

BOWEN UNIVERSITY, IWO
COLLEGE OF LAW
COURSE TITLE: HUMAN RIGHTS I
COURSE CODE: PIL 207
FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION QUESTIONS
2021/2022 SESSION

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS
ANSWER AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION

Each Question Carries 17 ½ Marks

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer 4 questions in all. Answer at least 1 question from each section
LOGICAL AND GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT PRESENTATION OF ANSWERS
ARE IMPORTANT

SECTION A

1. Human Rights is a tyrannous phenomenon that will not allow any scholarly endeavour to unravel its meaning, like law, its meaning remains an ongoing controversy with no end in sight to the debate however, appreciable attempts have been made to demystify the concept. **Discuss.**
2. Prof. Osita Omoiwo in his Inaugural Lecture at Dawadawa University asserted that *human rights are neither universal nor culturally relative* because time and space differs. By their nature, they are independent, interdependent and indivisible. **Evaluate the veracity of this assertion.**
- 3a. The sources of Nigerian Human Rights Law are explicit. List and explain
- 3b. Explain how human rights provisions were incorporated into the 1999 Constitution.

SECTION B

- 4a. Dr. Dorime is a citizen of the Republic of Africana and has just been sentenced to death by a High Court of the State. He then instructed his lawyer, Mr. Zazuu to immediately forward a petition to the United Nations Human Right Commission in order to complain about his conviction. Mr. Zazuu in trying to prove his competence and efficiency forwarded the petition to both the United Nations Human Right Commission as well as the African Commission on Human Rights. The Republic of Africana had earlier ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and also ratified its First Optional Protocol. Examine the legal issues involved.
- 4b. Would your answer be different if the Republic of Africana had also ratified the Second Optional Protocol?

SECTION C

5. Write notes on the following:
 - (i) International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
 - (ii) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
 - (iii) The Security Council.
6. Since 1997, when Karel Vasak introduced the concept of generations into the corpus (body) of human rights discourse, the debate has taken many forms and shapes. Vasak traced the developments of human rights and concluded that, basically, rights are three

generations. The first he called *liberte* (Liberty) i.e Civil and Political Rights, the second he termed *egalite* (equality), which relates to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and the third he termed *fraternite* (solidarity), referring to those rights that are held by the collectives, in other words, "group or people's right. These classifications, sometimes described by a colour scheme of "blue" "red" and "green," are based on three different philosophies. Each generation has its destructive characteristics. **Discuss.**

7. The global concept of Human Rights transcends any known period in history. History itself is full of event and struggle for rights by people all over the world at all times. Although, 'Human Rights' has been defined to mean the freedoms, immunities and benefits that according to modern values, all human beings should be able to claim as a matter of right in the society in which they live. The fight for the protection of Human Rights still continues globally. However, over the years, there are some terms that have evolved, which are unique and used in Human Rights. **Discuss.**