

SPEECH OF THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MOHIT S. SHAH, CHIEF JUSTICE, BOMBAY HIGH COURT, AT THE FULL COURT REFERENCE TO LATE MR. KALYANMAL KEVALMAL SINGHVI, SENIOR ADVOCATE, HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY, ON WEDNESDAY 25TH APRIL, 2012, AT 11 AM IN THE CENTRAL COURT HALL.

My brother and sister Judges

Mr.Khambatta, Advocate General

Mr.Anil Singh, on behalf of the Bar Council of Maharashtra

Mr.Rohit Kapadia, President of Bombay Bar Association

Mr. Rajiv Patil,

President, Advocates' Association of Western India

Mr.Dinsoo Zaiwalla,

President of the Incorporated Law Society

Members of the Singhavi family

Members of the Bar &

Members of the Registry

We have assembled here to mourn the death of late Mr. K.K.Singhvi, one of the seniormost distinguished Advocates of this Court and to pay our tributes to the doyen of the Bar, who left for his heavenly abode on Saturday 14th April, 2012.

Born on 25th February, 1927 at Jodhpur, Mr. Kalyanmal Kevalmal Singhvi took his college education in Jodhpur and law education in the prestigious Government Law College, Bombay, in 1948. While the red flat with farmer's sickle and workman's hammer drew him to the Communist Party of India in 1948, he donned the black robes in the Bombay High Court in 1950. After contesting the parliamentary by-elections from Jodhpur in 1952 on the ticket of the Communist Party, he started practice in the High Court at Jodhpur in 1953 and returned to the Bombay High Court in 1955. Mr.Singhvi was enrolled as an Advocate

of the Supreme Court in 1957 and was a Member of the First Bar Council of Maharashtra in 1962. He was designated as a Senior Advocate of the this Court in 1971.

Mr.Singhvi practiced for more than six decades but it was in the very initial years of his practice that he acquired recognition as an Advocate of great legal acumen and forensic skills, from none other than Chief Justice M.C.Chagla. Mr.Singhvi's courage of convictions and the readiness to take on the establishment became visible right in his young age when he argued several cases of eminent political detenues like Shri Amrut Dange, Shri P.K.Atre and Shri Indulal Yagnik. He appeared in Industrial matters particularly of mill workers of textile mills and for unions such as those of Air India including in the celebrated case of Air India Contract Labour employees.

Mr.Singhvi was a Special Counsel for the Bombay Municipal Corporation for several decades and that is how I had the privilege of listening to his arguments. So great was his mastery over the Town Planning & Municipal Laws that he would counter the arguments of petitioner's Counsel and refer to the relevant paragraphs of the judgment of the Supreme Court and distinguish the paras relied upon by the petitioner's counsel even without having any book or law journal in his hand, all this at the age of 85 years when he was arguing the last case before the First Court. The citation I have in my mind is Suresh Estates Private Limited v/s. Bombay Municipal Corporation 2007(14) SCC 439 which would test the learning of a lawyer half his age.

Mr.Singhvi argued with distinction a number of important cases in the Supreme Court including the cases before the Constitution Bench such as the landmark case of Olga Tellies vs. Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai and the celebrated case of Direct Recruit Class II Engineers Association v/s State of Maharashtra (AIR 1990 SC

1607). Appearing for the promotes Officers, he persuaded the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court to affirm the principles laid down in Janardhan's case and to lay down the far-reaching principles of seniority of direct recruits and promotes, particularly where quota rule had broken down and appointments were made in excess of the quota. But for such principles, promotees appointed after following the procedure prescribed by the Rules would have lost seniority to direct recruits who were in primary schools when the promotees were appointed.

I must also refer to Mr.Singhvi's great insight into the constitutional scheme of separation of powers and the manner in which he kept the petitioners, if not the Court, at bay in several PILS including the PIL about beautification of Shivaji Park which was argued with great tenacity by the Counsel for the petitioner, who now adorns the Bench of this Court.

Throughout his career as an Advocate, Mr.Singhvi was held in high esteem for his impeccable character, integrity, honesty and uprightness. He was outspoken, straightforward and fierce in his arguments which had earned him the respect of his colleagues and of the Bench.

Even after sixty years of practice, he was arguing complicated and important legal cases in this Court with the same zeal and passion with which he had argued before Chief Justice M.C. Chagala. Mr. Singhvi. He had a razor sharp intellect and a wonderful style of presenting his case forcefully before the Court. Mr.Singhvi would stand steadfastly before the Dias and then start arguments in slow motion to catch up unrelenting momentum later on. On a number of occasions we have seen Mr.Singhvi in such glorious form for which now we are only

melancholic. Known for his forensic skill of making a point with precision, he was indeed the doyen of the Bar.

He was known amongst the Bar as a Lawyer for whom age was just a number, His wit and vast legal acumen made him a doyen of the Bar.

Mr.Singhvi lived life to the full. He loved nature and used to spend weekends in Lonavala.

Not many may know that behind the exterior of a touch counsel, who could not be trifled by the strongest of the Judges, was a compassionate soul. He was President of SAMPARC, an organization established for orphans and in particular for tribals, since its inception in 1990 and was conferred the President's Award for social work in 1998.

On his passing away an era has come to an end. The Bombay High Court and the Bar have lost a highly respected lawyer – a giant lawyer and a great human being. The history of the Bombay High Court for the last 150 years will never be complete without reference to the yeomen service rendered by Mr.Singhvi to the cause of protecting life and liberty of the people. Today we pay our tributes to an Advocate who rose to a position of the high eminence in the legal profession and in public life by following the path of rectitude.

It is difficult to fill in the void created by the demise of Mr.Singhvi. Mr.K.K.Singhvi left behind him, his wife Mrs.Pushpaji, a lawyer in her own right, son Mr.Sanjay and daughter in law Ms.Jane Cox and younger son Mr.Nitin and his wife Mrs.Minkashi.

My colleagues and I share the grief of the bereaved family.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Two minutes silence.

Address by Mr. D.J. Khambata, Advocate General of Maharashtra, at the Full Court Reference to late Shri K.K. Singhvi on 25th April, 2012

My Lord The Chief Justice Shri. Mohit Shah, Hon'ble Judges, Shri. Anil Singh for the Chairman, Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, Shri. Rohit Kapadia President Bombay Bar Association, Shri. Rajiv Patil, President Advocates' Association of Western India, Shri. D.R. Zaiwalla, President Bombay Incorporated Law Society, Members of the Bar;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

We are gathered to honour Shri K.K. Singhvi, a revered and much loved Senior Advocate, who has left an indelible mark on the history of this Hon'ble Court.

K.K. Singhvi was from the very beginning and to the end a champion of causes, both public as well as personal. He was unique in that whilst he was very much part of the establishment, he often led the charge against it.

Schooled and colleged in Jodhur, he graduated from the Government Law College, Bombay with a LL.B. degree in the first class and amongst the highest ranking students. His ethos however was not one of rarified intellectual pursuit of the law. He always viewed the law as a means of uplifting the downtrodden and those whose human rights had been trampled underfoot.

It is said that "if a man is not a socialist in his youth, he has no heart." K.K. Singhvi was a socialist not just in theory but in heart and spirit. Indeed he was a member of the Communist Party of India. For that passion, he suffered arrest and incarceration for eight months in 1950. But his enthusiasm was far from dimmed by that experience. His "never say die" approach caused him in 1952 to stand for election to the Lok Sabha from Jodhpur, and when he lost by a narrow margin, he commenced practice, initially in Jodhpur and ultimately before this Hon'ble Court.

In 1957, he was registered as an Advocate of the Supreme Court under the Supreme Court Advocates Act. In the early years, his practice was mainly to appear in criminal matters for political detainees. This led to his appearance for workmen and their Unions in Industrial Law cases. He soon became a leading lawyer in Industrial law and service matters. He retained this expertise throughout his career appearing for large unions such as the Air India Workmen Union, for mill workers of several textile mills and for contract labourers

But it would not do justice to his forensic skills to only refer to his outstanding success in labour law. He succeeded in that field because of his natural affinity for the law and his mastery of legal principles and knowledge of case law. Over the years, he acquired a deep understanding and vast knowledge of constitutional and administrative law and he dipped into this reservoir of knowledge till the end of his career. I remember him appearing just over a year ago before His Lordship the Chief Justice in a matter where several of us had put in hours of research. But at one crucial point, your Lordships posed a question of law which had not been anticipated by anybody. K.K. Singhvi was the only one of us who was up in a flash and immediately supplied the answer alongwith the relevant judgement of the Supreme Court which was pat on the point. For a man who was then in his mid eighties, this was a remarkable achievement.

In 1962, he became a member of the first Bar Council of Maharashtra. During the 1960's he started appearing for several political leaders in preventive detention matters as well. In 1971 he was designated as Senior Advocate. The law reports are filled with important cases he conceptualized and argued and that is his legacy. I refer to only a few of them.

In J.C. Waghmare Vs. State of Maharashtra and others AIR 1978 Bom 119 (F.B.), he appeared, during the Emergency, for the Petitioner to mount a

constitutional challenge to the validity of the Maharashtra Private Forests (Acquisition) Act, 1975. He did so on three grounds viz. legislative competence, violation of Article 301 (freedom of trade, intercourse and commerce) and conflict with a field of legislation occupied by a Central Statute – The Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957. However, as he later recounted to us, he was not able to mount challenges based on Articles 14 and 19 in view of the suspension of fundamental rights during the Emergency and it was largely because of this that his challenge did not succeed.

During the 1980's and till the end of his career, he developed a huge practice in matters concerning Municipal laws and Development Control Regulations. There was scarcely a matter in those fields during the last thirty years in which the name of K.K. Singhvi does not appear. These were matters of huge consequence and importance particularly to Mumbai. They concerned questions of the policy of development, FSI violations, contravention of building laws and the like. K.K. Singhvi was a special retained Counsel for the Brihan Mumbai Municipal Corporation both in this Hon'ble Court as well as in the Supreme Court. But he was more than that. His expertise and enthusiasm meant that Courts expected him and him alone to defend the Corporation's cause and called for him in the rare cases where he had not been briefed for the Corporation.

In that capacity, he appeared for the Municipal Corporation in the famous case of Olga Tellis Vs. BMC, both in the Bombay High Court as well as before a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court. (AIR 1986 SC 180) In Olga Tellis, he successfully defended the right of the BMC to clear pavements and public properties of encroachers and ensured that the Supreme Court did not set aside the order of the Municipal Commissioner evicting encroachers even though it was without a notice and hearing. The impact of that judgement is something all of us benefit from even today.

In Forward Construction Vs. Prabhat Mandal AIR 1986 SC 391, appearing for the Petitioner, he was able to surmount the dismissal of an earlier petition on the same issue arguing that since the previous PIL was not bonafide, no question of res judicata could arise.

Amongst his great appearances for the Corporation were in the group of matters concerning the fixation of rateable value and the principles that were to guide such fixation [MCGM Vs. Kamla Mills (2004) 6 SCC 315].

In Mukand Limited Vs. Mukand Staff Officers Association (2004) 10 SCC 460 he returned before the Supreme Court to his old field of industrial dispute and appearing for an Officers' Association against Mukand Limited, he successfully defended the orders of this Hon'ble Court and in the process helped lay down very important law concerning the jurisdiction of the Industrial Courts. It is a mark of the respect in which he was held that I recently saw a tribute to K. K. Singhvi on the internet from the Vice-Chairman of Mukund Limited.

To view K.K.Singhvi only from the perspective of his formidable forensic skills would be to give a one dimensional picture of a multifaceted personality. He had great courage which enabled him to speak his mind and speak fearlessly he did. As he gained in stature and seniority, he increasingly became a lawyer who could without fear of reprimand, be critical of a judge or a judgement in open Court. He never exploited this but was always responsible on the few occasions that he exercised this prerogative.

His Court craft was unconventional. Who can forget his staccato interjections? I remember his throwing me completely off balance in a matter in which I thought my argument was developing well by a well timed and seemingly innocuous. My argument never quite got back on track after that!!

One cannot speak of K.K. Singhvi without reference to his considerable philanthropy. This was not merely money for charity but was actually a physical and spiritual involvement with charitable causes and organizations. He had no compunction in picking up a broom or a shovel to physically labour in service of causes. Most important of these and dearest to his heart was Samparc, an organization for orphans in tribal areas. From its commencement in 1990 Samparc had expanded to over 19 centres all over India. Shri. and Smt. Singhvi made it a point to visit each of these centres regularly. He deservedly received the President of India's Award as President of Samparc in 1998. This was but an acknowledgement of his deep and abiding commitment to the cause and his personal belief that each individual must himself engage in charity to help the under privileged.

That is why I started by saying that he was a socialist not in theory but in practice. He never attempted to indoctrinate or convert anyone to his ideology. He practiced socialism and for him that itself was ideology enough.

He was a wonderful member of the Bar, a father figure in the Library and in his last years comfortably slipped into the role of one of the doyens of the Bar. He had a mischievous sense of humor and I remember the twinkle in his eye as he chuckled watching other people argue for causes that he thought were unjust. Friday afternoon were off for him since he retreated to his beloved Lonavala and that is where he was when the great Reaper came for him.

We are much the poorer for his loss but the spirit of K.K. Singhvi will always remain in this Hon'ble Court. Our condolences to his life's companion and soulmate Smt. Pushpa Singhvi and to his family.

May his soul rest in peace.

Address by Mr. Anil C. Singh, Member, Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa, at the Full Court Reference to late Shri K.K. Singhvi on 25th April, 2012

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and other Hon'ble Judges, Shri Khambata, Advocate General of Maharashtra, Shri Rohit Kapadia, President of Bombay Bar Association, Shri Rajiv Patil, President of Advocates Association of Western India, Shri Zaiwalla, President, the Bombay Incorporated Law Society, members of Shri Singhvi, members of the Bar, ladies and gentlemen.

2. We have assembled here this morning to mourn the sad demise of Shri K.K. Singhvi, a distinguished Senior Advocate of this Court who left for his heavenly abode on 14th April, 2012 at Lonavala at the age of 87. On behalf of the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, I share the sentiments that have been expressed and pay our tribute to late Shri K.K. Singhvi. We salute a man of brilliance, a man of great learning and of course a great human being. He was one of the brave lions who dominated the Bombay High Court for almost 5 decades.

3. Born on 25th February, 1927 at Jodhpur, he completed his graduation in 1946 and completed his Law from Govt. Law College, Mumbai, in 1948 securing First Class. Initially, he worked with Communist Party as an active worker. He contested Lok Sabha elections in 1952 but lost narrowly. Though he became a renowned lawyer, he always remained a leftist at heart.

4. He initially started practice in Bombay High Court in 1950 but shifted briefly to Jodhpur High Court but returned to Bombay in 1955 and of course continued to practice here till the end. He began his practice in criminal and industrial matters. He fought for political detainees and for mill workers. He represented several large trade unions. During his long career, he appeared for many political leaders such as Comrade Dange, Acharya Atre and Indulal Yagnik. He was designated as a senior counsel in 1971.

5. After establishment of State Bar Council under Advocates Act, 1961, he was member of the First Bar Council of Maharashtra in 1962 and participated in its activities. He took lot of interest in Bar Council activities and issues of the Bar. The Bar Council always looked to him for guidance. At times, he would himself call us and give valuable suggestions. He was always interested in safeguarding the rights and privilege of the Advocate and supported law reform and legal aid.

6. For many of us, his most important contribution was as Counsel for Mumbai Municipal Corporation. One cannot imagine any important Corporation matter not being handled by late Shri Singhvi. He probably appeared as senior counsel for almost all important matters for the Corporation in the last few decades. He appeared in matters pertaining to demolition, Municipal Taxation, FSI, TDR, Labour, etc. He has appeared in important cases such as matter of Kamla Mills relating to fixation of rateable value. He also appeared before the

Apex Court in the famous Olga Tellis matter. For all Municipal lawyers, he was like a father figure. He was always there to solve any problem. Even those of us who appeared as Counsel for BMC, we always looked to him for guidance. It can very well be said that he was truly a lawyers' lawyer.

7. We are proud of the talent he had and all the achievement to his credit. One other remarkable feature was his boldness. He was truly fearless and was never afraid to speak the truth. He did not believe in saying something just because it would please the other side or the Bench. The cause of justice was more important to him. He always took up cause of any member of the legal fraternity and especially juniors. He always stood up to fight against corruption, injustice, communalism and worked tirelessly to further the cause of justice, equality and liberty.

8. He visited several countries representing India at International Democratic Lawyers Association. He was President of Mumbai Lawyers Guild since 1974. He was President of organization called SAMPARC since its inception in 1990 and received President's award in 1998 for the said organization. He used to do lot of charitable work for downtrodden and adivasis in Lonavala as well other parts of the country. He spent substantial portion of his income for charitable work.

9. The journey of his legal profession over a period of nearly 61 years was remarkable and will be remembered for ages to come. He had a gift of excellent memory and made his arguments sound, simple and well communicated. He possessed a rare combination of unquestionable integrity, sterling character and high moral values. Whether it was constitutional law, whether it was civil law, whether it was taxation, he had quest for excellence and lived upto that ideal on every occasion. He had intellect and capacity to handle complex matters. His ability to interpret a statute or a judgment with simplicity and accuracy was commendable. He had shown that success in the profession can be obtained through deep commitment to ethical values without any compromise. As a human being, he was gentle in dealing with staff, juniors and others lower down in social ladder. He was a man of character, courage and conviction.

10. In this hour of grief, on behalf of all of us, I convey our heartfelt condolences to the members of Shri Singhvi's family. May the Almighty give them strength to bear the great loss.

11. May the departed soul rest in eternal peace.

Address by Mr. Rohit Kapadia, President of the Bombay Bar Association at the Full Court Reference to late Shri K.K. Singhvi on 25th April, 2012

My Lord the Hon'ble Chief Justice and my Lords the Honourable Judges of this Court, Mr. Khambata, Advocate General of Maharashtra, Mr. Anil Singh on behalf of the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, Mr. Rajiv Patil, President of Advocates' Association of Western India, Mr. D.R. Zaiwalla, President of Bombay Incorporated Law Society, members of the bereaved family, ladies and gentlemen;

Just a few days ago we had assembled here to mourn the sad passing away of another Lawyer of this Court. So soon are we assembled here again to mourn the sad passing away of a man who was truly a colossus shining across the legal firmament. Mr. Singhvi's abilities as a lawyer were well known. His knowledge of constitutional law was truly phenomenal. There were several occasions when members of the Bar had occasion to seek his opinion to get out of a difficult situation. Whilst a junior at the Bar, I had several occasions to seek the advice of Mr. Singhvi on questions pertaining to the Municipal law or to the constitutional law. Times out of number when the State of Maharashtra found itself in a tight situation in a Court of law, it was Mr. Singhvi who, appearing for the Bombay Municipal Corporation pulled the chestnuts out of the fire. One thing which has not been dealt with by the previous speaker(s) was Mr. Singhvi's unrelenting maintenance of the standards at the Bar.

Mr. Singhvi was fearless. He was never cowed down. Whether the opponent was curt or whether the Judge was curt, whether the opponent was an intellectual giant or whether the Judge was awe, Mr. Singhvi's indomitable spirit never permitted him to be cowed down by any one. His approach never wavered by reason of the personalities involved. He was forthright in his criticism, whether be it of the opponent or of the Judge, but his unfailing courtesy to the Bench made it very difficult for any member of the bench to take umbrage.

He was committed to the cause of the poor and various charitable causes, including charities to orphanages and to tribal children. So far as contributions to charities were concerned, he not only persuaded people to contribute to charities, but himself in no small measure contributed to charities in which he had a firm belief.

A few days ago, there was a meeting in K.C. Law College in Mumbai. I was happy to read the notice for the said meeting that the occasion for the meeting was "*to celebrate life of Mr. K.K. Singhvi*". This I think was the right approach. Here was a man who was a true Master of Law. Here was a man who was always true to his cause. Here was a man who was always to his conscience. Here was a man whose eminence brooked no equal. Here was a man who lived his life to the fullest. We shall all miss him.

On behalf of the Bombay Bar Association and on my own, I convey my condolences to the bereaved family members. May his soul rest in peace.

Address by Mr. Rajiv Patil, President, Advocates' Association of Western India, at the Full Court Reference to late Shri K.K. Singhvi on 25th April, 2012

Honourable the Chief Justice Mr. Mohit Shah and Honourable Judges of the Bombay High Court, Honourable Advocate General Mr. Daraius Khambata, Honourable Mr. Anil Singh, former Chairman, Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, Honourable Mr. Rohit Kapadia, President, Bombay Bar Association, Mr. Zaiwalla, president, Incorporated Law Society, members of Singhvi family, members of Singhvi Chambers, Members of the Bar, ladies and gentlemen.

Kalyanmal K. Singhvi, a doyen of the Bar, guide of the legal fraternity, a great social activist and a gentleman to the core passed away on 14th April, 2012 at his weekend home at Lonavala after enjoying a full life of 85 years. It is a great loss not only to the legal fraternity but a loss to leftist movement in India and the Singhvi family. This forthright legal legend cannot be replaced by any other person. He had tremendous command of the law and his sixty years of contribution to legal field has made a great impact on the history of Bombay High Court. Whenever he entered the courtroom, his aura overwhelmed everybody present. A man with ultimate courage, he never minced his words while arguing matters in Court. I was always amazed to see such power at the hands of a lawyer. It was heartening to witness that a lawyer, simply on the strength of his legal knowledge could advise the bench on interpretation of law.

He represented many causes, he argued hundreds of matters relating to Constitutional interpretations, he represented almost every public body in the State, he manfully resisted in court the political detentions of many leaders like Comrade Dange, P.K. Atre, Indulal Yagnik and many more. For decades he was the special counsel for Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation. He appeared on behalf of big Industrial Houses as well as on behalf of poor industrial workers. His experience in the field of law is incomparable. In public life he was a social activist with communist ideology. Since 1948 he was working for the Communist Party of India. Though he was from Jodhpur, Rajasthan, his work field was always Mumbai and Maharashtra. He worked with tribal people and worked for orphans. He received the President's Award for his yeomen service to the society through his non government organization 'Sampark'. He carried his ideology at every place he walked in. As hardcore communist he never allowed himself to compromise with his principles. His social work always proved that a lawyer needs to complete his social obligation.

In my professional career I came close to him since the year 1986-87, An incident made me follow his advice in court of law as a professional. In my early days of profession, as usual like many, I was an overenthusiastic lawyer in presenting the case before the Court. In one of the cases, I was espousing a cause of tribal bonded labour working on Charcoal Kilns in Kokan area. One Mr. Pradeep Patkar had sent a representation to High Court narrating the plight of those workers. The representation was treated as a Writ Petition and Mr. Singhvi

was concerned with the issue. The case was being heard before the Division Bench presided over by Justice Chandrashekhar Dharmadhikari in Court No. 49. I made an application for intervention on behalf of the organization Kolsabhathi Kamgar Sanghatana because I thought that there are no proper reliefs prayed for. I kept on interrupting Mr. Singhvi who was placing the real core issue before the Court. Because of my interruption Mr. Singhvi got perturbed and said what kind of advocacy was this. The Bench remarked that probably it was a new class of lawyers called activist lawyers. Mr. Singhvi looked at me, smiled and continued with his submissions. I had no courage to interrupt up again. After the hearing was over when I was trying to sneak out from the Court, Mr. Singhvi called me and in his stern language advised me that ' never spoil your cause and never get identified with it if I wanted to go to root of the problem. Try to be independent in approach and examine the real issue in terms of law. I can never forget this learning. This incident took me closer to him and it helped me when I was working for the Bar Council.

Mr. Singhvi's departure has created a vacuum in field of law. He will be a source of inspiration to all the lawyers and the new generation. I convey my deep condolences to his family on behalf of my Association. Considering his Communist background, if I have to pay my true respect and homage to departed soul, I must say Mr. K.K. Singhvi Lal Salaam.

Address by Mr. Dinsoo Zaiwalla, President, Bombay Incorporated Law Society, at the Full Court Reference to late Shri K.K. Singhvi on 25th April, 2012

The Hon'ble the Chief Justice Mr. Mohit Shah, the Hon'ble Judges of the Bombay High Court, Mr. Khambata, the learned Advocate General, Mr. Rajiv Patil, President of the Western India Advocates Association, Mr. Anil Singh, Member, Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa, Mr. Rohit Kapadia, President of the Bombay Bar Association, members of the family of Senior Counsel Mr. Singhvi and my colleagues at the Bar.

On behalf of the Incorporated Law Society and the fraternity of Solicitors it has fallen on me to convey our members grief on the passing away of Advocate and Senior Counsel Mr. K.K. Singhvi, one of the doyens of this Court who left us for his forward journey on 14th April, 2012.

With respect I concur with the sentiments so eloquently articulated by the learned Chief Justice and by the learned speakers before me.

The story of Advocate Mr. K.K. Singhvi makes fascinating story of courage, integrity and perseverance. He was known at the Bar as a gentleman Advocate.

I had the opportunity of watching him in several matters as an

opponent in which he was always a force to be reckoned with. He was known for his persuasive approach and tenacity which was backed by his meticulous preparation of his brief.

Not many people may be aware that in yester years Advocate K.K. Singhvi and another Senior Counsel in this Court were reputed to be pioneers in expounding the law of writ jurisdiction under Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India. In his passing away an uneasy vacuum will be felt at the Bar and the Bench and particularly by the Municipal Corporation as he was a pillar of strength in all their complicated matters.

Advocate K.K. Singhvi was endowed with natural humility all through his life. He craved neither respect nor honour and yet he was willing to honour and respect others.

In the passing away of Advocate K.K. Singhvi the legal fraternity has suffered an irreparable loss and a greater loss to his loved ones whom he leaves behind but they can take solace in the guidance and inspiration that they inherit from him. Even though Advocate K.K. Singhvi has left the shackles of his mortal body he shall indeed remain a source of courage and inspiration to all who knew him.

May the spirit of Advocate K.K. Singhvi remain with us in guidance and his soul in eternal rest.