Q: Define International Law and explain its Nature. Is it of significance to the development of laws of war and their application?

Introduction:

International law is the set the legal rules and norms that apply between the se states that are recognized as international actors. It is important for diplomacy and making laws of wars in order to prevent them. It is implemented through treaties through the ratification by sovereign states.

International Law:

International law is defined as.
            "the body of legally binding rules that governs relations among states and other groups and that also provides rights for indiviuals in relation to states." It deals with the conduct of indiviuals,

institutions and states in the international arena. This term 'international law' was coined by English philosopher Jeremy Betham.

Types of International Law:

1. **Private and Public Laws:**
   Private law concerns indiviuals, whereas public law deals with states and organizations.

2. **Procedural and Substantive Laws:**
   Procedural laws define the types of permitted behaviour while substantive laws concern territorial rights of states.

3. **Laws of War and Peace:**
   It also deals with the laws governing the behaviour of states in the conditions of war. It is meant to prevent the outbreak of war and promote peace

4. **Particular and General Laws:**
   Particular law is defined by bilateral or regional agreements, on the other hand General or universal laws are applicable to all sovereign states.

Formulation and Implementation of international Law:

International laws are no made under a formal institution. However, some treaties are made by international institutions which come under action after ratification by sovereign states. If a sufficient number of states follow a customary practice, it becomes an international custom.

Example: The international court of Justice composed of UN member states has the capacity of advisory on the interpretation of treaties.

Significance of International Law in the development of Laws of War:

International Law plays significant role in the development of laws of war through various conventions intervention. Different means and conventions are applied in order

to prevent wars. They include:

- Diplomacy and Sovereign Equality of States:
  International law gives sovereign authority to the states in conducting foreign policy or international relations. Thus, states can diplomatically deal with other sovereign states in the order to maintain peace and avoid wars.

- Codification of Multilateral Law of War and Peace:
  Legal obligations are in the codified form for the illegal conduct in warfare. Alternatives to wars are being sought in lieu of prevention of warfare. Different leagues are made, use of force mechanisms and actions against the law breaker states to maintain peace.

- UN charter to provide self-defence to the states:
  UN charter was made to prevent

the acts and agression. Moreover, it helps in recognizing the inherent right of soverign states to use force to provide for their & collective self defense.

→ **Geneva Conventions:**
They provide framework for the conduct of states; both combatants and non-combatants in warfare, defining war crimes, crimes against peace, and related offenses. They r. These conventions deal with arms control agreements and security issues concerning states.

→ **Vienna Conventions:**
Vienna conventions formed the basis for as customary international law. They serve the rules governing diplomacy and the sovereignty of the states informing the treaty obligations.

Armed Intervention and International Law:

Armed interventions serve to maintain peace and security sometimes. Domestic intervention in international laws is prohibited, however if armed intervention is required to settle the international disputes by peaceful means.

Conclusion:

International law forms the basis for the provision of legal rules and codes in order to maintain peace and avoid wars. It ~~empo~~ encompasses ~~war~~ various types of law applicable on states' and indivinal conduct.

It prevents wars in various ways using ~~war~~ peace tactics, i.e diplomacy, UN and international conventions.