

### **Preface**

It is of great pleasure to bring this e-book on CLAT Preparation. The main objective of this book is to keep the students acquainted with the syllabus, pattern, and preparation strategy of the CLAT Exam. Due care is taken to eliminate the printing errors and authenticity in the material provided.

The main focus of this book is on how to prepare for the CLAT Exam. I am sure this preparation strategy will help the LLM aspirants to come up with flying colours.

Further, I will greatly appreciate constructive comments and valuable suggestions for the further improvement of this book.

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### **Table of Contents**

1.	Exam Overview and Pattern	4
2.	Syllabus	5
3.	Preparation Strategy of Different Subjects	6
4.	Case Law and Judgements	7
5.	Past Paper and Mock Tests	9
6.	Conclusion	10

### 1. Exam Overview and Pattern

CLAT is an acronym for Common Law Admission Test. It is a national-level law entrance exam conducted by the Consortium of National Law Universities (NLUs) for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate law programs offered by 24 NLUs and over 61 affiliated colleges in India1. The CLAT exam is held in offline mode, with a duration of two hours. To appear for the CLAT exam, candidates must have passed 10+2 or equivalent examination with a minimum of 45% marks for the UG program and must have an LL. B degree or equivalent with a minimum of 50% marks for the PG program.

Full Exam Name	Common Law Admission Test
Short Exam Name	CLAT
Conducting Body	Consortium of NLUs
Frequency of Conduct	Once a year
Exam Level	National Level Exam
Languages	English
Mode of Application	Online
Mode of Exam	Offline
Mode of Counselling	Online
Participating Colleges	61
Exam Duration	2 Hours
Number of Seats	3361 Seats

#### The exam pattern is as follows:

This exam is of 120 marks (120 questions of one mark each)

For every wrong answer, there will be a deduction of 0.25 marks.

This exam will consist of 12 parts with 10 questions each.

- Para 1- Constitution law
- Para 2- Constitution law
- Para 3- Constitution law/ arbitration law/labor law/environment law
- para 4 Criminal law
- para 5- Criminal law
- para 6- Family law/ contract law
- para 7- Jurisprudence
- para 8- International law
- para 9- Corporate law/family law/ contract law
- para 10- Corporate law
- para 11- Miscellaneous
- para 12 Miscellaneous

If the LLM aspirant secures between 75-80 marks - then the aspirant will get the top 5 NLU

# 2. Syllabus

Each aspirant of CLAT needs to prepare for the below mentioned mandatory subjects which comes in the undergraduate program:

- Constitutional Law
- Jurisprudence
- Administrative Law
- Law Of Contract
- Torts
- Family Law
- Criminal Law
- Property Law
- Company Law
- Public International Law
- Tax Law
- Environmental Law
- Labour Law
- Industrial Law



#### **Objective section** –

This section of the paper will include extracts from primary legal sources such as important court decisions in different areas of law, statutes, and regulations. Each paragraph will be followed by a list of questions that will require the candidate to exhibit their comprehension skills and the ability to apply their knowledge in the areas of law.

# 3. Preparation Strategy of Different Subjects

The preparation strategy for the CLAT PG exam includes some important points:

#### **Clear the basics:**

- 1. Understanding syllabus Before starting the preparation, one must understand the syllabus of the exam properly. This means knowing what subjects and topics will come in the CLAT PG exam.
- 2. Inspect subjects and topics- one must have a look at the questions that have appeared in the CLAT PG exam previously. This can give you a good idea of what kind of questions can come in the examination. These questions include different subjects and topics related to law.
- 3. Usage of recommended books- For the coverage of the foundational studies, one must refer to the books that are recommended for CLAT preparation. These books can help you understand complex legal concepts.
- 4. Creation of useful notes- When you study, make notes that summarise all the points. These notes can become useful at the time of the revision.
- 5. Prioritizing the topics of high weightage- One should focus on the topics that have appeared more frequently in the past exams. this way, one can maximize their efforts where it counts the most.

#### Follow a Strict Schedule for Consistency

- 1. Ask yourself: Why do I want to create a study schedule?
- 2. Once decided, Create a study schedule that you can adhere to
- 3. Maintain progress tracker: This Approach allows you to track your progress and stay motivated.
- 4. Start with an Achievable study and strike them off once accomplished.



- 5. Take ideal breaks.
- 6. Cut down distractions.

# 4. Case Law and Judgements

Many aspirants who are appearing for CLAT PG exam face problems due to Case-law. How many cases to read? What to read in them? How many names to remember? Should I remember the Quorum of Judges, the ratio, or the name of the case? Let me answer it all:

Let us have a glimpse at the different types of questions that can come:

Category 1: The direct ones. Only remembering the case is required in this case

#### **Illustration:**

Q. Which case declared the practice of triple talaq as unconstitutional? A. Sharaya Bano v UOI

Q. Which case declared the NJAC Act and the 99th Constitutional Amendment as unconstitutional?

A. SC Advocates on Record v UOI 2015

Category 2: The important cases discussed/relied upon in a case or whose correctness is tested.

For e.g., in Joseph Shine v UOI 2018, S. 497 IPC was struck down. However, On the ground of Adultery, the judgment overruled the earlier precedent (Sowmithri Vishnu v UOI 1985. So, Sowmithri Vishnu v UOI is one case that becomes relevant.

#### Category 3: The reasoning written in judgments

For e.g. In the Sabarimala verdict (Indian Young Lawyers Association v State of Kerela 2018), one must know first of all which Articles have been held to be violated by the exclusionary practice. Whether Article 17 was violated or not? Whether Article 25 was violated or not? Whether Article 14 was violated or not?

There are chances that aspirants can get a question wherein they are asked to identify which Articles of the Constitution have been Imposed by a particular law or practice.

### **Illustration:**

- Q. Which section of the Aadhar Act has been held ultra vires the Constitution in K Puttuswamy v UOI?
- a) S. 33(2), 47 and 57
- b) S. 31(2) and 47
- c) S. 33(2) and 56
- d) Only S. 57

**A: a)** 

- Q. The SC has in Navtej Johar v UOI 2018 held S. 377 IPC to be violative of the following Articles?
- a) Articles 14 and 21
- b) Articles 14, 16, and 19
- c) Articles 14, 19 and 21
- d) None of these is correct

**A: c**)

### *Category 4:* The evergreen landmark cases.

For Example, cases like Keshvananda Bharti, IR Coelho, Minerva Mills, 2nd 3rd and 4th Judges Case, etc. For this purpose, in my opinion, most of the Constitution bench judgments hold significance - especially those that have interpreted the Constitution or struck down any law or Constitutional provision or have determined the scope of any Article/law.

Which case law laid down guidelines relating to sexual harassment in the workplace? – Vishaka v State of Rajasthan

Which case law struck down S. 8(4) of the Representation of People's Act? – Lily Thomas v UOI etc.

## **5.** Past Paper and Mock Tests

More than lakhs students appear for competitive exams but only a few are able to clear it. The reason behind their success is preparation with the 'Mocks'. A mock means appearing in a test with the actual examination environment including the syllabus, the seating arrangements, the answering pattern, and correction criteria. This helps aspirants in getting a real-time experience before appearing for the actual examination.



To perform better and avoid unnecessary mistakes , it is recommended that a candidate should appear for at least two mock test and repetition of the previous exam papers. This approach lets a candidate know about various parameters like the type of questions that can come, what will be the difficulty level, and how they can prepare themselves in the limited time frame.

- 1. Practice, practice, practice really get acquainted with the exam format and timing, you need to take a mock test. These are like the trial runs for the actual exam. They help us become comfortable with the types of questions and the time pressure.
- 2. Testing your limits- one should not pick the easy mock test. Choose the test that challenges you- the harder, the better. This way, when the actual exam comes around, you are prepared to handle whatever it throws at you.
- 3. Use of mock test wisely-one must use the mock test with utmost sincerity. After taking the test, one must review the answers and see where you went wrong. This helps us understand our weak spots and focus our study efforts effectively.
- 4. Gain exam practice and an idea about exam patterns, how the questions are asked, and what type of questions are asked.
- 5. They provide practical insight into how the forthcoming exam paper is likely to look and the key themes or subject areas most likely to be covered.
- 6. They allow students to check how their revision is going and assess areas for improvement.
- 7. They are an excellent basis for revision in preparation for exams, consolidating knowledge, and rehearsing specific skills required in the examination

### 6. Conclusion

Consistency is the key- regular revision plays a very important role in cracking the CLAT process. It helps in polishing our knowledge. Further, learning at regular intervals plays an important role in achieving successful results in the examination.

- Mastering the facts and figures- revision at regular intervals helps us in mastering the facts and figures that come in the real examination. A good revision helps us remember important details accurately.
- Avoid last-minute minute rush-one should not do newer things when the exam approaches. You must stick to revising what you already know. If a candidate tries to learn a new thing before the examination, then he/ she may feel less confident.
- Furthermore, a proper disciplined approach is required that can make a significant difference in your CLAT performance. Stay dedicated, manage your time wisely, and believe in yourself.