

FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES (ARTICLE 51A – PART IVA)

Introduction

Fundamental Duties were **not a part of the original Constitution**. They were added by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, based on the recommendations of the **Swaran Singh Committee**.

They reflect the **moral obligations** of all citizens to help promote a spirit of **patriotism** and to uphold the **unity of India**.

Constitutional Provision

- **Part:** IVA of the Constitution
- **Article:** 51A
- **Total Duties:** 11 Fundamental Duties

List of Fundamental Duties

According to Article 51A, it shall be the duty of every citizen of India:

1. **To abide by the Constitution** and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem.
2. **To cherish and follow the noble ideals** which inspired our national struggle for freedom.
3. **To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.**
4. **To defend the country** and render national service when called upon to do so.
5. **To promote harmony** and the spirit of common brotherhood among all the people of India, transcending religious, linguistic, and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women.
6. **To value and preserve the rich heritage** of our composite culture.
7. **To protect and improve the natural environment**, including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures.
8. **To develop scientific temper**, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform.
9. **To safeguard public property** and to abjure violence.
10. **To strive towards excellence** in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement.
11. **To provide opportunities for education** to his child or ward between the age of 6 and 14 years. *(Added by the 86th Amendment Act, 2002)*

Key Features

Feature	Description
Applicable to	All citizens of India (not enforceable on foreigners)
Legal enforcement	Not directly enforceable by courts, but Parliament can make laws for their implementation
Moral & Civic Code	Serve as a moral compass for responsible citizenship
Inspired by	The Constitution of the USSR (now Russia)