



GNLU Centre for Women and Child Rights

## MARCH FOR WOMEN



#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION 2025

GNLU Centre for Women and Child Rights

## ABOUT CENTRE FOR WOMEN AND CHILD RIGHTS

The GNLU Centre for Women and Child Rights (GCWCR) is committed to fostering social justice, human rights, and the empowerment of marginalized women and children across India. The GNLU Centre for Women and Child Rights is Centre for Excellence established under the aegis of Gujarat National Law University. The Centre has partnered with Ministry of Women and Child Development, Govt of India; National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, New Delhi; Gender Resource Centre, Govt of Gujarat among others to provide extensive research and policy inputs. The Centre also produces student-led research in the areas of Section of 12(1)(c) of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, School Mergers and Surrogacy Laws. As a part of the student-led advocacy for awareness regarding cervical cancer, the Centre submitted a representation to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, on September 1, 2023 urging the Ministry to include HPV vaccines in the Universal Immunization Programme. The Ministry acknowledged and Considered these concerns, in a letter dated October 20, 2023.

## **About the Event**

In celebration of International Women's Day, GCWCR is dedicating the entire month of March to address key women's issues, raising awareness, and encouraging engagement within and beyond GNLU. "**March for Women**" will feature academic discussions, interactive sessions, activities, and outreach with the central focus of three major themes:

#### Women on the Internet: Safety Concerns and Data Privacy

**Bodily Autonomy: Reproductive Justice** 

**Women in Areas of Conflict** 

## EVENUS SCHEDULE

## **FEMINIST READING CIRCLE** 7th March, Friday

We will start the month with an enlightening session of the Feminist Reading Circle. This event brings together **faculty, research staff, and students** for a thought-provoking exploration of feminist literature, where we critically engage with the intersections of gender, class, and caste, while addressing global and local issues of power and inequality.

Our upcoming session, Read, Reflect, Resist, will delve into Michaele L. Ferguson's essay, "Choice Feminism and the Fear of Politics", challenging the concept of choice feminism and its implications for the broader feminist movement.

Through this collaborative discussion, we will examine themes of bodily autonomy, women in conflict, and digital safety, reflecting on how these issues shape feminist discourse today. We look forward to a dynamic and empowering conversation as we reflect on the complexities of feminist thought and action.

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION 8th March, Saturday

## Morning **Poster Making Competiton**

The first half of the day we will begin with Poster-Making Competition, where creativity will meet activism. Students are invited to express their vision of gender equality and women's empowerment through art. The posters will serve as powerful visual representations of our collective commitment to social change.

Specific themes for the competition will be announced in due time. The winners will be **awarded cash prizes** and all the submitted artwork would be displayed during the open mic performances at Puneet Van.

## Afternoon **Recreational Activities**

Then we move on to our next event where we will be conducting a series of fun and collaborative team-building activities designed for housekeeping staff. These engaging activities aim to strengthen our bonds and encourage collective action in support of women's rights and

equality.

## **Evening**

## **Open Mic and Student Stalls**

As the day unfolds, we shift our focus to artistic expression. Join us for an Open Mic session, a space for individuals to express their thoughts, stories, and ideas on gender justice through poetry, music, or spoken word. The evening will conclude with a reflective discussion and an open space for creative expression, where we can share our reflections and spark new ideas for a more just and equal world. Simultaneously, we will have Student Stalls set up throughout the afternoon and evening at **Puneet Van**, open to all GNLU students! Whether you're showcasing food, arts and crafts, or anything else that reflects your passion and creativity, these stalls will provide a unique space for students to share their talents and ideas. The stalls will run parallel to the Open Mic session, creating an exciting, bustling atmosphere for all to enjoy.

## ONLINE CERTIFICATE COURSE ON REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE IN INDIA 10th to 27th March

#### REGISTER BY 9TH MARCH

Another intiative taken on by the Centre is a 14-day certificate course on **Reproductive Justice in India**. This course aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of reproductive rights by examining legal, social, and healthcare perspectives. It will engage participants in discussions on bodily autonomy, access to reproductive healthcare, gender justice, and the rights of marginalised communities.

#### Explore, Learn, and Engage

#### **Expert-Led Sessions:**

Learn from highly recognised academicians, activists, healthcare professionals, and legal experts who have worked at both national and global levels.

#### **Diverse & Critical Themes:**

Discussions on topics such as safe abortion laws, surrogacy policies, reproductive healthcare systems, disability rights, and inclusivity of queer and gender-diverse identities.

#### **Interactive Learning:**

Engaging lectures, case studies, and Q&A sessions to encourage critical thought and meaningful discussions.

#### **Open to All:**

Open to laypersons as well as scholars. From laypersons, students, lawyers, and healthcare professionals to grassroots activists, researchers, and policymakers, we invite everyone to participate in this course.

#### **No Registration Fee**

To ensure accessibility, we have not kept any registration fee for attending the course. Find more details in the course brochure by scanning the QR code at the end of this document!

**<u>Click for Registration Details!</u>** 

## **DISCOURSE SESSION** 12th March, Wednesday

Exploring key gender-related themes through interactive formats the discourse session will be open to **students and faculties as well as teaching and research associates.** A student moderator will be leading the discourse through a combination of interactive discussions, case study analyses, and legal perspectives on **gender and climate change.** 

## **ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION** Submission by 15th March

In a world of growing inequality and injustice, protecting the rights of women and children is more important than ever. The legal profession plays a key role in advancing justice, shaping policies, and ensuring accountability. To encourage research, critical thinking, and advocacy on these vital issues, GCWCR has launched an essay competition addressing pressing challenges in women 's and children 's rights. Winning essays will be *featured* on **GCWCR' s newly launched blog**, providing a platform for meaningful discourse and impactful ideas.

#### Themes for the Essay Writing Competition:

1. Impact of War and Displacement on Women and Children

2. Online Safety and Cyberbullying Regulations to Protect Women and Children

- 3. Menstrual Policy for Women in the Workplace
- 4. Exploitation of Women in Cinema
- 5. Women in the Informal Economy
- 6. Addressing the Disproportionate Impact of Climate Change on Children
- 7. The Right to Privacy of Children in the Digital Age
- 8. Is the Right to Sex Education a Basic Right of Adolescents?
- 9. Case Note Analysis: Marital Rape
- 10. Strengthening Policies to Combat Sexual Violence in Educational Institutes

#### Awards:

- First Prize: INR 5000
- Second Prize: INR 3000
- Third Prize: INR 2000

The first three winning essays will also be published on the GNLU blog for Women and Child Rights. <u>Click for Submission Guidelines</u>!

## **QUIZ COMPETITION** 19th March, Wednesday

The competition, hosted in collaboration with the GNLU Quiz Club (GQC), will delve into themes of women's rights, gender justice, and the diverse experiences of women in society. With **exciting prize money** on offer, this event aims to raise awareness and spark meaningful discussions on these crucial issues, encouraging thoughtful dialogue among participants. X

G

## INTER-COLLEGE DEBATE COMPETITION 20th March, Thursday

CWCR will also be hosting an exciting inter-college debate competition. This competition will feature **three rounds of Asian Parliamentary debating**, focusing on contemporary women's rights issues such as abortion, marital rape, alimony, dowry, and more. Our goal is to raise awareness about these vital issues while encouraging meaningful dialogue among university students. The tournament is open to all students from nearby colleges, as well as GNLU students, with no registration fee required.

#### **Prize money**

- Winning Team: INR 5,000
- Runner-Up: INR 4,000
- Second Runner-Up: INR 3,000
- Best Speaker: INR 3,000

This event promises to be an excellent platform for students to engage in critical discussions and contribute to the culture of debate on pressing social issues.

Stay tuned for more updates!

# C R G

## **MOVIE SCREENING** 21st March, Friday

To celebrate the event and honor Women's History Month, we will be *screening films directed by women*. One of the highlights will be **Nil Battey Sannata**, also released internationally as The New Classmate. This 2015 Indian Hindi-language comedy-drama, directed by **Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari**, tells a heartwarming story of a mother's determination to change her daughter's future. The screening aims to highlight the impact of women in the film industry and foster discussions on empowerment and gender equality.

## MAHILA MONTHLY: SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN Throughtout March

The centre is also running a digital campaign to raise awareness about the issues discussed during the month, featuring info graphics, short videos, and interviews. The campaign will also include testimonials and success stories of women overcoming adversity. Follow our socials to know more!

<u>Instagram</u> <u>X (formerly Twitter)</u> <u>LinkedIn</u>

## **OUR PATRONS**



**Prof. (Dr.) S. Shanthakumar** Director, Gujarat National Law University



**Dr. Asha Verma** Assistant Professor of Law Head, GCWCR, GNLU



#### Ms. Kunjal Arora

Teaching & Research Associate, Gujarat National Law University

## **STUDENT CO-ORDINATORS**

#### Nidhi Suman

Student Convenor, GCWCR +91 6372697671

#### Sakshi Jain

Student Convenor, GCWCR +9195302 52908

#### For any queries, kindly contact

cwcr@gnlu.ac.ingnlu\_cwcr

