

HUMAN RIGHTS - A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Human rights are those rights to which an individual is entitled by virtue of his status as a human being. Human rights constitute the very source of all rights of human beings. They embody the scheme of ideal rights. The scope of human rights is very wide. They set the standards for the provision and expansion of civil, political and socio-economic rights, are exhausted, he can still hope to get relief under the umbrella of human rights. Even when the ordinary rights are reinterpreted in the light of human rights, they enter the ever-expanding domain of human welfare. In every age the voice of protest has been heard. In every age the vision of the human liberation has been glimpsed. In modern times this vision of human liberation has been developed into the concept of human rights.

The story of Human Rights dates back to 539 B.C., when the armies of Cyrus the great, the first king of ancient Persia, conquered the city of Babylon. His next actions marked a major advance for man. He freed the slaves, declared that all people had the right to choose their own religion and established racial equality. These and other decrees were recorded on a baked clay cylinder in the Akkadian language with cuneiform script. This ancient record known as Cyrus cylinder has now been recognized as the world's first charter of human rights. It is translated into all six official languages of the United Nations and its provisions parallel the first four Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. From Babylon, idea of human rights spread quickly to India, Greece and eventually to Rome. Documents asserting individual rights, such as the Magna Carta (1215), the Petition of Right (1628), the US constitution (1787), the French declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789) and the US Bill of Rights (1791) are the written precursors to many of today's human rights documents. Thomas Jefferson of today's human rights documents. Thomas

Jefferson, inspiration and principal author of the American Declaration of Independence, declared that “The care of human life and happiness and not their destruction, is the first and only legitimate object of good government.”

The origin of Modern Human Rights movement is Europe and the movement was started after second world war by the socialists of the country who had thinking, love and respect for all other human beings. They were the people who think for betterment of every human being in the time where every human was envy from other on basis of status, country, race and religion. Human rights movement focused on spreading brother hood country to country and also made a huge success at that time. This was the time when with the collaboration of mutual interest from many countries founded United National organization and then several rules and regulations are set for each country and also many countries signed treaties with each other to work together.

Human right day is celebrated all over the world on 10th December. On this day in 1948 United National organization in there general assemble under the chairmanship of Eleanor Roosevelt, adopted the universal declaration of human rights in Paris. That is why this day is celebrated as human rights day in whole world. The purpose behind celebration of human rights day is to aware people about their rights. Human rights mean those liberties which should be enjoyed by all persons irrespective of their religion, race, caste, sex and nationality, sometimes we call human right as fundamental or natural rights. Public support and condemnation of abuses is important for Human rights organization success, as human rights organizations are most effective when their calls for reform are backed by strong public advocacy. Thomas Jefferson inspiration and principal author of the American Declaration of Independence, declared that “The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction is the first and only legitimate object of good government.”

Born in New York City, Eleanor married rising politician Franklin Delana Roosevelt in 1905 and become fully immersed in Public service. By the time they arrived in the white House in 1993 as President and First lady, she was already deeply involved in human rights and social justice issues. She publicly supported Marian Anderson when in 1936 the black singer was denied the use of Washington's constitution Hall because of her race. Roosevelt saw to it that Anderson performed instead on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, creating an enduring and inspiring image of personal courage and human rights.

Martin Luther king, Jr, is widely celebrated as an American civil rights hero. Yet king's nonviolent opposition to racism militarism and economic injustice had deeper roots and more radical implications than is commonly appreciated. Between the 1940's and the 1960's, king was influenced by the turn reshaped the political cultures of the black freedom movement and democratic left king's early leadership reached beyond southern desegregation and voting rights. As the freedom movement of the 1950s and early 1960s confronted poverty and economic reprisals, king championed trade, trade union rights, equal job opportunities, metropolitan integration, and full employment.

Martin Luther king, Jr. Was born on January 15, 1925. He was the son of Martin Luther king, Sr. and Aberta Williams. His mother, a teacher taught him to read before he started school. In his early childhood he learnt prejudice and the Jim crow laws that separated whites and Blacks. He learnt about civil war and how it ended slavery, but not the hatred and prejudice between black and whites.

He went to school at Booker T. Washington High School. He was part of the debate team and had to Travel to different school for the debates. He was sitting in front of the seat, of the bus, with his teacher. They were both blocks. It was common for black people to sit in the back because whites thought they were better than blacks. They didn't realize the bus was filling up. The driver told them to go to the back, but they refused. The driver then

cursed and threatened them and only because his teacher was in tears, they moved to the back. Another incident that shook the world was the brutal murder of Till. A fourteen year old from Chicago visited his relatives in Money, Mississippi (1955). He supposedly whistled at a white woman in a grocery store. The woman's husband and his brother went to Till's house that night. Till was kidnapped, beaten, shot and then his body was dumped into a river. Till's mother insisted on an open casket. The man went to trial, but were acquitted by the all white jury members. Later, in exchange for \$4000, the men told Look magazine how they brutally kill, but this gave Martin Luther King Jr. determination to fight prejudice. The Negro is your Brother is an open letter written on April 16, 1963, by Martin Luther King Jr, an American Civil rights leader. King wrote the letter from the City Jail in Birmingham, Alabama, where he was confined after being arrested for his part in the Birmingham campaign a planned non violent protest conducted by the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights and King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference against racial segregation by Birmingham's city government and downtown retailers. After that Blacks got to drink from the same fountains, same bath rooms and businesses would begin to hire blacks. In 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. was chosen as The man of the year by Time magazine. In 1964, he received the Nobel peace prize.

In those earlier days in the 20th century, the face of racism was largely black and white. Today, the face of racism has become multi colored and multicultural. With the high increase of diverse populations entering and maintaining communities all over the country, racism has expanded to include antagonism between peoples of many cultures. In 21st century many changes were sought in Society. There will always be two schools of Thoughts - those who will fight for change while others resist and seek to maintain the status quo. The people are finding it difficult to give up economy, power and control. They don't

want to pass it on to the new generation who wish to see their own brethren grow without any discrimination.

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