

**Abstracts of
Platinum Jubilee International Conference on**

**REIMAGINING HUMAN RIGHTS: CHANGING
DIMENSIONS IN A DIGITAL WORLD**

2024 December 6th and 7th



Editors

**Anju Lis Kurian
George Joseph**



organized by the

**Department of Political Science
St. Thomas College Palai Autonomous
Kottayam, Kerala, India**

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About the Conference

As the world rapidly evolves through technological advancements, the landscape of human rights is undergoing profound transformations. In this digital era, the intersections of technology, law and individual freedoms are increasingly complex, reshaping the way the world understand and protect human rights. The emergence of digital technologies has opened new opportunities for empowerment, connectivity, and innovation, while also introducing new challenges and risks. Issues such as data privacy, artificial intelligence, digital surveillance and online hate speech highlight the need for an updated approach to safeguarding fundamental human rights in an interconnected world.

This conference seeks to explore the changing dimensions of human rights in this digital age, where boundaries between the physical and virtual realms are becoming increasingly blurred. Through a multidisciplinary lens, we aim to critically examine how digital technologies are redefining established human rights frameworks, uncovering both opportunities and threats that demand attention from global policymakers, human rights advocates and civil society. The discussions will delve into the transformative power of the digital revolution, investigating its implications for freedom of expression, privacy, equality and access to justice, while reflecting on the role of states, corporations and individuals in upholding these rights. By engaging with diverse perspectives, this conference invites participants to rethink and reimagine human rights as we navigate the complexities of the digital world, ensuring they remain relevant and resilient in the face of technological change.

Through dialogue, collaboration and knowledge-sharing, we hope to inspire meaningful action towards a future where human rights are not only preserved but enhanced in an increasingly digital global society.

Editors

Anju Lis Kurian

George Joseph

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**BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF
DIGITAL LITERACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE AGE OF
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT**

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ABSTRACT

The rapid advancement of digital technologies has transformed societies globally, presenting both opportunities and challenges. Access to digital technologies and the ability to use them are now prerequisites for full participation in society. This paper explores the complex relationship between digital literacy and human rights, examining how these two concepts intersect and influence each other. One key challenge highlighted is the digital divide, which intensifies existing social inequalities and limits access to information and opportunities for vulnerable groups. The paper explores the specific cases on educational and digital poverty, underlining the unique challenges faced by disadvantaged populations in the digital era. It also examines the ethical implications of emerging technologies, particularly artificial intelligence and the biases involved. To address these challenges and promote inclusive digital literacy, the paper proposes a series of recommendations, including policy interventions, educational initiatives and civil society engagement. By promoting digital literacy and addressing the digital divide it would be possible to reduce the gap and discrimination as well as empower individuals and promote human rights for all.

Keywords: *Digital Divide, Digital Literacy, Human Rights, Educational Inequality,
Emerging Technologies, Ethical Implications*

INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE AS A TOOL TO RESOLVE HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICTS

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ABSTRACT

Human-wildlife conflicts, stemming from undesired interactions between humans and wildlife and often arising from competing interests over shared spaces in the environment, present significant challenges to biodiversity conservation and human rights. Such conflicts are on the rise across the globe and especially in India owing to its rich biodiversity and decades of wildlife conservation efforts. The unique and complex nature of human wildlife conflicts make it challenging to devise effective legal frameworks to cater to the whole of the country. This paper argues that inclusive governance provides a viable framework for resolving Human Wildlife Conflicts by taking into account the unique, complex and most often local nature of the issue by ensuring the participation of diverse stakeholders in decision-making. Inclusive governance is a principle of participatory democracy which emphasizes equitable representation, active participation, and accountability of stakeholders in decision-making processes. In terms of dealing with human wildlife conflicts, inclusive governance paves way for integration of local knowledge, participation and community-based management of conflicts by ensuring and encouraging people's participation and responsiveness in conflict situations. Inclusive governance in general fosters trust, legitimacy, and sustainable solutions. This paper also intends to demonstrate that inclusive governance is not only effective in resolving Human Wildlife Conflicts but also essential for fostering long-term coexistence between humans and wildlife.

**CLIMATE CRISIS:
A NEW DIMENSION OF CREATING CHILD'S RIGHTS CRISIS**

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ABSTRACT

Climate crisis is the most vibrant issue in the 21st Century around the world. It also forcibly brings changes in social and economic conditions and nauseated human lives on earth, especially the Children. The different study finds that vulnerable climatic condition mainly Global Warming causes changes in the temperature, rainfall pattern, and so on. It affects both developing and developed nations but developing countries are affected the most, for instance, in the case of Asian countries where the climate change situation not only created socioeconomic tension but also created a vulnerable situation for children. Climate change causes abnormal behaviour in ecosystems and bio-diversity so to ensure a sustainable development perspective, coping and mitigation strategy is imperative. The present chapter attempts to introduce the concept of children's vulnerability and its magnitude around the Asian Countries. The chapter summarizes the relationship between climatic vulnerability, low child well-being and the scope for children's resilience. Lastly, it points out some recommendations that can ensure children's right to well-being and reduce the detrimental effects of climate crisis upon future generations for which it is advisable to come forward all the Asian regions into mutual climate mitigation strategy.

Keywords: *Climate Change, Global Warming, Child Well-Being*

BALANCING PRIVACY AND SURVEILLANCE: UPHOLDING INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN THE DIGITAL ERA

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ABSTRACT

In the contemporary digital era of ever-evolving technologies, among other concerns, data privacy and surveillance have emerged to be of inexorable gravity, compromising the way information is accessed and utilized. Data privacy refers to the individual's right to control their personal information, while surveillance encompasses the monitoring or tracking of individuals or groups. While data privacy has been upheld as nothing less than a fundamental right, the ubiquitous technology-driven information-sensitive environment is presenting new data privacy challenges amplifying the pervasive surveillance measures. This paper intends to attempt an inquiry into the nature of the challenges upon data privacy and the concerns pertinent to its protection vis-à-vis the inequities encircling surveillance by public and private parties. In the first section of the paper, a conceptual overview of the terms in contention here, namely, data privacy and surveillance, will be presented. In the following sections, the challenges confronted in this regard will be assessed, and finally, the paper will delve into the anomalies in the existing legal frameworks in addressing the scenario.

Keywords: *Data Privacy, Surveillance, Rights, Data protection, Ethics, Regulations*

FREE CHOICE AND FAKE REVIEW ON E-COMMERCE PORTAL: IS LAW BLIND? A CRITICAL ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

Technology has significantly transformed both daily life and the marketplace, particularly through the emergence of e-commerce. This shift has allowed consumers to contribute online evaluations of products and services, reshaping consumer behavior, decision-making, and has become instrumental in influencing informed choices. Within the fast-changing digital marketplace, online reviews have emerged as a major factor influencing consumer choices and protection, particularly in India's expanding e-commerce landscape. However, the reliance on reviews poses a challenge, as fake reviews, whether manipulated by promoters or competitors, can substantially impact consumer decision-making power. Despite robust laws addressing fake advertisements, the regulation of fake reviews on e-commerce platforms remains largely unaddressed. This paper explores the critical dimension of online reviews and their implications on individual consumers emphasizing *choice* within consumer laws, by thoroughly analyzing the impact of reviews on e-commerce platforms affecting consumer protection and purchasing choices in India, focusing on key issues related to trust, reliability, and the effectiveness of regulations in addressing review manipulation. The paper further contends that, despite the recognition of the *free choice* as a principal element of valid law, speaking jurisprudentially, and an intrinsic part of human right, algorithmic consumer influence creates a gap in protecting consumers from fake reviews. By highlighting this void, the article aims to underscore the need for specific policies to regulate fake reviews on e-portals, contributing to a more comprehensive consumer protection framework.

Keywords: *Consumer Protection, Online Reviews, Free Choice,
Fake Reviews, E-commerce*

THE IMPACT OF DIGITAL GOVERNANCE ON ENHANCING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

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ABSTRACT

'Digital governance' refers to the use of digital technologies by governments to provide services, improve transparency, and foster engagement with citizens. It has become a critical tool for enhancing government accountability in modern democracies. By integrating digital tools such as e-governance platforms, blockchain, and data analytics, governments can improve their operational efficiency, reduce corruption, and offer greater transparency in decision-making processes. One of the key impacts of digital governance is its ability to make government operations more visible to the public. This transparency helps build trust between citizens and their governments by enabling real-time access to information on public expenditures, policy decisions, and service delivery. Additionally, digital governance facilitates faster communication and interaction between citizens and authorities through online grievance redressal systems and feedback loops, thus fostering greater responsiveness to public concerns. Moreover, technologies like blockchain and big data analytics ensure that data remains secure, accurate, and accessible, which further reduces opportunities for malfeasance. Digital tools can also track the implementation of government programs, monitor progress, and provide updates to citizens, ensuring that governments are held accountable for their commitments. 'Digital Governance' enhances accountability, it also faces challenges such as the digital divide, cybersecurity risks, and the need for robust legal frameworks to support transparency initiatives. Nonetheless, as digital adoption continues to grow, it offers a powerful means for governments worldwide to improve accountability, increase citizen participation, and strengthen democratic governance.

Keywords: *Digital-Governance, Accountability, Citizen, Efficiency, Challenges*

SOCIAL MEDIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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ABSTRACT

Social media is accepted as the fourth pillar of democracy. Social media is a powerful and capable medium to communicate through information and messages. It plays an important role in raising awareness about human rights. It is the responsibility of social media to highlight cases of various human rights violations, such as atrocities, discrimination and injustice. Human rights are those rights which are inherent in our nature. In the absence of these, we cannot live our lives as human beings. Human rights and fundamental freedoms provide us with an opportunity to develop fully. Also, there is proper use of human qualities, talents and consciousness. These rights are based on humanity, because the status of human rights is natural. Rights are the essential needs of our life, without which neither a person can develop his personality nor can do any useful work for the society. In fact, the existence of human life cannot be imagined without rights. For this reason, at present every state provides more and more comprehensive rights. The protection of human rights is the primary responsibility of the state. Along with the protection of the fundamental rights of its citizens, the state should also be associated with the accountability and responsibility of each person. The Indian Constitution is a basic and important document for the protection of human rights. The Indian Constitution makes concrete provisions for the protection of human rights of its citizens through Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy, in which many types of rights and freedoms have been provided to the citizens of India. Among these freedoms, all citizens have freedom of speech and expression. Media also has this freedom. On this basis, the role of media in the protection of human rights can be examined.

*Keywords: Human Rights, State, Constitutional Provisions, Social Media,
Fundamental Rights*

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DEVELOPMENT OF THE BANKING SECTOR: A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO GREEN BANKING INITIATIVES

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ABSTRACT

This study is to examine the role of environmental sustainability in the banking sector, with a focus on green banking initiatives. It aims to evaluate how these practices contribute to reducing the environmental impact of banking operations, promoting sustainable economic growth, and enhancing corporate social responsibility. By exploring strategies and challenges, the study seeks to provide insights into fostering eco-friendly banking practices and supporting the transition to a sustainable financial ecosystem. It integrates sustainability and stakeholder theories to analyze green banking's role in promoting environmental and financial performance. It examines the impact of regulatory policies, technological advancements, and stakeholder engagement, using responses from 120 participants to understand the effectiveness of eco-friendly banking practices in fostering sustainable development. It integrates sustainability and stakeholder theories to examine green banking initiatives' impact on environmental and financial performance. Using data from 120 respondents, it explores the role of regulatory policies, technological advancements, and stakeholder engagement in fostering eco-friendly banking practices and promoting environmental sustainability in the banking sector. That green banking initiatives significantly enhance environmental sustainability in the banking sector by reducing carbon footprints and promoting eco-friendly financial practices. Findings from 120 respondents highlight increased awareness of green policies, the adoption of paperless transactions, and investments in renewable energy projects. However, challenges such as implementation costs and lack of technical expertise persist. The study underscores the need for stronger regulatory frameworks, stakeholder collaboration, and innovative technologies to ensure widespread adoption and long-term sustainability.

It's focused analysis of green banking initiatives and their role in promoting environmental sustainability within the banking sector. By incorporating data from 120 respondents, it offers unique insights into current practices, challenges, and opportunities, contributing to the evolving discourse on sustainable finance and eco-friendly banking solutions.

Keywords: *Environmental Sustainability, Green Banking, Sustainable Finance, Eco-friendly Practices, CSR, Banking Sector Innovation, Stakeholder Engagement*

WAR AND HUMAN RIGHTS: NAVIGATING THE FRAGILE BALANCE OF SURVIVAL AND FREEDOM

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ABSTRACT

War has probably been man made with the most brutish trials, and it has marred the rights and dignity of men in its course. Armed conflicts societies create millions of homeless people and wound millions of suffering souls, dismantling the very foundations of justice, liberty and safety from within. This article examines the asymmetric relationship between wars and human rights in leaps and bounds, indicating that war magnifies already existing structural vulnerabilities, sets the precedent for widespread violations. By its very nature, war is a threat to human rights and the narrative shifts from exercising these rights to preserving them for those in question, usually stuck in the middle of these said armed conflicts. It examines international humanitarian law and dedicated work by human rights defenders and organizations that strive to protect civilians while holding perpetrators accountable. This study pleads for bringing the issue of human rights to the central position in a global response to war, and it calls for revitalized international solidarity and a justice-focused paradigm for preventing, alleviating, and lasting peace from the proper atrocities. As conflicts like the Russo-Ukraine conflict and the Israel-Hamas war continue to shred the shared values of Human rights, it becomes all the more important to analyze and understand how it affects everyone, despite being thousands of miles away from any harm

Keywords: *War; Human Rights; Armed Conflict; International Law; Peacekeeping; Accountability*

**DATA DEMOCRACY:
PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ERA OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

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ABSTRACT

The emergence of social media has changed how people interact and communicate on a global scale. Social media companies, governments, and other actors can use the massive amounts of Personal data they acquire for targeting, manipulation, and surveillance. Social media platforms have transformed communication and information sharing, but they have also produced an immense amount of personal information that can be exploited. This paper explores the relationship between social media, privacy, and human rights, emphasizing the conflicts that exist between people's right to privacy and the interests of governments and corporations. The consequences of social media monitoring for human rights, such as the freedoms of assembly, association, and expression, are also examined in the paper. We opted this topic because social media's growing pervasiveness in both our private and public lives has sparked significant concerns about data exploitation, privacy erosion, and possible human rights violations, making it a pressing and crucial topic for exploration and discussion.

Keywords: *Social Media, Privacy, Data Protection, Surveillance, Human Rights, Freedom Of Expression, Data Protection Frameworks*

PRIVACY IN A DIGITAL AGE: THE SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF DATA PROTECTION LEGISLATIONS

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ABSTRACT

Today, the world is closer than ever before thanks to robust information networks and rapid advancements in technology. But this entails a significant scale of generation, accumulation and processing of data of individuals. This is done both by the respective governments as well as by commercial entities. This leads to important concerns regarding the privacy of the individuals whose data has been collected. Considering the case of India, where the government is incessantly promoting e-governance, smart cities and a digital payments system, we are at a high risk of privacy erosion and cyber-attacks. Several legislations and regulatory frameworks have emerged worldwide as a result of an increasing awareness regarding the changing digital landscape. Some of the most important among them include the GDPR of the European Union, the CCPA of USA and the PIPL of China. In India, the Digital Personal Data Protection Act passed in 2023, even though still not entered into force represents the government's commitment towards ensuring data privacy. However, are these legislations enough to keep pace with the fast-paced evolving nature of technology or capable to limit the powerful tech giant activities or able to navigate the intricacies and complex nature of data collection, transfers and processing. There also exists apprehensions regarding the inherent framework and objectives of these legislations as well. This paper intends to look at such questions with a special focus on India's latest developments in the data protection landscape.

Keywords: - *Data protection, Privacy, Big Tech Giants, Legislations, DPDP Act*

DIGITAL PANOPTICON: SURVEILLANCE, DISCIPLINE AND CONTROL IN THE AGE OF BIG DATA

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ABSTRACT

Freedom is essential for human being since it makes his/her life meaningful and possible. But today this freedom is restricted and his/her life is under constant surveillance. This surveillance emerged as digital panopticon where the individuals are constantly observed. The Panopticon, conceived by Jeremy Bentham in the late 18th century, is an architectural design intended for institutions like prisons, featuring a central observation tower from which a guard can monitor all inmates without them knowing when they are being watched. This creates a sense of perpetual visibility that encourages individuals to conform to expected behaviours even in the absence of direct supervision. While Bentham's design was not widely implemented, it has become a significant metaphor for modern surveillance, as explored by Michel Foucault in *Discipline and Punish*, where he highlights its relevance in various institutions that utilize similar structures for control and discipline. This paper investigates the notion of the Digital Panopticon, wherein digital technologies enable pervasive surveillance, regulation, and governance. We contend that the rise of big data, social media, the Internet of Things (IoT) and the AI have established a digital environment in which individuals are continuously observed, categorized, and influenced. Utilizing Michel Foucault's critical theory, we analyse how digital platforms, algorithms, and data analytics sustain disciplinary power dynamics, thereby reinforcing existing social hierarchies and further marginalizing vulnerable populations.

Keywords: *Digital Panopticon, Surveillance Studies, Big Data, Discipline, Control*

NON-TARGET DAMAGE OR GENOCIDE? AN INSIGHT INTO THE WAR CRIMES OF NAGORNO KARABAKH WAR 2020-2023

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ABSTRACT

During the peak of the Covid Pandemic, the central Asian nations in the South Caucuses region, Armenia and Azerbaijan fought a bloody war on the disputed territory of Nagorno Karabakh or Republic of Artsakh, a self-proclaimed republic within Azerbaijan. The war progressed in two phases, the first phase spanning from 27 September 2020 to November 11 2020 and the second phase lasting 5 days 24 to 29 September 2023. Following the ceasefire agreement in November, Azerbaijan committed large-scale human rights violations and war crimes against the indigenous ethnic Armenian population in Nagorno Karabakh. The war claimed the lives of more than 1000 civilians in both nations; the conflict killed more than 2900 Azerbaijan soldiers and more than 3800 Armenian soldiers. After the ceasefire agreement, Azerbaijan has captured many soldiers by entrapment by luring them for good faith negotiations; during the conflict Azerbaijan has committed extra judicial killings by eliminating civilian hostages and prisoners of war. Azerbaijan has repeatedly tortured soldiers and civilians of Armenia throughout the ceasefire period, many civilians were subject to forceful deportation by the Azerbaijani forces which also led to the increased settlement by Azerbaijanis. Apart from this, Azerbaijan also committed arbitrary detention, forceful disappearances, unlawful displacement and destruction of cultural sites. This paper provides a broad insight towards the grave human rights violations and war crimes committed by Azerbaijan during the timeline of the war.

Keywords: *Nagorno Karabakh, Forceful displacement, Extra Judicial Killings, Arbitrary Detention*

WAR AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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ABSTRACT

Human rights are the fundamental entitlements that belong to every person simply by virtue of being human. They are the inalienable rights that cannot be taken away or given up, regardless of nationality, race, religion, gender, language for any other status. War a scourge on humanity has profounded and devastating consequences for fundamental rights and freedom of individuals. The relationship between human rights and war stands in a stark contrast to each other. The outbreak of war can lead to a dramatic erosion of human rights. Conflict zones often witness widespread violations including extra judicial killing, torture, enforced disappearances and the displacement of population. In recent years there has been a growing emphasis on holding perpetrators of war crimes are accountable. The relationship between human rights and war is a complex and multifaceted one. By promoting respect for human rights during armed conflict and holding perpetrators accountable, we can work towards a world where the fundamental rights and freedom of all individuals are upheld even in the face of adversity.

Keywords: *Human Rights, War, Fundamental Entitlements, Fundamental Rights, Conflict, Judicial Killing*

DEVELOPMENT INDUCED DISPLACEMENT: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND CONCERNS IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

“Dams are temples of India”, a statement made by the then Prime minister of India in late 90’s. what would be the reason behind such a statement? No doubt definitely it’s because the benefits the dams construction that would be brought in the country in forms of electricity, ease of irrigation. Same way other developmental activities such as mining, big developmental projects fetch economic progress for the country. If it is so then why people oppose these developmental projects. One area where government address its least attention is “the consequences of developmental projects, which leads a section into sorrow and despair”. Development is necessary for growth and progress of a country but, should developmental activities a section into poverty. The urge for developmental activities emerged with the LPG (liberalization, Privatisation, Globalisation) policies introduced in 1991 .World bank supported developing countries as a part of LPG policies but , after a certain period agitations, strikes grievances started rising from various corners highlighting the negative consequences the developmental projects brought. Taking grievances into consideration World Bank set a committee to study the consequences of developmental projects on people. This paper highlights the consequences of developmental projects on people living near by region and effective measures to tackle it.

SEXUAL HARASSMENTS AND HUMAN RIGHT VIOLATIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY DIGITAL ERA: INSIGHTS FROM ME -TOO MOVEMENT

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ABSTRACT

India has experienced various political, economic, social, and cultural developments over time. Despite numerous advancements across the board, violence against women, particularly sexual violence, remains a persistent issue. Sexual violence is now becoming one of the major setbacks faced by women in modern India. It has been proven that women are sexually harassed in public, at workplaces, educational institutions, online spaces, and even in their own houses. India has implemented women-friendly policies to combat violence and promote gender equality, accelerated by global protests against rising sexual violence. Social media has significantly impacted India's digital era, exposing issues like sexual harassment and human rights violations. One such movement is, the me-too movement, aimed to combat sexual harassment, assault, and abuse in the workplace, breaking stigma and empowering victims to speak out for justice. From this vantage point, this paper analyses the impact of the movement on women's empowerment, highlighting its role in transforming societal norms. This paper investigates the extent to which the Me- Too movement, as a social media campaign, has influenced women's communities to address their perceived exploitation, what positive changes it has brought about, and whether it has reduced human rights violations.

Keywords: *Women Empowerment, Me Too Movement, Social Media, Human Right Violations, Sexual Harassments*

**BODIES AND OCCUPATIONS: THE POLITICS OF SPACES OF
EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN IN NEOLIBERAL TIMES**

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ABSTRACT

Even in the 67th year of independent India, the women community, which constitutes half of the population, remains an uneducated, incomeless, jobless, powerless, self-determining, insecure and propertyless section. Indian women suffer discriminations that make Indian democracy meaningless. Patriarchy is an essential part of the Indian social condition, which is a mixture of slavery, birthright, capitalism and imperialism. The lives of women, who suffer severe caste and social oppression, have been made more miserable by neoliberalism. The feminization of poverty and labor leads to a serious social development crisis. Democracy is complete only if gender justice is considered as a development issue. This paper aims to bring in a discourse on how women in the era of rigid poverty and times of unemployment faces double marginalisation and non-dignified labour space.

REFUGEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN: VULNERABILITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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ABSTRACT

This paper explores the numerous challenges faced by refugee women and children due to displacement and conflict. Gender-based violence, sexual exploitation, and abuse are some of the most significant issues that women and girls encounter. Health challenges, including malnutrition and lack of reproductive healthcare, are also prevalent among refugees. Poor sanitation in most refugee camps is a primary cause of these health problems. Access to clean water and adequate food is limited, resulting in women and children suffering from malnutrition and diseases. Another overlooked issue is the mental health of refugee children. Due to memories of war, violence, and the loss of loved ones, children are more likely to experience fear and anxiety. The uncertainty of a migratory life constantly affects their minds, often leading to serious psychological impacts. Moreover, children are at risk of trafficking, where their vulnerability is exploited. This paper aims to highlight global efforts focused on protecting and supporting the rights of refugee women and children in addressing these issues.

Keywords: *Gender Based Violence, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Health Risks, Child Trafficking, Psychological Trauma Experienced by Refugee Children*

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OF CHILDREN IN CONFLICT ZONES: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Human rights are the basic rights of every individual from the nature itself. They are the rights that are applicable to all individuals in the society without any discrimination on the basis of caste, class, color, age, religion, gender or place of birth. Due to universal nature of human rights, it is protected and promoted by all nations and it is inherent to the people as part of their humanity. Human rights are universal, inherent, indivisible and non-discriminatory in nature. But still, human rights violations took place in many regions and people are unaware of it. Children are considered as the major victims of human rights violations. High rates of human rights violations of children have been reported in conflict zones. Children are left alone in the war ridden areas and have become victims of economic and physical exploitations. In Myanmar, lakhs of Rohingya children are displaced and many of them are killed or injured. The Russia-Ukraine crisis has disrupted their access to education and caused depression and anxiety among children. The exploitation and harassment faced by the children remains as a scar in their lifelong journey. The destruction of educational institutions in war zones denied their access to education facilities. The aim of this paper is to understand the human rights violations faced by the children in conflict zones and their causes and consequences.

Keywords: *Human Rights, Children, Conflict Zones, Access to Education, Physical Exploitation*

PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS IN THE DIGITAL ERA: EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

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ABSTRACT

In response to the increasing incidents of sexual abuse and exploitation of children, the Indian government enacted the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses (POCSO) Act, 2012. With the rise of digital platforms, children are increasingly exposed to online grooming, cyber exploitation, and other forms of sexual offenses. The legal frameworks that were first created for offline situations must be reframed in the light of these new issues. This study explores how the POCSO Act has adapted (or failed to adapt) to the challenges posed by the digital age. The hypothesis of this paper is that even though the POCSO Act provides a strong framework for protecting children from sexual offenses, there are several obstacles to its application in the digital age, such as technological barriers, evidence collection issues, and the anonymity provided by digital platforms. Through an analysis of judicial decisions, the study examines how courts are interpreting and applying the POCSO Act in cases involving digital sexual offenses, highlighting key challenges and gaps in the legal system. In the end, the study emphasizes how crucial it is to update child protection regulations for the digital era in order to protect children's fundamental human rights in an increasingly interconnected world.

***Keywords:** POCSO, Child Protection, Digital Age, Human Rights,
Online Sexual Offenses*

**DECENT WORK AND HUMAN RIGHTS: EMPOWERING WORKERS AND
PROMOTING DIGNITY**

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ABSTRACT

This paper explores the intersection of labour rights and human rights, examining the challenges faced by workers in the contemporary world of work. Through a critical analysis of international labour standards and human rights instruments, this paper aims to identify strategies for empowering workers and promoting dignity in the workplace. Key issues addressed include precarious work, discrimination, occupational health and safety, and freedom of association. By highlighting best practices and case studies, this paper seeks to promote a deeper understanding of the importance of decent work and human rights, and to inspire action towards creating a more just and equitable world of work.

Keywords: *Labour rights, Human rights, Decent work, Dignity, Empowerment, International Labour Standards, Human Rights Instruments*

**BYTES OF TRUTH:
DOCUMENTING WAR CRIMES THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA**

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ABSTRACT

In the digital age, social media has emerged as a critical platform for documenting war crimes and human rights abuses. This study explores how platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram enable individuals and organisations to instantly share videos, images, and eyewitness accounts, providing real-time evidence of atrocities. This democratisation of information allows victims to bypass traditional media, empowering them to share their experiences and raise global awareness. However, the use of social media for documenting human rights violations also presents significant challenges. Key issues include the difficulty in verifying content authenticity, preserving evidence, and navigating the legal and ethical complexities involved. Censorship driven by political pressures often suppresses essential narratives, further complicating advocacy efforts. State and non-state actors can manipulate information, undermining accountability and justice discussions. While social media holds great promise for human rights advocacy, stakeholders must critically engage with its complexities to maximize its potential. By addressing verification and censorship issues, digital platforms can be effectively utilized to amplify marginalized voices, foster awareness, and drive real change in the pursuit of justice for victims of human rights abuses.

Keywords: *Human Rights, Traditional Media, Social Media, Digital Era, Global Reach, Preservation of Evidence, Technical Barriers, Bias and Manipulation*

INVISIBLE CASUALTIES: HUMAN RIGHTS AND CONCERNS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN CONFLICT ZONES

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ABSTRACT

Conflict zones perpetuate a cycle of violence, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations, particularly women and children. This paper examines the human rights concerns and challenges faced by women and children in conflict zones, highlighting the need for targeted interventions and policy reforms. A qualitative review of existing literature and case studies from various conflict zones reveals that women and children face heightened risks of sexual violence, exploitation, and abuse, and are denied access to basic necessities like healthcare, education, and nutrition. The paper emphasizes the urgent need for gender-sensitive and child-centered approaches to address the human rights concerns of women and children in conflict zones, recommending strengthened legal frameworks, increased funding for humanitarian aid, and community-based initiatives to mitigate the impact of conflict on these vulnerable populations. In addition, the paper explores the importance of international cooperation and the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in advocating for the rights of women and children affected by conflict. It emphasizes the need for global awareness campaigns to highlight the plight of these vulnerable populations, encouraging both local and international actors to prioritize funding and resources in conflict-affected regions. Collaboration between governments, NGOs, and communities is essential in creating a unified response to ensure effective, sustainable interventions. By building robust support networks, this collective approach seeks to empower women and children, fostering resilience amid challenging circumstances.

Keywords: *Conflict Zones, Women's Rights, Children's Rights, Human Rights, Gender-Based Violence, Child Protection, Humanitarian Aid, International Cooperation, NGOs, Resilience*

**THE POLITICS OF FREE SPEECH AND EXPRESSION ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
CONTESTED SPACES OF STATE AND SOCIETY IN THE DIGITAL AGE**

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ABSTRACT

Social Media platforms have more than often functioned as the vehicles of globalisation. It could integrate cultures, ideas, people and many more. Over years, each social media profile became the voice of many, symbols of resistance, unity and an ultimate destination for expressing oneself. Despite every achievement social media platform could be proud of, the growing influence of the same into people's life with digital space marking its inseparable bond with the users, the same has been used as a political tool to reach and mobilise users for political agendas. Hiding information, spreading misinformation has all become part and parcel of political entities to favour certain narratives. The study is an attempt to uncover the politics of free speech and expression getting limited in the digital space and the connection of the same with political priorities and agendas. The agents of state bringing a limitation to society's right to expression lies at the heart of this study.

Keywords: *Social Media, Freedom, Expression, Digital Age, State, Limitation*

JUSTICE FOR FARMERS: A HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Farmers play a very vital role in the development of the world and their contributions are relevant not only in relation to the food security of the teeming millions but also in the development of social system. Settled agriculture is the root of society formation and the agricultural sector witnessed tremendous changes during different period. Earlier India had to face a serious issue of shortage in food crops and as a result of the same the policy makers realized the importance of agricultural sector and it was reflected in many policy decisions also. Green revolution is a very best example of a Governmental initiative to protect the agricultural sector and it led to the recognition of intellectual property rights of farmers and there are specific legal provisions to ensure the protection of such rights also. In spite of the protection provided by the Intellectual property regime, farmers are facing some serious challenges like deprivation of remunerative price, scarcity of land which is a basic resource to conduct agricultural activities, exploitation by intermediaries etc. The hypothesis of this study is that right to livelihood of farmers is not properly protected in India and legal initiatives are needed to ensure such a basic right. Through this paper, the researcher is trying to identify the basic rights of farmers without which they can earn their livelihood. Right to do farming, right to remunerative price for their products etc are the major areas of concern.

Keywords: *Farmers Rights, Right to Remunerative Price, Right to do Farming, Agriculture, Livelihood Right of Farmers*

TRAPPED IN THE TRADE: UNCOVERING THE MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

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ABSTRACT

Human trafficking is a widespread and complex crime that exploits vulnerable individuals through force, fraud, or coercion for forced labour, sexual exploitation, or organ trafficking. Victims often suffer profound physical and emotional trauma, facing violence, deprivation, and loss of control over their lives. Addressing human trafficking requires a comprehensive approach, including prevention through education, robust legal action against traffickers, and comprehensive victim support programs. Non-governmental organizations, law enforcement agencies, and governments play crucial roles in these efforts, supporting survivors and holding perpetrators accountable. Addressing root causes of trafficking, such as poverty, inequality, and lack of opportunities, is essential in reducing vulnerability to exploitation. International collaboration is crucial in anti-trafficking efforts, with frameworks like the Palermo Protocol and organizations like the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime supporting cross-border cooperation. Ending human trafficking requires a united global effort to protect human rights, uphold dignity, and dismantle exploitation networks. Coordinated action and societal commitment are essential for creating a world free from exploitation and abuse.

Keywords: UNODC, Complex Crime, Sexual Exploration, Rights, Forced Labour, Slavery

**FROM HUNGER TO HEALTH:
EXPLORING FOOD SECURITY AS A GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHT**

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ABSTRACT

Food security, a fundamental component of human rights, emphasises the right of all individuals to access adequate, safe and nutritious food essential for a healthy life. This concept is intricately tied to human dignity and encompasses the availability, access and utilization of food resources, as well as stability over time. Despite advances in agricultural technology and food distribution, food insecurity remains a pressing global issue, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations in developing regions, marginalised communities and areas facing conflict or environmental crises. Human rights frameworks, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 25) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Article 11), underscore the obligation of governments to protect and uphold the right to food. Addressing food security through a human rights lens requires policy interventions that promote sustainable agriculture, improve food distribution systems and enhance social protection measures. This approach emphasizes accountability, aiming to reduce disparities and enhance resilience in food systems to ensure equitable access to nutritious food for all. In the context of climate change, economic instability and population growth, safeguarding food security as a human right is critical to fostering global health, stability, and social equity. Thus, the paper is an attempt to explore food security as a global human right, especially among vulnerable communities.

Keywords: *Human Rights, Food Security, Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

REFUGEE CRISIS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA SINCE THE 2020 AND THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES IN THE REGION

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ABSTRACT

Since 2020, the Horn of Africa has been dealing with a serious refugee problem that has been made worse by a confluence of food insecurity, violence, and protracted drought. Millions of people have been impacted by this crisis, which has resulted in substantial displacement and humanitarian needs throughout Ethiopia, Somalia, and Kenya. Since 2020, more than 2.7 million people have been displaced across the Horn of Africa due to drought conditions and conflict. The Horn region is experiencing its longest and most severe drought in 40 years, with five consecutive failed rainy seasons. It has resulted in catastrophic consequences, including the death of over 13 million livestock and widespread food shortages, pushing approximately 43 million people into acute food insecurity. Among those affected are refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), who face heightened risks of malnutrition, gender-based violence, and inadequate access to essential services. In response to this crisis, humanitarian organizations have organized to meet the pressing needs. Families experiencing severe food shortages are receiving emergency food supplies from humanitarian organizations. In order to meet urgent needs and establish the foundation for long-term recovery and resilience, humanitarian aid is essential in Horn of Africa region. This paper tries to evaluate the refugee crisis in the Horn of Africa and the role of various humanitarian agencies in alleviating the crisis.

***Keywords:** Horn of Africa, Refugee Crisis, Internally Displaced People,
Humanitarian Assistance*

HUMAN RIGHTS CHALLENGES IN TRANSGENDER EXPERIENCES: AN ANALYTICAL APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

Transgender persons are people whose identities are different from the stereotypical gender norms, which identify genders only as male or female. Society has failed to accept their gender identity due to which they have suffered from discrimination, social oppression and physical violence. Human rights, as the name itself suggests, are the rights which are conferred upon the individual, only and only, because of being human. These rights are vested in every person on his birth irrespective of any consideration. Human rights are based on an individual's claim for life, in which, the inherent dignity of human beings can be protected and respected. Transgender people are highly marginalized in India, they often are deprived of their basic human rights and are subjected to violence in day-to-day life. This creates barriers to attain education, social entitlements and enjoy any fundamental rights as citizens of this country. This extreme form of discrimination based on their gender identity, restrict equality before law and a clear violation of various Articles which provide protection of human rights in the Constitution of both the country. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 says that no person or establishment shall discriminate against a transgender person on any of the grounds. But they are denied their right to employment and occupation, right to life, right to identity, right to health care and right to education etc. This paper seeks to explore the extent of these violations and their impact on the lives of transgender people. This study employs a descriptive methodology, utilizing secondary data from various sources. The findings will be analysed to identify common themes related to

human rights violations and their implications for transgender persons and are also expected to the critical need for enhanced protections for transgender individuals.

Keywords: *Transgender, Human Rights, Human Rights Violation, Marginalization, Constitution*

**ZAMBIA'S DEBT: TRENDS, IMPLICATIONS, AND ITS RELATIONSHIP
WITH POVERTY IN ZAMBIA**

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ABSTRACT

The study uses secondary data from reliable sources, including government publications, Zambian statistics organisations, the World Bank, and other respectable sources, in a multidisciplinary technique. The study examines Zambia's debt crisis historically, focusing on the debt-to-GDP ratio and emphasising the impact of both governmental and global economic changes. A thorough grasp of debt dynamics is provided by the study's comparisons with other developed and emerging countries. Investigating the effects of high debt levels, including increased poverty, budgetary difficulties, and decreased investor confidence, is one of the research's main objectives. The results add knowledge and recommendations for policies that support a sustainable economic recovery to the continuing debates concerning Zambia's debt situation.

**THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN A MULTI-POLAR WORLD ORDER:
A STUDY OF THE ROHINGYA REFUGEE CRISIS**

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ABSTRACT

Refugees across the globe who face extreme human rights violations in manifold ways and are forced to flee their country and seek safe refuge in host countries. The case of the Rohingya Refugees - the world's most persecuted minorities - that the paper here focuses on, is a heart-wrenching case of perpetuating crises and blatant human rights violations. This analytical study is done through the theoretical prism of Giorgio Agamben's 'State of Exception' ("zoe-bios" and "homo sacer") to understand how the Rohingyas are forced to live a "bare life", stripped off of all the important and basic rights, freedoms and dignity in life, by the state, exclusively owing to their unique ethno-religious-linguistic identity as illegal immigrants. That is the unjustified cause for all the state-sponsored violence, human rights violations, exclusionary citizenship laws and institutionalised segregation and neglect. Faced with such unending episodes and the absence of freedom from fear and wants, the frenzied minorities have been fleeing in huge numbers, since the late 1970s, in search of safe haven, and thus the sporadic presence of Rohingyas across the globe. The paper here looks at the life of Rohingyas in Bangladesh, the world's largest refugee camp – with nearly 1 million of Rohingyas, as of August 2024, unlike other countries, like India, the US, and South East Asian nations, with indifferent immigration/refugee policies. It is learned that life for them has been a real struggle in the Refugee Camps as well – in terms of the most basic amenities, and security from natural calamities and criminal activities. The UN and International Human Rights Organisations have expressed solidarity with the Rohingyas and have attempted to restrain the acts of the Myanmar government from time to time. The UNHCR has been extending all the possible assistance and support to Bangladesh to ensure a meaningful and dignified life for the minorities, yet things aren't easy for them. Its efforts of mediation and safe repatriation have also failed. It is noticed that while the ASEAN member countries have been adhering to their policy of non-interference, China and Russia have been restricting UNSC's actions in this regard with their pro-Myanmar stand. The paper finally attempts to

put forth some possible suggestions for long-term solutions. It is understood that more renewed, stringent, and united efforts and co-operation of the entire international community is needed in bringing amicable solutions to this multi-dimensional Human Rights issue. While acknowledging and supporting Bangladesh in ensuring safe asylum to the minorities, simultaneous efforts should also be taken for the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable repatriation and good life for them back in Myanmar, with a proactive role by China, as a rising regional power in South East Asia and in the current geo-political and multi-polar world order. So, in the light of the sanctity of human rights and dignity beyond all political competitions and rivalries, the study becomes relevant in its attempt to provide some serious thoughts on this ongoing and poignant issue.

Keywords: *Rohingya Refugees, Multi-dimensional Human Rights Issue, Institutionalised Violence, Humanitarian Assistance, Multipolar World Order, Dignified and Sustainable Repatriation*

**THE UN AND THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES: AN ANALYSIS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON
THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD)**

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ABSTRACT

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is a radical change in the attitude of the international community towards the protection of disability rights. This study seeks to examine the importance of the Convention, its mechanisms of implementation and its biography in relation to the social rehabilitation and development of persons with disabilities based on the global picture. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 signifies a conceptual revolution when it is no longer seen as purely a medical or charitable issue. The scope of the Convention contains general provisions covering diverse areas such as accessibility and the majority of the activities of daily living: education, employment, health care, or even political participation. The central principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities include respect for human dignity, non-discrimination, participation in society, and inclusion. This study investigates the impact of the Convention on the domestic laws and policies. The analysis considers both the successes and the difficulties with respect to the specific objectives of the Convention. The implementation shows that although the CRPD has encouraged people to advocate for disability rights and awareness, more is still required in order to achieve its potential.

Keywords: *Human Rights, United Nations, Persons with Disabilities,
Social Inclusion, Accessibility*

ROLE OF EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN HEALTH CARE SECTOR WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF NURSES

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ABSTRACT

The intersection of labor rights and human rights in healthcare is a significant issue, especially in the context of nursing professionals who face various challenges in hospital settings. Nurses, as essential frontline healthcare workers, face numerous challenges including long working hours, inadequate staffing, low wages, exposure to occupational hazards, and insufficient mental health support. These issues not only affect the nurses themselves but also the quality of care provided to patients and the overall effectiveness of healthcare institutions. From a management perspective, these problems are compounded by systemic inefficiencies, poor resource allocation, and organizational stress. This study examines the relationship between human rights, and the management of nursing staff within hospitals. The hypothesis of this study is that lack of effective management strategies is the main reason for higher turnover rates, job dissatisfaction and impaired patient care outcomes. It explores how management practices can influence the working conditions of nurses, offering a dual perspective that highlights both the human rights framework and healthcare management strategies. By integrating human rights into hospital management, organizations can improve nurses' working conditions, enhance their job satisfaction, and ultimately improve healthcare delivery. This study provides a comprehensive overview of how effective management and human rights considerations can work together to create a sustainable and supportive healthcare environment for nurses, fostering both their professional growth and well-being while enhancing patient care.

Keywords: *Nurses Rights, Healthcare, Management Practices, Hospital Governance, Patient Care Outcomes, Nurse Turnover*

FOOD SECURITY AS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES AND LOCAL REALITIES

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ABSTRACT

The right to food is a fundamental aspect of human rights, enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international agreements. It emphasizes that every individual has the right to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs for an active and healthy life. However, food security remains a challenge for millions globally, with hunger and malnutrition persisting due to poverty, conflict, and climate change. Food security is built on four key pillars: availability, access, utilization and stability. It requires not only sufficient food production but also equitable distribution systems, ensuring that everyone, especially marginalized communities, can obtain the food they need. A human rights-based approach to food security focuses on addressing these inequalities, prioritizing the needs of vulnerable populations, and holding governments accountable to their obligations. The global food system faces new pressures from environmental degradation, climate change, and growing population demands, which make achieving food security more complex. Yet, by integrating human rights principles into policies and programs, these challenges can be tackled with a focus on fairness and sustainability. Thus, the paper explores the complex relationship between food security and human rights and it examines international frameworks and agreements, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals, that establish the right to adequate food and nutrition. The paper also highlights the disparities in food access across different regions, driven by factors such as poverty, conflict, climate change and political instability. Furthermore, the paper explores the role of legal instruments and grassroots movements in advocating for the right to food and holding governments accountable. To conclude, policy recommendations to bridge the gap between global commitments and local implementation, aiming to promote equitable access to food as a basic human right for all are the need of the hour. Ensuring that every person has access to adequate food is essential for a world where

human dignity is upheld and it requires coordinated efforts from governments, international bodies and civil society to create resilient food systems that guarantee the right to food for all.

Keywords: *Human Rights, Food Security, Right to Food, Sustainability, Marginalized Communities, Climate Change, Global Food System*

**RETHINKING ACCESS, RIGHTS AND FOREST CONSERVATION:
PARTICIPATORY MANAGEMENT IN WAYANAD, KERALA**

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ABSTRACT

The 1988 National Forest Policy is frequently regarded as a turning point in the discourse on forest management in India. This policy, at least in principle, acknowledged the dependence of local communities on forest resources and advocated for a “people’s movement to protect the forest” (Singh and Poffenberger, 1996). Initiatives in participatory forest management, such as Joint Forest Management (JFM), emphasized the recognition of usufruct rights, ostensibly as a mechanism to enhance community access to forest resources (Sarin, 1995). Arun Agrawal (2006) argues that participation in development programs represents a commitment to including the less vocal and most marginalized members of communities in processes that enable them to articulate their preferences, identify effective mechanisms to address those preferences, and work toward achieving desired outcomes. In its fullest expression, participation serves as a transformative tool to shift power dynamics, empowering previously excluded actors to exert greater influence over development outcomes. After twenty-five years of implementing participatory forest management in Kerala, particularly in Wayanad, what changes have occurred in the lives of forest-dependent communities? This paper focused on to what extent has this policy enhanced their rights to access forests to meet their livelihood needs? Moreover, how has it impacted the 'symbiotic' relationship between these communities and the forest ecosystem, as well as broader goals of environmental sustainability? This study draws on both primary and secondary data to analyze the dynamics of participatory forest management. It seeks to synthesize various perspectives on the National Forest Policy while examining the ground realities observed through ethnographic fieldwork conducted in multiple participatory forest management institutions in Wayanad.

Keywords: *Right to Access, Protection, Participation, Forest Management,
Livelihood*

DIGITAL FREEDOM; BALANCING HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN THE ONLINE PLATFORMS

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ABSTRACT

Digital Freedom is increasingly recognized as a vital aspect of fundamental rights, especially in the contemporary world, as digital spaces play a significant role in shaping our social, political, and cultural lives. Online platforms serve as primary venues for expression and communication. Balancing human rights and freedom of expression presents significant challenges, such as misinformation, hate speech, digital harassment and cybersecurity threats. On the positive side digital sphere empowers individuals, particularly marginalized groups, by providing platforms to voice their opinions. Digital Freedom allows individuals to engage in democratic processes, build communities, and advocate for change in unprecedented ways. It gives people the opportunity to express themselves without geographical or cultural boundaries. Yet, without proper oversight, online platforms can become breeding grounds for harmful content, raising complex questions about the boundaries between free expression and digital responsibility. This paper aims to examine the dual role of digital freedom as both a right and a responsibility, exploring how online platforms threaten Freedom of Expression.

Keywords: *Fundamental Rights, Digital Freedom, Human Rights, Transparency, Cybersecurity, Digital Responsibility.*

ADDRESSING SDGs IN PALESTINE: CONFLICT, SUSTAINABILITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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ABSTRACT

The Sustainable Development Goals were launched by the UNO in 2015 as a global initiative aimed at eradicating poverty, safeguarding the environment, and promoting peace and prosperity with the target year of 2030. SDGs are vital for achieving global peace, prosperity, and sustainability. Like all nations of the world, these goals are crucial to Palestine, but challenging due to the ongoing crisis. Effective action toward achieving each Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) in Palestine has been severely challenged due to political instability, limited access to resources, International Aid Constraints, Economic blockade etc., right from the beginning. In the context of the ongoing conflict, there are severe violations of international humanitarian law, which include targeting civilians, using excessive force which has led to severe civilian casualties, sufferings, and deaths. Moreover, there are shortages of medical supplies, disrupted educational systems, with many schools destroyed and children facing significant barriers to accessing quality education, restricted access to clean water, sanitation and limited access to reliable energy sources. Therefore, addressing the Sustainable Development Goals is imperative in ensuring human rights, combating violations and fostering sustainability. The slogan of SDG 2030 being “Leave no one behind”, immediate and coordinated global action and efforts are crucial in addressing these challenges in order to uphold humanitarian values and promote sustainable development in the region.

Keywords: *Genocide, Human Rights, Occupation, Sustainable Development Goals, 2030 Agenda*

FOOD SECURITY IN A WAR ZONE: A STUDY OF GAZA

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ABSTRACT

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), food security refers to physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food for all at all times. However, despite considerable efforts to end hunger over the last few years, the overall number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity is on the rise again in many regions of the world, primarily due to armed conflicts. If one looks at particularly the Gaza Strip, which is a small and densely populated region in the Middle East, it has been witnessing several hostilities and escalations of violence. Since October 2023, the Gaza Strip has experienced one of the world's worst recent food crises due to the ongoing war. The victims of the current conflict are suffering from impediments of humanitarian aid from entering the Gaza Strip, not to mention reaching households and refugee camps. The world failed to provide enough food for people in Gaza with no means to import or produce food. Besides its direct disastrous impact, the ongoing war on Gaza is expected to have negative consequences on long-term food security due to soil degradation and contamination, and the destruction of agricultural land and food facilities. Hence, this paper aims to analyze the implications of the ongoing conflict in Gaza, focusing on the issue of food security and its subsequent consequences.

Keywords: Gaza, War, Food Security, Blockade, Consequences

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION AND CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS AMONG DALITS: AN ANALYSIS IN KERALA

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ABSTRACT

Dalits are commonly known as untouchables, they are born into marginalization, exclusion and human rights violation. Dalits are a socially, economically and politically disadvantaged section in the society. The traditional caste system or the varna system made them vulnerable. Human rights are regularly violated. According to National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) in India, one crime committed against Dalits in every 18 minutes, 6 Dalits kidnapped or abducted every week, 3 Dalits women raped every day, 13 Dalits murdered every week, 27 atrocities against Dalits every day. Human rights are thought to belong to the individual under natural law as a consequence of his being human. They refer to those rights that are considered universal to humanity, regardless of citizenship, residency, status, ethnicity, gender or other considerations. After independence, a number of constitutional safeguards came into force to protect the rights and lives of the marginalized sections of the community including Dalits. But the recent statistics on crime against Dalits shows the ineffectiveness of the constitutional safeguards. The situation in Kerala is not very different, caste-based inequalities and discriminations are still strongly prevailing. As a result of the practice many heinous activities such as honor killing, denial of basic services as well as legal service are occurring. The present study focuses on the objectives of studying various human rights violations against Dalits in Kerala and analyzes various constitutional safeguards available to them. This study opted for the qualitative approach of study and based on secondary data, also the study analytical in nature.

Keywords: *Dalits, Human Rights Violation, Constitutional Safeguards,
Kerala, Caste*

THEORISING THE ROLE OF AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES IN DIGITAL GLOBALIZATION AND HUMAN SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE TWENTY- FIRST CENTURY

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ABSTRACT

The human civilization is currently undergoing a significant transformation, characterized by the institutionalization of digital globalization. The 20th century marked substantial advancements, particularly through the internet revolution, the evolution of automobile technologies, and the rise of smart mobility. These developments, along with the dissemination and integration of related technologies, have contributed to the emergence of digital globalization. The incorporation of cyber-physical systems has expedited urbanization, while improved standards of living have resulted in an increased presence of automobiles in urban areas that are now part of digitally globalized ecosystems, culminating in the advent of autonomous vehicles (AVs). This study examines the emerging threats and vulnerabilities associated with AVs and smart mobility, which have heightened security concerns for these vehicles across various nation-states, further contributing to the dynamics of digital globalization. The article theorizes the interconnections related to human security and employs a capacity matrix as a qualitative approach to analyze the development, institutionalization, and integration of AVs within the framework of digital globalization, as well as the associated challenges that arise from this integration.

Keywords: *Human Civilization; Digital; Globalization; Smart Mobility; Human Security*

**CENTRE VERSUS STATE ON THE ISSUE OF REFUGEES:
HUMAN RIGHTS DISCOURSE IN THE AGE OF DISPLACEMENTS**

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ABSTRACT

Since February 2021, the subjugation of the people and their representatives by the Military Junta in Myanmar has led to an escalating tension and a consequent displacement of people fleeing to the neighbouring countries. Mizoram, located in the North Eastern corner of the country, India, has been at the receiving end for these refugees as the people of the state share close ethnic affinities due to the common culture, shared histories, economic ties and religious commonalities. This close and immediate attention given to the refugees in terms of provision of food and shelter by the people, civil society and the state government has not resulted in a concomitant positive response from the central government. This non interference from the central government may be traced back to the non signage of the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol which would have mandated the central government to take prompt action for the welfare of these refugees. Apart from setting up of relief camps, proper documentation and recording of these displaced people have been taken up continuously by the state government. However, without the needed laws and guidance from the central government, the state government is constrained with its limited resources as well as absence of plan and policies for regulating the continuous inflow of refugees. This paper will address these two dichotomous in policies and planning of the centre and the state on refugee discourse, and how the displaced are trapped in between.

Keywords: *Refugee, Human Rights, Myanmar, Mizoram, Relief Camps, Displacements*

**ETHICAL CHALLENGES OF AI AND DIGITAL COLONIALISM:
A HUMAN RIGHTS APPROACH**

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ABSTRACT

In the contemporary digital era, the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies has brought about significant transformations across various sectors. However, this technological progress has also given rise to complex ethical challenges, particularly in the context of digital colonialism. This phenomenon raises critical human rights concerns, as it perpetuates existing inequalities and creates new forms of exploitation and control. The proliferation of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies has revolutionized various aspects of modern life, from healthcare and education to finance and governance. This concentration of power raises critical human rights concerns. Biased algorithms, data privacy violations, and opaque AI decision-making processes disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, exacerbating existing inequalities and creating new forms of digital exploitation. The intersection of AI ethics and digital colonialism, marked by the unchecked power of tech giants, threatens fundamental human rights. Addressing these ethical challenges urgently requires a human rights-based approach. This research aims to investigate the ethical implications of AI within the framework of digital colonialism, highlighting the human rights violations that arise from this dynamic. The main aspect of the study is through secondary data, through researching highly relevant literature article newspaper and speeches. The intersection of AI and digital colonialism presents significant ethical challenges that threaten to undermine fundamental human rights. As AI technologies become increasingly integrated into various aspects of life, it is imperative to address these challenges through a human rights-based approach. This research has highlighted the ways in which digital colonialism exacerbates inequalities and creates new forms of exploitation, emphasizing the need for equitable and just AI governance.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN RIGHTS: CHALLENGES AND GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITIES

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ABSTRACT

Climate change represents a profound challenge to human rights in the 21st century particularly affecting vulnerable communities and ecologically fragile regions. Global issues like rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, and sea-level rise have intensified regional vulnerabilities, often exasperating inequalities. The underlying causes such as industrialization, deforestation, and global disparities underscores the urgency of a justice-oriented approach to the situation. The impacts of climate change are no longer theoretical but is a reality in the form of rising sea levels, flooding, landslides, unpredictable seasonal variations and the resulting socio-economic disparities with severe impact on vulnerable population. While indigenous populations are bearing the brunt of climate change by losing access to ancestral lands and vital natural resources essential for their culture and survival, urban dwellers face challenges such as water shortages, heatwaves, and poor air quality compounded by rapid urbanization and insufficient infrastructure. Designing of global legal frameworks emphasizing justice-oriented climate policies fostering a harmonious relationship between development and conservation is needed to ensure a resilient future. Policies prioritizing sustainable development balancing ecological conservation with human development is the need of the day. In this chapter an attempt is made to intricate the complex relationship between climate change and human rights, emphasizing how environmental degradation disproportionately affects vulnerable communities, particularly in developing nations and its indigenous populations.

Keywords: *Climate Change, Human Rights, Sustainable Development, Biodiversity Conservation*

THE FUTURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

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ABSTRACT

The future of human rights and international cooperation is shaped by numerous challenges and opportunities. These dynamics evolve as societies, governments, and international organizations respond to political, economic, technological, and environmental changes. The future of human rights and international cooperation lies in balancing the challenges of rising geopolitical tensions, nationalism, and technological disruptions with the opportunities presented by multilateral diplomacy, technology, business practices, and global solidarity. Through effective collaboration, leveraging the power of international institutions and civil society, and embedding human rights into the global agenda, the international community can advance a future where human rights are universally respected and upheld, and global cooperation leads to a more just and equitable world. Human rights and international cooperation are closely intertwined concepts that form the backbone of global efforts to ensure the dignity, freedom, and equality of all people. International cooperation plays a pivotal role in promoting, protecting, and advancing human rights across borders. The paper explore how human rights and international cooperation intersect, the mechanisms of international cooperation, and the challenges and opportunities within this realm.

Keywords: *Human Rights, International Cooperation, International Organizations, Multilateral Diplomacy, International Community, Freedom, Equality*

**MAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT IN KERALA: HUMAN RIGHTS,
TRIBAL VULNERABILITY, AND SOCIETAL BIASES**

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ABSTRACT

The intensifying man-wildlife conflict in Kerala poses significant human rights challenges, disproportionately impacting tribal communities. These groups, living close to forests, face recurring wildlife attacks that jeopardize their safety, livelihoods, and well-being. The economic and social vulnerabilities of tribal communities, rooted in their dependence on forest resources, exacerbate the impact of such conflicts, resulting in loss of life, crop damage, and property destruction. Additionally, societal and governmental responses reveal biases, with attacks on non-tribal populations often attracting more media attention, public sympathy, and swift policy action compared to incidents involving tribal members. This disparity highlights a critical human rights issue: the unequal treatment and protection afforded to marginalized communities. The research adopts a simplified qualitative methodology to explore these dynamics. The researcher, residing within a Wayanad tribal settlement, will conduct field observations to capture the community's lived experiences. Semi Structured, targeted group interviews with tribal members and local leaders will provide personal accounts of the impact of wildlife conflicts. A review of secondary data, including media reports and policy documents, will supplement primary findings and reveal broader societal and governmental attitudes. This study emphasizes the need for a human rights-centric approach that incorporates tribal voices, strengthens protective policies, and promotes coexistence. Elevating tribal experiences and integrating traditional ecological knowledge are essential for addressing man-wildlife conflicts and ensuring equitable rights for all affected communities.

Keywords: *Man-wildlife Conflict, Human Rights, Tribal Communities, Societal Bias, Vulnerability*

UNDERSTANDING SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM IN THE TECHNICAL AGE

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses the nature of surveillance capitalism in the context of human rights violations in the neoliberal digital era. Contemporary digital platforms produce a vast amount of detailed data about users without considering their privacy and rights. The Internet has been considered the source of capital formation and wealth creation, which modify human behaviour for profit. It discusses how capitalism collects and processes the data through social life, which has privacy issues and human rights violations. It has serious concerns about threats to privacy and data security. Its anti-democratic nature challenges intersecting values and rights like autonomy and democratic sovereignty. The paper concludes with the notion that surveillance capitalism, through its personal data accumulation, poses serious threats to democracy by challenging the protection of human rights.

***Keywords:** Democracy, Privacy, Human Rights, Neoliberalism,
Surveillance Capitalism*

THE SILENCE SURROUNDING ORGAN TRAFFICKING: A NEW TREND OR DISGUISED FORM OF TRAFFICKING

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ABSTRACT

Global human trafficking continues to be a major concern of the international transplant community. Organ trade is the sale and purchase of organs for material or financial profit. The WHO was the first to prohibit payments for organs in 1987, following which many countries prohibited it in their laws. Global developments and catastrophes such as the widening gap between the rich and poor, conflicts, famine, climate change and forced migration further increase the risk of organ sale and exploitation among the world's vulnerable populations. Criminal networks continue to exploit vulnerable populations, especially migrants. It is a lucrative global illicit trade, that is less discussed form of human rights violation due to its very sly and complicated nature. Organ trafficking is a trans-national organised crime group due to its high demand and relatively low rate of law enforcement. This kind of human rights violation is largely absent from policy debates, as its crime goes undetected, unreported and less researched. It involves clinicians, managers of clinical health centers, middlemen and many others. There are disturbing reports of this pernicious practice in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh. The clause relating to 'compassionate donation' in the Organ Transplantation Act has been frequently exploited, which is violative of human rights. Thus this paper bridges the gap in knowledge, giving a bird's eye view of the problems and challenges of this form of human trafficking, about spreading general awareness and solutions to control this form of human rights violation. The study would concentrate on literary research on few cases in South India thereby informing policy makers to take action. This is an unethical practice and a serious violation of human rights that needs to be addressed. The methodology used would concentrate on case studies and descriptive methods.

Keywords: *Organ Transplant, Organ Trafficking, Human Rights Violation, WHO, Right to Health, Trade, Exploitation, Vulnerable Groups*

A STUDY ON GENDER WAGE GAP THE IN THE TECHNOLOGY SECTOR WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE TECH SECTOR IN ERNAKULAM

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ABSTRACT

The gender wage gap in the technology sector has been a significant area of research, given the industry's global importance and rapid growth. While the technology sector is often viewed as progressive and meritocratic, studies show that women continue to face substantial wage disparities compared to their male counterparts. This study aims to examine the gender wage gap specifically in the technology sector of Ernakulam, a growing IT hub in Kerala. While substantial research exists on the gender wage gap in tech globally, limited studies focus on specific regions, particularly in developing countries like India. This study aims to fill that gap by focusing on Ernakulam, where a growing tech ecosystem presents both opportunities and challenges for women in the workforce. This study focuses on understanding the gender wage gap specifically within the technology sector in Ernakulam, exploring how regional, societal, and organizational factors contribute to the disparity in earnings between men and women working in the local tech industry.

Keywords: *STEM, Pay Disparity, Tech Ecosystem, Work-Life Balance, Implicit Bias, Salary Transparency*

REPRODUCTIVE SOVEREIGNTY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE DIGITAL ERA: A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE MTP ACT

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ABSTRACT

The Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971, amended in 2021, reflects India's legislative attempt to balance public health priorities with women's reproductive rights. However, despite its amendments, the Act often falls short in fully recognizing women's autonomy over their bodies, constrained by hetero-patriarchal norms and systemic biases. The advent of the digital era has introduced both opportunities and challenges, reshaping the landscape of reproductive healthcare. This study examines the complex interplay between women's reproductive sovereignty and the perceived rights of unborn children, focusing on the Act's alignment with international human rights norms advocating liberalized abortion laws. It highlights how digital tools, including telemedicine and access to online health information, empower women while simultaneously raising concerns about surveillance, misinformation, and societal scrutiny. Drawing insights from judicial interpretations, such as the Kerala High Court's recent decision allowing termination beyond 20 weeks in the context of divorce proceedings, the research critiques the role of medical practitioners, the judiciary, and the digital ecosystem in influencing reproductive rights. This paper underscores the urgent need for a rights-based and technology-driven approach to reproductive healthcare, aiming to ensure that women's autonomy is central to policy and practice in the digital age.

Keywords: *MTP Act, Digital Era, Telemedicine, Women's Reproductive Sovereignty, Hetero-Patriarchal Beliefs, Societal Standards*

“THE INVISIBLES”: AN INSIGHT INTO THE CHALLENGES FACED BY THE SANITATION AND ALLIED WORKERS IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

As per WHO, Sanitation work includes emptying toilets, pits and septic tanks; entering sewers to fix or unblock them; transporting fecal waste; working in treatment plants; as well as cleaning public toilets or defecation around homes. Sanitation workers provide an essential public service but often at the cost of their dignity, safety, health and living conditions. They are the most vulnerable, invisible, unquantified section of our society. They are exposed to serious occupational, environmental health hazards causing risking illness, injury and death. Right to a clean, healthy and safe environment is a non derogable and inalienable fundamental right of every citizen enjoyed by one and all other than sanitation workers. They put their life and safety at risk while ensuring others of their right to a safe and healthy environment. Right to live with dignity is yet an unfulfilled dream of each sanitation worker. This paper intends to focus on the occupational health risk faced by the sanitation workers. It also tries to highlight some of the socio-economic insecurities faced by them. The paper also dwells into the Constitutional and legal safeguards provided to the sanitation workers for their upliftment.

Keywords: *Sanitation Workers, Manual Scavenging, Occupational Morbidity,
Constitutional Provisions*

**BALANCING INNOVATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS:
ADDRESSING BIAS, PRIVACY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY
IN AI SYSTEMS**

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ABSTRACT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping modern society, transforming various industries and improving decision-making processes. However, the extensive integration of AI has raised significant concerns regarding potential violations of human rights. This paper investigates how AI systems may infringe upon fundamental rights, concentrating on three main areas: bias, privacy, and accountability. Algorithmic bias frequently emerges from training data that mirrors societal inequalities, resulting in discrimination within essential fields such as hiring, law enforcement, and financial services. These biases challenge the principle of equality and compromise fairness in decision-making. Likewise, AI's reliance on extensive data collection presents serious privacy threats. Technologies like facial recognition and predictive analytics may lead to intrusive surveillance and unauthorized exploitation of personal information, breaching individuals' right to privacy. Additionally, the unclear nature of AI decision-making systems—often referred to as "black boxes"—hinders accountability, leaving those affected with limited options to contest unjust or harmful results. This paper presents real-world instances to highlight these issues and their ethical consequences. By examining the interaction between AI and human rights, it emphasizes the necessity for increased transparency, fairness, and ethical oversight in AI systems. Addressing these challenges is essential to ensure that technological progress respects and maintains the dignity, equality, and freedoms that are fundamental to human rights.

Keywords: *Artificial Intelligence, Human Rights, Bias, Privacy, Accountability, Decision-Making Systems*

FOOD SECURITY IN INDIA: A HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

The right to food is recognized in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights as an essential part of the right to an adequate standard of living. It is also included in the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, and is protected by various regional treaties and national constitutions. While many people may assume that hunger-related deaths primarily occur during times of famine and conflict, the reality is quite different. Only about 10 percent of these deaths are due to armed conflicts, natural disasters, or exceptional climatic conditions. The remaining 90 percent result from a long-term, chronic lack of access to adequate food. A rights-based approach identifies the poorest of the poor, encourages public participation, and promotes good governance. It empowers local communities to take part in decision-making and hold the state accountable for its obligations, allowing individuals to take direct responsibility for their well-being while relying on state assistance only when absolutely necessary. This article examines human rights policies and their relevance to the current state of food security in India. Additionally, it analyses discussions surrounding international human rights mechanisms concerning vulnerable groups and their right to food.

Keywords: *Human Right Policies, Food Security, Climate Change, Natural Disasters, Socio - Cultural Background*

WAR AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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ABSTRACT

This research paper critically explains the key issues and debates regarding the connection between war and the violation of human rights and various peace building processes. Human right violations can be both causes and consequences of conflicts. The contemporary world is been now under the threat of many wars The Isreal-Palestine and Russia-Ukraine conflicts are still existing squabble situation. The current scenarios are not only affecting these countries, but the whole world in a jeopardy. The conflicts over access to resources such as diamonds in Sierra Leone, timber in Liberia, coltan in the Democratic republic of Congo are resulting in a vast majority of harm has been inflicted on civilians more frequently. The human right violations include, the human right abuses and various physical tortures. There have been many peace building processes in the world for reduction of wars. The international human rights law is a system of international norms, designed to protect and promote the human rights of all persons. These rights, which are inherent in all human beings, whatever their nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language or any other status that are interrelated, interdepend and indivisible. The term “HUMAN RIGHTS” was mentioned seven times in the UN’s founding charter making the promotion and protection of human rights a key purpose and guiding principle of the organisation. The threats elevated by the wars are been increasing in the current world. The High Commission OF Human Rights [HCHR]in Geneva with many regional offices has led responsibility in the UN system for promotion and protection of human rights. The High commission of human rights regularly comments on situations in the world relating to human rights issues, and has the authority to investigate situations and publish reports on them. This paper is an attempt to reveal the human right violations caused by war in methodical view.

Keywords: *Human Rights, United Nations, HCHR, International Human Rights Law*

**CLIMATE CHANGE, DISPLACEMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS:
A CASE STUDY OF KUTTANAD, KERALA**

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ABSTRACT

One of the major problems facing the world is climate change and its adverse impacts. It affects people in various forms and threatens their existence. Among them, human displacement is the main challenge facing worldwide. However, People have the right to live with dignity and pride, as well as to be safeguarded against economic and social crisis caused by climate disasters. Kerala too is not exempt from this global phenomenon. Kuttanad is one of the places in Kerala where people are being displaced due to the adverse impact of climate change. Kuttanad region, spanning about 1100 square kilometres, is the largest wetland ecosystem on the west coast of India and covers the three districts of Alappuzha, Kottayam, and Pathanamthitta in central Kerala. The region is economically significant for the as a major rice producer which is widely known as the rice bawl of Kerala. Besides, residents are engaged in livestock production, fishing and tourism etc. However, climate change threatens the livelihood and property of people and leads to migration. This article first analyses how climate change-induced displacement is addressed at the global and national levels from a human rights perspective. Secondly, using the case of Kuttanad, it analyses how climate disasters affect people's livelihoods, private and public property and how people are displaced as a result. The study employs both primary and secondary data.

Keywords: *Human Displacement, Climate Disasters, Human Rights, Livelihood, Kuttanad*

NAVIGATING HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT THROUGH A BIOMEDICAL AND ECOLOGICAL LENS

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ABSTRACT

Human rights and human-wildlife conflict are a biomedical and ecological socio-political issue, especially given the current rise in endangering species and natural habitat overtaking by populations across the world. These conflicts analysed within this paper raise questions about the influence of such fights on both human beings and animals, using biotechnology, microbiology and biochemistry as disciplines. When land is purchased for farming purposes and the land is turned into urban areas, conflict giving hard time and stripped off their privileges of the vulnerable groups results in violence and hardship. This suffering can inform disease ecology and the degradation of natural spaces as a condition of humanity's biophysical encounter with the rest of the creation. Current and effective biotechnological approaches include development of techniques of conflict resolutions for harmonization with Wildlife that can protect human rights as well as Wildlife. Furthermore, the management of such problematic through the aspect of social justice can help the local people to be part of the decision maker. In conclusion, therefore, the development of more supportive coexistence model will promote the process of conservation of biodiversity but also will respect the rights of people and thus, the complex of relationships between people and other living beings.

Keywords: *Wildlife Conflict, Natural Habitat*



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