

CNLU MEDIATION PROBLEM – FINALS

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- 1 **A.** Belerian is one of the oldest civilisations on the planet. It has a cultural history aging back to
2 3000 years while its mythological stories go way beyond known timeline. The Old Gods is the
3 most predominant faith in Belerian which has been practiced by over 70 per cent of the
4 population. One of the most prominent sites for the worshipers of the Old Gods is
5 Godswood. Belerian was divided into smaller kingdoms with autonomous administration
6 but for the foreign entities, the entire area was referred to as Belerian. One such kingdom
7 was Hogsmede.
- 8 **B.** Belerian has been a culturally mixed society. In the past, several travellers and traders have
9 come to Belerian bringing their faith along with them. All the faiths found their space and
10 followers in Belerian. One such faith is the Lord of Lights. Lord of Lights arrived in
11 Belerian in late 600 BCE and had a modest and peaceful presence; however, it became a
12 predominant faith in Hogsmede.
- 13 **C.** Along with a rich and mixed cultural history, the modern history of Belerian was chequered
14 with blood. Being one of the most affluent economies of its time and due to its geological
15 location, Belerian was under constant attacks by several kingdoms and tribes among which
16 most notable was the Kingdom of Valeria which practices the faith of Lord of Lights. In one
17 such raid, the ancient structure standing at Godswood was destroyed by Stringer Bell who
18 built another structure over it for the devotees of Lord of Light.
- 19 **D.** Later, around 1600, Belerian came under the rule of Asgard. However, despite being under
20 the rule of Asgard, the kings of several Kingdoms in Belerian still enjoyed their position
21 notionally while the administrative power remained solely in the hands of Asgard. Several
22 institutional reforms and practices were brought into effect during this time, however, the
23 primary motive of all such reforms were to ensure maximum tax collection by Asgard. One
24 such rule was regarding preparation of revenue records showing ownership of people over
25 property for the purposes of collecting taxes. In this record one such name was of Athelstan,
26 who was a priest of Lord of Lights. Athelstan along with his family had relocated to
27 Hogsmede. Later, Godswood was transferred to the King of Hogsmede by the descendants
28 of Athelstan.
- 29 **E.** In 1947, Belerian, its kingdoms including Hogsmede were declared Independent by Asgard.
30 The kingdoms falling in the administrative territory of Asgardian rule of Belerian, including
31 Hogsmede was given the option of either staying independent or to join in Union with
32 Belerian. While all the kingdoms joined the Union with Belerian, some demanded certain

33 privileges or special provisions. Hogsmeade did not ask for any such privilege. During this
34 time, Kingdom of Valeria, on the pretext of Hogsmeade to be a kingdom of followers of
35 Lords of Lights asked the ruler to join Kingdom of Valeria.

36 **F.** As a result, Hogsmeade was in constant pressure from both Kingdom of Valeria and
37 Beleriand for joining them and it was during this time that it was attacked by Kingdom of
38 Valeria. In the light of this development, ruler of Hogsmeade joined the Union of Beleriand
39 with certain special provisions granted for the territory of Hogsmeade.¹ However, the battle
40 between Beleriand and Kingdom of Valeria only reached ceasefire after the intervention of
41 the international community wherein it was declared by Beleriand and Kingdom of Valeria
42 that the decision of the future of Hogsmeade will be taken by its people in a plebiscite after
43 Kingdom of Valeria removes its forces. However, Kingdom of Valeria refused to remove its
44 forces and hence no plebiscite took place.

45 **G.** Thereafter, the relationship between the people staying in Hogsmeade and Beleriand
46 remained cordial for some time till insurgent movements started taking place in Hogsmeade
47 and a demand for succession started gathering pace.

48 **H.** On the other side, the followers of Old Gods were unhappy with the structure of Lord of
49 Lights being standing at Godswood and resentment were growing. As a result, a crowd of
50 Old Gods followers entered the premises and demolished the structure standing. This
51 brought turmoil in the country as clashes between the followers of the two religions started
52 taking place all over the country. Further, a civil suit was filed by Sartaj Singh, a follower of
53 Old Gods, claiming title over the property in the name of Old Gods. This was contested by
54 Guddu Pandit, ruler of Hogsmeade, who claimed it to be his property.

55 **I.** The Court of Original Jurisdiction referred the matter to the High Court which in a deferred
56 judgment, ordered division of *Godswood*. Unhappy with the decision, the parties approached
57 the Apex Court of Beleriand where after preliminary hearing; the Court directed the parties to
58 mediate among themselves and appointed a two member panel to mediate for the same.

¹ Special Provisions for the Accession of Hogsmeade

- a. No law passed by Beleriand will be enforceable in Hogsmeade without the assent of the legislative assembly of Hogsmeade.
- b. No person of Beleriand will be allowed to buy property in Hogsmeade.