**Name: José Meia**

 **Student ID Number: UB73809BPR82973**

**Course Name: Bachelors in Procurement and Logistics Management**

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**Introduction**

**Human Right 20: Freedom of assembly and Association**

This is an individual right of every human being, this ability gives hope, value, protection,

and the right to do things. This right is life as it protects lives from different kinds of conflicts

due to failure of understanding its existence. This right is the reason to some of the many

benefits we enjoy today, such as freedom of speech, power of expression, sharing of ideas,

defence of rights and gathering of groups for discussions. The Human Right 20 is so powerful

to the extent of bringing nations together and form harmonical associations.

These associations have a number of benefits that help promote change and improve the way

of living in the society. The freedom of assembly and association regulates all the rules and

rights that have to do with people and their existence, making sure that the people are treated

as human beings. This right brings respect to all the living in the society, teaching people

how to live peacefully, how to behave in the society, how to share the atmosphere with other

and many more. This in one of the top laws by the United Nations because it is a global law,

supported by all and protected by all.

This is what inspires people, to know that, it is one of the world’s top rights that protects us

all human beings, giving us hope and strength to claim what is rightfully ours. When we see

people coming together, they are forming associations, of which is part of their right and they

are protected. Marching in the streets demanding justice, it is because one of their rights has

been violated and the only way show that and ask for amendments is through peaceful and

protected marches. What makes people form congregations, is the right to peaceful

assembly, meaning they are within their rights to meet anywhere and speak out.

We see all kinds of strikes, marches, and congregations almost everywhere, if they happen on

peaceful grounds, we see them guided by the police and sometimes guarded by armed forces

if it occurs on unsafe grounds. The question is why are they protected and not arrested if they

are causing commotions in the streets? This is what the right to freedom of assembly and

association means and does to peaceful protesters. This is the reason why the right exists to

give the people time to have a say, time to be heard and to make a difference.

**Chapter 1**

**Do you have a group that you belong to? Are you free to get together?**

No, unfortunately I do not have a group that I belong to and we are not free to get together

and form a group to talk about any pressing matters, rights or any violations of human rights,

totally unacceptable. In my country, talking is for diplomats of the ruling party in parliament,

only MPs in parliament are allowed to talk and only on the ruling government’s provided

platforms, that people are allowed to give their insights. On state platforms, where they talk

about issues to uplift their party.

A platform where they talk about their future big picture, and a future where the nation is

excluded, and either that, totally prohibited and even the president of Mozambique made it

clear on television in a speech to the nation that talking is for politics and if you are not a

certified politician never be found talking. I do not think that there will ever be a moment

where that privilege will be granted to the people or that there will be a moment where

anyone will be free to get together or choose a group to belong to, I strongly doubt it.

First of all, I know for a fact that talking is education and education is a system whereby the

brain is trained to engulf as much knowledge as it can or upload data in the brain in order for

it to function. And when it is successfully uploaded, it is then trained to think accordingly,

visualize accordingly, share accordingly and contribute accordingly. When the system is

complete, it means the brain is now ready to talk. Secondly, the governors of the ruling part

are not educated and they are happy with that.

The educational system is completely dead and the government ignores that because they

know what education does and they are afraid of its outcome of which is wisdom, modernity,

technology and change. Once change is allowed to make effect, this government will vanish

because it is a government built on ignorance and corruption. So, for one to be able to talk

freely, one needs to have quality education and our government will never approve or arrange

to improve the system for the good of the country but, they take their loved ones instead and

send them abroad to study and get educated for the sake of their dynasty.

What education are you giving to the people if you cannot, as a leader, give the same

education to your family? Third, if you need to have an eternal follow from the entire nation,

keep them poor at all times, that way, they will always agree with your sick policy, they will

always fear you, obey you, always vote for you and will never complain or look for change.

This is the policy we are living at the present moment. The education system we have is

not doing any good to anyone, it is more internal that you cannot take it out and implement it

elsewhere.

Even international NGOs are facing serious challenges, that they end up employing

international workers. To fix this problem, the government have become the only employer

of the nation and looking at it, this has been their plan all along, to keep the education at a

local level, make jobs in the government available, with pitiful wages so they can hypnotise

and control their minds. This is happening and the government has been manoeuvring this

system for a long time. They have succeeded in making people so pathetic, unqualified and

accustomed to it, have become so loyal.

So, with this belief which has been infused in the minds of the people, no one dares to form

or join a group or ignore the government mandatory and get together to discuss and share

ideas. (https: cmaputo,gov.mz) 2017 by INAGE

**Chapter 2**

**Do you like to share your life with others in society? Do you get together to share?**

**Does anyone try to stop you from getting together?**

Yes, I do like to share my life with others in society and very much; I think it is comforting to

have people gathering for a personal life story. I think it is a chance of a lifetime to have a

platform of beautiful people, good listeners and a couple of kind ones who, at the end of the

story, will tell you that you are not alone, or don’t worry it can be fixed, or some who will

say, there is an association that have the same ideas as yours and some who will say, hey

cheer up, it is normal.

I come from a crooked society with the government to blame, where nothing is normal,

where hustling sees no edge, where education in not mandatory rather an option and where

the formation of healing groups or an association is seen like an adaption from the rich

countries. In my society, kids are taught to be sustainable and self-sufficient before they can

learn to read and write, where teens the future leaders, are more interested in pleasure and

less in education. It is a society where decency has been replaced by inhumanity and fear has

taken over.

A mind occupied with preoccupations of life hardships will never mingle, will never share,

will never know how to seek deliverance but will cope to endure pain. I come from a society

where hope for decency and civilization is lost and what has remained is fear, hopelessness

and anxiety, making it impossible to focus on educational programmes and on any rights. Do

we get together to share, yes and no; the getting together we have in our society is the

gathering of youths who are supporters and part of the ruling party and the gathering of

women supporters of the government, so, it is a no.

The groups are called (Organizaçᾶo da Joventude Moçambicana) this is a group of youth

supporters of the government and they only meet when the government solicit their thoughts

and views. And OMM (Organizaçᾶo da Mulher Moçambicana) this has been made an

association of women supporters of the governments and they only meet when there is a

political event for their moral support is needed. I do not know of any other groups and I

never heard of one, in our country we do not talk at all about state issues or violations.

Yes, we were stopped to get together and share ideas on issues, by intimidation and by the

actions of the ruling party. The intimidation has inflicted so much fear in people that left

them unwilling to talk or try anything that has to do with activistic action or the formation of

associations. If need to discuss issues, they have to be issues of praise, praising the president

and his government. We, the people of Mozambique have heard and seen many testimonies

on independent television and the newspapers of people and about their persecutions by the

government.

We have heard testimonies from various journalists who suffered persecution for reporting

true facts and some who disappeared because they knew things. Like the case of Carlos

Cardoso, the journalist who was murdered in 2000 for investigating corruption in the country

and for reporting atrocities of the government. We have read about the disappearance of very

respected figures within the government, in parliament, figures from the opposition parties

and even leaders of the opposition.

There are so many, the people who have perished and who have just disappeared up to

now, no one knows their whereabouts because they knew things and they tried to do the right

thing. There are artists who have been in and out of prison for trying to teach people to stand

up and fight for their rights. So, the first strategic plan that the government had in order for

them to secure a long-lasting term, was to kill the nation by taking away education and

civilization, by keeping the people poor so they cannot demand for anything.

By killing education, the people will never seek the truth, will never demand, they will never

seek any rights and they will never confront the government but just obey. The truth is, we

are not capable of seeking the freedom to assemble or create an association or demand for our

rights, because we have been consumed by fear, we are afraid. As long as the government is

in power there will always be fear, we will always be behind, this country will always be

poor, and poor not because of lack of riches but, because of lack of good educated, skilled,

free and qualified minds.

**Chapter 3**

**Do you see any limitations to this human right? Do all people have the right to**

**assemble for whatever reason?**

Yes, they are limitations to this human right and one of them being the speech of the

president, who on television sent a warning to the nation, saying" leave politics for

politicians’’. This warning came at the time when someone within his army filed a complaint

against the government about a wrong decision made by the ministry of defence. The

decision was condemned by the whole country, the nation showed discontentment and started

commenting.

No one has the right to comment negatively or assemble for whatever reason; I think it is

proper to say that, this has been the way, no talking otherwise you disappear and to never be

seen again. This has been the procedure and it is not one that is worth trying ignoring as we

already know the consequences and we fear to never return. This is the fear that has been

planted in us like a chip, that holds us from breaking free. All these are owed to the extreme

state of poverty and corruption in the country, all systems are corrupt and that fact is in the

mind of the nation.

Every day is a day of chances; not a chance to learn a new word or practice educational

activities but, a chance to win favours. A chance to win a job in the government, a chance to

earn some recognition and some favours. For this chance to be achieved, people have to twist

the truth and use shortcuts and this process is called Mocambicanidade (Mozambicanity)

meaning this is us, this is our way of living, one hand helps another, you help me and I help

you.

Decency, quality control, prudence, seriousness and dignity have been replaced by

Mozambicanity. Now, in every government institution, in order to get good services and get

served fast, one needs to have something in hand, you do me a favour and I owe you one, in

all areas including educational. It is because of this government system of favours, that the

youths in the country, are now working as spies. If they see people assemble, or people

gathering and discussing matters of the state, they report them to the government’s

agents.

Why and what for? For recognition from the government and for favours such as free t-shits

during the electoral campaigns, for free rides and free meals during that particular time and

sometimes for jobs since the government is the largest and the only employer that tolerates

the weakness in all local people instilled by them. The other biggest limitation that we face in

our country is the one that I always mention because it is the key to knowledge and without it

there won’t be change or a better future, Education.

The education system we have here is killing us, it is making us weak as it is politicised and

that is the reason why the government is the preferred employer for us. The lessons are

mainly focused on the ruling party, and what it thinks it did for us to be here today. Our

system is imprisoning people so they can only depend and always wait on the government’s

order for anything. Our educational system has hypnotised us so that our tomorrow can be

dependent, we hardly learn to know and be part of the world, but learn to know reading and

writing then serve the party and the country.

These are the main concerning limitations that we have, one by intimidation by the

government’s system and the other one by lack of education. I truly believe that most of us do

not even know what our rights are but we know what the regulations of the government are

and what they want of us and we know how to obey them. When I am watching the

international news channels, the BBC, CNN, SKY NEWS and others, I instantly feel the

difference, I know how it is like to be a unique citizen of a country.

Everything that the leaders do, they do with zeal for greatness for the sake of the nation and

for the benefit of the people. I can also see the amount of freedom that these leaders give and

the transparency they have for everyone, that is the reason why their nations prosper because

they are free to do anything, free to fly. This is what our leaders lack, knowledge,

transparency and all for the people. Here with us, people have given up, have stopped chasing

things that will only bring them sorrow, so now, no one cares about the right to assemble or

whatsoever, all we want now is the right to hustle for the government and for ourselves until

the end of time. (https: cmaputo,gov.mz) 2017 by INAGE

**Chapter 4**

**Have you ever joined a group to work toward common goals? What was your**

**experience?**

No, I have never joined a group before, not because of lack of interest but, because of lack of

groups for people to join in. Just like I mentioned earlier, the only groups we have are

gatherings organised by government institutions, television and their youth supporters,

another way of politicising people. Sometimes we see on state television gatherings of people

discussing issues concerning the agenda of the government in power, with topics given by the

government.

These discussions have no benefits for the people, actually they are state platforms where by

the party supporters answer questions by the presenter. These platforms, are just a

propaganda to divert the people from their perspectives and politicise them. These gatherings

have nothing constructive; just another tactic way of misleading people so they can keep

voting in their favour. The goal of these gatherings is to destroy other political groups by

convincing the public that the party in power is the only part alive for the people.

There are no goals for anyone following the party, it is just politics, so I distance myself from

these gatherings as we have nothing in common that we can share. There are many people

who are declining to be part of this because they refused to be forced into politics. People are

preferring to take their issues to WhatsApp chart, where they feel free and safe and where

they cannot be penalized. They would rather share their thoughts through the media where

they can talk, exercise their minds and share.

My experience could have been sensational had there been freedom of involvement, for we

would have learnt how to mingle, we would have learnt how to form a group and we would

have learnt to take part in associations. I have always loved to be useful in the society and to

assist in developing the country. Our minds are racing all the time in need of a platform so we

can participate to, learn, grow and act. There is so much hunger, we seek to endeavour but

our society is locked and frozen, we cannot be heard and time is not on our side for change.

We all have goals to achieve but we lack the freedom, only fear and confusion. There are

those of us who have abilities to fly, are leaving the country, migrating to places where their

knowledge is welcomed. Places where they are respected, uplifted and where they are taught

to get involved and to get mixed and then be free.

**Chapter 5**

**What if two groups are in conflict? How should they assemble?**

It is natural for people to misunderstand one another and create an unpleasant atmosphere

among them. In a meeting of groups, it is normal to disagree with the input of another

because everyone is unique and has his or her way of contributing and a different way

receiving or understanding. Conflicts are a way to show that the people involved in the group

are smart, they strongly believe in their stance. It shows that they are people who cannot be

easily diverted from their instincts.

What brings conflicts to peoples’ meetings is just differences, but as qualified people, they

also know that some differences exist. We cannot all think the same and give our ideas

equally because we think differently and accordingly. In a situation like this, both teams

should try and handle in a better workable way for both groups. This is how we learn from

others and eventually succeed. The participants in the groups should be matured enough to

know that meetings or gatherings are a way of giving and getting.

It is a way of learning to listen and a way of learning to contribute and show one’s

capabilities, study and understand the other. Also, a moment to appreciate one another and

copy from the others. So, if a disagreement surfaces, both groups should be patient and work

upon a solution. Everyone is unique and with different perspectives and since groups are

made up of abled people, I do not see any complications in resolving any differences for they

are people who are educated and qualified, who have various responsibilities.

People who are mentally stable and capable of handling situations, always come to their

senses in the end. If two groups are in conflict, first thing they should do before commencing

is, check if everyone is qualified to be there and if their qualifications will assist them in

digesting the plan. Secondly, they should present the agenda and make sure everyone

understands. Lastly, all participants should take part, they should all contribute rather that one

group participating and then the other group just listening and objecting.

By so doing, in the end they should find solutions to their conflicts. If both groups possess the

above abilities, there won’t be a need to consult further assistance to help them come to an

agreement. This is the reason they say, education is the key, it will not take this much effort

for educated people to realise the missing piece to solve the conflict. If both groups are made

up of uneducated and unqualified members, then there will be endless conflicts through the

meeting with nothing achieved in the end.

Uneducated people work better with physical force and loud noise, these two are their pillar

of support, and they will not be bent down until they are labelled as winners. This is the

reason; in most meetings little progress is made or nothing at all until some consultants are

called to intervene and wrap up the meeting. So, in critical times of conflicts how should

groups assemble? To avoid these conflicts, groups must always remember the reason that

brought them together in the first place, the goal, what are they aiming to achieve.

The groups must look for things they have in common, this way they will respect each other

even in the midst of differences. We know that one of the reasons that leads to conflicts

between groups is misunderstanding, so to avoid this, groups must practice communication

skills, they must know ways of dialoguing to avoid the eruption of uncomfortable

environment. To close, mutual respect is the most crucial of them all, this will always guide

the groups in their most terrible performances.

These are the steps that need to be taken by two groups before they assemble and during their

session. And these will constantly remind them of their goal, which is to come up with a

combined solid solution, carefully worked out by both groups. ([www.mindtools.com](http://www.mindtools.com)) –

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**Chapter 6**

**What is the best way for people to assemble and share common interests and goals?**

The best way for people to assemble is through empathy; we might be all humans but we

were raised differently, we grew differently and obviously our abilities will be incline to the

life we lived in the past. For those who grew up free, loved and had good education, food and

shelter, will have no problems in participating and coping with situations. There are those

who grew up in hardships, had to work hard for everything until they became matured and

independent in the same line, they might find everything hard to digest, as hard as their past.

People of this kind are always hard on themselves, so, going to a meeting with them will

require a lot of empathy in order to assemble positively for the sake of goal setting. The best

way to assemble and share common interests is through communication and it is good also to

pay attention to each other, to be good listeners. Practising team work is very important when

doing things in groups or when meeting to assemble. Accountability, clarity and positivity

will also help the groups in a best way to assemble and share common interests and goals.

Empathy is very important for group members to have during the session; empathy will help

participants of both sides to exhale all they have arranged that is within them and by so doing

they will improve rapidly. Empathy, will open the minds and bring the group members closer

to sharing ideas and will help ease tensions between them. Communication, is very

important when people assemble, as it the key to victory. It is good that the groups talk before

commencing so they can be aware of the topic or the plan.

It is good also to communicate between groups since this is the best way of expressing

oneself and in terms of doubts, this will help clear all. Team work, as its sound is the

best for each group as it gives the team the chance to talk matters out before assembling. As

we are all aware that it is very difficult to face problems individually, it is always better to

work in groups, and solve everything as a team. We are all mentally different that is why we

always contribute differently, so what one cannot solve, can be better solved as a group.

The benefit is when people work together, they always come with a solution. If the two

groups discuss the plan as teams of abled people, together they can get to the core of the

meeting professionally. When we go and have gatherings or when we assemble, we are

totally responsible for our contributions, the way we think and the things we say, how we say

them and how will they benefit us and others. So, it is wise to add accountability as one of the

best ways for people to assemble and share common interests and goals.

This will help the groups to practice their ideas before sharing them so that when they get to

the other group, they will have effective results. Clarity is one of the bests; it is very

important to clearly express ourselves. Whether we are introducing the topic to the

other group or we are just trying to make a point, it is always good to go straight to the point

and be clear before the others, so to lighten the atmosphere. Clarity on the point is good as it

clarifies the speech or the plan and then it gives the others room to adjust their views and

reframe their questions or ideas and also clear any emerging doubt on the topic.

Positivity is also very crucial; this will help the others see the point we are trying to make to

them and believe us, because we show them that we know and we are sure about what we are

saying. They believe us and appreciate us when we believe in ourselves, it means that we

believe in the things we are saying because we know them and they are based on reality

or experience. Negativity is a sign of failure; it is dangerous and not recommended.

Success is through positivity, we inspire those who see us, who talk with us and who hear us.

Showing positivity or spreading positivity is surely the best way for people to assemble as

it helps them feel filled with adequate information. This will help people walk away from

their doubts and anxiety about any difficulties that might have peeped earlier before the

gathering. Positivity will generate confidence in people; this will build trust between the

groups, this will help the participants open up more and share all common interests and goals

with each another and then bring prosperity to the groups. (facilethings.com) by Charles

Richard and (ringcentral.com) by Kate Vogel

**Conclusion**

We all live by the rules and any disrespecting of these rules is a crime. Rules are everywhere

and there are there to help us live better because they make us and they regulate our living in

this planet. Rules are so vast and among them, there are those that are crucial. We have holy

rules, rules of God for the spiritual life and we have worldly rules, these are rules that no one

dares to ignore, that if broken, they can make one end up in prison. These rules are regulated

by governments of the world, each and every state in this world has its own laws so they can

protect a country and everything in it.

Then we have top rules, these are rules and rights that are above all rules of the countries of

the world; these are world rules and rights and they are meant to protect the people, nature

and bring respect into the world. Inside the world rules, there are dos and don’ts but rights

are so unique that they cannot be forsaken. Rights are for the people, to protect their abilities,

to remind them of their responsibilities and to give them their freedom to do anything they

want that is within the law and whatever they want that will bring good to them and to

society.

But there has been a challenge, as many governments have chosen to break these

international top laws to strip people of their rights and take away their freedom. So, now

there is a fight between and unreasonable, greedy governments and the people. The people

are all aware of their rights and they have vowed to stand up and fight for them and although

many have been imprisoned for this stand and many have died trying to protect the rights, the

fight continues and the people have vowed to go beyond for their freedom.

The United Nations and other leading wise leaders are keeping a close watch to these

violations of the people’s rights in order to preserve them. Violation of human rights have

become a hobby for many countries, taking pleasure in destroying lives of humans, animals

and plants. Violation of these rights have brought destruction to lives, infrastructures and

serious consequences to the world economy. The cause of wars in many countries of the

world is due to the violation of human rights in the world. Let us help the United Nations

protect the Human Rights 20: Freedom of assembly and association by emphasizing the need

for decency and mutual respect for the rights of the people.

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