

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
MASTERS IN HUMAN RIGHTS,
Semester I Examination (2020/21) (Conducting Online)
MHR 6102: HUMAN RIGHTS THEORY AND PRACTICE

Duration: Two (02) hours

Total number of questions: 04

Answer any Two (02) questions only

(Illegible handwriting will be penalized)

1. ‘Although democracy is a system of government, which does not make any discrimination based on race, caste, religion, language, sex, etc., it is sometime doubtful as to whether interests of minorities are duly protected, and the State always makes arrangements for that.’

Critically analyze pros and cons of democracy having a special emphasis on rules against the power of simple majority.

(25 Marks)

2. ‘The recognition of human rights by the State agencies has not been taken place smoothly all over the world. However, in the modern societies, the recognition of human rights by the supreme law of the country is not a new phenomenon’.

Identify the importance of recognition of human rights by the Constitution in light of principles of constitutionalism.

(25 Marks)

3. ‘Constitutions are globalizing both in form and substance, with particular reference to rule of law, democracy and organization of territory. Hence, now national Constitutions are only part of a “compound constitutional system”, supplemented by international law.’

Do you agree with the above statement? Discuss, with special reference to the fundamental rights recognized by the constitution in Sri Lanka and their practical implementation.

(25 Marks)

4. Critically discuss the theoretical underpinning of ‘right to equality’ and ‘equal protection of law’ and their practical implications developed by case law with special reference to Sri Lanka.

(25 Marks)