



VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM KI OAR 5



DHRUV TATVAM (ध्रुव तत्त्व)

Ancient Timeless Principles

Civilisational Jurisprudence

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Recently, from the podium of the Oxford Union, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Surya Kant, called for a distinctly Indian or "**Swadeshi Jurisprudence**" — one **rooted in the country's own constitutional values** and social conditions rather than imported models. His words name what the Global South now feels across every domain of governance: the time to change has come.

This is not an aspiration without precedent. In Indonesia, marking the enactment of new criminal codes that retire more than a century of Dutch-era law, the Coordinating Minister for Legal, Human Rights, Immigration, and Corrections, Yusril Ihza Mahendra, hailed a justice system "rooted in Pancasila and Indonesian cultural values." Across the Global South, countries are calling for their legal systems to be reconnected with their own civilisational roots. Bolivia, Colombia, Malaysia, and Kenya — among others — are each pursuing this recovery in their own way. Taken together, these parallel movements reveal a shared civilisational impulse that, thus far, has had no common forum.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Ki Oar 4.0, convened in association with the **Ministry of External Affairs**, the **Bombay Bar Association**, and the **Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa**, was built upon this sankraman kaal — and showed the world that this is a period of transition, that the time to change has come.

With that success, we now carry the momentum forward. The fifth edition, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Ki Oar, takes the next step — raising the voice for change to the international level. Under the theme Dhruv Tatvam, it invites the Global South to revive its civilisational roots and reason about justice from the timeless principles of jurisprudence.

The bar associations of the Global South, together with the Union Ministry of Law and Justice, are uniquely placed to lead — holding both professional craft and civilisational inheritance. Take a question as fundamental as **human rights**: a concept widely characterised as Western in origin requires the foundation of timeless principles to make it genuinely supportive of a just and fair world order.

We foresee the **Union Ministry of Law and Justice and the Bar**

Associations from the Global South as partners of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Ki Oar 5.0 — a revival of timeless principles in law, and a forum where the legal conscience of civilisation finds its voice.

VK 5.0 is that platform — for the Global South to revive, together, a jurisprudence built on timeless principles to serve the civilisation each nation belongs to.

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