

Key Words & Definitions: Human Rights

Anti- Semitic	Hostile or prejudiced against Jews
Agape	Selfless, unconditional; love, the highest of the four types of love in the Bible
Amnesty International	Works worldwide to protect and campaign for men, women and children whose basic human rights are denied
Censorship	The practice of suppressing and limiting access to material considered obscene, offensive or a threat to security. People may also be restricted in their speech by censorship laws
Charity	Helping someone in need either by a kind action or giving money.
Christian Aid	Christian charity that aims to support the poorest of people and those suffering disasters.
Conversion	Changing ones religion or beliefs
Dignity	Being worthy of honour and respect
Discrimination	Acts of treating groups of people, or individuals differently based on your prejudice
Duty	What a person is expected to do - something entrusted to you by God or someone in authority
Equality	When everyone is treated the same, whatever their cultural, ethnic, religious background
Empowerment	Authority or power given to someone to do something
Evangelise	To try and convert someone to a different religion
Extremism	believing in and supporting ideas that are very far from what most people consider correct or reasonable
Exploitation	To abuse your power and not look after what is in your care
Gambling	To bet money in the hope of winning and being prepared to risk losing it
Gandhi	Was the political and spiritual leader of India and the Indian Independence Movement. Used mass civil disobedience to protest against the way people were treated and this was influenced by his belief in ahimsa or non-violence to all things.
Human Dignity	The belief that all people are worthy of honour and respect and self-esteem.
Human Rights	The basic entitlements of all human beings, afforded to them simply because they are human.
Injustice	Where there is no equality of provision or opportunity; Lack of freedom from oppression; Where human rights are ignored; Treating with discrimination; Actions based on dishonest personal gain; Unfair action or treatment
Islamophobia	Hostile or prejudiced towards Muslims
Justice	Honest actions; Fairness; Where everyone has equal provisions and opportunity; Freedom from oppression; Where human rights are observed; When people treat each other without discrimination or prejudice
Liberation theology	The Christian idea that God has the power to change situations in the world that are unjust
Martin Luther King	Black civil rights leader who campaigned for equal rights for black people using non-violent action. His beliefs were influenced by his Christian faith and his childhood as the son of a Baptist Minister. He is known as a human rights icon.
Mission	Calling of a religious organisation, especially Christian one to go out into the world and spread its faith
Oscar Romero	Archbishop of El-Salvador (Catholic) who campaigned for human rights and attempted to stop the poor being abused and exploited.
Oppressed	Governed or treated with cruelty or injustice
Personal Conviction	something a person strongly feels or believes in
Prejudice	pre-judging; judging people to be inferior or superior without cause

Relative poverty	relative poverty - a standard of poverty measured in relation to the standards of a society in which a person lives, e.g. living on less than X% of average UK income
Absolute Poverty	absolute poverty - an acute state of deprivation, whereby a person cannot access the most basic of their human needs
Racism	Discriminating against a person just because of their race or skin colour
Sanctity of life	Belief that all life is sacred, created by God and only God can take it away
Sadaqah	Voluntary giving to charity; it could be gift of time, helping others or a donation to charity
Sexism	When discrimination against a person is based upon which sex they are ie either male or female
Social Justice	Promoting a fair society by challenging injustice and valuing diversity. Ensuring that everyone has equal access to provisions, equal opportunities and rights.
Social Responsibility	A responsibility to show care and concern to others in society especially those in need. For example, those in poverty, those being treated unfairly and those not having human rights.
Stereotyping	Making assumptions and judgements about people based on a single piece of information ie the colour of their hair or their nationality
Ten Commandments	A set of rules sent by God to help people live a good life. Some Christians suggest the two most important are to love God and your neighbour as yourself.
Ummah	The worldwide community of Muslims
Want	A wish or longing for; something that is craved, but which being without would not actually bring hardship
Wealth	Materialistic goods/possessions of monetary value
Zakah	One of the 5 pillars in Islam. Each Muslim will give about 2.5% of savings to charity