

'Conference on Human Rights and the International Criminal Court' at Muzaffarnagar, 18 January 2007'

## Report

Due to the initiative taken by a campaign partner from Uttar Pradesh, a conference on 'Human Rights and the International Criminal Court' was held in Muzaffarnagar on 18 January 2007. The event was organized by the District Bar Association with the assistance of ICC-India. Speakers for the event were Adv. Vrinda Grover, Prof. Harpal Singh, Chandramani Sharma, PC Tyagi, Munish Kumar Sharma and Niraj Sharma. At the event, impunity for mass crimes in India, the role of state agencies, obstacles to justice and the need for creating a climate of accountability were discussed. The Hashimpura killings of May 1987 by Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) was highlighted to illustrate the clear need for accountability to end impunity through incorporation of jurisprudence that the ICC statute has established. The event had an overwhelming response as over 200 persons, consisting of lawyers, law students of Din Dayal College of Law, members of the Bar Association, media persons and youth participated in the same. The event was extensively reported in the print media, in at least six local newspapers in Hindi.