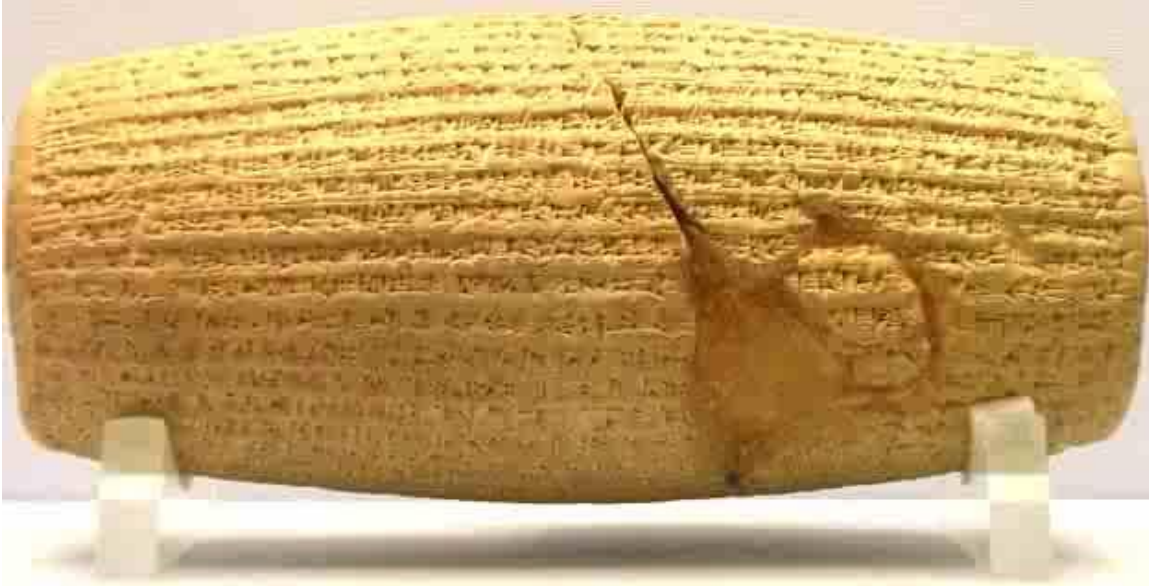


# مشور حقوق بشر کورش بزرگ



## **First Declaration of Human Right by Cyrus the Great Inscribed in cuneiform on a clay cylinder discovered in 1879, Now on display in the British Museum.**

Cyrus the Great (585-529 BC), the Iranian emperor, defined the First Declaration of Human Rights on this cylinder. Cyrus is admired more as a liberator than a conqueror of his vast empire because of his respect for human rights and the humane treatment of those he ruled. He is “anointed” in the Bible (Is.45:4) as a liberator of God’s people (Is.45:15) and the chosen one (Is.48:14-15). Professor Richard Frye of Harvard University said; “*Surely the concept of One World, the fusion of Peoples and Cultures into oneness was one of his important legacies*”. The following from this ancient cylinder are the rendition of the spirit of his message in modern English:

- I declare that I will respect the tradition, customs and religion of the nations of my empire and never let any of my governors to look down or insult the inhabitants of my nations.
- I hereby abolish slavery; my governors are ordered to prohibit exchanging men and women as slaves within their ruling domains. Such a tradition should be exterminated the world over.
- If anyone oppresses others, should it happen, I will take his/her right back and penalize the oppressors.
- Today I declare Freedom of Religion. All are free to choose any religion, live in all regions and take up any job provided that they never violate other’s rights.

These proclamations ring true today in our times as they did in 538 BC.

## House of Iran