

**ADDRESS BY HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SHRI
DIPANKAR DATTA, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE IN
THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI DHIRENDRA S. PARIKH,
FORMER SENIOR ADVOCATE, ON 8th MARCH, 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,

Dr. Uday P. Warunjikar,

Member, Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa

Shri Nitin Thakker,

President, Bombay Bar Association

Shri Nitin V. Gangal,

Vice-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 Parikh family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

We have gathered this morning to pay homage to late
Dhirendra S. Parikh, an eminent Senior Advocate of the

Bombay High Court, who left for his heavenly abode on 28th January, 2022 at the age of 94 years.

Though Shri Parikh is not amongst us now, he will be remembered for the status and reputation that he had achieved in the legal profession, and remain an inspiration for the future generation.

Shri Parikh was born on 23rd December, 1927. He did his schooling from Sheth Anandilal Podar High School and completed his college education from R.A. Podar College, Bombay. Having obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Law from the Government Law College, Bombay, Shri Parikh began his practice as a junior lawyer. He had the occasion to be associated with the chambers of great legal luminaries like Shri Bhaishanker Kanga and Shri Girdharlal.

Shri Parikh had a flourishing practice at both the Bombay High Court as also various District Courts. He had appeared in many trials at the Bombay City Civil Court and in due course of time, attained reputation as the uncrowned king of the Bombay City Civil Court. As a mark of recognition of his competence and ability, Shri Parikh was ultimately designated as Senior Advocate by the Bombay High Court on 3rd October, 1981. He was particularly known for his deft handling of cases and skilful advocacy, which received due appreciation of the Courts and ultimate contentment of his clients.

Shri Parikh was an excellent and most sought-after Arbitrator. He was also at the forefront of the mediation process from its inception at the Bombay High Court. He was actively involved in the discussions on and framing of India's first Mediation Bill, 2021 which has been referred to a Parliamentary Committee on 15th December, 2021. He promoted the concept of "Neutral Evaluator" in mediation.

I have gathered that Shri Parikh's talks were very inspiring, clear and simple. He always used to advise to first think about mediation, for resolution of any dispute. In fact, he believed in active participation in mediation by anyone instead of giving suggestions.

Such was his commitment towards mediation that even during the last 10 years of his life, Shri Parikh was proactively involved in mediation as a method of alternative dispute resolution. He was also involved in formation of the Association of Mediation Practitioners and was also its President.

His passion for legal profession was such that he continued to attend his chambers, provide legal advice and act as an Arbitrator till he breathed his last.

With his decades of successful practice, Shri Parikh had trained over 20 advocates, who are now well established in their professional lives.

Beyond the legal profession, Shri Parikh was very fond of reading. He had a huge collection of books on varied subjects. He was a passionate traveller. He was an avid listener of Indian classical music and had a great collection of songs. He was also a regular practitioner of yoga throughout his life.

Shri Parikh is survived by his three children. His son, namely, Shri Ketan Parikh, is a Senior Advocate at the Bombay High Court with a successful practice of law. The other two children, namely, Shri Chetan Parikh and Smt. Alka Parikh are highly qualified and well settled in their respective lives.

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 the strength to bear the irreplaceable loss and also pray that the noble soul of Shri Parikh attains "sadgati".

Om Shanti ! Shanti !! Shanti !!!

ADDRESS BY SHRI ANIL C. SINGH, ADDITIONAL SOLICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI DHIRENDRA S. PARIKH, FORMER SENIOR ADVOCATE, ON 8th MARCH, 2022 AT 10.00 AM, IN ROOM NO.46 CENTRAL COURT HALL, MAIN BUILDING, HIGH COURT, BOMBAY.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice,

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Shri Kaiwan Kalyaniwala,

President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Parikh family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

We have all gathered here this morning to pay respectful homage and to cherish the life of late Shri D. S. Parikh, who left for his heavenly abode on 28th January 2022 at the age of 94 and in the 73rd year of his practice.

The demise of Shri D. S. Parikh has deprived the society of a noble soul. Shri D. S. Parikh was a jurist and a great human being full of efficiency & sincerity which distinguishes him from many others and elevates him to a higher pedestal in his human approach.

The early life of Shri D. S. Parikh was very eventful. I am told that, during his student years, he was greatly influenced by the Gandhian ideology and often read the writings and speeches of Mahatma Gandhi. Books authored by Mahatma Gandhi and Mahadevbhai Desai (Freedom Fighter and Personal Secretary of Mahatma Gandhi) had a big role to play in shaping his life and philosophy.

Shri Parikh always had a spiritual bent of mind from early days. Throughout his life, he was a regular practitioner of yoga.

I am also told that, on a visit to Rishikesh in his young days, he was no influenced by a sage that he expressed a desire to renounce the world and take sanyas. The wise sage advised him that true sanyas is to be able to remain detached, while living in the sansar (संसार). Shri Parikh abided by these words.

As an Advocate Shri Parikh always held the law in the highest regard and took every bit of effort for his clients, with humility and diligence and also ensured that the rule of law

prevailed under all circumstances. Shri Parikh was held in very high regards by judges and his peers alike.

Shri Parikh was a front-runner even in the field of arts and played a musical instrument called "dilruba". He was an avid listener of Indian classical music. His post-dinner reading of briefs would always be accompanied by Indian classical music playing in the background. He had a huge collection of vinyl records, thereafter cassettes, and then CDs of Indian classical music.

Shri Parikh was also very fond of reading. His collection of books on varied subjects covered one entire wall of a bedroom from floor to ceiling.

Shri Parikh's professional life is well-known. His practice was always flourishing, both in the High Court and the City Civil Court. In fact, he was known as the uncrowned king and the highest paid lawyer of Bombay City Civil Court. Interestingly, Shri Parikh was a close friend of my father and they both started their practice in the City Civil Court, around the same time. When I started my practice in the City Civil Court in the 1980's, I used to sit on the same table for lunch as he. I remember him having a controlled diet and measured portions of food during each meal.

Professionally, Shri Parikh led a very disciplined life. I recollect that during the 1980's, there were barely 4 senior lawyers who were well known and had a flourishing practice in the City Civil Court, i.e., late Shri P. K. Pandit, my senior

late Shri Dinesh Gandhi, late Shri Milind Sakhardande and Shri Parikh himself. I have personally worked in several matters with Shri Parikh and I vividly remember him being extremely meticulous in his work. He used to be updated with the latest law and extremely thorough with the facts of each case with every minute details.

Shri Parikh has appeared in host of important matters which are reported in law journals, which I am not referring hear.

Shri Parikh was known for his soft, mellow yet firm arguments. He always treated his opponents with respect. He always used to make attempts to settle the matters. Perhaps consequently, mediation came naturally to him. For the last about many years, Shri Parikh was actively involved in promoting mediation as a method of dispute resolution. He was involved in founding the Association of Mediation Practitioners and was its President. He took active role in offering comments on the draft Mediation Bill circulated by the Government.

I recollect somewhere in 2011-2012, when I was the Chairman of the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa and Justice Khanwilkar was the in-charge of Mediation program in the State of Maharashtra a number of occasions had an interaction with Shri Parikh when he used to give his valuable suggestions to promote mediation program in the State of

Maharashtra which had really helped a lot in promoting the mediation program.

Shri Parikh never retired. He continued to attend chambers, give legal advice and act as arbitrator till he breathed his last.

Shri Parikh is survived by his wife Mrs. Sudha Parikh who is a home maker and his two able sons. Mr. Ketan Parikh a dear friend of mine as also a batchmate from Government Law College and a senior advocate practicing largely in the field of arbitration. His second son, Mr. Chetan Parikh, who has been a professor and his daughter Ms. Alka Parikh, is also a professor in the field of development economics.

Shri Parikh was a true believer of "work is worship" and stayed true to his profession till his last day. He will truly be missed by judges and lawyers alike. His demise is not only a personal loss to me, but a loss to the Nation and the legal fraternity. I offer my deepest condolences to his family and pray that he may rest in eternal peace.

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ADDRESS BY DR. UDAY P. WARUNJIKAR, MEMBER, BAR COUNCIL OF MAHARASHTRA & GOA, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI DHIRENDRA S. PARIKH, FORMER SENIOR ADVOCATE, ON 8th MARCH, 2022 AT 10.00 AM, IN ROOM NO.46 CENTRAL COURT HALL, MAIN BUILDING, HIGH COURT, BOMBAY.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice,

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Shri Nitin Thakker,

President, Bombay Bar Association

Shri Nitin V. Gangal,

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Shri Kaiwan Kalyaniwala,

President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society

Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Parikh family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

On behalf of Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, I fully associate myself with the feelings expressed by Hon'ble Chief Justice and other speakers. On behalf of two lakh nine thousand lawyers, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and other members of the

Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, I also pay respectful homage to late Shri. D. S. Parikh.

We have lost a veteran lawyer who practiced for 73 long years and was active even in his last months also. On 4th February 1949, at the age of 21, Shri. D. S. Parikh enrolled as an advocate. Being the first-generation lawyer, he joined chamber of Bhaishankar Kanga and Girdharlal. He was Government Pleader at City Civil and Sessions Court, Mumbai. He started his career in the Courts at Mumbai. He started his career in the Courts at Mumbai. Very soon, he specialized in the trials. He was mostly noticed in the City Civil Court and Small Causes Court along with High Court. I am fortunate that I had seen him in action. He was Government Pleader at City Civil and Sessions Court, Mumbai. He was popularly known as D. S. P. or Mama. He was known for his firm, polite and submissive approach to the Bench. I have not seen him raising his voice in the Court. He was known for maintaining high standards of professional ethics.

In last few years, he has taken keen interest in mediation. He guided mediation trainers and he participated in large number of National level conferences as mediator. It was his idea to have a network of mediators in India and to have a Directory Mediators Pan India. He was elected as President of Association of Mediators. He had offered his expert comments on the Mediation Bill, 2021. Even though he was senior citizen, he learnt how to use electronic gadgets and he used to handle WhatsApp, Zoom and even Dragon software. He used to draft, type and send his own email correspondence.

Several lawyers, including junior lawyers remember his word of advice which he has given on multiple occasions. In his soft voice, he used to talk with even the lawyers for the opponent. His submissions in the Court used to be meaningful as well as same were even appreciated by several Hon'ble Judges. In the online condolence meeting, Justice A. A. Sayed, the senior most Judge from Bombay High Court has shared that he has seen Shri. D. S. Parikh active in Small Causes Court and the City Civil Court when Justice Sayed used to attend the Court with his father.

He has been survived by his son, Ketan Parikh, who is also senior advocate. He left for heavenly abode on 28th January 2022. On account of his demise, we have lost a very good human being and a very good advocate.

On behalf of Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, as well as on behalf of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the elected members of Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, I express our deep condolences to the family members of advocate Shri. D. S. Parikh.

God give enough strength to the family members of Late Shri. D. S. Parikh. Let his soul rest in eternal peace.

Om Shanti! Shanti! Shanti!

ADDRESS BY SHRI NITIN THAKKER, PRESIDENT, BOMBAY BAR ASSOCIATION, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI DHIRENDRA S. PARIKH, FORMER SENIOR ADVOCATE, ON 8th MARCH, 2022 AT 10.00 AM, IN ROOM NO.46 CENTRAL COURT HALL, MAIN BUILDING, HIGH COURT, BOMBAY.

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Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Parikh family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

“Try not to become a man of success but rather try to become a man of value” - so said Albert Einstein. Dhirubhai or Mama as he was fondly called not only believed in this but he

lived his life by imbibing this as his way of life. Success automatically followed. His success can be measured by his achievements and goals reached. At the ripe age of 94 he left us but we should celebrate his life, remember his good deeds and follow the path he charted for us. A very soft-spoken person. Even while arguing in courts he will not raise his voice and would be soft but persuasive. His illustrious son Ketan - a senior advocate in his own right shared an incident where the then sitting high court judge was asked by his acquaintance to recommend the best lawyer for a matter in city civil court. The Judge promptly suggested the name of Dhirubhai. After few days the acquaintance came back to the judge to seek another name. He explained that he had gone to city civil court to find out and observe performance of Dhirubhai but found him to be very mild and soft while the lawyer on the other side was loud, forceful and aggressive. The lawyer on the other side was persuading the Judge but the High Court Judge immediately asked his acquaintance, ultimately who won the case. The answer was Mr. Parikh. The Judge, Dhirubhai's friends, jokingly said that he was so soft spoken the judge could never hear him but he still wins matters because the Judge would think that if Mr. Parikh is arguing he must be right. That was the reputation he enjoyed.

After passing law, while joining profession he was interviewed by partners of a leading law firm of that time. He answered all the questions satisfactorily in the interview but softness of his voice was held against him and he did not get the opening there. The loss for the law firm was gain for the advocates, who found a role model-the one who succeeded in the profession-in spite of (or perhaps because of) being soft spoken.

He was very punctual. His routine was so time bound that one could look at the clock and tell what he must be doing at that time. The neighbors would set their watches at 9.00 am if they see Dhirubhai leaving for his office. He practiced Yoga every day and had mastered difficult asanas like Mayurasna. He was hard working and thorough. His advice to his son while doing law was not to join the morning batch of law college but join the day batch. According to him student days were the only time when one will have time to read the book from cover to cover and understand all the provisions because later on in practice one would only look for particular proposition of law and to do that you should know the entire subject. He was well known for his fairness in court. He believed that his first duty is to court. He never hesitated in showing the authorities against him and would attempt to distinguish the same. Similarly, he wanted the clients to disclose all the facts to him in advance and if he found that his clients had concealed any facts from him than he would return his brief. Lately he became champion of mediation - an alternative dispute resolution mode. The first Mediation Bill was sent to him for his comments and he gave a long note making diverse suggestions. On 17th January 2022, few days prior to his demise, Bombay Bar Association received from select committee a questionnaire relating to fresh Mediation Bill which was to be replied in 3 days, I immediately called him to seek his suggestions and we spoke on phone at length. He mentioned about previous bill and told me that some of his suggestions were accepted by Govt. while tabling fresh bill but still the new bill required lot of modifications. He emailed me his previous note and he expressed his willingness to appear for the hearings if any fixed by joint

select committee in future. At 94 he was fully alert and active. Alas he was required at the hearing beyond this world.

A friend of Dhirubhai very nicely summarized, which is the feeling of almost all those who knew him, what he took away from Dhirubhai's life. Absolute punctuality; Honesty in everything you do; Be sincere in your work; Never make loose comments about anything/anyone; Do not give unsolicited advice or suggestions; Be positive; and help others. He was truly a family man. Revered by all - old and young. They see him as calm and composed- a man of few words-silent and serene. A source of inspiration and unconditional love. Dhirubhai we will miss you and the void left by you will be very hard to fill.

I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my lord the Chief Justice and other previous speakers. On behalf of myself and all the members of Bombay Bar Association we pay our respectful homage to Dhirubhai and wish that his family will continue to follow the path of righteousness shown by him.

May his soul rest in peace.

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ADDRESS BY SHRI. NITIN V. GANGAL, VICE-PRESIDENT, ADVOCATES' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN INDIA, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE IN THE MEMORY OF LATE SHRI DHIRENDRA S. PARIKH, FORMER SENIOR ADVOCATE, ON 8th MARCH, 2022 AT 10.00 AM, IN ROOM NO.46 CENTRAL COURT HALL, MAIN BUILDING, HIGH COURT, BOMBAY.

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Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned members of the Bar,

Bereaved members of the Parikh family,

Members of the Registry and the staff,

Ladies and Gentlemen!

I resonate the sentiments expressed by Hon'ble the Chief Justice and my prior speakers.

Shri. D. S. Parikh or fondly called as Mama entered the bar at the age of 21 in the year 1949 when many of us were not even

born. After entering the bar in 1949, Shri. Parikh soon proved his legal acumen, which adequately compensated for his soft voice. He soon set extraordinarily high standards for integrity, professionalism and kindness in his seven decades of legal practice. Juniors were instructed to be present in Court while he was arguing to learn from his legal prowess and his courteousness toward the most acrimonious of opponents.

Shri. Parikh practiced in Mumbai, mainly in the City Civil and Bombay High Court. Not once, ever did he compromise on his ethics in thought, word or deed. I had a privilege of assisting him in one matter on transfer of property in High Court and I could not stop but watch him in admiration, how he faced and dealt with several opponent counsels at ease.

During his student years, he was influenced by the writings and speeches of Mahatma Gandhi. He authored books on Mahatma Gandhi. He was spiritual person by heart, avid listener of Indian Classical Music, fond of reading and an enthusiastic traveler.

He was an early adopter of technology. Email and video dictations were second nature to him, as were WhatsApp and Zoom calls. Into his late 80's, he committed himself to bring out policies to help pass the pending Mediation Bill. He was the President of Association of Mediation Practitioners. He took active role in offering comments on the draft Mediation Bill circulated by the Government. He hoped that there would be national register of mediators and national accreditation standards in mediation.

Shri. Parikh was born in 1927 and left for heavenly abode in 2022. In a span of almost a century, he never retired. He was

always a benefactor. In his last day, he gave free legal advice to whomsoever concerned and truly lived a full and meaningful life.

On behalf of Advocates' Association of Western India, I extend my deepest condolences to his family and his entire gurukul. His legacy is indeed continued by his competent children and juniors. In him, we have lost an institution of ethics and compassion in legal field.

!भावपूर्ण श्रद्धांजली!

**ADDRESS BY SHRI KAIWAN KALYANIWALA,
PRESIDENT, BOMBAY INCORPORATE LAW SOCIETY, AT
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SHRI DHIRENDRA S. PARIKH, FORMER SENIOR
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**Esteemed Senior Advocates and other learned
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Ladies and Gentlemen!

I have the honour, albeit sadly, to address this Reference as President of the Bombay Incorporated Law Society on whose behalf, I express condolences on the sad demise of Shri Dhirendra Parikh.

His practice of the law commenced in 1949 and spread over a mammoth period of over 72 years. Having seen the glory days of the courts in the early independence years to the tumultuous 70s of the Emergency era and finally to present times when lawyers prefer citing case laws before the referring to the law itself, Dhirubhai saw it all and successfully stood his ground as one of the Bombay High Court's most competent lawyers.

Much has already been spoken in praise of the man, Mr. Parikh was. Even so, that would not be enough. Dhirubhai epitomized the 'gentleman lawyer'. I had the pleasure of briefing Mr. Parikh on several occasions. His ability to quickly grasp key issues, made an instructing Attorney's task much easier. I have never seen Mr. Parikh raise his voice, whether in Court or in conferences. Having said that, Dhirubhai conveyed his message across with firmness and certainty. His manner of advocacy was ramrod straight – he did not mince words. He did not howl the proverbial 'googly'. Dhirubhai was an opponent you would be proud to argue against, or as a court, to hear his crisp arguments.

Mr. Parikh had a distinguished career as Senior Counsel of this Court and of the City Civil Court. He involved himself in pro bono matters and social causes. But it was the cause of mediation that was most dear to him. In fact, he was one of the first proponents of the mediation process and we are thankful to him for developing the process of mediation in our courts.

The likes of Mr. Parikh, who stood tall amongst his peers, will always be remembered. We will all miss his gentle presence.

I convey our heartfelt condolences to his son Ketan and the members of his family.

May the departed soul rest in peace.

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