

**MANAN KUMAR MISHRA***Senior Advocate***CHAIRMAN**

Phone : 011-4922 5000

Fax : 011-4922 5011

E-mail : info@barcouncilofindia.org

Website : www.barcouncilofindia.org

भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद् BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

21, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area, New Delhi - 110 002

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Date: 17.01.2024

Hon'ble Dr. Justice D. Y. Chandrachud,
Chief Justice of India,
Supreme Court of India
Tilak Marg, New Delhi.

Subject: Request for Grant of Holiday in Supreme Court, High Courts, District Courts etc. on the Occasion of Shri Ram Mandir Inauguration on 22nd January 2024, acknowledging its Cultural and National Significance

My Lord,

I am writing to bring to your esteemed attention a matter of significant national and cultural importance for your due consideration.

As you are aware, the inauguration of the Shri Ram Mandir in Ayodhya is scheduled for 22nd January 2024. This event holds immense religious, historical, and cultural significance for millions of people across the country, marking the realization of a long-awaited dream and the culmination of legal proceedings that have been pivotal in defining the nation's structure

The construction of the Grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya has been a matter of great faith and has evoked profound sentiments among the citizens. The Supreme Court's historic verdict on 9th November 2019, which affirmed the birthplace of Lord Rama and allocated the disputed land for the construction of the temple, resonated with the truth and beliefs of the Hindu community.

The inauguration ceremony, scheduled between 14th and 22nd January 2024, includes a 7-day agenda of rituals and events, leading up to the Pran Pratishtha ceremony on 22nd January, 2024. This sacred occasion, marked by the presence of dignitaries and religious leaders, including Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, signifies the victory of truth and the fulfillment of a deeply cherished dream.

The ceremony has garnered international importance, with approximately 100 dignitaries hailing from 55 countries across Asia, Africa, Europe, and the America. This distinguished guest list comprises ambassadors and Members of Parliament from nations including Argentina, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, USA, among others, who have been extended invitations to the 'Pran Pratishtha' ceremony. A particularly noteworthy attendee is the Korean Queen, asserting her lineage as Prabhu Shree Ram's Vanshaj, a proud descendant of Lord Ram.

Lord Ram's universal significance extends beyond cultural and religious boundaries, touching the hearts and minds of people across diverse communities and belief systems. The narrative of Lord Ram's life, his unwavering commitment to dharma (righteousness), and his embodiment of virtues like compassion, integrity, and valor have made him a symbol of inspiration and moral excellence for people worldwide.

Throughout history, cultures and civilizations have found resonance in the teachings and values exemplified by Lord Ram. His life has been embraced not only within the Hindu tradition but also in literature, art, and philosophical discussions across the globe. The universal appeal of Lord Ram lies in the universal themes present in his life, the triumph of good over evil, the importance of duty, and the enduring power of love and devotion. The universality of Lord Ram is a testament to the enduring relevance of his teachings, cultivating a sense of unity and shared values among diverse communities.

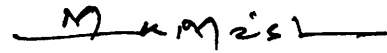
In light of the religious, cultural, national, and international importance of this event, I humbly request your esteemed office to consider declaring a holiday in the Supreme Court, High Courts, District Courts, and other courts across India on 22nd January 2024. This holiday would allow members of the legal fraternity and court staff to participate in or observe the inauguration ceremonies in Ayodhya and other related events across the country.

I understand the importance of ensuring the continued functioning of the justice system, and therefore, I propose that matters requiring urgent attention can be accommodated through special arrangements or, if necessary, rescheduled for the following working day.

This gesture would not only recognize the profound cultural significance of the Shri Ram Mandir inauguration but also demonstrate a harmonious blend of legal processes with the cultural ethos of our nation.

I pray that you will consider this request with the utmost empathy and take appropriate steps to mark this historic occasion in a manner that aligns with the sentiments of the people.

Obligated,



(Manan Kumar Mishra)

Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India

Chairman, Bar Council of India