

**TAMIL NADU OPEN UNIVERSITY**  
**School of Politics and Public Administration**  
Programme Name & Code: PG Human Rights (MHRN)

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**MHRN -11**

**Historical and Theoretical Perspectives on Human Rights and Duties**

**BLOCK – I HUMAN RIGHTS – AN INTRODUCTION**

- Unit-1 Human Rights: Conceptual Setting - Meaning, Nature and Scope
- Unit-2 Classification of rights – Generation of rights
- Unit-3 Universal Human Values: Dignity, Justice and Equality.

**BLOCK II HUMAN RIGHTS – A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES**

- Unit-4 Evolution of human rights - Magna Carta, - British Bill of Rights
- Unit-5 American Declaration of Independence - French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen
- Unit-6 Formation of UN and human rights
- Unit-7 UDHR, ICCPR, ICESCR
- Unit-8 French and American Declarations
- Unit-9 UN Charter - International Bill of Rights.

**BLOCK III HUMAN RIGHTS – THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES**

- Unit-10 Theories and philosophies of Human Rights
- Unit-11 Theories of rights
- Unit-12 Contemporary human rights theories

**BLOCK IV CULTURE, RELIGION AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-13 Universalism and Cultural Relativism, Asian perspective of human rights
- Unit-14 Cultural Diversity, Pluralism and Human Rights
- Unit-15 Religion and Human Rights
- Unit-16 Theological Perspectives on Human Right

**BLOCK V HUMAN RIGHTS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Unit-17 Concept of Duties and Responsibilities
- Unit-18 Relationship between Rights and Duties
- Unit-19 Classification of Human duties and responsibilities: General
- Unit-20 Moral, ethical, social, economic, political Rights

**Book References:**

1. Bhagwati, P.N. (1987), Dimensions of Human Rights, Madurai: Societyfor Community Organization Trust.
2. Jack Donnelly, 2005, Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practices, Manas Publications: New Delhi
3. Dube, M.P.and Neet a Bora(ed.)(2000), Perspectives on Human Rights, New Delhi: Anamika Publishers.
4. Freeman, Michael (2003), Human Rights: An Interdisciplinary Approach, Cambridge.

5. Hargopal, G. (1999), Political Economy of Human Rights, Hyderabad: Himalaya.

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## MHRN - 12

### CONSTITUTIONAL FOUNDATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDIA

#### **BLOCK I THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION:HUMAN RIGHTS AND DUTIES**

- Unit-1 Introduction to The Constitution of India, preamble
- Unit-2 Fundamental Rights - Directive Principles of State Policy - Fundamental Duties - Relationship between them
- Unit-3 Writs – 73rd and 74th amendment
- Unit-4 Judicial Activism: Importance of Public Interest Litigation(PIL)in India; Emergency Provision under the Indian Constitution
- Unit-5 International human rights and the Indian Constitution – Democratic System and Welfare State

#### **BLOCK II AFFIRMATIVE LEGISLATION FOR VULNERABLE SECTIONS**

- Unit-6 Reservations and the right to equality
- Unit-7 Safeguarding Women, rights and Acts
- Unit-8 The Unorganized Workers’
- Unit-9 Children: Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000
- Unit-10 Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2005

#### **BLOCK III ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS AND PROBLEMS**

- Unit-11 Protection of Human Rights Act , U.N and its Provisions
- Unit-12 Constitutional Mechanisms: Judiciary and Executive; Statutory Mechanisms
- Unit-13 Human Rights Commissions: National and State levels - SC/ST Commission, Minorities Commission, Women’s Commission
- Unit-14 Problems of Enforcement of Human Rights in India – Abuse, deaths and torture in police custody etc.

#### **BLOCK IV CONSTITUTION AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-15 Critical Appraisal of Human Rights under Indian Constitution– Relevant Articles
- Unit-16 Indian Constitution and UN Declaration of human rights
- Unit-17 Human Rights in India and a comparison with USA and China

#### **BLOCK V THE STATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN INDIA**

- Unit-18 Role of civil society: NGOs, and human rights
- Unit-19 Human rights in private domain family, castes, religious groups )
- Unit-20 Human Rights violations in public domain( State, landlords, employers,)

#### **Book References:**

1. Austin, Granville (2000), *Working of a Democratic Constitution: The Indian Experience*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
2. Basu,D.D. (2009), *Introduction to the Constitution of India*, Nagpur, New Delhi, Nexus Lexis, Butterworths.
3. S. Kashyap, Subhash . (1978), *Human Rights and Parliament*, Delhi: Metropolitan.

4. Mehta, P.L. and Neena Verma (1995), *Human Rights under the Indian Constitution*, New Delhi: Deep and Deep Publications.
5. Noorani, A.G. (2006), *Constitutional Questions and Citizens Rights*, Oxford University Press.

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## MHRN – 13

### INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN RIGHTS

#### **BLOCK I EMERGENCE AND GROWTH**

- Unit-1 The Emergence of International Human Rights Norms
- Unit-2 Internationally Recognized Human Rights - Growth and Institutionalisation
- Unit-3 League of nations- Establishment of United Nations

#### **BLOCK II INTERNATIONAL NORMS AND STANDARD**

- Unit-4 United Nations Charter bodies
- Unit-5 UN Treaties Bodies
- Unit-6 UN High Commission for Human Rights
- Unit-7 Human Rights Watch – Vienna Declaration on Human Rights.
- Unit-8 Fundamental Duties and Responsibilities of UNO

#### **BLOCK III REGIONAL LEVEL**

- Unit-9 European Convention of Human Rights, 1950
- Unit-10 African Charter of Human and People's Rights
- Unit-11 European Court of human Rights Charter

#### **BLOCK IV HUMAN RIGHTS IN ASIA**

- Unit-12 Arab Regional Commission of Human Rights
- Unit-13 SAARC and Human Rights
- Unit-14 Human Rights in Saudi Arabia, North Korea and China
- Unit-15 Castiesm in India as a Human Rights violation.

#### **BLOCK V INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO PROBLEMS**

- Unit-16 UNHRC: Its Role and Functions
- Unit-17 UNESCO Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice 1978
- Unit-18 Geneva Convention on International Humanitarian Law 1949
- Unit-19 Conventions on the protection of all person from torture, and other Cruel, Inhuman

#### **Book References:**

1. Digumarti Bhaskara Rao (2001), *International Instrument of Human Right,s* Discovery Publication, New Delhi
2. Henry J Steiner and Philip Alston (ed) (2000), *International Human Rights in Context* Oxford University Press
3. Jack Donnelly (2005), *Universal Human Rights* Manas Publication, NewDelhi
4. Mishra,Pramod (ed.) (2000), *Human Rights in South Asia*, Delhi :Kalpaz Publications.

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5. <https://youtu.be/A3MGARaXWA8>

## MHRN – 14

### EDUCATION, PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

#### **BLOCK I INTRODUCTION**

Unit- 1 Origin, Development and Significance of Human Rights Education

Unit-2 Approaches to Human Rights Education

Unit-3 Contemporary Development in Human Rights Education

#### **BLOCK II HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION POLICIES**

Unit-4 National and International Policy on Human Rights Education

Unit-5 Current Scenario of Human Rights Education

Unit-6 UNO and Human Rights Education Policies

Unit-7 Growth of Teaching in Human Rights Education

#### **BLOCK III IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION**

Unit-8 UN Advisory Services and Technical Cooperation in Human Rights Education

Unit-9 National Assistance and Technical Cooperation of Human Rights Education

Unit-10 Functionaries in Human Rights Education

Unit-11 Human Rights Education and NGOs

#### **BLOCK IV TEACHING OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

Unit-12 Principles and Practice in Teaching of Human Rights Education

Unit-13 Curriculum for Human Rights Education

Unit-14 Human Rights Education: Problems and Challenges

Unit-15 Human Rights Commissions and Human Rights Education

#### **BLOCK V HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION: EMERGING TRENDS AND DIMENSIONS**

Unit-16 Research Priorities in Human Rights Education

Unit-17 Problems in Universalizing Human Rights Norms

Unit-18 Current Approaches in Human Rights Education

Unit-19 Training Aspects of Human Rights Education

Unit-20 Design, Techniques, Aids and Issues

#### **Book References:**

1. Alston, Phillip (ed.) (1992), *The United Nations and Human Rights: A Critical Appraisal*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.
2. Jha,R.C.(1995), *Resurrecting A Human Right in India*, New Delhi: Sheriden Book Company
3. Ponaiyan, M. and Panch Ramalingam (1999), *Education and Human Rights*, P.R. Books, New Delhi.
4. Saxena, K.P., (1996), *Teaching Human Rights: A Manual for Adult Education*, Landy Books, New Delhi.
5. Sharma, Gokulesh, (2003) *Indianization of Rights and Duties*, New Delhi: Manas.

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5. <https://youtu.be/ZfbVkMk7iis>

**MHRN – 15**  
**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**BLOCK I INTRODUCTION ON RESEARCH**

- Unit-1 Social Science Research: Meaning, Nature, Objectives and Types
- Unit-2 Scientific Methods of Social Science Research
- Unit-3 Social Science Research in Human Rights – Issues and Trends

**BLOCK II RESEARCH PROBLEM, HYPOTHESIS, RESEARCH DESIGN AND SAMPLING**

- Unit-4 Identification of Research Problem
- Unit-5 Hypotheses
- Unit-6 Research Design
- Unit-7 Selection of Universe
- Unit-8 Sampling: Various Methods of Sampling and Scaling -probability

**BLOCK III DATA COLLECTION**

- Unit-9 Data Collection: Sources of Data (Primary and Secondary)
- Unit-10 Types of data
- Unit-11 Methods of data collection
- Unit-12 Tools and Techniques of Data Collection

**BLOCK IV STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

- Unit-13 Classification, Codification and Tabulation of Data
- Unit-14 Data analysis - Report writing,
- Unit-15 Interpretation of results
- Unit-16 Statistical Method – Significance and Limitations, Measures of Central Tendency (Mean, Median & Mode)

**BLOCK V REPORT WRITING**

- Unit-17 Report Writing: Structure
- Unit-18 Characteristics and Precautions
- Unit-19 Role of Computers in Research
- Unit-20 Ethics in Social Science Research

**Book References:**

1. Goode & Hatt (1987), *Methods of Social Research*, New Delhi, McGraw Hill Book Company.
2. Pauline V. Young (1979), *Scientific Social Survey & Research*, New Delhi, Printice Hall of India.
3. John Galtung (1967), *Theory & Methods of Social Research*, New Delhi: Colombia University Press.
4. S.R. Bajpai (1998), *Methods of Social Survey & Research*, Kanpur, Kitab Mahal

5. S.R.Kothari(2002), *Research Methodology – Methods & Techniques* (2ndEd.), New Delhi: Wiley Eastern Ltd.

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## MHRN – 21

### SOCIETAL PROBLEMS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN INDIA

#### **BLOCK I CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVES**

- Unit-1 Civil Society and Social Movements
- Unit-2 Concepts, Typology, Ideology, Organization and role
- Unit-3 Mobilization leadership
- Unit-4 Social Movements as promoters of social change and Human Rights

#### **BLOCK II SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-5 Reform Movement in Colonial India
- Unit-6 Dalit Movements and Castism ( B.R.Ambedkar, Periyar E.V. Ramasamy )
- Unit-7 Tribal Movements -Women's Movements in India
- Unit-8 New Social Movements

#### **BLOCK III POLITICAL AND ENVIRONMENT MOVEMENTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-9 Political Movements
- Unit-10 Freedom Movements
- Unit-11 Peasant Movement; Regional and Ethnic identity Movements
- Unit-12 Trade Union Movements - Students Unrest
- Unit-13 Ecological/Movements – Chipko Movement - Narmada Bachao Andolan

#### **BLOCK IV HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENTS IN INDIA**

- Unit- 14 NGOs and Human Rights Movements in India
- Unit-15 People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL)and Peoples Union for Democratic Rights (PUDR)
- Unit-16 Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS)
- Unit-17 Human Rights Law Network (HRLN)
- Unit-18 National Alliance for People's Movement (NAPM)

#### **BLOCK V AFSPA AND NAXALISM**

- Unit-19 Armed Forces Special Provisions Act and its repercussions
- Unit-20 Debate for and against AFSPA – Case of Irom Sharmila
- Unit-21 Problems of Development, unequal distribution of wealth, State Power
- Unit-22 Naxalism and its implications with Human Rights.

#### **Book References:**

1. Bhatia, K. L. et al. (1995), *Social Justice of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar*, New Delhi: Deep and Deep
2. Eide, Asbjorn (1986), “*Human Rights Movement and the Transformation of International Order*”, *Alternatives*, Vol.11, No.3,pp.367-402.
3. Karna,G.N.(2000),“*Disability Rights Movement: Conceptual Framework and Its Implications for India*”, *Disabilities and Impairments*, Vol.14, No.1, pp.15-22.

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## MHRN – 22

### DEVELOPMENT, GLOBALISATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

#### **BLOCK I RIGHTS BASED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT**

- Unit-1 Role of Human Rights in Development
- Unit-2 Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation – impact on human rights
- Unit-3 Connotations of Development: Modernization and Dependency approaches
- Unit-4 Integrating the human rights approach in development – Various theories of Development

#### **BLOCK II INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-5 Vision of the New International Economic Order (NIEO)
- Unit-6 International Trade and Development: WTO
- Unit-7 Unequal terms of trade imposed by the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations
- Unit-8 International Trade and Human Rights Perspective in India

#### **BLOCK III GLOBALISATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-9 Globalisation: Meaning, voices for and against globalisation
- Unit-10 Globalisation and its impact on agriculture, environment, labour, women, culture and health
- Unit-11 Problem of patents and monopoly
- Unit-12 The Human Genome Project

#### **BLOCK IV HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY**

- Unit-13 National control over International Trade
- Unit-14 Transnational Corporations (TNCs) and Human Rights violations
- Unit-15 Codes of conduct and TNCs - Regulation of TNCs
- Unit-16 Human Rights and International Trade – Impact of GATT-WTO

#### **BLOCK V ISSUES IN HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-17 Debate on the Social Issues: Tribal and Farmer Rights
- Unit-18 Sanction imposed by developed Countries on Third World
- Unit-19 Right to Development
- Unit-20 Sovereign states and peoples' rights: issue of economic sovereignty

#### **Book References:**

1. Baxi, Upendra (1983) “*The New International Economic Order, Basic Needs and Rights: Notes towards Development of the Right to Development*”, Indian Journal of International Law, Vol.23, pp.225-45.
2. Baxi, Upendra (1998) “*The Development of the Right to Development*”, in Janusz Symonides, (ed.),
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**MHRN - 23**  
**MAJOR THEMES AND ISSUES IN HUMAN RIGHTS**

**BLOCK I CHILD AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-1 The rights of children- Convention on Rights of the Child
- Unit-2 Nutrition Rights – Sex Determination - Female Foeticide and Infanticide
- Unit-3 Crime against children ( Child Labour, Child Trafficking)
- Unit-4 Parenting and Child Health

**BLOCK II GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-5 Gender and its implications on Human Rights
- Unit-6 Transgender and Human Rights
- Unit-7 United Nations and Status of Women -Global Gender Agenda
- Unit-8 Women: Domestic Violence, Dowry Harassment, Death, Violation at Work Place
- Unit-9 Denial of Equal Rights – Measures for Remedy

**BLOCK III RELIGION AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-10 Religious Rights and Human Rights
- Unit-11 Religious Human Rights
- Unit-12 Right to Freedom of Conscience and Religion– Jihad and Human Rights
- Unit-13 War on Terror and Human Rights

**BLOCK IV REFUGEES AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-14 Refugee Settlement, Displacement and Migration
- Unit-15 UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Unit-16 Global Warming
- Unit-17 Climate Change

**BLOCK V POPULATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

- Unit-18 Population Growth and Food Security
- Unit-19 Right to Food as a Human Right
- Unit-20 Family Planning, abortion and Human Rights

**Book References:**

1. Gasper, Des (1996), *Culture and Development Ethics: Needs, Women's Rights, and Western Theories*. Development and Change,27:627.
2. Pathack,R.S.(1998),*Human Rights in the Changing World*, International Law Association, NewDelhi.
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**MHRN - 24**  
**ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

**BLOCK I ENVIRONMENT**

- Unit-1 Concept and Definition– Environmental Rights and Human Rights
- Unit-2 Concern for Environment
- Unit-3 Environmental Pollution: Causes, Effects on Life, Water and Agriculture
- Unit-4 Sustainable Development

**BLOCK II ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

- Unit-5 Constitutional Rights, Duties and Obligation- Role of Judiciary
- Unit-6 Environment Protection Act 1986
- Unit-7 National Environment Policy 2006
- Unit-8 Indigenous People, Tribals and Forest Dwellers

**BLOCK III ENVIRONMENT VERSUS DEVELOPMENT**

- Unit-9 Mega Developmental Projects: Dams, Industrial Expansion, Exploration of Mines
- Unit-10 Pollution - Depletion of Flora and Fauna
- Unit-11 Dumping of Waste and Discarded Technology
- Unit-12 Government Planning and Pollution Control Mechanisms

**BLOCK IV SUPERVISION AND ENFORCEMENT**

- Unit-13 Commissions and Committees on Environment at National Level
- Unit-14 International Convention on Protection of Environment
- Unit-15 UN Convention on Development – United Nations' IPCC
- Unit-16 World Climate Change Negotiations – Greenpeace and its functions

**BLOCK V EMERGING CONCEPTS**

- Unit-17 Common Heritage Principles - Public Trust -- Intergenerational Equity
- Unit-18 Principle of 'Polluter Pays'- Precautionary Principle
- Unit-19 Duties towards Future Generations
- Unit-20 Code of Environmental Culture and Ethics

**Book References:**

1. Anita Cheria (et.al.),(2004), *Human Rights Approaches to Development: Resource Book*, Bangalore; Books for Change
2. Banerjee, Preetha M.and Shastri,Vanita (ed.) (2010), *Social Responsibility and Environmental Sustainability in Business: How Organisations Handle Profit and Duties*, New Delhi:Sage Publications.
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**MHRN - 25**  
**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

**BLOCK I CONCEPTS AND PERSPECTIVES ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

- Unit-1 Concepts: Science and Technology, Scientific Temper, Biotechnology
- Unit-2 Bio Ethics - Impact of Science and Technology on Society
- Unit-3 International Perspective on Science and Technology
- Unit-4 Human Rights and Duties

**BLOCK II FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND ICT**

- Unit-5 Right to Adequate Food
- Unit-6 Agricultural Biotechnology: Impact of Biotechnology on Agriculture
- Unit-7 Food Biotechnology: Issues of Food Safety
- Unit-8 Right to Freedom of Information and Expression and ICTs
- Unit-9 Cyber Crime

**BLOCK III HEALTH AND BIOTECHNOLOGY**

- Unit-10 Right To Health: Health Technologies
- Unit-11 Application of Biotechnology in Medicine
- Unit-12 Clinical Trials and Experiment on Living Beings
- Unit-13 Intellectual Property Rights in Technological Society

**BLOCK IV ENVIRONMENT, WAR AND DESTRUCTION**

- Unit-14 Right to Clean Environment
- Unit-15 Impact of unbridled use of natural resources - Industrialization and issues of Public Safety
- Unit-16 Environmental Biotechnology, Right to Peace and Disarmament

**BLOCK V BIO-MEDICAL ETHICS AND SOCIAL ISSUES**

- Unit-17 Bio medical Ethics
- Unit-18 Abortion & Assisted Reproductive Technologies
- Unit-19 Organ Transplantation - Stem Cell Research - Cloning
- Unit-20 Right to Die in Dignity and Peace: Euthanasia

**Book References:**

1. Amarasekara, Kumar (1998), “*Autonomy, Paternalism and Discrimination: The Darker Side of Euthanasia*”.
2. Antony Anghie and Garry Sturges, (eds.), *Legal Visions of the 21st Century: Essays in Honour of Judge Christopher Weeramantry*, The Hague: Kluwer, pp. 261-282.
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