

**Human Rights Film Series 2007- 2008:**  
**A Cinematic Exploration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)**

**Theme 2: Rights, Freedoms, and Equality**

**Film: *Water***  
**Director: Deepa Mehta**

**UDHR Article 2:**

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty

**Full Text of the UDHR:** <http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>

**Convention on the Rights of the Child:** [http://www.unicef.org/crc/index\\_30160.html](http://www.unicef.org/crc/index_30160.html)

**Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW):**  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>

***Other Research Guides***

The University of Toronto's bibliography on Women's Rights in India,  
<http://www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/diana/puneannotations.htm>

The University of California at Berkeley's guide to Human Rights in South Asia,  
<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/SSEAL/SouthAsia/humanrights.html>

***Recommended Reading on Equality and Women's Rights in India***

**Books:**

*Law and Gender Inequality: The Politics of Women's Rights in India*, Flavia Agnes, Oxford University Press, 1999,

*Off the Beaten Track: Rethinking Gender Justice for Indian Women*, by Madhu Kishwar, 1999

*The History of Doing, An illustrated Account of Movements for Women's Rights and Feminism in India, 1800-1990*, by Radha Kumar

## Books, continued:

*Gender and Politics in India*, edited by Nivedita Menon, 1999.

*Speaking of faith: global perspectives on women, religion and social change*, by Diana L. Eck, 1987

*Gender, kinship, power: a comparative and interdisciplinary history*, by Mary Jo Maines, 1996

*Between poverty and the pyre: moments in the history of widowhood*, by Jan N. Bremmer, 1995

*Perpetual mourning: widowhood in rural India*, by Martha Alter Chen, 2000

*Social reform, sexuality, and the state*, by Patricia Uberoi, 1996

## Selected Films on Gender Issues in India: (Taken from Babbidge Library's Human Rights Film Collection)

- *The Hidden Story: A Quest for Women's Unrecorded History*
- *Highway Courtesans*
- *Holding Our Ground*
- *Once This Land Was Ours*
- *The Shape of Water*
- *Woman by Woman : New Hope for the Villages of India*

## Non-Governmental Organizations:

- UNICEF's work on Child Marriage, <http://www.unicef.org/>
  - Child Marriage Information: [http://www.unicef.org/protection/index\\_earlymarriage.html](http://www.unicef.org/protection/index_earlymarriage.html)
  - Child Marriage Fact Sheet: [http://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Child\\_Marriage.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Child_Marriage.pdf)
  - Early Marriage: A Harmful Traditional Practice: [http://www.unicef.org/publications/index\\_26024.html](http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_26024.html)
  - ChildInfo: UNICEF's key statistical databases with detailed country-specific information on the status of children, <http://www.childinfo.org/>
  - The State of the World's Children Report: <http://www.unicef.org/sowc/index.html>

## Other Resources:

- Articles about Deepa Mehta's films:
  - Courtney, Sheleyah A. "The Storm of Deepa's Water: From Violent Tempest in Varanasi to Glacial Account of Hindu Widowhood. (Water)(Movie review)." *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* 18.1 (April 2007): 115(6). Academic OneFile.
  - Herman, Jeanette. "Memory and melodrama: The transnational politics of Deepa Mehta's Earth." *Camera Obscura* 58 (May 2005): 106(42). Academic OneFile.
  - Kapur, Ratna. "Too hot to handle: the cultural politics of 'Fire'." *Feminist Review* 64 (Spring 2000): p53 (1). Academic OneFile.