

Chapter 6: Justice and Society

SOI2305
Global Education



Human Rights in Global Society

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Definition of Justice and Equality

Philosophical Definitions

Aristotle: Justice as personal virtue and a universal principle of law applied equally, yet adaptable to situations.



John Rawls: "Justice as Fairness." Equal basic rights for all. Inequalities must benefit the least advantaged.



Equality vs. Equity

Equality



Everyone receives the exact same thing.

Equity



Allocating resources appropriately based on individual differences and needs.

Core Concept: Treating everyone the exact same way does not always result in justice, because everyone has different starting points and life conditions.

The Importance of Justice in Society

Justice creates a peaceful, orderly, and stable society while reducing inequality and protecting rights.

1) Creates Peace and Social Order

Trust in fair laws leads to acceptance of social rules. Unfairness leads to conflict.



2) Reduces Inequality & Creates Equal Opportunity

Proper resource allocation, especially for the disadvantaged, allowing them to live with dignity.



4) Promotes Economic & Democratic Development

A strong justice system builds trust, encourages participation, and supports long-term economic growth.

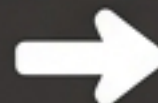


3) Promotes Respect for Human Rights & Dignity

Prevents discrimination, abuse of power, and exploitation. Protects basic rights.



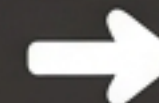
Peace



Reduced Inequality



Rights Protection



Democracy & Development

Understanding the Foundation: Rights vs. Freedom

Shared Foundation: Both are fundamental to human independence and dignity.

Rights



Definition: The power recognized by law that allows an individual to demand that others perform or refrain from certain actions for their own benefit.

Freedom



Definition: The power recognized by law that allows an individual to determine their own actions without being interfered with.

The Definition of Human Rights

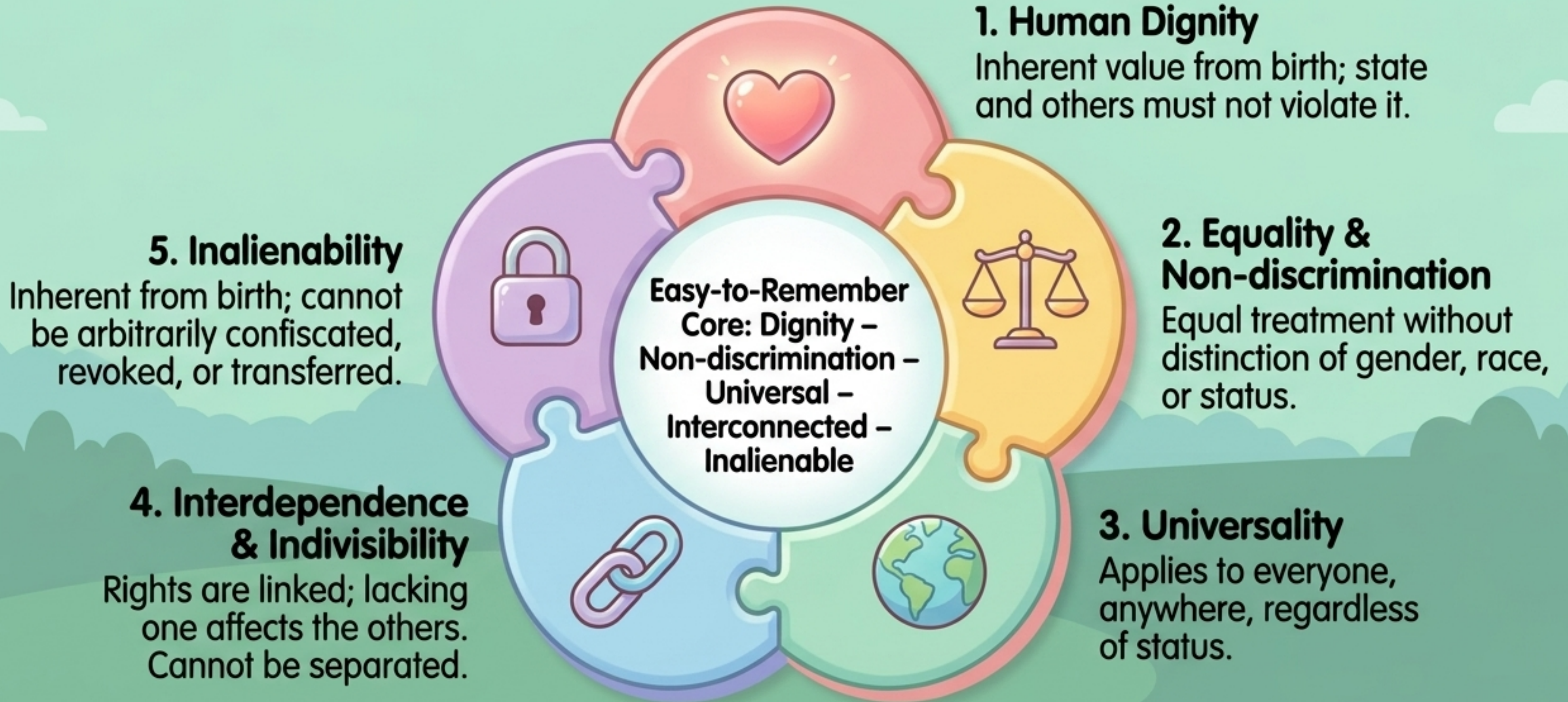


Core Concept: Rights and freedoms that every human being possesses inherently from birth, regardless of race, religion, gender, language, or economic/social status.

Global Context: Evolved from philosophical ideas, gaining clear international recognition post-WWII (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948).

Local Context (Thailand): Covers human dignity, rights, liberties, and equality as guaranteed by the Constitution, Thai laws, and international obligations.

The 5 Core Principles of Human Rights



Categories of Human Rights

Civil Rights

Life and body, liberty and security, justice process, nationality, religious freedom.



Political Rights

Freedom of expression, assembly, association, voting, political participation.

Economic Rights

Right to work, fair wages, property ownership, adequate standard of living.



Social Rights

Education, health, social security, family planning.

Cultural Rights

Language, cultural dress, traditions, beliefs, arts participation.



Emerging Rights

Environmental rights, digital rights, right to access information.

Introduction to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

Core Purpose: A pivotal international document that lays the foundation and sets the global standard for protecting human dignity, liberty, and basic rights.



The Catalyst:
The declaration was born as a direct response to the horrific experiences of war, extreme violence, oppression, and mass human rights violations in history.

The Historical Journey of Human Rights



Ancient Civilizations: Code of Hammurabi (Concepts of justice).



Greco-Roman Era: Natural law and inherent human rights.



1215: Magna Carta (Limiting monarch power, developing rule of law).



Age of Enlightenment: Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu (Liberty, equality, natural rights).

1776 & 1789: American and French Revolutions (Emphasis on rights and liberties).



World War II: Genocide and severe violations necessitated global standards.



1945: Founding of the UN. /
Dec 10, 1948: UN General Assembly adopts the UDHR in Paris.

Summary: A transition from societal justice → individual rights → universal human rights standards.

Core Content of the UDHR (30 Articles Grouped)



Dignity & Equality

Born free and equal,
no discrimination.



Life & Safety

Right to life, liberty,
security; prohibition of
slavery and torture.



Justice

Equality before the law,
remedy, fair trial,
presumption of innocence.



Privacy & Freedom

Protection of privacy,
movement, thought,
religion, and opinion.



Political Rights

Assembly, association,
voting, government
government participation.



Economic & Social

Work, fair wages, rest,
welfare, health, standard
of living.



Education & Culture

Right to education and
cultural life participation.



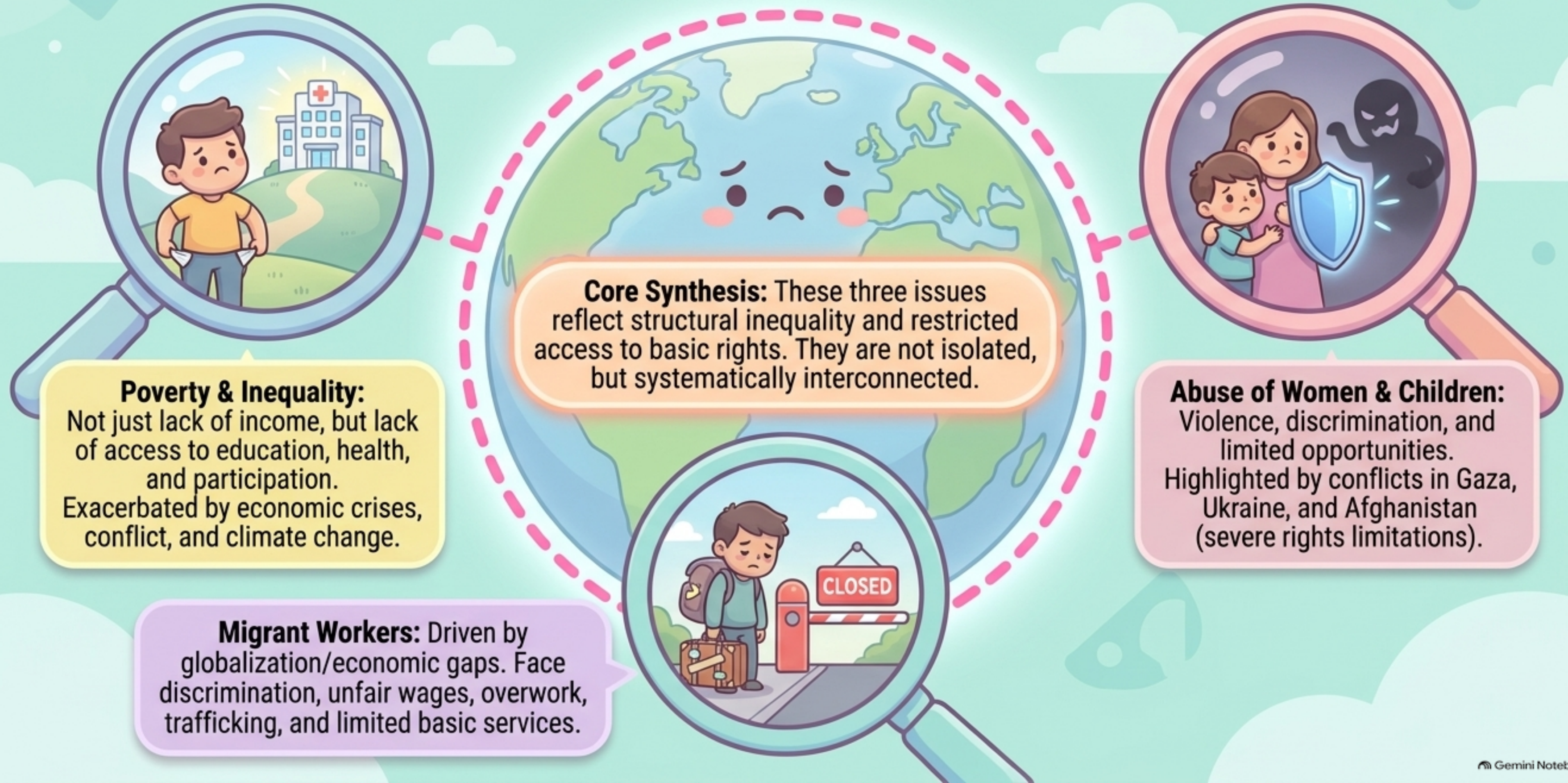
Duties to Society

Rights exercise must not
violate others' rights or
public interest.

Crucial Note (Article 30): No individual or state can use this declaration as an excuse to destroy the rights and freedoms of others.

Impact Note: Not a legally binding treaty, but highly influential on international law, conventions, and global constitutions.

Current Global Human Rights Challenges



Impacts of Global Human Rights Issues on Thai Society



Justice and human rights are fundamental principles for living together fairly. But creating a society that respects rights does not end with having laws. It requires allocating opportunities fairly, reducing inequality, protecting vulnerable groups, and linking the resolution of global problems with the responsibilities of both the state and its citizens.”

