



HINDI VIDYA PRACHAR SAMITI'S
COLLEGE OF LAW

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(Affiliated to University of Mumbai & Recognised by Bar Council of India)

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Report on Value-Added Course on Human Rights

The Hindi Vidya Prachar Samiti's College of Law conducted a 30-hour comprehensive Value added Course on Human Rights from 6 February till 16 February 2023. This course is an educational program that focused on the study of human rights, which are the fundamental rights and freedoms to which all individuals are entitled, regardless of their nationality, race, religion, gender, or any other characteristic. These rights are fundamental to all citizens and are given under the constitution of India. The Principal of HVPS College of Law, Dr. Mrs. Madhura Kalamkar, in her welcome address, emphasized the pivotal role of human rights is the comprehensive understanding of the concept of human rights, including their historical development, philosophical foundations, and the international legal framework governing human rights and designed to impart knowledge and practical ability about the rights and directive principles that are provided to all citizens of India. She further motivated students to actively engage in insightful sessions and thought-provoking discussions, equipping them with the ethical framework nationally and internationally necessary for success in their professional endeavors.

The experts and activists in the field of human rights were invited to share their experiences and insights, providing a real-world perspective on the subject. The course covered a range of essential topics related to human rights, including essential elements day wise –

Day 1 The event coordinator, Ms. Sonal Jain, introduced the guest speaker of the day, Asst. Prof. Shreyasi Bhattacharya, Symbiosis Law School, with the Core topic of **Understanding Human Rights** which is essential for promoting and protecting the fundamental dignity and freedoms of every individual. Madam further spoke on Human rights: those are universal, inalienable, and indivisible principles that are designed to ensure that every person is treated with respect, equality, and justice. They are considered inherent to human beings and do not depend on the legal or political systems of any particular country. Human rights are not granted by governments or institutions; they are inherent to individuals and cannot be taken away or relinquished. Even in the most challenging circumstances, individuals retain their basic human rights. The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in 1948, serves as a foundational document outlining the basic human rights to which all people are entitled. Many subsequent international treaties and conventions further define and protect these rights. It is a fundamental part of promoting justice, equality, and dignity for all individuals. It involves a commitment to raising awareness, holding governments and institutions accountable, and advocating for the rights of vulnerable and marginalized populations.

Day 2 Adv. Dharmesh Mehta, Advocate Bombay High Court, with the Core topic of **Human Rights and Duties in India: Constitutional Framework** where Sir discussed the constitutional




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framework that outlined the rights and duties of its citizens. The Indian Constitution, adopted on January 26, 1950, includes a chapter on fundamental rights and a chapter on fundamental duties. He also gave an overview of human rights and duties in India as per its constitutional framework: (a) Fundamental Rights: Right to Equality (Articles 14-18), Right to Freedom (Articles 19-22), Right against Exploitation (Articles 23-24), Right to Freedom of Religion (Articles 25-28) Cultural and Educational Rights (Articles 29-30), Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32). (b) Fundamental Duties: The Indian Constitution introduced the concept of fundamental duties through the 42nd Amendment Act in 1976. These duties, enumerated in Article 51A, are not legally enforceable by the courts but serve as a moral and ethical framework for citizens to follow. These fundamental duties are aimed at fostering a sense of civic responsibility and a commitment to the welfare of the nation among Indian citizens. The Indian legal system provides mechanisms for the protection and enforcement of fundamental rights through the courts. Additionally, the Indian judiciary has played a crucial role in interpreting and expanding the scope of fundamental rights, ensuring their protection and upholding the rights of citizens.

Day 3 Adv. Savina Crasto & Tanvi Thakkar, Advocate Bombay High Court, with the Core topic of Human Rights: Historical Traditions & Global Phenomena. On third day madam discussed the historical roots and have evolved into a global phenomenon over time. (a) Historical Traditions: Ancient World: The idea of human rights can be traced back to ancient civilizations, such as Greece and Rome, where philosophers like Plato and Cicero discussed concepts of justice, equality, and individual rights. The Magna Carta (1215) in England is often considered an early document that influenced the development of legal rights. The Enlightenment period in the 17th and 18th centuries marked a significant turning point in the development of human rights. Thinkers like John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and Voltaire promoted ideas of individual liberties, the social contract, and the inherent rights of all human beings. American and French Revolutions: The American Revolution (1775-1783) and the French Revolution (1789-1799) played a crucial role in the promotion of rights and freedoms. The United States' Declaration of Independence (1776) and the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789) highlighted the importance of human rights. Abolition of Slavery, International Conventions and other Global Phenomena were also discussed such as Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), International Human Rights Treaties, Global Human Rights Organizations The concept of human rights has evolved over centuries and has become a global phenomenon that underpins international law, national legal systems, and the collective aspiration to ensure dignity, equality, and justice for all individuals.




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Day 4 Asst. Prof. Anuradha Kumar, SNDT Women University, Juhu, Mumbai with the Core topic of **The U.N. Machinery: Charter, Conventions and conference**. The United Nations (UN) is an international organization established in 1945 with the primary goal of promoting international cooperation and maintaining peace and security. The UN has various components and mechanisms in place to fulfill its mission, which include the UN Charter, conventions, and conferences. Here's an overview of what madam discussed – (a) UN Charter: The UN Charter is the foundational document that establishes the United Nations and its basic principles. It was adopted on June 26, 1945, and came into force on October 24, 1945. The Charter sets out the purposes and principles of the UN, including maintaining international peace and security, promoting human rights, fostering cooperation among nations, and upholding the sovereignty and equality of all member states. (b) Conventions and Treaties: The UN is involved in the negotiation and adoption of numerous international conventions and treaties that address a wide range of global issues. These treaties cover topics such as human rights, environmental protection, disarmament, trade, and more. One of the most well-known UN conventions is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted in 1948, which sets out fundamental human rights and freedoms. Various other human rights conventions have been adopted under the auspices of the UN. The UN also plays a key role in treaties like the Paris Agreement on climate change and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). (c) Conferences: The UN organizes and hosts a variety of international conferences and summits to address specific global challenges and opportunities. These conferences provide a platform for member states, international organizations, civil society, and other stakeholders to come together, negotiate agreements, and develop strategies for addressing complex issues.

Overall, the UN machinery, which includes the UN Charter, conventions, and conferences, is designed to facilitate international cooperation, resolve conflicts, promote human rights and development, and address global challenges. It serves as a forum for diplomacy and multilateralism, bringing together nations to work collectively toward common objectives.

Day 5 Asst. Prof. Janaki Misra, SNDT Women University, Juhu, Mumbai with the Core topic of **Redressal Mechanisms for Human Rights Violations (International & State Agencies)** – Madam expressed her opinion about human rights violations which requires a range of mechanisms, both at the international and state levels. Here are some of the key redressal mechanisms for human rights violations addressed by the speaker: (a) International Mechanisms: (1) United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) (2) International Criminal Court (ICC) (3) International Human Rights Treaties and Committees (4) Regional Human Rights Courts (5) Human Rights NGOs (b) National and State Mechanisms: (1) National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) (2) Courts (3) National Legislation and Policies (4) Commissions and Committees (5) Civil Society and Advocacy. The effectiveness of these mechanisms can vary




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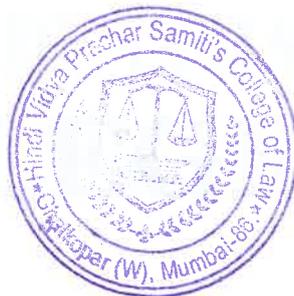
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widely from one country to another. In some nations, human rights enforcement and redress mechanisms are robust, while in others, they may be underdeveloped or hindered by political or legal obstacles. Additionally, individuals and organizations can often use a combination of these mechanisms to seek redress for human rights violations.

Day 6 Asst. Prof. Nitesh Kumar, Vijaybhoomi University, Karjat, with the Core topic of **Society & Human Rights – Promotion, Protection, State & International Standards** – The relationship between society and human rights is a critical one, with society playing a significant role in both the promotion and protection of human rights. This involves the state, international standards, and civil society organizations, among others. Which were expressed by Sir through different topics, opinions and example such as (1) Promotion of Human Rights (a) State Responsibilities (b) Education and Awareness (c) Civil Society Organizations (2) Protection of Human Rights: (a) Legal Framework: A strong legal framework is essential to protect human rights. Laws should clearly define and prohibit human rights abuses, and legal remedies should be available for victims. (b) Enforcement and Accountability: Law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, and other state institutions must ensure that those who violate human rights are held accountable for their actions. This includes conducting fair investigations and trials. (c) International Standards: International human rights standards, as established by treaties and conventions, provide a basis for protecting human rights. States that are party to these agreements are obligated to uphold the rights enshrined in them. The assessment was conducted after the end of the course. A total number of 26 students completed the course.

Conclusion:

The value-added course on human rights achieved its objectives by increasing participant's knowledge, empowering them to take action, and fostering a sense of responsibility toward the promotion and protection of human rights. The impact of the course extended beyond the classroom, with participants actively engaging in human rights-related initiatives. In conclusion, the value-added course on human rights proved to be a valuable educational experience that not only enhanced participants' knowledge but also inspired them to actively contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights in their communities and beyond.



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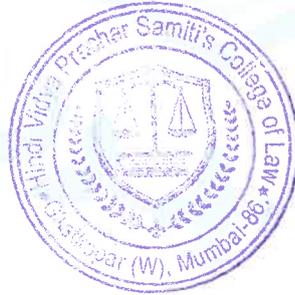
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The outcome of a value-added course on human rights can be multifaceted and beneficial, both for individuals and society as a whole. Here are some potential outcomes of such a course:

1. **Increased Awareness:** Participants will gain a deeper understanding of human rights principles, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international and domestic laws. This knowledge can lead to increased awareness of the rights and freedoms to which all individuals are entitled.
2. **Empowerment:** Knowledge of human rights can empower individuals to advocate for their own rights and the rights of others. This can be especially important for marginalized or vulnerable populations.
3. **Social Responsibility:** A human rights course can instill a sense of social responsibility, encouraging individuals to become more active and engaged in addressing human rights issues in their communities and beyond.
4. **Legal Knowledge:** A human rights course might provide a basic understanding of legal systems and procedures related to human rights violations. This knowledge can be important for those interested in pursuing legal careers or working with legal organizations.



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