

HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT WRITTEN-INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who is "human" in the concept of modern human rights?

My Answer: "human" is any homosapien, the species to which all modern human beings belong, regardless of color, race or tribe.

2. How is carried out of the protection of a right which is not regulated in the Constitution in your legal system? What kind of balancing is done when a right uncouncted in the Constitution is interfering with a constitutional right?

My Answer: there are cultural, or customary/traditional methods of protection of rights not counted/regulated in my countrys constitution. For instance, the right of LGBT persons although is not recognized in my country laws, but there are some cultures where people of that sexual orientation are given some form of tolerance and acceptability. So, traditional rulers in those communities provide the balance in such situations.

3. Do International Human Rights Documents applied in your country represent minimum standards that are already provided or the must-reach aims? Are there any regulations in your legal system above international human rights standards ?

My Answer: yes, the I.H.R documents represent minimum standards. The regulations in my countrys legal system, emanate from the those international human rights documents.

4. In your legal system, is the jurisdiction an actor itself to move forward human rights standards?

My Answer: Yes, the jurisdiction is an actor to promote human rights, but institution of the state like the Police, Army, and other para-military agencies are the core violators of peoples human rights.

5. Are there values and issues in your country that are not covered by human rights documents but need to be protected under the concept of human rights?

My Answer: there are no values that are not covered by human rights laws in my country. In fact, Nigeria is one of the countries in the world with sufficient and many laws, but just has a problem of adherence and respect of the laws especially by government officials.

6. Are there such human right regulations in the legal system that is protected by the constitution but contradicts social reality and justice?

My Answer: Yes, for instance, the right to life and capital punishment contradict social reality and justice. People are killed daily as a result of jungle justice in Nigeria, which goes against human rights rules.

7. In your legal system, are there legal mechanisms to protect human rights if fundamental rights are violated by private persons? Are these mechanisms effective?

My Answer: Yes, there are legal mechanisms to protect human rights when violated. We have the “ENFORCEMENT OF FOUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS CIVIL PROCEDURE RULES OF THE HIGH COURTS’ in my country. They are effective when a person hires a lawyer to litigate the claims.

8. Are there any social realities contradicting international human rights concept based on individualism?

My Answer: Yes there are social realities contradicting IHR concepts based on individualism. The overwhelming poverty in the country is one of such realities. Whereas IHR concepts such as Right to Dignity of Human Person is well embraced across the western nations through the provision of decent housing, health care, education opportunities and affordable food, among others, the reality in Nigeria, my country is that these basic rights are privileges only the rich and middle class enjoy. Thousands of people die every day due to avoidable and treatable illnesses like malaria or cholera caused by unclean water. Most of the populace live in ghetto settlements in the midst of squalor and decrepit and decayed buildings. Salaries are not paid to workers for months in some states and the “out of school children” are in the tens of million with the trend increasing every year due to neglect of basic education funding. Another reality is the increasing level of insecurity to life and property of citizens in Nigeria, which has been aggravated by wanton high way armed robbery, kidnappings and attacks on communities by Boko Haram insurgents which is still occurring. Then there is FULANI HERDSMEN invasion of communities and wanton kidnapping for RANSOM by these herdsmen since they can afford AK47 rifles and other weapons and ammunition and inter-communal conflicts that disrupt human rights of persons. In the area of survival, food is expensive due to the overwhelming poverty. As you may be aware, Nigeria has been crowned “the poverty capital of the world”. Overtaking India in that sphere. This has resulted in higher incidences of suicide in the past few weeks and the trend is not abating. The law enforcement agencies equally contribute to the eroding of the dignity and human rights of our people through violations of constitutionally guaranteed freedoms of

movement, right to peaceful assembly and right to free speech and expression.

9. What do you think is the most current human rights problem in your country?

My Answer: the most current human rights problems in Nigeria are the issue of existence/survival itself. Life has been reduced to something of NO VALUE AT ALL. For the sake of less than a Dollar amount , a persons life can be snuffed out arbitrarily. Protest are not allowed by government, people are detained without trial, court Orders are disobeyed by Government officials, and innocent civilians are hounded into prison for no just cause and without being charged for violating any known laws of the country.