

## Special Guests' CV:

**Prashant Bhushan** is a public interest lawyer in the Supreme Court of India. He was a member of the faction of the India Against Corruption (IAC) movement known as Team Anna, which supported Anna Hazare's campaign for the implementation of the Jan Lokpal Bill. After a split in IAC, he helped Team Anna form the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). He is the oldest of the four children of Shanti Bhushan and Kumud Bhushan. His father is a lawyer-activist and a former Union Law Minister in the Morarji Desai government.

Born on October 15, 1956, Bhushan briefly attended **IIT Madras** and **Princeton University**, and has a degree in law from **Allahabad University**. While still a student, Bhushan wrote **The Case that Shook India**, a book on the case that set aside Indira Gandhi's election in 1974. Bhushan was drawn to public activism, influenced by his father. His main areas of interest have been human rights, environmental protection and accountability of the public servants. He is associated with various organisations, including the Centre for Public Interest Litigation (CPIL), People's Union for Civil Liberties (PIL), and Transparency International (India).

He is also the convenor of the Working Committee of the Campaign for Judicial Accountability and Judicial Reforms. Bhushan has taken up about 500 cases dealing with "good causes," and spends only 25 per cent of his time on paid cases, charging 5 per cent of what other lawyers charge. He has criticised the other professional lawyers as "amoral", and claims that he never takes up a case unless he feels that his client is "morally right."

**Arundhati Roy** (born 24 November 1961) is an Indian author best known for her novel **The God of Small Things** (1997), which won the **Man Booker Prize for Fiction** in 1997 and became the best-selling book by a non-expatriate Indian author. She is also a political activist involved in human rights and environmental causes. So far, she has published two books of fiction, and 19 books of non-fiction. She donated the Booker Prize money she received and the royalties from her book to human rights causes. She has received more than half a dozen awards for her writings as well as for her work as a social activist. They include the Lannan Foundation's Cultural Freedom Award; the Woman of Peace at the Global Exchange Human Rights Awards in San Francisco with Bianca Jagger, Barbara Lee, and Kathy Kelly; the Sydney Peace Prize; the Sahitya Akademi Award, and the Normal Mailer Prize for Distinguished Writing. Roy was featured in the 2014 TIME magazine's list of 100 most influential people in the world.

**Iqbal Chagla:** After schooling in Bombay at St Mary's High School and doing a short stint at St Xavier's College, he read History and Law at **Cambridge** (King's was his college). He was then called to the Bar from **Gray's Inn** and returned to Bombay where began a long romance with the law. Having refused all inducements to move to Delhi (and to the Supreme Court), he preferred to be the leader of the Bombay bar. He was invited to be a Senior Advocate (the Indian equivalent of a QC) at the relatively young age of 39.

His practice has been a varied one but almost exclusively on the civil side (to lose a client's property, he says, is bad enough but if a client lost his liberty he would not sleep again). He has appeared in almost all the High Courts in India and, of course, in the Supreme Court of

India. He completed, from 1990 to 1999, three terms as President of the Bombay Bar Association (an association of lawyers practising on the Original Side of the Bombay High Court). He has also served as a Member of the Executive Committee of the Bar Association of India and a Member of the National Legal Services Authority, Delhi. He has attended and participated in various law conferences of the International Bar Association, International Law Association and Lawasia.

He had been invited to speak at Seminars held, among others, by various associations including the Bar Association of India, Progressive Law Association, Karnataka State Commission of Jurists and Indian Merchants Chamber. He has appeared in international arbitrations in London and Singapore, and has advised on proceedings in foreign courts; he has given expert evidence on Indian law in the Southern District Court of New York and in the Isle of Man Court. In 2012 he was conferred an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws by Behrampur University in Odisha "for attaining eminence in public affairs".