

Women are more than just
mother, daughter and wife.

OUTLINE

1- Introduction

A women's role has long been defined in accordance with her domestic standing. This not only subordinates her contribution to the society but also allows men to comfortably remain in the driving seat of life. Individual recognition is every human's right and it can be achieved in this case through societal reforms and attitude changes.

2- Role of women beyond their associations with men

3- Factors used to reinforce 'her' position in a supporting role

a) Inherent societal upbringing that lacks equity

b) The religion card - a means to suppress

c) Alpha male phenomenon - the subjugation of women that comes with it.

d) Media industry shaping up minds that link heroism

to a specific gender

e) Women: a rolling to further a man's honour

4- Glass ceiling translated into lifestyles due to defined roles

a) Domestic role becomes the primary role

b) Mens' ambitions are prioritized in a competitive setting

c) 50% of the population is subsided and sidelined

d) Achievements of females get overshadowed by male family members especially in informal sectors.

5- Gradual evolution of womens' role as equal citizens instead of cogs of a household machine

a) Pre suffrage times - 1st wave of feminism: an inclusion of women as citizens

b) Approaches: 'Women in Development', 'Women and Development' and 'Gender and Development' - in recognizing ignored contributions of women.

c) Emergence of radical notions to fight the seemingly normal discourse - 2nd wave of feminism and Pakistan centric movements

d) Contemporary feminism based on equity, inclusivity and emancipation from the idea of recognizing women in relation to someone.

6- Moving towards acknowledging women for who they are

a) Policy alterations - done not on the lines of quota but normalized inclusion e.g. Election Act 2017

b) Subtle media campaigns along with strong female characters in dramas and films

c) Narrative correction to be carried out by religious clergy instead of bodies already treated as anomalies by the society

d) Structural reforms to encourage men's domestic role such as paternity leaves.

e) Legislative reforms to omit honour centric and gender based violence and simultaneously relieve women of the honour burden.

7 - Conclusion