

**INTERNATIONAL
COVENANT
ON CIVIL AND
POLITICAL RIGHTS**



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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
First session

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 40 OF THE COVENANT

Initial reports of States Parties due in 1977

Addendum

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

[Original: French]
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The legislation of the Syrian Arab Republic, through the fundamental rules established by the Constitution and the legal standards formulated in the provisions of laws and regulations, lays down the basic principles of human rights in the civil and political fields in their most modern form.

The following articles of the Constitution illustrate this:

Article 37. Education is a right guaranteed by the State. It shall be free of charge at all stages and compulsory at the primary stage. The State shall act with a view to extending compulsory education to other stages. It shall supervise education and so guide it as to relate it to the needs of society and of production.

Article 45. The State shall guarantee women every opportunity that will enable them to contribute effectively and fully to political, social, cultural and economic life. It shall act with a view to removing obstacles which hinder their development and their participation in building the Arab socialist society.

Article 46. The State shall insure every citizen and his family against accident, sickness, disability, orphanhood and old age.

2. The State shall protect the health of the citizens and provide them with means of prevention, medication and treatment.

Article 47. The State shall provide cultural, social and health services. It shall make particular efforts to provide them for the village population, in order to raise their level of living.

Article 36. Work is a right and a duty for all citizens; the State shall strive to provide them with work.

2. Every citizen shall have the right to receive a wage on the basis of the quality and output of his work. The State shall stand surety for this right.

3. The State shall fix the number of hours of work, guarantee social security for workers and issue regulations on the right to rest and holidays, allowances and bonuses.

The labour laws and regulations and the civil service statutes do not embody any discrimination between the sexes. Labour rights are equal for men and women. In the matter of obligations, women are exempted from work that is harmful to them.

Women are entitled to any work on an equal footing with men, with the exception of work that is harmful to them. This restriction is total or partial and is designed to protect womanhood.

Wages are equal: the labour regulations grant privileges to women who work for humanitarian causes stemming from womanhood. The regulations are designed to protect the family and motherhood. Working women are entitled to paid maternity leave.

Working mothers are entitled to break off work to nurse their babies.