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## Fundamental Rights

A democracy must ensure that individuals have certain rights that the government recognises and protects. The Constitution of India lists them. Unlike ordinary legal rights, Fundamental Rights can only be changed by amending the Constitution.

Fundamental Rights include:

- **Right to Equality:** Equality before law, prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth, abolition of untouchability and caste discrimination.
- **Right to Freedom:** Freedom of speech and expression, peaceful assembly, forming associations, movement throughout India, practicing any profession, occupation or business, protection against arbitrary arrest and detention.
- **Right against Exploitation:** Prohibition of trafficking in human beings, forced labour, and employment of children in hazardous jobs.
- **Right to Freedom of Religion:** Freedom of conscience, profession, practice and propagation of religion, management of religious affairs, and freedom to convert to any religion.
- **Cultural and Educational Rights:** Protection of language and culture of minorities, and right of minorities to establish educational institutions.
- **Right to Constitutional Remedies:** Right to move courts for enforcement of Fundamental Rights through writs such as habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, and certiorari.

Fundamental Rights are not absolute; reasonable restrictions can be imposed by the government. Preventive detention is allowed for up to three months without trial, double jeopardy, no retrospective criminal laws, and protection against self-incrimination.

## Exam Questions

Q1: What is the significance of Fundamental Rights in the Indian Constitution?

**Answer:** Fundamental Rights are essential guarantees provided by the Constitution to protect individual freedoms and ensure equality, liberty, and justice for all.

Q2: Name any two writs issued by courts to protect Fundamental Rights.

**Answer:** Habeas Corpus and Mandamus are two writs issued to protect Fundamental Rights.

## Directive Principles of State Policy

The Directive Principles of State Policy are guidelines for the government to establish social and economic democracy. These principles are

Goals of Directive Principles include:

- Welfare of the people
- Social, economic, and political justice
- Raising the standard of living
- Equitable distribution of resources
- Promotion of international peace

Policies suggested include:

- Uniform civil code
- Prohibition of alcohol consumption
- Promotion of cottage industries
- Prevention of slaughter of useful cattle
- Promotion of village Panchayats

Non-justiciable rights under Directive Principles include adequate livelihood, equal pay for equal work, right against economic exploitation, ri

The 42nd Amendment added Fundamental Duties for citizens, such as respecting the Constitution, National Flag, National Anthem, promotin

## Exam Questions

**Q1:** What are Directive Principles of State Policy?

**Answer:** Directive Principles are guidelines in the Constitution that direct the government to create policies aimed at social and economic we

**Q2:** Mention any two Fundamental Duties of Indian citizens.

**Answer:** To respect the National Flag and National Anthem, and to protect and improve the natural environment.

## Solved Examples

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**Example 1:** Explain the difference between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles.

**Solution:** Fundamental Rights are justiciable rights guaranteed by the Constitution that individuals can enforce in courts. Directive Principles

**Example 2:** What is the significance of the Right to Constitutional Remedies?

**Solution:** The Right to Constitutional Remedies allows citizens to approach courts to enforce their Fundamental Rights, making it a vital safeg

## Practice Set

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Easy

- What is meant by the Right to Equality?
- Name any two Fundamental Rights related to freedom.

## Moderate

- Explain the importance of Directive Principles of State Policy.
- What are the limitations on Fundamental Rights?

## Challenging

- Discuss the role of Fundamental Duties in the Indian Constitution.
- Describe the different writs available under the Right to Constitutional Remedies.

## Answer Key

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- **Right to Equality:** Equality before law and prohibition of discrimination.
- **Two Fundamental Rights related to freedom:** Freedom of speech and expression, Freedom to assemble peacefully.
- **Importance of Directive Principles:** They guide the government to create policies for social welfare and justice.
- **Limitations on Fundamental Rights:** Reasonable restrictions can be imposed for public order, morality, and security.
- **Role of Fundamental Duties:** To remind citizens of their responsibilities towards the nation and society.
- **Writs under Right to Constitutional Remedies:** Habeas Corpus, Mandamus, Prohibition, Quo Warranto, Certiorari.

## Quick Reference

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- **Fundamental Rights:** Equality, Freedom, Protection against Exploitation, Freedom of Religion, Cultural and Educational Rights, Constitution.
- **Directive Principles:** Guidelines for welfare, justice, and equitable resource distribution.
- **Fundamental Duties:** Respect Constitution, National Symbols, promote harmony, protect environment.
- **Writs:** Legal orders to protect rights and ensure justice.

## Glossary

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- **Begar:** Forced labour without payment.
- **Constitutional Remedies:** Legal protections to enforce Fundamental Rights.
- **Duties:** Responsibilities of citizens to respect others' rights.
- **Exploitation:** Injustice or unfair treatment of others.
- **Marginalised Communities:** Social groups often ignored or disadvantaged.
- **Minorities:** Groups with fewer members than the majority in society.
- **Rights:** Guarantees to live a respectful and dignified life.

Relationship Between Fundame Rights and Directive Principles

Goals

Welfare of we people pausing the standards of livings. Promotion of iterations peace.

Policies

Uniform civil code  
Prohibition of consumption of alcoholic liquor.  
Promotion of cottage industries.  
Promotion of village panchayats.  
Prevention of slaughter of useful cattle

Rights in the Indian Constitution

Right to Equality

- (i) Equality before law
- (ii) Equal protection of laws
- (iii) Prohibition on discrimination on ground of religion
- (iv) Equal access to public places
- (v) Equality of oppportunity in employment
- (vi) Abolition of titles
- (vii) Abolition of untouchability

Right to Liberty and Personal Freedoms

Fundamental rights in the Indian constitution

Right to Freedom of Religion

- (i) Freedom of conscience and profession
- (ii) Freedom to mänge religious affairs

- (i) Right to : speech & expression
- (ii) Assemble peacefully
- (iii) Form associations
- (iv) More freely throughout the country
- (v) Reside and settle anywhere in India
- (vi) Right to life and liberty
- (vii) Rights of the accused and convicts