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WOMEN ON THE EDGE OF PROGRESS

Reflections from
Third World Countries

Prabhat Kumar Singh
Amit Bhowmick



**Women on
The Edge of Progress**
Reflections from Third World Countries

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Reflections from Third World Countries

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Preface

From Editors' Desk.....

We often come across a huge number of issues to discuss and debate of our society in the field of various subjects on social science and finally come to a conclusion that we have to travel through the ups and down of the social differences and discrimination. Unlike caste, creed, religion, language, education, occupation etc. gender issues have a big role to play to decide the peace and prosperity on the basis of prevailing social practices in third world countries. Social issues which are associated with masculinity and feminism are existing in our society from the days immemorial, and have undergone huge changes depending upon the gender roles.

Man and women are the part and parcel of our society. Being our society mostly the male dominated one, the social status of women has undergone many changes, starting from the taking the responsibly, taking care of the children and the completely maintaining the house hold works. Modern education system has brought about in this system a big change in that direction. Instead of a housewife, the women are now better known as homemaker. Women are not restricted into the four walls of the conventional households works. They have come out of the house and made home in the outside world of professionalism, starting from the day labourer to the fighter pilot of defence services even. They are now in the politics, education, mass media, arts and crafts, finance, science and technology and even in software companies. At this juncture, when one sees an embarrassment of new forms and varieties of activities and violence, it seems to be more painful and awful and she finally look forward for the realities to be faced in the real life situation and changes in the society.

The old practices of violence against women have taken a sharp u-turn in taking serious lawful action against the defaulters. They now being the part of every aspect of our social life, the status of

women in the society has developed up to a great extent.

The readers of this book are definitely hopping for a changing atmosphere where they can be adoptable in a new era of women and their changes under the impact of globalization . Women issues are so unique in nature; it has quite naturally affected the issues of men in terms of social interaction through the direct or indirect participation in the nation building comparing herself with the male counterpart. With a good intention the aim and objectives of this volume is to provide a ready reference of the various social issues of women in connection with changing trends of globalization. In this respect each and every aspect of the women and their involvements has been taken into deeper level of consideration to come up with the expectation of modern readers.

The volume “*Women on the Edge of Progress: Reflections from Third World Countries*” is different and unique in nature, because, the authors too, have come from diverse specializations with different types of topics which are highly expected to be the eye opener for the prospective readers of social science.

The volume it has been tried to discuss almost all the issues related to the “*Women on the Edge of Progress: Reflections from Third World Countries*”. If the readers are anyway benefited out it, it would be a great pleasure for us, and also will provide us inspiration to go ahead with more development of the subject.

We would like to put forward our heartfelt gratitude to all the contributors who have been very accommodating and cooperative to make this task of writing a great success. We all are thankful to the publisher of this volume for their interest and co-operation in publishing this volume.

Prabhat Kumar Singh
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Dr. Zakir Hussain and Child Education in India

Samiparna Rakshit

A new nation state always demands a new kind of self-projection to secure a place in the international community. This sense came as a natural process in the case of the new nation of India also. The situation was a little different in the case of the new state of India, because it was no longer under the colonial rule but a nation that has now translated into a nation-state. A nascent state requires new idioms of legitimacy and in this situation the anxiety about legitimization for its policies was predictable.

It was the anxiety to legitimize the authority of India and to generate consent for the new legislations. Hence, in every field of national policy making, 'great thinkers' supposedly representing the nation's morality in an essential sense, particularly in the years immediately after Independence.

In the process of making of a nation the child has received an important position to the nation builders. Ideas on rights, education, and welfare of the child and the conception of taking 'child as the future asset of a nation' already existed in that particular age.

The reactions, opinions and thoughts of some thinkers on child, child education, child psychology, and rights of the child bring to us some interesting information. Some of them were highly creative and individualistic in their temperaments, thinking and functioning and some of them could not shed the influence of conservative influence of the time and limitations of patriarchal hierarchical social set up. Some of them were strongly subdued under the notion of patriarchy or the concept of adult hegemony over the child.

In this backdrop, the present article would discuss the thoughts of an exceptional thinker of that age, whose thoughts on child,