



Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Purposes for this publication are:

- To comprehend the fundamental concept of a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)
- To be aware of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
- To enable the public to lodge complaints of human rights violations with the Commission.



What is a Human Rights Commission?

- Human Rights Commission is an independent, state-level institution established by law, mandated to promote and raise awareness of the rights of all human beings as well as to protect against human rights violations.



- It is usually established by the State and is generally funded by the State. Human Rights Commission must be established in accordance with the Paris Principles. These Commissions are vested with the authority to act independently on human rights matters.



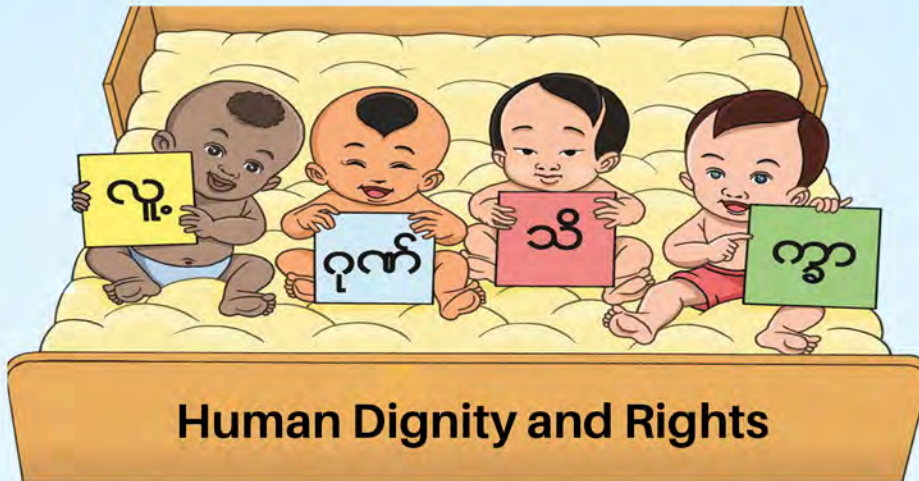
What are the Paris Principles?

- The Paris Principles are the standards relating to the establishment and functioning of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), which have been broadly accepted internationally.

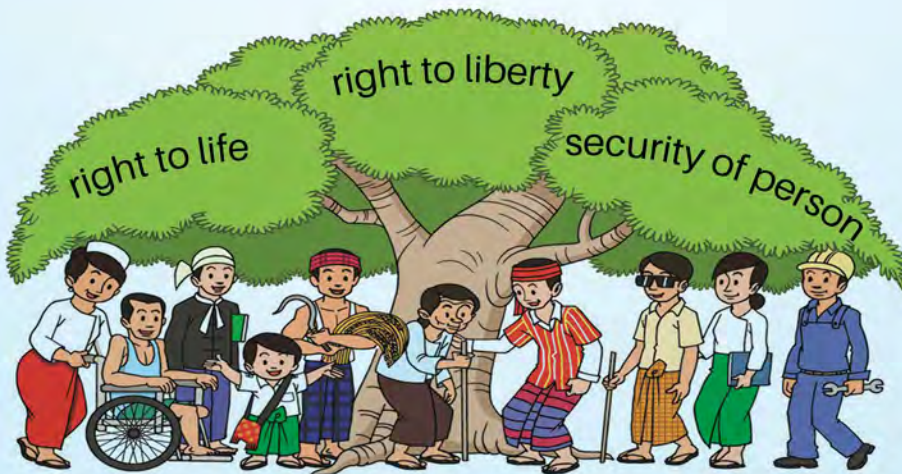
What are Human Rights?

The core human rights are ...

- All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.



- Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, national or social origin.
- Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of person.



- Everyone has the right to vote and to be elected.



- Everyone has the Right to Education.



- In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law.
- Everyone must also recognize and respect the rights and freedoms of others.

What are the responsibilities of Human Rights Commissions?

- The main responsibilities of the Commissions are the promotion and the protection of human rights.

What does the promotion of human rights mean?

- The Commission carries out the following human rights education activities for human rights promotion.



What does protection of human rights mean?

- In relation to human rights protection, the Commission undertakes the following activities:

1. Receiving complaints.



2. Carrying out the process of investigation.

3. Issuing statements and submitting the reports including recommendations, based on its findings.

4. Conducting inquiries among the general public.
5. Monitoring human rights situation.
6. Providing assistance for victims of human rights violations to obtain remedies or compensation.
7. Ensuring legal protection and justice.

These activities may be carried out in cooperation with Government Departments and Civil Society Organizations. In implementing both human rights promotion and protection activities, the Commission also engages with matters related to international relations and legal affairs.

Who are included in its composition?



- The Commission may be composed of experts in the field of human rights; representatives of non-governmental organizations engaged in the promotion and protection of human rights; former government officials with experience in human rights; representatives of labour unions, social and professional organizations (such as those with expertise in international relations, legal affairs, medicine, or journalism); eminent scholars and intellectuals; academic institutions and independent experts; as well as members of parliament and other specialists drawn from a wide range of sectors.

Is it necessary for the Commission to meet with the public, and if so, for what reasons?

- The Commission shall meet with the public for the purpose of disseminating knowledge on human rights examining and reviewing human rights situations, and investigating alleged violations of human rights. In so doing, it will be able to ascertain the actual circumstances experienced by the public and to make recommendations to the Government.



When was the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) established?

- The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission was established in 2011 by Notification of the Union Government.



- The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law was enacted by the Union Parliament on 28 March 2014. According to this law, the Commission's Chairperson is appointed at the Union Minister level, while the Vice-Chairperson and members are appointed at the Deputy Minister level. Each Commission is formed according to its term of office as specified by the Commission law.



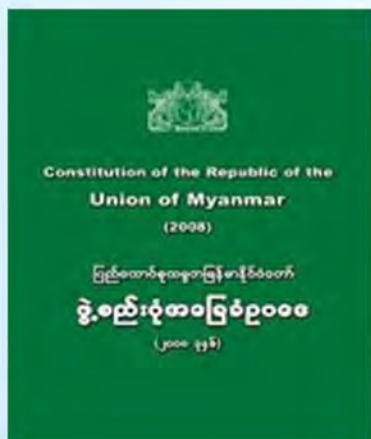
What is the objective for which the Commission established?

- The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission was established with the objective of creating a society where human rights are respected and protected by promoting and protecting human rights within Myanmar.



With whom and for what purpose was it constituted?

- The Commission is composed of Myanmar citizens, and is established as an institution designed to ensure that citizens can enjoy the rights enshrined in the Constitutions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the International Human Rights treaties to which Myanmar is a party, in accordance with the national interest.



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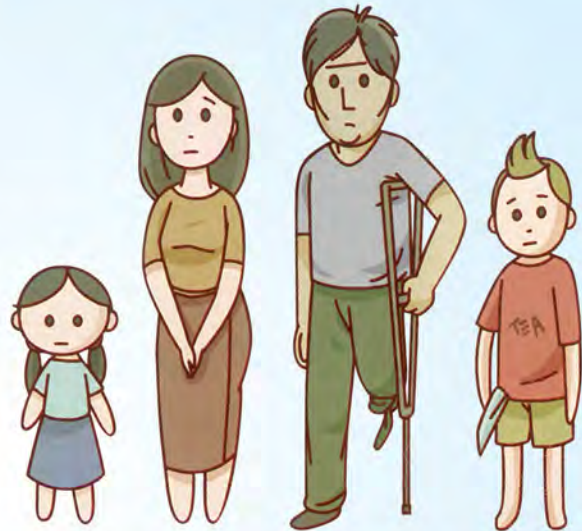
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What are the duties and powers conferred upon the Commission by law?



- To carry out human rights awareness - raising actively extensively and to disseminate information.

- Submitting recommendations to the Government on the international human rights instruments to which Myanmar should become a party.



- Reviewing existing laws and proposed bills for consistency with the international human rights instruments to which state is a party and recommending the legislation and additional measures to be adopted, amended and enacted for the promotional and protection of human rights to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw through the government.



- When a complaint of human rights violation is received, it is reviewed and investigated. The findings are sent to the relevant government departments for necessary actions.

- Inspecting the scene of human rights violations and, after notification, prisons, jails, detention centres and public or private places of confinement.



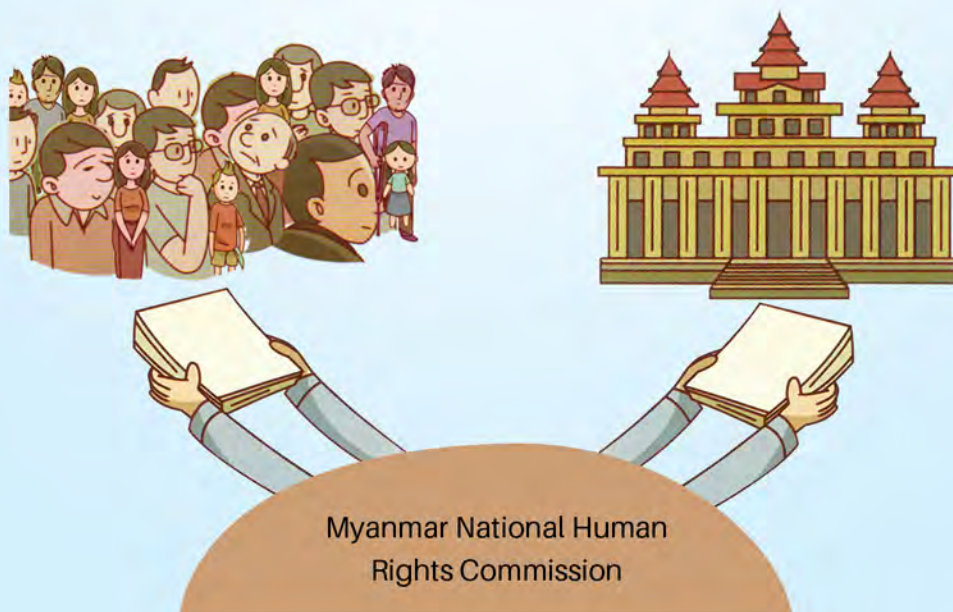
- Consulting and engaging the relevant civil society organizations, business organizations, labour organization, national races organizations, minorities and academic institutions.



- Consulting, engaging, and cooperating with national, regional and international human rights mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review, as appropriate.



- Commission is an institution responsible for conducting systematic monitoring the human rights situation of the country, making recommendations on its findings and submitting reports to the President, Parliament, relevant organizations and the public.



What action can the Commission take in the event of a human rights violation?

- Human rights violations are investigated by the Commission in accordance with the Commission's legal procedures, Penal Code, and the Evidence Act and appropriate remedies may be provided to redress the violations.



Who can complain about human rights violations and how?



If a citizen experiences violation of

the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution and statutory rights,

or of the human rights contained in international treaties ratified by the State,

they may submit a complaint to the Commission on their own behalf, on behalf of another persons, or on behalf of a group of persons.

- Complaints may be submitted by addressing them to the Chairperson, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, No. (27), Pyay Road, 6½ Miles, Hlaing Township, Yangon or to any of the Commission's branch offices located in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Sittwe, and Patheingyi either by post, in person or via fax at 018-654678.



- Additionally, complaints may also be submitted through this QR Code:



What should be included when submitting a complaint?

- 1 Full name of the complainant; permanent address, and full contact details (telephone number, fax, and email if available);
- 2 A detailed description of how the complainant's human rights were violated and what harm or loss was suffered, including supporting documents or photographic evidence, if available;
- 3 A copy of the complainant's Citizenship Scrutiny Card must be attached;
- 4 The complaint must be signed by the complainant to certify the correctness of the particulars of the complaint.



How to contact the Commission?



- Head Office
 - No.27, Pyay Road, 6 ½ miles, Hlaing Township, Yangon.
Ph No. 018-654678, 018-654681, 018-654673
Email: mnhrcprotection@gmail.com
info@mnhrc.org.mm
- Nay Pyi Taw (Branch Office)
 - Corner of Thazin Street and Zaw Gyi Street; Shwe Kyar Pin Ward, Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw.
Ph No. 067-3432593
- Mandalay (Branch Office)
 - Kanna Road, 34x35 Street; West Day Wun Ward, Chan Aye Tha Zan Township, Mandalay.
Ph No. 02-4030485
- Sittwe (Branch Office)
 - Office of the General Administration Department, Sittwe Township, Rakhine State.
- Patheingyi (Branch Office)
 - Township Office Complex, Mahazedi Main Road, Ward No. (13), Patheingyi Township, Ayeyarwady Region.
Ph No. 042-2029327