

**DEVELOPING A LEGAL REGIME FOR INTERNALLY  
DISPLACED PERSONS IN SOUTH ASIA: A HOLISTIC  
APPROACH TO CATER FOR THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF  
SOUTH ASIAN DISPLACED PERSONS**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Forced displacement of people is a human tragedy at the international, regional and domestic levels. In South Asia, the problem of internal displacement is severe and has affected the stability, security, peace and the development of the region immensely. Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, Bangladesh and Nepal are the worse affected countries of population displacement in this region due to numerous reasons. In this article, the tragedy of internal displacement of people in South Asia will be specifically examined, noting the regional dimension of the problem. This article will focus on identifying internally displaced persons broadly and the inadequacy in the law pertaining to the protection of the internally displaced both at the international and regional levels. It will examine several attempts made at the international level to fill this protection gap, and will discuss the avenues of developing a legal regime for internally displaced persons in South Asia. This paper will examine the need of having a pluralistic approach to cater the special needs of South Asian displaced persons.*

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