



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT : AN ABSOLUTE MEASURE TOWARDS THE PROGRESS OF WORLD

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Communicated :20.02.2022

Revision : 15.03.2022

Published: 30.03.2022

Accepted :25.03.2022

ABSTRACT:

Genuinely, medieval India was considered the 'Dark Ages' for each and every Indian women .Being a conventional and orthodox patriarchal society, women have been given a secondary position which is reflected in the economic ,social and political spheres .Medieval India saw several foreign invasions ,which resulted in the weakening in women's status .When foreign conquerors like the Mughals and the British captured India they brought with them their own civilization ,which in many cases liberated Indian women. Indian's society prejudice and injustice towards female prevails due to distinct purposes which has its roots in the communal behaviour and discrimination against the female since her origin .The present paper discusses pragmatic clarification to bring out amends to this gender role so that gender similarity and identity will be accomplished.

Key words: -Orthodox , patriarchy , status ,prejudice, discrimination

INTRODUCTION:

The present paper is an attempt to find out striking discriminations and prejudices executed on Indian women and to emphasize the pains and pangs of the women since former period till contemporary days. Indian woman is a victim of various religions .Since the present situation is egalitarian, the holistic development of women in relation to women should be considered now. Half of the world's population is females as compared to males. Empowerment for women in India requires a thorough change providing social, economic and political transformation. The abundant study reveals that the women empowerment is multi-dimensional comprises the personal and social griefs and has widened the thriving considerations of women's concerns and motions for gender balance and social equality.

The status of Indian women under several religions including the Hindu way of life shows women's humiliation during its long history .There are several historical practices like Sati, child marriage, Purdah system ,constraint of

widow remarriage ,Devadasis ,female education ,malnutrition ,etc. which dehumanizes Indian women .The status of women in contemporary India regarding ill practices or social problems is a sort of contradiction. The Indian patriarchal and traditional society that dominates the social ,political and economic life of people in the country has never encouraged it's women in any area ,except limited opportunity. Indian women are approximately disempowered and they experience depressed status than that of men from times antiquated. The doctrine of gender and sex equality is enshrined in the Indian constitution structure and not in any religious or theological book. The constitution not only grants identity to women but also empowers the way to adopt measures of positive treatment of similarity in favour of women .Empowerment is one of the key factors in determining their success. Women's development ,status and position would promote women in society.

Indian women are deprived of their natural rights in India. Increased political participation of women will help them fight the violation,

prejudice and inequality they endure from several measures of patriarchal rules. Specifically, the treatment given to women in Dalit society is poignant. They are ill treated not only in their own community but they are ill treated by the upper caste people also. There are several writers who exposed the pathetic conditions of Indian traditional structure designed for women in general. The emigrants like Salman Rushdie, Shashi Tharoor, Manju Kapoor and others have strongly responded to renew the conditions of Indian women, precisely after Indian independence. These writers have created an imposing design of women protagonists, who disclose the oppression inflicted upon women. They investigate feminine awareness which ultimately leads to the self-innovation of the women characters, who realize their inner strength and stability.

Indian women after the enforcement and implementation of India's constitution received justice, liberty and freedom for their upliftment. The constitution has opened the doors of opportunities and prosperity equally to both males and females. It is only because of the Indian constitution where women can participate in all activities such as education, politics and every sector. Even today, Indian women of all religions and castes have learned, but due to religious and mental slavery, they have forgotten that the key to their progress is in the constitution. Empowerment refers to broadening and expanding the economic, political, social, gender, cultural or spiritual stability of the individual and communities. It has been frequently argued that women's education is the key to reducing discrimination and prejudice against women. Some studies have shown that educated mothers and educated families are far more productive and successful than uneducated mothers and uneducated families. In western and progressive countries, women are born with the influence

not just on social, political and economic opportunities but also on their ability to access every aspect of progress. As far as Indian women are concerned, for the empowerment of women, the principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution and its Preamble, elementary Rights, Fundamental duties and directive principles. All observations on the place of women in India are bound to be full of contradictions. A section of society treats them as puppets. The patriarchal based society does not want to free them from patriarchal dominance. Women are only confined to household work. In some progressive states like Kerala, women are quite independent and unconstrained, but in states like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, they are still backward and highly neglected.

Women's participation in the struggle for India's independence initiated a new era for their progress and upliftment. They put aside the curtain and came in front of the national liberation movement. Women nowadays support their male counterparts to support equality and liberty. It is heartening to mark that women belonging to the upper caste and lower caste revolted against the established veil system. It is very true that the Independence of India opened a new episode in the history of women. In fact, the constitution of India acknowledged their total equality. The notion of women secondary to males is rejected by the constitution. Hence, women are participating in every walk of life. The Indian government has also taken considerable steps to give women a similar opportunity and freedom. The Hindu code bill and Hindu succession act conferred on women for their overall progress. Modern and literate women in urban areas are symbols of the bold reassertion of Indian womanhood. Today, it is seen that women are serving in every segment of Indian services.

CONCLUSION :

The evolution made in the decades for the upliftment of subjugated women is substantial. But, still a lot of progress is to be done regarding women's development. New laws and acts are promoted taking into account the progress, potential problems and failures. Women Empowerment in the integrated world is viewed as a platform being given to women for self development to break a new life, so that, women can get equivalent opportunities in all aspects of life along with men. Empowerment of women in India has a distinct purpose. Education is an important element for the development of women in society. The lack of education is the root cause for women's imposition and omission. Thus, promoting education among women is of tremendous priority in empowering them to conclude their goals in life.

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