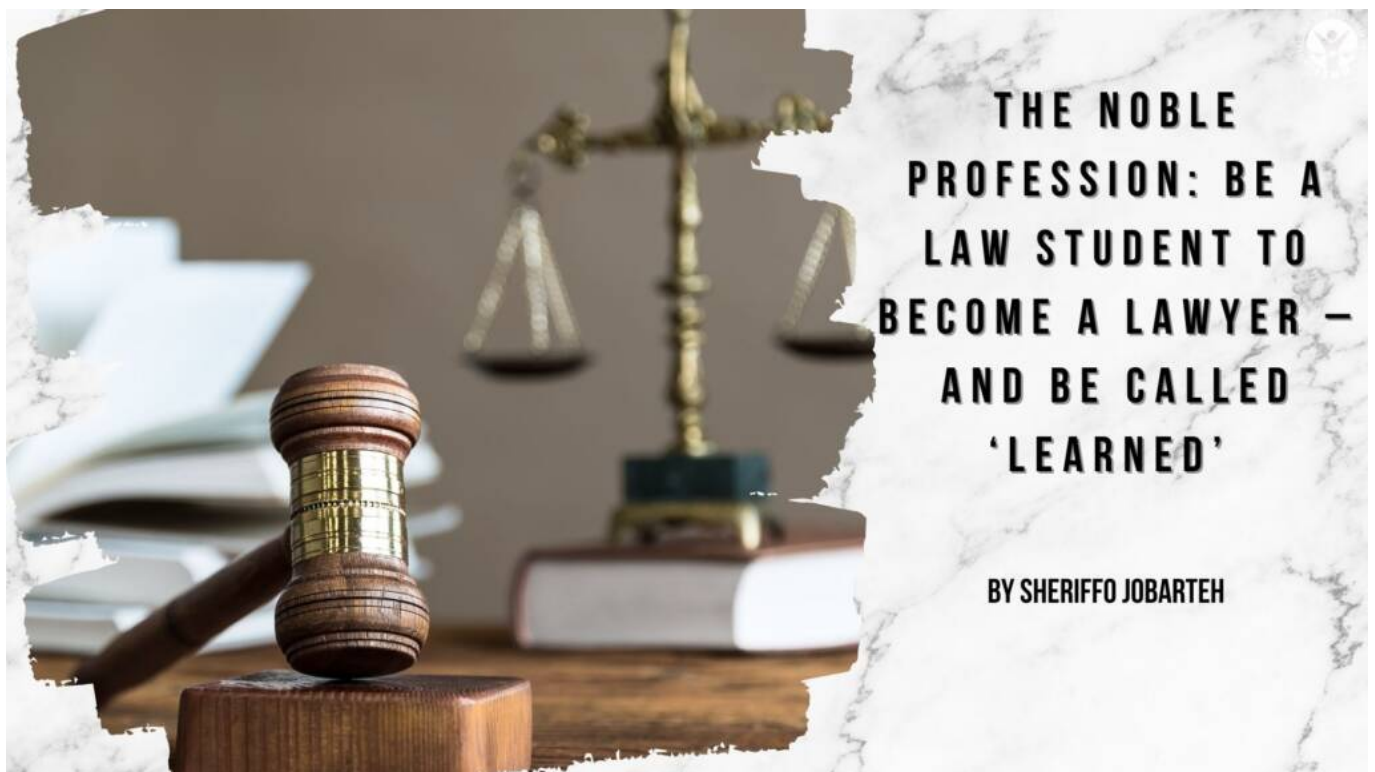


The noble profession: Be a law student to become a lawyer - and be called 'LEARNED' | 1

'LEARNED'



## **THE NOBLE PROFESSION: BE A LAW STUDENT TO BECOME A LAWYER - AND BE CALLED 'LEARNED'**

'LEARNED' is not given, it is EARNED. Lawyers earn this. They do. Didn't they? Does this

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government of almost all nations? Let us imagine for a moment, a world without Lawyers, and therefore without law. I am right, am I not, that if Lawyers did not exist it will be necessary to invent them. We must therefore by our collective and individual example as members of this noble profession continue to be the safety valve of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. All the calumny and vituperative tirades are unjust to us, grossly unjust indeed. It is our responsibility to deal with the peoples' misfortunes, problems and difficulties within the complexities of the society. In spite of technological developments, no society has been able to avoid these problems because they arise from the very nature of the society itself and whether we like it or not such problems will continue to be with us and must be solved.

Yes, it would have been naturally necessary to invent law and lawyers if they didn't exist. Imagine a world without law and lawyers? I always scoffed at Shakespeare's instruction; 'The first thing we do, let kill all the lawyers' (Henry VI, Part 2, act IV, Scene 2) - because he will need them to defend him after killing them from those he instructed.

### **Skills and qualities of a lawyer**

Tembeka Ncgukaitobi, South African Lawyer and Author speaking on craft and advocacy skills said, 'speaking and writing come from reading'. This is to say, as a lawyer, you must read and read without season. Read widely, read outside law. Read economy, politics, philosophy, psychology and other areas. This will arm you as a lawyer with enough knowledge in other areas. Reading makes you a good lawyer. Read good books. A lawyer should be creative, emotionally strong, fair in judgement, firm, patient, passionate, compassionate and have to persevere. To add, a lawyer should be responsive have arguments and have critical thinking skills. All these are acquired through long legal training which earns a lawyer the status of 'LEARNED'.

I love the Law and the law loves me. I keep loving it. You should love it. It is a lovely thing.

*Sheriffo Jobarteh*