



RANI BIRLA GIRLS' COLLEGE

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Kaleidoscope

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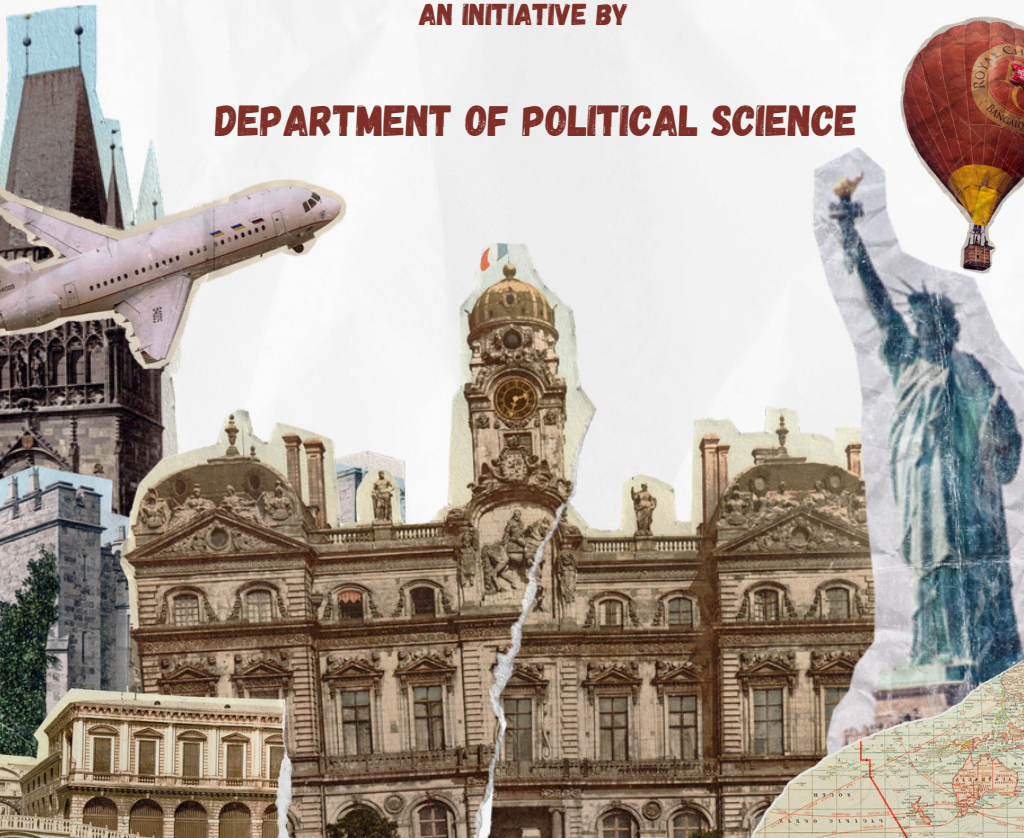


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Foreword by Principal

I am delighted to write this foreword for the inaugural issue of the Departmental e-magazine, titled 'Kaleidoscope', a remarkable initiative by the Department of Political Science, Rani Birla Girls' College. This magazine reflects the academic vigour, intellectual curiosity, and creative brilliance of our students and faculty, showcasing their efforts to explore and contribute to critical discourses on political processes, human rights, and societal progress. The writings in this issue cover an impressive range of topics, from fundamental rights and citizenship to the role of women in politics and India's constitutional journey.

They echo the voices of emerging scholars who are deeply engaged with pressing societal issues. The Promise of Equality section, with its thought-provoking insights into human rights and dignity, serves as a clarion call for justice and equity in a rapidly changing world.

The Creative Corner is particularly commendable for its imaginative and visual articulation of themes like corruption, feminism, democracy, and human rights. The inclusion of Pictorial Voyage and Equi Quest demonstrates the department's innovative approach in fostering multidimensional learning and engagement.

A special mention goes to the alumni contributions, like the insightful reflection by Sana Sarwar, which highlight the department's enduring impact on shaping responsible and conscientious citizens. This e-magazine is not just a testament to the scholarly excellence of the Political Science Department but also an invitation to engage in meaningful dialogue about the values that underpin our society. I congratulate the editorial team, faculty, and students for their hard work and dedication in bringing this vision to life.

I am confident that this inaugural issue will inspire readers, ignite new ideas, and encourage the pursuit of knowledge and justice. May this e-magazine be the first of many milestones in the journey of the Department of Political Science,

Dr. Srabanti Bhattacharya
Principal



Foreword by Head of the Department

It gives me immense pleasure to present this first edition of our e-magazine, meticulously curated by the passionate students of the Political Science Department. This issue reflects our collective effort to delve deep into the fabric of our society by exploring two pivotal themes: "Constitution and Political Processes" and "The Promise of Equality."

The writings in the first section shine a light on the cornerstone of our democracy—the Constitution of India. With thought-provoking essays on fundamental rights, citizenship, and the major features of the Indian Constitution, our contributors unravel the essence of justice, liberty, and equality. The role of women in politics and an analysis of party dynamics further enrich this section, offering a critical lens on the evolving nature of governance in India.

The second section, "The Promise of Equality," takes us on a reflective journey through the landscape of human rights. Articles on empowering humanity, the significance of dignity, and India's strides in human rights offer a compelling narrative of progress intertwined with challenges.

To complement these intellectual endeavors, the "Creative Corner" presents a visual feast through Constitution Canvas digital posters and Pictorial Voyages. From striking visuals on corruption, feminism, and gender equality to the exploration of human rights violations in Palestine and the fight against child labor, this section is a testament to the creativity and sensitivity of our contributors. The pictorial depictions of elections in India and the founding mothers of the Indian Constitution offer both inspiration and a celebration of resilience.

This edition aims to inform, inspire, and ignite intellectual curiosity. As we navigate the complexities of governance and equality, may these pages remind us of the collective responsibility we hold in building a just and equitable society. Let us continue this journey of learning and introspection together.

Dr. Priti Ghatani
Head of the Department



Power of Your Voice

There comes a moment in every journey when you realize that the world is filled with noise—opinions, judgments, distractions—but what it truly lacks is a voice. A voice that speaks not just to be heard, but to bring change, challenge injustice, and inspire action.

As a student, I was taught that knowledge has the power to shape not just minds, but the future. Political science taught me that our voices matter, not only in academic debates but in the real world—where policies shape lives, and change begins with a single, courageous word.

To my students, I say this: the world doesn't need more noise. It needs voices like yours. Voices that speak with clarity, conviction, and purpose. Do not let fear or doubt mute you. Find the strength to dream, to question, and to speak truth, no matter how difficult the path may seem.

*As the ancient wisdom says,
"The earth is supported by the power of truth, it is the power of truth that makes the sun shine and the winds blow, indeed all things rest upon truth." ~ Chanakya*

This e-magazine is more than just a platform—it is a testament to the power of voices coming together, speaking with passion and purpose. Let it remind you that your voice can be the spark that ignites change. The world is waiting for you to speak.

Fauzia Javed
Editor

Fundamental Rights

Zoya Hadis & Saba Nasir (Semester 3 Major)

Fundamental Rights stand as the enduring cornerstone. These rights, enshrined in the Constitution of India, aren't merely text on paper but vital safeguards ensuring liberty, equality, and justice for every citizen. The Constitution, often called the soul of our democracy, is designed to guarantee every individual the freedom to live with dignity and without fear. Found in Part III of the Constitution, these rights include:

1. Right to Equality (Articles 14-18)
2. Right to Freedom (Articles 19-22)
3. Right Against Exploitation (Articles 23-24)
4. Right to Freedom of Religion (Articles 25-28)
5. Cultural and Educational Rights (Articles 29-30)
6. Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32)

Each of these rights acts as a dynamic shield, ensuring that democracy remains inclusive and robust.

The Right to Freedom, a cornerstone of any democratic society, empowers individuals to express themselves, travel, gather peacefully, and follow their beliefs without fear.

Imagine being able to speak your mind, choose your path, and live your life without needing approval—this is your personal armor against injustice.

However, freedom comes with responsibility. Speech that incites violence or protests threatening public safety can be curtailed. Similarly, during emergencies, temporary restrictions might be imposed.

Equality for All:

India's diversity necessitates a firm commitment to equality. The Right to Equality ensures fairness for all, prohibiting discrimination based on religion, race, gender, or place of birth. Initiatives like reservations for historically marginalized groups and anti-discrimination laws aim to level the playing field. But equality in practice isn't always straightforward. Reservations may seem contradictory but are vital for inclusivity. Similarly, special privileges once granted to certain regions reflect the complexity of applying these principles uniformly.

Embracing Faith and Culture

With a mosaic of religions and cultures, India thrives on diversity. The Right to Freedom of Religion guarantees everyone the liberty to practice their faith without interference. Complementing this, Cultural and Educational Rights protect minority groups, allowing them to preserve their unique traditions and languages. While these rights are extensive, they are not absolute. Practices that disrupt public order or violate fundamental human rights, such as child marriage, are restricted.

A Shield Against Exploitation

The Right Against Exploitation is a game-changer, outlawing forced labor and child labor. It safeguards vulnerable populations, ensuring that no one is taken advantage of. While exceptions exist, such as prison labor, the core principle remains unwavering—dignity for all.

The Power to Defend

Among all rights, the Right to Constitutional Remedies is arguably the most empowering. It enables individuals to seek justice directly from the Supreme Court or High Courts if their rights are violated. This provision is the ultimate safeguard, ensuring that the other rights are not just theoretical but actionable. Even during national emergencies, when some rights may be suspended, this power underscores the enduring spirit of democracy.

Cherishing Our Superpowers Fundamental Rights are more than rules; they are the living shield of every citizen. They empower us to speak up, embrace our identities, and combat injustice.

Let us cherish and defend these freedoms, ensuring they remain vibrant and accessible to all. For in safeguarding these rights, we protect the very essence of who we are—free, equal, and empowered citizens of India.

Citizenship Redefined: Beyond Legal Status to Active Engagement

ZOYA HADIS

Citizenship

Citizenship, traditionally viewed as a legal status tied to nationality, establishes the rights and responsibilities of individuals within a state. These include civil, political, and social entitlements such as voting, freedom of residence, and access to welfare programs. However, citizenship is more than a legal construct; it embodies a profound sense of belonging to a political community. T.H. Marshall famously defined it as “full and equal membership in a political community,” highlighting the critical role of equality, collective identity, and social rights in its framework. Social rights like education, healthcare, and economic welfare are not merely entitlements but essential pillars of democracy, ensuring dignity and enabling equal participation in societal processes. Yet, globalization, rising inequalities, and structural barriers have eroded these ideals.

Marshall’s vision resonates with Iris Marion Young’s critical perspective, advocating “special rights” for marginalized groups, including women, racial minorities, and people with disabilities. Such rights aim to address systemic inequities and ensure these groups can fully engage in political and social life. Citizenship, therefore, requires active participation—voting, protesting, and holding governments accountable. It strengthens social cohesion, nurtures national identity, and upholds democratic values. However, when societies fail to address exclusion or marginalization, they compromise the core principles of citizenship.

As socio-political landscapes evolve, citizenship must shift from exclusionary models to inclusive frameworks that prioritize justice and equity. Addressing systemic inequalities and recognizing diverse experiences are critical to empowering all individuals, irrespective of identity, to participate meaningfully in society. An expanded understanding of citizenship enriches the social fabric, ensures democratic resilience, and fosters a political community where every member is valued, thrives, and contributes to collective progress. By embracing these ideals, societies can build a just and inclusive future that reflects the true essence of citizenship.

In the 21st century, citizenship calls for more than legal recognition—it demands action, empathy, and accountability. It means championing diversity, honoring the rights of others, and amplifying the voices of the marginalized. The Fundamental Rights enshrined in our Constitution grant you freedom, but they also entrust you with the responsibility to protect these freedoms for everyone. This balance is not just important—it is the cornerstone of a thriving democracy.

MAJOR FEATURES OF INDIAN CONSTITUTION

The Constitution of India is more than just a legal text; it is the heartbeat of the nation's democratic identity. Adopted on 26th November 1949 and enforced on 26th January 1950, this living document laid the foundation for an independent India, offering a framework to govern its diverse and dynamic society. Originally spanning 395 Articles, 22 Parts, and 8 Schedules, it has since expanded to 448 Articles through 104 Amendments, reflecting its adaptability to the needs of a growing democracy.

What Sets the Indian Constitution Apart?

- **Length and Detail:** It is one of the world's most detailed constitutions, addressing India's vast socio-economic and political complexities. The framers envisioned a document that left no room for ambiguity, anticipating challenges in a newly independent and diverse nation.
- **The Preamble:** Serving as the soul of the Constitution, it declares India a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic and commits to securing justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity for every citizen.
- **Fundamental Rights and DPSPs:** The Constitution brilliantly balances rights—protecting individual freedoms like equality and free speech—with Directive Principles of State Policy, which guide the government toward building a socially just and economically equitable society.
- **Federal System with a Unitary Bias:** Power-sharing between the Union and states ensures governance, while central dominance safeguards national unity.
- **Independent Judiciary:** Acting as the guardian of the Constitution, it ensures laws align with democratic values and protects citizens' rights through judicial review.



A Message for the Youth

The Constitution is not just a document for governance; it is a toolkit for nation-building. In a world grappling with inequality, misinformation, and division, the younger generation must embrace its principles as a roadmap for change. By understanding their rights and responsibilities, young Indians can transform its ideals—justice, equality, and fraternity—into tangible realities. The Constitution is your voice; use it to create the inclusive and equitable society envisioned by its framers.

Fawiza Laiba & Ruqaiya Begum
Semester 3 Political Science Major

CHALLENGES TO HOLDING FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL JUSTICE IN INDIA

In a country as diverse and dynamic as India, elections are more than just a process—they are the pulse of its democracy. Yet, beneath the celebration of each election lies a complex web of challenges that threaten the very integrity of the system. India, despite its rich history of conducting elections, has faced numerous hurdles in ensuring that these elections remain truly free and fair. From voter fraud to the influence of money and muscle power, the path to political justice is fraught with obstacles. But the story of India's electoral system is also one of resilience, where reforms and initiatives have been introduced to address these very challenges. This is not just about voting—it's about the fight for transparency, equality, and true representation.

The Struggles Behind the Electoral System:

Once, elections in India were seen as a hopeful exercise—a chance for citizens to exercise their right to vote. But slowly, the cracks began to appear. It started with voter fraud—fake IDs, bribery, and voter intimidation—that first reared its ugly head in the 1971 general elections. This was no longer about just casting a vote; it was about manipulation and control.

Then came the money power, where the high cost of campaigns began to tilt the scales of fairness. Candidates who could fund expensive campaigns often gained an undue advantage, turning elections into a battle not just of ideas, but of financial muscle. The floodgates to black money opened wide, and soon, the true meaning of political justice seemed distant.

Muscle power also took center stage, as political goons used fear and violence to capture booths, rig votes, and harass those who dared oppose them. Elections became about control, rather than choice. And just when you thought things couldn't get worse, the misuse of government machinery emerged. Incumbent governments, in their quest for victory, exploited state resources, ensuring that the scales were tipped in their favor, all while citizens were left wondering if fairness had any place in the process.

But these were not the only stains on the electoral canvas. Casteism continued to cast a long shadow. Political parties, seeking the votes of specific caste groups, pandered to these sections, deepening divisions in the society. This caste-based voting system undermined national unity and blurred the very essence of democracy—equality.

Finally, there was the issue of transparency. With inaccurate voter lists, opaque counting processes, and hidden political funding, the public began to lose faith in the system.



A Message for the Youth

While India has a long tradition of conducting elections, challenges such as voter fraud, money power, and muscle power threaten the integrity of the process. Voter fraud, including fake IDs, bribery, and intimidation, has been a persistent issue, undermining citizens' right to vote. Additionally, the rising cost of election campaigns, fueled by black money, distorts the electoral process, giving an unfair advantage to wealthier candidates. Muscle power—the use of violence and coercion to manipulate election outcomes—has also plagued the system, from booth capturing to post-election victimization. Moreover, the misuse of government machinery by ruling parties during election cycles has led to biased electoral practices, diminishing fairness.

Caste-based voting and lack of transparency further complicate the system. Political parties often exploit caste divisions, leading to rifts in society, while opaque voting processes and unaccountable funding practices erode public trust.

However, India has made strides to address these challenges. The Election Commission of India (ECI) was established to oversee fair elections, and reforms like Voter ID cards and EVMs were introduced to combat fraud. The Right to Information Act and legal frameworks like the Representation of the People Act have improved transparency. Despite these reforms, criminal practices persist, and strict enforcement of laws remains a critical issue to ensure that elections truly reflect India's democratic ideals.

Asma Parvez

Semester 5 Political Science Honours

PARTIES AND PARTY POLITICS IN INDIA

India, the world's largest democracy, boasts a vibrant political landscape shaped by its vast social, cultural, and linguistic diversity. The Indian National Congress (INC), established in 1885, played a pivotal role in the freedom struggle, uniting Indians across various divides. Post-independence, the INC emerged as the dominant party, leading the nation through its formative years.

However, the political arena soon diversified with the rise of opposition parties. The 1967 general elections marked a significant shift, as Congress faced substantial defeats in state assemblies, leading to the emergence of non-Congress coalitions and regional parties like the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) in Tamil Nadu. Indira Gandhi's leadership in the 1970s introduced populist measures, but the declaration of the Emergency (1975-1977) tarnished the party's image, paving the way for the Janata Party's rise in 1977.

The 1980s witnessed a resurgence of the Congress under Indira and later Rajiv Gandhi. Simultaneously, regional parties such as the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), Telugu Desam Party (TDP), and Akali Dal gained prominence, reflecting regional aspirations and challenging centralization. This era also saw the emergence of identity politics, with parties like the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) representing Dalits and backward classes. The 1990s ushered in the coalition era, with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Congress becoming the principal poles of Indian politics. Neither could secure a majority consistently, leading to alliances like the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) and the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). This period also marked the rise of Hindutva politics under the BJP and caste-based mobilization, reshaping the socio-political landscape.

India's political landscape is evolving, with national parties like the BJP and Congress contending with the growing influence of regional players. Regional parties will continue to shape national policies, asserting their political weight in coalition governments. Identity-based politics, driven by caste and religion, remains central, necessitating a careful balance to ensure social unity and inclusion.

The rise of young and urban voters demands more innovative and transparent campaigns, leveraging digital platforms and social media. As dynastic leadership remains prevalent, internal democracy within parties needs strengthening to ensure leadership renewal and better governance. Challenges such as corruption, political polarization, and policy paralysis persist. To safeguard the integrity of elections and the democratic process, political parties must prioritize long-term governance over populist measures. Strengthening democratic institutions and fostering transparency will be crucial for overcoming these obstacles. India's democracy remains resilient, but for sustained progress, political parties must adapt to changing societal dynamics, addressing regional aspirations, caste-based issues, and the demands of an evolving electorate.

Saba Nasir

Semester 3 Political Science Major

ROLE OF WOMEN IN POLITICS

The role of women in politics has evolved significantly over the past century, marking a profound transformation in political landscapes worldwide. From being excluded from voting and holding public office to increasingly assuming positions of leadership, women have played a crucial part in shaping political processes and policies across cultures and nations. Historically, women were denied political rights in most societies, often relegated to the private sphere while men dominated public life. However, the women's suffrage movements in the late 19th and early 20th centuries were pivotal in challenging these barriers. Women's right to vote was granted in many countries during this period, starting with New Zealand in 1893, followed by the United States in 1920, and numerous other nations thereafter. This laid the foundation for greater female political participation. The representation of women in political institutions has steadily increased over time, although women remain underrepresented in many countries, especially at the highest levels of government. As of the early 21st century, women hold a significant, though still minority, share of seats in national parliaments worldwide. The United Nations Women's organization reports a steady increase in female representation in politics, but women still face numerous obstacles in attaining equal political power. Structural inequalities, cultural norms, lack of access to education, and gender-based violence often hinder their political participation. Despite these challenges, women in politics have made remarkable strides. Female leaders, such as Margaret Thatcher (UK), Indira Gandhi (India), Angela Merkel (Germany), Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Liberia), and Jacinda Ardern (New Zealand), have demonstrated the transformative potential of women in the highest echelons of political power. These leaders, among others, have not only managed national affairs but have also advocated for policies promoting social justice, economic reform, and gender equality.

Women in politics bring invaluable perspectives and priorities that enrich governance. Research shows that women legislators are more inclined to advocate for issues such as social welfare, healthcare, education, child care, and gender equality. Their leadership in these areas has resulted in progressive laws and reforms that benefit society, such as poverty reduction, maternal health improvements, and protection of women's rights. Women's roles in peacebuilding and conflict resolution have also proven instrumental in creating lasting and inclusive peace processes. Grassroots women's movements have played a significant role in shaping political discourse. Their activism has driven legal changes in domestic violence, reproductive rights, and equal pay. In some cases, the creation of gender quotas has ensured greater female representation in political offices, addressing historical imbalances and increasing women's participation in decision-making. Despite progress, challenges remain. Women continue to face gender-based discrimination, sexism, and unequal access to political networks and resources. True equality in political representation requires sustained efforts to dismantle these barriers and foster a more inclusive political system. In conclusion, the increasing involvement of women in politics is a powerful force for positive change. While obstacles remain, their participation ensures that political systems better reflect the diverse needs of all citizens, advancing equality and social progress.

Kritika Jaiswal

Semester 5 Political Science Honours

EMPOWERING HUMANITY: THE POWER OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Rahaf Raaz

Semester 5 Political Science Honours

Human rights are principles centered on equality and fairness, ensuring the freedom to make choices and develop one's potential. They guarantee a life free from fear, harassment, or discrimination and are the foundation of dignity, equality, and freedom. Rooted in the belief that all people are born free and equal, these rights transcend borders, cultures, and ideologies, aiming to create a world where everyone can live with dignity, security, and opportunity.

The atrocities of World War II led to the formalization of these rights, culminating in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948 by the United Nations. This landmark declaration established essential rights, including the right to life, liberty, education, work, and freedom from oppression. These rights are vital for individual and societal well-being, providing a framework for justice and opportunity.

Human rights empower individuals by raising awareness, enabling them to stand against injustice and shape their destinies. For instance, education is a fundamental right that helps individuals escape poverty and contribute to society.

Similarly, the right to freedom of expression allows people to challenge oppression. Human rights also provide marginalized groups a platform to assert their dignity, with movements like women's rights challenging gender-based discrimination and violence. Countries that prioritize human rights often enjoy higher levels of social cohesion and economic development.

Countries that prioritize human rights often enjoy higher levels of social cohesion and economic development.

Challenges to Universal Human Rights: Despite the progress made, the universal application of human rights remains a formidable challenge. Millions of people around the world continue to face violations of their basic rights due to poverty, conflict, authoritarianism, and systemic discrimination.

Technology also offers new opportunities for advancing human rights. Social media platforms, for instance, have become powerful tools for raising awareness, mobilizing support, and documenting abuses.

Thus by concluding we can say, Human rights are more than a set of principles; they are a powerful force for empowerment, justice, and progress. They remind us of our shared humanity and our collective responsibility to create a world where everyone can live with dignity and freedom. The power of human rights lies in their universality and their ability to inspire change. As we navigate the complexities of the modern world, let us remember that the fight for human rights is not just a moral imperative but a path to a better and more inclusive future for all.

“DIGNITY FOR ALL : WHY HUMAN RIGHTS MATTER”

Human rights are fundamental principles that ensure every individual is treated with respect, fairness, and compassion, regardless of their background. At the core of human rights is the belief in human dignity, emphasizing that every person deserves a life of honor, equality, and value. These rights protect individuals from discrimination, exploitation, and abuse by guaranteeing access to basic needs such as education, healthcare, and adequate living standards.

Human rights promote equality by challenging discrimination based on race, gender, religion, or other characteristics. They enable marginalized groups, such as India's Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes, to access education and employment opportunities. Freedom is another cherished right, including the freedom to express oneself, practice religion, and live without fear of oppression. Human rights also uphold justice and accountability by ensuring that violations are addressed and that institutions remain trustworthy.

Human rights protect vulnerable groups, including children, the elderly, and those living in poverty, ensuring their access to essential needs. Education, a fundamental human right, empowers individuals and helps break the cycle of poverty, as seen in India's Right to Education Act. Gender equality, another key focus, ensures equal opportunities for all, with initiatives like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao reducing gender disparities.

Human rights are also linked to environmental protection, social harmony, sustainable development, and global unity, promoting a peaceful and equitable world. Upholding human rights requires collective action to ensure dignity, freedom, and equality for all, fostering societies where everyone can thrive.

In conclusion, human rights serve as a fundamental cornerstone for global unity, advocating for dignity, equality, and justice across borders. They inspire collective action, bridging cultural and national divides, and reinforcing a shared commitment to respect and fairness. Historical examples such as India's support for anti-colonial movements and contemporary practices like Germany's asylum policies highlight the global impact of human rights. The concept of "Dignity for All" transcends mere rhetoric, demanding active engagement, education, and accountability to safeguard the vulnerable and ensure that justice prevails. By upholding human rights, we contribute to building societies that not only foster equality but also promote peace, stability, and opportunity for all. As we strive to protect the inherent dignity of every individual, we create a world where all people, regardless of their circumstances, can thrive with pride, opportunity, and hope for the future.

Qamar Talat

Semester 5 Political Science Honours

India's Human Rights Journey: A Reflection on Progress and Persistent Challenges

Shaifa Parveen

Semester 5 Political Science Honours

India's commitment to human rights dates back to our independence in 1947. Our Constitution, a foundational document that shapes our nation, enshrines fundamental rights and freedoms. These guarantees, including the right to equality, liberty, and life, have been cornerstones of our democratic framework. Over the years, India has made significant strides in promoting and protecting human rights. The government have enacted numerous laws and policies aimed at safeguarding the rights of vulnerable populations, such as women, children, and marginalized communities. The establishment of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in 1993 marked a crucial milestone in India's human rights journey. The NHRC has played a vital role in investigating human rights violations, providing redress to victims, and promoting awareness about human rights. Furthermore, India has ratified several international human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. These commitments demonstrate our nation's dedication to upholding universal human rights standards. In recent years, India has made notable progress in promoting human rights. The government has launched several initiatives aimed at empowering marginalized communities, such as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme, launched in 2015, has helped to improve the sex ratio and promote girls' education. The **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016**, is another significant milestone in India's human rights journey. This legislation aims to promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, ensuring their equal participation in society. Despite these advancements, India still faces numerous challenges in ensuring the protection and promotion of human rights. Issues such as poverty, inequality, and social injustice continue to affect millions of citizens.

One of the significant challenges we face is the persistence of manual scavenging, a practice that is not only inhumane but also a blatant violation of human rights. Despite legislation aimed at eradicating this practice, it continues to exist in many parts of the country. Another area of concern is the rights of India's indigenous populations. The Scheduled Tribes, who comprise around 8% of our population, continue to face significant challenges in accessing education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. The rights of women and girls are also an area of concern. Despite progress in areas such as education and economic empowerment, women continue to face discrimination, violence, and marginalization. The National Crime Records Bureau reported over 300,000 cases of violence against women in 2020 alone. In addition, India's human rights landscape is also impacted by the ongoing pandemic. The COVID-19 crisis has exposed existing vulnerabilities and inequalities, particularly for marginalized communities. The lockdowns and restrictions have had a disproportionate impact on the poor, the homeless, and migrant workers.

We must also recognize the importance of human rights education and awareness. By promoting a culture of human rights, we can empower citizens to claim their rights and hold those in power accountable.

Let us strive to create a society where every individual can live with dignity, where every voice is heard, and where every human right is respected and protected.

Let us recognize our collective strength and work together to build a brighter future for all Indians.

"The greatest sin is to think yourself weak."

Swami Vivekananda

CREATIVE CORNER~

THE HANDWRITTEN MARVEL OF INDIA

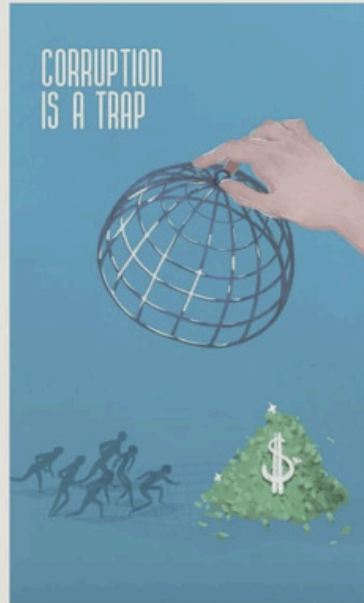
*Constitution is not a mere Lawyer's Document, it
is a Vehicle of Life and its spirit is always the
Spirit of Age*

DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR



CORRUPTION

The worst disease in the world today is corruption. And there is a cure: transparency



"The Indian Constitution is remarkable not because it has survived but because it has thrived as a living testament to democracy and justice."

**- Nani Palkhivala
(Jurist and Constitutional Expert)**



Sufia Naaz
Semester 1 Political Science Department

FEMINISM



Feminism

Latin femina "woman"+ English -ism;>

The advocacy of women's rights on the ground of the belief in the social, economic, and political equality of the sexes.

The belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities.

"Feminism means recognizing that every voice matters, every choice deserves respect, and every person has the right to dream without limit."



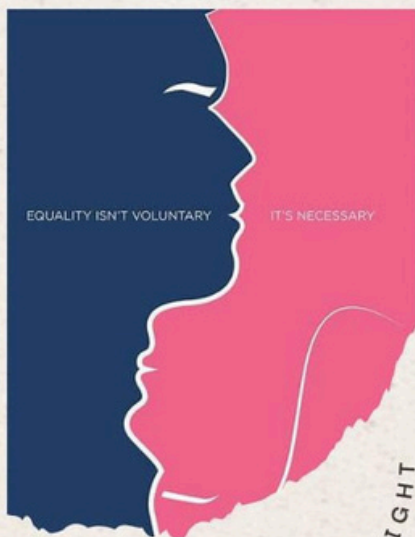
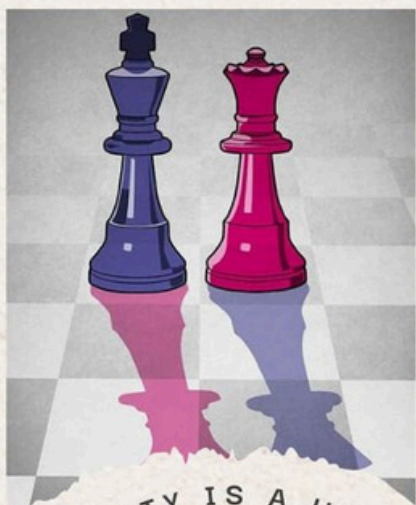
the future is FEMALE

"Feminism isn't about competition; it's about collaboration - making room for every story, every voice, and every dream."



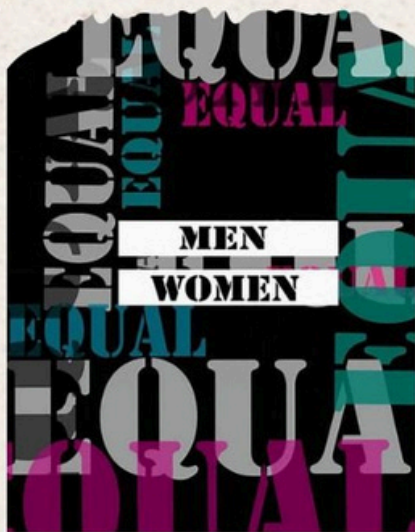
"Feminism is the courage to challenge traditions that silence, the wisdom to seek justice, and the hope to create a better tomorrow."





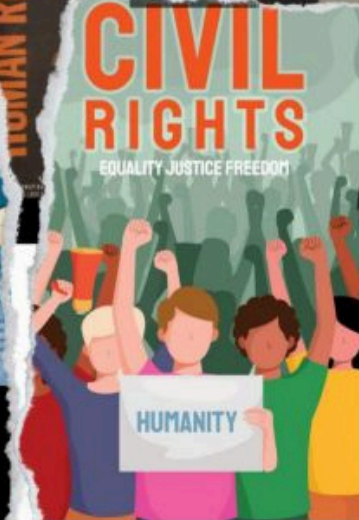
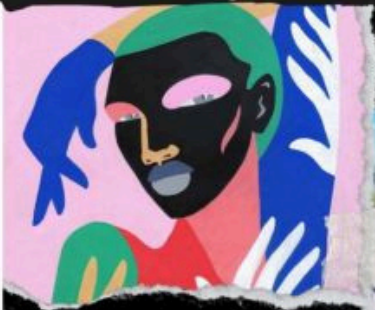
GENDER EQUALITY IS A HUMAN

FIGHT, NOT A FEMALE FIGHT



“A RIGHT DELAYED IS A RIGHT DENIED.”

TO LIVE, IS TO BE HUMAN AND TO LIVE WITH DIGNITY, IS TO LIVE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS.



**NAME: SHAIFA PARVEEN
DEPARTMENT: POLITICAL SCIENCE (HONS)
SEMESTER: V
DIGITAL POSTER**

Education imparted
by heart can
bring **revolution** in
the society.



The Right to Education (RTE) is a landmark provision in the Indian Constitution that underscores the importance of education in building an equitable and progressive society. Recognized as a fundamental right, it ensures that every child has access to free and compulsory education, setting the foundation for individual growth and national development.



Saba Nasir
Semester 3 Political Science
Department

Stop Human Rights violation in Palestine



Protecting Human Rights in Palestine

- 1. Adherence to International Law:**
Ensure all parties respect international humanitarian laws, protecting civilians and infrastructure.
- 2. Accountability and Justice:**
Investigate and prosecute war crimes through mechanisms like the International Criminal Court.
- 3. Humanitarian Access:**
Guarantee unrestricted access for aid organizations to deliver essential supplies and services.
- 4. International Advocacy:**
Leverage global pressure from the UN and human rights groups to ensure compliance with human rights standards.
- 5. Promote Peace Efforts:**
Support dialogue and peaceful resolutions to prevent further human rights violations.



**"THE LAW MUST WORK FOR
EVERYONE, AND EVERYONE MUST
WORK FOR THE LAW."**



Ayesha Parveen
Semester 3 Political Science Department

Justice: "Truth in blindfolds."

Name: Fawiza Laiba
Semester: III
Department: Major Pol Science



Why is Democracy Important?

A democracy benefits people in lots of ways. Look at the list below and circle the benefits of being in a democracy.

Protection of human rights

Lower taxes

Having a say in government

Peaceful changes of leadership

Change is possible

Less mistakes are made

Everyone's voice is important

You always get your way

Laws are made to be fair to all

Imagine: If you didn't live in a democracy, how do you think your life might be different? Write your ideas below.

If I didn't live in a democracy, my life might be shaped by restrictions on personal freedoms, limited opportunities for expressing opinions, and fewer rights to participate in decision-making. The government's control over speech, movement, and career choices could significantly influence my choices and lifestyle. Without democratic rights, such as voting, I might feel powerless to address societal issues or bring about change. Social and economic inequalities might be more rigid, with fewer platforms to challenge or rectify them. My access to unbiased information might also be limited, affecting how I perceive and understand the world around me.



PROTECTING

Dignity

Name: Saina Akhtar
Department: political science
sem: III
Roll no:38

WOMEN'S SAFETY



Women's safety is a fundamental right and crucial for societal progress. It demands strict laws, timely justice, and improved security measures such as well-lit streets, surveillance, and accessible help lines. Promoting gender sensitivity through education, empowering women with self-defense skills, and fostering community vigilance can reduce risks.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION



The right to education is a cornerstone of personal and societal development. It empowers individuals, reduces inequality, and fosters economic growth. Education equips people with knowledge, skills, and values essential for leading productive lives. This universal right, enshrined in global declarations, must ensure equal access for all, regardless of gender, caste, or socioeconomic background.

GENDER EQUALITY



Gender equality ensures equal rights, opportunities, and dignity for all, regardless of gender. It is essential for creating a fair and just society, fostering economic growth, and promoting social harmony. Achieving equality requires dismantling stereotypes, addressing discrimination, and ensuring access to education, healthcare, and employment for everyone.

RACISM



Racism is the belief in the superiority of one race over another, leading to discrimination, prejudice, and systemic inequality. It undermines social harmony, perpetuates injustice, and denies individuals their basic rights based on skin color or ethnicity. Combating racism requires education, awareness, and policy changes to address historical and institutional biases. Promoting diversity, fostering empathy, and ensuring equal opportunities are essential to breaking the cycle of racism.

Saina Akhtar

Semester 3 Political Science Department

Arfa Parveen
Semester 5 Political Science Honours

লিঙ্গ ও রাজনীতি

লিঙ্গ ও রাজনীতি(Gender and politics) আজ এক বহুল চর্চিত বিষয়। প্রথমে পাশ্চাত্যে নারী আন্দোলন শুরু হয়ে তার ডেউ পৌঁছে গেছে পৃথিবীর প্রত্যন্ত দেশে দেশে। যুগ যুগ ধরে



পুরুষতন্ত্রের অবহেলা, বঞ্চনা ও অত্যাচার-অবিচারের শিকার, সমগ্র মনুষ্য সমাজের প্রায় অর্ধেক মানুষকে আজ স্বাধিকার

প্রতিষ্ঠার লড়াইয়ে शामिल হতে ও তার অভিমুখ নির্ধারণে লিঙ্গ ও রাজনীতির চর্চা আজ অপরিহার্য। এ প্রসঙ্গে 'simone de Beauvoir' বলেন "কেউ নারী হয়ে জন্মায় না, বরং নারী হয়ে ওঠে" ("one is not born, but



rather becomes, a woman") নারীবাদের বিশ্বাস যে- সমাজে প্রতিটি লিঙ্গের অবস্থান নির্ধারিত হয় রাজনৈতিক প্রক্রিয়ার দ্বারা। এখানে অবশ্য উল্লেখ করার প্রয়োজন যে সমাজে sex ও Gender এক ও অভিন্ন অর্থে ব্যবহৃত হলেও প্রকৃতপক্ষে, Sex is a biological concept while gender is a cultural concept."



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নারীবাদীরা যুক্তি প্রদান করেন যে সমাজে লিঙ্গ-বৈষম্যের বীজ



লুকিয়ে আছে নারী-পুরুষ সম্পর্কের মধ্যে। যেখানে পুরুষ সমাজের প্রধান ক্ষমতার অধিকারী এবং সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণের প্রক্রিয়ায় নিজের আধিপত্য বিস্তার করতে সক্ষম। সমাজে লিঙ্গগত ভূমিকা অনুসারে

প্রতিটি লিঙ্গের জন্য নির্দিষ্ট কিছু শ্রম প্রাচীন কাল থেকেই নির্ধারিত। যার প্রমাণ পাওয়া যায় এই প্রচলিত প্রবচন

থেকে-“Man for the field and women for the hearth” অর্থাৎ মাঠ বা ক্ষেতের জন্য পুরুষ আর রান্না করার জন্য নারী।

সনাতন কাল থেকেই প্রতিটি ব্যক্তিত্বের মনে নারী দুর্বলতা ও নারী অধিনস্তের বীজ রোপন করা হয়েছে। মনুর ধর্মীয় বিধানে

বলা হয় ‘নারীর পক্ষে বিবাহ’ই হলো উপনয়ন, পতি সেবা বেদাধ্যায়ন, আর পতি গৃহে বাস করাই হলো গুরু গৃহে বাস।



বিংশ শতাব্দীর মধ্যভাগে নারীগণ অনুভব করেন যে এই

বিভাজনের মধ্যে দিয়ে নারীকে বাইরে জগত থেকে সম্পূর্ণ বিচ্ছিন্ন করে গৃহস্থলীর মধ্যে পুরুষের অধীনস্থ করে রাখার পাক্কা ব্যবস্থা করা হচ্ছে। যার ফল

প্রসূতি হিসাবে ১৯৬০ ও ১৯৭০ এর দশকে নারীবাদের দ্বিতীয় তরঙ্গ বহুবিধ নারী আন্দোলন গড়ে তোলেন। যার মূল স্লোগান



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ছিল- 'personal is political' অর্থাৎ ব্যক্তিগত হল রাজনৈতিক। এবং এই আন্দোলনের মূল লক্ষ্য হয়ে ওঠে শিক্ষার অধিকার, সম্পত্তির অধিকার, নারী প্রতি হিংসা ও নির্যাতনের বিরুদ্ধে প্রতিবিধানের মত বিভিন্ন অধিকারকে স্বীকৃতি প্রদান করিয়ে, সেই অধিকার এর মধ্যে দিয়ে নারীর স্বনির্ভর পরিচয় গড়ে তোলা এবং নারীর ক্ষমতায়নের মাধ্যমে ভারতীয় নারী অবস্থার বিকাশ ঘটানো।

তবে এখানে লক্ষণীয় বিষয়টি হল যে নারী আন্দোলনের মাধ্যমে রাষ্ট্রের উন্নয়ন ঘটলেও রাষ্ট্রের অপরিহার্য অংশ হিসেবে বিশেষ কিছু জায়গায় নারী অবস্থার তেমন কোনো বিশেষ উন্নয়ন ঘটেনি। সনাতন ঐতিহ্যের ধারাকে বহন করে আজও ভারতে শত শত নারী



স্বামীপুত্রের সেবায় এবং সংসারের ঘূর্ণাবর্তে সম্পূর্ণরূপে আবদ্ধ হয়ে আছেন। আর সেই সঙ্গে ভুলে আছেন তাঁদের অশিক্ষা এবং অসমান ও অপমানিত অস্তিত্বের কথা। আজ

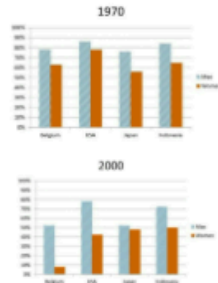
স্বামীপুত্রের জীবনই অধিকাংশ নারীর জীবন। নারীও বিশ্বাস করতে শিখেছেন যে তাঁর স্বতন্ত্র কোনো জীবন নেই, থাকতে পারে না। নারীর প্রকৃত জীবনযাত্রা শুরু হয় বিবাহের পরে এবং সারাজীবনের মধ্যে বিবাহিত জীবনই হয় দীর্ঘতম। ১৯৫৬ সালের হিন্দু উত্তর অধিকার আইনে পুত্র কন্যার সঙ্গে স্ত্রীকে স্বামীর সম্পত্তির একজন উত্তরআধিকারিণী রূপে

Arfa Parveen
Semester 5 Political Science Honours

স্বীকার করা হলেও আজও আইনের চোখে ধূল দিয়ে স্বামীর সম্পত্তিতে নারীর অধিকার শূন্য। সংবিধানের ৩৯ নং ধারায় বলা হয়েছে যে রাষ্ট্রকে এমন নীতি নিয়ে চলতে হবে যাতে নর নারী সমান কাজের জন্য সমান মজুরি পায়। কিন্তু সংবিধানের ২৫ বছরের মধ্যে সমাজের অগ্রগতি চিহ্নিত করতে গিয়ে community of the status of women in India থেকে জানা যায় বহু ক্ষেত্রে নারীর প্রাপ্য বেতন পুরুষের তুলনায় সমান নয়, তাছাড়া ১৯৬১ সালে পণপ্রথা



নিরোধক আইন(Dowry prohibition Act) পাশ হওয়ার সত্ত্বেও এই কুপ্রথা ভারতীয়দের মন থেকে কিছুতেই ঝেড়ে ফেলে দেওয়া সম্ভব হচ্ছে না। ২০০৬ সালে গৃহস্ত হিংসা নিবারণ আইন স্বীকৃত হবার পরেও



সংবাদপত্রের শিরোনামে বধু হত্যা, যৌন নিপীড়নের মতো বহু নারী নির্যাতনের ঘটনা প্রতিনিয়ত আমাদের চোখের সামনে আসতে দেখেছি। যার দৃষ্টান্ত স্বরূপ মনিপুরের ঘটনাকে রাষ্ট্র কর্তৃক নারী অবমাননার সাম্প্রতিক নিন্দা জনক ঘটনা রূপে চিহ্নিত করা যায়। এছাড়াও নারীবাদী দৃষ্টিকোণ থেকে প্রশ্ন ওঠে

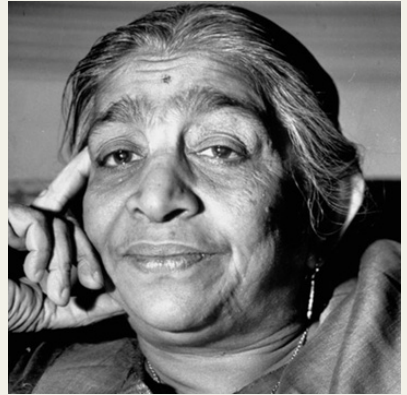
Arfa Parveen
Semester 5 Political Science Honours

পুরুষদের সাক্ষরতার হার(৮৪.৭%) মহিলাদের (৭১.৫%)
তুলনায় উল্লেখযোগ্যভাবে বেশি কেন? প্রশ্ন আসে সত্যই কি
নারী সর্বক্ষেত্রে স্বাধীন ও সুরক্ষিত? কেনই বা নারী কেবলমাত্র
লোকসভায় $\frac{1}{3}$ আসন'এর অধিকারী? আর শিক্ষাই যদি সমান
অধিকার লাভের একমাত্র পথ হয় তাহলে শিক্ষিত হয়েও নারী
সকল অধিকার অর্জন ও তার সঠিক ব্যবহার করতে
পেরেছেন কি? তাই পানিকঙ্কর বলেছিলেন, "Legislation is a
poor remedy against social evils" অর্থাৎ আইন দ্বারা
সামাজিক ব্যাধি দূর করা যায় না। তাই দেখা যাচ্ছে
জনকল্যাণকর রাষ্ট্রেও নারী অনেক ক্ষেত্রে সুবিচার পান না।
অতএব এর দ্বারা বোঝা যায় আইন পাশের আসল মূল্য
তখনই যখন সেটি কঠোর ও কার্যকর ভাবে প্রয়োগ করা হবে।

THE FOUNDING MOTHERS OF INDIAN CONSTITUTION

As we proudly celebrate India's rich history and the constitution that governs our great nation, there's a group of trailblazers who often get overlooked. While the founding fathers of India's constitution are widely revered, the contributions of the founding mothers remain largely unsung. These women were visionaries, leaders, and advocates who worked tirelessly to ensure that the rights and interests of all Indians were represented. From the drafting of the constitution to the advocacy of women's rights, these founding mothers left an indelible mark on India's history. It's time to recognize their contributions and pay tribute to their legacy.

Sarojini Naidu(1879-1949): A feminist and political activist, Naidu advocated for women's emancipation, anti-imperialistic ideas, and civil rights. She was the first Indian woman to be elected as the President of the Indian National Congress.



Dakshayani Velayudhan(1912-1978):

A strong advocate for decentralization and non-discriminatory provisions, Velayudhan played a crucial role in shaping the constitution.

Begum Aizaz Rasul(1909-2001): The only Muslim woman to be part of the Constituent Assembly, Rasul served as the minister of social welfare and minorities and received the Padma Bhusan award for her contributions.



Hansa Jivraj Mehta(1897-1995): A social activist and feminist, Mehta was part of the Advisory Committee and Sub-committee that drafted the Fundamental Rights. She also highlighted the need for gender equality in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Leela Roy(1900-1970): A radical leftist politician, Roy fought for the right of education for girls, encouraged women to develop their skills, and amplified the need for vocational training.





Kamala Chaudhry(1908-1979):
An active participant in the freedom movement, Chaudhry was part of the Constituent Assembly and later became a member of the provincial Government of India.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur(1887-1964): Associated with the Indian independence movement, Kaur supported the proposal for the Uniform Civil Code in India and stood for the Universal Franchise.



Annie Mascarene(1902-1963):
A lawyer and member of the parliament of India, Mascarene was part of the committee that looked into the Hindu Code Bill.

A Legacy of Strength and Courage

These women, along with seven others, formed the core of the Constituent Assembly that drafted India's constitution. Their contributions to the making of the Constitution were invaluable, and their legacy continues to inspire generations of Indian women.

As we remember these founding mothers, we honor their strength, courage, and determination. They were true pioneers, breaking down barriers and challenging societal norms to create a more just and equal society.

In the words of Sarojini Naidu, "We are here, not because we are lawbreakers; we are here is our efforts to be law-makers." These women were not just law-makers; they were nation-builders, and their contributions will always be remembered.

Shaifa Parveen
Semester 5 Political Science Department

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Tasnim Shakil
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Iqra Sohail
Semester 5 Political Science
Department

SERENITY



Samadrita Ghosh
Semester 1 Political Science Department



Saba Nasir
Semester 3 Political Science Department

INSIGHT TO THE DEPARTMENT

My time at Rani Birla Girls' College was an incredibly transformative experience. The faculty was not only transparent about their objectives but also deeply dedicated to providing unwavering support. Their teaching extended beyond academic content, offering us valuable perspectives on how to handle life's challenges while instilling essential values for both personal and professional growth.

This college played a crucial role in helping me unlock my full potential. The teachers constantly pushed me to go beyond my limits, encouraging me to aim for excellence. Whenever I encountered difficulties, they were there to guide and support me. With their mentorship, I overcame challenges and grew into the best version of myself. This experience was a harmonious blend of intellectual growth, personal evolution, and life lessons that I will carry with me always.

Sana Sarwar
Alumni (Batch Of 2024)

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