

## UNIT II

1. Female Infanticide and Foeticide
2. Apartheid and Racial Discrimination
3. Genocide - Prisoners of War
4. International Covenants on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination

## UNIT III

1. Constitutional Guarantees – Fundamental Rights
2. Directive Principles of State Policy
3. National and State Human Rights Commissions of India
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## UNIT IV

1. Women's Rights
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3. Refugee's Rights
4. Prisoner's Rights – Capital Punishment

## UNIT :V

1. Amnesty International – Red Cross
2. America Watch and Asia Watch
3. International Commission of Jurist
4. PUCL – PUDR – CFD in India

## UNIT -5, LESSON-1

### AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

The Amnesty International was formed in July 1961, in London, United Kingdom by the lawyers-Peter Benenson and Philip James. Amnesty draws attention to human rights abuses and campaigns for compliance with international laws and standards. It works to mobilize public opinion to generate pressure on governments where abuse takes place

## **How is Amnesty International Structured**

Amnesty International is largely made up of voluntary members but retains a small number of paid professionals. In countries in which Amnesty International has a strong presence, members are organized as “sections”. Sections co-ordinate basic Amnesty International activities normally with a significant number of members, some of whom will form into “groups”, and professional staff.

They also co-ordinate basic activities but have a smaller membership and limited staff. In countries where no section or structure exists, people can become “international members”. Two other organizational models exist: “international networks”, which promote specific themes or have a specific identity, and “affiliated groups”, which do the same work as section groups but in isolation.

The organization is headed by a secretary-general for its day to day functions.

## **What is the objective of Amnesty International?**

The main objective of Amnesty International is to conduct rigorous research and initiate measures to prevent and end grave abuses of human rights and to provide justice for the deprived section of the community.

## **What are the areas of work looked into by Amnesty International?**

The major areas that are covered by the Amnesty International include –

Women’s, children’s, minorities’ and indigenous rights

Ending torture

Abolition of the death penalty

Rights of refugees

Rights of prisoners of conscience

Protection of human dignity.

## **RED CROSS:-**

Red Cross is an organization that was formed internationally in 1863 in Geneva, Switzerland. It was founded by Henry Dunant. There is another body that was formed in 1919 called the International Federation of Red Cross, and it functions to coordinate the activities that are carried out by Red Cross.

Today there are over 97 million volunteers who work with Red Cross, and they serve to protect human life. It was established during that time because the founder saw that so many people were suffering during the war. People were wounded, and there was no place they could receive treatment.

Standards:-

The Red Cross society has standards that are to be followed. One is that the society has to provide humanitarian activities like distribution of food, treating the wounded, and saving lives in times of calamities like floods and famine.

They are also required to be neutral in all situations and not just treat people because they belong to a certain ethnic group. Another standard is to provide voluntary services to the countries the members are in. This could be the execution of projects that they are required to come up with. Unity is another standard that is required.

### **List of Members**

There is no particular list of members in the society, but there are over 97 million volunteers who work with the organization. It is established in 80 countries, and the number of staff is about 12,000 worldwide, who are professionals like doctors and engineers.

### **Purpose of the Body**

The main purpose of the body is to protect the life of human beings, those who suffer because of war or natural calamities like floods and famine, as well as a disease outbreak.

### **Functions of the Organization**

The functions of the organization include: promoting values and principles of humanitarian; provide assistance in cases of emergency like the outbreak of wars or threatening diseases; provide education on volunteering and prepare other bodies for disasters; provide support for health care projects in the regions they are established and finally provide activities that are related to the youth.

### **Achievements of the Organization**

The organization has achievements to save many lives in the world. They do this with the help of the natives in the countries they are established in. They have also been able to raise funds for the organization so that it can be able to carry out its operations.

Another major achievement is bringing peace to the countries that were fighting. They have also worked with the organizations that help them in the implementation of their projects like the UN. The UN has helped them with relief supplies and offered them protection when they go out to offer help to war victims.

### **Unit-5 Lesson-3**

#### **International Commission of Jurists**

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) is a major human rights NGO involved in educating governmental officials, judges, business leaders, and others around the world about human rights. It describes itself as a global network of judges, lawyers, and human rights defenders united by international law and rule of law principles that advance human rights. Using our expertise in law, justice systems, and advocacy, we work for victims to obtain remedies, for those responsible for abuses to be held accountable, and for justice systems to be independent and active protectors of human rights. We work to change law

and policy at the national and international levels when they do not adequately protect people from human rights violations.

#### NATURE OF THE EXTERN'S WORK AND SUPERVISION

The ICJ will assign the Michigan extern to a team, supervised by a lawyer when the ICJ determines its needs and can match them to a student's interest. Internships are available in the following areas:

##### International Law and Protection Programme

Focusing on aspects of the development and application of international human rights law, including economic social and cultural rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, women's human rights, international economic relations, global security and rule of law, and the United Nations.

##### Regional Programme

Focusing on specific legal issues in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Central America, Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa.

Participation in either programme offers the interns an opportunity to gain practical experience in human rights legal and advocacy work at the international level, as well as experience in working in a professional office environment. Students build professional and personal relations with colleagues and counterparts who will be able to provide long-term professional advice, support, and encouragement to follow a career in this field. In addition, interns gain exposure to the practical functioning of the United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms based on Geneva.

Externs are integrated into the ICJ's staff and become part of a team of junior support staff. They participate and contribute to staff meetings, discussions and briefing sessions, research human rights issues, draft papers and reports, maintain information databases, attend and take notes at outside meetings, and provide support to other ICJ activities. The extern's responsibilities are based on the needs of the ICJ and the candidate's interests.

#### **Unit V: Lesson 4**

##### **PUCL:(People's Union for Civil Liberties)**

Jayaprakash Narayan was a Gandhian leader in India after independence. When Indira Gandhi was found guilty of violating electoral laws by the Allahabad High Court, Narayan called for her to resign, and advocated a program of social transformation. He asked the military and police to disregard unconstitutional and immoral orders. However, Janata Party opposition leaders and dissenting members of Indira Gandhi's party, Congress

(I) were arrested, beginning The Emergency in 1975. Narayan was detained at Chandigarh, and when released in 1976, formed the PUCLDR to oppose the suppression of civil and political rights during the emergency. The organization was thrown into disarray by his death and the election of the Janata party to power, which promised to enact the PUCL platform.

Narayan originally intended PUCL to be an organisation free from political ideologies, bringing those concerned about defending civil liberties and human rights from different backgrounds onto a common platform. According to the PUCL, the PUCLDR was a loosely organised group of people who were working with Narayan, a prominent figure in the Indian Opposition in the 1970s. After the return of Indira Gandhi to power in the 1980 elections in India, the organisation regained momentum and was renamed as the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL). Its founding conference was held in November 1980.

### **Operations**

The founding conference of the PUCL in November 1980, drafted and adopted the organization's constitution, making it a membership based organization. The PUCL's constitution does not allow members of a political party to hold any office and hold membership in the PUCL; the number of members, belonging to political parties, in the national or state executive committees shall not be more than 50% of the members of the National Council and the National Executive Committee respectively (and also the corresponding bodies at the state and local level). The PUCL does not allow more than 10% of its members to be from the same political party.

It publishes a monthly journal in English, the PUCL Bulletin, that was founded by Satish Jha, Arun Jaitley, Smitu Kothari and Neeraja Chowdhary and helped bring a large number of people to the fold of PUCL. PUCL also organises a JP Memorial Lecture on March 23 every year, the date on which the Indian State of Emergency was lifted in 1977.

The PUCL supports grassroots movements that focus on organizing and empowering the poor rather than using state initiatives for change. They have brought to light the cases of the bonded labourers, children in prison and violence committed against women undertrials.

The PUCL has worked on the issue of the hundreds of people detained by India and Pakistan's governments and accused of espionage after trivial crimes like minor trespassing, a problem linked to the tension caused by the Kashmir conflict.

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### **PEOPLE'S UNION FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS**

Over the last 40 years or more, the civil rights movement in India has emerged as an autonomous voice in defence of civil liberties and democratic rights of our people. The Peoples Union for Democratic Rights, Delhi, is one such organisation. It came into existence

in 1977 as the Delhi unit of a larger national forum, PUCLDR, and became PUDR on 1 February, 1981.

In more than 40 years of its existence, PUDR has taken up hundreds of instances of violations of democratic rights, covering most parts of the country and involving the rights of many sections of society. PUDR conducts investigations, issues statements, distributes leaflets, organizes public meetings, demonstrations and dharnas, initiates campaigns, petitions authorities and fights legal cases to highlight the violation of people's rights and help towards their redressal. Through its investigations, PUDR has raised the issues of custodial rapes, deaths and torture, consistently fought for the rights of marginalized peasants and agricultural workers, upheld working class rights across different sectors, campaigned for gender equality both at home and outside, opposed caste oppression and communal violence and, articulated the rights and access of people and communities towards equitable resources. PUDR opposes bans and upholds the right to freedom of speech, expression and association. For almost two decades PUDR has demanded the repeal of death penalty and has actively taken up the rights of those who have been condemned to the death row. Along with these, it has actively campaigned against anti-democratic legislations such as TADA, POTA, UAPA, AFSPA and others, and has engaged itself in legal defence of civil liberties and democratic rights. Some of PUDR's legal interventions have been of critical importance such as the Asiad labour petition which opened the doors to public interest litigation in India.

PUDR has always worked closely with similar democratic rights organizations located in different states and regions such as the Andhra Pradesh Civil Liberties Committee (APCLC), the Association for Protection of Democratic Rights (APDR), West Bengal, the People's Union for Civil Liberties, (PUCL), Committee for the Protection of Democratic Rights (CPDR), Mumbai and many others. Several reports and activities have been jointly undertaken and in recent times PUDR has been an active member of Coordination of Democratic Rights Organization (CDRO), a wider body of non-funded, democratic rights organizations.

Membership in PUDR is entirely on a voluntary basis and activists meet on a weekly basis to help organize activities. Activists are not paid for giving their time or for undertaking activities and funds are generated solely from the sale of literature and from small donations of not more than Rs 3000. PUDR does not accept foreign funds, or funds from any institutional funding agencies, foreign or national.

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## **Unit -5 Lesson-4**

### **CFD in India:-**

Women and the poor are most important in the fight against poverty. They have imagination, guts, knowledge, experience and deep motivation to move out of poverty. As CFD study on “Voices of Poor and Women” shows that women and poor are no different from those of moderate and substantial means in their desire to live in a secure world (society or village) and to have access to income so they can educate, clothe, and house their children with dignity. They long to belong and participate in their communities on an equal footing with others, especially men. Most of all, they do not want charity. They want opportunity that gives them returns for their labor.

Over the years CFD provides support to social and human right defense activities and encourages and promotes open dialogue to protect the rights of minorities, including children, women and ethnic minorities. CFD also conducts awareness and sensitization programs on children’s and women rights and duties both at community and stakeholder levels. The elements of the program enable community participants to understand and debate their local power contexts and dynamics of empowerment in the local context.

#### **Impact:-**

People will know about, and understand, rights based legislation and the relevant duty bearers. People will acknowledge the negative effects of customary laws and gendered and ethnic / caste based social norms on women, Dalits and other excluded groups.

#### **Outcome:-**

Strengthened community groups and organisation, with equal participation of women, Dalits and poorest people managing and offering socio-economic services including advocacy on key issues such as rights, social justice, gender equality and gender based violence in their communities in a sustainable manner.

#### **Activities:-**



- programme held with 493 participants and 472 graduating successfully, (78% – 89 women were Dalit). Total of 472 women graduated successfully from 2013-2019.
  - REFLECT training of trainers 42 participants.
  - REFLECT classes held in three VDCs, 209 classes, 4,161 participants. Community conversations on challenges and finding solutions locally from 2013-2019.
  - PEER training of trainers 25 participants.
  - Social mobilization training 29 participants.
  - 68 women trained on leadership development and advocacy, gender & development.
  - Animator selection, 20 in total.
  - Radio programmes to broadcast information on CFD implementation of the programme including gender issues, case study reports, by interviews, interactions focusing on women's voices.
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