

Gender Studies

Part-II

No. 4 Provide an outline and explanation of the three major waves of feminist movements in the west. In your opinion what type of feminism could elevate socio-economic status of women in Pakistan.

Answer:

* First wave of Feminism (19th - early 20th century)

=> Fight for legal & Political Rights

Issues:

- Focused on Women Suffrage (right to vote, education and occupation)
- Property Rights, inheritance rights and educational access.
- Initiated movements to combat legal discrimination.

Events:

Suffrage movement (1920) in the US and UK, leading to the 19th Amendment in US Constitution.

Key Figures: Abigail Adams, Mary Wollstonecraft, Frances Wright, Mathew Carey.

Impacts:

- Opening of higher education for women.
- Property Rights
- Right to Vote

2. Second wave (1960s-1980s): Social and Economic Equality

Issues:

- challenged gender roles and societal norms.
- Advocated for reproductive rights, workplace equality and protection from domestic violence.
- Introduction of concept of intersectionality.

Events:

- Equal pay Act (1963)
- Campaign for reproductive rights

Key figures:

- Betty Friedan - work on gender roles
- Simone de Beauvoir - wrote novels, 'The Second Sex' (1949)

Impacts:

- women entered workforce in large numbers
- Institutionalization of policies supporting gender equality.

3. Third wave (1990s - present) : Diversity and inclusivity

Key Issues:

- embracing diversity in color, race, sexual orientation and global perspectives.
- Critiqued ^{for} ~~for~~ ^{the} earlier waves for ignoring marginalized groups.
- Advocated for body positivity and LGBTQ's Rights.

Key characteristics:

- Decentralized and grass root movements
- use of digital activism & social media

Impact:

- Broader definition of feminism emerged with greater inclusivity.
- challenged patriarchal structure in popular culture media and work place.

Feminism in Pakistan : Elevating Socio Economic Status of women

The type of feminism that could elevate socio-economic status of women in Pakistan would be the Islamic feminism.

what is Islamic feminism?: Islamic feminism, as Islam is the biggest protagonist of Human Right especially women rights, gave the first charter of Human Rights in history not only women but for man and all mankind collectively. The last sermon of the Holy Prophet ^{Pbuh} explicitly defies all kinds of racial and ethnical distinctions among humans and set out the principles and teaching that would serve the humanity for years to come.

Cultural Relevance: as Pakistan is predominantly a Muslim state, making Islamic feminism more acceptable than the western ideals of feminism.

Education: Encourages women's access to education, inspired by historical Muslim women figures like Fatima al-Fihri.

Economic Empowerment: promotes women's right to work and own property.

Policy Influence: Advocates for reforms with Shariah compliant framework, improving women's socio economic conditions.

Thus we can conclude that in context of Pakistan a hybrid and modern approach incorporating values of Islamic feminism with grassroots efforts can provide a culturally sensitive yet transformative solution to elevate socioeconomic status of women in Pakistan.

Q.No-8

write short notes on

a- Women & Globalization

Globalization has increased the interconnectedness of the world through trade, technology and cultural exchange, has had a profound impact on women. It has brought a lot of opportunities as well as challenges for women's empowerment.

Globalization has created job opportunities for women particularly in industries like textile, electronics and services. Many women in developing countries have entered

the workforce, gaining financial independence. Global exchange of ideas has increased awareness about women's education, leading to improved access to schools and universities. Women Rights movement has gained momentum through international collaboration leading to stronger advocacy for gender equality.

On the other hand, globalization has also caused exploitation of women labor, working in poor conditions, low wages and limited rights in export oriented industries. Globalization may undermine local cultures and traditions that celebrate women's role. Despite technological advancement, women in many parts of the world lack access to digital tools and resources. The benefits of globalization are not evenly distributed and many women remain marginalized.

b- WID, WAD, GAD

Women in Development (WID)

- **Origin:** emerged in 1970s.
- **Focus:** Incorporating women into development projects.
- **Key assumptions:** Women were left out of development processes and needed to be integrated to ensure success.
- **Strategies:** Advocated for women's access to education, employment and credit.
- **Critics:** Focused only on women's ~~edu~~ ~~tion~~ and inclusion, without addressing systematic inequalities or societal structures.

Women And Development (WAD)

- **Origin:** developed as critique of WID in late 1970s.

Focus: Emphasized the link between women's oppression and global capitalist structures.

Key Assumption: Women have always been active in development but are exploited by existing economic systems.

Strategies: Advocated for women focused projects and recognised women's productive and reproductive role.

Criticism: Limited focus on role of men and ignored the importance of gender relations.

Gender and Development (GAD)

- **Origin:** Emerged in 1980s
- **Focus:** Analyzing gender relations and addressing systematic inequalities
- **Key Assumptions:** development must address the dynamic between men & women and focus on transforming social structures.
- **Strategies:** Advocated for participatory approaches, gender mainstreaming and policy reforms to achieve equality.

Criticism: difficult to implement in societies resistant to changing gender norms.

Q-7 Explain the....

Structural & Direct Violence

1. Structural violence

Structural violence refers to systemic inequalities embedded in social, political and economic structures that hinder women's progress and violate their rights.

Forms of Structural violence in Pakistan:-

- Educational disparities:

Limited access to education for girls especially in rural and remote tribal areas due to cultural norms. The overall enrollment stood at 27% for girls as compared to 73 percent for boys.

- Economic marginalization:-

women face restricted access to employment unequal pay and lack of inheritance rights despite legal protections.

- Health Inequalities:-

Limited access to maternal healthcare, leading to high maternal mortality rates.

- cultural Practices: customs like child marriage dowry honor killing, acid attacks, lynching are institutionalized form of violence.

Feminist structuralism explains the structural violence among women as how patriarchal society institutionalize power balance that suppress women. The patriarchal and male-dominated society in Pakistan has supported structural violence against women. Marxist feminism has also described the economic exploitation of women by linking it to Capitalism.

Forms of Direct Violence in Pakistan:

- direct violence refers to physical, emotional and psychological harm inflicted on women.

⇒ Domestic violence: physical, emotional abuse by spouses or family members justified by societal norms.

⇒ Sexual violence: Harassment assault and rape with victims often facing social stigma and inadequate legal support.

⇒ Honor Killing: Acts of violence justified by perceived threats to family honor.

⇒ Workplace Harassment: discrimination and harassment in professional setting, limiting women's participation.

As defined by radical feminism, the patriarchal mindset, which uses fear and coercion to maintain male dominance has encouraged the direct form of violence. Social Learning theory also ~~also~~ explained the reasons behind violent behaviours, as they came from societal norms and cultural conditioning. Intersectionality explains how overlapping identities such as class and ethnicity exacerbate violence against marginalized women.

Q3 write a detailed note on colonial and Capitalistic perspectives of gender.

Colonial Perspective:

Colonialism refers to the political, economic and cultural dominance of one group over another. Colonial powers imposed their ideologies and norms on colonized societies often redefining gender role to suit their interests.

* Key Features

→ Imposition of Patriarchal Norms

Colonizers often imposed their patriarchal values on indigenous American societies. Women^{who} held prominent positions in governance and economy, which were undermined by colonial rule.

Example:

~~in many African and indigenous American societies, women held prominent pos~~

- control over women bodies
- labor exploitations
- Orientalism and Gendered Representation.

Impacts :

- colonial rule exacerbate gender identities by dismantling indigenous systems that provided women with Agency.
- It created rigid gender hierarchies that persist in post colonial societies.

Capitalistic Perspective :

Capitalism is an economic system based on private ownership, profit maximization and market competition. Under capitalism, gender has been instrumentalized to sustain economic structures and exploit labor.

* Key features :

→ Division of labor

Capitalism created a clear division between productive labor in public sphere and reproductive (unpaid) labor in private sphere, relegating women to the later.

- Women's work including childcare and housework, is undervalued and excluded from economic calculations.

→ Commodification of Women:

women bodies and labor have been commodified to generate profit,

evident in industries like fashion

Beauty, advertising and Showbiz Industry.

- Capitalist exploits women image to sell products while reinforcing unrealistic beauty standards.

→ low wages particularly in sectors like textile, agriculture, caregiving and domestic work.

Impacts:

→ Capitalism perpetuates gender inequality by maintaining patriarchal systems that exploit women's labor and commodify their identities.

→ It creates a cycle of economic dependency and limits women's opportunities for empowerment.