

A Study on Benefits, Challenges and Role of Artificial Intelligence in Law

Nazia Fayaz Azad¹, Yawer Khurshid², Bilal Ahmad Bhat³

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ABSTRACT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative technology of the 21st century across various fields, including law. The legal profession, traditionally dependent on human reasoning and ethical judgment, is now witnessing increasing integration of AI in legal research, case prediction, and judicial administration. This paper examines the role, benefits, challenges, and ethical implications of Artificial Intelligence in the legal domain, with a particular focus on its application in the Indian judicial system. The study adopts a doctrinal and analytical research approach, relying on secondary data sources such as judicial pronouncements, government reports, international policy documents, and scholarly literature on AI and law. Findings indicate that AI enhances legal efficiency by automating routine tasks, improving research accuracy, and aiding in case management. In India, initiatives such as SUPACE and E-Courts demonstrate AI's growing role in judicial processes. However, concerns about bias, accountability, and lack of regulation persist. It was concluded that AI holds immense potential to transform legal systems by increasing efficiency and accessibility. Yet, human oversight remains essential to ensure fairness and ethical integrity. AI should serve as an assistive tool—complementing, not replacing, human reasoning in the pursuit of justice.

KEYWORDS

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Law
- Legal Technology
- Predictive Analytics
- Legal Research

AUTHOR'S AFFILIATION:

¹ Department of Law, University of Kashmir, Hazratbal, Srinagar, J&K, India.

² 6th semester LL.B Student, Department of law, University of Kashmir, Kashmir, India.

³ Professor & Head, Division of Agriculture Economics & Statistics, Faculty of Agriculture, SKUAST-Kashmir, J&K, India.

CORRESPONDING AUTHOR:

Bilal Ahmad Bhat, Professor & Head, Division of Agriculture Economics & Statistics, Faculty of Agriculture, SKUAST-Kashmir, J&K, India.

E-mail: bhat_bilal@rediffmail.com

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INTRODUCTION

Law, as a discipline and practice, has historically been considered the domain of human reasoning, judgment, and moral deliberation. The interpretation of statutes, the application of precedents, and the balancing of justice have always required a uniquely human element—critical thinking, empathy, and ethical consciousness. However, in recent decades, the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has begun to reshape even the most traditional professions, including the legal field. AI, in its broadest sense, refers to computer systems that can perform tasks traditionally requiring human intelligence, such as decision-making, language processing, pattern recognition, and predictive analysis. Its integration into law signals a transformation of how justice is accessed, delivered, and understood in contemporary society.

The legal profession generates vast amounts of data on a daily basis—statutes, judicial precedents, contracts, regulations, petitions, and judgments. Manually navigating this ocean of information often leads to delays, backlogs, and inconsistencies. For instance, India alone has over 4.4 crore pending cases across different levels of courts, reflecting the urgent need for technological intervention. Artificial Intelligence offers tools that can sift through millions of documents in seconds, detect patterns in judicial reasoning, and even predict possible case outcomes with remarkable accuracy. Such capacities raise the question of whether AI is simply a tool for enhancing efficiency, or if it has the potential to alter the very nature of legal practice and judicial decision-making.

Globally, the use of AI in law is rapidly expanding. In the United States and Europe, AI tools such as ROSS Intelligence and Lex Machina are being used for advanced legal research and litigation analytics. Countries like Estonia have even experimented with AI-driven “robot judges” to resolve small claims disputes. In India, the judiciary has taken cautious but significant steps, most notably with the introduction of SUPACE (Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Courts Efficiency), which assists judges by summarizing case files and identifying relevant precedents. Similarly, private legal-tech startups such as CaseMine and SpotDraft are leveraging machine learning and natural language processing to automate contract review and compliance.

The integration of AI into law brings with it a host of benefits and challenges. On the one hand, AI can reduce delays, increase accuracy, and make legal services more accessible, particularly for marginalized communities who struggle to afford lawyers. On the other hand, concerns about bias, accountability, and the possible erosion of judicial independence cannot be overlooked. Since AI systems are trained on historical data, there is a real danger of replicating existing prejudices and systemic inequalities. Moreover, legal decisions often require moral and ethical reasoning that goes beyond mere data analysis—a realm where human judges remain indispensable.

Thus, the study of AI in law is not merely about technology; it is about the future of justice itself. Will AI remain a supportive tool for lawyers and judges, or will it gradually assume decision-making powers in the justice system? Can the efficiency of AI coexist with the ethical foundations of law? These are the pressing questions that this research seeks to address.

In the light of the earlier studies (e.g., [1], ..., [14]), we chose present study with the aim to examine the role of Artificial Intelligence in law through its historical evolution, practical applications, benefits, challenges, and ethical concerns, with a particular focus on the Indian legal system. The objective is not only to highlight the transformative potential of AI but also to critically analyze the risks it poses to the principles of fairness, accountability, and human dignity. Ultimately, this study argues that AI should be understood as a co-pilot in law—a powerful assistant that complements human reasoning but never replaces the human conscience in the pursuit of justice.

METHODOLOGY

The present research adopts a doctrinal and analytical approach to study the role of Artificial Intelligence in law. Being primarily concerned with the conceptual understanding, application, and implications of AI in the legal domain, the research relies on secondary sources of data.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The study follows a qualitative research design. It is exploratory in nature, aiming to examine how AI has been integrated into the

legal system, its advantages, limitations, and ethical challenges.

SOURCES OF DATA

Primary Sources: Judicial pronouncements, government reports, and official documents of the Indian judiciary such as the E-Courts Project and SUPACE initiative.

Secondary Sources: Books, peer-reviewed journal articles, research papers, and reliable online resources related to Artificial Intelligence and law. Standard texts like Richard Susskind's *Tomorrow's Lawyers* and legal commentaries on technology and law have been referred to.

Reports and Policy Papers: Documents from international organizations such as the European Union's AI Act (2021) and reports from Indian legal-tech bodies.

Scope of Research & Method of Analysis:

The study focuses on the applications of AI in legal practice, judicial administration, and access to justice. While examples from other jurisdictions are considered for comparative analysis, special emphasis is given to the Indian context. The collected materials have been analyzed using doctrinal methods, which involve studying laws, case law, and legal theories. In addition, an analytical method is

applied to critically evaluate the advantages, risks, and ethical implications of AI in law. A comparative perspective is also adopted by examining global practices and contrasting them with the Indian experience.

Limitations:

The research is limited by its reliance on secondary data and does not involve empirical fieldwork. Further, since AI in law is an evolving field, many developments are still in their experimental stages, which restricts the scope of conclusive findings

RESULTS

The research reveals that Artificial Intelligence is steadily transforming the legal field across the globe, including India. The findings can be summarized as follows:

(i). Integration in Legal Practice:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is most prominently used in legal research, contract management, and e-discovery. Tools such as ROSS Intelligence, CaseMine, and SpotDraft have demonstrated significant improvements in efficiency, reducing the time required for repetitive tasks.

Table 1: Applications of AI in Legal Practice

Area of Use	Example Tools	Primary Benefit	Jurisdictions Using it
Legal Research	ROSS Intelligence, CaseMine	Rapid access to precedents	USA, India
Contract Management	Kira Systems, SpotDraft	Automated clause detection	UK, India
E-Discovery	Relativity, Everlaw	Fast document review	USA
Case Prediction	Lex Machina	Litigation trend analysis	USA
Judicial Assistance	SUPACE	Summarizing case records	India

(Source: Compiled from secondary data including reports from Indian judiciary and international legal-tech studies)

AI is now integrated into several aspects of legal work, including legal research, contract review, and predictive case analytics (see Table 1). The data demonstrate how AI tools like ROSS Intelligence and CaseMine enhance research efficiency while maintaining accuracy.

(ii) Judicial Administration & Access to Justice:

Courts are increasingly adopting AI for case management and backlog reduction. India's SUPACE platform has improved judicial efficiency by assisting judges in analyzing large case files. Comparative studies show similar trends in the U.S. and Europe, with some experiments in AI-assisted adjudication.

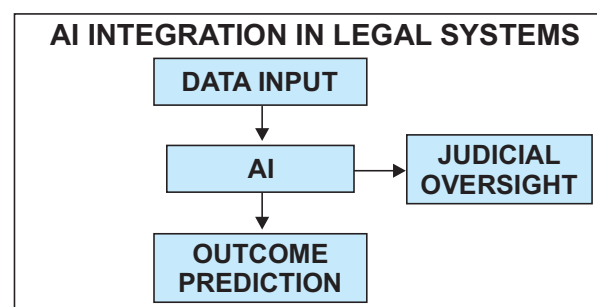


Figure 1: Conceptual Model of AI Integration in Legal Systems

This figure represents how AI interacts with legal processes—from data input to outcome prediction—while maintaining judicial oversight.

AI-powered legal aid chatbots and online dispute resolution (ODR) systems have shown potential in enhancing access to justice for marginalized communities, particularly in consumer disputes and small claims.

AI-based judicial tools, such as India's SUPACE, support judges by summarizing records and identifying precedents (Figure 1 illustrates this integration model).

(iii) Automation of Routine Tasks

AI significantly reduces the time and effort spent on repetitive and administrative legal tasks. Examples include:

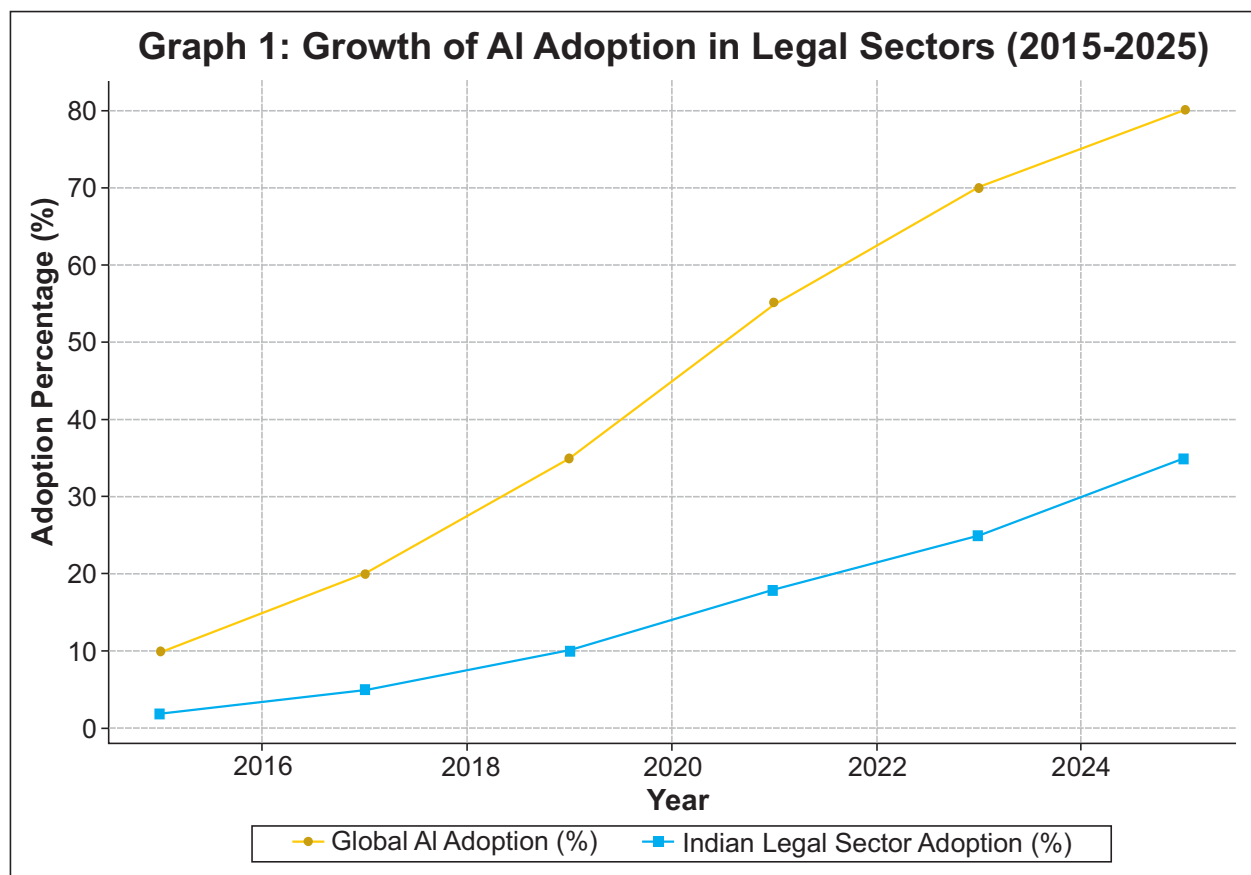
(a) Drafting standard contracts, agreements, and legal notices.

(b) Reviewing large volumes of documents and identifying relevant information.

(iv) Managing case files and maintaining compliance records.

Automation allows lawyers and judges to focus on tasks requiring critical thinking and human judgment.

Graph 1: Growth of AI Adoption in Legal Sectors (2015-2025) (to visualize upward trend of AI use in global and Indian legal sectors)



Graph 1: Illustrates the gradual increase in AI adoption, showing India's growing participation in the global trend

The automation of legal drafting and document review has grown steadily over the past decade. As depicted in Graph 1, AI adoption within the Indian legal sector rose from 2% in 2015 to an estimated 35% in 2025.

(v) Prediction of Legal Outcomes

AI systems, using machine learning and historical data, can predict likely outcomes of

legal cases. This capability helps:

(a) Assess litigation risks before filing a case.

(b) Strategize legal arguments more effectively.

(c) Anticipate trends in judicial decisions.

While predictive tools are supportive, human oversight is essential to ensure fairness and prevent bias.

Table 2: Benefits and Challenges of AI in Law

Aspect	Benefits	Challenges
Efficiency	Faster legal research and drafting	Over-reliance on algorithms
Access to Justice	Affordable legal aid chatbots	Digital divide in rural areas
Accuracy	Reduced human error	Risk of data bias
Judicial Assistance	Simplified case management	Threat to judicial independence
Predictive Analysis	Strategic decision-making	Lack of accountability mechanisms

Predictive analytics, a rapidly growing field, allows lawyers to estimate litigation outcomes before filing a case (refer to Table 2 for an overview of benefits and challenges).

(vi) Improvement in Decision Making

AI assists legal professionals in making informed and evidence-based decisions. By analyzing vast datasets of statutes, precedents, and legal opinions, AI can:

- Highlight relevant case law and statutory provisions.
- Identify inconsistencies or gaps in legal reasoning.
- Support judges in drafting judgments with accurate references and logical coherence.
- Overall, AI enhances the quality and efficiency of legal decision-making without replacing human judgment.

DISCUSSION

The study highlights that Artificial Intelligence is no longer a futuristic concept but a practical component of modern legal systems. Its growing integration within law firms, courts, and research institutions shows a decisive shift toward technology-assisted justice. However, this progress must be understood not only in terms of efficiency and speed but also in relation to the ethical and constitutional values that underpin the rule of law.

AI has proven capable of performing tasks that traditionally required extensive human effort—such as reviewing large datasets, identifying relevant precedents, and predicting litigation outcomes. These advancements improve accuracy and reduce workload, enabling lawyers and judges to devote more time to substantive reasoning. Yet, the dependence on algorithmic tools introduces potential challenges concerning bias, accountability, and transparency. If AI

systems are trained on incomplete or biased data, they may inadvertently reinforce the very inequalities that legal systems seek to correct.

Another critical dimension is the balance between technological support and judicial independence. While initiatives like India's SUPACE project assist judges in managing information, they must not influence the judge's ultimate reasoning or discretion. Legal decisions involve moral and empathetic judgments that go beyond computational logic. Therefore, AI should function as a facilitator, not as a decision-maker.

In addition, there is a growing need for comprehensive policies to govern the ethical use of AI in legal institutions. Establishing clear regulatory frameworks will ensure data protection, algorithmic transparency, and accountability of AI-driven processes. India's gradual and cautious adoption reflects an awareness of these challenges and presents an opportunity to develop a uniquely human-centric model of AI governance.

Overall, AI represents a collaborative force in the evolution of law. Its success will depend on the cooperation of technologists, legal scholars, and policymakers to ensure that innovation strengthens justice rather than distorts it. By maintaining human oversight and ethical integrity, the legal system can harness AI as an empowering instrument in the pursuit of fairness and accessibility.

FUTURE OF AI IN LAW

The future of Artificial Intelligence in law promises significant transformation, but it is also accompanied by legal, ethical, and technological challenges. AI is unlikely to replace human lawyers or judges entirely; instead, it will augment legal processes and enhance the efficiency, accessibility, and predictability of the justice system.

AI as a Legal Co-Pilot

AI will increasingly function as an assistive tool for legal professionals. Lawyers and judges will leverage AI for:

- Drafting contracts and legal documents automatically.
- Identifying precedents and relevant case law with higher accuracy.
- Predicting litigation outcomes to strategize better.

- iv. Analyzing compliance risks for corporate or regulatory matters.

The human element-judgment, ethical reasoning, and empathy-will remain central to legal decision-making. AI will act as a supporting partner, not a substitute, ensuring that the moral and ethical foundations of law are preserved.

Expansion of Predictive Analytics

AI-driven predictive tools are expected to become more sophisticated. They may assist in:

- i. Assessing case outcomes and litigation risks.
- ii. Forecasting judicial trends in sentencing and bail decisions.
- iii. Streamlining case management in courts to reduce backlogs.

While these tools can improve efficiency, safeguards must be implemented to prevent bias and discrimination, especially in systems trained on historical legal data.

Integration with Judicial Systems

Globally, some countries are experimenting with AI-assisted adjudication for minor disputes. In the future:

- i. AI may assist judges in drafting judgments and identifying key legal arguments.
- ii. Case management systems may use AI to prioritize urgent matters and reduce delays.
- iii. Hybrid models may emerge where AI handles routine or procedural cases while humans adjudicate complex matters.

The Indian Scenario

India is gradually integrating AI in law through projects like SUPACE and the E-Courts initiative. The next decade may see:

- a. Expansion of AI in legal research and case analysis.
- b. AI-assisted prediction models to manage judicial backlogs.
- c. Growth of legal-tech startups offering AI-powered solutions for contract management, compliance, and dispute resolution.

- d. Policy frameworks to regulate AI in the judiciary and legal practice.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Illustration 1: AI in Legal Research

(a) ROSS Intelligence, built on IBM Watson, can answer legal questions in natural language. For example, a lawyer may ask: "What are the recent Supreme Court rulings on anticipatory bail in India?" and the AI can pull out relevant judgments within seconds.

(b) In India, CaseMine provides AI-based citation analysis, helping lawyers instantly find precedents related to a particular issue.

Illustration 2: AI in Judicial Administration (India)

The Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Courts Efficiency (SUPACE) was launched in 2021 to help judges with research. For instance, in a complex constitutional case with thousands of pages of submissions, SUPACE can summarize key points and highlight relevant case laws for the judge.

Illustration 3: AI Predicting Case Outcomes (U.S. and U.K.)

- a. Researchers at University College London created an AI system that predicted the outcomes of cases before the European Court of Human Rights with 79% accuracy.
- b. In the U.S., AI tools like Lex Machina help law firms analyze how specific judges have ruled in the past, enabling better litigation strategy.

Illustration 4: AI in Contract Review

Kira Systems and SpotDraft are AI platforms used by companies to review thousands of contracts in mergers and acquisitions. For example, instead of spending months manually reviewing each contract clause, AI can identify high-risk clauses (like indemnity or arbitration) within hours.

Illustration 5: AI in Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)

- a. eBay uses AI-based dispute resolution systems to handle customer disputes. The system has successfully resolved millions of low-value disputes without human intervention.

- b. In India, ODR platforms like SAMA use AI chatbots to mediate between consumers and service providers in small claims disputes.

Illustration 6: Risk of Bias in AI

- a. In the U.S., a predictive AI tool used in criminal sentencing (COMPAS system) was found to disproportionately label African-American defendants as “high risk,” showing how biased training data can perpetuate discrimination.
- b. This serves as a cautionary example for India as it experiments with predictive AI in the judiciary.

CONCLUSION

Artificial Intelligence has emerged as a powerful tool in reshaping the legal landscape. From automating routine tasks to predicting legal outcomes and assisting in judicial decision-making, AI has demonstrated its potential to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and expand access to justice. The findings of this study confirm that AI is not intended to replace human lawyers or judges but rather to act as an assistant and enabler in the legal system.

However, the adoption of AI is not without challenges. Issues such as algorithmic bias, lack of accountability, data privacy, and the absence of comprehensive regulatory frameworks pose significant risks. Legal reasoning is not merely about logic and data—it also involves ethics, empathy, and the pursuit of fairness, qualities that machines cannot replicate. Therefore, while AI can strengthen the administration of justice, human oversight remains indispensable.

In the Indian context, initiatives such as SUPACE and the E-Courts project represent cautious but progressive steps toward integrating AI in the judiciary. With the growth of legal-tech startups and increasing global reliance on AI, India is poised to expand its use of technology in law, provided that ethical safeguards and regulatory measures are put in place.

Ultimately, the future of AI in law lies in collaboration between technology and human judgment. If applied responsibly, AI can serve as a co-pilot in the justice system—streamlining processes, ensuring consistency, and making justice more accessible, while leaving the core

of decision-making to human conscience and wisdom.

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