HUMAN RIGHTS

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“Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah,
Sarve Bhavantu Niramaya,
Sarve Bhadran Pshayantu,
Maa Kashchid Dukh Bhaag Bhavet.”

(O Lord! Let all beings be happy and healthy.
I wish well being to all. Let none suffer from any misery)

Human Rights & Human Development
A Vision for the 21st Century

• On 10 December 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
• Human rights and human development share a common purpose and motivation: to secure freedom, well-being and dignity for every human being.
• States bear a primary duty to safeguard and promote human rights.

Necessary Requisites of ‘Human Rights’

• They may be categorized in fundamental rights of the country’s Constitution.
• Any individual may have freedom of expression and opinion anywhere under these rights.

• These are made available to all human beings.
• All men should receive these rights equally.
• There should be no difference with regard to colour, caste, religion and culture.
• No affected by any post or status.
• No distinction in human rights on the basis of political, universal or international status of a country.
• Deprivation of human rights should be heard under law.
Salient Points of ‘Human Rights’

1. Recognition everywhere
2. Freedom of movement
3. Life, liberty and security
4. Nationality
5. Freedom of thought, conscience and religion
6. Freedom of peaceful assembly and association
7. Take part in the government of his country

Indian Constitution

The Constitution of India, in its Preamble, resolves to secure to all its citizens:
(i) Justice - Social, Economic and political.
(ii) Liberty – of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship.
(iii) Equality – of status and of opportunity and to promote among all
(iv) Fraternity- assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.

Our Constitution provides and guarantees the fundamental rights to all the citizens and these rights are the Human Rights.

Human rights as enumerated in the Constitution as fundamental rights are as:

1- Right to Equality
(i) Equality before Law (Article14)
(ii) Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment (Article14)
(iii) Prohibition of discrimination on ground of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth (Article15)
(iv) Abolition of untouchables (Article17)
(v) Abolition of titles (Article18).

2. Right to freedom
(i) Freedom of speech etc. (Article19)
(ii) Protection in respect of conviction for offences. (Article20)
(iii) Protection of life and personal liberty. (Article21)
(iv) Protection against detention in certain cases. (Article22)

3. Right Against Exploitation
(i) Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour. (Article23)
(ii) Prohibition of employment of children in factories etc. (Article24)
4. Right to freedom of Religion

(i) Freedom of conscience and free pursuit of profession, practice and propagation of religion. (Article 25)
(ii) Freedom to manage religious affairs. (Article 26)
(iii) Freedom as to payment of taxes for promotion of any particular religion. (Article 27)
(iv) Freedom as to attendance at religious places or religious worship in certain educational institutions. (Article 28)

5. Cultural and Educational Remedies

(i) Protection of interest of minorities. (Article 29)
(ii) Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions. (Article 30)

6. Right to Constitutional remedies

Guarantees every individual whose fundamental Rights have been violated or not protected by the State the right to approach the Supreme Court for their protection. It gives the Supreme Court powers to take immediate action to stop a violation of fundamental Rights and punish the offender.

Some examples of Human Rights violations are:

- Failure of the pollution control board to take all precautions to prevent release of poisonous chemicals by industries into people’s homes, fields and water sauces. This is a violation of the Right to life.
- Beating, chaining and torture of suspects by the police. This is a violation of the Right to human dignity and physical security.
- Failure of a magistrate to take action on a prisoner’s complaint that she is being harassed by prison wardens. This is a violation of the Right to equal protection of law.
- Refusal of the collectiveorate to act against upper caste people who are not allowing Dalits to worship at a temple or drink water from a well. This is a violation of the Right against discrimination.
- Neglect by the labour department to enforce guidelines employers to ensure both men and women are provided equal avenues for promotion at the workplace and are given equal pay for equal work. This is violation of the Right to equality of opportunity.
- Taking over of a shop by security forces for defence purposes without giving compensation to the owner. This is a violation of the Right to livelihood.
Ordering the shutting down of a newspaper by the home ministry for publishing articles criticising the chief minister. This is a violation of the Right to freedom of expression.

Refusal of the district administration to release details of measures taken to control floods. This is a violation of the Right to information.

Stopping religious from being given to children at madarasas by the intelligence bureau on the grounds that they may develop antinational views. His is a violation of the Right to religious freedom.

Inability of the forest department to control the timber mafia from illegally felling trees and from destroying protected forests. This is a violation of the Right to a clean and healthy environment.

**Fundamental Duties**

a) To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag & Anthem;

b) To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom;
Fundamental Duties

c) To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India;

d) To defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so;

e) To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women;

f) To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture;

g) To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures;

h) To develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform;

i) To safeguard public property and to abjure violence;

j) To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rise to higher levels of Endeavour and achievement.