

JUSTICE KURIAN JOSEPH

General Biography

Justice Kurian Joseph is a retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India, known for his humane and compassionate approach to law. Justice Joseph is a strong supporter of mediation, even on the bench he was known for urging parties embroiled in litigation pertaining to personal relationships to settle their disputes amicably. While on the bench, he demonstrated his support for speedy delivery of justice by disposing off more than 8600 cases pending in the Supreme Court of India. Since his retirement, Justice Joseph has been focussed on using ADR processes such as mediation, arbitration and conciliation to support parties to find sustainable, long-lasting solutions. He is routinely appointed by the Supreme Court of India and the various High Courts to act as a Mediator and Arbitrator. Justice Joseph is also on the panel of Mediators at the Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC).

Educational Qualifications

Justice Joseph completed his L.L.B., at the Kerala Law Academy Law College, Thiruvananthapuram in 1979 and enrolled as an Advocate at the Kerala Bar Council in 1979. He has undergone the Advanced Mediation Skills Program designed by Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC).

I. Professional Accomplishments

- He was appointed as the Government Pleader for the Government of Kerala in 1987.
- He was appointed as the Additional Advocate General of the High Court of Kerala representing the Government of Kerala from 1994 to 1996.
- He became a Designated Senior Advocate of the High Court of Kerala in the year 1996.
- He was formally appointed as a Judge of the High Court of Kerala on 12th July 2000.
- High Court of Himachal Pradesh
- He was appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh on 08th February 2010.
- Justice Kurian Joseph was elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 08th March, 2013.
- One of the ten Judges in the history of the Supreme Court of India who has delivered more
- than 1000 Judgements.
- Authored leading Judgement on Constitution Bench, striking down the practice of Triple Talaq.
- Authored concurring judgement striking down the Constitutional Amendment on National

- Judicial Appointments Commission.
- He was part of 6 Constitution Benches in the Supreme Court of India.
- He advocated speedy delivery of Justice by disposal of 8600 cases in the Supreme Court of
- India
- He retired as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India, on attaining age of 65.

II. Academic Achievements

- On 30th November 2018 he became a part of the visiting faculty at the National Judicial Academy - Bhopal, and other State Judicial Academies.
- Visitor, National University of Advance Legal Studies, Kochi (2009-10).
- Member of the Academic Council, Kerala University (1977-78).
- General Secretary, Kerala University Union (1978).
- Senate Member of the Cochin University (1983-85).
- President, Kerala Judicial Academy (2006-08).
- Chairman of the Kerala State Legal Services Authority.

III. ADR Experience

Since retirement in 2018, Justice Joseph regularly serves as an Arbitrator and Mediator. Arbitration, both Institutional and Ad hoc

- Member - Arbitration Panel, Delhi International Arbitration Centre.
- Presiding Arbitrator – 4 Arbitrations.
- Sole Arbitrator – 7 Arbitrations.
- Co-Arbitrator – 3 Arbitration Mediation.
- Mediator in 2 cases appointed by the Supreme Court.
- Mediator in 4 cases appointed by High Courts.
- Ad hoc – Mediator and Consultant.

IV. International Discourses

USA

- Panelist – 19th International Judicial Conference, Washington DC, 2016. Presented a paper on “Rule of Law Initiatives Regarding the Judiciary”

Canada

- Member, Indo-Canadian Legal Forum Meet, 2017. Co-chaired working session on “Alternative dispute resolution in India and Canada”

South Korea

- Delivered ILecture on “Judiciary and Social Welfare in India” at the Annual Lecture Series, Kkottongnae Hyundo University of Social Welfare, South Korea.