

Muslim Women Empowerment through Political Participation in India

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Abstract:

Women's political participation and representation is crucial for effective democratic governance. It not only provides women the power to express themselves. But also gives them the confidence to work in the public sphere. In most societies. It has been observed that the interests and needs of women are not deal with in a serious manner. Most of them suffer unattended. This affects not only women's but also their families in a serious way and thereby dividing the growth of overall development of the country.

Keywords: *Empowerment, Participation, Democratic, Governance. Development.*

Introduction:

For instance, if there are no health care facilities of women in a country. It impacts not only the women. But also their children. As they transfer communicable diseases to other family members or may not be in a position to take proper care for the family. Especially children. Also if in a country. There are no good policies to increase women's literacy rate; then uneducated women. May not be able to understand the importance and benefits of education this would have a direct impact on their children who may also from similar opinions. So we may understand from the two examples explained above that by ignoring the interests of the women. The state only affects the women per say but also challenges the overall growth and development processes taking place in the country. Unfortunately, the patriarchal mind set of most men and political institutions fail to understand that why women's issues.

The Indian constitution and they policy making bodies at the national and state levels have provided a number of opportunities through minority Muslim specific policies and programmers which promotes inclusive development in India. As is expected such policies and programmers which promote inclusive development in India. As is expected such policies and programs are made available Bureaucratic. To the people at large and the target groups.

Meaning of women Empowerment:

Women empowerment refers to increasing the spiritual, political, social or economic strength to individuals and communities. It often involves the empowered developing confidence in their own capacities.

Definition:

Joe Wood “The act of action of empowering someone or something. The granting of the power, Right or authority to perform various acts or duties”.

Nicholas Leman “Therefore part of the cure for poverty was empowerment training the residents of a poor neighborhood to organize themselves. And learn to get things”.

Statement of problem:

Muslim women's representation in politics is also very much limited by situational barriers economic problems and dependency political instability lack of education and political knowledge The above discussed problem as also studied in the present study focusing on the political awareness, political participation, political status and political career and perception about politics.

Importance:

Women's empowerment and achieving gender equality is essential for our society to ensure the sustainable development of the country many world leaders and scholars have argued many world leaders and scholars have argued that sustainable development is impossible without

gender equality and women empowerment women wouldn't feel equally important to the process of development as men. It is widely believed that the full participation of both men and women is critical for development.

In the context of women and development empowerment include more choice for women to make on their own. Political empowerment supports creating policies that would best support gender equality and agency for women in both the public and private spheres further recommendation have been to increase women rights to vote voice opinion and the ability to run for office with a fair chance to being elected. However participation is not limited to the realm of politics, it can include participation in the household in schools and the ability to make choice for ones some theorists believe that bargaining power and agency in the household must to be achieved before one can move into broader political participation. Through a number of institutional provisions encompassing. Administrative and legal procedures while such providing are far too many and large in numbers and evolved over a period of the independent history of India. They are not comprehensible by the common citizens of India. Besides one needs to prioritize such depending upon the extent and quantum of benefits they offer in a most effective manner.

Objectives of the study:

1. To study the socio economic profile of Muslim women.
2. To analyze the political status and political career Muslim women.
3. To study the obstacles which are restraining Muslim women political participation.
4. To find out the factors which may help or prevent women from playing more effective role in political activities.

Methodology:

Sources of Data Collection can be broadly categories into secondary data

Secondary Data:

The secondary sources of data collection were books and in our topics of research and related aspect of this are. Articles in research journals magazines and printed form of pamphlet.

Selected Best practices favoring Muslims:

1. Article 30 to establish minority education institutions.
2. Maintain and develop AWAQAF properties.
3. National and state minority commission.
4. National and state minority development corporations.
5. Moulana Azad Educational foundation. Algid Muslim University.
6. Use of public spaces such as Roads and parks to perform Name, especially Namaze Jumma.
7. Permitted practice to say Azan publicly.
8. Application of Muslim personal law for resolving family. Marriage and inheritance.
9. Public supports to performance of Haj.
10. Modernization of madrasah ensuring equality for the minority women.

Role of Political parties in empowerment:

One of the prime reasons for women's under representation in politics in because of the masculinity and non-inclusive strategist adopted by political parties in India. All decision making with regard to the structure. Generally, there is no realization or commitment within the parties that gender natural aspects are equality important and should be considered critical for the overall growth of the country. The process of candidate's selection and recruitment and the party structures also biased and considered as the main barrier for women's representation and participation electoral politics for the same reasons it becomes near impossible to bring about reforms within the party as there is no gate way for women and men's attitude towards women remain patriarchal. So, until and unless, women become part of the party structure. It is difficult to bring about change and gender neutral power.

Some needs for fulfilling for women empowerment:

1. Encourage corporate leadership capacity with the quality to ascertain gender equality.
2. Encouraging adequate respects and supports for human right and nondiscrimination and inconsequence treating men and
3. Women equally at workplace. . Making sure that all men and women workers are provided equally facilities in terms of their overall welfare and safety at workplaces.
4. Educating women according to the professional requirement and encourage them to grow further in life.
5. Encouraging women to develop entrepreneurial skills, which in turn, would make them self-dependent.
6. Advocating the promotion of gender equality within a community.
7. Proper measurement and letting people know of the achievement of gender equality.
8. Educate a man, you educate an individual if you educate a women, you educate the whole family" Dr. Karve

Muslim Women and Political Participation:

Women's participation is Just 15% for Muslims and Sikhs and Even lower at 12% among joins. Among Hindus, there are 27% working women, while if it is 31% for Christians and 33% for Buddhists. Several smaller faiths fall under other religions. These are mostly tribal communities from peninsular India and the northeastern states, their work participation rates are markedly different from other. Communities nearly 48% of members of this sections work, more than any of the country's six major religious communities. Women's work participation is also highest in Tribal communities at nearly 44% (Subodh Vera 2016).

Muslim women have various responsibilities said by their Holy book Quran which highly speaks about equality of men and women “And (as for) the believers, both men and women, they are friends and protectors of one another, they enjoin the doing of what is right and forbid the doing of what is wrong and are constant in prayer, and Render the purifying dues, and pay lead

unto god and his apostle. It is they upon whom god will bestow. His grace verily God is almighty wise" (Quran 71).

This verse shows that women and men are to work together in the Religious Realm (The reference to prayer) in the social Realm (Rendering purifying dues, presumably to help the needy) and in the political and education Realm. (The reference to heading god and his Apostle... one must understand what god 10m minds and have a voice on society to head God's Teachings)The References in the verse to the activities required, e.g. enjoining the right, prayer, etc., show that both women and men are to take an active role in society rather than merely a passive. One (Muslim women's League 1951)

The Quran's addresses the issue of women giving the baiah to Prophet Mohammad and god tells Mohammed (Phub) to accept the pledge of the women: Women can also hold political positions in Islam. No Quaranic verses exist. That prevent women from holding positions in Islam. No quaint verses exists. That prevents women from holding positions of leadership. [Rahman RN (2012). There is nothing in the authentic sources of Islam that prevents women from running for political offices if they are confident of their expertise and credentials to make a positive difference provided they are not doing so at the expense of their greater responsibilities of nurturing and caring for their families. Hear it must be stressed at all times that Islam considers a woman's role as a mother to be the noblest duty she can ever perform; nothing else can replace it. However if her involvement in politics does not come in the way of this crucial role. There is nothing in Islam to dissuade her from it (Kuly A 2004).

Sahara Committee Report:

According to Sahara Committee report as a result of such biased propaganda the civil society and the state locate Muslim women's deprivation not in term of the objective Reality of societal discrimination and faculty development policies. But in the religious community space Further more when, the community identity is under wise it affects women in a dramatic ways, women sometimes out of Their will, sometimes under community, pressure adopt visible

markers of community identify on their person and in their behavior. Such behavior generally the serial, educational and economic growth of Muslim women.

The morality of women and movement in public spaces are under constant scrutiny and control. A gender based fear of the public experienced to some degree by all women is of the public experience to some degree by all women is manifold in the case of Muslim women. A Rigid line is drawn between safe and unsafe places. The community and its women seem to withdraw into the safety of familiar or thodoxies, Reluctant to participate in the project of modernity many of the community feel that the only 'safe" place for women is within the boundaries of home and community.

The Social Status of Muslim Women:

The social status of Muslim women as projected in the outside world is the result of select cases of Muslim women passionately discussed in Media. It has resulted in identifying the Muslim religion as a sole locus of gender in justice in the country the issues of women and Islam among masses have for quite some time attracted the interest of the intellectual and politicians. But much of this interest is caught up in misconception. Religions is seen to be the primary force influencing every aspect of their lives. They are still viewed as being out of the world wherever move of their life is controlled by men and religious dogmas issued from time to time by various religious leaders and scholars. The spotlight is always on the role of religion in their life. It is normally believed that they are strictly controlled by Muslim personal law.

Best Suggestion to Muslim women:

1. Encouraging self-esteem of Women and Girls so that they are able to reach the decision making levels.
2. Political training of women should begin school stage and should be speed on the local provincial National and inter-National levels.
3. Sensitize and make women conscious of their right and power to vote.

4. Women should fight for their right to progress in politics.
5. Women need to be helped to raise their voice.
6. Women should be inspired and motivated to think discuss and act to solve problems by Political leaders.
7. Showing transparency and gender balance in the selection process
8. Providing greater sensitive training to women to have no discriminatory and balanced relationship.
9. Developing mechanisms and training to encourage participation of women in the electoral and political processes.
10. Women moreover need to be actively involved in defining the political, Economic and social agenda

Conclusion:

The question of women or gender-related issue is a significant issue in our civil society. Though women play an extremely important role in every society, yet they are deprived of rights and dignity along with facing gross negligence and discrimination as we have highlighted in the earlier analysis. In our study we tried to bring the gender perspective face to face with the vulnerabilities and deprivations of people living in the chars of the Brahmaputra Valley, particularly the district of Barpeta in Assam. The present study was designed to be a field based studies in the three Development Blocks of the Barpeta District of Assam comprising a major segment of the Char Areas of the Brahmaputra Valley. We conducted both field surveys and interviews to arrive at an understanding of women's position in family, society and political processes. Through the ages, women have played an extremely important role particularly in the process of change and development. Despite their contribution, in fact, in almost all the societies, women continue to be severely disadvantaged.

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