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PAPER – HUMAN RIGHTS & FEMINISM

**TOPIC : SIGNIFICANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS** 

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Human rights are recognized as a result of popular struggles. It is people, not politician, who claim rights, and it's their efforts that lead to official reorganization of Human Rights. All significant advances in the protection of human rights have developed from social struggles or movements, including those of organized labour, anti-colonialists, the women's movement, child rights, migrant workers rights, dalit rights and tribal's Rights. The human rights agenda has always been a dynamic and constantly evolving one, with activists and National/International Organisation such as Amnesty International, International Federation of Human Rights, Human Rights watch (HRW) World organisation Against Torture, Freedom House, World Peace council, People's Union for civil liberty. National Human Rights Commission nongovernmental organization etc. is applying the principles and tools of people's rights to different context. Thus, we can say that over the last 20 years civil and political movement, social justice movement, feminist movement child Right movement, Dalit

movement have increasingly taken the language and tools of Human Rights in the sphere of social, economic, cultural policy. It is well said that a nation is called cultured developed nation only when it guarantees the number of rights to its citizen and off course right with dignity is prime important. Interest and awareness of human rights has grown in recent decades. In 1948, the United Nations released the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which has become the most important document which considered the standard for liberty, equality, dignity, and justice of mankind

# SIGNIFICANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights ensure people to have their basic needs met: Everyone needs access to medicine, food, water, clothes, and shelter. By including these in a person's basic human rights, everyone has a baseline level of dignity. Unfortunately, there are still millions of people out there who don't have these necessities, but saying it's a matter of human rights allows activists and others to work towards getting those for everyone.

**Human rights protect vulnerable groups from abuse:** The Declaration of Human Rights was created largely because of the Holocaust and the horrors of World War II, human rights protect vulnerable population, including those with disabilities and LGBT, women, child, old aged group, minorities, dalits etc. Organisation concerned with human rights focus on protection of vulnerable section of society from power holders, instead of ignoring them.

### Human rights allow people to stand up to societal corruption:

The concept of human rights allows people to speak up when they experience abuse and corruption. This is why specific rights like the right to assemble are so crucial because no society is perfect. The concept of human rights empowers people and tells them that they deserve dignity from society, whether it's the government or their work environment. When they don't receive it, they can stand up.

Human rights encourage freedom of speech and expression: Human being able to speak freely without fear of brutal reprisal is more expansive. It encompasses ideas and forms of expression that not everybody will like or agree with, but no one should ever feel like they are going to be in danger from their government because of what they think. It goes both ways, too, and protects people who want to debate or argue with certain ideas expressed in their society.

Human rights give people the freedom to practice their religion (or not practice any): Religious violence and oppression occur over and over again all across history, from the Crusades to the Holocaust to modern terrorism in the name of religion. Human rights acknowledge the importance of a person's religion and spiritual beliefs, and let them practice in peace. The freedom to *not* hold to a religion is also a human right.

Human rights allow people to love who they choose: The importance of freedom to love cannot be understated. Being able to choose what one's romantic life is an essential human right. Human rights condemned honour killing in Indian society. The consequences of not protecting this right are clear when you look at countries where LGBT people are oppressed and abused, or where women are forced into marriages they don't want. **Human rights encourage equal work opportunities:** The right to work and make a living allows people to flourish in their society. Without acknowledging that the work environment can be biased or downright oppressive, people find themselves enduring abuse or insufficient opportunities. The concept of human rights provides a guide for how workers should be treated and encourages equality.

**Human rights give people access to education:** Education is important for so many reasons and is crucial for societies where poverty is common. Organizations and governments concerned with human rights provide access to schooling. Seeing education as a right means everyone can get access, not just the elite.

**Human rights protect the environment:** The relation between human rights and environmentalism is becoming stronger due to climate change and its effects on the people. We live in the world, we need the land, so it makes sense that what happens to the environment impacts humanity. The right to clean air, clean soil, and clean water are all as important as the other rights included in this list.

Human rights provide a universal standard that holds governments accountable: When the UDHR was released, it had a two-fold purpose: provide a guideline for the future and force the world to acknowledge that during World War II, human rights had been violated on a massive scale. With a standard for what is a human right, governments can be held accountable for their actions. Activities of Government, Police, Administrative Bodies, Media and other authorities are guided under the umbrella of human rights.