

**DIRECTORATE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
NALSAR UNIVERSITY OF LAW, HYDERABAD**

M.A. (Animal Protection Laws)

Academic Year: 2023-2024

Fourth Semester Examination (June, 2024)

Paper II - 2.4.12. Animal Legal Personhood

Duration of the Examination: 2 ½ hours

Total Marks : 70 marks

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- a) Read the instructions carefully and adhere to the same.
 - b) Please mention your DDE ID No., date of the exam, name of the programme & subject on the Answer Sheet and the Additional Answer Sheets, if any.
 - c) The questions to be interpreted as given and no clarification can be sought from the Invigilator.
 - d) Clearly indicate the question numbers while answering them. Answers without question numbers / wrong question numbers will not be evaluated.
 - e) Write the answers clearly and neatly. Answers in illegible handwriting will not be taken into consideration.
 - f) Candidates are prohibited to carry phones or any other electronic devices, books, material etc. in the Examination Hall.
 - g) Copying is strictly prohibited and is considered as a serious academic misconduct and the University will take action as it deems fit.
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1.

- a. Discuss the central concepts and terminology introduced by Visa AJ Kurki in "A Theory of Legal Personhood" and explain how these concepts are applied in contemporary legal debates about the personhood of non-human entities.

[15 marks]

- b. Critically evaluate Kurki's distinction between active and passive legal personhood. How does this distinction help in understanding the legal status of animals, artificial intelligence, and embryos? Provide relevant examples from the text to support your analysis.

[15 marks]

2.

- a.** Examine the arguments presented by David Favre and Gary L. Francione regarding the status of animals within the legal system. How do their views contribute to the debate on whether animals should be considered legal persons or property?

[15 marks]

- b.** Analyze the legal and ethical implications of recognizing animals as legal persons. Consider case laws such as the Whanganui River Iwi v. Attorney General and the case of an orangutan named Sandra. What are the potential benefits and drawbacks of such recognition?

[15 marks]

3. Write short notes on any two of the following topics: [5+5=10 marks]

- a)** Vulnerability as a replacement to personhood.
- b)** The influence of historical and theological perspectives on the development of the concept of legal personhood.
- c)** The challenges and opportunities presented by the Nonhuman Rights Project in the quest for animal personhood.