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**GENDER DISCRIMINATION AND WOMAN IN RURAL
NAGAUR DISTRICT, RAJASTHAN.**



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Short Profile

Bharat Ratnu is work as an Assistant Professor at Department of Geography in Shivaji College.



ABSTRACT:

The study has been conducted in the villages named- Marwa, Dengana, Manani, Nimdi Kala, Gawardi, Thawlan, Nagwada, Kalyanpuraetc. in Nagaur District, Rajasthan.This paper is an attempt to bring out the issues to identify and understand the linkages between gender discrimination and patriarchal domination, the nature of gender discrimination at interior household in rural Nagaur, and the causes and consequences of practice of gender discrimination in the society.Paper also deals with certain issues like Division of work

in family, Education and gender, Traditional mindset, Gender socialization, Decision Making and Empowerment of women, which give better explanation of Gender discrimination in the path of inclusive development of the region.

KEYWORDS

Gender Patriarchal Traditionalmindset Empowerment Inclusive Development.

1.1 INTRODUCTION :

A great irony exist in a country like India where one side they are considered as pure, serene and are worshipped, where as in rural areas they are considered as an object which can be used and thrown away. It is believed that woman were considered equal to men in the society during the ancient period but it has been proved by the recent norms that time and perception keeps on changing with time. The practices like sati, jauhar, devdasis and purdah were prevalent during that time period, still the role for both the sections of the society were totally different, so the issue of gender discrimination has been existent from past days and it is still in practice. Male dominant society plays very diplomatically and lures women to do their work by keeping them at the divine place and worship them. Gender bifurcates the role of different sections of the society and the attitudes towards such roles and responsibilities. These attributes determine the relationship strength between the two sections of the society. The upbringing of each individual in the society is such that it used to determine what people used to think about each other and their capabilities. They develop their mindset through the institutions like families, governments' policies and regulations, communities' practices and beliefs. Men on one side, were considered to be capable, logical, decisive and stronger when compare to female section of the society. Lack of education, lack of exposure to the outer world leads to cropping up of such kind of belief in the minds of different individuals.

If we consider the economic condition of the society it is observed that female section of the society is not at all employed due to gender discrimination that prevails in work places. This arises because of not providing proper education to the individuals of the society. The condition of women in the society has declined or fallen to such a level that they consider giving birth to a girl as a sin practices like dowry forces them to kill their girl child at the time of their birth. Such kind of practices changes the mindset of the individual towards each other. The perception still exists that giving birth to a girl child will get them no returns as a result they reduce their expenses in the education of their daughter inadequate nutrition at an early age. Perception of female being physically weaker than men compels them to get victimized of gender discrimination.

1.2. STUDY AREA

This paper talks about gender discrimination in Nagaur district of Rajasthan. Nagaur District is situated between 26°25' & 27°40' North Latitude & 73°.10' & 75°.15' East Longitude. Nagaur climate reach to its extremity as hot and dry in summers and very cold in winters. Maximum temperature in summer reaches to 47 Degree Celsius and sand storms are very common for Nagaur. Minimum temperature dips to 5 Degree Celsius in winter. In such harsh condition woman act as the backbone of the entire family. Our study has been done in the villages named- Marwa, Dengana, Manani, Limdi Kala, Gawardi, Thawlan, Nagwada, Kalyanpura etc.

1.3. OBJECTIVES OF THIS ARTICLE

This study was persuaded with the following objectives –

1. To identify and understand the linkages between gender discrimination and patriarchal domination.

2. To find out in details the nature of gender discrimination at interior household in interior rural Nagaur.
3. To identify the causes and consequences of practice of gender discrimination in the society.

1.4. DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

For the purpose of the study small scale field survey was conducted in 7-8 villages of Nagaur district of Rajasthan, India in 2015. The respondents were randomly selected. They were interviewed using semi-structured questionnaire designed for the purpose with semi-participant observation method. Informal and formal interview methods have been used. Finally, the below mentioned findings are deduced on analyzing the collected information. Literacy Data is taken from Census of India, 2011. Literacy rate is calculated and chart produced by Ms. Excel 2010.

1.5. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Gender discrimination is a practice which we face when both the genders exhibit the desire of substituting their duties without giving and due credit to each other. In such situations the dominant force becomes the aggressor and other section of the society is not left with any other option rather than becoming the victim of the actions of the dominant force.

Gender discrimination can also be defined as the perceptions of men which compel them or convince them of women being less capable than them and it's their right whether women should be allowed to use their rights or not. It is the perception or point of view of an individual which makes them think whether women are equal to men or not. These kinds of differences are observed in rural areas where the female sections of the society are considered to be incapable of doing anything in their life. They themselves are not the only who should be held responsible but another important factor which causes such circumstances to prevail is the lack of basic resources which prohibits them from fulfilling their basic amenities. They have to struggle a lot in their day to day life like looking after their children who are frequently ill; moreover their husbands try to dominate over them without contributing much to their livelihood. Girls at a very young age are made to work day and night apart from their education, i.e. they have to take care of their siblings when their parents are out. Girls are compelled to drop their education at an early age which refrain them from gaining adequate knowledge and skills and hence they face a lot of hindrances in their day to day life. An even factor like lack of proper food, unhealthy and polluted environment and inadequate exposure to education contributes to such pathetic conditions to prevail in the society. The upbringing of the girls in the society is the major factor for their growth to be affected.

This paper is an attempt to bring out the following issues that has and is continuing to affect the life of rural women in the Nagaur District of Rajasthan.

1.5.1. Division of work in family

A situation referring to heavy workload of women in which she has to do all her house work including fetching water from tube well which is at distance of around 2-3kms from their houses? Men are mainly unemployed or who so ever are they are engaged in farming activities. Thus the distribution of work in each and every family was not appropriate and the women were overburdened.

1.5.2. Education and gender

It was seen there that though most of the men were literate rather educated and were handling the B.Ed. degree they were unemployed. The main purpose to make them literate was to make them eligible for marriage. Girls were given education but were asked to leave it at early age to help her mother at home or to get married. Most of the girls were asked to leave their school in 8th standard. But as we know that education increases the sphere of knowledge and gives direction to the development of an individual's personality and also increases the chances of getting financially rewarding jobs and access to credit facilities. So, this should be given the first priority by the villagers.

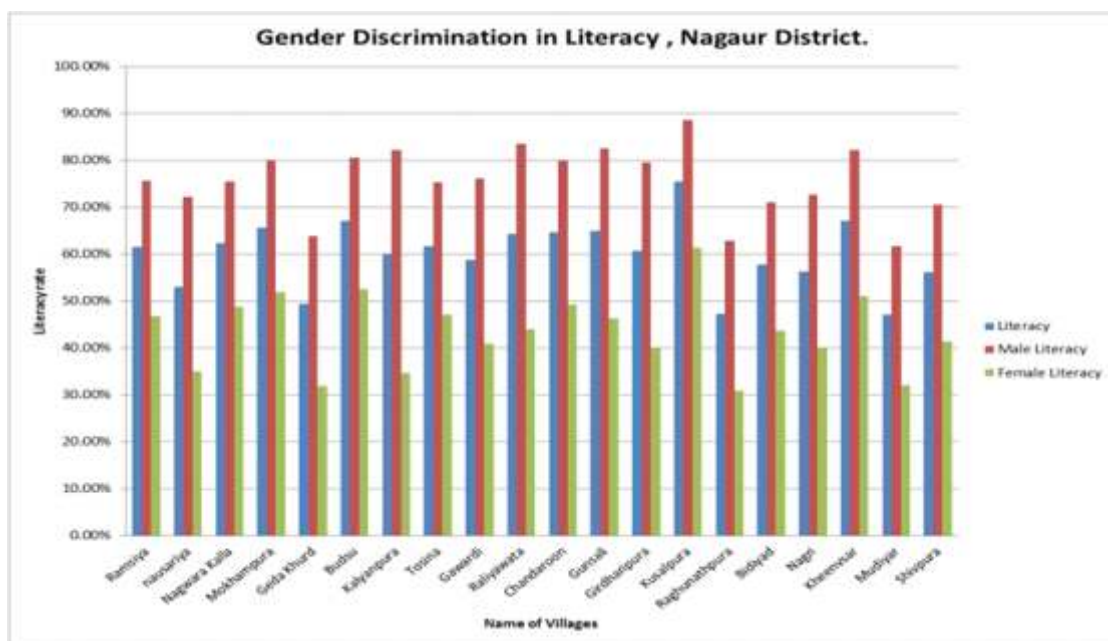


Figure.1. Literacy Rate of Male and Female of certain villages of Nagaur Districts, Rajasthan, 2011.(Census of India, 2011)

From above figure.1 one can observe that female literacy as compared to male literacy is very low. This is because women's are not allowed to move out of their homes. If girls are allowed then only to fetch water from tube well & their most of the time is consumed in fetching the water. They have a mindset that girls are made to do all house work and they should learn that and education is not their cup of tea. Some of them were found literate but went to school only till 8th standard.

1.5.3.Traditional mindset

The mindset of people of Nagaur district is rooted to their tradition. Men don't help their wives or daughter in their household work nor even try bringing water from well. As per the survey conducted, when the questions were given to men why don't you help in bringing water? The answer given by them that they feel shy more over there ego is hurt. Their mindset is such that women are made only to do household work and so they do.

1.5.4. Gender socialization

Being competent and successful in the society is of utmost importance in today's era. So most of the mothers try to inculcate social competencies in their daughters. So they educate their daughters and try to make them competitive. But the insecurity and atrocities among the people outside the house restrict them from walking ahead in different phases of life. The observations from the conducted survey have shown that women are the most disadvantaged section of the society. They are compelled to leave their education at an early stage which prevents their growth and restricts them from socializing with the rest of the society. It is the belief system of the individual in the Nagaur district which promotes gender discrimination. The society should be freed from such practices, probably that will be the phase when the society will start to grow and the efforts of the female section of the society will start showing positive results.

1.5.5. Decision Making

Even in the family as well as in the society the decision making power of women is denied. Mostly males make the important decision in the family and in the society. This makes women voiceless and destroys confidence and she feels less important in the family as well as in the society. So, to end gender discrimination women must be empowered with decision making power.

1.5.6. Empowerment

Empowering women with the help of laws, education and employment will make the society to accept the women as an equal gender like male. Female also has all the potential and empowering women will help to use her full capability and mitigate the economic dependency of women.

1.6. CONCLUSION

Gender equality is necessary for the achievement of human rights. But it's true that discriminatory laws against women exist in every corner of the globe and new discriminatory laws are enforced. In all legal traditions many laws continue to institutionalize lower status for women and girls with regard to nationality and citizenship, health, education, employment rights, parental rights, inheritance, property rights etc. These forms of discrimination against women are incompatible with women's empowerment. Throughout the world, women are seen as the important part of the society in contributing to national income. This phenomenon is not only seen in developed countries of the world but even in developing countries like India too. If we take India in account then there are places where this type of discrimination is not practiced as in Delhi, Kerala etc. but if we look into interior parts then discrimination has its long way.

Giving women equal rights and opportunities will only serve to intensify this contribution and to bring us closer to the goal of eliminating poverty, illiteracy, etc. There is a statement by Mahatma Gandhi- "Womanhood is not restricted to the kitchen", he opined and felt that "Only when the woman is liberated from the slavery of the kitchen, that her true spirit may be discovered". To increase the social and economic status of women it is foremost needed to transform prevailing social

discrimination of society. Education is the one and only factor that can help break the system of gender discrimination and bring lasting change for women in developing and under-developed countries. Educated women are essential for ending gender bias.

The above mentioned fact and research will help the readers to realize the realistic truth of discrimination in our rural India. It is true that this discrimination is rooted in their soil but our change in mentality and government initiative will help us reducing it.

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Appendix.1.

Gender Discrimination in Literacy, Nagaur District, Rajasthan.									
S.No.	Name of Village	Taluka	Total No. of Houses	Population	Male Population	Female Population	Literacy	Male Literacy	Female Literacy
1	Bansija	Makrana	403	2,547	1,286	1,261	61.45%	75.57%	46.75%
2	Bhacariya	Makrana	139	852	419	433	53.02%	72.12%	34.96%
3	Magwan Kalla	Makrana	131	718	375	343	62.30%	75.47%	48.68%
4	Mokharpara	Makrana	158	666	329	337	65.61%	80.07%	51.89%
5	Geda Bhand	Makrana	38	170	97	73	49.30%	63.86%	31.88%
6	Badon	Makrana	1,554	9,464	4,958	4,506	67.08%	80.47%	52.43%
7	Kalyanpara	Didwana	94	518	270	248	60.09%	82.20%	34.63%
8	Tosim	Didwana	835	4,662	2,408	2,254	61.62%	75.23%	47.04%
9	Gowandi	Merta	252	1,261	635	626	58.65%	76.16%	40.87%
10	Baliyawa	Merta	125	627	326	301	64.23%	83.39%	43.96%
11	Chandron	Degana	786	4,034	2,031	2,003	64.65%	79.92%	49.19%
12	Gawal	Degana	345	1,673	869	804	64.86%	82.46%	46.21%
13	Gulabpara	Ladnu	113	688	360	328	60.61%	79.55%	39.86%
14	Kawalpara	Ladnu	183	991	504	487	75.40%	88.59%	61.30%
15	Bhagwanpara	Parbatsar	307	1,656	869	787	47.31%	62.77%	30.90%
16	Maliyad	Parbatsar	1,622	9,502	4,922	4,580	57.68%	70.94%	43.62%
17	Magi	Kheerwar	604	3,402	1,729	1,673	56.77%	72.57%	39.86%
18	Kheerwar	Kheerwar	1,680	9,729	5,028	4,701	66.99%	82.07%	51.01%
19	Maliyar	Nagaur	624	3,292	1,676	1,616	47.06%	61.65%	32.01%
20	Shikpa	Nagaur	158	910	457	453	56.02%	70.88%	41.40%

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