BLOGS

15 Defining Moments of 2025: What Every CLAT Aspirant Should Know

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If you've been following the news this year, you already know 2025 has been anything but ordinary. From political upheavals and court rulings to wars and peace deals, the world has been buzzing with stories that go far beyond headlines. But for a CLAT aspirant, these stories mean something more, they're potential questions waiting to be asked.

The Current Affairs section of CLAT isn't about random trivia. It's about connecting what's happening around us with the principles of law, governance, and justice. So, instead of mugging up events, you need to understand *why* they matter.

Here's a look at **15 key events from 2025** that shaped the year, and could easily shape your CLAT paper too.

1. Trump Returns to the White House

On January 20, 2025, Donald Trump was sworn in as the 47th U.S. President, making a dramatic political comeback. Within weeks, he reimposed tariffs on over a hundred countries, reigniting trade tensions with China.

Why it matters for CLAT: This connects directly to international trade law, think of the WTO, GATT principles, and how trade disputes are resolved. For India, this meant rising export costs and new global market challenges.

1. Ukraine and Russia Begin Peace Talks

After years of bloodshed, Russia and Ukraine finally began peace talks in Geneva, with Trump and Putin both at the table. It's not full peace yet, but it's a start.

Why it matters for CLAT: This event is rich in international law relevance, from the Geneva Conventions to war crime trials and NATO's political role. If you get a passage on global conflicts, these are the legal undercurrents you should know.

1. The Gaza Ceasefire Deal

The U.S. helped broker a 90-day ceasefire between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, backed by a $50-billion reconstruction plan from Arab nations.

Why it matters for CLAT: Expect questions around UN Charter principles, self-determination, and international humanitarian law. This is a real-world example of law being used (and tested) to stop violence.

1. The 12-Day Iran–Israel Conflict

In June, Israel struck Iranian nuclear facilities, sparking a short but intense conflict. It ended quickly but left the world anxious about nuclear escalation.

Why it matters for CLAT: This brings in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the laws of war, *jus ad bellum* (the right to go to war) and *jus in bello* (laws governing war). These are central to public international law.

1. South Korea's Presidential Impeachment

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol was impeached after corruption allegations. The Constitutional Court upheld his removal, only the second time this has happened in the country's history.

Why it matters for CLAT: Compare this with Article 61 of the Indian Constitution, which deals with the impeachment of the President. It's a great reminder of how constitutions worldwide maintain checks and balances.

1. Sudan's Deepening Civil War

Sudan's internal conflict between rival military factions worsened, displacing over ten million people. The humanitarian crisis is now one of the world's worst.

Why it matters for CLAT: This connects with international refugee law and the **Kampala Convention**, which protects internally displaced persons, a topic often missed in preparation but highly relevant.

1. The Air India Tragedy

In April, an Air India flight from Ahmedabad to London crashed, killing 280 people. Preliminary reports pointed to engine failure and possible manufacturer negligence.

Why it matters for CLAT: This tragedy brings together tort law, negligence, and international aviation liability under the Montreal Convention. Don't be surprised if a passage tests your understanding of legal responsibility in such cases.

1. India–Pakistan Ceasefire Agreement

After a terror attack in Pahalgam, India conducted airstrikes in PoK. Tensions rose sharply before a U.S.-brokered ceasefire calmed the situation.

Why it matters for CLAT: This is a textbook case for Article 51 of the UN Charter (self-defence), UNSC resolutions on Kashmir, and the limits of sovereignty under international law.

1. India Sends Another Astronaut to Space

On June 25, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla became the second Indian to travel to space, joining NASA's Axiom-4 mission.

Why it matters for CLAT: Beyond the pride, this highlights **space law** and India's growing involvement in international space treaties. Keep an eye on the **Artemis Accords**, they may show up in a comprehension passage.

1. Manipur Under President's Rule

After months of ethnic unrest, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh resigned, and President's Rule was imposed under Article 356.

Why it matters for CLAT: This situation perfectly illustrates the balance between federalism and emergency powers, and echoes the principles from the S.R. Bommai v. Union of India judgment.

1. Delhi Elections: A Political Shake-Up

The February elections saw the BJP sweeping back to power in Delhi with 52 out of 70 seats, ending AAP's decade-long dominance. Allegations of corruption and EVM controversies added to the drama.

Why it matters for CLAT: Study Article 324 and the powers of the Election Commission. Questions could also test your awareness of debates on simultaneous elections and electoral reforms.

1. Supreme Court Stays Amendments to the Waqf Act

In September, the Supreme Court stayed parts of the Waqf Act amendments that allowed non-Muslims on Waqf boards. The Court observed that it could violate **Article 26**, which protects the right of religious denominations to manage their own affairs.

Why it matters for CLAT: This case beautifully blends religious freedom, minority rights, and the essential religious practices doctrine, all core CLAT themes.

1. A Change in the Vice President's Office

Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned in July, citing differences with Parliament. He was replaced by C.P. Radhakrishnan, elected unopposed in September.

Why it matters for CLAT: Revise Article 67(e) (resignation and removal of the Vice-President) and the procedural role of the Rajya Sabha, which the VP chairs.

1. India Wins the ICC Women's ODI World Cup

On November 3, India's women's cricket team lifted the ODI World Cup for the first time, defeating South Africa by 52 runs.

Why it matters for CLAT: This is more than a sports story. It's a statement on gender equality and representation. Legally, you can relate this to Article 15, equality of opportunity, and even international sports arbitration under the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

15. Kerala Declares Zero Poverty

Kerala became the first Indian state to declare the elimination of extreme poverty, thanks to years of community programs under the Kudumbashree initiative.

Why it matters for CLAT: This reflects the spirit of Article 21 (right to life with dignity) and the Directive Principles of State Policy. It also aligns with UN Sustainable Development Goal 1, No Poverty.