

HUMAN RIGHTS

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Human Rights are those rights which are inherent in human nature and which are essential for living as a human being. These are essential conditions for our full development as well as for the use of human qualities, intelligence and conscience for satisfying our needs and interests. Human Rights are independent of the particular condition of social recognition as these are inherent like a human being as a conscious, self-respecting human individual. These are the basis of human life, dignity and worth. These are the natural and essential conditions for a happy and prosperous living for all the people of the world.

Human Rights and United Nations

However, it was only in the 20th century, particularly after the end of the Second World War, that Human Rights for all came to be recognized as one of the key objectives of our civilized life. The U.N. charter represented a significant advancement by advocating a firm faith in and respect for the Human Rights of all the people living in any part of the globe. Human Rights come to be recognized as a common concern of humanity as a whole.

The foundation of the United Nations and the provision of the United Nations charter would provide a basis for a comprehensive system of international law and practice for the protection of human rights. The term

international human rights law is often used as a category of reference to describe these systems, but this can be a source of confusion as there is no separate entity as international human rights law but an interlocking system of non-binding conventions, international treaties, domestic law, international organizations and political bodies.

Human Rights and Indian Constitution

The Constitution of India laid down an elaborate set of rights for India. The idea that there are certain basic rights essential for a human existence inherent in the individual is manifested in Part III of the Constitution on Fundamental Rights. This Part assures the People equality and freedom. The Directive Principles seek to make these rights substantive by enjoining future governments to bring in conditions of social and economic justice. The Fundamental Duties attempt to instil among individuals a sense of responsibility towards fellow members of the community. It may, however, be noted that rights depend not only on sensitive exercises by individuals but also on the will of the government to enforce them. For several people rights are not available owing to their circumstances of birth, class, gender etc. Frequently, the State may itself become the aggressor and restrict the rights of people. Rights, however, are not static and a long history of struggle has always accompanied their enhancement.