

UNIFORM CIVIL CODE: A NEW CHALLENGE TO SECULAR INDIA

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ABSTRACT

India is secular in nature with unity in diversity principle as its base. The Constitution of, Article 44 of Directive Principles of State Policy provides for uniform civil code. At the India same time India is large democratic country which has allowed to practice and preach a religion of their choice to the citizens. Above all these humanity, protection of human rights, and protection of the weaker sections of the society is the responsibility of any government. The necessity of UCC lies in the discrimination based on gender in different religions. The deep rooted orthodox and unscientific practices of some religions look down upon the female and that resulted in violation of their rights and freedom. Uniform Civil Code aims at treating every citizen without discriminating on the bases of caste, religion or gender. It is need of the hour for to bring changes to the pitiable conditions of women and the weaker sections in some religions. Obviously, the vested interests like religious heads oppose the same and they believe that it harms the sanctity of their religion. No religion preaches its followers to differentiate, exploit some of its members. Every human soul is the part of that omnipotent and omnipresent God and one cannot illtreat some of his or her fellow beings. This is nothing but ill-treatment of God. In this paper efforts have been made to discuss pros and cons of the implementation and also the challenges the government has to face to enforce UCC with exemplifying the ill practices of personal laws of different religions. The purpose of this paper is to find out the feasibility of the concept in the existing social conditions of India. Is secular nature of our constitution a hindrance or the personal laws of the different religions which are differently defined as compared to the basic principles of any religion.

KEYWORDS: Sanctity, Vested Interests, Orthodox, Personal Laws, Constituent Assembly, Directive Principles of State Policy, Supreme Court, Disgrace