



Human Rights Day

Human rights logo

Human rights logo represents a *hand and a bird* which symbolises a '***free, fair and peaceful world***'.



Celebration day

Human Rights Day is celebrated annually across the world on *10 December* every year.

In South Africa, **Human Rights Day** is celebrated on *21 March*, in remembrance of the *Sharpeville massacre* which took place on *21 March 1960*.

Human Rights Day is celebrated on *11 December* in *Kiribati*.

Beginning of Human Rights Day

Human Rights Day is the day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The formal inception of **Human Rights Day** dates from **1950**, after the Assembly passed resolution *423(V)* inviting all States and interested organisations to adopt 10 December of each year as Human Rights Day.

Human Rights Day in the 21st century

The **60th** anniversary of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** occurred on 10 December 2008, and the UN Secretary-General launched a year-long campaign leading up to this anniversary.

Because the **UDHR** (*Universal Declaration of Human Rights*) holds the world record as *the most translated document* (except for the Bible), organizations around the globe used the year to focus on helping people everywhere learn about their rights.

Memorial events

The day is normally marked both by high-level political conferences and meetings and by cultural events and exhibitions dealing with human rights issues.

Many governmental and non-governmental organizations active in the human rights field also schedule special events to commemorate the day, as do many civil and social-cause organisations.

To who we dedicate this day?

10 December is a day dedicated to the *advocates of human rights around the world* who strive to ensure that their own rights and those of others are protected and put a lot of effort into ensuring that they are respected daily.

Many of them are persecuted, unemployed or unduly imprisoned for this. Celebrating *International Human Rights Day* is an opportunity to honour their courage and achievements.

Examples of articles from UDHR

Article 1.

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 30.

Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.

Interesting facts

- *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights* has been included in the **Guinness Book of Records** as the most frequently translated document.
- In this year (2020), we are celebrating **72 years** since the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* was created.
- To mark the *20th* anniversary of Human Rights Day, 1968 was declared the **International Year of Human Rights**.



The end

Thank you for watching