

# JUDGMENT WRITING

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# Art and Science

- **Art** = Style
- **Science** = Systemized knowledge of the subject
  - *Legal Issues – An anthology by Justice Ved Prakash Sharma*

A Judge is known through her / his judgments

# Aspects of Judgments

- ❑ **Title** – names, appearances, date
- ❑ **Contents** – Admissions, Issues, Findings, Gaps in evidence
- ❑ **Style** – Preparation, notes, planning, organizing, drafting, editing
- ❑ **Language** – simple, understandable, cordial
- ❑ **Length** – shorten, no repetition, no irrelevant aspects, arguments
- ❑ **Precedents** – lines not paras, oldest/ latest Judgments
- ❑ **Quotes** – of evidence/judgments
- ❑ **Reasoning** – Most important - can't write casually; it can go in anyone's hands

# Stages of Judgment Writing

*As in an essay, Introduction, Main Body, Conclusion*

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ Analysis – of admissions, issues / chronology is the key
- ❖ Deduction – Marshalling and appreciation of evidence
- ❖ Finding – Reasons
- ❖ Consequent Order – most important for the litigant, lawyer, appeal court
- ❖ Editing – Review for improvement
- ❖ Proof reading - re-reading
- ❖ Verifying - figures, dates, years
- ❖ Timeliness – Good for the judge and the litigants

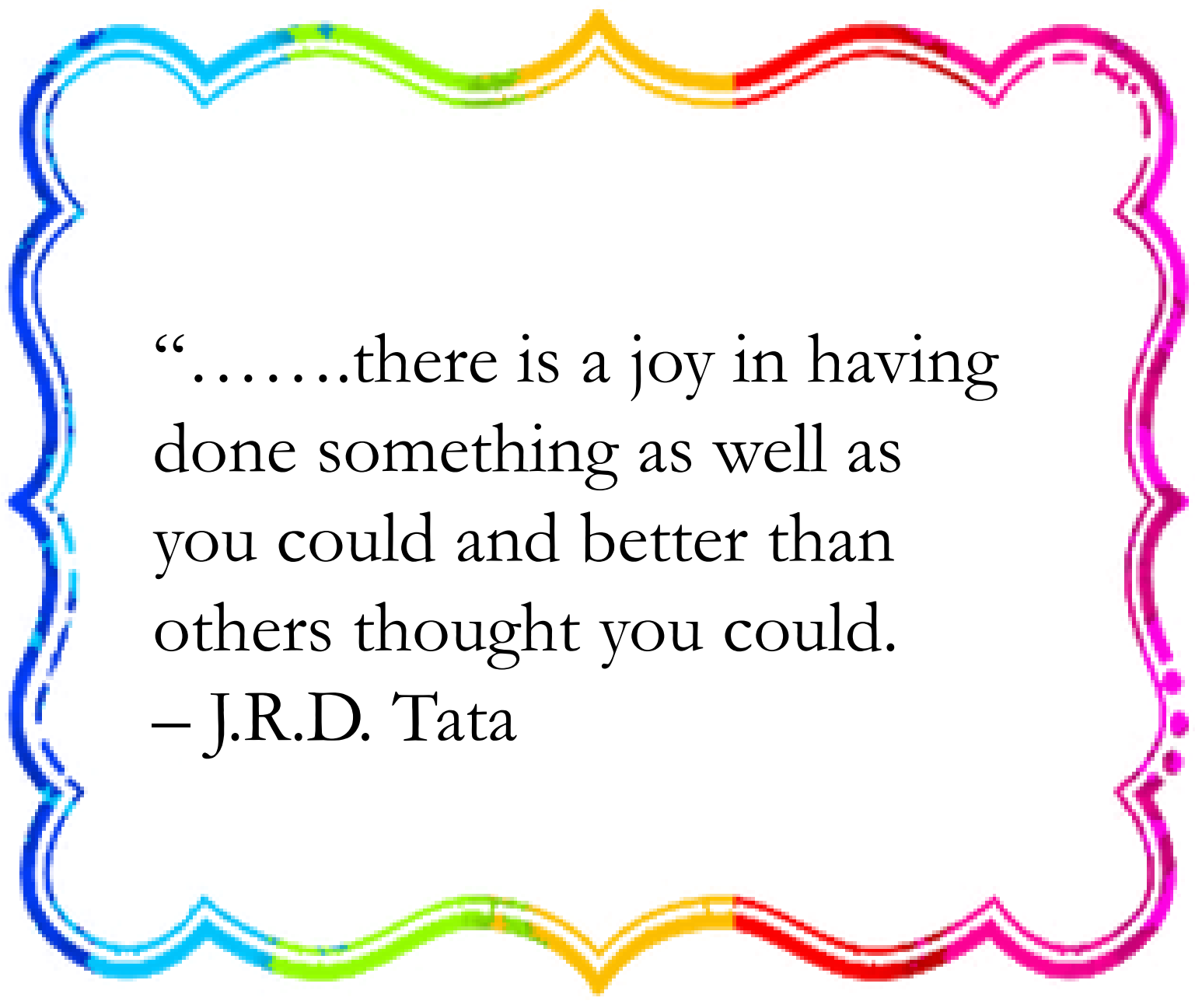
**Your attitude determines your altitude**

# Sensitivity

*In which areas ?*

- ✓ Victims – sexual offences, heinous crimes
- ✓ Community - feelings
- ✓ Delays – ex-parte orders, dismissals

Hear those who cannot shout;  
Listen to those who cannot speak.



“.....there is a joy in having  
done something as well as  
you could and better than  
others thought you could.  
– J.R.D. Tata