

**FULL COURT REFERNCE MADE BY THE HON'BLE SHRI M.B. SHAH, CHIEF JUSTICE, HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY, TO LATE JUSTICE KONDA MADHAVA REDDY, FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF BOMBAY HIGH COURT, ON TUESDAY, THE 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 1997.**

My learned Brother Judges, Mr. C.J. Sawant, Advocate-General of Maharashtra, and Chairman of the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, Mr. I. M. Chagla, President of the Bombay Bar Association, Mr. Dilip Bhosale, President of the Advocates' Association of Western India, Mr. A.A. Kajiji, President of the Incorporated Law Society, learned Members of the Bar, Ladies & Gentlemen,

We have assembled here this morning to mourn the sad demise of late Mr. Justice Konda Madhava Reddy, former Chief Justice of this High Court, who passed away at Hyderabad on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1997 at the age of 74 years.

Late Justice Reddy was born on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1923 at Shahrajpet in Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh. He had his early schooling in the Government High School at Chanderghat. After graduating from the Nizam College, which was then under the Madras University, he took his Law Degree from the Law College at Pune in 1944 and his Master's Degree in Economics in 1945 from the Fergusson College. He enrolled himself as an Advocate on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1944 in the erstwhile Hyderabad High Court. He was a member of the Executive of the Hyderabad High Court Bar Association from 1950 to 1954 and its Secretary from 1954 to 1956. After the advent of Andhra Pradesh, he was elected as the Secretary of the Andhra Pradesh High Court Advocates' Association in 1956-57. He was a Member of the Hyderabad Bar Council from 1954 to 1956. He was elected to the Andhra Pradesh Bar Council and was its Vice Chairman from 1956 to 1958 and from 1960 to 1964.

He played no mean part in the freedom struggle of the Hyderabad State. He organized the Pleaders' Protest Committee and as one of its Secretaries achieved a successful boycott of the Courts in the cause of the integration of the State with the Union of India.

Justice Reddy was a sportsman of high calibre. He represented his College in various tournaments in Hockey and Football. He was the Secretary of the Hyderabad Hockey Association.

Justice Reddy was particularly interested in a number of Educational Institutions. He was Secretary of the Andhra Vidyalaya High School and was the Vice-President of the Saraswathi Kanya Patshala.

As an Advocate, Shri Reddy was noted for his facile and persuasive advocacy and for his courteous treatment of the Bench and the Bar. He commanded a large and lucrative practice, both on the Original and Appellate Sides, including Civil, Criminal, Revenue and Taxation matters. Within a short span of time, he established for himself name and fame as an able lawyer, possessing enviable gifts of clarity of thought, expression and tenacity. He became Government Pleader in 1966 and then was the Public Prosecutor of the State and later elevated, at a relatively young age, to the Bench. He was a member of the Editorial Board of Andhra Law Times.

Justice Reddy was appointed Judge of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1968; was appointed as Acting Chief Justice with effect from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1982 and as Chief Justice from 14<sup>th</sup> April 1983. He was transferred as the Chief Justice of this High Court in 1984 and retired on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1985.

After retirement Justice Reddy started practicing in the Supreme Court.

After a long and distinguished career, he has now passed into history. Our sympathies go out to the members of his family on this sad occasion. In the passing away of Justice Reddy, we have lost not only a distinguished jurist but an endearing personality. He will always be remembered with affection by all who knew him.

On behalf of myself, my learned colleagues, and all of you assembled here, I convey my heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

May His soul rest in eternal peace.

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