especially the junior members of the Bar who approached him for their personal queries and problems, apart from guidance and advice. Due to personal reasons, though being a permanent judge and having left a tenure of 10 years in service, with several prospects before him, Justice Bhasme resigned as a High Court Judge with effect from 30th June, 1978 and shifted to Delhi where he commenced practice as a Senior Advocate in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

During his tenure as a Judge of this Court, Justice Bhasme had rendered many landmark judgments.

In this hour of grief, on behalf of all of us assembled here, I convey our heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved families. May the Almighty give them strength to bear these great losses.

ADDRESS BY SHRI B.A. DESAI, ADDITIONAL SOLICITOR GENERAL, AT THE REFERENCES TO LATE (1) SHRI PURUSHOTTAM SITARAM MALVANKAR, (2) SHRI JUSTICE VASANT VISHNOO JOSHI AND (3) SHRI JUSTICE SHANKARRAO BHIMRAO BHASME FORMER JUDGES, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, BOMBAY, ON 24TH JANUARY, 2006.

Today we gather here to pay homage to three distinguished Judges of this Hon'ble High Court. I agree with what His Lordship the Hon'ble Chief Justice has said and join him in paying homage to all the three eminent Judges.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Purushottam Sitaram Malvankar was born on 31.12.1912. He completed his M.A. from Mumbai University in the year 1938 and his LL.B in the year 1939. He practiced in the Bombay High Court with Senior Advocate Shri A.G. Desai from the year 1940 to 1945, joined the Judicial Service in the same year. He was appointed and worked as an Assistant Judge at Baroda, Ahmedabad, Junagad, Porbandar and Surendra Nagar in the year 1957. He was appointed as District and Sessions Judge at Dhulia, Akola, Amaravati, Kolapur. He was also appointed in Election Tribunal for Goa, Daman and Diu by the Government of India in the year 1963-1965. In 1966, he was appointed as Judge, City Civil Court and Additional Sessions Judge, Greater Mumbai and in year 1967 he was appointed and worked as Registrar of High Court of Judicature at Bombay. In 1970, he was appointed as Judge of Bombay High Court. In 1975 he was appointed as President, Maharashtra State Industrial Court for three years and in the same year he was appointed as Legal Adviser by the Government of India under the then C.O.F.E.P.O.S.A. Act. He again appointed in Vigilance Commission for the State of Nagaland for 2 years. He was appointed as one man Commission under Commission of Enquiry Act for enquiring into Hindu Muslim Riots in the Districts of Nashik and Beed. He was appointed and associated with various other Advisory and Commission Boards. Since 1978, in addition to consultancy, barring the period 1979 to 1981 till his death, he was appointed as an Arbitrator in several disputes under the Industrial Disputes Act and Arbitration. I had the privilege of appearing before him.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vasant Vishnoo Joshi was born on 28 September, 1921. He educated at Government Marathi High School, Amravati; Patwardhan High School, Nagpur; Christian High School, Jabalpur; College of Science, Nagpur and University College of Law, Nagpur. He practiced as a Pleader at Balaghat (Madhya Pradesh) from July 1943 to June 1945. In June 1945, he was appointed temporary Subordinate Judge at Chhindwara. He was appointed as Civil Judge on probation from 8th December, 1947 and was confirmed as Civil Judge from 8th December, 1949. He was appointed as Assistant Sessions Judge in 1960 and was appointed as District and Sessions Judge from 04-05-1974. He was appointed as Selection Grade District Judge from 1st August, 1974. He worked as Registrar of the Bombay High Court from 1976 and appointed as an Additional Judge of Bombay High Court for a period of 2 years, w.e.f. 20th January, 1978. I had the privilege of appearing before him.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shankarrao Bhimrao Bhasme was born on 21st January, 1925. Educated at Lamington High School, Hubli; Chintamanrao H. School, Shahpur; Belgaum Lingarai College, Belgaum and R.L. Law College, Belgaum. Enrolled as an Advocate of Bombay High Court on 12th February, 1951. Practised at Bombay High Court on Civil, Criminal and Constitutional Appellate Side. Appointed as Additional Judge of Bombay High Court w.e.f. 17th September, 1969 for a period of 2 years and appointed as a permanent Judge on 9th April, 1970. Mr. Justice Bhasme was an interesting personality. After resigning, he practiced in the Supreme Court. I had the privilege of appearing before him in the Bombay High Court and also against him in the Supreme Court. (He had his own views on jurisprudence and legal philosophy.) May their soul rest in peace and may God give their family the strength to bear the loss.

ADDRESS BY SHRI RAVI KADAM, ADVOCATE GENERAL OF MAHARASHTRA, AT THE REFERENCES TO LATE (1) SHRI PURUSHOTTAM SITARAM MALVANKAR, (2) SHRI JUSTICE VASANT VISHNOO JOSHI AND (3) SHRI JUSTICE SHANKARRAO BHIMRAO BHASME FORMER JUDGES, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, BOMBAY, ON 24TH JANUARY, 2006.

My Lords, the Chief Justice and Mrs. Justice Mhatre, Mr. Desai, Additional Solicitor General of India, Mr. Dada, President, Bombay Bar Association, Mr. Joshi, President, Advocates' Association of Western India, Mr. Rajiv Patil representing Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa, Mr. Zaiwala, Vice-President, Incorporated Law Society, my learned friends, ladies and gentlemen,

Justice Purushottam Sitaram Malvankar, an eminent Judge, passed away on December 14, 2005.

2. Mr. Justice Malvankar's entry into the legal fraternity was fortuitous. At the M.A. examination conducted by the Bombay University in 1938 he stood First Class First in English. The then Principal of the Elphinstone College was so impressed with his erudition that he recommended that he be sent to London for further studies on a scholarship. To qualify for this scholarship he was required to undergo a medical examination. The place where this was to be conducted was on the fifth floor of a building without a lift. Mr. Justice Malvankar hurriedly walked up the 5 floors and immediately entered the room where the medical examination was being conducted. Having climbed 5 stories at one go, his blood pressure was elevated. He failed the medical test. This loss to the field of literary scholarship was a gain of the legal fraternity and a beginning of a long and varied judicial career.

3. Mr. Justice Malvankar joined judicial service in 1940. After holding various judicial posts he was appointed as a Registrar of this Hon'ble Court in 1967. Three years thereafter he was elevated to the Bench as a Judge of this Hon'ble Court.

4. After his retirement, due to his hard working and methodical nature his services were much in demand, in 1979 the Government of India requested the then Chief Justice of India to suggest the name of a person to the post of Vigilance Commissioner i.e. Lokayukta for Nagaland. At the time, there were major Central Government projects being executed in the State of Nagaland. Though on paper, the same were shown to be completed, in fact, no actual construction had been carried out. In these circumstances the then Chief Justice of India selected Mr. Justice Malvankar as Vigilance Commissioner for Nagaland. The reports that he gave showed that the faith of the Chief Justice of India was fully justified. Mr. Justice Malvankar served on different Commissions of Enquiry with distinction. Even thereafter he was active as an Arbitrator of disputes under the Industrial Disputes Act and the Arbitration Act, 1940. His life was marked by simplicity, sincerity, dedication and extreme hard work.

May his soul rest in peace.

II

We have heard with dismay the news of the death on December 21, 2005 of Shri V.V. Joshi, former judge of this Hon'ble Court. Justice Joshi hailed from Central India and initially practised in the Courts of Balaghat (Madhya Pradesh). Early in life he embarked upon a judicial career as a Subordinate judge at Chindwara. He had a truly varied judicial experience. He worked in several courts as Subordinate Judge. Later he worked in different places as Civil Judge. On May 04, 1974 he was appointed as a District Judge and Sessions Judge, in 1976 he was appointed as a Register of this Hon'ble Court. As is often the case, the holding of this office was a stepping-stone to greater heights for Justice Joshi. This came with his elevation as a High Court Judge on January 20, 1978.

2. I did not have the privilege of appearing in the court of Justice Joshi. However, lawyers who appeared in his court have unanimously praised his qualities of head and heart. They have fond memories of a person who they described as eminently suited for a judicial career, In Mr. Joshi's death the legal fraternity has lost an important pillar who dedicated his life to the service of the Judiciary.

III

I will now make a reference to Mr. Justice Bhasme who passed away on 1st January, 2006.

Mr. Justice Bhasme enrolled as an advocate at the age of 26 on 12.02.1951 and practised law on the appellate side of this Hon'ble Court. After 18 years at the Bar at the age of 44 he was elevated to the High office of a Judge of the Bombay High Court. I had the privilege of interacting with Mr. Justice Bhasme in my school and college days. My impression of him was always that of a man of quick wit and sharp intellect. He was always ready to lighten the atmosphere with a witty remark. He was an accomplished public speaker in both English and Marathi and his speeches were always well received.

After he resigned as a Judge of this Hon'ble Court Mr. Justice Bhasme took up practice in the Supreme Court of India. The pages of the law reports are replete with the innumerable cases that he argued before the Supreme Court of India. The State of Maharashtra is especially indebted to Justice Bhasme who selflessly accepted and argued briefs assigned to him for matters in the Supreme Court notwithstanding the nominal nature of the remuneration that was paid to him.

ADDRESS BY SHRI RAJIV PATIL, REPRESENTING BAR COUNCIL OF MAHARASHTRA & GOA, AT THE REFERENCES TO LATE (1) SHRI PURUSHOTTAM SITARAM MALVANKAR, (2) SHRI JUSTICE VASANT VISHNOO JOSHI AND (3) SHRI JUSTICE SHANKARRAO BHIMRAO BHASME FORMER JUDGES, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, BOMBAY, ON 24TH JANUARY, 2006.

My lord the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Hon'ble Justice Nishita Mhatre, learned Additional Solicitor General Shri B.A. Desai, learned Advocate General Shri Ravi Kadam, Shri Rafiq Dada, President, Bombay Bar Association, Shri Balkrishna Joshi, President, AAWI, Shri Zaiwala, Vice-President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society, ladies and gentlemen,

Since last two months we are facing great loss to Legal Fraternity one after another. Today we are here to pay our respects to departed souls of three legal luminaries viz. Justice P S. Malvankar, Justice V.V. Joshi and Justice S.B. Bhasme.

Justice Purushottam Sitaram Malvankar expired on 14th December 2005. He died at the age of 93. A scholar from Bombay University started his practice in Bombay High Court in the year 1940 with Senior Advocate Shri. A.G. Desai. After five years he joined judicial service in 1945 and worked as Assistant Judge at Ahmedabad, Junagadh, Porbandar and other places in then Bombay State. After 1959 Justice Malvankar worked as Sessions Judge at Akola, Dhule, Amaravati and Kolhapur. From 1963 to 1969 he was appointed as Election Tribunal for Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu. In the year 1967 he was appointed as Registrar of this High Court and was elevated to the Bench of this Honourable High Court in the year 1970. He is one of the few judges who stalled their career from initial rank in Judiciary and reached the highest post. After his retirement as a High Court Judge he was busy with various Enquiry Commissions and also acted as Arbitrator in many renowned cases. I had good fortune to attend his consultation meetings along with my senior and I experienced the great command of a legal personality. His son Mr. Vijay Malvankar is one of the seniormost Government Pleader in Bombay High Court and I convey my sincere condolences to bereaved family.

Justice Vasant Vishnoo Joshi, expired on 21st December 2005. Born on 28th September 1923 completed his legal education from University College of Law Nagpur and started his practice at Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh, in July 1943. Within two years he was appointed as Subordinate Judge at Chindwara and was confirmed as Civil Judge in the year 1949. In 1974 he was appointed as District and Sessions Judge and was appointed as Registrar of High Court in the year 1976. He was elevated to the Bench of the High Court in January 1978. One another Judge who had a longest judicial career. I pay my respect to departed soul and pray that his soul may rest in peace.

Justice Shankarrao Bhimrao Bhasme died on 15th January, 2006. This news shocked the entire Bar Room on Appellate Side on that day as he was President of the Bar and as a lawyer he was knowing almost everybody by first name. A Law graduate from Belgaum enrolled as an Advocate on 12.2.1951. He had vast practice on Appellate Side of the Bombay High Court and was elevated to the bench on 17th September 1969. He resigned as a Judge in the year 1978, which was great loss to Judiciary. Known for his witty remarks. Justice Bhasme was practicing in Supreme Court till 2003. He entrusted his law office to his son and started living at his native place enjoying his retirement. The A.A.W.I. has suffered a great loss when he left for heavenly abode. His son Shri Ajit Bhasme, one of the senior advocates in the Supreme Court, is continuing the great tradition of great lawyer and a judge. I convey my condolences to the bereaved family.

ADDRESS BY SHRI BALKRISHNA JOSHI, PRESIDENT, ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA, AT THE REFERENCES TO LATE (1) SHRI PURUSHOTTAM SITARAM MALVANKAR, (2) SHRI JUSTICE VASANT VISHNOO JOSHI AND (3) SHRI JUSTICE SHANKARRAO BHIMRAO BHASME FORMER JUDGES, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, BOMBAY, ON 24TH JANUARY, 2006.

The Hon'ble Acting Chief Justice Shri. V.G. Palshikar, Her Ladyship Mrs. Nishita Mhatre, Shri. B. A. Desai, Additional Solicitor General, Shri. Ravi Kadam, Advocate General of Maharashtra State, Shri. Rafiq Dada, President, Bombay Bar Association, Shri Rajiv Patil, representing Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa, Shri Zaiwala, Vice-President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society and friends.

I fully endorse the views expressed by Your Lordship the Acting Chief Justice and my colleagues. However, I beg to add few words.

Justice Purshottam Sitaram Malvankar was born on 31st December, 1912. He passed his MA & LLB examination from Bombay University and was enrolled as an Advocate in the year 1940. He practiced on the appellate side of the Bombay High Court between 1942 and 1945 and thereafter Justice Malvankar joined judicial service in the year 1945. Justice Malvankar was appointed as Assistant Judge at various places and thereafter he was appointed as District and Session Judge at Dhulia, Akola, Amravati and Kolhapur. Justice Malvankar was appointed as Registrar of the Bombay High Court in the year 1967 and he was elevated as the Judge of the Bombay High Court in the year 1970. Justice Malvankar retired in the year 1974 as Judge of this High Court and thereafter he was appointed as a President of Maharashtra State Industrial Court from 1975 to 1978. Justice Malvankar was appointed as one man commission under the Commissioner of Inquiry Act for inquiring into Hindu Muslim Riots in Nashik and Beed District and in respect of inquiry into irregularities alleged to have been committed by the Government of Maharashtra in appointing Special Executive Magistrate in the city of Bombay. Justice Malvankar was also appointed as a legal advisor by the Government of India under the then C.O.F.E.P.O.S.A. Act. Justice Malvankar was a member of Appellate Side Bar. Justice Malvankar expired on 14-12-2005.

The members of the Association share the grief of the members of Malvankar family and we sincerely hope that the family of Justice Malvankar will find courage to bear this loss.

MAY GOD REST HIS SOUL IN PEACE.

Justice Shri. Vasant Vishnu Joshi was born on 28th September, 1921 and educated at Government Marathi High school Amravati, Patwardhan High School Nagpur, Christian High School Jabalpur, Monroe High School Bhandara, College of Science Nagpur and University College of Law at Nagpur.

Justice Joshi practiced as a pleader at Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh from July, 1943 to June 1945. In June 1945 he was appointed temporary subordinate Judge at Chindwara. He was appointed as Civil Judge on probation on 8th December, 1947 and was confirmed as Civil Judge from 8th December, 1949. He was appointed as Assistant Session Judge in 1960 and was appointed as a District and Session Judge from the year 1974. He worked as the Registrar of the Bombay High Court from the year 1976 and Justice Joshi was elevated as Additional Judge of Bombay High Court w.e.f. 20th January, 1978. Justice Joshi expired on 21st December, 2005.

The members of the Association share the grief of the members of Joshi family and we sincerely hope that the family of Justice Joshi will find courage to bear this loss.

MAY GOD REST HIS SOUL IN PEACE.

Justice Shri. Shankarrao Bhimrao Bhasme an intellectual Senior Advocate and Judge of this Hon'ble High Court expired on 15th January, 2006. Justice Bhasme was born on 21st January, 1925. Educated at Lamington High School and Chintamrao High School, Shahapur Belgaum. He completed his college from Lingaraj College Belgaum and R.L. College Belgaum. Justice Bhasme enrolled as Advocate of Bombay High Court on 12th February, 1951. Justice Bhasme practiced in Civil, constitutional and criminal matters. Justice Bhasme was elevated as Additional Judge of Bombay High Court on 17th September, 1969 and he resigned as a Judge of this High Court on 1st July, 1978. He was gentleman as a Judge of this Hon'ble Court and had treated Advocates with respect. Justice Bhasme never gave an impression that he had prejudged the matter. After retirement Justice Bhasme started practice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as a Senior Advocate. Justice Bhasme was known as a competent Senior Advocate. Justice Bhasme was always well acquainted with facts and law of his case. Justice Bhasme was a senior member of Advocate Association of Western India we at the Bar lost a Judge before whom it was an intellectual challenge to appear, a Judge with a passionate desire to do Justice.

The members of the Association share the grief of the members of Bhasme's family and we sincerely hope that the family of Justice Bhasme will find courage to bear this loss.

MAY GOD REST HIS SOUL IN PEACE.

ADDRESS BY SHRI DINSOO ZAIWALA, VICE-PRESIDENT, BOMBAY INCORPORATED LAW SOCIETY, AT THE REFERENCES TO LATE (1) SHRI PURUSHOTTAM SITARAM MALVANKAR, (2) SHRI JUSTICE VASANT VISHNOO JOSHI AND (3) SHRI JUSTICE SHANKARRAO BHIMRAO BHASME FORMER JUDGES, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, BOMBAY, ON 24TH JANUARY, 2006.

My Lord, the Chief Justice, Justice Mhatre, the Hon'ble Judges of the Bombay High Court, Learned Advocate General, Learned President of the Bombay Bar Association, Learned President of Advocates Association of Western India, Mr. Patil representing Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa,

In my capacity as the Vice-President of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society I convey our members grief on the sad demise of Justice P.S. Malvankar, Justice V.V. Joshi and Justice S.B. Bhasme.

With respect I concur with the sentiments so eloquently expressed by My Lord the Chief Justice, the Learned Advocate-General, The President of the Bombay Bar Association and the President of the Advocates Association of Western India, which has been submitted at your Lordships Bar to-day.

It is indeed sad that we have to pay homage to 3 luminaries of this Court because of deaths in quick succession.

Your Lordships are aware that Bombay High Court has achieved the tradition of expressing exceptional judicial thoughts so much so that the judgment of our Courts are sought after and preferred by Courts of other States of this country. The Learned three judges whoa we remember to-day were parts of this tradition and we are indeed sure that your Lordships and the Judges to come with the assistance of the Bar shall indeed continue this tradition and ensure that this tradition is not diluted. This would be the best homage that we could pay to the passing away of these 3 Learned Judges of this Hon'ble Court.

On behalf of the Incorporated Law Society and the Fraternity of Solicitors I wish to convey our grief to the family members of Justice Malvankar, Justice Joshi and Justice Bhasme and to ease their losses I may be permitted to quote a scriptural text:

*"There is no death, life is a continuous event
that the inner man's soul clothes itself with
a new garment discarding the old and begins
the new journey."*

May the spirit of demised Lordships rest in eternal guidance.

ADDRESS BY SHRI RAFIQ DADA, PRESIDENT, BOMBAY BAR ASSOCIATION, AT THE REFERENCES TO LATE (1) SHRI PURUSHOTTAM SITARAM MALVANKAR, (2) SHRI JUSTICE VASANT VISHNOO JOSHI AND (3) SHRI JUSTICE SHANKARRAO BHIMRAO BHASME FORMER JUDGES, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, BOMBAY, ON 24TH JANUARY, 2006.

My Lord the Chief Justice, My Lords, My lady Justice Mrs. Mhatre, Mr. Desai Additional Solicitor General of India (western region) Mr. Ravi Kadam , Advocate General of Maharashtra Mr. Joshi, President Western India Advocates Association, my colleagues at the Bar, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Bombay Bar Association. I join my Lord the Chief Justice, Mr. Desai and Mr. Ravi Kadam in mourning the sad passing away of three of the Judges of this honorable court. Justices P.S Malvankar, V.V Joshi and S.B Bhasme.

Justice Malvankar was a judge of this court between 1970 and 1975. He was known to be very meticulous and painstaking. He heard many matters on various fields of law and has left a mark with his erudite judgments. In one of the famous matters relating to a challenge made by joint stock companies to certain provisions of the Maharashtra Agricultural Land Ceiling Act, Justice Malvankar along with Justice Lalit heard arguments from several leading advocates. On the completion of the arguments, the Judgment commenced. It is even today regarded as one of the most important judgments under the Land Ceiling act. After retirement. Justice Malvankar served the law in various capacities. He lived a full life. We extend our heart-felt condolence to the members of his family including his son who is a member of this Bar and one of our colleagues.

On 21st December 2005 Justice V.V Joshi passed away .Justice Joshi worked as a judge from the age of 26. He had a rich judicial experience. He tried many important sessions' cases. He worked as a charity commissioner and also as the Registrar of this Honorable court. He sat as a judge of this court for nearly five years before he retired. On behalf of the Bar I extend my condolence to the members of his family.

Mr. Justice Bhasme worked as a judge of this court for nine years before he resigned. Prior to his appointment as a Judge, Justice Bhasme was a leading lawyer of this honorable court. He was known for his bold and fearless advocacy. He was also a President of the Western India Advocates Association. In that capacity he espoused the cause of junior Advocates. He was widely respected and admired. After he resigned from this honorable court he became a leading advocate practicing in the Honorable Supreme Court. He appeared in several leading cases for over 20 years in the Supreme Court. He leaves behind many memories. On behalf of the Bombay Bar, I extend my condolence to his son Mr. Ajit Bhasme who is our colleague at the bar and to the other members of his family. May the almighty give them the strength to bear this loss.
