

HUMANITY IN CRISES

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR
WAR AND DISPLACEMENT



Editors

Dr. Huma Khan
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Humanity in Crises: The Legal Framework of War and Displacement

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Historical Development of the Geneva Conventions and Their Additional Protocols: A Humanitarian Legal Legacy

Dr. Tulika Singh¹

Introduction

“Respect for international humanitarian law is not a choice—it is a necessity for humanity.”

Throughout history, warfare has been a recurring feature of human civilization — shaping borders, empires, and ideologies. Yet, alongside the persistent shadow of conflict, there has always been an equally enduring desire to preserve a sense of humanity even amidst violence. While war often reveals the darkest aspects of human behaviour, it has also inspired some of the most profound legal and moral commitments to protect the vulnerable. One of the most significant expressions of this commitment is found in the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols a body of international treaties that has come to define the humanitarian boundaries of armed conflict.

The historical development of these legal instruments is more than a chronology of treaties and protocols; it is a story of how the international community has responded, time and again, to the suffering and devastation of war with laws that aim to restore a measure of dignity and compassion. From their origins in the humanitarian outrage witnessed at the Battle of Solferino to their continued evolution in response to modern forms of warfare, the Geneva Conventions represent a global moral and legal legacy.²

This chapter seeks to explore that legacy in depth. It traces the progression of the Geneva Conventions from their inception in the

¹ Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, Integral University, Lucknow.

² Jean Pictet, *Development and Principles of International Humanitarian Law*, Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague, 1985, p 47.

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Dr. Huma Khan is a dedicated academican and legal scholar with over six years of teaching experience in the field of law. She is currently serving as an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, Integral University. Her research and academic interests span across contemporary legal issues, with a focus on criminology, International Law, constitutional law, and emerging dimensions of crime in the modern world. Huma Khan holds an LL.B. degree from Lucknow University and completed her LL.M. from Sri Ram Swaroop Memorial University, demonstrating a strong foundation in both the theoretical and practical aspects of law throughout her academic career; Dr. Khan has shown a deep commitment to legal research and scholarship. She has presented papers at numerous national and international conferences, contributing valuable insights into various areas of legal concern. Her scholarly contributions include several research articles and book chapters published in reputed journals and edited volumes, reflecting her engagement with contemporary legal discourse. Demonstrating her leadership and organizational capabilities, she has successfully organized and coordinated various academic events, aimed at enhancing legal awareness and student engagement. She is also the editor of the book titled "Changing Dimensions of Crimes in the 21st Century", which explores the evolving nature of criminal activity and the legal system's response to these changes. Before joining Integral University, she held teaching positions at Ambedkar Law College and Geeta Law College, where she was recognized for her engaging teaching style and her dedication to mentoring students. With her rich academic background, research orientation, and passion for teaching, Huma Khan continues to contribute meaningfully to legal education and scholarship in India.



Dr. Kavya Chandel is a dynamic academite in the field of Legal Academia. She has previously held the position of Assistant Professor (Law) at Sharda University in Greater Noida (UP). Additionally, she has served as an Assistant Professor at Integral University in Lucknow. Furthermore, she was part of Amity and City Academy Law College. With an extensive academic experience spanning five years, she completed her Master's degree in Environmental Law from Hidayatullah National Law University in Raipur, along with a PGDIPR from Rammanohar Lohiya National Law University in Lucknow. Dr. Kavya is a silver medalist in Intellectual Property Rights and possesses a profound passion for environmental issues, which motivated her to pursue a PhD in Environmental Law. She has judged various competitions, including the Second Round Table Conference, moot court competitions, and debate competitions. Dr. Chandel has been interviewed by Lawctopus and TV India, and she has presented research papers at numerous national conferences. She has also moderated international conferences and hosted various events. In addition to her academic pursuits, she has a keen interest in poetry and marathons, having contributed her poetry to Sahitya Ajtak and the Lucknow Literature Festival. She has participated in several marathons throughout the city and is an enthusiastic speaker who doesn't shy away to express her views. Dr. Chandel has delivered guest lectures on Intellectual Property Law, Environmental Law, Sports Laws in India, and the NDPS Act across the country. She hosts and runs a podcast 'Legal Fatum' and has published her research papers in Scopus and international journals.

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