The Changing Status Of The Working Woman In India

Promilla Kapur

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But What About Men Marital Adjustment in Tribal and Non-tribal Working Women - Google Books Result Jul 7, 2015. Today working women's have say in family decision making process women in India after their position deteriorated in medieval India.
In Indian history we can get references about the role of women from the beginning of the Indus valley civilization, the first known civilization of India which said to have flourished in 25th century BC. As per historical evidences peoples of this valley worshiped natural forces and divine power were mostly feminine. The Buddhist age witnessed a serious change in the status of Indian women. Gautama Buddha made the adoption of daughters valid which squashed the general belief that the birth of son was indispensible to attain salvation. Apart from this women were accepted as nun in the Buddhist monasteries. Admission of women into the monastic order secured for them a religious status and they played a vital role in propagating Buddhism. The contact of Indian culture with that of the British also brought improvement in the status of women. The third factor in the revival of women's position was the influence of Mahatma Gandhi who induced women to participate in the Freedom Movement. As a result of this retrieval of freedom, women in Indian have distinguished themselves as teachers, nurses, air-hostesses, booking clerks, receptionists, and doctors. The worth of a civilization can be judged from the position that it gives to women. Of the several factors that justify the greatness of India's ancient culture, one of the greatest is the honoured place ascribed to women. Manu, the great law-giver, said long ago, 'where women are honoured there reside the gods'. Traditionally, women were considered to be care takers of the home. They had to look after the running of the family smoothly, they had to manage the expenses in the most economical way possible, they had to look after aged in-laws, nurture the children etc. It is these women who led paths of change and brought about a transformation in the way people viewed women in the society. The modern day woman. The modern day woman is more aware of the society around her and believes in her strengths, handles her weaknesses with grace, identifies the goodness in things and is socially responsible towards her duties. Women don many roles and handle them with grace. There is no profession that does not have women enrolment.
The change in the status of women got further impetus after independence because of the enactment of new laws (Special Marriage Act, 1954, Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, Hindus Succession Act 1956 and Anti Dowry Act 1961). The laws pertaining to women’s employment are:

- Women with more education and work to do for earning livelihood find adjustment difficult. While earlier the priority for most girls was marriage at the right time and leading a life based on roles of wife, mother and daughter-in-law, parents remained more concerned about the family background of the prospective son-in-law before fixing the marriage of their daughters.

- The role and status of women in India is a hot issue that is passionately debated every day, as more women become conscious of the huge bias towards them. Having exposure only to certain housekeeping skills and esthetic preoccupations, women in India have little scope of investing in preparations for emergencies like, for example, if something happened to the man earning the bread.

- Women in India also do not have any awareness of financial instruments and savings in banks and the concept of handling the bank account to manage finances. The Constitution of India has given special attention to the needs of women in order to enable them to exercise their rights on equal footing with men and participate in national development.

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Yes for sure status of women in India has somewhat changed compared to the past. Women from middle class and higher class are going more and more in professional education, joining big jobs as scientists, Engineers, Doctors, and in higher management, not forgetting the often talked about woman Prime Minister and women Chief Ministers. We have a lot of positives to be proud of. The not so positive aspect of status of women in India is that serious education is still limited to the upper or middle class. For most of Indian girls living in villages, getting marriage to working guy is the most accepted prospect. That has not changed in so many years. The change in the status of women got further impetus after independence because of the enactment of new laws (Special Marriage Act, 1954, Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, Hindus Succession Act 1956 and Anti Dowry Act 1961). The laws pertaining to women’s employment are:

Today, a large number of women with more education and with work to do for earning livelihood find adjustment difficult. While earlier the priority for most girls was marriage at the right time and leading a life based on roles of wife, mother and daughter-in-law, parents remained more concerned about the family background of the prospective son in-law before fixing the marriage of their daughters.