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## 1 Contempt of Court (Source: The Hindu)

*Contempt of court is a concept that seeks to protect judicial institutions from motivated attacks and unwarranted criticism, and as a legal mechanism to punish those who lower its authority.*

- **Statutory Basis:** The Contempt of Courts Act, of 1971, gives statutory backing to the idea.
- **Constitutional Provision:** Article 129 of the Constitution conferred on the Supreme Court the power to punish contempt of itself. Article 215 conferred a corresponding power on the High Courts.
- **Type of Contempt**
  - **Civil Contempt:** Civil contempt is committed when someone wilfully disobeys a court order or wilfully breaches an undertaking given to the court.
  - **Criminal Contempt:** Criminal contempt consists of three forms: (a) words, signs, and actions that “scandalize” or “lower” the authority of any court (b) prejudices or interferes with any judicial proceeding, and (c) interferes with or obstructs the administration of justice.
- **Punishment:** The punishment for contempt of court is simple imprisonment for a term of up to six months and/or a fine of up to ₹2,000.
- **What is not contempt of court?**
  - Fair and accurate reporting of judicial proceedings will not amount to contempt of court.
  - Nor is any fair criticism on the merits of a judicial order after a case is heard and disposed of.



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## 2 Parliament Sessions (Source: The Hindu)

Terms	What is it?
Summoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Summoning is the process of calling all members of the Parliament to meet.</li><li>• The President summons each House of the Parliament from time to time.</li><li>• However, the maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot be more than six months.</li></ul>
Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parliament meets for three sessions in a year.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Budget Session: Longest session, starts towards the end of January, and concludes by the end of April.</li><li>◦ Monsoon Session: Second session, usually begins in July and finishes in August.</li><li>◦ Winter Session: Third session, held from November to December.</li></ul></li></ul>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An adjournment suspends the work in a sitting for a specified time, which may be hours, days or weeks.</li></ul>
Adjournment sine die	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• When the meeting is terminated without any definite time/date fixed for the next meeting, it is called Adjournment sine die.</li><li>• The power of adjournment as well as adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the House</li></ul>
Prorogation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prorogation terminates a sitting as well as the session of the House.</li><li>• It is done by the President of India.</li></ul>



Dissolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only the Lok Sabha is subject to dissolution.</li><li>• A dissolution ends the very life of the existing House, and a new House is constituted after general elections are held.</li><li>• Two ways for dissolution<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ On the expiry of its tenure of five years.</li><li>◦ Whenever the President decides to dissolve the House</li></ul></li></ul>
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## 3 Jainism (Source: *The Indian Express*)

### Key Points

- The Jain tradition has a succession of teachers called Tirthankaras. There are a total of 24 Tirthankaras associated with Jainism.
- The first Tirthankara is believed to be Rishabhanatha. The last Tirthankara is believed to be Vardhaman Mahavira.
- It is believed that all Tirthankaras were Kshatriyas by birth.

### Main Teachings of Jainism

- Jainism rejects the idea of a creator of the world as well as the authority of the Vedas.
- Jainism believes that humans may be good or bad according to their actions and not on account of their birth.
- They believe in karma and the transmigration of the soul.
- Salvation or nirvana comes from getting rid of the cycle of birth and rebirth and can be attained by leading a pure life guided by the three-fold path of right faith, right knowledge and right conduct.
- Right to conduct involves– abstinence from lying and stealing, non-possession, ahimsa, and control of the senses.
- The teachings of the Tirthankaras were compiled in 12 angas which were written down at Vallabhi in the 5th century CE.