

## **INFLUENCE OF POLITICAL FACTORS IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER IN KENYA**

**Bernard T. Kisiang'ani**

Master candidate in Diplomacy and International relations Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology  
P.O BOX 190, Kakamega-KENYA

**Prof .C. Iteyo Ph. D.**

Department of peace and conflict Studies of Maxine Muliro University of science and Technology  
P.O Box 190-50100, Kakamega, KENYA

**Prof. F. K. Matanga Ph.D.**

Department of peace and conflict studies Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology  
P.O Box 190-50100 Kakamega, KENYA

### **ABSTRACT**

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 represents a bold attempt by the UN organization to give a concrete and authoritative expression to the definition of human rights contained in the UN human rights Charter. Researchers have found out that as much as Kenya is a signatory to the UN charter on Human rights, human rights Abuses still remain pervasive, this begs the question why this scenario, this study sought therefore to establish the extent to which political factors have influenced the enforcement of human rights charter in Kenya. The independent variable in this study is political factors and dependent variable is UN human rights charter. The study was conducted in Kenya and the specific objective was to assess the overall political culture in Kenya. The study population comprised 420 members of parliament who served during president Moi regime and Kibaki regimes, 800 officers, experts and scholars of humans rights in UN offices in Nairobi, victims of civil and political rights violation and 500 law fenforcers totaling to 1720 out of which a sample of 123 was used. This study used theoretical framework of political idealism and power theory as an approach to respectively explain the centrality of state and non state actors in facilitating the enforcement of human rights. The findings indicated that ethnicity and historical injustices are the political cultures that influence enforcement UN human rights charter in Kenya. The paper further recommends that; the state should ensure all persons in Kenya abide by the rule of law, by making them account for their days in power.

**Keywords:** Political factors, influence, enforcement, human rights.