

Recorded Society Class 06

1st July, 2024 at 9:00 AM

THE CLASS STARTED (IN CONTINUATION) AT: (01:06 PM):

STRUCTURE OF PATRIARCHY: (01:07 PM):

- **Family:**
- **1) Family:**
- **The first lessons of patriarchy are learned at the family level.**
- **It is an informal agency of socialization.**
- **Gender stereotyping is learned at the family level.**
- **The Patrilineal and Patrilocal nature of families has reduced the status of the girl child in the family.**
- **For example, a boy child is considered as the inheritor whereas a girl child is considered as Paraya Dhan.**
- **2) Knowledge System:**
- **Patriarchal construction of knowledge also perpetuates patriarchy and this is reflected through the education system & media.**
- **2.1) Education: Content-like stories promoting the division of Labor and unrealistic beauty standards by considering fair as beautiful.**
- **Infrastructure- Dropping out girls from school due to the non-availability of functional toilets & attitudes of teachers as the prejudiced attitude leads to discriminatory behavior.**
- **2.2) Media: Objectification & commodification of women through advertisements, movies & serials, etc.**
- **Image of women presented as damsels in distress, glorification of abuse (the legitimacy to stalk, etc.)**
- **3) Symbolism:**
- **A more subtle expression of patriarchy is through symbolism i.e. by creating a self-sacrificing image of women through ideological indoctrination of ideal womanhood.**
- **For example, ideological indoctrination of ideal womanhood such as the portrayal of characters on television.**

RELIGION: (01:34 PM):

- **4) Religion:**
- **Patriarchal constructions of social practices are legitimized by religion & religious institutions as sometimes the customs & practices regard male authorities as superior.**
- **There are some laws & norms in different religions concerning family, marriage, adoption, inheritance, etc. which are biased against women.**
- **For example, Polygamy, Triple Talaq, Nikah Halala, and Son Meta Preference (this justifies the case for a Uniform Civil Code)**
- **There is a concept by Veena Das of *Devi Dichotomy* i.e. although we worship the female goddesses in society they are denied access to basic resources.**
- **5) Caste:**
- **Caste & Gender are closely related as the sexuality of women is directly related to the purity of caste.**
- **Hence, the caste system & caste endogamy tend to retain the control over labor & sexuality of women.**
- **Caste is not only determines social division of labor but also the sexual division of labor.**
- **According to Uma Chakravarty, the notion of purity and pollution has been extended to women.**
- **For example, restrictions on Prati Loma marriage (women marrying lower caste men), restrictions on women's participation in the labor market, or pre-marital sex is considered taboo (Intersectionality Approach).**
- **Essay topic: "Patriarchy is the least noticed yet the most significant structure of social inequality".**

PATRIARCHY VIS-A-VIS WORK: (01:57 PM):

- **6) Patriarchy vis-a-vis Work:**
- **Women are confined to domestic space, due to rigid notions of Patriarchy & gender stereotypes.**
- **Globalization & subsequent rise in industrialization & urbanization increased the participation of women in the labor market as there is an availability of better & diverse job opportunities & also because of the increased cost of living.**
- **It is perceived as an increase in Female Labor Force Participation (FLFP) & women have been able to challenge the notions of Patriarchy.**
- **However, patriarchy showed resilience & the private patriarchy was replaced by public patriarchy (concept given by Sylvia Walby) due to wage inequality, Pink Collar Jobs, Glass Ceiling, Dual Burden & sexual harassment in the Workplace.**
- **6.1) Women In Agriculture:**
- **Statistics:**
- **i) According to Oxfam Research 80% of economically active women are engaged in agriculture (47%- Self-employed & 33% in agricultural labor)**
- **ii) According to the Agriculture Census (2015-16), ownership of land by women is 14%.**
- **iii) According to Oxfam 80% of the farm work & 90% of the daily work is done by women.**
- **iv) The wage gap in agriculture is close to 30%.**
- **Feminization of Agriculture:**
- **A measurable increase in women's participation in the agricultural sector is referred to as the feminization of agriculture.**
- **Different Factors of Feminization of Agriculture:**
- **Economic Factors:**
- **i) Low wages as women offer cheap labor.**
- **ii) Male-specific migration in search of employment opportunities which led to increased participation of women in agriculture.**
- **iii) Because of poverty, it becomes a necessity for women to work to sustain the family.**
- **iv) Government initiatives such as SHGs, and cooperatives, have encouraged women's participation in agriculture, e.g. Operation Flood along with S.E.W.A, incorporated 6000 women dairy cooperation.**
- **v) Although globalization has increased opportunities they are limited to only educated & skilled people hence women have no other option left.**

- **vi) According to the Economic Survey (2017-18) 84% of farmers are small & marginal.**
- **Hence, cannot afford to hire labor from outside, so depend on the labor of women in the family.**
- **Social-Cultural factors:**
 - **i) Cultural acceptance of women working in the agriculture sector.**
 - **ii) Easy to manage the Dual Burden.**
 - **iii) Changing family structures, feminization of old age, and farmer suicide.**
 - **iv) Flexible labor is a concept given by Surendra Jodhka, as because of patriarchy, women have low bargaining power and it is easy to make her work for long periods at low wages.**
 - **v) Reintegration or counter-migration during the pandemic or post-pandemic has also increased women's participation in agriculture.**
 - **vi) It is relatively considered safe secure & culturally stable to work in the source region.**
 - **vii) There exists a sexual division of labor & hence labor-intensive work is largely carried out by the women (sowing, threshing, etc.)**
 - **viii) With some mechanization it can displace women however gender-friendly tools have**
 - **ix) It is believed that often women possessed traditional knowledge about crops which makes them valuable assets in agriculture.**
 - **x) Easy accessibility to the farmlands addresses the issue of safety and security.**
- **Question: Discuss the economic and socio-cultural factors responsible for the feminization of agriculture. (10 marks/150 words).**

IMPLICATION OF FEMINIZATION OF AGRICULTURE: (02:29 PM):

- **Positive Implications:**
- **Individual Level:**
 - i) It ensures the financial independence of women.
 - ii) Autonomy for decision-making.
 - iii) Emergence of entrepreneurship & leadership skills.
 - iv) It ensures the presence of women in public places & provides them with opportunities to socialize.
 - v) Empowerment of women ensures a better future for children e.g. abolition of child labor, better nutrition & education.
- **Societal Level:**
 - i) Feminization of agriculture in the long run might change the attitude toward women.
 - For example, they might be treated as assets, rather than liabilities which may reduce the incidences of Female Foeticide.
 - ii) It will help in establishing women as an agency of change which according to Amartya Sen has a domino effect.
 - iii) It will help in promoting sustainable development and also addressing the problem of hunger.
- **National Level:**
 - i) According to the Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO): If women have equitable access to agriculture resources as that of men agriculture production will increase by 4%.
 - ii) Improvement in the global image, enhancing the demographic dividends, etc.

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE FEMALES IN THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR (02:52 PM):

- **Challenges:**
- i) Limited access to ownership of assets (only 14%).
- ii) Limited access to the institutional credit system and make the women confined to informal credit via moneylenders.
- The probability of falling into a debt trap is high.
- iii) Lack of information concerning agricultural resources also impacts their productivity.
- Only 5% of women get access to agricultural extension services & only 15% of extension service agents are women.

- **Agriculture Extension Services (from lab to land) provides farmers with updated information regarding agriculture practices, market trends, weather forecasts, pest management & sustainable farming methods.**
- **iv) Wage Gap: According to the Corteva Agri Science Report 78% of women in agriculture are subjected to harassment.**
- **Technological intervention & infrastructural facilities are not designed according to women farmers.**
- **v) Lack of autonomy in decisions over important issues e.g. crop selection, marketing, etc. Low representation of women in Agricultural Marketing Committees.**
- **vi) Mechanization of agriculture has either led to the displacement of women or the concentration of women in menial jobs.**
- **vii) There has been an observation that an increase in household income leads to the domestication of women.**
- **Way forward:**
- **a) Ensure equality for ownership of the assets.**
- **b) Provide loans on soft terms.**
- **c) Develop gender-friendly farm types of equipment e.g. 'Project Purna' by Mahindra & Mahindra to develop gender-friendly tools.**
- **For example, peddle pusher for paddy thresher, Scissors for tea plucking, etc.**
- **d) Ensure Women's participation through SHGs e.g. Dilasa Sanstha has established 7650 Self Help Groups (SHGs) to encourage organic farming among women.**
- **e) Ensures safety & security to prevent any kind of harassment.**
- **f) Enhance the participation of women in the decision-making bodies.**
- **g) Establishing a service center in the near vicinity to provide easy access to information.**
- **h) Areas such as poultry, beekeeping, etc have immense scope for women farmers and hence should be explored further.**
- **Question:**
- **1) What do you mean by the feminization of agriculture? To what extent did the feminization of agriculture lead to women's empowerment In India? (10 Marks/150 Words)**
- **2) Discuss the economic & socio-cultural factors responsible for the feminization of agriculture.**
- **Women's Empowerment according to the UN:**
- **Sense of self-worth.**

- Access to resources social, political, and economic.
- Autonomy in decision making.
- Control over their reproductive life.
- Ability to lead the direction of social change.
- Essay Topic: Fulfillment of 'New Women' in India is a myth.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY & SERVICE SECTOR: (03:13 PM):

- **Statistics: According to the Consulate General of Sweden in India women in industry are about 3% to 12%.**
- **According to General Electric & Avatar Research, participation of women in industry is about 12%.**
- **According to ILO women's participation of women in the service & industry sector is less than 20%.**
- **According to the Global Gender Gap Report of 2022:**
- **Women in senior positions are about 14.6%.**
- **Women engaged in managerial positions are 8.9%.**
- **Women with technical education is about 29.2%.**
- **4.7% of CEOs are women according to a study conducted by the Delloite.**
- **Reasons responsible for low representation in industry & service sector:**
- **a) Lack of gender-friendly infrastructure at the workplace (childcare facilities, separate functional toilets, and lack of CCTV cameras).**
- **b) According to a statement by Indira Nooyi, 'Women's biological clock & career clock are always in conflict with each other' which results in a career break due to social & reproductive responsibilities.**
- **c) Lack of awareness among women for the opportunities in these sectors which has also because lack of women role models.**
- **d) Women are socialized for domestic chores due to gender stereotyping.**
- **& hence increase in the enrolment of girls in higher education has not translated into labor market participation.**
- **e) Limited access to vocational & technical training.**
- **f) Post the Maternity Benefits Acts the desirability of women in the formal labor market has declined.**
- **g) Issue of accessibility to the workplace in the absence of safety & security as women are associated with the prestige of family.**
- **h) Social stigma attached to the corporate work culture.**

- i) Lack of incentive work due to wage gap, social ridiculing, dual burden, etc.
- According to the Mackenzie Institute, due to mechanization 12 million women will lose their jobs by 2030.
- Questions:
- 1) Discuss the impact of patriarchy on middle-class working women. (150 words/10 Marks)
- 2) The middle class is a section that is known by its income, and occupation and is considered as the protector of traditional culture. (150 words/10 Marks).

TOPICS OF THE NEXT CLASS:Continuation of the Issues Related to Women, etc.