

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Human Rights Commission

Human Rights

Human Rights refer to an aspect of conduct within which every human being can choose his or her own course and protected from any kind of compulsion.

‘Human Rights’ are essential for the development and survival of all human beings in a dignified manner. After the Second World War UNO emerged and the world started to feel the concern for Human Rights.

India - Human Rights

The Government of India faced severe criticism for violating the Human Rights in

Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Assam. The Government of India was under internal and International pressure and it became an obligation to constitute a specialized agency that will be able to take up issues of protection and promotion of Human Rights.

National Human Rights commission
In India National Human Rights Commission was constituted on 12th October 1993. International Organizations, NGOs and Governments explored the dynamics of Human life and worked to evolve a strategy to safeguard the rights of the human beings.

Composition of Human Rights

Commission

National Human Rights Commission comprises of a Chairman and four

members. Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission will be a retired Chief Justice of Supreme Court of India.

Commission at State Level

Human Rights commission works at the state level consists of a Chairperson and two members. The Chairperson will be the retired Chief Justice of the High Court.

The functions of the Human Rights Commission are:

- Inquires into complaints of violation of human rights.
- Visits jails study the living conditions.
- Reviews acts of terrorism that effect the enjoyment of human rights.
- Research in the field of Human Rights is undertaken and promoted.

- Spreads and promotes awareness on the human rights through media.
- NGOs and institutions work in safeguarding the Human rights are encouraged.
- Violation of Human rights on SC and ST population is protected.
- The rights of women and children are protected.
- The Consumer disputes redressal Commission functions at the State and National levels to protect the rights of consumers.

History of the Universal declaration of human rights

After the Second World War UNO emerged and the world started to feel the concern for Human Rights because there was a terrible loss of human life and property in this war. Many people died of starvation and many were effected by

diseases. These incidents made leaders of the world nations think about the human rights.

The Leaders of several nations came an understanding about human relations. They took an oath that the violations of humanity should never be repeated. They also realized that every human being has the right to lead a life of dignity which they termed as Human Rights.

Human Rights refer to an aspect of conduct within which every human being can choose his or her own course and protected from any kind of compulsion. These rights guarantee liberty and cannot be deprived.

Origin to the declaration of human rights

The American Independence 1776
Some People from Britain migrated to

America . Britain tried to gain control over them. People revolted to get freedom from Britain. In July 1776, the representatives gathered at Philadelphia and declared themselves independent. They adopted a constitution which protects the rights of the people of America.

The French revolution 1789

During the french revolution the National Constituent Assembly of France adopted the declaration of the rights of man and the citizen in 1789. which stressed on Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

UNO

To promote social progress and better standards of life the General Assembly of UN adopted the Universal Declaration of Human rights on 10th December, 1948. The General Assembly called all the

member countries to promote the recognition and observance of the rights and freedoms introduced in the declaration.

The General Assembly decided that 10th December should be celebrated as International Human Rights Day. There are five categories of human rights under this declaration. They are :

- Civil Rights
- Political Rights
- Economic Rights
- Social Rights
- Cultural Rights.

Rights of Children, women and Dalits in The Indian Constitution

According to the Indian constitution the practice of untouchability is prohibited in any form. The constitution of India guarantees basic human rights as

fundamental rights to the people of India. In India National Human Rights Commission was constituted on 12th October 1993.

Women

- Most of the women in the world are deprived of their basic human rights.
- In some countries like Afghanistan, Congo etc women has been used as a weapon of war.
- Peru, Russia, South Africa and in several other countries were physically attacked (with blows).
- Some other countries like Burma, Nigeria etc., women bought and sold.
- The Women Rights Division of Human Rights encouraging women to enjoy equal rights and lead a life of dignity.

Dalits

Dalits were denied access to most of the facilities provided by the government. The government has passed progressive laws to tackle the issues related to caste.

Some of the caste related problems are :

- Bonded labour, Manual Scavenging, Untouchability and other atrocities against the Dalits.
- Dalits face segregation in housing, schools and access to land, forced to work in degrading conditions.
- Dalits were frequently subjected to abuse by the upper caste people of the society.

UNO

The UN has been striving to step up its activities and implement the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is important that women, minorities and children of society should be protected against all kinds of exploitation and abuse by the powerful and rich communities or organizations.

Independence of South Africa

The African independence movement took place in 20th century. Struggles against racial discrimination took place in the European ruled African countries. There was discrimination against the blacks, Based on the claim that the whites were superior to the non-whites.

Racial discrimination imposed through the

system of apartheid. Apartheid was imposed by the prime minister of South Africa. Under this system the rights of the majority black inhabitant of south Africa were curtailed.

Nelson Mandela

Leader of the African national congress Nelson Mandela, fought against apartheid. Because of his struggles against apartheid Mandela was accused of treason. He was imprisoned for 28 years in 1962. People from all over the world spoke out against the racial discrimination in south Africa and demanded the release of Nelson Mandela.

The UNO imposed an embargo on south Africa because of apartheid policy . Due to pressure from all the world Nelson

Mandela was released in 1990. After his release he was successful in getting apartheid abolished and made South Africa gained free from apartheid.

Nelson Mandela was awarded Nobel prize for peace in 1993. He was elected as the president of south Africa in 1994. and served until 1999 his struggle for abolishing apartheid resulted in south Africa 's freedom from slavery.