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# HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION: PLENTY OF LAWS BUT PLENTY OF VIOLENCE, WHY?

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India is a largest democratic and developing country. Inspite of such vast developments, several problems regarding to the human rights with respect to the minorities is still very prominent in India. Minorities are vulnerable groups in the society. So, they require more protection and safeguard. Rights of minorities have been a debatable issue since independence and it still remaining as a controversial topic in the mainstream politics at the national and state level. Throughout India, they are subjected to great harassments and discriminations. These vulnerable groups deserve the rapid attention of the legislature and the judiciary in providing safeguards and protection of human rights to preserve their language, culture and ethnicity etc. Indian constitution enshrined the rights of minorities in its various provisions. But even though the violation is being increased day by day. The failure of government authorities on executing their duty as well as the exploitation of the law, plays a crucial role on it. This study investigates the socio-economic conditions of the minorities as well as the cultural and historical reasons for their discrimination. Issues, challenges, causes and factors affecting to the minorities are a part of this study. This paper also aims to shed light on the provisions related with the rights of minorities guaranteed under the national constitution and international instruments with respect to the landmark judgments. As a result, it will help to understand the present status of minority communities in India. And to bring social morals of secularism and brotherhood among the society.

(Keywords: minority rights, constitution of India, secularism, human rights, international conventions)

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#### INTRODUCTION

In India, there are different groups of people with different, language, race, religion, ethnic, tribes, and socio-cultural background. so, it is a democratic, secular, and plural society. Within this diversity, Hinduism is the majority religion in India with its 79.80 % population<sup>1</sup>. Every country has religious minorities. India also has minority religions like Islam, Christianity, Jainism, Buddhism, Parsi, Sikhism etc. The numeral difference in the various religions is became as a ground for communal violence and riots. it makes the minorities as a vulnerable group and being a pray before the attacks of the majority religion.so India has witnessed an inglorious history and legacy of many communal violence and ferocity.

Minorities in India constitute nearly 19.3% of the country's population. Muslims 14.2%, Christians 2.3%, Sikhs 1.7%, Buddhists 0.7%, Jain 0.4%, Parsis 0.006% which amounts to more than 200 million. In recent years, religious minorities have witnessed a deterioration of their rights, thus, issue of human rights violation is being increased day by day. The Indian government often ignores its constitutional commitments to protect the rights of religious minorities. National and state laws are used to violate the rights of minority communities, Violence against religious minorities like discrimination, forced conversions, harassment and intimidation of religious minorities are not new phenomena in India. So, the issue of violation of human rights of minorities such as discrimination, torture, massacre and brutal killing is increased almost in all parts of the country. Each and every violation of human rights, brings a great threat to the welfare and dignity of the human civilization. So, the status of a democratic country can be judged by the status of human rights of its minorities.

#### **MINORITIES**

United Nations Commission on Human Rights in 1950 had defined minorities as "Only those communities other than the ruling national community can be termed as minorities who want to have a language, religion or race different from the language, religion and race of the national community. It is essential for being recognized as minorities that they should be sufficient in number and their constituents should be faithful to the nation in which they live."

According to Louis Wirth "A minority is a group of people who because of their physical or cultural

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Censes of India, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Census of india,2011

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characteristics, are singled out from others in the society in which they live for differential and unequal treatment and who therefore regard themselves as objects of collective discrimination"<sup>3</sup>

Capotorti also defined minority as, "A group numerically inferior to the rest of the population of a State, in a non- dominant position, whose members being nationals of the State possess ethnic, religious or linguistic characteristic different from those of the rest of the population and show, if only implicitly, a sense of solidarity, directed towards preserving their culture, traditions, religion and language"<sup>4</sup>

The constitution has not given any definition to the word minority but in a case, it defining as an identifiable group of people or community who were seen as deserving protection from likely deprivation of their religious, cultural and educational rights by other communities who happen to be in majority and likely to gain political power in a democratic form of government based on election<sup>5</sup> In Re Kerala Education Bill<sup>6</sup> where the Supreme Court, suggesting that the minority means a community which is numerically less than 50 percent of the total population. In A. M. Patroniv v/s Kesavan<sup>7</sup>, a Division Bench of the Kerala High Court held that the world "Minority" is not defined in the constitution, so in the absence of the definition, any community religious or linguistic which is less than 50% of the population of the State concerned as minority.

#### HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The rights of minorities and the right to be protected against majoritarianism were considered in the Moti Lal Nehru draft constitution. Subsequently, Jawaharlal Nehru has written a note on minorities "the history of India, and many of the countries of Europe have demonstrated that there can be no stable equilibrium in any country so long as an attempt is made to crush a minority, or force it to conform to the ways of the majority<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Problem of Minority Groups" in Ralph Linton

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Capotorti's definition about minorities in his article 'minorities in 1985

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Bali Patil v. UOI (2005) 6 SCC 690

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> AIR 1958 SC 956

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> AIR 1965 Ker. 75 at p-76. 23. 1971 (Supp) SCR 677

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Jawahar Lal Nehru, Young India, May 15,1930.

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The Karachi charter of 1931 on fundamental rights also reiterated this principle. And the report of the Sapru committee, which was set up by the non-party conference in November 1944, recommended the full religious tolerance, non-interference in religious beliefs, practices and institutions and protection of culture and languages of all communities.

#### PERIOD OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

The Constituent Assembly had setup an Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of Sardar Patel on the subject of Fundamental Rights including rights of minorities and importance of providing rights and protection to them. The Advisory Committee appointed five sub-committees and the sub-committees was headed by H.C. Mukherjee. Eventually sub-committee made various recommendations regarding the safeguards for minorities in India. One of the recommendations was about separate electorates for minorities. But this recommendation was rejected by referring to the past experience of sharpened communal differences. Thus, it was decided that all elections to Central and Provincial legislatures were to be held on the basis of joint electorates with reservation of seats for certain specified minority groups according to their population ratio. It was also proposed that the reservation of seats was given on basis ten years' experience. The Advisory committee finally decided that seats for recognised minority groups in accordance to their population. So finally, the drafters created constitutional rights with considering the needs and protection of minority group.

#### **VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF MINORITIES**

India is a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic & republic state. Every attribute of the Republic is bed-rocked on human rights, the secular liberation which interdicts discrimination against individuals and vulnerable groups. But, today, human rights violation is rampant through the world particularly in developing countries including India, in spite of adopting a number of declarations, conventions and covenants.

Human rights violation means when a government or society or individual violates the rights of its citizens or its members or any human being. The rights of Dalits and tribal people are refused, their properties are taken away and their women and girls are raped, assaulted and ill-treated. Their properties are damaged and places of worship are destroyed. They are assaulted, false cases are registered against them and they are discriminated by the religious majority. ACHR report reveals

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that the rights of minorities are violated due to the failure of the central government and state level authorities to address economic and social grievances, the societal violence and discrimination faced by religious ethnic minorities, indigenous and tribal peoples and members of the Dalit community. The government has regularly failed to provide adequate public security for the minorities and failed to prevent nonstate actors from taking the law into their own hands. Discrimination and exploitation on Dalits, Women and Children is increased. Atrocities on Dalit such as massacre, loot, harassment, rape, molestation sudden eviction from land have become routine. Women are victimized for rape, abduction and kidnapping, murder and dowry deaths. children continue to remain in distress and turmoil.

Peoples Forum for UPR states that the religious minorities in India face serious discrimination from majority Hindus and the state has turned as majoritarian. They face persecution, stigmatization, and marginalization in economic, social and political spheres. India has witnessed for the communal riots during the partition in 1947 and still continues to regular communal violence, mass crimes, ethnic cleansing and genocide<sup>9</sup>

There is a no of stories of violation of rights of minorities. According to Grover, the Nellei massacre of 1983, the anti-Muslim violence in Mumbai in 1992, the Bhagalpur riots of 1989, the genocide attacks on the Muslims of Gujarat in 2002, anti-Sikh Pogroms of 1984, and the Kandhmal attack on Christians in 2008 this mass crime challenges the secularism of India.

In December, 1998, Gujarat were witnessed the attacks on Christian minority and in March-April, 2002 attacks on the Muslim minority. About the attack on Christians, it was held that Christian Missionaries were converting tribals to Christianity and non-Christian tribal clashed with tribal Christians. They loss their properties, school building and religious places of Christian were burnt & destroyed.

According to the various minority communities, including Dalits, Christians, and Muslims. Beef is a source of nutrition. The cattle transportation and beef industries, including slaughter for food consumption, hauling items, and manufacturing leather goods are a part of their work. Eid-ul-Adha

<sup>9</sup> People form for UPR

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it is a Islamic festival so they Slaughter animals, including cows. it is an essential practice in Islam. The ban on cow slaughter has been challenged in Indian courts at different occasions.

. In the 1958 case, Mohammad Hanif Quareshi v. State of Bihar. the killing of Mohammad Akhlaq by Hindu mobs. in September 2015. Mr. Akhlaq, beaten to death, his family had been eating beef and storing the meat in their home. Indian Army was involved in various cases of torturing and lynching cattle traders. They patrol major cities and highways, attacking people transporting cattle or possessing, consuming, or selling beef. If once they got victim, they strip him naked, make repeated abuses against his professed faith, beat and torture him,

In October 2015 four Muslim men were killed by Hind, based on suspicion that they had killed or stolen cows for beef. Dalit were beaten for skinning of dead cow, In April 2016, police in Tamil Nadu state arrested and detained 17 Adivasis for alleged theft. Quoting a local NGO Gujarat riot, Punjab mass cremation, starvation deaths in Orissa, it encounters deaths in Andhra Pradesh,

The Times of India reported that police beat, tortured and sexually assaulted the detainees over 63 days and forced them to admit to crimes they reportedly did not commit. Those detained included five children under 12 years old and four women.

In June 2016, a mob of Hindu upper-caste allegedly burned 11 Dalit homes because some Dalits had acted in a play caricaturing the "upper" castes. In May 2015, also in Rajasthan, "upper" caste killed three Dalits in their village by running a tractor over them.

In Haryana, two Muslims were forced to eat cow dung. Gujarat riot, Punjab mass cremation, starvation deaths in Orissa, encounter deaths in Andhra Pradesh and In August 2016, a 20-year-old Muslim woman in Haryana alleged that four Hindu men raped her and her 14-year-old niece and beat her uncle and aunt to death after accusing them of eating beef are cases related to the violation of their rights.

Restrictions on Freedom of Expression, Anti-Conversion Laws, "Love Jihad", Restrictions on Foreign Funding, Harassment and murder of Human Rights Defenders deaths are the examples of the problems faced by the minorities in India

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The national government used its parliamentary majority to institute national level policies violating religious freedom across India. Especially for the Muslim minority community. <sup>10</sup>The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) attributes responsibility for anti-minority violence is to the Indian Government, including the present governing political party

## PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARD TO THE MINORITIES IN INDIA CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

"WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC...."

The preamble has declared that India is a secular county in its beginning. no special privileges will be given to any particular religion. Every religion will have equal respect before the state.

Constitution provides a comprehensive framework for protecting and promoting the rights of religious, cultural, and linguistic minorities. And the Indian judiciary, like the Supreme Court, is the defender of the Constitution, guardian of protecting minorities and safeguarding the religion, culture, race, etc.<sup>12</sup>

#### **Fundamental rights of the constitution of India**

The benefits and privileges guaranteed under fundamental rights are entitled to all the citizens of the country without any discrimination. The dignity of the individual, the equality of society, protection of larger public interest and safeguard of national unity are ensured by the provisions of fundamental rights. Since the rights are guaranteed and protected by the constitution, the supreme law of the country, since these rights are equal to everyone.

Equality of opportunity and equality before law has been extended to every citizen of the country as per the provisions of the Indian constitution. the fundamental rights that ensure security and safeguard to the rights and privileges of minorities in India.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> USCIRF, Annual Report 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Preamble, Indian Constitution

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• Article 14 of the Indian Constitution says "The State shall not deny to any person's equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India." As per this provision, every citizen of the country has equal protection of law. No one is dominant than the other.

- Similarly, Article 15(1) provides that, "the State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them".
- Article 19 of the Indian Constitution says that, "All citizens shall have the right
  - To freedom of speech and expression;
  - To assemble peaceably and without arms;
  - To form associations or unions;
  - To move freely throughout the territory of India;
  - To reside and settle in any part of the territory of India and
  - To practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business" These freedoms are the hallmarks of a successful political democracy
- Article 25 of the Indian Constitution express that, "Subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this Part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion. "This right gives the freedom to an individual to follow, practice and propagate religion so the State cannot impose or curb any particular religious convention or tradition. It gives a kind of immunity to minorities from the attacks of majority.
- Article 26 of the Indian Constitution states that, "Subject to public order, morality and health, every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right
  - To establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes<sup>13</sup>
- To manage its own affairs in matters of religion
- To own and acquire movable and immovable property; and
- To administer such property in accordance with law."

These rights protect and guarantee the all rights of a religion. It gives a safety and protection to the minority.

<sup>13</sup> S. Azeez Basha v. UOI AIR 1968 SC 662

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 Article 27 of the Indian Constitution express that, "No person shall be compelled to pay any taxes, the proceeds of which are specifically appropriated in payment of expenses for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious denomination"

This article guarantee that state don't spend the public money for the welfare of a particular religion including minority religions. When a government is formed who is having affiliation to majority religion, chances of minority religions, beings secluded and side-lined are higher. But the provisions of article 27 is a blocking from these activities.

- Article 28 of the Indian Constitution says that, "No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds. "This article ensure that no fully/partially state funded educational institution compel anyone to follow religious instructions. This will also protect the minorities from any activities of majority religious educational institution to compulsorily follow their religious instructions.
- Article 29: deal with cultural and educational rights of minorities

  Article 29 of the Indian Constitution says that, "(1) Any section of the citizens residing in the

territory of India or any part thereof having a distinct language, script or culture of its own shall have the right to conserve the same.

(2) No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them."

This is one of such articles which deals with the minorities of the country. it helps the minorities to defend and safeguard their distinct language, culture and script.

Article 29 (2) says "shall prevent the State from making any special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes."

This article gave constitutional authorisation to the government machineries to make any special provisions for the advancement of the backward sections of the society.

Article 29(2) further mentions, "No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them"

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 Article 30: a minority-specific provision that protects the right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions<sup>14</sup>

#### **Directive Principles of State Policy**

DPSP contains a plenty of directives to the state to seek economic, social, and cultural protections for Indian citizens including minorities.

Articles 36 to 51 deals with the 'Directive Principles of State policy. Articles which promoting the minority rights as follows:

- Article 38 states that, "The State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing
  and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice, social, economic and
  political, shall inform all the institutions of the national life." So, it reminding the state to
  ensure the justice, the rights of minorities
- Article 39 directing the state to ensure free legal assistance and equal justice. This will give a guarantee for the rights of the minorities.
- Article 46 appeals State to take necessary measures and actions that promote with educational
  and economic advancement of the weaker sections of the people. Such as reservation,
  scholarships, loans etc.
- Article 49 says "state shall protect the monuments and places and objects of national importance. "This will help to preserve the historical monuments of the minorities in the country from the spoliation, defacement, demolition, deletion, discarding
- Article 51 direct state to follow the international treaties and laws

#### Miscellaneous articles in the constitution of India

Apart from the said provisions and safeguards provided in the Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy, there are some other articles mentioned in the Indian Constitution which indicates the rights and privileges of minorities in India. Some of them are as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> T.MA. Foundation and Others vs. the State of Karnataka, CMC Vellore v. UOI (2014) 2 SCC, e D.A.V. College vs. State of Punjab AIR 1971 SC 1731), P.A Inamdar v. State of Maharashtra (2005) 6 SCC 537

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• Articles 331, 333, 334, 336 and 337have the special provisions of "guaranteeing representation of Anglo-Indians in Union and State legislatures through nominations

- Article 347 provide special provision of giving power to the President to officially recognised
  a language, which is being spoken by the substantial population. This can act as a defence for
  the languages of minority people.
- Articles 343 to 351 deal with the language policy of the State
- Article 350A and Article 350B take care of the specific needs of the linguistic minorities.
   350A deals with facilities for instruction in mother tongue at the primary stage, 350B-special
   Officer for linguistic minorities.

Article 350(B) has the provision of appointing a 'Special Officer for linguistic minorities' by the President "whose duty shall be investigating all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under this Constitution and report to the President upon those matters."

- Articles 243D and 243T of the constitution provide the provision of seats for these minorities
   (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) in rural and self-governing areas.
- Similarly, Articles 330 and 332 provides reservation of seats for them in the national Parliament and the State Legislative Assemblies in order to assimilate the minorities into the political system.

#### OTHER LAWS IN INDIA

Indian Parliament passed a number of laws to protect minorities Such as The Anti-Untouchability Act of 1955 (renamed in 1976 as Protection of Civil Rights Act) and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act of 1989. They were enacted for the protection of the human rights of Dalits.

National Commission for Minority Act 1992, Protection of Human Rights Act 1993, National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004 are examples of other protection laws in India.

#### PROGRAMME FOR THE WELFARE OF MINORITIES

The welfare of the society has its peek paramountcy including the minorities so the government adopting some programme for them.

In 1983 The Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had announced a 15-point programme for the welfare of minorities which included their overall development. providing security to their life and property and special thrust in the area of education and public employment main objectives.

Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP):it was launched in the rural and semi-rural areas of minorities during the year 2008-09. Pre-matric, post-matric, Merit-Cum -Means such scholarship schemes, Maulana Azad National Fellowship, Free Coaching and Allied Scheme are example of the programme.

National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) it was provided for the concessional loans for self-employment and income generating activities to the persons belonging to a minority community, having a family income below double the poverty line.

NGO: Non-Governmental Organizations have a micro financing scheme of NMDFC mainly focuses on poor minority women aiming their empowerment by way of meeting their credit needs in an informal manner.

#### COMMISSION FOR THE PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

Every commission established by Indian government at national and state level has a pivotal role in protection of the rights of minorities.

- National Commission for Minorities (NCM): which was established by the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 to protect the existence of minorities all over India. The Commission evaluated the progress of minorities, monitored the safeguards h that have provided to them in the Constitution and addressed the complaints of discrimination against them.
- National Commission for Human Rights (NHRC): which was established by the Government through the Act of Parliament known as the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993<sup>15</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Misbah Alam Shaikh v. State of Maharashtra AIR 1997 SC 140

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• National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC): it is also a statutory body which was established on 30 September 1994 by the recommendations of the National Commission for Minorities<sup>16</sup>.

• The Commission for Minority Educational Institutions: it another type of commission set up under the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004

## COMMITTEES FOR THE PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

Indian government had established committees for the protection of the rights of minorities.

- The Sachar Committee: A Prime Minister's High-Level Committee which was formed in 2005 to assess the social, economic and educational status of Muslims in India. Because the lack of reliable information on this issue. in the end of 2006, it published a detailed report on highlighting the poor socio-economic status of the Indian Muslims.
- Ranganath Mishra commission: The Justice Ranganath Mishra Commission was appointed by the Centre Government of India in October 2004 to study various aspects of religious and linguistic minorities.
- In order to monitoring credit flow to the minorities the government of India established a national level Coordination Committee consisting of representatives of all the nationalized banks and other financial institutions to work under the Reserve Bank India

## PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARD TO THE MINORITIES AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Democracy is a government of the people ruled by them. Democracies know about the importance of protecting the rights, cultural identities, social practices, and religious practices of all individuals <sup>17</sup>. The San Francisco Conference and the UDHR, gave importance to the protection of minority rights. It also seen in the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. The UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council has a crucial role in protecting and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> UN Human Rights Committee 1994

The 1815 Congress of Vienna, which dismantled the Napoleonic Empire, had considered the minority rights and 1878 Treaty of Berlin, also recognized the special rights for the religious community.

Article 18 of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights provides: Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 1(1) of the Minorities Declaration, which affirms that 'States shall protect the existence and the national or ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic identity of minorities within their respective territories, and shall encourage conditions for the promotion of that identity

Article 26(1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) says that Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least is the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basic of merit.

Article 27 of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) exemplifies the conception of group rights, guaranteeing "ethnic, religious, or linguistic minorities ... the right to enjoy their culture, to profess and practice their own religion, or to use their own language<sup>18</sup>

Article 2(1) UNDM states: 'Persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities have the right to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practise their own religion, and to use their own language, in private and in public, freely and without interference or any form of discrimination. As a result of the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration on Human Rights, as well as other UN instruments, and all 191 Member States of the UN are ready to respect fundamental human rights as part of the general international law.

<sup>18</sup> . International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

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So the purpose of all these international instruments is to protect minorities against to the state. Every Minorities and their need to protect and promote their rights were considered under the League of Nations even though the rights of minorities were not incorporated into the Covenant of the League of Nations itself.

#### MAJOR INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

Today there are over 100 multilateral and bilateral treaties on the protection of human rights. such as

- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966 (ICCPR)
- The International Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights 1966 (ICSECR),
- The Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women 1967 (CEDAW)
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989 (CRC)
- The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. it was adopted in December 2006 and entered into force in December 2010
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families entered into force in 2003
- The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination (1965) .it was the second international treaty on human rights adopted by the UN
- The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) that monitors The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)
- The UN Charter bodies include the Human Rights Council (HRC)
- The General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

## UNITED NATIONS MINORITY PROTECTION MECHANISUMS

The High Commissioner for Human Rights has the responsibility for implementing the United Nations human rights programmes. In order to examine the complaints and investigate human rights

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violations, ON established different mechanisms such as

- The Human Rights Council's confidential Complaint Procedure in 2007,
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO),
- The Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section (IPMS). It works at both international and national levels to improve human rights protection of minorities.
- International Labour Organization (ILO) etc.

## UNITED NATION MINORITY PROTECTION PROGRAMMES

United nation promotes a no of protection programmes for the minorities.

- IPMS organizes an annual Minorities Fellowship Programme: which provides human rights training for minority representatives to increase their knowledge of the UN system, instruments and mechanisms
- Minorities in development programmes such as UNICEF. The United Nations Children's
  Fund (UNICEF) it works to secure the rights of minority children and women through
  development programmes like basic education
- HIV/AIDS; providing awareness class for the protection of minorities from the disease like HIV/AIDs and improving its treatments.
- Developing the complaints procedures through the International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Setting the Poverty reduction and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
- The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery
- Providing Community-led Training
- Promoting Environment and energy for sustainable development

## RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF MINORITY

In order to protect the rights of minorities there should be considered some of the recommendation also. They are following:

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 Increase training opportunities on human rights and religious freedom standards and practices among the society

- Ensuring the adequate representation of minorities in the employment sector
- Give compensation to the victims of communal riots
- Give special consideration in Recruitment of Police and other government services
- Increase educational facilities and technical skills for the minorities
- Improve socio-economic condition through specifically focused programmes.
- prevention and adequate checking of the communal riots
- Established Special Courts for handling cases of communal riots
- Reform the anti-conversion laws
- Repeal the anti-democratic, anti-Constitutional and anti-conversion laws
- Bring a mechanism to punish police officers who falsely frame innocent people in terror cases
- Ban private vigilante groups for cow protection, love jihad and such operations then prosecute them for their criminal acts
- Take actions against all those who take part in violence and give them maximum punishment
- provide a provision of personal status laws as per religious beliefs and practices of Sikh,
   Buddhist, and Jain communities, from the personal law statute of Hindu
- Identify and ban the ultranationalist Hindu groups detailing their criminal activities such as communal violence, arson, rapes and murders
- Ensure awareness programmes about minority rights in Indian constitution as well as international level
- Provide them more job opportunities in public sector

#### **CONCLUSION**

In Indian Constitution there are various provisions that safeguard their rights and privileges, there are many ways through the minority's rights can be safeguards. These includes the protection in the preamble, Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles of State Policy and various other articles and provisions. Indian Constitution has crucial role and is important source of guaranteeing the rights and privileges of the minorities in India, the specific minority rights provide them opportunity to maintain their identity and cultural practices. Apart from constitutional provisions government has also

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implemented other policies and programmes for the protection of minorities. These include constitution of National Commission for Minorities and National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation. On other hand there are a no of international laws and instruments. It helps them aware about the right. Even though Minorities face problems, particularly of protection of life and property during communal riots.

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