



# HASADVANCED'20

## HISTORICAL UNHRC

### STUDY GUIDE

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## **Letter from the Secretary General**

Honorable participants,

It is a great honor for me, as the Secretary-General of the Kadir Has University Model United Nations Advanced Conference 2020, to introduce the first edition of our advanced conference.

We have decided to create a unique conference with more than 10 conference experience we have held in the past. It is a great pleasure to explain to you the HasAdvanced20, where the experience and the level will be raised to the next level, which will also be independent from the Hasmun and Hastrain conferences.

As for the committees, we have 3 different historical committees that will make you feel the debates at the maximum level. The reason why we chose historical committees is that we are expecting to gain different perspectives on what happened in the past.

Our first committee simulation will be JCC: American Revolution. Both sides, which are Great Britain and Thirteen Colonies, will face difficulties and problems in the committee. I can assure you that the feeling of a revolution will get in to your skin and you will come across more than just a war and piece committee. You will come across a lot more than that.

Our second committee simulation will be Japan Cabinet in 1945. The previous committees which were about the Second World War will seem like a piece of cake because in this committee we aimed to give you an experience about the Second World War but with the minor details about that. Details like all the blood, tears and struggle people of Japan faced. Are you planning to go to war? Think again. Are you planning to ensure peace? Well, good luck! Prepare yourself for the collapse of the Empire of Japan.

And lastly, our final committee will be the African American Movement, which the delegates of the Historical UNHRC committee will evaluate the problems with possible resolutions in the '60s. You will have to make some serious calls with events that will overcome inequality. Everyone wondering what the decisions will be? What is Freedom? Freedom is the state of not being imprisoned or enslaved. But having freedom is not that easy right? Can you ensure freedom to all people or do you think classification is a mandatory thing? Or the actual question what needs to be answered is: freedom or security? We shall see.

With the magnificent HasAdvanced Academy team and Organization team, we look forward to make you experience a high level conference and stick in your minds when you talk about your Model United Nations experiences.

Last but not least, I would like to thank our Director-General Ekin Eryazar and her Deputy-Director-General Lal Kula for their unbelievable effort and hardwork. Also I would like to thank some special colleagues who never left us and stand by with us against every problems we faced during this process, without any interest. Your supports will never be forgotten.

Now we would like to invite you to Kadir Has University, Cibali Campus on between 21st-23rd February to be a part of this unique conference experience.

Kind Regards,

İlyas Evren Kurt.

Secretary-General at Kadir Has University Model United Nations Advanced Conference 2020.

### **Letter from the Under-Secretary General**

Dear Participants,

My Name is Abdullah Qureshi and I study Information Systems at Kadir Has University. I'd like to welcome you all to HASADVANCED'20 and I hope you have an experience of your life.

I'd like to thank my academic assistants Mr. Efe Costu and Mr. Orhan Yildirim for working together on this study guide. I'd also like to thank the Secretary-General Mr. İlyas Evren Kurt for providing me with the opportunity to continue my journey with the HASMUN family.

Like every year, this year is expected to be full of promising debates and we will be debating about The African American Movement. The secretariat of HASADVANCED'20 has provided you with rules of procedure and debate, therefore, we expect all the delegates to have done their homework as we're looking forward to a great session of debating.

Incase you have any question, do not hesitate to contact me on:

**[aqureshi105@gmail.com](mailto:aqureshi105@gmail.com)**

Abdullah Qureshi

Under-Secretary General Historical UNHRC

## 1. Introduction to the Committee

**The Human Rights Council** is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe, it is able to discuss a wide variety of world humanitarian issues. As a result of the extensive spectrum of topics discussed by the UN, the General Assembly is made up of six different committees. These committees are the Disarmament and International Security (DISEC) committee, the Economics and Financial (ECOFIN) committee, the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural (SOCHUM) committee, the Special Political and Decolonization (SPECPOL) committee, the Administrative and Budgetary committee, and the Legal committee. DISEC, the First Committee of the General Assembly, is one of the most popular GA-style committees in Model United Nations.

The Council was created by the United Nations **General Assembly** on 15 March 2006 by resolution **60/251**. Its first session took place from 19 to 30 June 2006. One year later, the Council adopted its "**Institution-building package**" to guide its work and set up its procedures and mechanisms.

Among them were the **Universal Periodic Review** mechanism which serves to assess the human rights situations in all United Nations Member States, the **Advisory Committee** which serves as the Council's "think tank" providing it with expertise and advice on thematic human rights issues and the **Complaint Procedure** which allows individuals and organizations to bring human rights violations to the attention of the Council.

The Human Rights Council also works with the UN **Special Procedures** established by the former Commission on Human Rights and now assumed by the Council. These are made up of special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and working groups that monitor, examine, advise and publicly report on thematic issues or human rights situations in specific countries.

When creating the Human Rights Council in March 2006 the United Nations General Assembly decided that the Council's work and functioning should be reviewed five years after it had come into existence at the level of the General Assembly.

## 2. Introduction to the Agenda Item

### a. Outline:

The civil rights movement or The African-American movement was a struggle for social justice that took place mainly during the 1950s and 1960s for blacks to gain equal rights under the law in the United States. The Civil War had officially abolished slavery, but it didn't end discrimination against blacks—they continued to endure the devastating effects of racism, especially in the South. By the mid-20th century, African Americans had had more than enough of prejudice and violence against them. They, along with many whites, mobilized and began an unprecedented fight for equality that spanned two decades.

During Reconstruction, blacks took on leadership roles like never before. They held public office and sought legislative changes for equality and the right to vote.

### b. General Background

In 1868, the 14th Amendment to the Constitution gave blacks equal protection under the law. In 1870, the 15th Amendment granted blacks the right to vote. Still, many whites, especially those in the South, were unhappy that people they'd once enslaved were now on a more-or-less equal playing field.

To marginalize blacks, keep them separate from whites and erase the progress they'd made during Reconstruction, "Jim Crow" laws were established in the South beginning in the late 19th century. Blacks couldn't use the same public facilities as whites, live in many of the same towns or go to the same schools. Interracial marriage was illegal, and most blacks couldn't vote because they were unable to pass voter literacy tests.

Jim Crow laws weren't adopted in northern states; however, blacks still experienced discrimination at their jobs or when they tried to buy a house or get an education. To make matters worse, laws were passed in some states to limit voting rights for blacks. Moreover, southern segregation gained ground in 1896 when the U.S. Supreme Court declared that facilities for blacks and whites could be "separate but equal."

### c. World War II & Civil Rights

Prior to World War II, most blacks were low-wage farmers, factory workers, domestics or servants. By the early 1940s, war-related work was booming, but most blacks weren't given the better paying jobs. They were also discouraged from joining the military.

After thousands of blacks threatened to march on Washington to demand equal employment rights, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802 on June 25, 1941. It opened national defense jobs and other government jobs to all Americans regardless of race, creed, color or national origin.

Black men and women served heroically in World War II, despite suffering segregation and discrimination during their deployment. The **Tuskegee Airmen** broke the racial barrier to become the first black military aviators in the U.S. Army Air Corps and earned more than 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses.

Yet many black veterans met with prejudice and scorn upon returning home. This was a stark contrast to why America had entered the war to begin with—to defend freedom and democracy in the world.

As the Cold War began, President Harry Truman initiated a civil rights agenda, and in 1948 issued Executive Order 9981 to end discrimination in the military. These events helped set the stage for grass-roots initiatives to enact racial equality legislation and incite the civil rights movement.

#### **d. Rosa Parks:**

On December 1, 1955, a 42-year-old woman named Rosa Parks found a seat on a Montgomery, Alabama bus after work. Segregation laws at the time stated blacks must sit in designated seats at the back of the bus, and Parks had complied.

When a white man got on the bus and couldn't find a seat in the white section at the front of the bus, the bus driver instructed Parks and three other blacks to give up their seats. Parks refused and was arrested.

As word of her arrest ignited outrage and support, Parks unwittingly became the “mother of the modern day civil rights movement.” Black community leaders formed the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) led by Baptist minister Martin Luther King Jr., a role which would place him front and center in the fight for civil rights.

Parks' courage incited the MIA to stage a boycott of the Montgomery bus system. The Montgomery Bus Boycott lasted 381 days. On November 14, 1956 the Supreme Court ruled segregated seating was unconstitutional.

#### **e. Civil Rights Act of 1957:**

Even though all Americans had gained the right to vote, many southern states made it difficult for blacks. They often required them to take voter literacy tests that were confusing, misleading and nearly impossible to pass.

Wanting to show a commitment to the civil rights movement and minimize racial tensions in the South, the Eisenhower administration pressured Congress to consider new civil rights legislation.

On September 9, 1957, President Eisenhower signed the Civil Rights Act of 1957 into law, the first major civil rights legislation since Reconstruction. It allowed federal prosecution of anyone who tried to prevent someone from voting. It also created a commission to investigate voter fraud.

#### **Freedom Riders**

On May 4, 1961, 13 “Freedom Riders”—seven African Americans and six whites—mounted a Greyhound bus in Washington, D.C., embarking on a bus tour of the American south to protest segregated bus terminals. They were testing the 1960 decision by the Supreme Court in *Boynton v. Virginia* that declared the segregation of interstate transportation facilities unconstitutional.

Facing violence from both police officers and white protesters, the Freedom Rides drew international attention. On Mother's Day 1961, the bus reached Anniston, Alabama, where a mob mounted the bus and threw a bomb into it. The Freedom Riders escaped the burning bus, but were badly beaten. Photos of the bus engulfed in flames were widely circulated, and the group could not find a bus driver to take them further. U.S. Attorney General Robert F.

Kennedy (brother to President John F. Kennedy) negotiated with Alabama Governor John Patterson to find a suitable driver, and the Freedom Riders resumed their journey under police escort on May 20. But the officers left the group once they reached Montgomery, where a white mob brutally attacked the bus. Attorney General Kennedy responded to the riders—and a call from Martin Luther King, Jr.—by sending federal marshals to Montgomery.

On May 24, 1961, a group of Freedom Riders reached Jackson, Mississippi. Though met with hundreds of supporters, the group was arrested for trespassing in a “whites-only” facility and sentenced to 30 days in jail. Attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) brought the matter to the U.S. Supreme Court, who reversed the convictions. Hundreds of new Freedom Riders were drawn to the cause, and the rides continued.

In the fall of 1961, under pressure from the Kennedy administration, the Interstate Commerce Commission issued regulations prohibiting segregation in interstate transit terminals.

## **“I Have A Dream”**

Arguably one of the most famous events of the civil rights movement took place on August 28, 1963: the March on Washington. It was organized and attended by civil rights leaders such as A. Philip Randolph, Bayard Rustin and Martin Luther King Jr.

More than 200,000 people, black and white, congregated in Washington, D. C. for the peaceful march with the main purpose of forcing civil rights legislation and establishing job equality for everyone. The highlight of the march was King’s speech in which he continually stated, “I have a dream...”

King’s “I Have a Dream” speech quickly became a slogan for equality and freedom.

## **Notable Leaders:**

### **a. Martin Luther King:**

The American Protestant Pastor and militant Martin Luther King Jr. (January 15, 1929–April 4, 1968), was from 1955 to 1968 the most prominent spokesperson and member of the Civil Rights Movement. King’s promotion of civil rights by non-violence and civil disobedience became best known, focused on his Christian beliefs and Mahatma Gandhi’s non-violent actions.

King won the Nobel Peace Prize in the battle against racial inequality by nonviolent resistance on 14 October 1964. Throughout 1965, he participated throughout leading marches from Selma to Montgomery. He widened his emphasis in his final years to include resistance to injustice and the Vietnam War. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI, found him extremist, and from 1963 on he became a target of the FBI COINTELPRO. FBI agents questioned him for alleged communist links, told the government officials about his former marital associations, and sent King a letter in 1964, an anonymous threat, which he interprets as a suicide attempt.



Prior to his death, King was preparing to become the Poor People's Movement for a nationwide occupation in Washington, D.C. when he was shot dead in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4. He died and protests in many U.S. cities preceded his passing. The argument that James Earl Ray was manipulated or acting in concert with the government officers after he was found guilty of killing King, continued decades after the assassination.

## **Significant Movements**

### **The Bus Boycott**

On March 1955, in defiance of Jim Crow's local laws in Southern United States, Claudette Colvin—a fifteen-year-old black schoolgirl in Montgomery-refused to give up her seat on a white man in rail. King contributed to the African-American population in Birmingham committee that investigated the case; E. The incident involved a juvenile. D. Nixon and Clifford Durr agreed to wait for a better situation to proceed.

### **The Albany Movement (1961)**

In Albany, Georgia, in November 1961 the Albanian Party was a desertification group. King and the SCLC met in December. The campaign gathered thousands of people to initiate a massive, non-violent attack against every part of the city's secrecy. The next day he was placed in a mass arrest of peaceful demonstrators and refused to bail until the city made concessions. In his first visit on 15 December 1961 he "had planned to stay a day or so and return home after giving counsel." According to King, upon leaving the city, "that agreement was dishonored and violated by the city".

### **Birmingham Campaign**

The SCLC started the movement in April 1963 in Birmingham, Alabama, against racial and economic discrimination. The movement used peaceful, but purposely methods of provocation, which Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker partly established. Black people in Birmingham, organizing with the SCLC, occupied public spaces with marches and sit-ins, openly violating laws that they considered unjust.

### **The Legendary Speech (I have a dream!)**

A 17-minute message, later called ' I'm Dreaming, ' was given by King In the most prominent section of the speech – in which he abandoned his planned letter, probably at Mahalia Jackson's instigation, which yelled behind him, "Tell them about the dream!"

I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.'

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification; one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

#### **b. Malcolm X:**

El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, better known as Malcolm X, was an American Muslim minister and a human rights activist who was popular for his controversial approach towards the Black rights movement of the 1960s. He was also known for his relationship with the Nation of Islam.

#### **Early Years**

Malcolm Little was born May 19, 1925, in Omaha, Nebraska, the fourth of seven children of Grenada-born Louise Helen Little (née Norton) and Georgia-born Earl Little. His father was a local leader of the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). X's family has inculcated self-reliance and black pride to him starting from an early age. Until his mother had a nervous breakdown and was committed to a hospital in 1938 Malcolm remained to live with his mother and siblings in a very harsh economic situation. After that alongside his 6 siblings, he was transferred to foster care. Malcolm Little attended West Junior High School in Lansing and then Mason High School in Mason, Michigan, but left high school in 1941, before graduating due to his teachers saying that a black man aiming to study law is "not a realistic goal". After some moving around, he moved to the Harlem neighborhood of New York City in 1943 where he got involved in serious criminal activities that involved drug dealing, gambling, racketeering, robbery, and pimping to maintain his life. In late 1945, Little returned to Boston, where he and four accomplices committed a series of burglaries. In 1946, he was arrested while picking up a stolen watch he had left at a shop for repairs, and in February began serving an eight-to-ten-year sentence at Charlestown State Prison for larceny and breaking and entering.

#### **Malcolm X meeting with Islam and the Nation of Islam**

In his time in prison, Malcolm X met the religion of Islam and the organization called Nation of Islam which was new around that time and led by Elijah Muhammed. Around that time

Malcolm Little started to sign his letters as Malcolm X. He later explained the letter X as a representation of his original African surname and refused to use "Little".

**"For me, my 'X' replaced the white slavemaster name of 'Little' which some blue-eyed devil named Little had imposed upon my paternal forebears."**

Having adopted the principles of both the religion Islam and the Nation of Islam, X started work directly with Elijah Muhammed following his parole in 1952. After a short while, he gained the trust of the nation and gathered many members into the Nation of Islam by serving as a minister in many different temples of the organization located in several different cities. Until 1964 he served as a minister under the nation of Islam, therefore, Elijah Muhammed. He left the Nation in 1964 because of the following reasons. Firstly, Elijah Muhammed's sexual relations with younger secretaries within the nation made X disturbed, Secondly, the Nation of Islam were lacking the necessary response against actions of the Los Angeles Police Department towards black protestors. Thirdly, Malcolm X commented about John F. Kennedy's death defining it as "chickens coming home to roost" he added that this would not make him sad but it will make him glad. The nation of Islam prohibited him from public speaking for 90 days after this comment. Lastly, X was, thanks to his media-friendly face and outlook, becoming popular in a way that he was seen nearly equal as Elijah Muhammed which made Muhammed envious. After declaring his separation from the Nation of Islam. X stated that he is still believing in the religion of Islam, but Nation of Islam could come only so far with its rigid teachings. He announced he was planning to establish a black nationalist organization that has secular principles and aiming to secure the black people's rights.

### **Ballot or Bullet Speech:**

X in his most remarkable speech title "the ballot or the bullet" in 1964 explained his current situation after separating from the Nation of Islam. In this speech, he explained his goals and ideal by introducing the "Black Nationalism" ideology. He stated that the salvation of the Afro-Americans in United States can only be ensured by separation, not integration. X harshly criticized the U.S government repeatedly calling it hypocrites that claiming to give value to "negros" but actually doing nothing but segregating them. The solution he offers is a separate Black community that is powerful and independent and governed according to Black nationalist ideology. Malcolm X, in this speech, also expresses that while not being aimed and wished, any necessary violent actions shall be taken to acquire independence. As he quoted Patrick Henry "Liberty or Death" and added "ballot or bullet" he explicitly stated that this revolution is not necessarily meant to be peaceful. Later in this speech he also criticizes other activists such as Martin Luther King Jr. for only doing a peaceful protest and not taking serious actions.

**"This is part of what's wrong with you, you do too much singing. Today it's time to stop singing and start swinging."**

### **Black Nationalism:**

After being separated from the Nation of Islam, a high motive to continue defending Afro-American rights come with the idea of "Black Nationalism" which was first introduced in the aforementioned "Ballot or the Bullet" speech in 1964. This ideology basically supports that Afro-American people should establish a community that is self-sustainable and for the benefit of Afro-American people. Malcolm X states that he shops around the corner on a

“Black” neighborhood is being controlled by whites. He further states that they are basically making white men richer and richer. He proposes that the black community should have its own stores around the corner that gave employment to one of their own who is living in their own neighborhood. Malcolm X simply emphasizes the idea that for their independence they cannot trust the “white-man” that is a hypocrite which will never think the interest of the “negro”

### **Bloody Sunday**

On March 7, 1965, the civil rights movement in Alabama took an especially violent turn as 600 peaceful demonstrators participated in the Selma to Montgomery march to protest the killing of black civil rights activist Jimmie Lee Jackson by a white police officer and to encourage legislation to enforce the 15th amendment.

As the protestors neared the Edmund Pettus Bridge, they were blocked by Alabama state and local police sent by Alabama governor George C. Wallace, a vocal opponent of desegregation. Refusing to stand down, protestors moved forward and were viciously beaten and teargassed by police and dozens of protestors were hospitalized.

The entire incident was televised and became known as “Bloody Sunday.” Some activists wanted to retaliate with violence, but King pushed for nonviolent protests and eventually gained federal protection for another march.

### **Voting Rights Act of 1965**

When President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law on August 6, 1965, he took the Civil Rights Act of 1964 several steps further. The new law banned all voter literacy tests and provided federal examiners in certain voting jurisdictions.

It also allowed the attorney general to contest state and local poll taxes. As a result, poll taxes were later declared unconstitutional in *Harper v. Virginia State Board of Elections* in 1966.

### **Civil Rights Leader Assassination**

The civil rights movement had tragic consequences for two of its leaders in the late 1960s.

On February 21, 1965, former Nation of Islam leader and Organization of Afro-American Unity founder Malcolm X was assassinated at a rally.

On April 4, 1968, civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on his hotel room’s balcony. Emotionally-charged looting and riots followed, putting even more pressure on the Johnson administration to push through additional civil rights laws.

### **Fair Housing Act of 1968**

The Fair Housing Act became law on April 11, 1968, just days after King’s assassination. It prevented housing discrimination based on race, sex, national origin and religion. It was also the last legislation enacted during the civil rights era.

The civil rights movement was an empowering yet precarious time for blacks in America. The efforts of civil rights activists and countless protestors of all races brought about legislation to end segregation, black voter suppression and discriminatory employment and housing practices.

## 1. Questions To Consider In Your Research

- What is your state's position on the topic?
- How is the conflict affecting your state?
- What are your state's policy positions on Human Rights?

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