

## Unit-I

# 1. Meaning - Nature - Scope - Theories of Human Rights.

## Meaning of Human Rights.

Human rights are a special sort of inalienable moral entitlement. They attach to all persons equally, by virtue of their humanity, irrespective of race, nationality, or membership of any particular social group. Human rights belong to an individual as a consequence of being human.

## Nature of Human Rights.

\* Civil and political rights, \* economic, social and cultural rights and \* solidarity rights. It has been typically understood that individuals and certain groups are bearers of human rights, while the state is the prime organ that can protect or violate human rights.

## Scope of Human Rights

Scope is the breadth of a subject. A domain while is the natural world, consisting of all things unaffected by or predating human technology, production and design the eco system, the natural environment, virgin ground, unmodified species, laws of nature. The scope of the constitutional right marks the right's boundaries and defines its content, the extent of its protection prescribes the legal limitations on the exercise of the right within its scope.

# Evolution of Human Rights.

Prevalence of Human Rights dates back to ancient days. There are many evidences to prove this fact. The Midn philosophy speaks righteousness in terms of 'Law' and 'Law' in term of righteousness. Rights were established by prescribing performance of certain duties. Hindu religion believed in the concept of 'Dharma' which identified various duties to individuals through which rights of human beings were recognised.

Duties such as:

- \* Compassion for fellow members
- \* Respecting human values.
- \* Freedom of knowledge.
- \* Freedom from want
- \* Freedom from violence.
- \* Freedom from exploitation.

Were all emphasised leading to respect human rights in the ancient sacred book 'SADAKSHARAS'. Further the concept of Dharma recognised the various religions, moral, social and legal duties and considered law as a separate the branch of Dharma.

'Bhagvadgita' the holy book of Hindus, highlighted 'Karma Marga' stating the individual duties towards God and fellow human beings.

# Universal declaration of Human Rights

Disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.