



Roles of Women In Today's Society And Status of Women In Historical Perspective

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ABSTRACT

The progress of any society largely depends on the advancement of the position of women in that society. The role of women are primarily recognized in the social, political, economic, cultural and religious spheres. In other words, they need to ensure that their contribution is beneficial to the individuals. The main areas that have been taken into account in this research paper include, women in historical perspective, during Vedic period, status of medieval period, status of modern period, some social reformers and their roles, role of women in day today life, women education women role in relationship, qualities of a real women, women's responsibilities, role of women in bible.

Keywords: Individuals, Relationship, Participation, Historical, Education, Roles, Society, Participation.

Objective of the paper:

- 1) To study the women in historical perspective.
- 2) To study the status in medieval period.
- 3) To study the status in modern period.
- 4) To identify the specific problems of Indian women.
- 5) The paper also focuses on role of women in today's society. Importance of women education and qualities, responsibilities of women.

Introduction

Women are known to be the symbol of spirituality, strength, love, sacrifice and courage. The role of women in today's world is changing significantly. Women are now well educated and self-dependent. They have become successful in many fields like politics, sports, education, technology, entertainment, etc. Today's progressing world has brought a new hope and has empowered women positively. Earlier women were dependent on father or husband but they have become capable enough to earn their living. Women are

equally important in society as men are. They are the backbone for a progressing nation. Demographically, half a population of the country constitutes women, and rights in society.

The contributions of women towards the society is put into operation on an honorary basis as well. Women, belonging to all age groups and backgrounds get engaged into honorary work towards promoting well-being of the individuals. Some of the honorary ways are, providing coaching classes to children, belonging to marginalized and socio-economically backward sections of the society, or making donations of food items, clothing and other items of daily use to poverty stricken individuals and so forth. In India, women are residing in the conditions of poverty, they are illiterate, do not have access to proper health care facilities, are victims of violence, and abuse, are discriminated against, neglected and do not enjoy the rights and opportunities as the male counterparts (Mbogori, 2014). When these factors are observed, some of the women, who are social workers work towards promoting well-being of the communities.

Status of Women in Historical Perspective:

As we all know that in our country 48% of the total population are constituted by women. In western countries women in reality are equal with men. But in Indian the situation is not so. It is evident from our culture that on one side, women have been regarded as a symbol of spirituality in our scriptures and we treat women as goddess in the form of Lakshmi, Sarasvati, Durga, etc. and the very next moment all the illegal offences are being committed against them like rape, social exploitation, kidnapping, female foeticide. In every society certain right and opportunity have been denied to women, often on the assumption that women are inferior to men in certain aspects, social evils such as dowry, sati system, child marriage and female infanticide. Were widely prevalent in early ages. The spread of education and self-consciousness among women has led to their progress over the period. Women of today are empowered also women are gaining advancement and success in each and every field. Historical studies and scriptures indicate that Indian women had high social and religious status during the early Vedic period (2000BC-1000BC). In the ancient Indus valley civilization, evidences shown the workshop of the mother goddess. Hence the veneration for the mother is evident during that period. The Aryans regarded women as useful and productive members of society, as they were busy fighting wars. In Rig Vedic era, women were admitted to full religious rights and were also having complete educational opportunities for the development of their personality. They were as many as 20 women who composed the hymns of Rig Veda. Women philosophers were called-“Brahmavadinis”.

During early Vedic period:

- Women learn Vedic literature Ex: Iopamudra.
- Women were treated as “Ardhanginis”.
- They were given equal educational opportunities.
- Divorce was not permissible.
- Widows permitted to remarry on certain conditions.
- Practice of sati is nowhere mentioned in Rig Veda.

- Dowry system was not known However, the concept of marriage as gift was prevalent.
- Freedom in selecting their mates. The ancient system of “Swayamvara”.
- Female infanticide was not there.
- Rig Veda recognized the right of inheritance of un married daughters on the property of her father but married daughters were exempted.
- Women in ancient India enjoyed considerable freedom, status and prestige in the society being the man’s companion not his attendant. However, this congruence did not last long. The status of women fell in later Vedic period and become worse during the Gupta period. But in Vedic period position of woman was not worse as that of today.

In post Vedic period:

- Women status declined and underwent major changes like were deprived of formal education, priority to son, sati, polygamy, child marriage were prevalent, widow remarriage were prohibited, no right to property etc.
- Manu, the law giver stated that women are under father during childhood, under husband during marriage, under son at old age.
- Arthashastra imposed more stigmas on woman as kautilya dismisses women liberation.

Status in medieval period:

As by passage of time, the position of women become worse in medieval period, rather to develop some good changes in their status. Unlike in ancient Indian period, the position and status of woman in the Mughal period was not quite high. During the medieval period only, system of purdah and jauhar were being introduced by Muslim & Rajput community against women.

- Purdah and child marriage had become common.
- Except those of the lower classes, women in Mughal period did not move out of houses.
- The birth of daughter was considered inauspicious, while that of a son was an occasion of celebration.

Status in modern period:

During the period of east India company, women were considered a completely inferior means inferior to male having no significance, no personality, they were treated as slave. Their position was always inferior in family They were almost have status as living human being due to effort of social reformers the status of women was improved.

Some of the social reformers and their roles:

- Peary charan Sarkar, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Jyotiba Phule etc.

- Many women social reformers like pandita Ramabai and other that time also started movement of freedom against social for protection of women.
- Rani Lakshmi Bai.
- Kasturba Gandhi, Anne Besant, Aruna Asaf Ali, Sarojini Naidu etc. Are some of women who played crucial role in freedom fight against British Rule India.
- Before rise of 20th century, Mahatma Gandhi started movement for moving disabilities against women in the society.
- Social reference also tried to give equal importance to woman with man there for in this period only many legislative enactments have been enforced by the legislator for protection of women like
- Act of sati(abolish),1829
- The Hindu widow Remarriage Act,1856.
- The child Restriction Act,1929
- The women property right Act,1937
- The Hindu Adoption and maintenance Act, 1956

Women Education:

From keeping the home safe and clean to portraying excellent outcomes in the workplace. A women can do it all. Their capabilities must not be understated based on their gender, and they should be give equal opportunity to display their talents. It is essential for us know the status of women in our society.

Women are primary caretakers of children and Elders. International studies demonstrate of society change, woman take the lead in helping the family adjusts to realities and challenges. Women held high status and position in ancient times.in later ages, her status deteriorated evidently, A majority of women still do not enjoy equal status.

Earlier women were only associated with taking care of the husband and babies. But now a days. There are engaging in work fields to explore their inner talents and also to become independent and earn for themselves. They are one of the main reason behind the progress of nation who makes our daily life's easy and the country proud.

Job Duties:

Job duties are referred to the tasks and activities that the individuals are required to carry out within their jobs. In some of the jobs, the number of job duties are numerous, whereas in others, they are less. For instance, when women are employed in educational institutions, then their job duties are primarily concerned with imparting knowledge and information to the students, so they are able to augment their understanding and career prospects. On the other hand, when women are employed as colleges or

universities as professors, then they are required to specialize in a particular subject area. They are required to take lectures as per the schedule. In addition to lectures, they are also required to get involved into research and writing activities. Research and writing are regarded as an integral part of the job duties of the educationist and a professor. Individuals are normally engaged in writing papers, articles and even books. They present these papers in seminars and conferences or send them to journals for publishing purposes. Job duties are different in other areas, such as, banks, non-government organizations, manufacturing companies and so forth. To perform one's job duties well, it is vital for the individuals to possess adequate knowledge and information.

Main Role Of A Woman In Our Society.

Role of women – Caretakers, Conscience, Farmers, Educators and Entrepreneurs. Throughout history, the central role of women in society has ensured the stability, progress and long-term development of nations. And, women self-report more often their initiative in preserving child health and nutrition. Mar 8, 2019

Women play a very vital role in human progress and have a significant place in the society. They are not at all inferior to men. They are capable of sharing all the responsibilities of life. The main responsibility of a woman is to preserve the human race.

What does it mean to be a woman in our society?

Being a woman means being able to be powerful and assertive, yet kind at the same time. It means being compassionate and vulnerable towards those we love in our lives without feeling weak for doing so. It means striving for our goals even in the face of the adversity we may encounter along the way.

How has a woman's role in society changed?

Women are now getting power even in rural areas. In many countries now women are the head of the state. Education has made women independent and they are no longer dependent on men to lead their lives. Business laws have changed to allow more women in the workplace and giving them a comfortable environment to work in.

Women's role in a relationship:

Men and women often differ in the roles they take on in their relationships. Women, on the other hand, often manage things at home, offer more emotional nurturance, and take on a role as the family planner by managing bills, planning events, and organizing the couple's or family's social life.

Special about a woman:

Women are special for many reasons. They are the most sensitive, caring and maternal people in the world. ... Women are special because they love to accomplish things and they love to work together to get what they want. Women have come so far in this world and that is what makes them so special.

Concept of being a woman:

“Being a woman means having a strong sense of identity, accepting your body as one that adapts and changes over time, being confident, and building up the people in your life. It means you have the wisdom to be grateful for what you have while still being hungry enough for growth.

The qualities of a real woman:

- Honest and Trustworthy. Trust is critical to a healthy relationship, so this one shouldn't come as a surprise.
- Authentic or Genuine.
- Independent.
- Intelligent and Curious.
- Confident.
- Supportive.
- Empathetic.
- Compassionate and Forgiving.

Role of a woman:

The woman performs the role of wife, partner, organizer, administrator, director, re-creator, disburser, economist, mother, disciplinarian, teacher, health officer, artist and queen in the family at the same time. Apart from it, woman plays a key role in the socio-economic development of the society.

Women's responsibilities:

Women's multiple roles

As a daughter, a woman is traditionally responsible for taking care of her parents. As a wife, she is expected to serve her husband, preparing food, clothing and other personal needs. As a mother, she has to take care of the children and their needs, including education.

Role of a woman in the Bible:

Women did tasks as important as those of men, managed their households, and were equals in daily life, but all public decisions were made by men. Men had specific obligations they were required to perform for their wives including the provision of clothing, food, and sexual relations.

Relationship of woman:

Here is some relationship advice for women so you can use every day to make that happen:

1. Have your own life.
2. Don't be needy.
3. Make sure you connect physically, emotionally, and mentally.
4. Don't chase him.
5. Love yourself.
6. Take care of yourself.
7. Don't be a people pleaser.
8. Speak your mind.

How a Woman Can Help Her Man Love Her Better

- “Correct him” Men, love it when the woman tells him when he wrongs.
- “Challenge him”
- “Need him”
- “Pray for him”
- “Praise him”
- “Sexually make advances”
- “Show interest in him”
- “Trust him”

However, these seven tips will guide you to become the woman you really want to be.

1. Decide what you want for yourself.
2. Love yourself.
3. Stop trash-talking other woman.
4. Love your body inexplicably.
5. Accept compliments.
6. Be proud of yourself.
7. Try new things.

Steps to Achieving Total Self-Love:

1. Stop comparing yourself to others.
2. Don't worry about others' opinions.
3. Allow yourself to make mistakes.
4. Remember your value doesn't lie in how your body looks.

5. Don't be afraid to let go of toxic people.
6. Process your fears.
7. Trust yourself to make good decisions for yourself.

Here are few things mentally strong women believe:

1. Self-Worth Should Never Be Determined By Anyone Else's Opinion.
2. Your Strength Will Sometimes Be Viewed As Weakness.
3. There's No Need To Shrink Yourself For Other People's Comfort.
4. Society Encourages Women To Engage In Unhealthy Habits.
5. Mental Strength Can Be Contagious

Ways to be the strong woman he's been looking for

1. Have strength. Don't talk about how strong you are.
2. Be you.
3. Be independent.
4. Bring something to the table, and demand he do the same.
5. Compromise.
6. Say what you mean, and mean what you say.
7. Don't get jealous.
8. Don't tolerate disrespect.

How can a woman keep a man?

1. Trust him with all your heart.
2. Have a fear of losing him.
3. Love yourself.
4. Have faith in him.
5. Make him feel handsome.
6. Make him feel he's the only one.
7. Don't make him feel jealous.
8. Let him know and understand you.

Conclusion:

Women have important roles to perform within the society, main responsibility of women is to be a good wife and a good mother. She is to look after the home and manage it to the best of her ability. more over, in order to progress women must state off the age. Old chain of slavery and superstition. They need to broaden their outlook towards the life and at the some time men also need to come out of their shell of superiority and accept women equal to them and not as decorative pieces. In India we had a galaxy of illustrious women in modern times and other women caught to take inspiration from them.

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