

Abstract

Social Contract without Citizenship Inclusion or Exclusion: A Case of Uphill Country Tamils in Sri Lanka and India

Chandra Prakash Y

This article argues that the Slavery and Citizenship are interconnected concept of the social contract. It will understand in the case of Indian Origin Tamils Statelessness in Sri Lanka. The Indian Origin Tamils or Uphill Country Tamils were treated as indentured slave labourers during the colonial period. After the independence of Sri Lanka these communities were treated same as in the new independent government. They were not considered as citizens by the both colonial state as well as in the new independent state of Sri Lanka. They were treated as cattle in the plantation fields and they were the victim of several kinds of labour exploitations in Sri Lanka. And also they were rendered as stateless by the Sri Lankan independent government. Their injustice continues even though the indentured labour contract changed in to the citizenship. This paper analysed in the light of Nichols settler's contract theory to understand indentured labour contract of slavery. It also understands the right to have rights for citizenship through the Waldron's theory of indigeneity. Their stateless issue is goes beyond the 'social' and the 'settler' to that of Slavery contract and Citizenship contract. Slavery contract theory takes the process of slavery into consideration that existed between colonial rulers and the indigenous people.

Keywords: Social Contract, Slavery Contract, Labour, Citizenship, Indigeneity.