**CLASS NOTES**

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**Topic: What is International Bill of Rights?**

**Meaning:** The adoption of the UN Charter was a major leap towards the protection and promotion of human rights. During the San Francisco Conference, 1945 a proposal was forwarded to incorporate an International Bill of Rights in the UN Charter. In fact, the most vital task before the UN was the proper execution of various principles underlined in the Charter. Accordingly, the Economic and Social Council of the UN asserted that the purpose of the UN Charter could not be achieved unless comprehensive provisions are made for an International Bill of Rights for their fullest implementation. Eventually, in January, 1947, the Economic and Social Council appointed a Drafting Committee for the preparation of the draft of the International Bill of Human Rights.

In order to prepare the series of documents, three Working Groups were established. While considering the reports of the Working Groups, it was decided by the UN Human Rights Commission that the Bill should consists in the form of Declaration, Conventions and measures for their implementations. They together form the International Bill of Human Rights.

Thus, the International Bill of Human Rights constitutes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**;** two more Optional Protocol to theInternational Covenant on Civil and Political Rights is referred to International Bill of Human Rights. It is a collective term applied to these five major international covenants. These Declarations and Conventions represent the dominant contemporary international understanding of the minimum pre-requisite for individual dignity-a life worthy of human being.

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