

Human Rights

Human rights are those rights which are fundamental for the human life. These rights recognize the basic human needs and demands. It is expected that every civilized state will incorporate these rights in its constitution and try to ensure that its citizens enjoy them. In the present day, world there is a lot of concern about the protection of human rights. The United Nations has adopted a Charter of Human Right and it asks the governments to respect these rights of their citizens. The Universal Declaration Human Rights, which the UN adopted on 10 December, 1948 enumerates some important basic rights of humans. These are right to life, liberty and security of person, right to freedom of speech, judicial remedy, freedom to movement, right to take part in the governance of one's country. The second type of rights are economic and social rights. The rights included in this groups are also very important. These are: all members should have the right to work, to have a good standard of living, right to rest and leisure, right to education and equal pay for equal work. The UN has taken a great deal of interest in the abolition of discrimination against women. One of the most serious cases of violations of human rights is the case of racial discrimination.

The problem about human rights varies from society to society. In some societies, political and civil rights are not given or guaranteed to all its citizens. In other societies, economic and social rights are not enforced. The importance of the human rights movement is that it tells people that one cannot call as society a good and a just society until all its citizens enjoy these human rights. The basic idea behind human rights is that human beings should try to end all kinds of unjust discrimination. On the basis of most unjust discrimination is the discrimination on the basis of race. South Africa, for example had for quite some time practiced a policy called Apartheid. It meant that the black people, who were in majority in South Africa had no political rights. The country was ruled by a minority regime of whites. The UN passed resolution to condemn its racist policy. Most countries of the non-aligned movement including India, did not have diplomatic relations with South Africa.

Fortunately, South Africa after a long struggle has undergone a significant change. For the first time in its history the people of South Africa have an elected Black President, and political rights have been extended to all the people of South Africa irrespective of race, color and creed.

There are many cases of violation of human rights in different parts of the world. For the prosperity and happiness of human beings every nation must create such conditions in which the Human Rights are ensured to its citizens. We are lucky. We have democracy. India beings' democratic country, provides such rights to its citizens and allow them freedom of expression. These rights, which are called 'Fundamental Rights' form an important part of the Constitution of India.

These rights are fundamental in three different way. Firstly, these are basic human rights. As human beings we have the right to enjoy these rights. Secondly, the Constitution gives us these rights and guarantees them because it believes that these rights are necessary if citizens are to act properly and live democratically. Thirdly, effective procedure for the enforcement of these Fundamental Rights have been guaranteed in the Constitution itself. A citizen has the right to go to the court of law if she/ he is denied these rights. The Constitution is there to safeguard her/ his rights.

The constitution guarantees to us six Fundamental Rights. The six Fundamental Rights as mentioned in our Constitution are:

- i) Right to Equality
- ii) Right to Freedom
- iii) Right Against Exploitation
- iv) Right to Freedom of Religion
- v) Cultural and Educational Rights
- vi) Right to Constitutional Remedies.

There are many cases of violation of human right in different countries of the world. There can be no permanent and regular prosperity of human beings unless every country or nation creates such conditions in which human rights are enjoyed by its natives