

## FEMINISM IN INDIAN SCENARIO

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### ABSTRACT

*In rural India women are not able to find a job, showing a belief in superstitions and victims of different types of abuse. People who is educated as high standard who as basking in the sunshine of plenty and pleasure are oblivious of these poor women's problems. Also it is the country's women who are making noises of gender-equality, and subjugation. The Indian women are fully protected by laws; more than in any other country and they are better placed than women in the West. Now women have to wake up and look around and start doing things for themselves. The changes must come from within.*

Keywords: Promiscuous, unrestrained, subjugation, rebellious, crusade, apprehend, preservation.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Most urban English speaking Indians are familiar with the word *Feminism*, but their understanding of it remains vague and there is a general rejection of its relevance to the Indian context. Patriarchal-religious traditions of India and overt or covert conservative super-structures have kept it from becoming a widely apprehend phenomenon. There is still a tendency to perceive it as the result of “moral corruption” of women imitating ‘foreign’ or ‘western’ trends, arising from their unrestrained freedom and leading to promiscuous sexual behavior[2]. A critical analysis of the Indian situation would make it apparent that the aims of ‘Indian feminism’ should lie in the spread of education, economic self-sufficiency, preservation of human rights and in the awareness of the desire for liberation from mythical and social values which constrain women as well as men: socially, psychically, physically.

## 2. WOMEN WRITERS IN INDIAN LITERATURE

Women writers have gone up from difficult to tribal and rural areas too, but all of them expressed their concern for women and their problems. The variety of subjects, they have touched upon is great contributing in creating awareness for the modern women all over the globe. The variety of subjects handled by them considering Indian environment needs an appreciation. Some of the writers have not claimed that they belong to feminist's movement yet their writings suggest that their inner spirit and feelings are for the welfare of the women only.

Although women form nearly half of the production factors from human being, they are still the most disadvantaged and disregarded segments of the society despite the constitutional guarantee and for equal rights and privileges for men and women.

Women constitute to be the sufferer of a process of economic, social, cultural and political marginalization.

The word 'Feminism' seems to refer to an intense consciousness of specification as a woman and interest in feminine problems. The under domination of woman is a central fact of history and it is the main cause of psychological disorders in society. According to Janet Richards, The essence of Feminism has a strong fundamental case Intended to mean only that there are excellent reasons for Thinking that woman suffer from systematic social injustice Because of their sex ,the proposition is to be regarded as Inaugurate feminism [3].

The feminist thought and feminist movement in the west have some influence on the woman's movement in the developing country like India.

Due to his historical and cultural stipulations of the region, the feminist movement in India had to think in terms of its Agenda and strategies. In the Indian circumstances several feminist have realized that the subject of women's occupation in India should not be reduced to the contradictions between men and women. The woman in order to literate herself and advance needs to emancipate herself to confess different customs, behavioral pattern and cultural practices that subject herself to patriarchal domination and consolation[1].

With the rise of feminism in India in the seventies, the feminism literary critics came to believe that women had to create a literature of their own, in which the feminine sensibility could consider and confront the peculiarly feminine issues and experiences. It was essential to do so, because a large part of the feminine experience is out of the reach of the male psyche, and therefore an authentic and sensitive portrayal of the conflict and traumas in all their nuances,

ambiguities, and contradictions, could be achieved only by women writers. Thus later part of the seventies and the eighties saw a spurt in feminist writing which condenses in its pages the vivid rage of the exploited female against the 'male dominion' that characterizes both the Western and Eastern patriarchal cultures. Such works presented women as oppressed, exploited, tortured, cheated, angry, alienated and rebellious.

In India, to study female psyche is an effort to liberate women from more structures that have marginalized them; it is also an attempt to reinterpret their status in the world. Feminist consciousness has certainly given a fresh ardour and excitement to literary studies.

The Indian feminism spans all these categories. Kamala Das, Anita Desai, Shashi Deshpande, Shobha De and a few more writers represent how Indian women writers are weaving feminism in their works.

Deshpande, unlike hard-core feminists, does not agree that being a wife or mother is something that is unnecessarily imposed on a woman. According to her, 'it's needed'. She craves for the greater sense of balance, self-confessedly she feels trapped in the woman's world. The strong point about Deshpande's novels is her delineation of the women's inner world, her female psyche. In order to make the process of change smooth, and really meaningful, woman writers have taken up themselves this great task of their crusade against established traditions.

In Desai's vision 'The Indian woman is always working towards an adaptation and agreement. Few Indian feminists really contemplate total change. Working towards and adjustment through the conventional role is much less drastic much more Indian. "I think Indian feminism is more practical than theoretical. It is convenient rather than ideological"'.

Deshpande says that her novels are not a man vs. man issues at all. Being woman herself, she sympathizes with women, and admits that if others see something feminist in her writings, she has not deliberately done that. The woman's world is like that and she just mirrors the world. The interview given to Lakshmi Holmstorm throws significant light on her stances:

I now have no doubts at all in saying that I am a feminist.

In my own life, I mean. But not consciously, as a novelist.

I must also say that my feminism has come to me very slowly,

Very gradually and mainly out of my own thinking and experiences and feelings. I started writing first and only then discovered my feminism.

And it was much later that I actually read books about it[5].

Anita Desai's novels discuss in detail the issues of gender from the Indian socio-historical outlook. Desai's first three novels are the study of women's depression, recession resulting from their lack of ability to wrestle with their family situations. Some of her novels deal with the issues related to women's education and their aspiration, desire to obtain self-sufficiency and a meaningful way of life.

### 3.CONCLUSION

Feminism in Indian scenario still constitutes many questions and queries before the readers and writers. In order to make the process of change smooth and really meaningful, women writers have taken upon themselves this great task of their crusade against established traditions. Scenario is changing, and it can be noticed; as efforts to change the position of common woman is becoming part of the basic structure of culture.

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