



ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

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ABSTRACT :

History reveals how women a privileged position in ancient India. We feel proud of the social order and culture that recognized women's worth and accorded respect to them. All moral and social norms ignored their identity, individuality and integrity. Though the frames of the act wanted to equate the status of widow with that of the men by giving her the absolute interest their efforts failed and the widow was given limited interest Hindu women estate. To amend the act a bill was introduced in the central legislative assembly on 3 rd march 1938 the amendment was given retrospective effect form 14 th April 1937 even after the amendment the act continued to be a source of trouble to litigate lawyers and judges.



KEYWORDS : Economic liberation and education , ancient India.

INTRODUCTION

History reveals how women enjoyed a privileged position in ancient India. We feel proud of the social order and culture that recognized women's worth and accorded respect to them. We hear of women sages and women scholars in the Rig Vedic period. But women were pushed into the background in the following ages. With the coming of the Islam, they completely lost their glory. Cut off from the mainstream of life, they became devitalized; secluded and sheltered they grew dependent of men folk. All moral and social norms ignored their identity, individuality and integrity. Women were also reduced to more household drudges and with this the Indian society degenerated into abysmal darkness.

Economic liberation and education are the two integral parts to uplift the status of the women. In Tamilnadu, the press realized the emancipation of women and fought for it. Economy and education are inter-related. It is important to note that status of women considered inferior with the denial of property rights and education as well as the denial of occupations to them. Economy is the basic necessity of attaining anything; education is found to be the means for the economic well-being. With education and employment, the women can attain economic freedom, upon which the edifice empowerment can be easily built. The rationalistic kudiarasu insisted that the lack of property right to women and female illiteracy were the two important causes for the women slavery of our country. Even a conservative Tamil paper Amanda Bodkins also insisted on the same thing. In the field of liberation of women, the economy and education played their vital role. It is said that economic status is the very foundation on which the structure of equality can be built.

STRUGGLE FOR PROPERTY RIGHTS;

The property position of women in any system of law represents the thoughts and feeling of the community. The property status of women in Tamilnadu in the nineteenth century also was fully influenced by the traditional male chauvinistic thoughts. The British Government of India took initial steps for the property right for women. It enacted Married Women's property Act in 1874. The act had many shortcomings.

In October, 1921, it asked the women that they should wage war against all that was suppressing the inherent power and strength of women they had to fight against a system and take pride in upholding women as weak and helpless. The above paper emphasized that according to the traditional laws, women as weak and helpless. The above paper emphasized that according to the traditional laws, women could not become the owners of the property. Further, it observed that the orthodox law makers believed that the women did not have sufficient strength to safeguard the property. It wrote in support of women that the women were lacking physical strength only because of his imprisonment for generations. To strengthen its view, its view it utilized the theory of Darwin that the women had more mental strength than men. To safeguard the property the mental strength was much needed than physical strength. Thus the paper insisted the there should not be any hesitation in giving women the property.

Hindu Women Inheritance Bill of 1932;

To provide the widows the right of property over their husband's belongings, the known social reformer Harbilas sarda introduced a bill called the government on the ground that the three Hindu members who took part in the debate on the motion were against it The government had thrown the bill out condemning the activity of the government the Dravidian observed that the objection of the government to this bill had no doubt caused much dissatisfaction to all persons of the nation. It was indeed regrettable that while the government should help the progress of the women community of the country be accepting at least such bills introduced in the Legislative assembly for effecting social reform they did not grant all facilities for such reform they did not grant all facilities for such reform they should have opposed the bill while sympathies with its object in words.

Hindu Women's Property Right Bill 1937

Because of the continuous demand of the public and the press D.V Deshmukh introduced the Hindu women's property right bill in the central legislative assembly on 4th February 1937 It warred to a select committee for consideration.

The committee made some modifications in the bill in the modification the absolute right of the widow was not found and only the limited interest known as Hindu women's estate was allowed to the widows Thus the widows right was restricted. Hence the very aim of the bill was spoiled Inspire of the vehement opposition from the broad minded members and the liberal press the bill was enacted as the Hindu women's right to property act 1937.

CONCLUSION:

Though the frames of the act wanted to equate the status of widow with that of the men by giving her the absolute interest their efforts failed and the widow was given limited interest Hindu women estate. However she was given the same right of claiming her partition as a male owner had. This was the only remarkable achievement of this act. To amend the act a bill was introduced in the central legislative assembly on 3rd march 1938 the amendment was given retrospective effect from 14th April 1937 even after the amendments the act continued to be a source of trouble to litigate lawyers and judges. Though the act was short and simple it resulted in conflict of interpretation. According to the Amendment act the widow's right to claim partition at par with a male owner was recognized. Thus the act had made the widow a co-prisoner and only co-prisoners had a right to claim partition.

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