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Q.2 Discuss the evolution of feminist thought in Pakistan by highlighting the development of Gender Studies as an academic discipline in the country.

2. Formation of Women's organization

organizations were formed to promote women's rights and education.

The All Pakistan Women Association (APWA) formed by ^{Bequm} Rana Liaqat Ali Khan →

Pioneered first women's movement in Pakistan → provided space for discussions on gender equality.

laid foundation for gender studies as an academic discipline.

Introduction

Evolution of feminist thought in Pakistan: Development of Gender Studies as an academic discipline

1. Early Feminism and Women's Rights (1947-1960s)

Key focus: securing basic legal rights for women: education, political participation, work inclusivity.

Fatima Jinnah's struggle to make women of Pakistan economically independent through her addresses and teachings. - PIDE

As an academic discipline focus was little however, ideas started to emerge.

3. Women and the State Zia's Era

Islamization policies of Zia restricted women's rights, → Hudood ordinance → Rape victims to present 4 ^{eye-}witnesses to their claim to be accepted.

Strong formulation of Women Action Form to inspire women
Duppata Jalao movement → key feminist ^{Hina} Asma Jilani and Asma Jahangir → oppose

Zia's policies. → his discriminatory laws → A rising need for women rights and the relation between gender and state power → informal feminist

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discourse, but not yet formal academic programs.

4. The Woman's Action Forum

were formed against gendered legal and social policies, a focus on equality and legal reform. WAF's protests

against Hudood ordinance raised awareness. This awareness put the four strengthened the urge of development of gender studies as an academic discipline.

5. Legal Reforms and Advocacy

During 1990's, feminism or feminist activists expanded to include legal reforms, gender-based violence, and the economic-empowerment of women. The Women's Empowerment in Development (WED) focused on women's access to resources education, and economic opportunities. Scholars emphasized the role of women in economic development, becoming a key area of research based on gender studies.

6. A push for domestic violence Bills and addressing honor killing laid foundation for gender-focused courses at universities, universities started to explore issues related to gender inequality and legal reforms.

6. The Emergence of Women studies (late 1990s)

Feminist thought became more structured. Their efforts led to the introduction of Women's studies as an academic field.

Fatima Jinnah University 1998, introduced first Women studies program.

7. The Role of International feminism in Pakistan

Feminism in Pakistan throughout has been increasingly connected with international feminism, focusing on reproductive, economic rights along with gender based violence. Attamatqbal

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The growing influence of international feminism and feminist theories expanding the perspective and curriculum of women studies in Pakistan. Engagement with The Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights is an example.

8. Introduction of Gender Studies and feminist perspective in Pakistan

After active feminism in Pakistan in 1989, a five year plan was issued by WED- women development division to make gender studies an academic discipline with consistent efforts, Allama Iqbal Open University incorporated Gender studies with women studies. "Gender and women studies department". In 2004 The center of excellence in Gender studies established at Quaid-i-Azam University to promote gender studies as a discipline in Pakistan.

9. Gender and development a shift in focus

Gender studies grew in response to the need for policies that integrate gender into development framework. As feminism started to focus on gender-sensitive development policies and women's role in the economy.

10. Social Media feminism and growth of Gender studies as Subject.

Social media became a powerful tool for feminist activism, allowing young people to engage with feminist ideas. Incorporating online activism into gender studies, expanding the circle of feminism, and access to online programs. For instance movements like #MeToo #GirlsAtDhabas

11. The Aurat March and development of Gender studies

A major public feminist

event in Pakistan → justice for marginalized women → women in corporate sectors → workplace harassment and so. The Aurat march provided fertile ground for academic debates on intersectionality, trans-representation and collective action. expanding the area of gender studies. Gender study continues to evolve with evolution of feminist thought.

Conclusion

Q.3. Measure to narrow the gender-based digital divide in Pakistan to enable Pakistani women to benefit and empower themselves through technological revolutions and play their role for economic growth and development of Pakistan?

Introduction

Pakistan's digital gender gap is severe, with 26 percent women having access to the internet and

47pc men. according to Amnesty International report on Gender and Human Rights in a Digital Age.

Challenges Faced by Pakistani Women in Accessing and Utilizing digital Technology.

1. Patriarchal mindset a hindrance in access to utilizing digital technology.
2. Women lack of knowledge with regard to digital technology
3. Discouraged with the idea of using social media applications in the name of family respect.
4. Women economic dependence over men to buy the gadgets.

5. lack of Internet access in many Areas.

PTM internet usage in village 8pc, population 55pc.

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6. Preventive laws failure to protect women from harassment and cybercrime.

PECA 2016 has often been criticized to protect women.

MEASURES TO NARROW DOWN GENDER-BASED DIVIDE IN PAKISTAN

1. Improving digital literacy for women

- Programs like Google Liter

Digital literacy program → educated women.

- Finland: Incorporating digital literacy in education system.

2. By Expanding Affordable Internet access.

The Punjab Gov's Digital literacy Program → more programs like that.

3. Creating Safe online spaces for women.

#Sit-Ins at Dhabas movement, mobilized girls to en. have spaces in public, also raised awareness on the need for digital spaces.

4. Educating Women to Participate in Entrepreneurship Digital Entrepreneurship

Paraz, e-commerce platform → empower female → sell products

5. Advocating for Inclusive Digital Policies

6. Counter the idea of using digital technology is a character assassination tool.

7. Gender-Responsive data Protection laws.

8. Encourage women for online startups.
- Teaching, products.

9. Collaboration with international organizations UN Women's "Empower Women Initiative"

Conclusion.

Q.3 Elaborate different form of Gender-Based Violence in Pakistan. Evaluate the effectiveness of policies existing laws and initiatives

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in addressing GBV in Pakistan.

addressing Gender Based Violence.

Introduction

Legal Reforms and Frameworks.

Forms of Gender Based Violence in Pakistan

1. Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act-2020

1. Honor killings a persistent form of GBV - 5000 deaths yearly

2. Amendment to 2024 Criminal Law (2016):

2. Dowry Deaths a common phenomenon

- criminalizing honor killing

Pak highest dowry death rate 2.9 per

- increased penalties of sexual offences and rape.

3. Early, forced and child marriages

Provincial laws

19 million child brides (UN women)

4. Sexual violence and assault

1. Sindh domestic Act 2013
2. Balochistan Domestic Violence Act-2014

12 women raped daily in Punjab on average. - Dawn.

5. Intimate partner violence and marital rape

3. Punjab Protection of Women Against Violence Act-2016.

47 pc -> Human Rights Watch.

6. Physical Battering and domestic abuse.

4. KP domestic Act 2021.

Above 28% have experienced physical violence 15-49.

Challenges in Implementation and Weak Effectiveness

UNFPA

The Effectiveness of Existing laws and Policies in Pakistan

1. A weak enforcement Mechanism
2. Pakistan's society

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influenced by stagnant cultural and traditional values.

3. Slow legal Reforms and Bureaucratic Delays.
4. Lack of awareness in women

Gaps in legal System

1. Limited coverage in Provincial laws.

2. Lack of Reporting ⁱⁿ the incidents

3. Inadequate support systems

Conclusion

Q.4. Obstacles of women Political participation in Pakistan... Quota System would make any difference?

Introduction

Women in Pakistan make up almost half of the population (49 percent) in politics their share is only 4.5 percent, as reported in The Diplomat.

Obstacles in the way of women Political Participation in Pakistan.

1. Patriarchal cultural Norms

Example: Discouraged women in rural areas, societal pressure.

2. Lack of Education: A Significant Barrier

Girls in poor families 22 percentage points less likely to attend school than boys. -The express Tribune. (WB)

3. Economic Dependence over male members

Financial constraints in running campaigns. >significant funding is require. -The Arab News.

4. Lack of Political Awareness Among women.

Discouraged and trained from child hold, social construction and learned behavior.

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<p>5. Women Subjected to Gender Based violence and Harassment</p> <p>Deep fakes of Maryam Nawaz with UAE president</p>	<p>3. Reduce the culture of Tolcensm women will be "the key decision-making positions.</p>
<p>6. Political Parties Resistance to gender-diversity</p> <p>Political elite, allowed on good positions.</p>	<p>4. ^{compulsion for} Encouragement of Political Parties to Field female candidates</p> <p>PTI, PPP have started to nominate more female candidates - Asifa bhutto through speeches.</p>
<p>Impact of Quota System on Women's Political Participation in Pakistan</p>	<p>5. Increased Influence of policy making regarding women politicians</p>
<p>1. Quota system: A key to increased representation</p> <p>1973 Constitution → 10pc expanded to 17pc seats for women in national assembly - through amendments</p>	<p>Azma Bhulchari's concern regarding AI we being weaponized against weapon leadership.</p>
<p>2. Improved Visibility and Empowerment of women in Politics</p>	<p>6. Change in cultural and traditional mindset regarding participation of women in Politics.</p>
<p>Sherry Rehman PPP member, her platform to champion issues related to women's rights. domestic violence bill</p>	<p>Conclusion.</p>