

**University of Colombo, Sri Lanka**  
**Faculty of Graduate Studies**

**Postgraduate Diploma in Human Rights, Semester II Examination**  
**(2018/2019)**

**PGDHR 5201: Domestic Mechanisms on Protection and Promotion of**  
**Human Rights**

Duration: **Two (02) Hours**

Total No of Questions: **05**

Answer any **Three (03)** Questions and **no more**.

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1. Explain the domestic mechanism on protection and promotion of human rights in Sri Lanka referring to its evolution since 1947 Soulbury Constitution. Your answer should also include the mechanism introduced by the present Constitution and other relevant laws in safeguarding human rights in Sri Lanka.

2. ‘Equality before law’ is the foundation of all human rights. This right has been adequately protected and guaranteed by the 1978 Constitution of Sri Lanka and the cases decided on this.’

Do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer referring to relevant constitutional provisions and case law. Bring examples from other countries, if any.

3. ‘Freedom of Expression is a right subjected to several restrictions imposed by the 1978 Constitution. However there is a need to strike a balance between individual freedom of expression and the freedom of others in the society.’

Critically analyze this statement in light of relevant constitutional provisions and decided cases in Sri Lanka.

4. ‘Freedom from torture is an absolute human right. This cannot be compromised for anything else.’

Do you think that there is a sufficient protection for this right under our law? Explain your answer by referring to relevant provisions and case law.

5. Answer any **three (03)** of the following:

- i. Freedom of thought, conscience and religion;
- ii. *Locus standi* ;
- iii. Affirmative action ;
- iv. Separate-But- Equal Doctrine;
- v. National Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka;
- vi. Rule of Law

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