

Q 1 The essence of gender Justice lies in transcending biological difference to recognise Universal human potential for equality and empowerment.

Ans

On 26 Jan 1950, India has enforced and produced beautiful Constitution.

One day I was going through Scamble  
I noticed, and realised aspiration  
of our Constitution makers which  
they want to bring. They envisaged a society where justice to be given to women, poor, marginalised. A Society where women would have liberty and have equal opportunities and status. A society where women feel empowered and have autonomy. Now a question started wondering in my mind and keep repeating in inner conscious.

The question arises which asked  
how, we as society have succeed  
in achieving aspiration of our  
fore fathers encrypted in constitution?

Now mind started  
Contemplating how essence of gender  
justice is required for empowering  
and equality for women. Starting  
from ~~By addressing above~~ starting  
by addressing above question, first  
we have to ~~and~~ go in past.

This problem of gender inequality  
entrenched in society from period  
of agricultural revolution. During  
pre-agricultural revolution, there was  
existence of biological division created  
by Nature. As time reaches to  
Neolithic period, Agriculture came in  
practice. It required physical labour.

work on Agricultural field. It Created first gender division on basis of work

A thinking started developing, Male have more physical strength, they will be ~~too~~ more productive than female. Moving from Rgvedic, the economy was pastoralist where physical labour has no such essence. Women have equal rights. This scenario changed in Later vedic and Mahayamapad. The dominance of male ~~in agricul~~ increased with evolution of agriculture, army and division shifted from Biological to gender based. This division gave genesis to concept of gender, injustice. Thinking and acceptance of inferiority > subordinate feeling to women perpetuated to present time.

During era of Renaissance, socio-religious reform began against various traditional evil practices. The Father of Modern

devoted his life for social, educational and political reform in 18th and 19th Centuries Fighting from women right, banning Sati, to exploitation, he wanted to purify Hinduism. The society was very orthodox at that time. One of them was Rudhakumil Deb who opposed reform and asked to preserve old tradition and status. We know how ~~women~~ girls were forced to marry even before puberty. Brahram Ji Malabari brought age of Consent Act which raised marriage age. Who can forget Contribution of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, pioneer of Widower remarriage. These great personalities had fight against gender injustice at that time. But one question should strike in our mind. Why these all reformist movement pioneers is from male Community only ?? The question to this answer explained in next page.

The society at that time was feudalistic, land based economy. It created feudal patriarchal and patrarchial society where

ill informed feudal outpost scattered over India. Women didn't have courage and will to lead and demanded for bringing reforms. India was fortunate to have such reformist like Raja Ram Mohan, Ishwar Chandra etc. who took initiative and brought changes.

Gender Justice is a broader concept. Here Justice means equality of opportunity and status, empowerment, autonomy, ~~decision~~ liberty in decision making.

This all attribute can be achieved when we as society recognise universal human potential. The potential that has been undervalued, ignored and discriminated for 100s of years. This potential has.

④ been present in various dimension in different forms.

Talking about potential in political field.  
We have heard name of Razia Sultan,  
Indira Gandhi, Benazir Bhutto,  
Rani Lakshmi Bai. All personality known  
for exemplary leadership roles played by  
them. During 1970s, feminist

thinking using quote "Personal is Political"  
which gave rise to Cultural feminism  
Women perspective ignored and undervalued

~~Although~~ eg: "Transformational Potential"

This potential can't be realised as  
Structure of society is not changed.

eg: Sapanch Pati Phenomena.

The political potential.

Could be depressed if economic and  
social potential could not be addressed  
It promote inclusive growth, help in  
mitigating intra/inter gender inequality.

eg: Bangladesh has higher female  
labour force participation than India

and India is approaching to Saudi  
Yemen in LFRR.

The dimension of Social potential is very wide. Incidence of Gender

Stereotyping in society restrict women from going outside to work

They feel working outside of female bring shame to family.

e.g.: As per ICRIER Report, Literacy Rate is increasing, Gross enrollment ↑ Higher education ↑, but LFPR of women is declining because investment in education is done for ~~marital~~ marriage purpose.

As per report of IMF if LFPR of Male/female become same then India GDP will be 27% growth with "suboptimal employment"

Similarly there are Various social ~~on~~ Condition which Consider female as subordinate and 2nd Sex. She fall in <sup>phenomena</sup> ~~age~~ of Gender Trap.

She groomed in such a way.

Confined to gender based role.

perpetuate through Social Conformity

These Conformity is of two type -

Normative and Informational.

Conformative • First First one depend  
to appease someone and 2nd one depend  
on wisdom, info. A famous

feminist Thinker has quoted in her word

Simon De quoted "A WOMEN IS NOT  
BORN , SHE IS MADE" In

her book "THE SECOND SEX", She  
mentioned a girl or boy is Neutral by  
birth, it is social Condition which  
makes her woman. Gender role is  
imposed on her

So far we focused only on recognising  
potential of women to empower her.

Empowerment is passive Concept -

Simon book "The Second Sex"

She says for Male considered  
themselves as default humanity

and women are seen as other.  
This dichotomy is still perpetuating  
gender division since Neolithic revolution.  
This dichotomy is still present in Concept  
of empowerment. Then What we should  
do.

- ① Right based empowerment  
“Not ‘Patriotic Approach’”
- ② Value Based education.
- ③ Autonomy granted through  
agency approach  
eg: ④ Role of Self Help Group in Teerika  
provide 3 component of Leadership, decision  
making, Collective Action. We can  
see impact how it started from  
Livelihood program to micro entrepreneur

on Entering Amrit Katal.

Let's move from gender inequality to  
gender parity

Let's ~~gave~~ give recognition to human potential  
Let's globalize feminism

Finally we don't Need women empowerment  
we need women Led empowerment.

## Q2 Challenging Social Construct of gender through philosophical exploration of Empowerment Rooted in individuality and freedom

Ans

"I tell my story Not because it is unique , but because it is story of Many girls"

Malala Yousaf Zai

A girl born in Mingora Swat Valley in 1997. Her father was Teacher and own a girl's school in Village. In 2008, The girls were banned from going to school. She Spoke out publicly on behalf of girls. one day she was on way home from school in bus. A gunman boared bus and shot her on left side of her head.

left side of her head. After month of surgeries and rehabilitation, she joined his family in New home UK. She determined to continue fight until every girl could go to School. She dedicated life to giving equal right to girls. For This, She receive Noble Peace Prize in Dec 2014, youngest ever. Nobel Laureate Her Name is "MALALA YOUSUF ZAI". She is still continuing Campaign through "Malala Fund".

The above Story shows picture how a girl is deprived of her social, economic and political right from childhood. Individuality and freedom of women is being started suppression from birth. This Social Construct of gender inequality is Created by society Not By Nature.

Recent Constitutional In society  
This inequality persisting from  
ancient past and Great situation  
of "Great Gender Paradox". Starting  
with some example seen in India:

- eg: ① We as Country worship female  
goddesses, We as Society growing incidence  
of crime against women.
- ② Family Worship goddesses, Some  
family women are not given due attention
- ③ We as Country seeing increasing Literacy  
rate of women, gross enrollment,  
share in higher education increase but  
Labour force participation rate is declining
- ④ In Term of electoral participation,  
women participation increases, but  
representation decreases  
eg: - 14.6% in 2019 ~~and~~ to 13.6%  
in 2024

Feminist Thinker says Pluralism and  
there is chance of clashes of identity  
To avoid clashes, minority right is  
given, which promote Civic Cohesion

Women right and gender equality  
is ignored in multiculturalism eg: Babri Masjid

Social Condition like Poverty,  
rural & marginalised all together created  
compound discrimination Called Intersectionality

Eg: Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai worked  
for Ghatmalangini advocated equal right for  
poor lower Caste women & Social

factors Create "Perceived Social Phenomena"  
which have direct impact on women.

This phenomena contain two part

(i) Tragedy of womanhood (ii) Curse of  
femininity

Tragedy of womanhood = It explain  
phenomena of "unwanted girl child". ie  
Desire of male child during birth.

(1) feminisation of agriculture = burden  
on female and property right to Male

(2) agree to pay dowry  
but not giving equal right in property

This Great Gender  
paradox for longer year led to The  
great gender ~~dis~~ divergence. It  
impacted economic, social, political  
development of India. This make  
women fall in Gender Trap. It  
created psychological propaganda  
to ~~feel~~ feel women inferior or subordinate  
Gender role being  
imposed on her. She is not born.  
She is made. It is not inferiority  
because of that women are historically  
insignificant rather they are historically  
insignificant that's why they are treated  
as inferior.

Famous Economist Coined Term "Missing Women" which simply denote sex selective abortion. As per recent data it is found that cases of abortion is seen in middle class not in Tribal. Value based education is required to prevent abortion. Women is Not a Monolithic group. As per World Economic forum Gender Pay Gap is highest (60%) Show prevalence of glass ceiling in Multinational Corporations. Growth in formal sector job did not absorb increasing female labour force prevalence of glass Ceiling Leading to "Crowding out of women". Eg: Menstrual leave) Eg: Maternity Benefit

Now Question comes What Needs to be done for exploration of empowerment

First and foremost Necessity is Change in Behaviour, Mindset is required to make female working acceptable

No glass ceiling, Collective efforts society as whole with No division According Gender justice is Comprise of equality, Liberty and respect of women

According to John Rawls "Justice is in term of chain, Society is in term of chain and iron chain where strength of entire chain depend on weakest Link. IN JUSTICE ANY WHERE

THREAT TO EVERY WHERE

for economic

empowerment our economy has to produce good and formal jobs. jobs ensure social security

We Need to develop equal opportunity policy by set up Commission to build Legal framework. Strict implementation social security Scheme related to women

Women are getting aware of rights their job is not restricted to household. With expansion of globalisation and Connectivity women participation in electoral matter increasing. Many movement ~~for~~ which associated with women get global support ex Me too Movement. With advancement of social media, (youtube) Instagrams) women engagement has increased. They share videos, pictures, information on platform.

So far we focused on Empowerment  
is passive a concept rooted in individuality  
and freedom. With regard to  
Notion of Gender inequality, government  
has introduced measure like Beti Bachao,  
Beti Padhao, Gender Budgeting, Hindu  
Code Bill, Sexual Protection at Workplace.

Media play important role in shaping  
social, economic, political landscape of country

We need to ensure value based education,  
effective enforcement of rule of law to  
realise true spirit of gender justice  
for inclusive and sustainable growth

Mahatma Gandhi has said " of all  
evil for which man has made himself  
responsible none is so degrading, so  
degrading & so shocking as brutal abuse  
of his better say of human humanity"

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on keeping goal of SDG5 in mind.

Let's aim to achieve SDG 5 ie gender equality

Let's aim to globalize feminism

Let's aim to promote women led empowerment

Q3

Women Empowerment lies in resolving Tension between Paternalistic intervention and freedom of individual agency and choice.

Ans

"No better tool of empowerment than Women themselves")

Kofi Annan

Tessy Thomas known as Missile Woman of India and Agniputra is first woman to lead an Indian Missile project. Her journey from small town in Kerala to become ~~become~~ Her journey inspired many young women to pursue their dreams and break gender barrier in traditional male dominated field. Her choice and decision ~~to~~ break Patriarchal barrier and worked to achieve ~~of~~ her goal.

Here some question arises from theme  
of essay?

- i) What is the meaning of Women Empowerment?
- ii) How paternalistic intervention affecting freedom of individual agency and choice.
- iii) How freedom of individual empowers Women

Starting from addressing the answer of first question Empowering women means giving them means to be financially and intellectually independent in their choices on one side and on other side and on other side it also seeding belief that they are equal to everyone.

According to United Nation women empowerment has five component

- i) women sense of self worth.
- ii) Their right to have have and to determine choice
- iii) Their right to have access to opportunity and resource.

- iv) Their right to have power to control their own lives, within and outside
- v) Their ability to influence direction of social change.

According to Economic Survey 2017-18  
Gender inequality has been defined in following ways

AGENCY :> Exclusive decision making power over reproduction, financial resources.

ATTITUDE :> Violence against women; and ideal number of daughters.

OUTCOME :> female Employment, education level, age at marriage, son preference

Our Society is male dominated & patriarchal in nature. Elements founded in almost all regime. Status of women got deteriorated during ancient India.

It was during Vijayanagar Empire period status started increasing

Feudalism Existed from with invention of agriculture. The Men at Top began to exploit their workers or Labourers.

feudal patrarchal and Patriarchal Society

developed where ill informed feudal outposts scattered over India

Eg: Khap - They will Tell what is right or wrong. They decide Crime or punishment in women matter

Issue of gender stereotyping Create barrier which restrict women going outside for work.

### Male Chauvinism

which has perpetuated gender inequality. Could be found in Indian social

like Pati Parmeshwari, Paraya Dhan

From birth, freedom of girl child is limited and restricted.

Society started judging and creating their own stories in mind

Similarly talking about Political Structures, here also dominated by Male Exploitation of women at personal level in family never became part of political Setup.

During 1970s feminist thinking rising "Personal is Political" which gave birth to Cultural feminism. Transformative potential Can't be realised as structure of society is not changed eg: Sarpanch Patti Phenomena. This effect will be seen in Nari Vandana. Some women also faced problem of intersectionality which created Compound discrimination.

eg: A Poor, tribal, Rural woman live in water deficit in Rajasthan went 10 km to ~~fetch~~ fetch water.

Women always took Leadership role when environment is in danger. They depend on Nature for livelihood.

It gave rise to "Eco feminism". Both gender and Climate Justice depend on each other eg: Chipko, Appiko, Narmada Bachao Andolan

Climate Change affects everyone, but it is world's most Vulnerable section affected especially women, girl who depend on Nature for livelihood and economic sources

There is need to develop equal opportunities policy by setup Commission to build Legal framework -

The representation of women in Media  
suffer from perception bias.  
eg: In movies women are assigned insignificant or stereotypical role.  
Instead of main protagonist

There is a paradox in media. On one hand media has given a voice to more women. It has become a place where women have suffered harassment in various form such as trolling, cyber stalking, Cyber harassment.

Technology has led to female foeticide, sex selective abortion

Encouragement  
Encouragement to participate in sports would increase the number of women in sports. They can use sport to pursue career. eg: PV Sindhu, Sakshi Malik While we may walked few miles towards empowerment. The Need of hour is to enable women to realize their potential. Even women have internalized Norm of patriarchy that they themselves dominate other women. eg domination of daughter-in-law by their Mother in Law.

"Yatra Maryastu Pujoante ramante

Tatra Devta" As per Manusmriti

"where women are honoured, diversity blossom there and where ever women are dishonoured, all action no matter how noble it may be remain unfruitful"

Empowering through passive Agency

Leading to inter dependency.

Autonomy will be granted through agency approach. It promote leadership, decision making, ~~Collective Action~~ Collective Action. Eg; Role of SHG in Jeevika.

In essay we saw how gender paradox converge into gender division

Gender Tension lead to curse of femininity

But solution lies in "agency approach" which can be realised through person is political.

on Occasion India is entering into

Amrit Kaal

I have dream of empowered women

I have dream of equitable society

I have dream of society shifted  
from patriarchal to Matrarchal