
THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND EQUALITY IN 21ST CENTURY CONSTITUTIONAL LAWS

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Abstract: In the world men and women are born in the equal conditions in society. In this regard unfortunately women are treated unequally with men. This condition is in relation to socio-economic, political aspects of society. However in the present day women is progressive in all fields equally with men. Over the centuries women was neglected but in the modern world women participated in all sectors. In this regard this change has begun in the last a few centuries back. So it was all occurred due to the abrupt revolutions to establish the republican democratic states by demolishing the kingdoms. This event gifted the people liberty to enjoy their rights equally without any discrimination and privileges among the people. In this way the democratic governments established constitutions of their choice and extension laws for the surviving of the states. In this regard woman was no more subordinate to any men. Further she enjoyed all the democratic rights and duties. In 21st century woman is as equal as man without any gender discrimination in all fields including military, astronomy, and administration. In this regard the democratic governments safeguarded her physically. Further governments protected her making special laws for her to enjoy the democratic rights. In the modern days women are in active participation in the process of Globalization, Privatization and Liberalization.

Keywords: Democracy, Rights, Equality, Globalization, Modernity, Subordination.

Introduction: In human history the human civilization was born equal. In this regard it was continued over a period without any discrimination among the people. However after a long time there was discrimination in relation to women. When women were treated as a weak human being, she could not be treated equally in social life. Indeed in ancient days there was a practice of patriarchal and matriarchal family systems. When there was raise of patriarchal family system the women was considered as an inferior human being to man. In this way these conditions were prevailed in entire world. However there was a difference among the upper, middle and lower stratification of the society in treatment of women. In this continuation the middle-ages also dominated and suppressed women's liberty for instance, in India women was treated in equal to the man. Further she was restricted only to the residence. In this way, women was considered as a normal being however sometimes there were some examples in the history that supported and consolidated women's determinations in capturing the power for example, in the dynasty of Moghuls, Queen Meherunnisa administrated the entire kingdom. In this way in the Western world the women was unequal to the man but rare examples can be set for example, in the Catholic Church nuns were ordained but were not treated as equal as priests.

After the middle ages there was a great transition in human thoughts and ideology and there was also abrupt raise of Humanism, Renaissance, Reformation and Counter Reformation. These thoughts awaken the human race to practice the concept of "Rationality". In the later

years women was also become part of the human thinking. In this continuation the scientific development was advanced. In addition to this there was development in social life. Because of these developments there was thought of liberation in various institutions such as the Church, family, administrative bodies and the other human related ones. As a result of rationality the nations deserved to be freed from the tyrannies of the Kings and Queens. Further there were serious consequences in relation to this matter such as demolishing of kingdoms and establishment of “democratic, republican states.” At this movement in some countries Kings and Queens became nominal but the representatives of the people without gender discrimination were elected and participated in the parliaments. Besides these developments there were some women were active in literature, science and administration for instance, Mary Shelly was a greatest literary artist in 19th Century, Queen Victoria became an influential figure. But at the same time the common people struggled to enjoy democratic rights especially women.

Because of these conditions the constitutions were turned on the foundations of liberty, equality, and fraternity. Some special laws were made for the protection of women. Further the women movements were raised to safe guard their rights. At this movement in 20 and 21st centuries women were as equal as men. So they enjoyed human rights but most of the times they were violated by men. For instance, in post colonial era the newly gained independent countries were more conscious about women protection and special rights to safe guard them in the form of “Reservations”. In addition to these fundamental concepts the constitutions guaranteed the special laws and the same were protected by the constitutional apex courts. Further in terms of socio, economic, political, physical, psychological, sociological and moral aspects the women are treated as equal as men. In Indian constitution the women were guaranteed in fundamental rights and duties with the inclusive of preamble. Further all the articles in the constitution are applicable to women without any gender discrimination. In addition to this the new laws were incorporated to the constitutional laws these are known as the extended laws to support women.

In the modern world contrary to the traditional women activities the women joined in new professions so the special rules and regulations were made in the institutions of the governments to secure women's rights for instance, women's maternal leave is granted to support women for the safeguarding of health on the grounds of gender. In addition to this women are also allowed to join the new professions and protected by government to manage timings. In India women are granted 33% percentage of reservation in granting government jobs. In this way this reservation facility is applicable to all the areas of the government schemes.

In the modern days women's participation is involved in many areas. She is able to contribute her intellectual capacities and physical capacities equally with men. In this regard the status of woman is recognized as the equal human being to the man. Further women are able to work for the society in various fields. Once she was restricted only to the home by cooking and other women related work such as stitching and designing clothes but today she is able to come out of the home and make herself to be employed in the society she is able to stand on her own feet. In this way she participates in the politics and speaks in the assemblies and parliament. She is also taking her own decision to any work. Since the special protection is guaranteed by constitution the people no more fell behind the progress the people are also active in

eronautical and navigation department. In Indian constitution the women is guaranteed all rights equivalent to men.

Further in the modern world women is able to travel from one place to another to be employed and educate themselves. It strengthens the women to do all the activities. The westernization also gifted the women to have passion for various professions. In relation to this women learnt the liberal thinking and enjoying the democratic rights. Further in India women enjoy the democratic rights even though they belong to various religious cultural and caste communities further the westernization made the other nations to have impact on them because of these influences women could change their habitual actions by doing exercises and strengthening herself and joining in army and in the department of police and home guard.

She is also active in changing herself from the style of wearing clothes from traditional dress of blouse and saree to the modern western styles of wearing dresses. On the models of Queens clothes wearing. In this regard the constitution al loss liberated and the Indian women and in other parts of the world. She could also strengthen herself by educating and free to take up of the jobs of her choice further she is also active in participate in research and development.

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