

I do not agree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say

Outline

I. Introduction:

Introductory Remarks: Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right which cannot be taken away by any means.

ii. Understanding the route - Right to say

iii. Importance of the right ^{to} of freedom of expression

iv. Benefits of the right to say

a. Flow and nourishment of new ideas by free speech

b. Freedom of expression leads to awareness of masses

c. Free ~~talk~~ ^{speech} promotes the growth of intellectualism

d. Right to say leads to happiness and prosperity of people e.g. Finland

v. Consequences of ban on free people's right to say

a. Stagnation of new ideas and opinions

b. Ban on free ~~talk~~ leads to despotism and authoritarianism

c. Discouragement of constructive criticism paves no path to correction of mistakes

Avoid writing conditional sentences

Avoid minor grammar mistakes

Bring further maturity in your arguments

d. Fear and Misery prevail without people's right to say.

Vi. Restriction on People's Right to Say is a Common Practice Around the World

a. Censorships are imposed on Electronic and Print Media

b. Electronic and Social Media

Regulatory laws are practiced to restrict people's right to say e.g. PELA laws

c. Journalists are ~~being~~ ^{exercising} abducted and killed for free speech

Vii. Way Forward

a. Acceptance of Freedom of Expression as a Fundamental Right

b. Promotion of Culture of Tolerance and Respect ^{for} Difference of Opinion

c. Acceptance of Criticism as a Way to Progress

Viii. Conclusion

Essay

Noam Chomsky argues that humans are born with the capacity of thinking and speaking. Therefore, these two things are inherent and fundamental to humans. Since human beings can think and speak therefore freedom of thought and freedom of expression are the basic rights of human beings. Everyone is free to say what he or she feels or thinks on any matter. No one has and should not have the right to ~~stop~~ stop someone from speaking his or her heart out. Therefore, no legal act or constitution can take away one's right to say. However, it should be clear that it is not necessary that the one who is using this right will always be right or everyone has to agree with him or her. There could be difference in opinion but the right to speak is fundamental. ~~On one hand~~ ~~Moreover~~, there are many benefits of free speech, ranging from ~~to~~ nourishment of new ideas, awareness, ~~from~~ growth of intellectuals, correction of mistakes with criticism to spread of happiness. ~~On the~~

Other hand, there are potential consequences of banning of free speech. Stagnation of new ideas, promotion of despotism, closing paths of correcting mistakes and ~~also~~ promotion of fear and misery among people are few of them. Unfortunately, there are a lot of restrictions on ~~right to~~ free ~~+~~ around the world. Censorship on media, ban on criticism of some influential people, laws regarding regulation of media, abduction and killing of journalists and internet blockage are some form of it. The way forward could be acceptance of freedom of expression as basic right, allowing constructive criticism and promotion of tolerance and respect of difference of opinion could help to address the issue.

The given quote is divided into two parts. That are, "I do not agree with what you say" and "but I will defend to the death your right to say". The first part implies that it is not necessary that ^{someone} may agree with what you are saying. ^{may} one's opinion. He or she can have an opposing

opinion. Difference in opinion is their due right. The second part means that no one can deny one's right to speak ~~to~~ one's heart out. It is fundamental to humans. The whole quote implies that one may disagree ^{with one's views} since it is his or her right but he or she cannot disagree with one's right to express himself or herself.

The right of freedom of expression holds great ~~very~~ importance in human lives. It is among some of the rights which humans are born with. It is because of its high importance this right has been declared fundamental right in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948. It is fundamental in the sense that it is necessary to humans as food, water, and air are necessary. No human could be happy if this right is taken away from him or her. It is therefore freedom to say is very crucial for humans.

There are a lot of potential benefits of the right of freedom of expression; one among them is flow

and nourishment of new ideas. If people know they are allowed to express themselves then they can put forward their ideas. In this way a lot of new ideas will generate. A chief example of this could be the scientific revolution which is the by product of freedom of thought and expression (Richard Dawkins). Thus, right to free speech generate new ideas.

Secondly, free talk will lead to the awareness of people. If speech is promoted people will share their knowledge freely while educating the masses. A historical case study in this scenario could be the awareness of the European people after the invention of printing press which led to free speech. It later led to the domination of the European power over the rest of the world. So freedom of expression is necessary for education of people.

Moreover, right to lay out is a precursor of growth of intellectualism. Many people who are highly intellectuals

and well learned are afraid to share their thoughts. If right to say become the norm then they come up with their theories and add to the development of the world. Unfortunately, many intellectuals in eastern societies are afraid that they may face similar circumstances as that of Galileo who escaped a real persecution because of his ideas (Hood bow). So for the growth of free thinkers freedom of expression is necessary.

Similarly, freedom of speech is necessary for constructive criticism. If criticism is carried out in a right way then it provides a way to correct mistakes by identifying them. Criticism not only identifies one's mistakes but also gives way forward. All great people have improved themselves by gracefully accepting criticism. It is therefore Abraham Lincoln has said that "Critics are our true well-wishers". Thus, right to say leads to rectifying one's mistakes.

More importantly, right to speak

freely will lead to happiness and prosperity of people. As human beings are social animals, therefore, they interact with each other, criticize people, some ideas and governments and they give their opinions. In this way, they ease their burdens and live happily. Finland is regarded as the most happiest country in the world as per World Happiness Index Report 2023. Besides many other things, the right to free speech is the reason of their collective happiness. Thus, freedom of expression is crucial for humans' happiness.

Nonetheless, there are many consequences if humans are denied from their right to say; one among them is the stagnation of ~~the~~ generation of new ideas. New ideas and notions are propelled if people are allowed to share their thoughts. If they are barred from showing their opinions then no new ideas will come out. According to UNDP reports, the one reason among many of the plight of

Third world countries is the ban or discouragement of freedom of expression. Therefore, ban on right to speak will lead to decline of new ideas.

Another, negative consequence of ban on free talk could be promotion of despotism and authoritarianism. In societies where free speech is discouraged ~~there~~ there are chances that this could lead to dictatorship. It is because democracy and freedom of expression go hand in hand. It is not possible that a society could be democratic and there is a ban on right to say (Ayesha Jalal, Authoritarianism and Democracy in South Asia). Thus, such a societies will go towards authoritarianism.

Moreover, if freedom of speech is banned then there would be not no criticism. If there would be not criticism then there would be no way to identify and correct one's mistakes. Democratic countries prosper because there are differences of

after opinion and they send the respective governments look into the pros and cons of things based on various criticism. Similarly, authoritarian government fail to deliver because they do not allow criticism and hence they adopt a narrow approach (Zahid Hussain). Thus, ban on criticism may close the paths of identifying and rectifying one's mistakes.

Lastly, ban on free speech will lead to dissent of people since there will be fear and misery among masses. They will be afraid of expressing ~~one~~ themselves and it is the human nature that they cannot live without expressing what he or she feels. A case example of a such situation could be the people of Afghanistan who are highly unhappy and dissatisfied with their government because of the ban on criticism of Taliban government as per World Happiness Index. Thus freedom without the right to say humans cannot be happy.

Unfortunately, restriction on right to say is a common practice around the world; censorship on Media is one of the aspect of it. Anchor persons, newspapers and TV channels are not allowed to say what is truth and just not even in the west. Rather Media outlets are used as a source of ~~prop~~ propaganda. They are not allowed to criticize their respective country's policies (Noam Chomsky). So censorship on media is a restriction on right to say.

Moreover, there are laws pertaining to electronic and social media regulation in various countries. Such laws are used as a ~~bad~~ tool to ~~not~~ restrict individuals and organizations in their right to speak. For example Pakistani ~~electronic~~ government's the prevention of Electronic Crimes Act 2016 is notorious for persecuting journalists and anchor persons for criticising government. Thus, around the world such laws are used to restrict free talk.

Moreover, the abduction and killing of journalists by various entities is a way to restrict freedom of speech. Journalists try to uncover truths and bring in front of the masses and it is therefore a lot of journalists get killed for saying the truth. According to Freedom of Press Association 628 journalists lose their lives by speaking against certain elements and people. Thus the killing of journalist is an attack on people's right to say.

Nonetheless, there are certain means through which the right to say of people can be promoted; one of them is the acceptance of freedom of expression as a fundamental human right. Most people do not think and accept one's right to say as a right and therefore violate it. If they understand the importance of it then they will accept it as a right like other fundamental rights.

Moreover, by promotion of the

culture of tolerance and respect of difference of opinion, the right of freedom of expression can be protected and promoted. Most people lack tolerance to hear others' ideas and some people do not respect other people's ideas. People need to understand that they can respect other people's ideas and opinions without accepting them (Nasir Jamal Khalifa). Thus, it is crucial to promote acceptance, peace and respect of others' opinions among masses to save the right to say.

Lastly, people need to understand that the only way to progress and improvement is constructive criticism. By constructive criticism one can identify one's mistakes and take benefits from other people's ideas. Criticism is a tool of progress (David Dacier). Therefore, people need to learn that it is not something negative but can benefit us.

To conclude that one may disagree

with someone's ideas but he or she cannot disagree that that person has the right to say what he or she wants, feels or thinks. Freedom of expression is a right with which everyone has been born. One's right to speak cannot be taken away by any kind of legislation because it is fundamental to humans as right to liberty, life and religion. Free talk has brought and can bring a lot of benefits to humans including new way of thinking, awareness, progress and prosperity since it opens one's mind. However, curtailing the right to say can be detrimental as it stops progress, prosperity, new ideas and criticism. Around the world there are a lot of restrictions on people's right to free speech like media censorship, laws regarding free speech and killing of free talkers. Nonetheless, by accepting freedom of expression as a fundamental right and adopting the culture of tolerance and respect ~~we can~~ the people's right to say can be protected and prosperity can be achieved.