

Academic Staff College, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

has proposed to organize a National Seminar

On 24-25 November, 2009 at CIT, Jamia

On

“Human Rights and Social Security in the Age of Globalisation”

Concept Note

The Issues pertaining to Human Rights and Social Security are acquiring greater significance in the age of globalisation. On the one hand, globalization is creating new opportunities to realize human potential. On the other hand, it is leading to disturbing trends in the forms of violence within and across the nation states. The human rights education including peace education can play a significant role in addressing these issues. There is a need to create social awareness amongst people particularly youth, who would play a positive role in order to face new challenges. This can be made possible only when the people especially young generation, are sensitized that they would be the part of solution not of the problem.

Human rights are not only standards, but also claims of the citizens on the allocation of resources of the society. There is a rapid growth in the Indian economy, but at the same time disparities are also growing. It is therefore the need of the time that the development needs and equity concerns should go hand in hand. Only material development will not lead to human happiness, unless equal opportunities are provided to all sections of Indian society, especially underprivileged social groups such as SC, ST, religious minorities and women.

The protection of human rights can be understood both in national and the global context. The standard-setting exercise that international agencies like the UN took up from 1948 with the commencement of Universal Declaration of Human Rights has been an attempt in exploration of different dimensions of Human Rights Education. Since 1948 the UN has brought many new fresh standards. Today, there are about one hundred documents in the form of Declaration, Conventions, Covenants and Treaties on human rights. The people all over the world would appreciate the deepening of the scope and content of human rights, and their relevance to protect and enlarge human freedom, dignity and respect in the society.

In Indian context, protection of human rights is already guaranteed by our Indian Constitution and legal systems of the country. There have been varied laws enacted to ensure equity and justice. Effective enforcement is possible only when the law reigns supreme. It is necessary that a rule of law culture is adequately institutionalized. Rule of law is an objective standard that has the potential to mediate the complex web of social interactions and tilt the balance of power in favour of the weak. The law enforcement agencies will have to be a part of this standard maintaining process. Human rights education should draw the law enforcing personnel more and more into this effort where they become life long learners.

It is also found that Human Rights Education has been introduced in the curriculum of the Armed Forces, Police Training Institutions and the other agencies. This is a welcome move and it needs full support from the civil society. It is also the right time to focus on the marginalized and excluded sections like the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, minorities and women to make them aware of their rights. It would contribute to enhancement of dignity and self-respect of 'downgraded' human beings. A creative society will always find ways and means to channelise the human potential for constructive development of the society. Human Rights are in themselves ends as well as means. They are ends in terms of standards to be attained and are means as they enable and empower the people to use and enjoy the rights.

This seminar will also address the issues of social security which are equally important. The social security primarily refers to incentives and programme provided by state or any other agencies in order to provide social protection, against socially deprived groups or socially recognized conditions such as poverty, old age, disability, unemployment, etc. The relevant issues relating to social security are in fact, human security, old age security, food Security, Poverty and Unemployment, environmental degradation, etc. These issues are acquiring prominence in the era of globalization. It is now the need of the time to make an academic enquiry and also share our experiences as members of civil society to protect human rights and social security.

Keeping all the above issues into mind, the UGC- Academic Staff College, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi proposes to organize the National Seminar on **Human Rights and Social Security in Age of Globalisation** to be held on 24-25, November, 2009 at Jamia Millia Islamia. The proposed seminar intends to invite scholars who have specialized in human rights education and Social Security. The Seminar would basically focus on the following themes.

- Human Rights Education
- Human Rights and Peace Education
- Human Rights and Human Development
- Right to Information
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Right to Education
- Consumer Protection
- Rights of Disabled Persons
- Human Rights and Good Governance
- Human Rights and Child Development
- Dalit and Minority Rights including indigenous people
- Human Rights and Gender
- Rights of Migrant Workers

- Human Rights and Media
- Human Rights and NGOs
- Human Rights and Health
- Human Rights and Sustainable Development
- Human Rights and Islam
- Human Rights in South Asia, West Asia, Central Asia, Africa, etc
- Social Security including old age, food, etc
- Eradication of Poverty and Unemployment
- Human Security

The prospective participants are, however; free to choose topics of their own taking the theme into consideration. They are also requested to send the abstract with title latest by **31.10.2009**. The deadline for final submission of full length paper is **15.11.2009**.

Seminar Convener

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