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ABSTRACT

Education of women in Kerala is as much a concern of both government and civil society as education. Women can play a very important role in the country's development. Education is the foundation of a woman Empowerment because it allows them to face challenges, face their traditional roles, and change their lives. So we cannot ignore the importance of education in relation to the empowerment of women in Kerala. It is destined to become a superpower in recent years. Women's education is the most powerful tool for change position in society. The education of women in Kerala is in great need as education is the foundation Women's liberation. Education also reduces inequality and jobs as a medium Improving their position in the family and developing the concept of sharing.

Keywords: education, interest, milestones, empowerment, participation.

INTRODUCTION

Empowerment can be seen as a means of creating a social environment in which decisions can be made and make individual or collective choices for social transformation. Promote empowerment Innate ability through the acquisition of knowledge, power, and experience (Hashmi-Schuler & Reilly, 1996). Enabling is the process of allowing or empowering individuals to think, act, and control action within a independent method. It is the process by which he can control his fate and circumstances their lives. In society, there are always some elements that are deprived of basic rights in every society, state and nation, but these elements lack awareness of each person's rights. If we take advantage of these factors from the community, women will be at the top of this list. In fact, women are the most

important factor in any society. Although everyone is aware of this fact, no one is willing to accept it. So, the importance which was previously bestowed on women is decreasing in today's society. Because of this growing trend of Underestimating women to the extent that they occupy a secondary position in society and deprive them of their rights their basic rights, they felt the need to liberate women. . Empowering women has become a focus great discussion and global interest. Today we enjoy the benefits of being free citizens nation, but we really have to think whether every citizen of our country is truly free or has freedom, In the true sense of this term. Inequality between men and women and discrimination against women is a problem eternal problem around the world. Therefore, it is common for women to seek equal rights with men. She shall be equal to man in education, profession, inheritance, marriage, politics, etc. their research for equality led to the creation of many women's associations and the launch of movements. Our constitution does not distinguish between men and women, but our society took that away from women, some of the basic rights granted to them by our Constitution. Empowerment allows individuals to do so reach their full potential and increase their political and social participation and self-belief capacity.

"If you educate a man, you educate an individual, alternatively, if you educate a woman, you educate an entire family. Liberated women means liberated Indian mothers."Jawaharlal Nehru. Educating women in Kerala plays a very important role in the overall development of the country. It not only helps in development from half of human resources, but to improve the quality of life at home and outside if you say so Education is the key to all problems, so nothing will go wrong. Thinkers have come up with several definitions of education, but among these definitions the most important is the one proposed by M. Phule. According to M. Bean, "Education is what shows the difference between good and bad". If we keep in mind the above definition, we will know that no matter how much a revolution takes place. In our history, education is its foundation. Education means behavior modification in all respects, for example: Such as thoughts, opinions, attitudes, etc. Educated women tend not only to raise the educational level of their daughters, but also women They can also give better guidance to all of their children. In addition, women with a high level of education can also help reduce Infant mortality rate and population growth. Women are considered only housewives and are better off living at home.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- Rupali Sharma, Zia Afroz (2014), stated in their paper that India holds second position in having largest population in world. It is essential to empower women, through higher education. It does not mean making them literate but also educating them to know their rights and duties.
- Khushboo Singh (2016), in her paper discussed about the impact of education on the empowerment of women as well as the challenges that we must have to deal with during the process. The educational and other policies for women empowerment should be implemented in reality for empowering women in the world.
- D.C. Agarwal&AnkuKukerJi (2016), For development of country Women Empowerment is must. It can be done through increasing females literacy roots and to provide them higher education so women can become self dependent, confidence & help in raising status in the family & society. Women's can make their own decision & able to differentiate between good and bad, if they are educated. So government should make plans & policies regarding women empowerment.
- Rouf Ahmed Bhat (2015) focused that Education is mile stone of Women Empowerment because it enables them to respond to the challenges, face their tradition and change their life. It is most important tool to change the position in society. Education brings reduction in inequalities develops the states of family. Education modifies behavior in every aspect such as mentality, outlook, attitude etc. Educated women not only tends to promote education of their girls child, but also can provide better guidance to all their children and help in reduction of mortality rate and growth of population.
- Dr. M. ShummugaSundaram, et all (2014) Stated that general awareness program me should be take among woman's of rural area they are trained up in different vocational courses mostly gender barriers still continue in rural area. Potential of women have not been fully utilized and pushed back in social hierarchy. Lack of education becomes obstacles in getting empowerment.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To identify the socio-economic status of the selected respondents.
- To compare of the women's education in past, present and future opinions of respondents.
- To understand the relevance of higher education in women's life.
- To analyse the need of women empowerment.
- To analyse the role played by women in the decision making bodies related to higher education.

IMPORTANCE OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Women's empowerment is an integral part of any society, state or country. A woman plays the leading role in a child's basic life. Women are an important part of our society. Education as a means of empowering women can lead to positive changes in attitudes. Therefore, it is of great importance for India's social, economic and political progress. The Constitution of India empowers the country to adopt affirmative measures proposing ways and means to empower women. Education makes a big difference in a woman's life. Women's empowerment is a global issue, and discussions of women's political rights are at the forefront of many formal and informal campaigns around the world. The concept of women's empowerment was introduced in 1985 at the International Conference on Women in NAROIBI. Education is the cornerstone of women's empowerment. You can face challenges, stand up to traditional roles, and transform lives. Therefore, the importance of education in women's empowerment cannot be ignored. Looking at the growth in girls' education, India is said to be poised to become a global superpower in recent years. Increase changes in women's education, women's empowerment are recognized as major issues in defining women's identity. To become a superpower, we must focus primarily on educating women thereby forcing the emancipation of women.

As per united national development fund for women (UNIFEM) the term women's empowerment means:

- Acquiring knowledge and understanding of gender relations and the ways in which these relations may be changed.
- Developing a sense of self-worth, a belief in one's ability to secure desired changes and the right to control one's life.
- Gaining the ability to generate choices exercise bargaining power.

- Developing the ability to organize and influence the direction of social change, to create a more just social and economic order, nationally and internationally.

Empowerment, therefore, implies a psychological feeling and interest in personal control or influence. Real social influence, political power and legal rights. is a class structure that points to an individual, organization and society. This is an ongoing international process with a community focus that includes: Mutual respect, critical thinking, caring, joining groups where not everyone has the same interests valuable assets give you more control over those assets.

The table below shows the literacy rates of 14 Districts in Kerala.

SL no	District Name	Population	Literates	Literacy
1	Kottayam	1,974,551	1,749,798	97.21%
2	Pathanamthitta	1,197,412	1,062,553	96.55%
3	Ernakulam	3,282,388	2,855,676	95.89
4	Alapuzha	2,127,789	1,852,797	95.72%
5	Kannur	2,523,003	2,138,434	95.10%
6	Thrissur	3,121,200	2,678,548	95.08%
7	Kozhikode	3,086,293	2,615,443	95.08%
8	Kollam	2,635,375	2,240,273	94.09%
9	Malappuram	4,112,920	3,311,315	93.57%
10	Thiruvananthapuram	3,301,427	2,785,408	93.02%
11	Idukki	1,108,974	923,010	91.99%
12	Kasaragod	1,307,375	1,037,492	90.09%
13	Palakkad	2,809,934	2,239,492	89.31%
14	Wayanad	817,420	645,585	89.03%
Literacy rate in KERALA				94.00%

From the above we can conclude that Kerala achieved the highest literacy rate of 94.00% in India, followed by Delhi (88.7%). Kerala has the highest female literacy rate (95.2%) in India.

STATUS OF WOMEN IN KERALA CHARACTER OF THE SOCIETY

Kerala society is considered by many to be a matrilineal society. In Kerala's caste society, many communities have followed matriarchy in the past and some have followed Nino

patriarchy. In a matrilineal system, women can own property, but not control it. The male head of the family manages the family and property. Gradually and steadily, the maternal family became the breadwinners of the family. Her three major religions in Kerala - Hinduism, Christianity and Islam - clearly define the status of women in Kerala society. Women's status in society is determined by traditional relationships and religious stereotypes.

Position of women in the family

In Kerala family structure, roles and responsibilities are determined by gender. A woman must fulfill the role of wife and mother, and her primary responsibilities are to bear and raise children and to undertake household chores that are not considered productive. The gender division of labor is explained by a wide range of social, cultural and religious discourses. Family ideologies are very important in building gender differences. Kerala society is one in which many political and social developments have taken place and women have contributed greatly. The social movements 'Punnapra', 'Vayalar', 'Karivelloor' and 'Kayyoor' are examples. In 1957 the first Communist Ministry proposed a number of measures for the welfare of women. However, patriarchy is unwilling to share power in the political sphere, ultimately leading to women being confined to the house.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Women play an important role in making a state progressive and leading it in the direction of development. A woman is an essential commodity of a living humanity necessary for the progress of the nation, so if we see a bright future of women in our country, their education must be a priority before going to work. Empowerment means moving from a weakness to exercise a power. Women's education is the most powerful tool to change the status of women Community. Education also reduces inequality and serves as a way to improve their status in the family. Encouraging women's education at all levels and reducing stereotypes at birth Knowledge, education, public schools, colleges, and even universities are exclusively for women in the state. Education develops the idea of participation in government, panchayats, public affairs, etc. to delete Discrimination on the basis of sex.

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