

Under the guidance and patronage of Chief Patron of State Judicial Academy, Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Paul Vasanthakumar, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Committee of Hon'ble Judges, State Judicial Academy (Hon'ble Mr. Justice Muzaffar Hussain Attar, Chairman and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hasnain Massodi, Member), Jammu and Kashmir State Judicial Academy today conducted one day refresher course for Munsiffs of Jammu province on Code of Civil Procedure and Evidence Act at Judicial Academy at Jammu.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice (Retd.) O.P. Sharma was the Resource person. The programme was conducted by Shri Pawan Dev Kotwal, Director, State Judicial Academy. In his introductory remarks, Director, State Judicial Academy welcomed the Resource person & Judicial Officers and deliberated on the need for such refresher programmes for the Judicial Officers.

Session-I was on the topic "Order V, Order VI Rule 17, Order VIII Rule 1, 3 to 6, Order IX Rule 13, Order XIII Rule 6 to 8 of Code of Civil Procedure", Session-II related to "Orders XVI and XVIII of Code of Civil Procedure", and Session-III was on the topic "Sections 106 to 114 of Evidence Act."

Justice Sharma dealt with all the topics of the programme. His Lordship exhaustively explained the provisions of Order V, Order VI Rule 17, Order VIII Rule 1, 3 to 6, Order IX Rule 13, Order XIII Rule 6 to 8, Orders XVI and XVIII of the Code of Civil Procedure and their practical application in the first two sessions i.e. issuance and service of summons, amendment of pleadings, written statement, setting aside of *ex parte* decree against defendant, endorsement on documents rejected as inadmissible in evidence, recording of admitted and return of rejected documents, documents to be impounded, summoning and attendance of witnesses, hearing of the suit and examination of witnesses. In the last session, Hon'ble Resource person dealt with Sections 106 to 114 of the Evidence Act and enlightened the participants about significance of burden of proof in civil and criminal cases alongwith presumptions. Justice Sharma by his long and varied experience enlightened the participants regarding ways and means which they can adopt while dealing with cases and reminded the officers about their powers, duties and responsibilities in dispensation of justice. He exhorted the Judicial Officers to follow the procedural law and law of evidence in letter and spirit.

All the participants took active part in the deliberations and raised many pertinent questions during interaction to the Hon'ble Resource person who cleared the doubts lurking in their minds about various provisions of substantive and procedural law.

The programme concluded with vote of thanks by the Director, State Judicial Academy.

