This thesis entitled Right To Maintenance Under Criminal Law - A Critical Study. The study concentrates to provide firsthand knowledge of the legal institutions that had handled and now handles annually large masses of deprived and neglected population. It attempts to identify maintenance as one of the basic human rights. The thesis discusses in length the constitutional provisions protective of the social justice proclaimed under the Preamble to the Constitution. It deals with the right provided under the criminal law in its entirety, social reality and the procedural hurdles in enforcement of a social legislation as one under Section 125. The remedy made available under the personal laws viz. Hindus and Parsis, Muslims and Christians is studied. It brings out a comparative analysis of the law and position prevailing in England and French legal system. The study concentrates to provide firsthand knowledge of the legal institutions that had handled and now handles annually large masses of deprived and neglected population. The methodology introduced is both doctrinaire and empirical. The findings reveal the inadequacies in the implementation of human rights and the failure on the part of individual nations, with special emphasis to Indian condition.