

CONTEMPORARY QUESTIONS IN RELIGION AND HUMAN RIGHTS
RELI G4800, Spring 2009
Prof. Joseph Chuman

I. NATURE AND SCOPE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1 and 2. The Origin of Human Rights and Their Relationship to Religion. relation of the Enlightenment to religion; are human rights religious?; sanctions for human rights; foundationalism, anti-foundationalism.

Fields, A Belden, *Rethinking Human Rights for the New Millennium*, ch. 1, pp. 7-34.

Cranston, Maurice, "What Are Human Rights pp. 17-23, and Locke, John, "Second Treatise on Government"pp. 62-67. *The Human Rights Reader* (1977)

Ashcraft, Richard, "Religion and Lockeian Rights"; in Bloom, Martin and Proudfoot, *Religious Diversity and Human Rights* (1996); ch. 7, 195-212.

Perry, Michael, "Is the Idea of Human Rights Ineliminably Religious?" in Perry, Michael, *The Idea of Human Rights* (1998); ch. 3, 3-41.

Stackhouse, Max, "Why Human Rights Needs God: A Christian Perspective," ch.1, 25-40 in *Does Human Rights Need God?* (2005) Bucar, Elizabeth and Barnett, Barbra, eds.

Henkin, Louis, "Religion, Religions, and Human Rights" in *Journal of Religious Ethics* 26.2 Fall, 1998); 229-39.

Shestack, Jerome, "The Philosophic Foundations of Human Rights" in *Human Rights Quarterly* 20.2 (1998); 201-234.

Rorty, Richard, "Human Rights, Rationality, and Sentimentality" in *On Human Rights*; (1993); 111-134.

3. The Documents of Human Rights, Their Enforcement and The Differing Roles of Religion in Relation to Human Rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights; The Covenants and other key documents; selected provisions on rights related to religion and belief; the role of the United Nations; Amnesty International; the Watch Groups; religious NGO's and other religious organizations; religion and intolerance; persecution of religious minorities; religion as champion of human rights.

Religion and Human Rights: Basic Documents, Center for Study of Human Rights, Columbia University (1998); 57-85, 102-150, 154-6, 162-4, 184-89; 2-55 (recommended)

II. RELIGIOUS SANCTIONS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

4. The Individual and Rights in Hindu Tradition.

Elder, Joseph, "Hindu Perspectives on the Individual and the Collectivity" Ch.2, 54-86, in Bloom, et. al.

Pandeya, R.C. "Human Rights: an Indian Perspective" ch. 13, 267 -277 in *Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights* (1986) Unesco.

Sharma, Arvind. "Bases of Human Rights in Hinduism" ch.1, 4- 29 in *Hinduism and Human Rights* (2003)

van der Burg, Corstiann J. G. "Traditional Hindu Values and Human Rights: Two Worlds Apart?" ch. 7, 109-11 in *Human Rights and Religious Values*, (1995); An-Na'im, Abdullahi A.; Gort, Jerald D.; Jansen, Henry; Vroom, Hendrik, M.; eds

5. The Individual and Rights in the Buddhist Tradition.

Thurman, Robert. "Human Rights and Human Responsibilities: Buddhist Views on Individualism and Altruism"; in Bloom et al. ch. 3, 87-113.

Inada, Kenneth. "A Buddhist Response to the Nature of Human Rights"; in *Buddhism and Human Rights* (1998); Keown, Damien; Prebish, Charles; Husted, Wayne, eds. Ch. 1, 1-13.

Keown, Damien, "Are There Human Rights in Buddhism?"; in *Buddhism and Human Rights* (1998) Keown, et al. eds, ch. 2, 15-41.

6. The Individual and Rights in Jewish Tradition.

Goodman, Lenn E. "The Individual and the Community in the Normative Traditions of Judaism"; in Bloom et. al. ch. 1, 15-53

Novak, David "Religious Human Rights in Judaic Texts" ch. 1, 1-34 in *Human Rights in Judaism*, (1998); Broyde, Michael J. and Witte, John Jr., eds.

Cohn, Haim, *Human Rights in the Bible and Talmud* (1989); ch. 1, 9-17; chs 4-6, 34-57.

Henkin, Louis, "Judaism and Human Rights" in *Judaism*, fall, 1976, 435-446.

7. The Individual and Rights in Early Christianity and the Reformation; The Catholic Church

Langan, John, "The Individual and the Collectivity in Christianity", in Bloom et. al., ch. 5, 152-174.

New Testament Luke, ch. 10:25-37; Matthew. ch. 5-7, 18; Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, ch. 13; Letter to the Romans 12ff.

Egmund, Aad van, "Calvinist Thought and Human Rights" in An-Naim et. al., ch.14, 192-202.

Vatican Document *Nostra Aetate*. Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, *Human Rights and the Catholic Church* (1998).

8. Islam and Human Rights.

Bulliet, Richard W., "The Individual in Islamic Society", in Bloom et. al. ch. 6, 175-191.

AnNaim, Abdullahi, Ahmed, "Human Rights in the Muslim World" in *The Philosophy of Human Rights*, Hayden, Patrick, ed. ch. 28, pp.315-335.

Humphreys, R. Stephen, "Islam and Human Rights", (1999); ch.10, 148-259. in *Between Memory and Desire*

Mayer, Ann Elizabeth, "The Shari'ah: A Methodology or a Body of Substantive Rules" ch.10, 177-198 in *Islamic Law and Jurisprudence*; Heer, Nicolas, ed. (1990)

Mayer, Ann Elizabeth, "Islamic Law and Human Rights: Conundrums and Equivocations" in *Religion and Human Rights*, (1999); Gustafson, Carrie and Juviler, Peter, eds., ch. 14, pp.177-198.

El Fadl, Khaled Abou, "Islam and the Challenge of Democratic Commitment" in *Does Human Rights Need God?*, (2005) Bucar, Elizabeth and Barnett, Barbara, eds. ch. 4, pp. 58-103.

III. Nationalism, Violence, Women, the United States, Religion and Rights.

9. The Emergence of Religious Nationalism. the assault on secular nationalism; the question of communal rights; the emergence of fundamentalisms; religion and democracy.

Juergensmeyer, Mark, *The New Cold War?* (selected chapters)

10. Religion and Violence. The “clash of civilizations”; does religion cause violence? Religion and globalization; religion’s positive resources.

Kelsey and Twiss, "Religion and the Root of Conflict", ch. 1, 1-16; and "Positive Resources of Religion and Human Rights", ch. 4, 61-79 in *Religion and Human Rights* (1994)

Huntington, Samuel P., “The Clash of Civilizations?”, Foreign Affairs, Summer, 1993

Juergensmeyer, Mark, *The New Cold War*, “Why Religious Confrontations Are Violent”, ch. 6, 153-170.

Chuman, Joseph, “Does Religion Cause Violence?”, ch. 1, 15-30 in *Religion, Terrorism and Globalization* (2006) Kuriakose, Karikottuchira, K. ed.

Rapaport, David C., “Sacred Terror: A Contemporary Example From Islam,” ch. 7, 103-130, in *Origins of Terrorism* (1998) Reich, Walter, ed.

Falk, Richard, “A Worldwide Religious Resurgence in an Era of Globalization and Apocalyptic Terrorism,” ch. 6, 181-208, in *Religion in International Relations* (2003) Petito, Fabio and Hatzopoulos, Pavlos, eds.

11. Women Within Judaism, Christianity and Islam. application of scriptural sources to contemporary conditions; women and religious politics; voices for change.

Judaism: Hyman, Paula, "A Feminist Perspective on Jewish Fundamentalism" ch. 24, 271-80 in Howland, Courtney W. in *Religious Fundamentalism and the Human Rights of Women* (1999)

Greenberg, Blu, “Feminism, Jewish Orthodoxy, and Human Rights: Strange Bedfellows?” in *Religion and Human Rights*, Gustafson and Juviler, eds. Ch. 12, pp. 145-176.

Rose, Susan D., "Christian Fundamentalism: Patriarchy, Sexuality, and Human Rights" ch. 2, 9-20 in Howland.

Christianity: Kissling, Frances, "Roman Catholic Fundamentalism: "What's Sex (and Power) Got To Do With It?", ch.17, 193-202 in Howland

Mayer, Ann Elizabeth, "Restrictions on the Rights and Freedoms of Women" ch. 6, 97-130 in Mayer.

Nafisi, Azar, "Tales of Subversion: Women Challenging Fundamentalism in the Islamic Republic of Iran", ch. 23, 257-70 in Howland.

12. The United States and Human Rights. the human rights factor in United States foreign policy; the relation of the United States to international human rights law; the death penalty and the religious communities; the emergence and impact of the Religious Right; the religious climate, the Supreme Court and shifting boundaries in the relation of church and state.

Henkin, Louis “Human Rights and United States Foreign Policy” in *The Age of Rights*, (1990), ch. 5, pp.65-80.

Steinmetz, Sara, *Democratic Transition and Human Rights* (1994) ch. 1-3, 3-77

Forsythe, David, P., "Human Rights in U.S. Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospects", Political Science Quarterly, v. 105, n.3 (1990) 435-454.

Melton, J Gordon, *The Churches Speak On: Capital Punishment* (selections) (1989)

Religious Right, Church/State Relations, Frankel, Marvin, E., *Faith and Freedom* (1994)

"Genesis of the Religion Clauses", ch. 2, 22-31, "Piety Versus Secular Humanism", and

"Adjusting Caesar's Laws to God's", chs. 4-5, 47-81.

"Religious Persecution as a U.S. Policy Issue" -- Consultations held at Trinity College, Hartford,

9/26-7, 1999. -- Hackett, Roslind, I. J.; Silk, Mark; Hoover, Dennis, 7-24.

III. CONCLUDING QUESTIONS AND PERSONALITIES

13. Religion and Globalization/ Human Rights and the Multicultural Debate. the development of parochialism in the light of globalization; the impact of global markets and commercialism; / Are human rights objective and universal or Western imposition?

Kung, Hans, "Explanatory Remarks Concerning a 'Declaration of the Religious Global Ethic'"

King, Sallie, "A Global Ethic in the Light of Comparative Religious Ethics" ch. 4, 118-140 in Twiss, Sumner B. and Grelle, Bruce, *Explorations in Global Ethics* (1998)

Kelsey and Twiss, "Universality vs. Relativism in Human Rights"; in Kelsey and Twiss, *Religion and Human Rights* (1994); ch. 3, 31-59.

Green, Ronald, "Religions and the Ethics of International Business" ch. 10, 237-252, *ibid.*

McCorquodale, Robert and Fairbrother, Richard "Globalization and Human Rights", Human Rights Quarterly 21.3 (1999), 735-766.

Bell, Daniel, A., "The Eastern Asian Challenge to Human Rights: Reflections on an East West Dialogue", *Human Rights Quarterly* 18.3 (1996) 641-667.

Fasching, Darrell J., "From Genocide to Global Ethics by Way of Storytelling", ch. 12, 291-32.

Perry, Michael, P., "Are Human Rights Universal?" ch. 3, 57-86 in Perry.

Singer, Michael, "Relativism, Culture, Religion and Identity" ch. 5, 45-54 in Howland.

Ignatieff, Michael, Human Rights as Politics and Idolatry

14. Three Paradigmatic Individuals: Mohandas Gandhi; Martin Luther King; the Dalai Lama. their religious background and the employment of religious ideals in their human rights work.

Gandhi, from his Autobiography

Dalton, Dennis, *Mahatma Gandhi*, (1993) Introduction and Ch. 1, pp. 1-28

King, Martin Luther, "Letter From Birmingham City Jail", from *A Testament of Hope* (1986) \ Washington, James M. ed., 289-302.

Cone, James, H., "The Theology of Martin Luther King, Jr.", in Union Seminary Quarterly Review, Vol. X L, 4 (1986) 21-39

Thurman, Robert, *Conversations on the Dalai Lama*