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# Study of Differences between International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law, Focusing on Actions for Violations

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ZI ZA WAR<sup>1</sup>

## ABSTRACT

*International human rights law and international humanitarian law may initially seem like separate legal systems with different principles and rules. However, this article explores the potential conflicts and challenges that arise when both IHL and IHRL are applied and implemented simultaneously. By examining how these laws are used in different jurisdictions and evaluating their effectiveness and limitations in addressing human rights abuses during armed conflicts, it becomes clear that the best approach is to use both bodies of law in harmony. This ensures the protection of individuals in such situations by allowing the laws to support and reinforce each other.*

**Keywords:** *International human rights law, international humanitarian law, armed conflicts.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

International humanitarian law (IHL) is used during war or armed conflict, whereas international human rights law (IHRL) is used during peace. Human Rights Treaties bind the state to their obligations, whereas humanitarian treaties have broader ramifications. Humanitarian law is concerned with the rights of those who receive specific treatments, but human rights law is concerned with the rights of all parties involved. Both legal systems' treaty texts are lengthy and complex, with both universal and regional treaties distinguishing civil and political rights from economic, social, and cultural rights.

Human rights law has a murky past, influenced by cultural traditions and advocates for social improvement. Humanitarian law emphasizes the value of safeguarding people from economic and social exploitation. The most fundamental movement in humanitarian law is the shift from resorting to battle to protecting non-combatants from the horrors of war. Human rights are concerned with the protection of human life and well-being, and the use of force is considered

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<sup>1</sup> Author is a Lawyer at Myanmar.

a violation of human rights.

**(A) What is international humanitarian law?**

International humanitarian law (IHL) is a set of regulations that, for example, minimize the effects of armed combat. He defends those who are not or are no longer participating in hostilities and limits the means and techniques of combat. International humanitarian law is frequently referred to as martial law or conflict law. It is a field of international law that controls state-to-state relations. Treaties or conventions between nations contain international law, as do customary rules, which consist of State practices regarded as legally obligatory by them, and general principles. General concepts with legal ramifications. The rules governing armed conflicts fall under the purview of international humanitarian law. It makes little difference if a state is permitted to use force; this will be arranged from an important.

**(B) What is International human rights law?**

The obligations of States toward citizens and other people under their jurisdiction are governed by international human rights law (IHRL). Every person has a set of rights and freedoms, which is the highest ideal of all and is enshrined in human rights law. As a result, while certain rights and freedoms are subject to specific exceptions and restrictions, human rights are unalienable and apply at all times. IHRL is essential to ensuring that everyone is protected and is outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and numerous other key treaties. The rights of particularly vulnerable groups, such as internally displaced people (IDPs) or children, are also defined by human rights law.





**Fig.1 Comparing international humanitarian law and international human rights law**

***Examining the differences in scope and objectives between the two legal frameworks***

It is significant to look in a talk about almost the exchange between international humanitarian law and international human rights law for the dissent of freedom amid the equipped war and the correct to live. The basic understanding is that IHL, known as the *lex specialis*, is the primary legal system that is applicable in times of armed conflict. It regulates hostilities and protects individuals.<sup>2</sup> This requires a link between specific therapies or practices and any ongoing disputes. If such a link is not found, standard criminal justice practices during peacetime will apply. Even if human rights laws still apply during armed conflict, the specifics of this combined application of legal systems are still up for debate. However, it is apparent that the two systems of law, IHL and IHRL, share fundamental ideas.

The fundamental and non-negotiable requirements for human rights are already reflected in International Humanitarian Law (IHL). IHL has already established the minimum standard that cannot be lowered, unlike international human rights law, which allows certain exceptions to some human rights during times of public emergency. Even in circumstances of armed conflict, when international human rights law still applies, it can be suspended to some extent.<sup>3</sup> IHL and IHRL laws continue to share a common nucleus of non-derogable rights and a purpose to protect

<sup>2</sup> Montreux Document on Pertinent International Legal Obligations and Good Practices for States related to Operations of Private Military and Security Companies during Armed Conflict: Montreux 17 September 2008. (2008, December 1). *Journal of Conflict and Security Law*, 13(3), 451–475.

<sup>3</sup> Bruscoli, F. (2002, March). The Rights of Individuals in Times of Armed Conflict. *The International Journal of Human Rights*, 6(1), 45–60.

human life and dignity (*Abella v. Argentina*, 1997, para. 183).<sup>4</sup> Both legal systems can operate simultaneously and are responsible for regulating matters like the right to a fair trial, the use of humane detention methods, and the prohibition of torture. However, the safeguards offered by international human rights law typically provide greater and more comprehensive levels of protection, particularly in response to abusive or arbitrary treatment by government authorities. These protections remain in force even in situations of armed conflict.

There are important differences in the way the two legal systems operate. One of these is that international human rights law defines a State's jurisdiction often based on its physical territory. However, in some situations, a State's obligations may extend beyond its physical borders and into the actual territory of its neighboring State if certain conditions are met.<sup>5</sup>

It is important to note that a significant contrast exists between international human rights law and international humanitarian law (IHL). Specifically, IHL fails to offer any direct recourse to individuals whose fundamental rights have been breached. Instead, IHL places a greater emphasis on the use of international criminal law procedures for punishing those who violate such rights, such as crimes of war.<sup>6</sup> Despite this, there are several areas where IHL's reach exceeds that of international human rights law. IHL, for instance, covers more than just people; it also covers cattle, everyday goods, cultural property, the environment, and other things. In contrast to IHL, which binds only states, international humanitarian law also applies to non-state actors during armed conflicts, which are responsible for today's major acts of terrorism.

Significant conceptual and legal differences might cause difficulties between the two legal systems. The fundamental right to a healthy life is a pertinent example of counterterrorism activities. IHL permits individuals specifically locked in dangers, such as non-State outfitted on-screen characters, to be denied this right on the premise of military need, whereas adjusting this against helpful concerns.<sup>7</sup> As a result, all of IHL's standards take under consideration the need to ensure people from war's repulsions, and subsequently may be considered to speak to the correct to life. Specifically, the guideline of change ensures civilians in equipped strife by expressing that people and civilian objects cannot be specifically focused on amid outfitted struggle. It is forbidden to target specific persons, and several other standards likewise protect

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<sup>4</sup>Byron, C. (2017, December). IHL and Human Rights Law: Relationship. *Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law*, 5(1), 411–424.

<sup>5</sup> Alikulov, B. M. (2021). CONCEPT OF STATE TERRITORY AND ITS LEGAL CHARACTERISTICS. *Bulletin of Osh State University*, 2(3), 264–271.

<sup>6</sup> Simeon, J. C. (2015, February 17). The Application and Interpretation of International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law in the Exclusion of those Refugee Claimants who have Committed War Crimes and/or Crimes Against Humanity in Canada. *International Journal of Refugee Law*, 27(1), 75–106.

<sup>7</sup> Lehto, M. (2018, March 14). The Fight against ISIL in Syria. Comments on the Recent Discussion of the Right of Self-defence against Non-state Actors. *Nordic Journal of International Law*, 87(1), 1–25.

the lives of civilians (as well as, to a lesser extent, army life) during the conflict. There has been much talk over the scope to which human rights law ought to apply in times of war, nevertheless, no consensus has been achieved. The alluded to as "murder or catch" contention stands out as an agent case of this contention. The subject of whether States ought to attempt to catch warriors instead of slaughtering them has come up, and numerous scholastics have changed suppositions on the matter.

International human rights law seeks to prevent arbitrary and unnecessary loss of life, regardless of a person's position, even in times of war. *Lex specialis* resolves legal conflicts between different regimes. Specialized legal regimes, like IHL, take precedence over general laws (*lex generalis*) to ensure specific needs are met, promote fairness and justice, and maintain a just legal system. As a result, any troubles arising from, say, subjective hardship of life amid dangers might be settled through the legitimate crystal of IHL.<sup>8</sup> It's important to remember that while appearing to go against the freedom and security tenets of international human rights law, holding an innocent civilian or a prisoner of war is permitted by international humanitarian law. Particularly, such operations are permitted by the 1949 Geneva Conventions, III and IV.<sup>9</sup>

## **II. ANALYSIS OF THE RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS OF IHL AND IHRL**

International humanitarian law, also known as the law of war or the law of armed conflict, is a body of legal rules and principles that aim to protect individuals who are not actively participating in the fighting. This includes civilians, as well as medical and religious military personnel. Additionally, international humanitarian law also protects individuals who have ceased to take part in the conflict, such as wounded, shipwrecked, and sick combatants, as well as prisoners of war. These legal provisions are crucial in ensuring the safety and well-being of those affected by armed conflicts. These individuals have the right to be respected for their life as well as their bodily and emotional well-being. They also have legal protection. They must be safeguarded and handled properly under all circumstances, without exception. More precisely, it is banned to murder or injure an adversary who submits or is incapable of resisting; the sick and injured must be gathered and taken care of by the party in whose control they are. Hospitals, ambulances, medical supplies, and staff members must all be safeguarded.<sup>10</sup>

When civilians are captured by the enemy, there are rules in place to ensure they are treated

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<sup>8</sup> Brits, R. (2013, January). Sale in Execution of Mortgaged Homes May Not Result in Arbitrary Deprivation of Property. *South African Journal on Human Rights*, 29(3), 536–553.

<sup>9</sup> Ziv Bohrer, J. Dill, & Helen Duffy, *Law Applicable to Armed Conflict (Max Planck Trialogues)* Cambridge University Press, 2020.

<sup>10</sup> Rosa, S. D. R. (2022). Clinicians must put more effort into autism-specific medical care. *Spectrum*.

with dignity and respect. This includes access to clothing, food, and healthcare, as well as the liberty to maintain communication with their loved ones. The law establishes several symbols for identifying protected individuals, locations, and items. These symbols include the Red Cross, the Red Crescent, and emblems for cultural property and civil defense facilities.

States possess a duty to impart their laws to the public and the armed forces. If infractions do happen, they must be stopped or punished. They must pass legislation that specifically penalizes the gravest transgressions of the Additional Protocols and Geneva Conventions, which are regarded as war crimes. Additionally, rules defending the Red Cross and Red Crescent symbols must be passed by the States. Internationally, measures have also been taken: tribunals have been established to punish actions committed in two recent conflicts (the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda). The 1998 Rome Statute established an international criminal court with the mandate to combat crimes against humanity, including war crimes. The 1998 Rome Statute established an international criminal court with the mandate to combat crimes against humanity, including war crimes. Individuals, countries, and diverse organizations, as well as the ICRC, may all make significant contributions to conformity with IHL.<sup>11</sup>

Every human right is subject to duties to respect, safeguard, and uphold under international human rights law. It is achievable to establish whether or not there has been a violation of international human rights responsibilities. According to international human rights law, States are obligated to refrain from taking any actions that might deny people access to a particular right. Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to "All human beings are born free and equal." International human rights legislation is frequently viewed as having its roots in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."<sup>12</sup>

The 1948-adopted UDHR served as the model for several international human rights accords that are now enforceable by law. It continues to serve as a source of inspiration for all of us, whether we are addressing inequalities, resolving disputes, living in oppressed countries, or working to ensure that everyone may enjoy their human rights. It stands for the widespread understanding that every person is born free and endowed with the same worth and liberties and that these rights and freedoms are inalienable and apply to all people equally.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was one of the United Nations' first significant accomplishments. The instrument's proclamation aims to have a significant impact

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<sup>11</sup> Henckaerts, J. M., Alvermann, C., & De La Croix-Rouge, C. I. (2005, March 3). *Customary International Humanitarian Law*. Cambridge University Press.

<sup>12</sup> Welch, C. E. (2002). A World Made New: Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Origins, Drafting and Intent (review). *Human Rights Quarterly*, 24(1), 287–290.

on people's lives all around the world. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted on December 10, 1948. "According to Vieira de Mello, the declaration recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals as the basis for freedom, justice, and peace worldwide. It is linked to the acknowledgment of fundamental rights that people aspire to, such as the right to a decent standard of living, the freedom to seek and enjoy asylum from persecution in other countries, the right to life, liberty, and personal security, and the right to treat others with respect."<sup>13</sup>

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, according to Horn, was enacted to advance and attain "universal respect for, and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."<sup>14</sup>The UDHR emphasizes the value of human rights education as a component necessary for creating a culture of human rights. The following are some of the most important human rights accords and conventions.

**(A) Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (CPCG)**

The United States does not condone mass killings globally, as outlined in Article 3 of the CPCG, which includes genocide, tricking, coordination, attempt, and complicity.

**(B) Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (CRSR)**

The CRSR is a UN agreement defining refugees and outlines their rights and obligations. It defines refugees as those unable to return due to fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, or political opinion.

**(C) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)**

CERD's Article 5 pledges to eliminate racial discrimination and uphold justice, security, and rights. Human rights education promotes social rights, housing, public health, education, and cultural participation, requiring inclusive curricula.

**(D) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**

CEDAW signatories pledge gender equality in all aspects of life, with Human Rights Education in schools integrating gender-sensitive approaches into the curriculum. Conventions like CAT, CRC, and ICRMW are crucial human rights treaties, based on the UDHR, highlighting the value of human rights for all.

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<sup>13</sup> Remiche, A. (2012, December 1). Yordanova and Others v Bulgaria: The Influence of the Social Right to Adequate Housing on the Interpretation of the Civil Right to Respect for One's Home. *Human Rights Law Review*, 12(4), 787–800.

<sup>14</sup> Forman, L. (2023, July 21). From the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to a Pandemic Treaty: Will a Right to Medicines Forever be 'Under Construction'? *Journal of Human Rights Practice*.



### **(E) United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training (HRE)**

Human rights education is crucial for promoting respect for rights and fostering a human rights culture. It involves teaching, sharing information, and raising awareness to prevent violations. Schools play a vital role in promoting human rights, and staff training is essential. Qualified instructors are vital for successful education. Despite signing treaties, some countries intentionally abuse human rights and do not support human rights education.

### **III. ANALYSIS OF SPECIFIC ARMED CONFLICTS WHERE IHL AND IHRL HAVE BEEN INVOKED AND APPLIED**

International armed conflict is heavily regulated under International Humanitarian Law. Despite certain difficulties, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) feels the legal framework is appropriate for present interstate armed conflict. This framework has proven resilient over time due to its careful balance between reducing suffering in war and accommodating military needs.

International armed conflicts protect civilians from attack unless directly involved in hostilities, but they can still be prosecuted under domestic law. Civilians associated with armed groups, who lack the same legal protections as combatants, are referred to as "unprivileged" or "unlawful" combatants. The status and treatment of such civilians are controversial and disputed. Some argue they should be treated as prisoners of war, while others believe they should be prosecuted as criminals. Their treatment is a matter of concern, and there is a need for clear guidelines to ensure the rights of all individuals in armed conflict are respected.<sup>15</sup>

Divergent opinions exist over how to treat citizens who have directly participated in hostilities and ended up in the hands of the enemy. While some contend that they are not protected by international humanitarian law, others maintain that the Additional Protocol I and the Geneva Conventions do. According to the ICRC, certain people are protected by treaties or customary law, while others are protected by remaining within the nationality requirements.

According to the ICRC, international humanitarian law is applicable when combating terrorism through armed conflict, as is the case in Afghanistan. It is uncertain, nonetheless, if the whole violence between nations and transnational networks qualifies as an armed conflict under the law.<sup>16</sup> An armed conflict requires a particular amount of violence and opposing factions, which

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<sup>15</sup> Dörmann, K. (2003, March). The legal situation of "unlawful/unprivileged combatants." *Revue Internationale De La Croix-Rouge/International Review of the Red Cross*, 85(849), 45.

<sup>16</sup> Orakhelashvili, A. (2011, December 1). Gary D. Solis, *The Law of Armed Conflict: International Humanitarian Law in War*. \* Yoram Dinstein, *The Conduct of Hostilities under the Law of International Armed Conflict*. *Journal of Conflict and Security Law*, 16(3), 555–558.

are often armed groups or organizations with a unique degree in organization and leadership structure. The Gaza Strip situation is a single example of how challenging it is to consider every aspect of the idea of occupation. As Israel withdrew from Gaza in 2005, the difficulties in construing the concept of occupation became evident. The 'The lack of engagement Plan' of the Israeli government came into effect, and the last Israeli soldiers evacuated the area. Despite the withdrawal, Israel maintained significant control over the Gaza Strip, including its borders, airspace, and coastline.<sup>17</sup> Israel was able to maintain public order due to Gaza's tiny size and the availability of military resources.<sup>18</sup> Civilians in Gaza are facing dire conditions as they struggle to survive. According to Gaza health officials, over 25,000 people have lost their lives in Israel's military operation in the Gaza Strip since the October 7, 2023, Hamas-led attack, which Israel claims resulted in the deaths of 1,200 people. The United Nations has issued a warning that famine is imminent.<sup>19</sup> The United Nations Secretary-General contended that contemporary technology enabled an occupying Power to successfully manage a region even in the absence of a military force. The ICRC is now running a consultation process to clarify contentious issues.

In Syria, the civilian population is heavily impacted by a decade-long conflict, which is further exacerbated by worsening humanitarian and economic conditions. The impact of nearly a decade of conflict has been devastating for the civilian population, who have experienced widespread and systematic violations of both international humanitarian and human rights laws. Although hostilities and displacement have decreased overall due to the March 2020 Idlib truce deal, there has been a rise in fighting along relatively unchanged frontlines in 2021, leading to a significant increase in the demand for humanitarian assistance.<sup>20</sup> The political divide, marginalization, and lack of access to judicial systems have led to disenfranchisement and an inability to meet demands sustainably. The humanitarian response is consistently weakened by limitations and hurdles.

All parties engaging in a non-international armed conflict (NIAC) must understand how to apply Article 3 of the 1949 Geneva Conventions.<sup>21</sup> All parties are obligated by customary

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<sup>17</sup> Report on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territories occupied by Israel since 1967, J. Dugard, Special Rapporteur, E/CN.4/2006/29, 17 January 2006, paras 6 ff

<sup>18</sup> Israeli Prime Minister's Office, Chapter 1: Background – Political and Security Implications

<sup>19</sup> Kathleen Magramo, Christian Edwards and Caitlin Danaher, The latest on Israel's war in Gaza, CNN, Updated 0859 GMT (1659 HKT) January 22, 2024

<sup>20</sup> Syria HCT-Coordinated Response designates humanitarian assistance delivered from areas controlled by the Government of Syria, including crossline activities to north-east Syria, June 2022.

<sup>21</sup> Pratter, J. (1988). *The Law of Non-International Armed Conflict: Protocol II to the 1949 Geneva Conventions*. Edited by Howard S. Levie. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Martinus Nijhoff, 1987. Pp. xiii, 635. US\$134.00. *International Journal of Legal Information*, 16(2), 155–156.

international humanitarian law (IHL), which outlaws murder, mutilation, torture, cruel, inhuman, and humiliating treatment, as well as hostage kidnapping and unjust trials. Regardless of the status of an armed conflict, international human rights legislation (IHRL) remains in effect.

According to many accounts, all parties participating in the fight are committing war crimes, breaching humanitarian laws worldwide, and abusing human rights. These actions, which include crimes against humanity, are being carried out with little consequence or accountability. Violations occur during conflicts, wide-scale attacks, arrests, detentions, and camps with huge populations. The sides to the war have frequently ignored the IHL norms of distinction, proportionality, and prudence. According to reports, warring groups frequently target civilians and do not take precautions to avoid needless harm. In July 2021, a 10-week siege of Daraa's southern Daraa al-Balad neighborhood began, supported by a pro-government military operation that killed and maimed residents, displacing around 55,000 people<sup>22</sup>. The Syrian government is responsible for preventing and investigating suspected violations of IHRL.

The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia defined "armed conflict" in *Prosecutor v. Milošević*, arguing that no armed conflict existed in Kosovo before March 24, 1999. The Court considered the essential criteria for a non-international armed conflict to exist, as opposed to "terrorism" or mere internal unrest. The case developed before this date, and the Security Council criticized both the Serbian "police" and the "terrorist acts" of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA). However, in *Prosecutor v. Dusko Tadić*, the Trial Chamber approved the test for the existence of an internal armed conflict, taking into account factors such as the size of the Serbian response to the KLA's actions, the spread of the conflict over territory, the increase in government forces, and the type of weapons used. The Chamber emphasized the KLA's general staff, discipline laws, military police, and efforts to recruit, train, and equip new members.<sup>23</sup>

As a result of efforts to ensure the effective protection of all persons' rights in times of armed conflict, several United Nations bodies and organizations, human rights special mechanisms, and international and regional courts have increasingly applied international human rights and humanitarian law obligations in a complementary and mutually reinforcing manner.<sup>24</sup>The High

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<sup>22</sup> Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, February 2022

<sup>23</sup> *Prosecutor v. Milošević, Decision on Motion for Judgment of Acquittal (Trial Chamber) 16 June 2004*, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, IT-02-54-T.

<sup>24</sup> Matthews, H. (2013, August). The interaction between international human rights law and international humanitarian law: seeking the most effective protection for civilians in non-international armed conflicts. *The International Journal of Human Rights*, 17(5–6), 633–645.

Commissioner for Human Rights emphasizes that both international human rights and humanitarian law aim to protect the dignity and humanity of all individuals. The General Assembly, Commission on Human Rights, and Human Rights Council have recognized that parties involved in armed conflict have a legal responsibility to protect the rights of affected individuals.<sup>25</sup>

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

International human rights law and international humanitarian law are two distinct yet interrelated legal frameworks that apply to non-international armed conflicts. These frameworks are of equal importance in ensuring the protection of human dignity and respect for human rights in situations of armed conflict. Specifically, Common Article 3 and Additional Protocol II are instruments that are included in these legal frameworks, and they provide guidance on the treatment of individuals who are not taking part in hostilities, as well as on the conduct of hostilities. It is crucial for all stakeholders involved in non-international armed conflicts to be aware of these legal frameworks and to comply with their provisions to ensure the protection of individuals affected by such conflicts. Despite their distinct origins and provisions, they both play a crucial role in ensuring the protection of human rights and promoting accountability for violations of international law. IHRL gives those whose fundamental rights have been infringed an enforcement mechanism, whereas IHL concentrates on the domestic and/or international criminal prosecution of those who breach these rights. IHRL and IHL have a unique significance in protecting vulnerable individuals. Both fields, when implemented together, can provide a comprehensive safety net. While their safeguards are comparable, it is important to note that simultaneous use might lead to clashes between IHL and IHRL. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that both fields are used in harmony to maximize protection for all individuals.

The principles of respecting human rights are shared worldwide as the globe has united into one community. Human rights education fosters attitudes, ideas, and convictions that motivate everyone to defend their own rights as well as the rights of others. It fosters an awareness of everyone's shared accountability for ensuring that human rights are upheld in every community. The foundational ideas of this system are nondiscrimination and equality. It is an indisputable fact that all individuals, irrespective of their skin color, gender, language, religion, politics, origin, social standing, or ownership, are equal. This assertion holds even in the face of the

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<sup>25</sup> High Commissioner's opening remarks at the Expert consultation on the protection of the human rights of civilians in armed conflict, Geneva, 15 April 2009.

inhumanity and immense misery caused by war.<sup>26</sup> These notions relate to all of the essential rights established in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including the right to life, which is inextricably linked to freedom and security.

The question "What are you doing for others?" is one of the most significant ones in life. Martin Luther King Jr., a renowned activist for civil rights from 1929 to 1968, emphasized the significance of this question. Engaging in acts of service and contributing to the well-being of others is not only a moral obligation but also a way to create a positive impact on society. By actively participating in charitable endeavors, volunteering, or supporting causes that promote equality and justice, individuals can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. It is crucial to recognize the power we hold to bring about positive change and to take action accordingly.<sup>27</sup> Moral philanthropy is an unwavering belief in humanitarian principles that is demonstrated through decisive actions aimed at assisting others out of rational concern and unselfishness. It involves a strong conviction in the principles of human existence and an unyielding willingness to help others improve their lives. Through moral philanthropy, individuals strive to make a powerful and lasting impact on the lives of others, driven by a sense of empathy and compassion that propels them forward. It is also a philosophical conviction to labor in many areas for human growth. It is used to characterize many different kinds of activities, particularly those related to human welfare. The idea that everyone must advance human well-being is the foundation of humanitarianism.<sup>28</sup>

The foundation of humanity is the belief that every human being is deserving of dignity and should be treated as such. Humanitarians, therefore, are impartial in their pursuit of the welfare of all people. Humanities include slavery, skin color discrimination, and violations of fundamental human rights. It is disgusting to discriminate against someone based on their ethnicity or location of birth. Humanities include slavery, skin color discrimination, and violations of fundamental human rights. It is disgusting to discriminate against someone based on their ethnicity or location of birth. Humanitarian aid is a crucial intervention that saves lives during natural or man-made disasters, and it is our moral responsibility as humans to promote human dignity by alleviating suffering. According to the French-German scholar Albert

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<sup>26</sup> Explainer: a guide to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, United Nations Myanmar, December 10, 2023

<sup>27</sup> Kern-Foxworth, M. (1992, September). Martin Luther King Jr.: Minister, civil rights activist, and public opinion leader. *Public Relations Review*, 18(3), 287–296.

<sup>28</sup> Editorial, THE DAILY ELEVEN newspaper, Humanitarianism, 20 DECEMBER 2021, ELEVEN Media Group Co., Ltd.

Schweitzer, humanitarianism includes "never sacrificing a human being for a cause."<sup>29</sup>

We must overcome the considerable challenges that still exist in ensuring that human rights are universally enjoyed "To defend all individual rights and maintain a peaceful and stable society, it is our job to guarantee that social and cultural rights are enjoyed by everyone. In any event, the world will be peaceful and wealthy if everyone upholds human rights and humanitarianism, which prioritizes the welfare of all people.

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<sup>29</sup> Stonebridge, L. (2017). Humanitarianism Was Never Enough: Dorothy Thompson, Sands of Sorrow, and the Arabs of Palestine. *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development*, 8(3), 441–465.

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