

Media can play a major role in protecting and promoting human rights in the world. It can make people aware of the need to promote certain values in the cause of human rights which are of eternal value to the mankind. Peace, non-violence, disarmament, maintenance and promotion of ecological balances and unpolluted environment and ensuring human rights to all irrespective of caste, colour and creed should be the minimum common agenda for the media. The media can perform this role in different ways. It can make people aware of their rights, expose its violations and focus attention on people and areas in need of the protection of human rights and pursue their case till they achieve them. Media can also give publicity to the individuals and organisations, which are engaged in securing human rights. This will encourage as well as motivate others to do the similar work. Since media plays the role of communication between the state and the public, it can also play an effective role of making the authorities aware of their duties. While reporting such violation media should not get influenced by authorities. It should look deep into the problem and provide solutions. Mere reporting of the facts is not enough. It should give reasons of the problem and the nature of the violations and then give solutions. Press has a sacred duty to focus human rights violations and then measures for protecting them. Freedom of expression is a sacred right well accepted over the globe and journalists should respect this freedom. In Indian constitution, it finds place as a guaranteed fundamental right. The Government of India in tune with constitutional mandate professes its anxiety to protect and safeguard

this fundamental right. But no right and for that matter the right to freedom of expression is absolute and unfettered in all circumstances but bound by duty to Maintain peace and harmony of the body polity by exercising prudence and restraint in the exercise of right to freedom of speech. If exercise of this right is likely to inflame passion, the right to freedom of expression needs circumspection and consequent restraint for greater good of the society.

Media can inform and educate the people of their rights and suggest ways And means by which they can solve their problems and thus empowering them to protect their rights. The Media work for guiding the people and the government to move towards such goal relentlessly and in right direction.

#### Reference:

- Balakrishnan, Media role in promoting human rights culture important: December 19, 2013
- Prakash J. Mediated Right: Media, Women and Human Right in India, The Indian Journal of Political Science VOL, LXVI, No.1, January –March, 2005
- Roy G.N. "The Role of Media in Protection of Human Right"
- Raythatha, Divyesh K. (2006) The role of Mass Media in promotion and protection of *Human Rights in India* Indian Constitution, Liberty, Law Commission of India

## The Evolution of Human Rights

**Dr. Prakash Deshmukh**

School of Commerce and Management,  
YCMOU, Nashik.

According to Satpal, As the concept of human rights is a complex and contradictory one, it is desirable to go through some of the standard definitions offered by different scholars from time to time. "Human Rights", in the words of A. A. Said, "are concerned with the dignity of the individual – the level of self esteem that secures personal identity and promotes human community." According to Scott Davidson, "The concept of human rights is closely connected with the protection of

individuals from the exercise of state, government or authority in certain areas of their lives, it is also directed towards creation of societal conditions by the state in which individual are to develop their fullest potential." From the above-cited definitions of human rights, it is pretty clear that human rights, weather recognized or not, belong to all human beings at all times and in all places. **Development of Concept of Human Rights** – Once the concept of a higher law binding on human authorities

was evolved, it came to be asserted that there were certain rights anterior to society, which too were superior to rights created by the human authorities, were of universal application to men of all ages and in all climes, and were supposed to have existed even before the birth of political society. These rights could not, therefore, be violated by the State. The deficiencies of this doctrine of natural rights, from the legal standpoint, however, were that it was a mere ideology, and there was no agreed catalogue of such rights and no machinery for their enforcement, until they were codified into national Constitutions, as a judicially enforceable Bill of Rights. The concept of human rights, embodying the minimum rights of an individual against his own State, assumed a concrete and justifiable shape when these individual rights came to be guaranteed against the State in written Constitutions adopted since the Constitution of the U.S.A. in 1787, to which the Bill of Rights was formally added in 1791. Incorporation of these individual rights in a written Constitution consequently led to incorporate human rights into the municipal law of a State, and to make them legally enforceable by an aggrieved individual against his State to invalidate any State act, legislative or executive, which is found by a court of law to have violated any of the constitutionally guaranteed human rights belonging to the aggrieved individual. Though the concept of human rights is as old as the ancient doctrine of 'natural rights' founded on natural law, the expression 'human rights' is of recent origin, emerging from post-Second World War international Charters and Conventions. The establishment of the International Committee of the Red Cross the 1864 Lieber Code and the first of the Geneva Conventions in 1864 laid the foundations of International Humanitarian Law. The huge losses of human life and gross abuses of human rights that took place during World Wars developed the modern human rights instruments. The League of Nations was established in 1919 and its goals included disarmament, preventive war through collective security, settling disputes between countries through negotiation and diplomacy and improving global welfare. Enshrined in its Charter was a mandate to promote many of the rights later included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. At the 1945 Yalta Conference, the Allied powers agreed to create a new body i.e. United Nations that now make up international

humanitarian law and international human rights law. The first documentary use of the expression 'human rights' is to be found in the Charter of the United Nations, which was adopted after the Second World War at San Francisco on June 26, 1945 and ratified by a majority of its signatories in October that year. The Preamble and articles of this Charter 18, which were drawn up to prevent a recurrence of the destruction and suffering caused by the Second World War, by setting up the international organization called the United Nations, declared that the United Nations shall have for its object, inter alia, "to reaffirm faith in 'fundamental human rights'".

**Conclusion -** The concept of human rights is closely connected with the protection of individuals from the exercise of state, government or authority in certain areas of their lives, it is also directed towards creation of societal conditions by the state in which individual are to develop their fullest potential. The first documentary use of the expression 'human rights' is to be found in the Charter of the United Nations, which was adopted after the Second World War at San Francisco on June 26, 1945 and ratified by a majority of its signatories in October that year. The Preamble and articles of this Charter 18, which were drawn up to prevent a recurrence of the destruction and suffering caused by the Second World War, by setting up the international organization called the United Nations, declared that the United Nations shall have for its object, inter alia, "to reaffirm faith in 'fundamental human rights'".

### Reference

Satpal, Historical Evolution Of Human Rights, Indian Streams Research Journal, Volume 4, Issue 8, Sept 2014.

Daniel J. Whelan, Indivisible Human Rights: A History, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010.

Aryeh Neier, The International Human Rights Movement: A History, Princeton University Press, 2012.