

Impact Factor-7.675 (SJIF)

ISSN-2278-9308

B.Aadhar

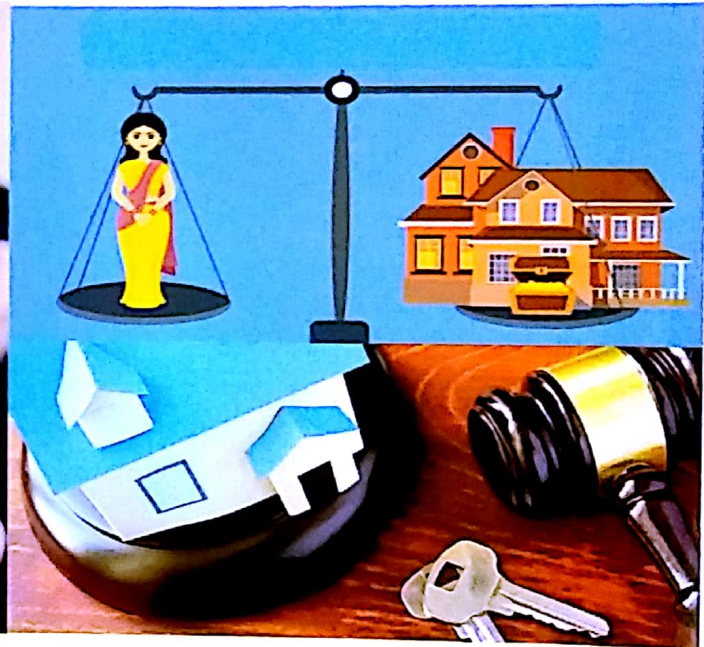
Peer-Reviewed & Refreed Indexed

Multidisciplinary International Research Journal

March -2021

ISSUE No- (CCLXXVI) 276 - D

Women's Rights : Status & Goal



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- Scientific Journal Impact Factor (SJIF)
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Indian Constitution and women's rights

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Women, a girl, a wife, a mother, a grandmother, overall woman is a key of a family. World can never be complete without a woman. Law is the set of rules enforced to govern the behavior of people. From the beginning of this world women is treated as a weaker section of the society and they are the victims of the crimes like rape, eve teasing, female infanticide, dowry, domestic violence, child marriage and acid throwing. They were only allowed to live beneath the shoes of their husbands and fathers. Laws are being made to secure the lives of the women from the violence of their families and societies, and to provide them with their rights of which they are the owners. This paper covers the aspect of women from past history to the present world. It shows how the law of our country has contributed its best to change the lives of women, to make them live with dignity and respect not as a slave.

Keywords: Women Empowerment, Rights, Violations, Education, Development

Introduction

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles. The Constitution not only grants equality to women, but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favours of women. Within the framework of a democratic polity, our laws, development policies, Plans and programmes have aimed at women's advancement in different spheres. India has also ratified various international conventions and human rights instruments committing to secure equal rights of women. Key among them is the ratification of the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1993. Women emerged as a distinct interest group in the 19th century primarily because the bourgeoisie democratic revolutions of 17th and 18th century that excluded women from their concept of equality. This distinction was based on gender. Since then women as a commune had waged struggle for recognition of their rights as a human being. Women's execute multilateral role in the society as a breadwinner of her family, as a care taker of her family as a mother, wife, daughter and service provider to the society. It was against this background that the government's all over the world felt the need to prioritize the interests of women and their participation at every stage of the development process.

Dowry Deaths – In India, there has been an increase in the dowry deaths of women in their matrimonial homes. Disputes relating to dowry have become a serious problem. The National Crime Records Bureau reported, in 2012, around 8233 newly wed women were killed for dowry. The taking and giving of dowry is observed as a crime within the country. The Dowry Prohibition Act' has not been put into operation in India in an appropriate manner. It has been discovered that mostly number of states neither have a Dowry Prohibition Officers nor do they made it mandatory to keep the record of things given and received.

Domestic Violence – There has been prevalence of domestic violence in India, in spite of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. Domestic violence is, when a