

**ADDRESS BY HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SHRI  
DIPANKAR DATTA, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE  
IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI JUSTICE RAJIV  
SHAMRAO MOHITE, FORMER JUDGE, ON WEDNESDAY,  
29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2022 AT 10 AM, IN ROOM NO.46, CENTRAL  
COURT HALL, MAIN BUILDING, HIGH COURT,  
BOMBAY.**

My esteemed Sister and Brother Judges,

**Shri Anil C. Singh,**  
Additional Solicitor General of India,

**Shri Ashutosh A. Kumbhakoni,**  
Advocate General of Maharashtra

**Shri Vasant D. Salunke,**  
Chairman, Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa

**Shri Nitin Thakker,**  
President, Bombay Bar Association

**Shri Sanjeev P. Kadam,**  
President, Advocates' Association of Western India

**Shri Kaiwan Kalyaniwala,**  
President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of  
the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Mohite family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

We have gathered this morning to pay homage to late  
Justice Rajiv Shyamrao Mohite, an eminent former Judge of  
the Bombay High Court, who left for his heavenly abode on  
21<sup>st</sup> May, 2022 at the age of 65 years.

Parting is always painful and the loss irreplaceable. But, the bitter truth is, the cycle of life moves on and we need to pull along. While accepting what is destined, let us cherish the sweet memories left behind by the departed soul. Justice Mohite may not be amongst us now, but His Lordship will be remembered for the success and reputation that His Lordship had achieved in the legal profession as well as a Judge and would remain an inspiration for the future generation.

Justice Mohite was born on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1956 in a family with no legal background. His Lordship's schooling was at Kendriya Vidyalaya (Powai), Mumbai. His Lordship's father was an Air Force Officer and hence, his schooling also included a stint in the King George's School, an institution run by the Indian Army. His Lordship graduated in Science from K.J. Somaiya College in Mumbai. Later on, His Lordship obtained the Bachelor's degree in Law from one of the premier institutions in Bombay, i.e., the Government Law College. Immediately thereafter, His Lordship enrolled as an advocate under the Advocates Act, 1961 on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 1978 and joined the chambers of a renowned advocate, Shri M.A. Rane, with whom His Lordship was associated till the year 1981.

In the following years, His Lordship established a flourishing practice in Mumbai, in various fields of law including civil, criminal, Constitutional and service laws. Banking on vast experience and thorough knowledge of the

working of the legal system, His Lordship conducted hundreds of cases of various kinds. These included espousing causes such as the right of maintenance to Muslim women, right of housing for slum dwellers, etc. His Lordship had special expertise in having civil disputes resolved through arbitration.

Justice Mohite frequently delivered lectures on Civil Procedure Code, Arbitration Act and Limitation Act to the law students at the Government Law College. A regular invitee of the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa as a guest lecturer, His Lordship delivered lectures on diverse legal topics and also participated in seminars which were organised for the benefit of advocates all over the State. His Lordship also authored some articles, which were published in law magazines. His Lordship was always active in causes relating to the protection of environment and had appeared in quite a number of television programmes espousing humanitarian causes.

After a successful stint over two decades at the Bar, His Lordship was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Bombay High Court on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2001 and was made a permanent Judge on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2004.

In 2010, His Lordship was transferred to the Patna High Court; however, to the misfortune of the Bar and the Bench, His Lordship resigned in November, 2010 on personal grounds.

As a Judge of the Bombay High Court for a little over 9 years, His Lordship delivered innumerable noteworthy judgements. Because of time constraints, I leave it to other speakers to refer to some of such judgements.

Post resignation, His Lordship gained prominence as an able arbitrator. His Lordship also worked for many charitable and social causes.

Beyond the legal profession, I am informed that His Lordship was a 'multi-talented' personality. His Lordship took keen interest in world history. His Lordship through deep study gained rich knowledge about both the world wars. His Lordship was fascinated by Egypt.

His Lordship was an ardent sportsperson having played several sports with proficiency, like hockey, football and tennis. His Lordship was an excellent chess player and his favourite pastime was to play the game either online or with his son-in-law.

His Lordship also used to play the piano and guitar like a professional, without a formal training from anyone. His Lordship used to enjoy listening to all types of music – be it Hindustani classical, jazz, rock, pop, etc. Being an avid reader with a large collection of books in his library, His Lordship also possessed deep knowledge of astronomy. In fact, it was one of His Lordship's favourite subjects and he used to enjoy watching planets and stars through his telescope.

His Lordship liked organic farming very much and had set up a small organic garden in his home in Pune where His Lordship lived after demitting office as a Judge.

His Lordship enjoyed his food, especially authentic Maharashtrian cuisine from Satara & Kolhapur. I am also told that His Lordship was a great cook and tried different dishes whenever time permitted him.

Such being the personality of His Lordship, the demise at not too old an age is not only a loss for his family but the legal fraternity as well as society.

His Lordship was tall and handsome and I am fortunate to have met His Lordship once at the National Judicial Academy in Bhopal a couple of years after my elevation as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

His Lordship is survived by his wife Smt. Tanuja Mohite, daughter Ms. Anushka Mohite, son-in-law Shri Rohan Mahale, elder brother Shri Suhas Mohite, and younger brother, Shri Manoj Mohite, a reputed senior advocate practising in this very High Court.

On behalf of my esteemed colleagues and on my personal behalf, I convey deepest condolences to the members of the bereaved family. I pray that the Almighty give them enough strength to bear the irreplaceable loss and also pray that the noble soul of His Lordship attains "sadgati".

Om Shanti ! Shanti !! Shanti !!!

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**ADDRESS BY SHRI ANIL C. SINGH, ADDL. SOLICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI JUSTICE RAJIV SHAMRAO MOHITE, FORMER JUDGE, ON WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2022 AT 10 AM, IN ROOM NO.46, CENTRAL COURT HALL, MAIN BUILDING, HIGH COURT, BOMBAY.**

**Hon'ble the Chief Justice,**

**Hon'ble Judges of this Court,**

**Shri Ashutosh A. Kumbhakoni,**  
Advocate General of Maharashtra

**Shri Vasant D. Salunke,**  
Chairman, Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa

**Shri Nitin Thakker,**  
President, Bombay Bar Association

**Shri Sanjeev P. Kadam,**  
President, Advocates' Association of Western India

**Shri Kaiwan Kalyaniwala,**  
President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Mohite family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

We assemble this morning to pay our respectful homage and respect to late Justice R. S. Mohite, who left for his heavenly abode on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022.

Justice Mohite was a first-generation lawyer. His father was an air force officer. Justice Mohite's schooling took place in an

army school. He was initially desirous of being an engineer and hence, obtained a degree in science from the K. J. Somaiya College in Mumbai. During his engineering college days, Justice Mohite was new to Mumbai and did not have a permanent place of residence here. I am told that once Justice Mohite, as a young college student, went to watch a film at Eros Cinema, Fort, when he met a few law college students, who discussed with him that hostel facilities were available at the Government Law College, Mumbai for the law students there. With the sole intention of availing these hostel facilities, Justice Mohite took admission in Government Law College, Mumbai. This is how the great legal luminary got introduced to the field of law.

By the time he obtained his degree in law, Justice Mohite had already made up his mind to forego the field of engineering and pursue his career in the legal field. Justice Mohite, after becoming a lawyer, founded a Trust known as the "Legal Aid Society of Bombay" and devoted his early years in practice to the working of the said Trust.

In the year 1979, Justice Mohite joined the chambers of a renowned advocate Shri. M. A. Rane, with whose chamber he was associated till 1981.

In the following years, Justice Mohite's practice grew and he was known especially for his sizeable practice in the civil, criminal and constitutional fields of law. Justice Mohite was also very fond of teaching. In 1992-93, he taught the subjects like Civil Procedure Code, Arbitration and limitation in the Government Law College, Mumbai.

Justice Mohite was known for his progressive thought process and his friendly nature. Justice Mohite was invited on

several occasions to give lectures in seminars organized by the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa to participate in legal seminars organized for the benefit of various Bar Associations.

Justice Mohite was an avid reader and a prolific writer. He has authored several articles published in legal magazines and has appeared in several television programs, wherein he emerged as one of the strongest promoters of progressive ideas and liberal thought process.

Justice Mohite was also a very strong advocate for the protection of the environment. This can be seen from a host of judgments passed by him. In one of the noteworthy matters argued by him by the name of Indian Express vs. Kamla, Justice Mohite argued the matter against another stalwart senior advocate Andhyarujina. The hearing of the matter at the interim stage went on for 14 days, which was a rare event during those times.

At the time of Justice Mohite's elevation in 2001 as an Additional Judge of Bombay High Court, he was amongst the youngest Judges to be appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Bombay.

As a Judge of this Hon'ble High Court, Justice Mohite was considered to be one of the most fearless and liberal Judges of his time and dealt with a catena of matters and decided issues related to preventive detention and rights of detenues, arbitration matters and a variety of contractual disputes between parties.

Around 2010, Justice Mohite resigned from his post as a Judge of the High Court of Bombay. Even after his resignation, Justice Mohite continued to serve the society and help them with

respect to their legal matters by imparting free legal aid to them. Justice Mohite also acted as an arbitrator in several matters and continued to work till the end.

Another quality of Justice Mohite was also that he loved travelling. He had a very curious life style. He had a caravan in which he would travel for long distances and he used to use it as an office when he used to be in Mumbai. That Caravan used to be parked in parking slot near the Court. He was also the office bearer of Maharashtra State Angling Association which relates to fishing and he had a floating house boat near Powai.

Justice Mohite's brother advocate Manoj Mohite is a designated Senior Advocate of this Hon'ble High Court and has a thriving practice at the bar.

Justice Mohite will be truly missed by Judges and lawyers alike. Justice Mohite was a close friend of mine and his demise is a personal loss to me. In our initial days of practice, we both used to live at Malad and often travelled together in the morning by train. His demise is an immense loss to the Nation and the legal fraternity.

I offer my deepest condolence to his family and pray that he may rest in eternal peace.

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**ADDRESS BY SHRI ASHUTOSH A. KUMBHAKONI,  
ADVOCATE GENERAL OF MAHARASHTRA, AT THE FULL  
COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI  
JUSTICE RAJIV SHAMRAO MOHITE, FORMER JUDGE,  
ON WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2022 AT 10 AM, IN ROOM  
NO.46, CENTRAL COURT HALL, MAIN BUILDING, HIGH  
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**Hon'ble the Chief Justice,**

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President, Bombay Bar Association

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President, Advocates' Association of Western India

**Shri Kaiwan Kalyaniwala,**  
President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of  
the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Mohite family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

I shared an excellent personal memorable relationship with  
Justice Mohite, which continued even after he ceased to be the  
Judge of this Hon'ble Court.

Justice Mohite came from a very humble background in as  
much as his extended family members still continue to stay at  
village Bichud, Taluka Walwa, District Sangli. Inspired by his  
father and elder brother, both of whom worked with the Air

Force, initially Justice Mohite joined military school and then pursued further studies in Engineering.

Around 1975, when his father retired and returned to the native village, Justice Mohite had no place to stay in Mumbai, where he was pursuing his second-year engineering course. At that time, one fine day, accidentally, Justice Mohite met few law students at Eros theatre, where he had gone for a movie. During the course of conversation with the law students, he learnt that hostel accommodation was available for the students of law college near Churchgate. Justice Mohite joined law course, initially only with a view to be able to secure a roof, though temporary, over his head, the hostel accommodation. Soon, he found great interest in law than engineering and ultimately left engineering to be a full fledged law student.

After completing the law graduation, Justice Mohite founded a charitable trust "Legal Aid Society of Bombay", providing free legal aid to under privileged. This trust of Justice Mohite was allotted a small place below the staircase of Bharda High School situated near V. T. Station, which was used by him partly also for his legal profession as office.

Thereafter, Justice Mohite started using a caravan owned by him as a mobile office, probably the first lawyer who successfully took this innovative step. We have often found this caravan in the car-parking area situate between our High Court building and the Oval Maidan. Justice Mohite personally drove his caravan all the way to Nagpur when he was given assignment as a Judge at the Hon'ble Nagpur Bench.

Justice Mohite continued with his pro-bono work despite becoming busy lawyer in a very short time, as a result of his

hard work, sharp intelligence, strong memory, sincerity, dedication and honesty. Even after leaving this Hon'ble Court, Justice Mohite continued to help various social groups and organizations in rendering service to the society.

If my memory serves me right, barring the field of taxation, Justice Mohite conducted matters relating to literally every field of law, both on the Original as well as Appellate Side of this Hon'ble High Court.

A very interesting case, which Justice Mohite argued for the defendants, Indian Express vs. Mundada relating to a play titled "Kamla" introduced him to one of the defendants, the legendary artist Vijay Tendulkar, who was so impressed with the overall behaviour, conduct as also professional expertise of Justice Mohite that he converted this client-lawyer relationship into that of father-in-law; son-in-law. That is how the then Miss. Tanuja Vijay Tendulkar became respected Mrs. Tanuja Rajiv Mohite.

Even as a Judge, he delivered judgments on various laws such as Industrial Disputes Act, Railways Act, partnership Act, Negotiable Instruments Act, Major Port Trust Act, Prison Rules relating to Furlough and Parole, Foreigners Act, to name a few.

In the case of Vitthal Kulat reported in 2003 (3) Mah. L. J. 237, relating to the issue of paternity, Justice Mohite held that no one could be compelled to give blood sample for analysis. He held that it was open for the plaintiff to give notice to the other side calling upon them to perform DNA test and produce its result before the Court, failing which the plaintiff was entitled to urge the Court to draw an adverse inference.

During college life, Justice Mohite was very active in politics. Though not strictly leftists, he was an active member of People's Union for Civil Liberties. Probably that is how he joined the chamber of renowned lawyer of our Bar respected late Shri. M. A. Rane.

Justice Mohite had unique qualities and fields of interests that normally are not found amongst lawyers. He was so fond of fishing that he purchased a house-boat, which was used by him at Powai Lake for fishing. For long time, he was the Chairman of Maharashtra State Angling Association, which was formed by fishermen, that amongst others took keen interest in keeping the Powai Lake neat and clean.

Justice Mohite had immense knowledge of world history and would speak authoritatively on the subject of "Roman Civilization". Justice Mohite also had keen interest in Astronomy, so much so that he has written a book on "Evolution of Universe", which unfortunately Justice Mohite was not able to complete on account of his illness.

I am sure, the life of Justice Mohite will forever keep inspiring every Junior member of the Bar, especially those who have travelled all the way from tiny villages to this City of dreams and have joined our noble profession.

I join in the sentiments expressed by My Lord Hon'ble the Chief Justice, Shri. Anil Singh and express my deepest condolences to the bereaved family of late Shri. Justice Rajiv Shyamrao Mohite.

May his soul rest in peace.

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**ADDRESS BY SHRI VASANT D. SALUNKE, CHAIRMAN,  
BAR COUNCIL OF MAHARASHTRA & GOA, AT THE FULL  
COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI  
JUSTICE RAJIV SHAMRAO MOHITE, FORMER JUDGE,  
ON WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2022 AT 10 AM, IN ROOM  
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**Hon'ble the Chief Justice,**

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President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of  
the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Mohite family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

It is with deep sense of sorrow that we have come to condone the passing away of Shri Justice Rajiv S. Mohite, former Judge, High Court, Bombay, who left for his heavenly abode on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022 at Mumbai.

Late Shri Justice Rajiv Shamrao Mohite was born on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1956. His family hails from village Bhawani Nagar in Sangli District, basically agriculturist family. However, his father was an Air Force officer. His Lordship took primary education at Bangalore Centre School and King Gorge Military School run by an Indian Army. Late Justice R. S. Mohite completed degree in Science from K. G. Somaiya College, Mumbai and then completed LL.B. degree Course from Government Law College, Mumbai. His Lordship was a sportsman during his school and college education. After completing LL.B. degree Course, His Lordship was enrolled as an Advocate with the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa on 17<sup>th</sup> November 1978. His Lordship joined a chamber of Senior Lawyer Shri M. A. Rane. During practice, His Lordship had conducted several civil, criminal, constitutional and service matters. He was a well-known criminal law practitioner. His Lordship was also a reputed lecturer in Government Law College, Mumbai. He delivered several lectures on legal topics in seminars and conferences arranged by the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa as well as other Bar Associations. In the conference held in 2015 at Mumbai, His Lordship wrote a letter supporting the centralization of the constitutional courts. He was an author and written plenty of articles. Advocates from Aurangabad Bench got opportunity to work before His Lordship. His Lordship was a man of principles. His Lordship was a good human being.

His Lordship Justice R. S. Mohite left this world on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022 leaving behind him a well-educated family.

Personally and as a Chairman of Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa, I pay homage to the departed soul on

behalf of all the Advocates in Maharashtra & Goa. I pray the God to rest the departed soul into peace.

OM SHANTI ! OM SHANTI !

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**ADDRESS BY SHRI NITIN THAKKER, PRESIDENT,  
BOMBAY BAR ASSOCIATION, AT THE FULL COURT  
REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI JUSTICE  
RAJIV SHAMRAO MOHITE, FORMER JUDGE, ON  
WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2022 AT 10 AM, IN ROOM  
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Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of  
the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Mohite family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

“Human Judges can show mercy. But against  
the laws of nature, there is no appeal.” So, said  
Alexander C. Clerk a noted writer.

Today we have gathered to mourn sad demise of our former Judge Rajiv Mohite who lost his appeal in the court of the Almighty on 21st May 2022.

On behalf of Bombay Bar Association and myself I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed by My Lord the Chief Justice and other previous speakers for Justice Mohite a former member of our association.

His achievements as a lawyer and Judge have been spoken about and I will not repeat. But I wish to pay tribute to him by adverting to his other interests in life as shared by his family.

He was born at village Bichhud in Sangli District but because his father was in Airforce studied in various Kendriya vidyalayas. Basically a science student at he did not plan to become a lawyer but he became one as stated by previous speakers.

Justice Mohite was also a very popular professor of law at Govt law College. He loved and enjoyed teaching. The science student in him did not disappear after he joined the legal profession. He loved sky gazing and star gazing by means of a powerful telescope and had his own take on space and universe. His family informs me that he had started writing a book on the subject lately but it remained incomplete.

Being a bhumiputra he loved nature and post giving up judgeship, due to his illness he could not travel much so he brought nature to his own doorstep in his bungalow at Pune. He was happy spending time in his garden which he tended with lot of love.

Another pastime was his love for chess amongst other sports. He loved to play the game. His daughter has grievance that once in a while Justice Mohite would ask for his son-in-law first and not her as they were chess partners.

He was a fine human being. Apart from the charitable trust he established he also looked after a lawyer friend who was physically challenged, financially, even after he became a judge.

He loved food. He enjoyed cooking for the family by preparing local spicy dishes. He had a sweet tooth and had no guilt in having sweets.

His love for music enthralled family and friends. He would listen to Bollywood or western and there after play it on his keyboard. He was a good singer too.

We have lost a judge, a nature lover, a teacher, a foodie, a music lover and above all a gentleman and a great human being. On behalf of myself and Bombay Bar Association I convey our heartfelt condolences to the family of Justice Mohite and pray that his soul achieves eternal peace.

He lived his life full and on his own way, which he would find reflected in famous Frank Sinatra song that he loved and sang often:

The words of the song are:

"....And now the end is here  
 And so I face that final curtain  
 My friend I'll make it clear  
 I'll state my case, of which I am certain  
 I've lived a life that's full  
 I traveled each and every highway  
 And more, much more  
 I did it, I did it my way."

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**ADDRESS BY SHRI SANJEEV P. KADAM, PRESIDENT, ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI JUSTICE RAJIV SHAMRAO MOHITE, FORMER JUDGE, ON WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2022 AT 10 AM, IN ROOM NO.46, CENTRAL COURT HALL, MAIN BUILDING, HIGH COURT, BOMBAY.**

**Hon'ble the Chief Justice,**

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President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Mohite family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Today we have assembled to pay homage to member of Advocate's Association of Western India, late Justice Rajiv S. Mohite. Justice Mohite had his origin in Sangli District, coming from a well-known Mohite family.

As His Lordship's father was an officer in Air Force, Justice Mohite had his education mainly at Mumbai and did schooling from King George School, then B.Sc. from Somaiya College, Mumbai and then law graduate from my Alma matter Government Law College, Mumbai.

Enrolled as an Advocate in November 1978 and worked pro-bono for various trusts, institutions. Also worked as lecturer in Government Law College.

Justice Mohite had a good practice in all fields of law and had clients from all the strata of the society be it cream clential on original side as well as poor farmers, workers, charitable institutions.

For me personally Justice Mohite was like an elder brother. I worked with him, against him and then appeared before him after he accepted the offer to become a Judge of this Hon'ble High Court, when he was appointed as an Additional Judge of our Court on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2001 at an early age of 45 years.

In fact, His Lordship's decision to accept Judgeship was a surprise for many considering his roaring practice and his nature.

I still remember the full trial of the election petition, we contested against each other in election challenge by late Arun Bagal from Khatav constituency in Satara District against returned candidate Mr. Bhausahab Gadge, represented by Justice Mohite. The full-fledged trial for a vote difference of 500 votes was conducted by Justice K. G. Shah.

Though I lost the above matter, what I remember was his gesture to refer to me a client who wished to file an election petition in High Court in the next election by telling me that I

had developed a good case in earlier election petition. Really Justice Mohite had a great heart. Justice Mohite was also known for his modified luxurious van in those days.

A thorough gentleman, smart and smiling personality, one of the best Judge this Court had. Later he practiced in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

Unfortunately, Justice Mohite left for heavenly abode on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022. It is not only a great loss to his family but also a great loss to the legal fraternity. It is also a big loss for the members of Advocate's Association of Western India.

On behalf of Advocate's Association of Western India and for myself, I offer heartfelt condolences to the family of Justice Mohite, including my brother, Senior Counsel Mr. Manoj Mohite.

May his soul rest in peace.

! OM SHANTI !

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**ADDRESS BY SHRI KAIWAN KALYANIWALA,  
PRESIDENT, BOMBAY INCORPORATED LAW SOCIETY,  
AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF  
LATE SHRI JUSTICE RAJIV SHAMRAO MOHITE,  
FORMER JUDGE, ON WEDNESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2022 AT  
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Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of  
the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Mohite family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

I address this reference as a President of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society on whose behalf I express condolences on the sad demise of Justice Rajiv Shyamrao Mohite.

Justice Mohite had an illustrious career as an advocate from 1978 till 2001 when he was appointed as a Judge of the Bombay High Court. Justice Mohite devilled in the chambers of M. A. Rane, a distinguished senior counsel of our Court. Like his renowned senior, Justice Mohite developed a flourishing practice, both civil and criminal. He was especially proficient in constitutional matters. During his practice years, Justice Mohite lectured at the Government Law College and wrote several articles for law journals.

As a Judge of this Court, Justice Mohite was well respected by the Bar and his colleagues on the Bench. He ably served the cause of justice until he resigned as a Judge in 2010 on account of personal reasons. Justice Mohite formed the Legal Aid Society, a charitable trust involved in providing legal services to the needy. His interests and achievements took him beyond the practice of law and was a much-admired judge.

I concur with the sentiments of my Lord the Chief Justice and the feelings that have been expressed by my colleagues at the Bar.

May the departed soul rest in peace.

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