What Are Human Rights?

Human rights are those rights considered vital for all people. Human rights are **universal**: every human being has the same human rights. Human rights are **inalienable**: human rights can never be taken away from you. Human rights are **indivisible**: no person's human rights are more important than another's. Human rights are **interconnected**: all human rights are equally important.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations in 1948 to create a basic international standard for human rights. It was the first comprehensive agreement among nations about the specific rights and freedoms of all human beings. The Declaration has 30 articles that specify the fundamental rights to which all human beings should be entitled. The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights was signed by all members of the general assembly, including the USA, in 1948.

Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- 1. Right to equality
- 2. Freedom from discrimination
- 3. Right to life, liberty, and personal security
- 4. Freedom from slavery
- 5. Freedom from torture and degrading treatment
- 6. Right to recognition as a person before the law
- 7. Right to equality before the law
- 8. Right to remedy by competent tribunal
- 9. Freedom from arbitrary arrest and exile
- 10. Right to fair public hearing
- 11. Right to be considered innocent until proven guilty
- 12. Freedom from interference with privacy, family, home and correspondence
- 13. Right to free movement in and out of the country
- 14. Right to asylum in other countries from persecution
- 15. Right to a nationality and the freedom to change nationality

- 16. Right to marriage and a family
- 17. Right to own property
- 18. Freedom of belief and religion
- 19. Freedom of opinion and information
- 20. Right of peaceful assembly and association
- 21. Right to participate in government and in free elections
- 22. Right to social security
- 23. Right to desirable work and to join trade unions
- 24. Right to rest and leisure
- 25. Right to adequate living standard
- 26. Right to education
- 27. Right to participate in the cultural life of a community
- 28. Right to a social order that articulates this document
- 29. Community duties essential to free and full development
- 30. Freedom from state or personal interference in the above rights

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