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# Natural Rights Unveiled in Postmodern Tapestry

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*Abstract: This article explores how natural human rights have endured through challenging times, spanning from classical to medieval, modern to postmodern eras, up to the present day. The Magna Carta marked the initiation of protecting human dignity, while World War I and World War II were pivotal moments for safeguarding humanity through the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The values of natural rights have dwindled with the advent of globalization and due to political and social greed reaching its peak. Throughout world history, from the origin of society with barbarous rule to the tyranny of monarchy, the natural rights of humans have always been questioned and debated.*

**Keywords:** *Natural Rights, Human Rights, Postmodern Tapestry.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In 1513, the term "society" was first coined from the French word "Societe," meaning company, and derived from the Latin word "societas," meaning fellowship, alliance, or association. The origin of society traces back to the emergence of the Paleolithic era more than 2 million years ago. These early societies were small nomadic groups of hunters and gatherers who relied on their environment for survival.

In a philosophical context, Confucianism (Chinese philosopher Confucius) from 551-479 BCE emphasized ethical and moral principles, proper conduct in social relationships, and the importance of an orderly society. In Western tradition, ancient Greek philosophers Socrates and Plato delved into the concepts of justice, governance, and the ideal state. The social contract theories put forth by Hobbes in his "Leviathan," where he argues for a "war against all," Rousseau's perspective asserting that in the state people are inherently free and equal, and Locke's slogan of "Life, property, and liberty" emerge as significant ideas that emphasize the binding relationship between every individual and the state

### **I. Foundation of Natural Rights:**

In 1215, the Magna Carta (Great Charter) became the official written document for the protection of human rights, stating that "all free men have a right to justice and a free trial



from the jury" and "all free citizens can own and inherit property." Despite King John of England's resistance, he was forced to sign this charter. Historically, the Magna Carta is considered the basis of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with numerous clauses still part of UDHR. It provides the foundations for natural rights and legal rights, especially regarding women's inheritance.

## **II. Contemporary Dilemmas in the Postmodern Era:**

In the postmodern world, countless challenges arise, impacting society, culture, and individual experiences.

- **The Idea of Objective Truth** becomes blurred, leading to increased skepticism toward overarching ideologies. This challenges universal truths (such as  $2+2=4$ ) and complicates efforts for shared understanding.
- **Cultural Relativism**, where all cultural values are considered equally valid, poses a challenge in balancing cultural respect with the need for universal human rights. Self-centered political agendas, using sophisticated dialectics and blurring reality into hyperreality, make human rights protection difficult.
- **Digitalization** poses significant concerns for individual personal privacy and data security. In the current age of artificial intelligence (AI), there is a growing risk to job security, personal privacy, and even human lives. The prevailing force of globalization contributes to societal and economic inequalities. High levels of globalization, coupled with selfish political strategies and social class hegemony, pose a substantial risk to human rights in this era of postmodernism. Hyperreality emerges as the next threat, where the boundaries between reality and the virtual world blur, creating a heightened risk of a major world war in which reality becomes indistinguishable from its digital counterpart.
- **Postmodernism Rejects Meta-Narratives** or overarching explanations of history and society, challenging individuals and societies in defining their purpose, values, and direction.

## **2. RESULTS&DISCUSSION**

In today's era, when everything appears seamless and alluring, there are significant threats to the protection of individual rights. Digitalization, on one hand, secures individual assets and enhances lives, while on the other; it exposes the world to wars and terrors. The genocide committed by America against Japan through nuclear bombs and the latest technological weapons used by humans against humans are major global debates. Throughout human history, individuals have struggled for their rights and freedom. In my opinion, despite the pervasive influence of global politics driven by greed, people should engage in discussions for their collective welfare.

## **3. CONCLUSION**

The protection and security of human rights have been subjects of debate since the emergence of humanity. Each era faces diverse challenges in ensuring humanity's security. In today's



world, even personal information is under threat, blurring the lines between life, property, and liberty.

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