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Me too

We too

o Global 50-50

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

OUTLINE:

1) Introduction

o Essence of terms : i- Women ii- Empowerment

2) Historical perspective regarding women:

i- Ancient Arabs' view

ii- Chinese view

iii- Indians' view

iv- Greek and Roman empire's view

3) Women empowerment with the advent of Islam:

i- Social rights

ii- Economic rights

iii- Educational rights

iv- Political rights

v- Religious rights

vi- Exclusive rights given by Islam.

4) Bottlenecks in present world, blocking the way of women empowerment:

i- Underage marriages

ii- Acid attacks

iii- Swasa / Vani / Vatta Satta / Kari-Kari

iv- Honour killings

v- Marriage to Quran

vi- Dowry abuse

vii- Human trafficking and sexual harassment

viii- Illiteracy.

- 4) Problems of everyday observation:
- i - 50% seat reservation for males
 - ii - CSS group selection dilemma
 - iii - Global Gender Gap (GGG) report - Pak ranked 31st

5) Steps taken by Pakistani government to promote "Women empowerment":

- i - Article 25 (1)
- ii - Article 25 (2)
- iii - Quaid-e-Azam's steps
- iv - Steps taken by Bhutto regime
- v - Steps by Benazir
- vi - Steps in the Nawaz's Regime 90's
- vii - Steps taken in Musharraf's regime
 - o - 33% in Parliament
 - o - 10% Quota in CSS

6) Women empowerment in Europe in 18th Century.

7) Laws and bills introduced to strengthen school of women empowerment in Pak:

- i - Child marriage restraint Act
- ii - Protection of women bill 2006
- iii - Criminal Law Act 2011
- ✓ iv - Acid Control Act 2011
- ✓ v - Protection of women against harassment at working places 2010
- vi - Domestic violence Act 2012
- ✓ vii - Women protection Bill - 2016
- ✓ viii - Anti-honour killing bill - 2016

8) Role of NGOs in promotion of women empowerment

- i - APWA
- ✓ ii - Aurat foundation
- ✓ iii - Awaz-e-Niswan
- ✓ iv - Tehreek-e-Niswan
- v - Women rights Association (WRA)

media in
9) Role of women empowerment:

- i - Electronic media
- ii - Social media
- iii - Print media
- iv - Social awareness

10) Women activism and politics: (1-2 Paras)

- i - Fatima Jinnah
- ii - Begum Rama Liaquat Ali Khan
- iii - Role of Benazir Bhutto
- iv - Margaret Thatcher
- v - Mother Teresa
- vi - Lady Diana (Queen of hearts)
- vii - Malala / Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy

11) Women proving themselves in various spheres of life in Pakistan:

- i - Induction in Army / Air force / Navy
- ii - Women in sports ✓
- iii - Women in media ✓
- iv - Women in fashion designing
- v - Self employment of women.

12- Positive aspects of women empowerment:

- i) Awareness of rights
- ii) Better society and better ^{Pak's} international image
- iii) Role in economy
- iv - Socialization.
- v - Better future generations.
- vi) Female leaders - peaceful world

• Recommendations:

13) Conclusion.

say:

Like hundreds and thousands of other riddles, the unravelling of the anigma called women empowerment, still stands tall. It is still yet to be explained whether empowerment of women would mean bringing women parallel to men or just upgradation of present status of women. Women have always felt the brunt of the patriarchic ~~or~~ anarchy. A female dominating society existed in past which was marked by Indian and Greek goddesses. It later got toppled by male chauvinism which is kept intact till date. Women received rights with the advent of Islam. Few bottlenecks always strangled these rights including rapes, acid throwing, evils like Sawa, Satti, Vani and child marriages. Other social problems included dowry abuse and illiteracy. Governments of countries have put in a lot of effort in reducing the menace of gender violence. NGOs and media play vital role in upbringing women. These steps would elevate status of women, making world a better place to live.

"You can tell the Condition of a nation by looking at the status of its women."

- Nehru.

The term women empowerment carries in itself, a storm and sea of intellectual debates. The problem lies with the highest rank, (to) which this term considers its horizon. Two schools of thoughts exist which

other civilizations followed suit ^{as well}. Indians excluded their women from inheritance and burnt the living wife alive if her husband died which was a tradition called Satti. Women had no right to divorce and were considered unclean. Other nations which had women matriarchy trend also fell prey to this social evil.

Greeks and Romans had goddesses who later chose their husbands as gods. This matriarchal society ended up selling women as property. They believed that women were forbidden to laugh, talk or eat meat. Greeks believed in a mythology that eve tempted Adam to eat the prohibited fruit which led to expulsion of both from the garden of God. Women could not hold any private or public property. The world got engulfed in the evil of oppressing the physically weak gender which started the vicious cycle of exploitation of rights. A miracle was sought by those who could not bear the brunt of harsh patriarchy anymore.

With the advent of Islam new light rose. Islam was the first religion which picked up tarnished glass of women's presence and fixed it like nothing else could have. Islam defined the status of women defining the categories of relations and rights at each level. It explained

all the rights a woman had as a daughter, mother, sister and wife. Islam announced economic rights which allowed women to own private and public properties. They were made further special by announcement of the fact that men were maintainers and caretakers of women. Islam gave women the right to education. Not only rights were announced, they were made obligatory.

"Attainment of knowledge is obligatory for both men and women."

- Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)

Women were raised in standards not only socially and economically but also politically. Women were allowed to get educated and be designated as judges. No restrictions on women for excelling in their fields of choice was imposed by Islam. Islam clearly defined that the only factor on which any sort of discrimination among human beings existed was piety. Gender was not the criterion on which superiority or inferiority of a living being was based.

Not only these, women were blessed with some exclusive rights which Islam presented neither to men nor angels. Women had right to divorce, their right

Nadia] ^{sex slave.}
Muad] ^{DAESH.}
] ^{Nobel 2018}

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dower, economic responsibility on men and personal wealth. Islam is the only special religion that allows women to retain her sur name after marriage which in west has to be replaced by that of her husband. An entire surah "Surah Nisa" and "Surah Maryam" each has been revealed in regard to women. It is believed that on the day of judgement everyone would be called by the name of one's mother unlike the world in which a child is named after his father. Prophet hood has never been bestowed upon women but prophets were brought into the world by their mothers and status of mother according to Islam would always remain higher than that of children.

Islam was the best set back to all the social evils especially the one demeaning women. With the lapse of time people loosened the hold onto religious teachings and once again this dragon of male Chauvinism opened its wings and flew higher than before. The uplifting of women was halted by the social evils like under-age marriages. Little girls who hardly reached their menarchy were married off to men of older age. This practise is still seen as fresh paint in

Third world countries where women are considered burden on family and society. To tackle this burden, a number of means got introduced in male dominating societies.

Different ways devised to get rid of the extra being in society included Vami, Satti, Vatta Satta, Karo-Kari etc. Satti was the worst of all the tortures that a human being can be subjected to. In old days, women in the sub-continent were married off to older men at a very young age. With the death of her husband, she was subject to being burnt alive so as to bring peace to her husband's corpse and to reduce the menace of widows left behind.

Karo-Kari, another such inhumane practice proves that satam within bodies of human beings does exist. Women who are blamed of extra-marital affair are termed as Kari while the man with whom she is blamed to have the relation is called Karo. Both are killed. The Kari is taken to far flung area and as a punishment no religious rituals of burial are performed. On the other hand, rituals for the Karo are performed and religiously buried. It has been recorded in literature that many a times the husbands or

of the world do not even know what
are they worthy of.

Q Azam:

"No nation can rise to the
height of glory unless your
women are side by side."

"The best remedy is the one who is best to her wife & children
want something said, ask a man if something done as a woman
until he gets his wife ----

essay "Quotes"

"If women are allowed to be made
heads of all states & orgs, there would
be no wars"
- UN

"Woods are lonely, dark & deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep."
- Robert Frost

"You can tell the condition of a nation
by looking at the status of its women"
- Nehru.

"There are two powers in the world: one
is sword and the other is pen. There is
great competition & rivalry between
the two. There is a third power, stronger
than both, that of women."
- Quaid-e-Azam

"Injustice anywhere, is a threat
to justice everywhere."
- Martin Luther King

"Man is born free but everywhere he
is in shackles."

"I love my creation 70x that of a mother's
love"
- Allah