

ISSN No: 2249-6661 (Print)

SAMBODHI

A Quarterly Peer Reviewed, Refereed Resesrch Journal

Volume: 43, Number:3 (July-September) Year: 2020

UGC Care Listed Journal

L.D.INSTITUTE OF INDOLOGY

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A BRIEF STUDY OF WOMEN AND THEIR EDUCATION IN INDIA

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Abstract:

India is a country where lived with highest philosophical and ethical right. Here, both male man and women achieved equal status in their life and education. Male man and women went hand to hand in every aspect of their educational and religious rite during Vedic period. At that time, women students are classified into Brahnavadinis and Sadyodvahas. Brahnavadinis are treated as high excellence in scholarship. Boys and girls both enjoyed Upanayam ceremonies. Vedic educated and grown up women themselves can select their husband. Maitreye, Sanghamitra, Atreyi, Reva, Roha, Madhabi, Anulakshmi, Pahai, Vaddhavahi, Lopamudra, Viswavara, Sikata, Nivavari, and Ghosha etc. are the examples of educated women at early period. Ordinary girl who unable to go higher education were achieved education from their parents or local teachers. Sudra varna are faced problem in to some extent neglect in medieval Assam. Girls were encouraged to teach music, dancing and painting in ancient period. In Vedic age, wife occupied high position. Women faced trouble in their life in medieval period, but in Gandhian era and after independence, the position of women became change tremendously. They have got fundamental right the equality of sexes. Women have got right to participate not only in education but also in every aspect of social and religious rites. Women have got relief from Sati, child marriage, polygamy marriage etc. in aid of some social reformer.

Key notes: Introduction of the status of women, position of women status in Vedic period, Female Divinities, the Changes in the status in Women, Demands of modern women

Introduction:

India is a country that has always preached and lived the highest philosophical and ethical doctrines of equality and fraternity, of universal love and solidarity. Hence, according to our age-long Indian tradition, there is no distinction between male man and woman. It is also asserted in some places with due dignity that no distinction between male man and woman is ever tolerated by our holy books; even not a woman is said to be superior to man. *Stri chavisesat*¹ (The scripture does not discriminate between male man and woman); *Samkaro bi atmani samavaiti, na strainam paurusam va vibbagam apekshate*. (Genius inheres in the soul-it makes no distinction between male man and woman)²

¹ Katyayana Sr. S., 1, 1.7., Ahmed Kasim Ali, Status of women in India, EBH Publishers, Guwahati-1, P.1

² Rajasekhara. *Kavyamimamsa* (G.O.S), p. 53.