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An Institute for Civil Services

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TEST COPY

ARVIND SHAH

RANK - 123

ESSAY - 2



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Roll No. _____

Time Allowed: 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- Attempt both essays
- The test carries 250 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- Any page left blank in the answer-book must be crossed out clearly.

(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).

~~50+58
Muj~~

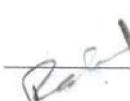
Name ARVIND SHAH

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature Ashok

1. Invigilator Signature _____



2. Invigilator Signature _____

Remarks

1. One is not born but rather becomes a woman.
2. India vs. Bharat: Is it still relevant?

① One is not born but rather becomes a women.

India is a country full of surprises and dichotomies. If there is one fact which is correct about India. The opposite will also be true. The land, where women are worshipped in form of Shakti, Durga is the same land where women are also killed in the womb itself.

In this essay we will analyze the causes of predicament of sexes. Is one born as women? if not, why is one becomes women? We will also focus on the changing nature of struggle of two sexes.

We will try to find out the reason behind the struggle. We will also try to find out the answer to the core question - Will this struggle end ever, or the fight will go on forever?

But before that it is important to go back in time to find out how it all started.

It's a good practice to enlist the cause of the essay.

Patriarchy: the origin of struggle

During the Rigvedic era, women enjoyed considerable freedom and equality. We have examples of female sages like Lopmeatra.

Maitreyi who participated actively in debates and discussions. They also composed many of the hymns of Rigvedas.

With the advent of settled agriculture and prosperity, the role of women got limited to domestic affairs as male member was itself enough for external affairs. From later vedic it all started and continued till the end of medieval era. Not only in India but also over the world we see the similar pattern where women were subjugated by increased role of male member of family — The patriarchy was established.

In this phase women were systematically transformed into a weak gender, a second sex, the child of lesser god. All this was not a overnight phenomenon, the brainwashing was done from womb to tomb

Remarks

Rather than presenting it like the only reason for the ascent of patriarchy write it like the — One possible reason for why patriarchy exist.

Training : The making of a woman

The institution of patriarchy has been so rigidly established in the societies that it has started appearing like a common sense.

When a child is born, it became a common sense that girls of son will be more desirable. The reason was simple because the son will take care in need while daughter is someone else's property.

When she is in her early childhood, she will be given dolls to play, she will be motivated to play indoor games. Why? Because a girl is supposed to be soft thus she can't play like toys - the guns and trucks. All this is engendered into her subconsciousness. Hence while choosing the career in her later phases - she will subconsciously choose home science over STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), she will aspire to become a home maker instead of becoming a truck driver or going into army.

Remarks

- Try writing as clearly as possible.

In her [teenage] she will be motivated to help in kitchen instead of joining work in field or doing help in external affairs. Thus her knowledge about the worldly affairs is limited. This in future limits her common sense and prevents her from seeing the bigger picture. She is also motivated to focus on dressing sense, way of speaking, how to sit, how to eat. This in all ways she tends to become submissive.

Exaggerated focus on make-up, waxing, dressing leads to less focus on other important aspects like being worldly wise, creating other outdoor hobbies, interest in sports. This all leads to a divergence in the life style divide between men and women.

In later phases in her life when she gets [married] she is seen as a liability and is compensated by dowry. This creates a objectified value of her life. When she gets pregnant, it is expected that she will give birth to a son - and the cycle continues.

birth

Remarks

Try infusing such words \Rightarrow generally, possibly, maybe, probably & so on.
It adds depth to one's writing.

The struggle : Perils of patriarchy

The struggle of women in patriarchal society

Starts from womb and ends with tomb.

In [Womb], she faces the danger of murder in the womb itself. Even if biology proves that

the sex of a baby is decided by senses of men, still patriarchy will blame it on women. → [Sperm]

Somewhere the girl comes into this world. Still the struggle is no less here. She is usually treated as unwanted child and is never given equal respect, equal resources and equal attention.

Where will children study? What will children eat? how will children live — in all spheres she will be treated as lesser child.

In education, she will be prevented from too boyish dreams such as STEM. In jobs she will be offered only stereotyped jobs — such as secretaries, nurses, air hostess. On top of that she will make ~~less~~ 30% less money for same work compared to a male counterpart.

Provide the

Remarks

→ Require more clarity.

- Source to add credibility to the claim

In terms of feminism she will face the problem of glass ceiling.

But the most dangerous and nerve wrecking struggle is the violence against women.

Treat of rape from childhood till the last breath makes women more insecure. They have threat even from their closest family member. This leads to a trust dilemma in women who is refuses to end till their death.

The issues of domestic violence, harassment at workplace, eve teasing — all are making lives of women full of struggle and insecurity.

Thus it would not be exaggeration if it is said that patriarchy has made life of women hell in this world.

All this struggle, since the time immemorial has led to a resistance in women all over the world. This revolt came in the form of feminism.

→ Could've added reports, certain statement of a credible personality, or data from NCRB to add depth to one's analysis.

Remarks Also could've have covered issues across political domain \Rightarrow low representation in parliament and state legislature, Proxies for husband or other family members

Subheadings so far have been really effective.

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Feminism: The revolt against Patriarchy

With the end of dark ages the age of enlightenment came. This enlightenment had twofold effect on the status of women =>

First effect was that the radical thinkers and supporters came in support of female. They openly criticised patriarchy and sought reforms.

In the west the scholars like Hobbes said that all humans are equal. Even though not explicitly meant for equality of gender, this helped in establishment of rationality in debate of gender equality. The scholars like Carte supported the cause of women. ~~too~~ T S mill was ardent supporter of gender equality.

In India the cause was taken up by Raja Ram Mohan Roy - the tallest leader of Indian renaissance and Bewanchandra Vidyasagar. Their efforts led to the abolition of Sati in 1828 and widow remarriage in 1856 respectively.

Remarks

The second effect of the age of enlightenment was the rise of feminism. Instead of women centric initiative the emphasis shifted towards women lead initiatives.

~~feminism started with its soft phase, which is called liberal feminism - they wanted to have equal rights such as men in political affairs and it resulted with women getting right to vote in west.~~

But the nature shifted of feminism from soft to hard and offensive phase. This phase was called radical feminism. Now the demand was not only equal rights in political sphere but also in socioeconomicsphere. In this context they demanded the end of patriarchy - because it was responsible for predicament of females.

This phase also saw the growth of postmodern feminism where

In this phase while analysing the patriarchy feminist claimed that "A woman is not born but made a woman".

They argued that while Gender is biological concept. The idea of womanhood is a social construct.

They also demanded that reforms should go in personal sphere also because most of the subjugations happens in personal sphere. Hence feminist held that "Personal is political"

Now the nature of feminism is changing again. Demand of women centric international policies has led to Sweden being the first country to officially adopt feminist foreign policy.

Thus the struggle has changed its nature many time and so has the idea of women empowerment.

But the picture is not all grim. Though the progress has been slow, but it has been steady. we must not ignore the other side of picture

Remarks

Should've highlighted about this point in detail and should've mentioned it towards the start.

Positive developments : Diminution of patriarchy

If the world is bereft with the ~~honors~~^{horrors} of patriarchy, it is also filled with pleasing development, where myth of gender superiority of patriarchy has been busted time and again.

In history as mentioned earlier, many scholars were women in early vedic era.

Women have also played very important role in Indian freedom struggle. The fighters like Rani Lakshmi Bai, Rani Durgavati, Rani chinnamma, Laxmi Sehgal - the lead of Rani Jhansi Regiment in INA army are some of example where women defied the borders set by patriarchy.

In education field, girls time and again has been getting the top rank in higher secondary exam as well as competitive exams such as Civil services.

In corporate sector - CEOs like Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chandra Kochhar etc. have become revered figure.

India has been consistently improving its female literacy figures. The admissions in STEM in case of female is also increasing.

Recent success of Mangal Yatra which was executed by a team dominated by women is very inspiring even to witness.

We have also witnessed recent L+2 summit between US and India which was lead by two women the then MEA and defense minister. It was a proud scene to be seen.

Thus while the struggle has been very prolonged and is ever going. The progress towards gender equality is even though slow but tangible.

If India has to become a world leader, it can not become leaving half of the population behind.

Women empowerment is prerequisite to our vision of inclusive, progressive India. As Gandhiji

Remarks The essay has not clearly followed the course as mentioned in the introduction.

said that women compliment the man. If we don't make both equal we can run the vehicle on one wheel.

We will have to be persistent in demanding women empowerment to realise what Tagore has imagined in his below poem—

"Where the mind is without fear
Where the head is held high
... In that ... o' almighty, let my country awake.

58
125

- * Structuring of the essay has been good but need to provide an explicit connection with the topic.
- * Content quality can be further improved.
(refer comments)
- * Try to improve the handwriting for ensuring better readability.

Remarks

② India vs Bharat: Is the debate still relevant?

"Bharat lives in our villages" - Gandhi

India being the country with "Unity in diversity" has been home to many religions, many languages, many ethnicities. At the same time, it has also been accorded many names. While Aryans called the land as "Aryavarta" and "Saptasindhu". In post Vedic era it was given the name of "Bharat-varsha".

Persians gave the name "Hindustan" to it. And west called it India.

While the names represents the etymology - the origin story, they also represent a image of India.

Two names of all given - India and Bharat has been most famous, and also been the mater matter of debate.

What is the India vs Bharat debate

The debate in modern time can be traced back to the advent of Europeans in subcontinent. India often was a traditional society - marred with caste rigidity, neglect of education was prevalent, women were subjugated. Ambedkar called the village of that time as "Den of Ignorance"

Europeans, who had just witnessed the Renaissance, where propagator of rationality, modernity, democracy and liberal values. For the next two years, till our independence, these two ideas interacted with each other. On one side was the idea of Bharat, other side stood the idea of India.

With the British leaving India for good in 1947, India decided to inherit the modernity of British in our political system.

But the society still remained traditional.

Thus emerged the evergoing debate of India and Bharat.

Remarks could've clearly mentioned the debate can be seen between \Rightarrow
Modern vs traditional, New vs Old, Urban vs rural, Educated vs illiterate.

Traditional Bharat vs Democratic India

The society in traditional and politics was to be liberal. Hence the conflict was imminent.

Recent example of protest for sabrimala entry and protest against Sabrimala temple entry can be attributed to the debate. Similarly public voting democratically for their caste is also an example of same.

The conflict is between a traditional, conservative and rigid Bharat which prefers ~~same caste marriage~~, accepts caste hierarchy, wants females to be in the houses handling kitchen. On the other hand is liberal, progressive and democratic India which prefers live-in-relationship, treats homosexuality as normal affairs, wants equal access to public places - temples - for both women and men.

The debate has been analysed and re-analysed over and over again. Many think that old-conservative ideas has to give way

+

Remarks

to modern liberal way of life. While other section wants to go back to old glory, the parami way of life. They accuse liberals to be the blind follower of western way of life.

Both side is make the fallacy of ignoring the opposites point of view. We will have to strive to choose the middle path. As Buddha said, middle path is the right path. Gandhi also preferred middle path. He was traditionalist, yet democratic.

Neither we have to go back to vedas nor we have to become like west. As Geeta says "follow the law of one's being". We must follow what is best for us - which is preserving the good old and acquiring the new ideas.

Apart from society, cultural political sphere too was not left out of debate.

Religious - caste ridden India vs democratic India

It was the year of 1952, India was to go through the first general election after independence. In a

How is this
subheading different

Remarks

Need to really improve the handwriting.

from the previous one?

revolutionary way, with unanimous mandate, our constitutional forefathers have decided to give universal adult franchise (UAP), but the problem has just begun.

India at that time of illiterate, poor. Many women didn't even know their name, they were known as someone's mother, someone's wife etc. Dr. Sukumar Sen, the first election commissioner of India was able to conduct the gigantic exercise and India conducted the world's biggest democratic exercise.

India then faced the problems of fuedal vs democratic/liberal confrontations. The purses given were withdrawn, the land of Janindra were taken away. All this led to criminals (fuedals) entering into politics — Criminalization of politics became a normal phenomena. 17th LS election witnessed coming of more than 170 criminals accused as parliamentarians. When criminals becomes law maker, law is broken at will. This led to legal anarchy, bureaucracy suffered from its inefficiency,

Opacity. Thus traditional culture affected the liberal values of our constitution.

Economic divide: Rural Bharat vs Urban India

India is land of 3rd most number of billionaires in India. India is also home to world's most poors.

Could've added about the points around agricultural & infrastructural differences.

Digital divide: while India is frontrunner of services, home to world's biggest techstars. Most of the CEO's of MNCs are India. At the same time the Bharat is suffering from digital illiteracy.

Thus while the Bridge between India and Bharat is getting filled, the gap is very large.

The debate of India vs Bharat will surely dilute, but end only when the divide of India and Bharat end. And we have long way to go.

Essay is incomplete in terms of enumerating the current status of India & Bharat and then providing further points for the relevance behind such classifications.

- * Understanding of the topic is there but need to effective time management to complete the essay.
- * Work on improving the handwriting.

50
100

Remarks

Remarks

India vs Bharat: Is it still relevant?

Constitutional morality vs customary morality

Digital divide

Urban vs Rural

Traditional society vs democratic state

Colonial legacy
culture of continuity -
from Harrapa to
independence present

What is Bharat?

What is the debate?

Poverty vs Antilia
is it still relevant?

Burden of NCD as well as
indep. Epidemics

Farmers suicide vs
service leader

Caste vs Democracy
Religion

Inclusive development

MNREGA vs Startup India

Reformist vs Revivalist

liberal

Balts to Vedas

Renaissance

Gandhi - a bridge b/w
India and Bharat
traditionalist as
well as democratic

Remarks

"Bharat lives in its villages" - Gandhi
"India is land of high differences".

What is the debate

Traditional vs democratic
colonial legacy
Rural vs urban (32% urbanisation)
Caste vs religion
Digital divide
Farmer suicides vs leader in service
Best trains

Jagath Guru vs Brani drain

Poverty vs Antilia

Gandhi vs Ambedkar

Yes - broad → take all together in journey
sense
No - Constitution superior

Is debate relevant? → in each

if talked specific

Yes - urban vs rural → still rich
rich vs poor

No - the gap is decreasing.

Conclusion

Bharat Represents Continuity, India
→ Renaissance → Revolution

Equality vs caste

As Tagore said -

"When the mind is without fear,
when the heart is filled with love,

"In that... let my
country awake".

One is not born rather becomes women

Sex vs Gender
 ↓
 biological manufactured
 ↑ Extentivist

Context of debate - Renaissance

Patriarchy Customary morality

RRR - Sati, Vidyasagar - Veermarg
 is one born women?
How does one become women
 - Child - dolls instead of guns
 teen girl - kitchen instead of field
 Dressing, eating, drinking
 high heels, smoking, make up, waxing
 Women - as a child bearer, homemaker

Mother [against cycle repeats
 break a female → women
 oldt] → seeks empowerment through
 Son: Son is their property
 Danger in law
 will lit the pyre

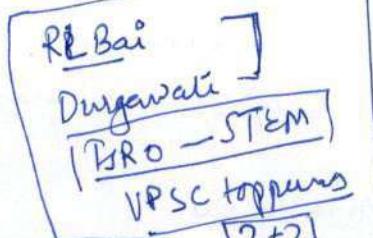
Revolt of feminism: Revolt against Patriarchy

liberal -
 Radical -
 post modern -

Role in independence

History of Patriarchy manusmriti

women inferior to men led.



Dichotomy < Women Worshipped
 women killed in womb.

Patriarchy:

The Origin

In Rigvedic era
 from later vedic to medieval era

But

RRR - ..

.. - ..

Constitution - equality part 4

↳ customary morality

The training: making of a women

The Struggle

Child womb to tomb
 womb - killed in womb
 neglected in ...

Feminism: The revolt against patriarchy

The revolt

#Me too, Sabarmata

Blutwaden

SAKHI, VIMOCANA,

on the other side

[Otherside of picture] on the other side
 MS Tarini, 2+2 ministerial dialogue

age of marriage
 PNNDT banned
 Dowry banned
 Sati Banned
 Reservation in

Jananiyalan
 Beta Bachao
 Beta Bach
 26 week law
 Protesting Govt

Myth of "lesser sex" busted.

India making progress but long way to go

"many gurus," God lives where women are worshiped. Where

women are despised
 destruction awaits

→ Gandhi

Remarks