

To

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The Print Media

**PRESS RELEASE-SEMINAR IN COMMEMORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON 14th  
December 2021**

The Madras School of Social Work is an Autonomous institution and one among the top 5 Premier institution in India. The P.G Department of Social Work (shift-II) had organized a seminar on “**Equality: Reducing Inequalities, Advancing Human Rights**” in Commemoration of **Human Rights Day, 2021**. Human Rights Day is observed to promote equality, peace, justice, freedom and the protection of human dignity. The organizer Dr. J. Damen Queen said “Human Rights into two words that thee struggle for dignity and fundamental freedoms which allow the full development of human potential. This is very synonymous to social work as we advocate for positive change in the society. Referring to this, it is quite clear that the social work we do is human rights work. To reiterate this, we have organized this seminar.”

The programme was Inaugurated by the Honorable Chief Guest Thiru. Justice S. Baskaran, Chair-person from State Human Rights Commission, Tamil Nadu. In the Inaugural he said “when Social justice is protected, Human dignity is also protected.” and the Guest of Honor Mr. Henri Tiphagne, Executive Director of People’s Watch. Mr. Henri shared his valuable thoughts about how Social Workers can act as Human Rights Defenders in today's scenario. He added “Tamil Nadu should bring Human Rights defenders protection policy.” Mr. Thirumurugan Gandhi, a well-known Human Rights activist, spoke about development, inequality and about caste. In the afternoon, Mr. A. Muthukrishnan, a writer and social activist, enlightened the audience about Labor Rights as Human Rights. Followed by Ms. Thilagavathi, an advocate in Madras High Court, spoke about where we stand in Gender Equality.

Finally, the program successfully ended with valediction done by Mr. Kannan, Joint General Secretary of CITU. The seminar had enlightened students, research scholars, academicians and professional social workers to advance human rights in our society by taking appropriate action. A student participant said “being a first - year social work student the conference was such a useful one where I was able to understand the Human Rights perspective of most vulnerable and marginal sections of the society and I am sure these learnings will be useful for me in my profession.”

For any quires contact Ms. Raashmika – 9944524711

We request you to kindly publish the same

Thanks, and regards

**Dr.J. Damen Queen**

**Assistant Professor& Programme head**

**P.G.Department of Social Work (SF)**

**Madras School of Social Work**