



IMPACT OF GLOBALISATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

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ABSTRACT:

Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings whatever our nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language or any other status. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination. These rights are interrelated interdependent and indivisible.

Globalization is conceived as turning the whole world into one global village removing any barriers and facilitating the free flow of people, capital goods, information and technical knowledge etc. across borders realizing the highly cherished values of democracy, freedom, justice and equality of human rights around the world.

But the other side of globalization sets some negative implication for human rights as well. Globalization, both as a description and a prescription has provoked several contradictory issues with human rights.

KEYWORDS:

HUMAN RIGHTS, GLOBALIZATION, PROTECTION.

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INTRODUCTION

"Acc. to World Commission on Social Dimension of Globalisation (2004)"

"Our primary concerns are that globalisation should benefit all countries and should arise the welfare of all people throughout the world. This implies what it should raise the rate of economic growth in poor countries and reduce world poverty, and that it should not increase inequalities or undermine socio-economic security within countries."

GLOBALISATION

Globalization is conceived as turning the whole world into one global village removing any barriers and facilitating the free flow of people, capital goods, information and technical knowledge etc. across borders realizing the highly cherished values of democracy, freedom, justice and equality of human rights around the world.

Globalisation is the phenomenon which has brought the world together at one flat platform where there is an apparent blurring of all differences in all aspects. It is popularly described as speeding, widening, deepening worldwide inter connectedness in all aspects of contemporary social life from cultural to criminal, the financial to the spiritual.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Acc. to Oxford power Dictionary (1993) "Human Rights

can be defined as the basic freedom that all people should have".

In the words of Kofi Annan, (United nations secretary general), "Human Rights are what make us human. They are the principles by which we create the sacred home for human dignity. Human rights are what person requires and conscience commands". In simple words we can say that human rights are the rights which every person irrespective of caste, religion, sex, language, colour, nationality or any other status should enjoy to lead an honorable life. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination. These rights are interrelated, interdependent and indivisible. Human rights exist as long as human beings exist. Both are inalienable and cannot be separated. Human rights are as old as human civilization but their use and relevance have been well defined during the recent years. It was gathered more momentum in the post second world war period, particularly after the United Nation's Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) 10th Dec. 1948 as historic day in the annals of the world history. The UDHR Enumerates two sets of Human rights:

- (i) Civil and Political rights : such as right of freedom of speech, right to life and liberty, right to equality before law, right to move freely, right to vote etc.
- (ii) Economic and social rights – Such as right to work,

right to have rest & leisure, right to education, right to have equal pay for equal work etc.

All these rights are important and unique in their own ways. As per the international aspect of human rights They have been given a proper place in the constitution of almost of all the democratic countries of the world.

IMPACT OF GLOBALISATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN in his book " The World is flat" has stressed the role of globalisation in terms of trade, outsourcing supply chains and political forces which have made lasting impacts on the world and have changed it for good or bad.

Likewise as per Manfred Steger, Prof of global studies and leader of research at global cities Institutes RMIT University. There are four dimensions of globalisation namely economic, political, cultural and ecological along with a fifth dimension i e the ideological which cuts across the other four. It is actually the ideological dimension which covers a whole range of norms, claims, benefits, narratives and the phenomenon itself. Focusing upon ideological front of globalisation issue of human rights protection and violation has become matter of great concern now-a-days.

But the question is whether in present era of globalisation human beings as well as their human rights are on the safe side?

Ans. to the above question clearly lies in contradictory impacts of globalisation on human rights globalisation has today become a major sort of debate among academicians, policy makers and NGOs. Its impact is profound.

Both advocates and critics of globalisation have realised that human rights are affected adversely by globalisation. Various analysis supported by facts & figures drawn from international reports and statistics have concluded that globalisation has done more harm than good to the people especially poor people in the developing countries.

Despite the continuing emphasis on promoting global prosperity and achieving a more just world by globalisation there have been many humans rights abuses since the introduction of globalisation. First and foremost the gap between rich & poor keeps on widening and inequality all over the world is the order of the day.

Globalised markets, global cultural bazaar, global shopping malls, global financial network, global work places in current form are posing a great challenge to the struggle for protection of human rights. The fact says that the world's financial capital is ever more integrated and wealth is getting more centralised in the hands of financial elites and institutions. Realizing socio-economic rights especially eradicating hunger and unemployment is becoming increasingly difficult.

likewise if we relate one or other aspect of human rights to one or other aspect of globalisation such as poverty in developing countries to debt or relating unemployment to privatization etc. are posing grave threat to the protection

of human rights such as impoverishment and lowering standard of living, increasing inequality, discrimination and deprivation of satisfaction of basic needs of life.

Transnational integration and increased mobility no doubt have strengthened the individual rights and the dignity of individuals. But at the same time advance use of technology has increased terrorist attacks, social unrest, rape cases etc. Injustices starvations, racism discriminations, etc. are all serious problems which are still experiencing by many societies Prosperity, welfare and economics progress which market economy is expected to achieve could enhance or create some opportunities for political stability. The free market forces allowed manipulators, to control stock markets to maximize their profits that destroyed the social structure of many societies resulting in potential social unrest

So many examples all over the world especially developing world are explaining the pitiable story of human rights violations and abuses like negative impact on rights to have an adequate standard of living by creating contractual jobs, lower wages part-time jobs, inequality of wages in rural urban areas, depriving the tribals from natural right on forest land by MNCs and corporations for the sake of globalisation and liberalization, hence it forces people in the developing countries towards homelessness, slum dwellings, finding new way of livelihood, dealing with irregular job opportunities and higher cost of living.

Moreover violence against women is increasing day by day. Directly or indirectly globalisation is responsible for physical aggression, sexual abuse, rape, psychological violence through insults, humiliation, blackmailing, economic emotional threats and control over speech and action trafficking in women and many more cases of violence against women.

Globalisation has commercialized that medical field stressing upon only on profit based business setups and totally ignoring the health and safety of people.

Globalisation have failed to meet the needs and fulfill the requirements of protection of the environmental. Increasing environmental pollution, global warming etc. are violating right to have healthy environment and healthy living.

CONCLUSION

In nutshell Globalization, both as a description and a prescription has provoked several contradictory issues with human rights.

It is clear that globalisation in its current form does not ensure social, economical, civil, cultural and political human rights protection and stability. So need of the hour is to inject spiritual, ethical and moral considerations to the activities and objectives associated with the globalisation process.

Indeed people who are both means and ends should globalise themselves within the humanity based religious sphere and fostering common human values to build a

more just world.

It is our moral responsibility as proponents or opponents, individual or groups, governments or Ngos to rethink the process of globalisation to protect human rights as well as human dignity.

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