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Women's Rights : Status & Goal



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lack of readers of Indian Constitution and women's rights

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Abstract

Human rights are those minimum rights which are compulsorily obtainable by every individual as he/she is a member of human family. The constitution of India also guarantees the equality of rights of men and women. However, in the sphere of women's human rights in India, there exists a wide gulf between theory and practice. Indian society is a male dominated society where men are always assumed to be superior to society. The women in India very often have to face discrimination, injustice and dishonour. Though women in India have been given more rights as compared to men, even then the condition of women in India is miserable. The paper will throw light on the human rights of women in India and that how all the fundamental rights given to the women are being violated in India, by focusing on the various crimes done against them.

Keywords: Human rights, constitution of India, discrimination, fundamental rights, women.

Introduction

Democracy is the most popular system of government in the contemporary world as it is based on the will of the people. Abraham Lincoln defined, democracy as government of the people, by the people and for the people. There are four main foundations of democracy viz, liberty, equality, fraternity and justice wherein the most important foundation is equality. Among South Asian nations democracy for the first time was introduced in India. Democracy as a system of government was applied here after independence. The Indian constitution guarantees the equality of rights of men and women. It is evident that Indian constitution from the very beginning made provisions for the human rights of men and women together. Human Rights are those minimum rights which are compulsorily obtainable by every individual as he/she is a member of human family. The concept of human rights is related to the concept of human dignity. In this way all such rights which are essential for the maintenance of human dignity can be put in the category of human rights.

(2) Human Rights can be divided on the basis of their nature into two categories as (i) civil and political rights and (ii) economic and social rights. Human Rights mean to provide all the rights and dignities to human being as human viz. right to life with dignity, right to liberty, right to equality, right to social security etc. Liberalism believes in the unity of mankind, therefore, the rights of men and women are the same but because of certain situational factors it is imperative to discuss the women's human rights separately. There are several reasons behind this: first, women are representing almost half of the world's population; secondly, women are discriminated throughout the world in different spheres and at different stages; thirdly, women are supposed to carry out some special functions, therefore they needed human rights separately.

Violations of Women's Rights in India

The areas that violate the rights of women in India have been stated as follows: