

HUMAN RIGHTS – Certificate Course

Syllabus:

I. Rights, the concept*: What is a right?

- How did it get evolved?
 - Bible - Exodus
 - Repressive Rulers and Governments... (HR violations...)
 - o Jewish annihilation (Auzhwitsche Gas chamber...)
 - o Workers Rights – Class struggle
 - o Freedom Initiatives (Indian Freedom Movement)
 - PLO, LTTE, Naxal Movements etc.
- I. The Human Person, a reflection: [Notes, Exordium, p. 17-24]
 - o Man is created in God's own image and likeness
 - 'tatvamasi' that thou art...
 - Inalienable Rights – innate, that is by birth..
 - `not granted by anyone... and so can't be taken away by anyone...
- II. Background to the Human Rights Instruments...
 - o Human Rights Movements
 - I. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948.
 - II. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966.
 - III. The European Convention for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.
 - IV. The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
 - V. The Constitution of India (especially the Fundamental Rights).
 - The preamble to the Indian Constitution
 - Human Rights and duties in the Constitution **
- III. Relevance of the study of Human Rights in India
 - o Social Aspects
 - o Economic Aspects
 - o Political Aspects
- IV. Human Rights Violations, Redressal Mechanisms and Implementation
 - o Deprivation of Human Rights: the Core Issues
 - I. Poverty, overpopulation, illiteracy
 - II. Problems of Unsustainable Development

- III. Disadvantaged Groups
 - Women
 - Children
 - Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
 - Homeless and Slum Dwellers
 - Physically and mentally Handicapped
 - Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
- o Redressal Mechanisms
 - I. Judiciary
 - II. National Human Rights Commission and other Statutory Commissions
 - i. *[Media Advocacy]*
 - ii. *Creation of Human Rights Literacy and Awareness]*
- o Systems to implement Human Rights from the lowest to the highest... HR Commission
 - I. Democracy
 - Guaranteed freedoms
 -]People's participation
 - II. Rule of Law
 - Non-arbitrariness
 - Fairness in Criminal Justice Administration
 - Combating Corruption
 - III. Open and Transparent Governance
 - Right to information
 - Whistle Blowing: Public Exposure of Unfair Practices and Abuse of Public Authority.

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