

**DIRECTORATE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
NALSAR UNIVERSITY OF LAW, HYDERABAD**

**P.G. DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW
2019 – 2020**

Take Home - Annual Exams (August, 2020)

**PAPER II-PROTECTION OF DEFENSELESS VICTIMS OF WAR AND ARMED
CONFLICTS**

Total marks: 100

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. All question carry equal marks (25 marks each).
 2. Clearly indicate the question numbers while answering them.
 3. Each answer should be of a minimum of 1000 words.
 4. Only Handwritten answer scripts should be uploaded.
 5. Use only **Black ball pen** to write the answers.
 6. Handwriting if not legible, paper will not be examined.
 7. Please mention your name, ID No. and Subject name on the Answer Script.
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ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS:

1. What constitutes “general obligation of humane treatment” under the Geneva Conventions? Which provisions would you refer to or identify as part of the core principles of the concept and how would you explain as to their influence upon the moral conduct and humanitarian aspects of limiting violence and grave causalities in an armed conflict. Illustrate your answer with any contemporary examples.
2. As the Syrian war entered the tenth year of the crisis, it is estimated by the UN that more than 6.6 million people have been displaced internally and more than 5.6 million scattering across the borders. A press release by UN Women Organization states that the protracted humanitarian crisis has devastating consequence, especially for women and girls. From food insecurity to loss of educational opportunities, lack of safe water or health services, and high rates of gender based violence, women and girls are facing the brunt of the crisis. This has also led to a phenomenal increase in child marriages. For many families, this has become a strategy to cope with the economic problems, since the burden of protecting the daughters is no more on their shoulders. Some women in Syria have been married twice by the age of 18. Their husband may have died or their whereabouts were not

known. Such girls may have a little kid, no income and no support. It is estimated that, since the month of December alone, some 9,60,000 people have been displaced and about 80 percent of them were women and children, of whom approximately 25,000 were pregnant. Reported by *Independent*, Sunday 15 March 2020.

Based on this information, discuss how strong is international humanitarian law in terms of providing adequate protection to women and children during and in the aftermath of an armed conflict. Examine appropriate provisions, reflecting upon the pitfalls, if any; and the reasons for their non-compliance.

3. How is the status of prisoners of war determined? Can medical personnel serving in an army be treated as POW when taken into custody by a rival State? And finally how supervision and monitoring of their rights is secured under international humanitarian law?
4. Give an account of the major challenges faced by the ICRC in an armed conflict and discuss how they have been addressed when confronted with a real hostile situation. Illustrate your answer with examples where the ICRC has been forced to stay away from such conflicts even in places where there was an urgent need and dire necessity of delivering humanitarian aid, which included food and medicine.