



CENTRE FOR CRIMINOLOGY AND FORENSIC SCIENCE

HPNLU

&

EXCLUSIVE MEDIA PARTNER



PRESENT

ONE-DAY

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ON

ROLE OF FORENSIC
SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATION:
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES
AND CHALLENGES



6TH JUNE, 2025

(HYBRID MODE)

Greetings!

We extend a warm invitation for the International Conference on “Role of Forensic Science in Criminal Investigation: Contemporary Issues and Challenges”, hosted by Centre for Criminology and Forensic Science, Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla.

In an era where criminal techniques are evolving and becoming more sophisticated, the reliance on forensic evidence has grown exponentially so much so that it has been specifically incorporated under Section 176 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Suraksha Samhita, 2023. From DNA analysis and fingerprinting to digital forensics and toxicology, the application of scientific principles in solving crimes has revolutionized the way justice is administered. However, alongside these advancements, several pressing issues and challenges have emerged.

Through rigorous research and insightful discussions, we seek to explore the evolving trajectories of these new developments in the domain of Criminology and Forensic Sciences. Our goal is to contribute to the ongoing discourse, aiming to safeguard and promote human rights amidst the complexities of our diverse societies. Recognizing the need for diverse perspectives, the conference is thoughtfully designed as a hybrid event, ensuring accessibility and convenience for participants from all corners.

Whether you are a student, a professional, an academician, or a dedicated researcher in law or related domains, your insights are invaluable to enriching our discourse. Join us on this intellectual journey as we explore diverse horizons, engage in thought-provoking discussions, and endeavor to shape the legal frameworks of both the present and the future.

We look forward to welcoming esteemed academicians, legal researchers, students pursuing law degrees, and all those passionate about the sanctity of human rights.

**Warm Regards,
Centre for Criminology and Forensic Science
Himachal Pradesh National Law University**

CALL FOR PAPERS

Research Papers, Articles, and Case Studies from both legal and non-legal fraternities across the globe are invited for presentation at the International Conference on **“Role of Forensic Science in Criminal Investigation: Contemporary Issues and Challenges”** to be organized by the Centre for Criminology and Forensic Studies (CCFS), Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla (India) on 6th June, 2025.

ABOUT HPNLU

The Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU, Shimla) was established by the State Government in the year 2016, by an Act of the Legislature (Act 16 of 2016). The University started functioning on 5.10.2016. Located in the geographical terrains of the Himalayas, HPNLU, Shimla, is offering conducive atmosphere for academics, research and extra-curricular engagements.

The University runs two undergraduate courses: B.A. LL.B. Hons., Five Year Integrated Course (FYIC), and B.B.A. LL.B. Hons. (FYIC); and One Year LL.M. Programme. The University also offers Ph.D. Programme and Post-Doctoral Programme (LL.D.) in Law. Presently, the University has about 779 students admitted to various courses. Under the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Professor (Dr.) Priti Saxena, the team is not only working laboriously and diligently but feels motivated in making palpable endeavors in academics and research arena.

The University has proactively organized events ranging from moots to ADRs, from curricular to co-curricular, from academic deliberations to sport meets, etc. These Cultural Evenings, Mooting Competitions, Seminars, Webinars, National and International Conferences have adorned the documentary and historical assemblage of HPNLU from time to time. Despite being in its nascent stage, HPNLU has solidified its footing in academics by serving the society and the nation as a whole.



ABOUT THE CENTRE

The Centre of Criminology and Forensic Science at Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU) has been at the forefront of pioneering research, education, and discourse in the field of criminology.

Established with a vision to bridge the gap between legal education and the dynamic complexities of crime and criminal behavior, the Centre is committed to fostering a deeper understanding of criminal justice systems, criminal psychology, and the various socio-legal dimensions that influence crime and its control. Through a combination of rigorous academic research, collaborative projects, and interdisciplinary studies, the Center aims to contribute significantly to policy-making and the advancement of criminological knowledge. It seeks to provide a platform for academicians, legal professionals, law enforcement officers, and students to engage in meaningful discussions and explore innovative solutions to contemporary challenges in the criminal justice system.

The Centre plays a significant role in the development of legal education since the establishment of the same has been mandated by the Universities Grants Commission itself.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The topic of the conference, “Role of Forensic Science in Criminal Investigation: Contemporary Issues and Challenges,” holds immense relevance and significance in the current legal and criminological landscape. Forensic science, with its profound ability to unveil truths hidden beneath the surface of criminal activities, has become an indispensable tool in modern criminal investigations.

In an era where criminal techniques are evolving and becoming more sophisticated, the reliance on forensic evidence has grown exponentially so much so that it has been specifically incorporated under Section 176 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Suraksha Samhita, 2023. From DNA analysis and fingerprinting to digital forensics and toxicology, the application of scientific principles in solving crimes has revolutionized the way justice is administered. However, alongside these advancements, several pressing issues and challenges have emerged.

The accuracy and reliability of forensic evidence, the ethical dilemmas surrounding forensic practices, and the need for continuous professional development in this field are just a few of the concerns that demand critical examination.

Moreover, in the Indian context, the integration of forensic science into the criminal justice system is fraught with challenges, including limited resources, inadequate infrastructure, and a shortage of trained professionals. This conference aims to address these issues comprehensively, bringing together experts from various domains to deliberate on the contemporary challenges facing forensic science and its pivotal role in ensuring justice. The discussions and outcomes of this conference are expected to contribute to the ongoing discourse on strengthening the criminal justice system and enhancing the efficacy of forensic science in criminal investigations

WHO MAY ATTEND

Academicians and Faculty Members from Law, Criminology, Forensic Science, and allied disciplines
Research Scholars and Students from legal and non-legal backgrounds

Legal Practitioners, Judges, and Law Enforcement Officials

Forensic Experts and Scientists

Members of Investigative Agencies and Crime Laboratories

Policy Makers and Government Officials working in the field of criminal justice and forensic studies

Representatives from NGOs and International Organizations engaged in criminology, victimology, and forensic research

Interested Individuals from Social Sciences, Psychology, and related fields with a focus on crime and justice

OBJECTIVES OF THIS CONFERENCE

- **To promote trust in forensic evidence by enhancing transparency, accuracy, and ethical standards in forensic practices, thereby reinforcing public confidence in the criminal justice system.**
- **To explore the latest advancements in forensic science and their application in criminal investigations, ensuring that the Indian legal system remains at the forefront of scientific innovation.**
- **To address the challenges of admissibility and the evidentiary value of forensic techniques in courts, fostering a deeper understanding among legal professionals of the nuances in evidence law.**
- **To critically analyze the recent cases where forensic evidence played a controversial role, examining its implications for the integrity and reliability of forensic practices in criminal investigations.**
- **To examine the ethical and legal dilemmas associated with emerging forensic technologies, ensuring that their use in criminal investigations aligns with principles of justice and human rights.**
- **To deliberate upon the recent newly enacted criminal laws, focusing on their legal, social, and practical repercussions. The session will examine how these changes impact criminal justice processes, law enforcement practices, and the rights of both victims and accused.**

THEME AND SUB-THEMES

The theme of the proposed conference is “Role of Forensic Science in Criminal Investigation: Contemporary Issues and Challenges”. There shall be the following sub themes:

- **Transition to new criminal laws and its impact on cases**
- **Digital evidence, and it’s reliability in contemporary times.**
- **Role of forensic science in securing rights of victims.**
- **Judicial scrutiny and forensic science**
- **Infrastructural concerns and use of forensics**
- **Juxtaposing Forensics and Right to Privacy.**
- **Role of forensic science in sexual offences**
- **Use of AI in criminological and forensic examination**
- **Digital Forensics and Cybercrime Investigation**
- **Tampering of evidence in forensics and it’s impacts on justice**
- **Ethical Dilemma Of Human rights in Forensic Science**
- **Cyber forensics**
- **Crime scene investigation**
- **Role of Forensic Science in Medico-Legal Cases**
- **Forensic Science & Disaster Management**
- **Forensic Science & Questioned Documents**
- **Challenges and emerging concerns in Narcoanalysis, Polygraph & brain mapping**
- **Expanding horizons of forensic Toxicology**
- **Forensic ballistics and crime investigation**
- **Role of DNA fingerprinting in forensic science**
- **Criminal profiling - forensic investigation**
- **Use of fingerprinting techniques in investigation**
- **Rule of self-incrimination vis-a-vis forensic investigation**
- **Forensic Psychology and Behavioural Analysis**
- **Issues pertaining to Admissibility of Forensic Evidence in Indian Courts**

(The above mentioned themes are not exhaustive in nature and any topic which is relevant to the above mentioned themes shall be considered)

LINKS & TIMELINE

All interested participants are requested to **submit their abstracts by 17th May 2025**, which marks the deadline for abstract submission. This can be submitted via this form:

[Link for abstract Submission](#)

Each abstract will undergo a thorough review by the Conference Review Committee, and **authors will receive the notification of acceptance by 21st May 2025**.

Upon acceptance, participants must **complete the payment of registration fees by 26th May 2025** to confirm their participation in the conference.

Following this, authors are **required to submit their complete research papers by 3rd June 2025**. The link for manuscript submission shall be sent with the confirmation mail.

Only papers submitted within this timeline and fulfilling all guidelines will be considered for presentation and possible publication in the inaugural edition of the HPNLU Journal of Criminology and Forensic Science. This structured schedule ensures a smooth review and selection process, enabling quality contributions to be showcased at the conference and beyond.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All participants are required to **submit an abstract** prior to the submission of the full paper i.e., **17.05.2025**

The abstract must be written in **Times New Roman, font size 12, with 1.5 line spacing and justified alignment.**

The word limit for the abstract is **300 words (excluding keywords).**

The abstract must clearly state the research problem, objectives, methodology, and expected findings or conclusions.

Authors are required to mention **5 relevant keywords** that reflect the core themes of the paper.

The abstract **must include** the following details on the first page:

- Title of the Paper
- Author(s)' Full Name(s)
- Designation and Institutional Affiliation
- Email Address and Contact Number

(Co-authorship is allowed for up to a maximum of one author, i.e.,
Principal Author + Co-Author)

All abstracts must be **submitted in Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx)** format. PDF files will not be accepted.

All abstracts will undergo a process of blind peer review by the Conference Review Committee. **Only abstracts accepted by the Committee will qualify for presentation at the conference and submission of the full paper.** The decision of the Review Committee regarding the acceptance or rejection of the abstract shall be **final and communicated via Email.**

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Once the abstract is accepted and the information is communicated with a submission link, the Manuscript should be submitted by 03.06.2025. The manuscript should be typed in **Times New Roman, font size 12, with 1.5 line spacing**, and text should be justified throughout the document.

The **word limit** (excluding footnotes) for a **Research paper** is **minimum 3,000 words**, for **Case Study** is **2500 words**, for an **Article** is **2000 words**. Manuscripts failing this word limit may not be considered for review.

All submissions must follow the **Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU) Citation Style**. ([Link](#))

Footnotes should be in **Times New Roman, font size 10, and single-spaced**. **Endnotes are not permitted**.

The submission must be the **original work of the author(s)** and must not have been published or submitted elsewhere for publication.

Plagiarism must not exceed 10%. Submissions found to have plagiarism beyond the permissible limit will be summarily rejected.

The use of **Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools should be minimal**. Any paper found to be substantially generated by AI tools will not be accepted.

Co-authorship is permitted up to a maximum of one author (i.e., Principal Author + Co-Author) . All manuscripts must be submitted in **Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx)** format. PDF submissions will not be accepted. The **first page of the submission should contain** the title of the paper, author(s)' name(s), designation, institutional affiliation, email address, and contact number.

MANUSCRIPT PRESENTATION

All papers selected after the review process will be **presented during the conference, scheduled to be held on 6th June 2025**, through both **offline and online modes** to ensure maximum participation and inclusivity.

Participants opting for the **offline mode** will present their papers in person at the Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla campus. **Each presenter will be allotted a specific time slot**, and the sessions will be chaired by experts from the fields of criminology, forensic science, and law. Presenters are **expected to prepare a PowerPoint presentation and deliver their key findings and arguments within the allocated time, followed by a brief question-and-answer session** with the session chair and audience.

For participants presenting in the **online mode**, the sessions will be **conducted through a secured virtual platform, and joining links will be shared with the selected authors well in advance**. Online presenters will **follow the same format as the offline participants**, with a designated time slot, a structured presentation using screen-sharing tools, and an interactive Q&A segment managed by the session moderator. **Technical support will be provided** to ensure smooth connectivity and presentation flow.

Both modes of presentation will be considered equally valid for the purposes of participation certification and eligibility for publication in the HPNLU Journal of Criminology and Forensic Science. All presenters, whether offline or online, are expected to adhere strictly to the conference schedule, presentation guidelines, and time limits.

PUBLICATION PLANS

All research papers, case studies, and presentations submitted and presented at the conference will be **meticulously peer-reviewed by an expert panel and selected for publication** in the inaugural edition of the Centre's newly established journal, the **"HPNLU Journal of Criminology and Forensic Science"**.

By offering an avenue for quality publications, the journal aims to encourage interdisciplinary contributions from both legal and scientific communities, including academicians, practitioners, forensic experts, policymakers, and researchers. **Selected papers will undergo a rigorous double-blind peer review process to ensure academic integrity and originality.**

The journal **aspires to become a benchmark in the field, contributing to the development of new perspectives, promoting evidence-based practices, and addressing emerging challenges** at the intersection of law, criminology, and forensic science.

REGISTRATION FEE DETAILS

For Indian Students

Online: ₹1000

Online (with Co-author): ₹1500

Offline: ₹1500

Offline (with Co-author): ₹2500

For Indian Academicians/ Professionals

Online: ₹1500

Online (with Co-author): ₹2000

Offline: ₹2000

Offline (with Co-author): ₹4000

For International Students

Online: \$30

Online (with Co-author): \$35

For International Professionals

Online: \$50

Offline: \$250

NOTE: *Accommodation is not covered in the registration fee*

MODE OF THE EVENT:

Hybrid mode

(Both online and offline participation shall be allowed)

Venue: Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, 16 Mile, Shimla-Mandi National Highway, Ghandal, District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh-171014

IMPORTANT DATES:

Last Date of Abstract Submission: 17.05.2025

Acceptance of Abstract: 21.05.2025

Last Date Fees Deposit: 26.05.2025

Paper submission: 03.06.2025

Date of event: 06.06.2025

IMPORTANT LINK :

[Link for abstract Submission](#)

HON'BLE PATRONS

PATRON IN CHIEF:

Mr. Gurmeet Singh Sandhawalia

Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh & Chancellor of Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla

PATRON:

Prof. (Dr.) Priti Saxena

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla

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Dr. Shaifali Dixit
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Assistant Professor of Law, HPNLU, Shimla

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CONTACT US

In case of any query, feel free to reach out!



You may call on regular office hours at the following numbers:

+91 9816435542

+91 7876591653



ccfs@hpnl.ac.in
(with “Conference Query- Your Name” as subject)



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