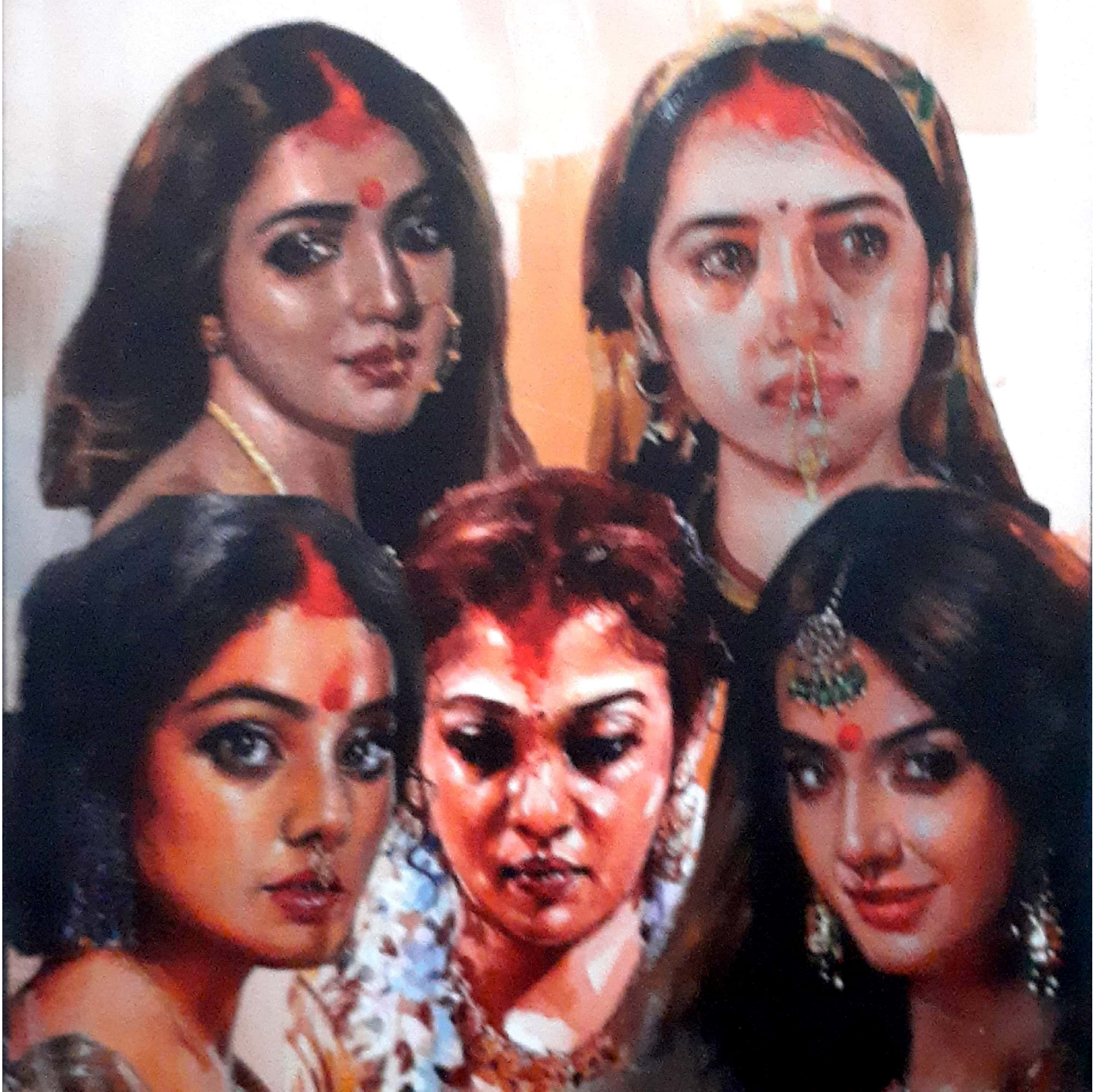


WOMEN IN INDIAN SOCIETY

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Role of Education in Women Empowerment

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Introduction

Education of women is a crucial concern for both the government and civil society in India since educated women may considerably contribute to the development of their nation. Education is a key component of women's empowerment since it enables them to respond to difficulties, question their empowerment roles, and change their lives. In view of India's recent ascent to traditional roles and the widespread empowerment of women, we must not underestimate the relevance of education. Education is the most efficient way to improve the status of women in society. Women's education in India has become more important than ever because it is the cornerstone of women's empowerment. Additionally, education reduces inequality and serves as a tool for welfare of the women.

Every Indian girl born has the right to knowledge and education. But regrettably, the majority of women in the nation do not have access to this right because of the strongly patriarchal nature of our society. As we are increasingly coming to realize, society cannot function without the active participation of women, but in most rural (and in some cases, even metropolitan) areas of India, women are still seen as unable to make their own judgments.

The term "women empowerment" describes the authority given to women who have equal rights. The expression refers to women becoming freed from socioeconomic reliance. Even in the lack of employment, the majority of women in the country—roughly 50% of the overall population—remain economically dependent on one another. Some Indian women are now free to exercise their free will and live the lives they desire in the period of feminism. However, there is a substantial group of women in this nation that require positive reinforcement. Despite having the essential information, women are still not permitted to gain a basic education in the majority of Indian villages and semi-urban areas.

Every civilization looks to women as its cornerstone since they can easily perform a variety of tasks each day. In societies where men rule, women perform a range of roles, such as loyal daughters, dedicated mothers, and skilled coworkers.

They are exceptional in every way, which is one of their fantastic qualities. They have, however, also acted as a social class that has been disregarded in other parts of the world. It has thus caused women to experience the worst forms of oppression, financial dependence, inequality, and other societal problems. Women have long been held captive by chains, preventing them from attaining their full potential on the personal and professional fronts.

Women must be empowered if society is to advance as a whole. However, there are many different elements that affect women's empowerment in India, including geographic location (rural vs. urban), educational attainment, social standing, etc. There are already national and municipal policies on women's empowerment in a number of areas, such as education, employment possibilities, healthcare, and political engagement, but there are significant gaps between the development of these policies and their implementation at the local level.

The key to unlocking the door to grassroots women's empowerment is education. According to the 2011 census, India's female literacy rate is 65.46%, whereas the male literacy rate is over 80%. Even if we still have a long way to go before closing the gap in terms of literacy rates, women must pursue higher education in order to increase productivity and secure well-paying jobs. For women's rights, security, dignity, and overall empowerment, online education can work wonders. Education of female citizens is the sole means by which we, as a community, can advance and strive for economic progress.

Actors Affecting Women's Empowerment In India

1. **Gender Discrimination:** The issue of gender discrimination has slowed India's progress on empowering women. There must be no gender discrimination in any sphere of activity. To achieve the goal of empowering women, women must be provided with a venue to actively participate in decision-making at all levels and direction processes. To fulfill their destiny, individuals must receive the respect and notoriety that they are entitled to in society based on their merits.
2. **Educational Factor-** The most important factor in growth and advancement is education. It is the sole relevant tool for predicting the empowerment of women and the development of human resources in India. It sheds light on the options for finding work and supporting oneself, which in turn revives women's economic empowerment. People need to realize the worth and significance of women's education if India is to join the group of developed nations, and they should work together to put India on the progressive path. Education instills a sense of responsibility in a person, empowering them to comprehend, interpret, critique, and ultimately influence their environment. It leads to the acquisition of a

2.1 Education Liberates: Education liberates the mind and opens it up to people and possibilities we would have never thought of otherwise. Whether you're studying language, history, science or literature, you are gaining knowledge and educating yourself about the world. About how nature, people, nations and the world works. Therefore, an educated woman is a liberated woman.

2.2 Education offers Independence: As education opens up the doors to a new enlightened world, it enables women to make their own life choices about anything and everything, whether it is lifestyle, career, sexuality, life-partner, food etc. Education is the key to understanding the difference between right and wrong standing up against oppression and gender discrimination and making correct choices in life. Education allows women to ignore moronic societal diktats and live life on their own terms.

2.3 Eradicating Social Evils: As mentioned earlier, education is the key to understanding the difference between right and wrong and standing up against oppression; it galvanizes women to take a stand against social evils which plague the society. An intellectual and enlightened woman will actively participate in the fight against dowry, sexual harassment, objectification, misogyny and patriarchy.

2.4 Financial Independence: Women can now choose careers that are more specialized thanks to education. Today, women are pursuing careers in modeling, acting, architecture, engineering, journalism, law, management, CEOs, science, the armed services, and even national leadership. There is no longer a career that can be considered to be exclusively human. The free and empowered woman of the twenty-first century is shattering the glass barrier and discovering her own position in society. The educated woman no longer needs a guy to give her a place to live and food. She is more than capable of supporting herself financially, purchasing her own home, and purchasing food.

Conclusion

Women are essential in moving a nation forward and guiding it in the direction of progress. Since women are essential elements of a healthy humanity that are required for national growth, providing them with access to education must be a top priority if we want to see a bright future for them in our country. Empowerment is the ability to go from a vulnerable position to wield a power. Women's education is the most successful strategy for shifting society's perspective. Education also raises a person's status within the family and contributes to the reduction of inequality. In order to further women's education at all levels and to eliminate gender discrimination in the distribution of knowledge and education, there are already schools, colleges, and universities that are exclusively for female students.

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