

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
EXECUTIVE DIPLOMA IN HUMAN RIGHTS
SEMESTER I (Held in June 2023) EXAMINATION 2022/23

EDHR 1001: INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS

Duration: Two (02) Hours

Total Number of Questions: 04

Answer any Two (02) Questions Only.

(Candidates will be penalized for illegible handwriting.)

1. 'Human rights are universal and inalienable. All people everywhere in the world are entitled to them.'

Do you agree with the above statement? Describe the characteristics of human rights.

2. "Nowadays we are fortunate enough to be experiencing a boom in human rights and an enormous increase in their importance in the international sphere at all levels [...] However, although there have been many battles won and goals met concerning human rights, the war against injustice continues and the fight has not ended."

Fernando Falcón y Tella, *Challenges for Human Rights*, Nijhoff Law Specials, Volume: 71, (2007)

In the light of the above statement discuss the contemporary normative and practical challenges of Human Rights.

3. 'Some Human Rights are not absolute rights. Thus, the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly can be restricted during a state of emergency.'

Do you agree with the above statement? Your answer should be supported by relevant legal authorities.

4. Write short notes on any **Two (02)** of the following:

- a) Right to education as a social right;
- b) Freedom from torture as a basic civil right;
- c) Cultural rights aspect of religious freedom;
- d) Right to Equality in a civilized society.
