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Overview of Fundamental Duties under Constitution of India

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Abstract: The Fundamental Duties under the Constitution of India represent a crucial aspect of the country's legal framework, emphasizing the responsibilities of citizens towards their nation. Enshrined in Part IV-A of the Indian Constitution through the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976, these duties were added to promote civic consciousness, social harmony, and the overall well-being of society. While not enforceable by law, they serve as ethical and moral obligations that citizens are encouraged to uphold. The Fundamental Duties include principles such as respecting the Constitution, national symbols, and institutions, as well as cherishing the rich heritage, culture, and diversity of India. Citizens are also urged to strive for excellence in various fields and to protect and improve the natural environment. Additionally, duties related to the unity and integrity of the nation, promoting the spirit of common brotherhood, and safeguarding public property are emphasized. These duties play a significant role in fostering a sense of responsibility and patriotism among citizens. They complement the fundamental rights granted by the Constitution, creating a harmonious balance between individual liberties and societal obligations. Although not legally enforceable, the Fundamental Duties serve as a reminder of the moral obligations every citizen should uphold in the interest of a just, inclusive, and prosperous Indian society.

Keywords: fundamental duties, Article IV-A, 42nd amendment, citizens, freedom

