

Q) Discuss the evolution of feminism in Pakistan comprehensively.

Answer:-

Introduction:-

The evolution of feminism in Pakistan consists of many tenures i.e. after independence many associations were established like APWA, 1949 and different tenures of different leaders, political parties and acts. In 1996, Pakistan ratified CEDAW (Convention for elimination of all discrimination against women) through which it also showed interest on global level. There were some laws implementation for women during the time of 2008—2013. So there were a lot of happening regarding the evolution of feminism in Pakistan.

Independence movement:-

Before independence, the two main pillars of this evolution were: Fatima Jinnah (mother of nation) and Ranadivrat Ali Khan.

After independence:-

APWA (All Pakistan Women Association):-
1949

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Founder = Rana Liaqat ali khan.

Initially it was formed for the refugees crisis in Pakistan, but afterwards it was allined with women association.

*) Ayub Khan Era:-

Muslim law ordinance 1961:-

In ayub Khan's tenure muslim law ordinance was formed for initiation of women rights. It is stated as:

- 1) Protection was given to women
- 2) No man can have second marriage without consent of first wife
- 3) Obligation for men to register nikkah

*) Zulfiqar ali bhutto Era:-

Constitution of Pakistan was held in 1973 and bhutto had some advancements for women.

- 1) Seats for women were reserved in national and provisional assembly
- 2) In 1976, Bhutto's wife highlighted women issues and participated in first world women in 1975.

*) President Ziaulhaq Era:-

Haddood ordinance 1979:-

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- There were some standards made:-
- 1) Rape victim to provide four witness.
 - 2) Zina biljabar had a punishment which was hundred lashes.

Case of safia bibi and hudood ordinance 1983:-

A 13 years old blind girl safia was raped but she wasent able to prove that infact she was punished. Asma Jahangir took her case so that the verdict was over.

Women action forum 1981 (Reaction to hudood ordinance:-

In reaction to hudood ordinance women action forum was initiated to strengthen the position of women in our socitey.

Qanone shadat 1984:-

According to qanone sahadat, women evidence will be taken half; it reflects the teachings of islam.

Humman right comission of pakistan:-

Cofounder = Asma Jhangir

Human right commission's goal was to realise the entire body of human rights as they were defined in international system by all citizens of Pakistan.

↳ Benazir Era:

That was an influential era in which a lot of hardwork was done.

- i) Ministry of women development MWD was formed in 1989.
- ii) First women bank 1989:-

This initiative was taken to make women an independent economic entity in the society.

CEDAW (Convention for elimination of all discrimination against women) 1996

This is an international treaty for women rights evolution which Pakistan signed in 1996. Onwards, Pakistan has to follow the initiatives taken by this association.

↳ Nawaz Sharif era:

National plan of action 1998:-

This was an initiative taken for the promotion of inter-disciplinary field of women

and gender studies in government and private educational institution.

1) Musharraf Era 1999 — 2008:-

In 2000, National Commission of Status of Women was established. It was for the commitment of government of Pakistan for women.

Women protection bill (2006):-

This protection bill has eased many aspects for women it includes.

- 1) Diluted hudood ordinance to some extent.
- 2) Removal of whipping as punishment
- 3) Rape to be proved on grounds other than witness such as dna & forensic evidence.

Musharraf introduced 30% of quota for women in government system and 10% in civil service.

1) (Pakistan Peoples Party) 2008—2013:-

Some prominent laws were implemented against women oppression and for their rights.

- 1) Protection against women at work-place.
- 2) Criminal law amendment was

- taken place.
- 3) Establishment of national commission for human rights (2012).
 - 4) Fund act 2011, It was established for financial, legal assistance to the deserving women of the society.
 - 5) In 2016, an online act was passed against online threats to women.

- 4) N-League tenure (2013-2018) :-
Nawaz sharif started prime minister youth loan scheme from which 50 percent of scheme was allocated to women to encourage them for business and entrepreneurship.

Important Organization in Pakistan :-

There had been some organization in Pakistan after independence to contrall subordination and women oppression.

- 1) APWA (1949)
- 2) Women action forum (1981)
- 3) Aurat foundation (1986)
- 4) Humman right commission (1987)
- 5) National commission on status of women (2000)

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Conclusion:-

It has been seven decades since the inception of Pakistan, after its independence it has witnessed a lot of phases and achievements for women rights and ease. From **APWA 1949** to **2008-2013** **Laws** for women right there had been a lot of investments by different personalities, **Fatima jinnah** to **Rana Liaquat Khan**, all of them invested their motives for social, educational, marital and economic rights.