

FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES

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LECTURE: 3

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Assistant Professor

Lecture-39





Topic-3

Lecture – 39: Kinds of Judicial Precedent

Kinds of Judicial Precedent:-

1. **Declaratory and Original Precedents** As John William Salmon explained, a declaratory precedent is one where there is only application of an already existing rule in a legal matter. Whereas, an original precedent is one where a new law is created and applied in a legal matter. Original precedents are responsible for the creation of new laws.

2. Persuasive Precedents A persuasive precedent is a type of precedent where the judge is not required to follow the precedent in a legal matter but will take the precedent heavily into consideration. So a persuasive precedent is not a direct source of law but is considered a historical source of law. In India, the decisions of one high court can act as persuasive precedents in other high courts.

3. Absolutely Authoritative Precedents In an absolutely authoritative precedent, the judges have to compulsorily follow the judicial decision of the precedent in a case of law. In other words, even if the judge finds the precedent to be a wrong judgment, he is legally bound to give the same judicial decision. For e.g. – Every court in India is absolutely bound by decisions of courts superior to itself because of hierarchy.

4. Conditionally Authoritative Precedents A conditionally authoritative precedent is one where generally the precedent is absolutely authoritative but in certain special circumstances, like a supreme court decision, it can be disregarded. The court can disregard the decision if it is a wrong decision, or goes against the law and reason.