

Judicial Administration in Ancient India

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Abstract

According to the modern concepts the Administration of the Justice is one of the major functions of a state. The ordinary people become conscious of the existence of the state and its power when court decisions are enforced in civil as well as criminal cases. The court is obviously the most majestic symbol of the power of the state.

In India as well as in Europe the Administration of Justice didn't form a part of the state's duties in early times. But Kautilya's Artha Shastra shows that in 4 B.C. there were formal judicial organizations. The Dharmashastra and Nitishatra literature also confirms it.

The fundamental principals followed by Hindu jurisprudence are very similar to the modern principles. Some of those are as follows:

- I. The delay of the Laws was condemned.
- II. There were juries which consisted of learned and impartial people.
- III. Accused was normally entitled to the benefit of the doubt.