The Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles of the Indian constitution developed as a common set of demands. However, in the end they were separated by the Constituent Assembly and divided into two parts, not only they were divided into two parts, they were made enforceable and non-enforceable. This being the case they embody different and often conflicting policy implications. The Fundamental rights aim of the protection of the basic rights and liberties of the individual, and by virtue of this put some negative obligations upon the state. The Directive Principles on the other hand put before the state certain aims and aspiration which the state is required to achieve. Further, the directives are wider and more comprehensive than the Fundamental rights. They put before the state the task of achieving a welfare state. But their greatest problem is that they lack any legal sanction behind them. This lack of legal sanction has often put them in conflict with the Fundamental Rights. It is to enquire into these issues that this work has been devoted.
This work is a theoretical study of the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles of the Indian Constitution. A theoretical interpretation would reveal that the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles of the Indian Constitution in fact represent two different kinds of liberalisms. The link between them is constituted by certain kind of things which both share. Both, fundamental Rights and Classical Liberalism share the same commitment to the protection of individuals’ rights and liberties.

The Directive on the other hand appears to embody a different version of liberalism, which came to be known as new liberalism. The Directive Principles and the new liberalism both share the aims and aspirations of a welfare state. Both support the state actions to alter the conditions, which obstruct the free enjoyment of other kinds of liberties. There conflict can equally be interpreted as a conflict between two kinds of liberalism confronting each other upon certain issues.

This work then could be seen as a theoretical study of the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles and to find out what this study reveals, it is now tone to turn to the content of the work.

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Rajesh Seth