



PROSPECTUS

Diploma Course In Human Rights Studies

ST. JOSEPH'S EVENING COLLEGE
(Autonomous & NAAC Accredited)
Museum Road, Bangalore - 560025
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL
SCIENCE

&

South India Cell For Human Rights
Education and Monitoring
(SICHREM)

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St. Joseph's Evening College (Autonomous)
Department of Political Science
&
South India Cell For Human Rights Education and Monitoring
SICHREM

DIPLOMA COURSE IN HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES

The Diploma in Human Rights Studies – is a comprehensive course covering the basics of human rights and relating human rights theory to actual circumstances and issues within our society.

The course intends to provide a strong theoretical grounding which will be complimented by real experiential learning and exposure which will lead to a transformation of understanding of perspectives, beliefs and outcomes in society.

The other benefit to the students will be the interaction with individuals and leaders from various non-profit organizations and movements, persons who have strived to bring about justice and equity in society, This interaction and exposure will give the students a first hand account directly to issues and working of the Non Profit Sector.

The course has been created with an intention of being unique, which will stand out in terms of content, methodology and outcome.

Overview of the collaborating Institutions.

ST JOSEPH'S EVENING COLLEGE BANGALORE

St. Joseph's Evening College is run by the Society of Jesus, a Catholic religious order founded in 1540 by St. Ignatius of Loyola. The institution is acclaimed worldwide for spreading education, hence enlightening people about their rights and duties. St. Joseph's Evening College holds the rare distinction for being the only Evening College in the country to be granted the Autonomous status and Accredited and Reaccredited by NAAC.

At St. Joseph's Evening College our educational objectives is to prepare men and women for the service of others specially, the poor and the oppressed. The college provides you with opportunities to critically understand society and its structures so that your education would assist you to work for humane and a just society.

One of the key concerns of the college being the upliftment of the society's downtrodden. Our students will be provided with sufficient exposure towards the problems of our society, thereby making them work towards realizing a humane and just society.

The need for Human Rights is probably as old as the evolution of humankind itself. In a world that accommodates an exponentially increasing population of haves and have-not's, the role of Human Rights (Activists) gains prominence in building stronger bridges between the various sections of the society and strive towards narrowing the gap between the privileged and the lesser-privileged sections.

India as we know is a land of contrasts. Rich against poor, influential against harassed, intellectuals against illiterates and the aware against the ignorant. Making a serious note of these issues, The Department of Political Science of St. Joseph's evening College has decided to start a DIPLOMA COURSE IN HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES which we hope will result in the birth of a rare breed of soldiers – soldiers who would extinguish the darkness in people's lives by lighting lamps of hopes, by making people aware of their rights as human beings and by assisting them to live their life with dignity and honour. Hence, in the spirit of our Jesuit Heritage, St. Joseph's Evening College will strive to develop the complete human with a mission to serve human kind.

We wish you all – the torch bearers of knowledge all the best in your endeavours and sincerely hope that you make use of this course to the fullest extent which we are offering in collaboration with SICHREM.

SOUTH INDIA CELL FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION AND MONITORING (SICHREM)

SICHREM is the acronym for South India Cell for Human Rights Education and Monitoring.

SICHREM started in 1995, as an answer to the growing insensitivity to the supremacy of the rule of law. The founders reckoned that the best remedy for building a responsible civil society would be through a process of education, sensitization and intervention. The organization was established with a mandate to empower the disempowered groups of dalits, tribals, women, children and minorities to protect their individual and collective rights for a dignified life, through education, monitoring and mobilizing civil society for concerted action.

SICHREM' s vision is to create a fearless society where the rights of the last and the least will be respected without any kind of bias and hopes to make human rights a household concept by adopting a proactive stance on the restoration of rights and by advocating a rights-based value system. SICHREM believes that the domain of human rights extends to all realms of the society to embrace social, cultural, economic, civil and political rights. Thus, it consciously takes a pro-poor, gender-sensitive and pro-child stance.

Coinciding with the declaration of United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, SICHREM launched its human rights education program in 1995, since then has initiated innovative projects and activities to address the issues of dignity and rights of the marginalized communities.

Course Duration - One Year – 100 Hours (50 classes)

Typically Class will be of two-hour duration on week ends (either on Saturday/Sunday)

All Successful students will be awarded the certificate – **Diploma in Human Rights Studies** – Jointly awarded By St. Joseph's Evening College-Department of Political Sciences and South India Cell for Human Rights Education and Monitoring.

Highlights:

- The course aims to expose students to human rights concepts and values and to draw parallels and relate the same to real life situations.
- To build understanding, the spirit of enquiry and tolerance based on democratic principles and the rule of law.
- The context of the theory and lessons taught will always have its basis in actual situations and instances faced by certain groups of people or individuals.
- Field trips and exposure visits to affected people and communities, which will include organizations involved with addressing various human right issues.
- Simultaneous exposure to International Human Rights Law as well as Indian Law relating to human rights
- Will provide a platform for students to express themselves and associate with individuals and organizations working on various issues and concerns

Methodology:

- **Class room sharing** – In the form of lectures, and presentations
- **Group Discussions** – Initiated and facilitated by a resource persons who are adept with the subjects.
- **Case Studies** - (relevant to the topic) Based on Themes, Issues or Incidents.
- **Presentations by Students** – based on individual/group research on a given topic / issue.
- **Paper Submission and Assignment Evaluation** – Regular short assignments and paper submission based on the content of the classroom sessions.
- **Film Screening** – Film screening and appreciation along with interactive discussions on various human rights issues.
- **Book Reviews** – review and analysis of books addressing social concerns, human rights and justice issues.

- **Web Forum** – An interactive platform for the class to share information, schedules, resource material, and to track progress and have continuous access to the proceedings of the course.

Evaluation and Grading

On successful completion of the course students are awarded a Diploma in Human Rights Studies (certificate), which is Equivalent, to 5 credits.

Students are graded based on the following

- End of Semester assessment – Both objective type questions and essay type descriptive questions
- Attendance
- Paper Submission and Assignments
- Participation in group work and discussions
- Book Reviews
- Film appreciation
- Dissertation -5000 words.

Course Content

1. Introduction to Human Rights

- Principles of Human Rights
- History and Development of Human Rights
- Human Rights in India and World
- Classification of Rights
- Individual vs. Group Rights
- Affirmative Action

2. Major Human Rights Treaties – International Human Rights Law

- International Bill of Rights
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights - UDHR
- International Covenant on Civil Political Rights - ICCPR
- International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights - ICESCR
- Convention on the Rights of the Child -CRC
- International Covenant on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women - CEDAW
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)
- International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination – ICERD

3. Other Human Rights Treaties and Standards

- United Nations Convention On The Protection Of The Rights Of All Migrant Workers And Members Of Their Family
- Indigenous Peoples Rights
- Human Rights And Refugees
- International Labour Organization And Labour Standards - ILO
- International Humanitarian Law

4. Human Rights Bodies

- United Nations
- United Nations High Commissioner For Human Rights
- UN Sub commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities
- Commission on the Status of Women
- International Criminal Court (ICC)
- International Court of Justice (ICJ)
- United Nations Mechanisms and Non Government Organizations (NGO) Participation

Regional Commissions

- European Commission, American and the African Commission

National Mechanisms

- Constitutional Provisions- Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles (Writs, etc)
- Protection of Human Rights Act 1993 & National & State Commissions
- Other National And State Commissions – Women, SC/STs, Differently-abled, Minorities, Children and backward classes.
- Human Rights Mechanisms

5. Thematic Discourses and Study

Child Rights and Issues

- Convention on the Rights of the Child -CRC
- UNICEF
- ILO Conventions
- Constitutional Provisions
- National Laws-CLPRA, JJ Act, Child Marriage, CSA, RTE, etc

Women's Rights and Issues

- Sex, Gender and Patriarchy
- International Covenant on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women -CEDAW
- Beijing Conference

- Dowry, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assaults/Abuse
- Sexual Harassment in the Workplace
- Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques(Regulation Prevention of Misuse) Act,1994,
- Infanticide
- Acid Attacks
- Personal laws and Special Marriage Act
- Minority Women

Dalit Rights

- Historical analysis of caste and Untouchability
- Movements against Caste
- International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination
- The Scheduled Caste,Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities Act),1989
- Protection of Civil Rights Act
- Reservation / Affirmative Action
- Dalits in other Religions (Buddhist ,Christian ,Muslim)

Rights of Tribal and Indigenous people

- Cultural Rights (International Law)
- Displacement and Development
- Constitutional provisions and Adivasi self rule

Rights of Minorities

- Minorities based on ethnicity, community, language, religion or otherwise
- Declaration on the Rights of Linguistic and Ethnic Minorities
- Constitutional Provisions for Protection of Minorities

Rights of Sexual Minorities

- Introduction and concepts
- Various aspects and impacts
- Discussions on section 377 of the IPC

The Rights of Persons with Disability

- Concepts on rights of Persons with Disability
- Various laws dealing with Persons with Disability
- International Convention on the Rights of the Physically Disabled – ICERD

Environmental Rights

6. Human Rights Issues Locally and Globally

- Globalization and Human Rights
- Privatization of Water

- Right to Food and Water
- Torture and other Inhuman Degrading Treatment
- Human Rights and the Media
- Repressive laws
- Capital Punishment
- Communalization and Human Rights
- Custodial Violence Torture and Death
- Prison, Police and Judicial Reforms
- Human Rights in the context of Militancy and Terrorism
- Urban Poor and Slum Dwellers
- Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers
- Intellectual Property and Human Rights
- Corporate Responsibility and Human Rights
 - * Bhopal * Rights of workmen * Sweatshops Unfair labour Practices
- Arms race, Nuclearisation, small arms and land mines
- Tourism, trafficking
- Right to Information

7. Strategies for Protecting and Promoting Human Rights

- Human Rights Education and Peace Education
- Monitoring of Human Rights
- Skills in Fact Finding and Preparing Reports
- Legal Counseling and Aid
- Campaigning, Advocacy and Lobbying
 - *Letter writing * Press Releases * Press Conferences
- Documentation
- Laws relating to Arrest, Detention and Use of Force and Firearms
- News And Media Monitoring
- Participation In Solidarity Rallies And Public Meetings
- Fund Raising For Human Rights

8. NGO and other Organizations – National, International and Regional

- Amnesty International
- Human Rights Watch
- Forum Asia
- OMCT
- FIDH
- Asian Human Rights Commission
- People's Union for Civil Liberties -PUCL
- Peoples Watch – Tamil Nadu - PWTN
- SICHREM
- Government Departments – National and State level

- Various Commissions Nations Human Rights Commission - NHRC, State Human Rights Commission - SHRC, Police departments etc.,
- Working for Human Rights – career options

Course Material: Comprehensive printed material covering the entire course will be supplied to the students.

Online web forum – Additional resources will be archived on the web forum.

Course Duration: One year - Leading to a Diploma in Human Rights Studies.

Timings: Two Hours on Saturdays (3 p.m to 5 p.m)

Venue: Evening College Campus.

Director of the Course: Dr. Christopher Hoskins, SJEC

Mathews Phillip: Executive Director, SICHREM.

Course Facilitator: Mrs. Margaret Sampath, Deputy Director, SICHREM.

Executive Director