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Part -1

மற்றொன்று

## செம்மொழித் தமிழ்

(பன்னாட்டுப் பன்முகத் தமிழ் காலாண்டு ஆய்விதழ்)  
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# GENDER BASED DISCRIMINATION AND ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL NGOS IN CURBING DISCRIMINATION

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## Introduction

“Any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on the basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.” (*United Nations, 1979. 'Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women'. Article 1*)

The United Nations Organisation the concept of gender discrimination in the above mentioned manner. This definition relates discrimination on the basis of gender, and it is consequent exclusions, restrictions etc. This definition lays emphasis on the fact that discrimination of any kind of the basis of gender, sex, and its relation to womanhood vis-à-vis- direct or indirect – is taboo and should be eliminated from the social network once and for all for peaceful coexistence in a society. It is not the factor of gender or sex or other matters that carries importance. A persons's book of life becomes meaningful and complete only when the chapters inherent in this book become meaningful, fruitful, useful and purposeful. For this purpose the actions concerned are to be goal oriented, necessitated by a purpose. There should be no

deviation from this action. The imposition of gender and related discriminatory activities result in violation of human right which is most unwarranted as envisaged in the Article 1 of the United Nations' 'Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women' (CEDAW) of 1979.

The term discrimination is not merely confined to the people in the society, it is inherent directly or indirectly in the laws and legislations passed in the light of the same. On cursory analysis of the definition by UN as cited above, it is to be mentioned that the definition has laid importance on two genders viz male and female respectively. It is clear that the other genders inclusive of the society has not been given due consideration. Discrimination can stem from both law (de jure) or from practice (de facto).

**De jure discrimination:** The same is the case with the laws, legislations, etc. enacted in the light of the concept of gender discrimination. It is evident that the concept of gender discrimination still persists in this society despite several enactments, deliberations and researchers, etc. conducted on the topic.

For eg: In some countries, the law states that women (citizens) who marry foreign men lose their citizenship and/or property rights. On the other