

Write a note on status of ^{gender} women studies in Pakistan. Give views on the autonomy versus integration debate in gender studies.

Exordium

Gender studies is a new subject but it became the part of system fastly because of its scope. It emerged in Pakistan in late 20th century and now most of the universities are offering courses in it. However, gender studies faced a debate of autonomy versus integration debate. Gender studies investigate the actual (physical and biological) construction of gender and critically examine how it is translated in socio cultural context.

Gender studies in world

Gender studies is a subject of 1990s however, started from Mary Kibbed bread in 1934 presented an outline of 84 pages, 'A Changing Political Economy as it affected women'. It laid foundation and in

1970s University of San Diego started women courses. In 1990, the first Master in University of Kent was started.

→ Gender studies in Pakistan

The journey of gender studies in Pakistan has been started from 1992, when University of Karachi started first gender studies masters. Later, it was grown into Mphil and Phd. However, in 2007 it became a master BS(Hon.)

- A National Women Division was established to support females and give credit to their contributions.
- Women study centers to research women contributions and achievements and help them emerging on main stream.
- A subject of 'Gender Studies' was added in outline of CSS
- A complete ministry was established named 'Ministry of Women Development'.

- Pakistan started publishing a journal named 'Pakistan journal on women studies'
- Centre of Excellence established in Quaid-e-Azam University and now it is offering M.Phil.

⇒ Universities playing leading role:

- 1- University of Sindh, Jamshore.
2. University of Balochistan.
- 2- Bahauddin Zakariya University
- 4- Fatima Tahirah women university
- 5- Punjab University ranking first in gender studies.

1- Problem in practical implementation

Limited scholarship: In Pakistan, there is very limited local religious scholarship. There is a need of 'Islamic feminism interpretation'.

Narrow acceptance: These ideas usually face criticism in Pakistan. The local scholars can contribute in broadening its acceptance. The

emergence of local scholarly content and broaden acceptance can make it a wider subject in Pakistan.

2- Need in Pakistan

- a) It is required to understand the social construction of gender.
- b) Pakistan is a patriarchal society and gender studies challenges patriarchy.
- c) To examine 'foeticide'. DAWN published 'No country for girls'. From 2000-2014, among 24 million abortions of girls, 1.4 million was from Pakistan.

use more credible resources.

⇒ Autonomy versus Integration Debate.

This debate was started in 1982 when women studies broaden its scope and become gender studies. The supporters of both autonomy and integration gave their own views. The supporter of autonomy of gender studies contributed that it must

be a separate subject because.

- 1- Spirit: To make the spirit of gender studies alive, it is necessary to make it a separate subject.
- 2- Contemporary issues: If gender studies is separate subject it will be able to solve new issues which is difficult if it is part of other subject.
- 3- No constraint: The limits of other subject will be implemented on gender studies and it will remain an unexplored subject.
- 4- Theories: Gender studies as an autonomous subject will develop its own theories without influence of other subjects.
- 5- Inclusive: Gender studies is an inclusive subject and its scope will be limited if it is integrated.
- 6- Rise: Gender studies can rise as a vast subject only if is autonomous.

use elaborate and self explanatory headings.

add and highlight references/examples against these arguments.

Integration: Those who favoured the integration of gender studies contributed.

1- Practical field: The integration of gender studies limited the need to establish new theories and directly ~~used~~ the ideas to practical field.

2. Impact on policy: When gender studies become the part of different subjects. It will impact policies more efficiently.

3. Widen scope: It will make those students also to study gender studies who are not aware of its real nature. Patriarchy stops them to go for gender studies. So, it must be the part of other subjection.

Solution:

Jean Fox O gave the solution that it must be a separate subject but also to ~~integrate~~ with other subjects.

add more arguments.

a 20 marks answer should have around 15 arguments.

DATE: _____

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'Gender studies is a discipline
and multidisciplinary field.'

Denouement

Gender studies must be an
autonomous field and its practical-
ity forces to make it a part of
other subjects as well. The signifi-
cance of gender studies can only
be justified by this way. However,
in Pakistan it has been establis-
hed as a discipline and many
universities are offering courses. But,
for practical implementation local
scholarly content and broader
acceptability is needed.