



Protection and Promotion of Human Rights: Role of Civil Society

With Special reference to feminism

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Abstract: We are dealing with a respectable concept. The 21st century is aspiring for protection and promotion of human rights. The 20th century was recognised as the decade of human rights. All most all systems in the world have given top priority to the human rights. The idea of human rights raised its voice in the 13th century. The struggle for freedom ultimately emerged in the form of human rights. The concept of human rights is seen in Magna Carta, 1215 and French declaration of human rights. The final shape to the human rights was given by the UN in 1945. The root of human rights lies in the natural rights which in turn in the natural law. The first right in the human rights is right to life. The bill of rights helped a lot in developing modern human rights. The main theme of human rights is to provide and give dignified life to every individual. Sometimes we get a doubt that is it possible to provide rights to men, women and children particularly to the common people in developing country like India. Mahatma Gandhi, Dr B.R. Ambedkar and Nelson Mandela sacrificed their lives to provide rights to the common people. In our modern society human rights are violated in every possible ways. Human rights of many people are deprived to maximum level. The people whose rights are violated may not able to approach any agency to secure their rights since all most all protecting agencies are corrupted and polluted This is the reason my mind and heart has chosen' pragmatic' approach to deal any issue regarding protection of human rights. The title of the topic expected the roll of civil society in protection and promotion of human rights. Let us clarify the civil society.

Key words: civil society, pragmatic approach, values and dharmas

Introduction:

Civil society is a social organisation established to fulfil the needs of the community .Civil society is established and expected to be helpful in providing full-fledged life to the people in society. Civil society has civil principles with which standard, peaceful, cooperative and affectionate life is possible. No doubt civil society has a significant role in protecting and promoting the human rights. Civil society can create many structures through which it can bring pressure on political institutions. Civil society can

mobilise the social structures to question the political system.

In third world countries, many civil societies are bringing many movements against many issues. But it is most unfortunate and regret to inform that the role of civil society is a failure one in curbing or at least to control certain important issues which are very, very dangerous and spoiling and destroying the basic values and dharmas of the society and civil society. The reason for this is that the society and so called civil society is divided into pieces in the names of race, caste, sex, class,



community, religion and pressure groups. The successful society is one where civil society is just like a fabric of love and affection which is disintegrated in the name pressure group. Hence the civil society not able to prevent corruption, discrimination, exploitation, rapeism, rowdiism, land grabbing, black money, political violence, state violence, misusing power and privileges etc., which are violated the human rights and swallowing the rights of the common man and in turn pushed the people in to frustration.

Feminism

Feminism is a complex set of political ideologies used by the women's movement to advance the cause of women's equality and to end the sexist theory and practice social oppression. It is the most unfortunate, since ages ours is a patriarchal society, describes a general structure in which men have power over women. A patriarchal society consist a male - dominated power structure throughout organised society and in individual relationships. Due to this lot of literature preoccupied in the names of cultural feminism and radical feminism etc. In this context we should put certain questions on which one can produce solutions to protect and promote the rights of women. Who is enemy to a woman? Who is violating women's rights? And who is going to protect the women's rights?

Let us have a pragmatic approach in solving, protecting and promoting of rights of women. In recent times there is a powerful concepts which enhance the dignity and prestige of women and that is nothing but women empowerment which maintained its status and power in the literature and limited its scope

only to the text but not exist in the practical society. All social, political, economic and other laws enacted in favour women are sleeping in the civil and criminal code text volumes. The pressure groups established in the name of women associations not able to secure sufficient strength and power to use their physical force in attacking social evils taking place against women particularly when law enforcing agency failed to discharge their duties in protecting women and their rights. Our Indian society is in transition period in which women are initiating drastic changes to lead free social, economic, political and cultural life on par with counter. It is to be admitted for the well being of women community. It is very pity and miserable that Indian women of all classes are facing many problems at every stage of their life. Do you find any woman who is free from the control of husband, uncle, aunt and sisters and brothers of her husband? Is she free from male community at outside of home? No corner of the society left free to enjoy her freedom. It is said that a woman is enemy to a woman to certain extent. This attitude is common in developing societies particularly in Indian society. We are aspiring for feminism and also Feminazism i.e., the belief in female superiority.

It is little bit tough task to solve the issues of women since many issues are thrown on women since their origin from their mothers' wombs. Hence drastic changes to be taken place to protect the interests of women. It requires continuous and uninterrupted struggle by all formal and informal groups and ways and means to bring revolutionary changes to protect and promote the rights of women. The feminist movement



refers to the series of campaigns for reforms on issues such as reproductive rights, domestic violence, maternity leave, equal pay, women's suffrage, sexual harassment and sexual violence, all of which fall under the label of feminism. The feminist movement can be traced back to the 14th century when Christian de Pizan a French poet, became one of the first female artist to make a living through writing.

The women's movement became popular in May 1968 in western countries. In 1918 crystal Eastman wrote a article published in the Birth Control Review, she contended that birth control is a fundamental right for women and must be available as an alternative if they are to participate fully in the modern world. The United Nations Human Development Report 2004 estimated that when both paid employment and unpaid household tasks are accounted for, on average women work more than men. Coming to the feminist theology, it is a movement that reconsiders the traditions, practices scriptures and theologies of religions from a feminist perspective. The feminist movement has affected religion and theology in profound ways .We have Christian feminism ,Islamic feminism, Jewish feminism , individualistic feminism Material feminism, Marxist feminism, etc..

We can also feminism even continental wise which are Feminism in Africa, Feminism in Asia, Feminism in Europe Feminism in North America ,Feminism in Oceania, Feminism in South America .We are all global citizens. Women are also global citizens. In general male problems are very few and they are varying from society to society

and one state to other state .But women problems and issues are more or less the same in every society and in every state. Hence it is better to provide and enact the standard laws, standard safety measures, standard protections, standard safeguards, standard facilities and standard special privileges with standard lively hood and nutrition to unite them as world women force to protect and promote their human rights by themselves. We hope and wish them to emerge as global power to protect and promote this world society from corruption, slavery, terrorism, exploitation, violence and protect the society from evils which are not solved by male since ages.

Conclusion:

It is not so easy to come to a conclusion without producing solutions to many issues which are preventing enjoyment, protection and promotion of human rights. The first major solution is to adopt the theory of dichotomy of politics from administration as recommended by Woodrow Wilson. The second important suggestion is that it is better to adopt the best principles for standardizing the administration of law agency and law enforcing agency. The protecting and the promoting agency must have impartial attitude in discharging their duties. The two agencies ie,. The judiciary and the department of police have to play a dignified role in protecting human rights of the people.

The political party and party workers have to play a positive role in discharging the official duties of law and law enforcing agencies; to achieve this new method and reformation to be brought in recruiting certain bureaucrats



and in election tentative political executives. The Greek political philosopher and king of politics Plato introduced communism in his ideal state through his work namely 'the republic' at his young age. Any developing society or a state in the world can adopt this ideal method with certain suitable modifications to avoid selfish and greedy nature and attitude from the minds of parties connected to the human rights.

The people of the society are not only law abide citizens but also abide by the moral principles, compassion, respect and honesty. Today democracy became a ball in the hands of pressure groups formed in the name of caste and religion. The democratic values are totally disturbed to the extent of losing its original shape. Let us hope and expect a society free from corruption, discrimination, exploitation, free from rowdies, terrorism, rapes and a society free from tensions, stress and opium and a society free from unrest. It is most unfortunate that rape becomes common and rapeism in our society. Let it be limited to silver screen but not in reality. Recently one of the central ministers reacted for a rape on 3 years old which itself is violation of rights of a child. The last but not least is the existing system

requires not a theory and literature but positive actions to protect and promote human rights.

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