



Bringing Animal Law to Nepalese Law Schools

Animal Law Essay Competition Guidelines

January 15, 2025

Introduction

Through the [Global Ambassador Program](#), the [Center for Animal Law Studies \(CALs\), Lewis & Clark Law School](#), empowers and supports alumni to continue their animal law education and advocacy in the U.S. and abroad by providing grants to support through their own innovative, individual projects and to raise awareness about their work. [Julie Palais from the USA](#), and [Varnika Singh, from India](#), were selected as [CALs Global Ambassadors for 2024-2025](#).

Our project aims to train the next generation of Nepalese law students in the field of animal law, a discipline that doesn't currently exist in Nepalese law schools. In addition to developing an introductory animal law course and a more in-depth course, that explores existing animal laws in Nepal, we are offering a number of ancillary activities aimed at encouraging Nepalese law students to consider a future career in animal law.

Before embarking on this essay competition, you should familiarize yourself with the material on animal law on the [SAVE Nepal website](#). SAVE Nepal stands for Save Animals and Value the Environment (SAVE) Nepal. Our original plan was to have a course ready for students so that they could learn a little about animal law and then use what they had learned to inform their thinking about issues related to how to use the law to protect animals in Nepal. However, the courses we are developing are not ready quite yet. Therefore, please use the information provided on the SAVE Nepal website, [Animals in the Law](#) link and any other information that you find on the internet to inform yourself about animal law and how a knowledge of animal law can be used to help in the protection of animals.

Guidelines for Essay Competition

City Campus Butwal, Lumbini Buddhist University

Eligibility

The competition is open to fourth and fifth-year law students enrolled in the law college of the University.

Theme

Animal Laws in Nepal: The Impact of Culture and Religion on the Protection of Animals

Question: Should culture and religion influence the laws and their enforcement in a country like Nepal where practices such as animal sacrifice occur on a regular basis. Give examples and cite any court cases that you may be familiar with where animals have been the subject of a legal challenge or court case related to a cultural or religious norm or practice that have been questioned by others. Please explain your reasons for supporting or not supporting the rights of animals to be free from the threat of being sacrificed. Please discuss the moral, ethical, philosophical and biological reasons that could exist for giving animals rights.

Submission Guidelines

1. **Word Limit:**
 - Essays must be between 2000 to 2,500 words (excluding footnotes).
2. **Formatting:**
 - Font: Times New Roman
 - Font Size: 12 for the main text and 10 for footnotes
 - Line Spacing: double-spaced for the main text and single spacing for footnotes
 - Margins: 1 inch on all sides
 - Citation Style: Please use the Blue Book Online <https://www.legalbluebook.com/> or basic footnotes to provide references.
3. **Language:**
 - Essays must be written in English.
4. **Originality:**
 - Submissions must be original and unpublished. Essays will be checked for plagiarism, and the use of artificial intelligence software for writing the essays. Entries with more than 10% similarity will be disqualified.

Submission Format:

5. Submissions should be made by word document (not pdf) so that reviewers can include comments and edits in their reviews. The submission should include a cover page with the following details:
 - Title of the essay
 - Author's name/Number of semesters in Law School
 - Contact information (email and phone number)

Submission Deadline:

6. All entries must be submitted by **March 10, 2025** via email to Varnika Singh (varnica09@gmail.com) with cc: to both Prakash Mani Sharma, Associate Professor (phanibhusal@gmail.com) and Megh Nath Khanal, Assistant Professor (advokhanal@gmail.com).

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Award Criteria:

7. Award Criteria: Written submissions will be judged based on quality, clarity originality, and organization, and how well the essay addresses the theme of the competition.

Cash Prizes

- First Prize: \$ 250 – [Two Hundred and Fifty US dollars]/Certificate of Achievement
- Second Prize: \$ 150 – [One Hundred and Fifty US dollars]/ Certificate of Achievement
- Third Prize: \$ 100 – [One Hundred U.S. dollars]/Certificate of Achievement

Additional Details

- Winners will be announced on **April 10, 2025** on our official website (SAVE Nepal) and social media platforms.
- Prize money will be provided to the competition winners in person at the award ceremony to be held on **April 17, 2025**
- The organizers reserve the right to publish the winning essays with due credit to the authors and to use their names in social media posts about the essay competition.

Contact for Queries

For any queries or additional information, contact: Varnika Singh (varnica09@gmail.com) with cc: to Julie Palais (juliempalais@gmail.com).

We look forward to receiving your thoughtful and insightful essays!