



An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

JAYANT NAHATA

RANK - 56

ESSAY - 2

Jagan + Nakata Essay - 2

Rolls -

"One is not born but rather becomes a woman"

Good in vocabulary, sentence forming, flow etc.

Simone De Beauvoir, the Mother of radical feminist movement in her famous book "The Second Sex" said that "One is not born but rather becomes a woman". Simone's work was pathbreaking and it shook the world! No one had earlier explored the subjugation of women ^① from the critical lens ^② as she viewed it. Earlier, liberal and social feminists restricted their demands to secure voting rights (suffrage movement) ^③ or economic opportunities.

So what did Simone De Beauvoir analyzed that others before her simply failed to look? Simone argued that there's a

if you refer to comment 1 of essay 1, you'll see a striking similarity. 1, 2, 3 are jagged to be understood by a political phil. Rather, try to open up the various aspects that you want to mix-up

clear distinction between "Sex" and "Gender".
Sex is biological i.e male or female at birth. But "Gender" is a social construct which distinguishes man (boy) from woman (girl).

That's the core of the topic

Can explain this a bit, what it means!

One is not born a woman, one is simply born as a human being with a particular sex as seen from physical traits like sex organs. However, it is our society which actually assigns the female sex a particular social meaning. Hospital scenes in the pregnancy wards are a syn. The minute a boy (male child) is born, the family starts to envision him as a businessman or a cricketer or engineer. And the birth of a female child, often marked by grief (unfortunately), the family starts expecting a doctor or a capable housewife. This is the start of the process which continues lifelong and converts a female to a girl/woman! quite normal but exceptions do exist on a large scale

In the following essay, we will analyze the origin of the social contract of women, explore patriarchy. We will see how a female is connected to a woman and what impact it has across different sectors. Finally, how do we deal with this issue?

This is very good but should not come after 2 pages of introduction

It is said that nothing happens in a vacuum. Similarly, the social contract of a woman is built in the atmosphere of patriarchal society. Patriarchy establishes the domination of men over other genders such as females and transgenders. Patriarchy has deep roots in our history. Anthropologists argue that the way human bodies evolved to stand upright leading to under-developed "new borns" was a major factor why women were relegated to housework and child rearing activities. The physical strength of men in pre-historic era also pushed the case for men's domination over women.

avoid such metaphysical statement

were't women leading group of people in pre-historic times?

There's also the role of philosophers[†] in evolving women out of females - Aristotle in his Theory of Citizenship snatched citizenship rights from females arguing that they aren't capable of taking part in political sphere.

situate injunction of Aristotle in its context

Role of myths in projecting essential traits of women such as caring and being, meek and gentle have had a huge role.

Sigmund Freud had talked about "Penis Envy" of females and "Castration Complex" of males which contributed to distinguishing the relative position of men higher than women. Feminists have heavily criticized Sigmund's analysis in that it promotes patriarchy and lacks scientific basis.

How is this categorization of different psychic drives hierarchical in nature?

this inference not clear

Other social norms such as an appropriate age of marriage for girls in India have confined women to the four walls of the household. It has snatched the opportunity for

Isn't there an appropriate age for marriage of men also?

This derivation needs justification

women to 'transcend' this strong societal expectation/norms and live her life as a normal human.

Once a female who is deprived of suitable Education and Healthcare, opportunity to upskill etc. enters the job market, she naturally fails to compete with her male counterparts, getting poorer wages and secondary decision making roles in the company. Thus, this reinforces the belief that woman is somewhat "lesser" than men.

Across various dimensions of life, this process of "becoming of a woman" unfolds in front of our eyes. It happens from womb to tomb. Many female child are aborted in the womb itself by parents' "Sex meta-preference" as explained in India's Economic Survey 2017-18. Even when a girl is born, she faces neglect as compared to her male siblings. What is the reason that today 50% of adolescent girls are anaemic in India? Girl dropouts at the secondary education levels prove the point that there's open discrimination even when ASER reports show

that female trump males in Class Xth and Class XIIth exams every successive years, thus pooning their merit too.

Despite having brilliant business acumen as seen in examples of Indira Nooyi and Sheryl Sandberg (Facebook), women face a hard time to break the "invisible yet potent glass ceiling" that prevents them to reach the echelons of corporate world. Thus, an economically weaker woman is made

In the political sphere, Chhavi Rajawat of Soda Village, an LSR Graduate who got elected as Sarpanch has shown her mettle in political field at grassroots. Even at highest levels of power, lines of Hillary Clinton and Indira Gandhi show women's political capabilities such as consensual approach, participation etc. Despite this, women throughout history have been relegated to secondary roles. For e.g. Comfort women for Japanese soldiers during World War II. Similarly, the non-passage of Women reservation Bill in India shows that at some level, women still face bias.

Need to rethink if this example is suitable here -

quoting Indira Gandhi as a politician with participatory approach may not be that effective

Connected with the field of politics and economy is environment, where women are the major sufferers whenever a new dam displaces millions from their traditional lands/occupation. The construct of development is itself centred around men's needs rather than women's need.

That's too condensed and unexplained

Similarly in the field of science, Marie Curie had to struggle to make a name for herself in a domain that was till her, dominated by men. Women despite being born with creative and analytical skills, through years of conditioning by family, school and society, are deprived of their innate talents. Thus, today we see scientific field especially in Eastern societies still male dominated.

need explanation; just saying something won't suffice

However, it would be foolish to assume that only women face the brunt of this patriarchal process of "making of a woman". True, female/women face the most direct consequence in the form of violence, rape, dowry demands, child marriage, deprivation across politics and economy. But men too suffer along with women.

Isn't that a way of essentializing thing

According to Christine Lagarde, the IMF Chief, the Indian Economy is depressed by 26% of GDP because of unequal female labour force participation. Similarly, once a

woman is disempowered, a whole generation of humankind loses out - poor child nourishment and education, lack of productivity in agriculture. Where there's a feminization trend and companies losing out the analytical opinion of women board members. are few examples.

Today's 21st century can ill-afford the orthodox processes of ancient past. In the world of globalization where merit and individuality are key factors for growth, making a disempowered woman out of a capable young female child is a disservice to humankind. good

To get out of this cyclical loop, first there's need for recognition of the problem of patriarchy.

what's the basis of this claim?

Great if you can bring some examples

Women need to realise that it is
"You against You". They need to get out
of the mindset that they are any less than
their male counterparts. They need to raise their
voices, demand good education and upskill and
re-skill to catalyse their upward mobility. ✓

This is fine
but are they
enough for
breaking the
cultural
what about
attitudinal change
needed?

The State needs to invest in its
population via "capability building approach" of
Amartya Sen without any gender bias. At the
same time, there's need for strong laws that
detour hindrances to women's emancipation. The
lines of PCNDT Act, Prohibition of Child Marriage
Act need to be further strengthened. ✓

keep in mind
that these
are structural
issue

There's need to give impetus to the
SHG (Self-Help Group) movement led by women.
The success of Bangladesh across economic and
social parameters show how empowering women
brings prosperity to the entire nation as a
whole. ✓

Women need to be given primary decision
making roles, without women's voices being heard
in parliament, the government loses accountability
as the 50% of population is not involved in
its processes. The shining example of Panchayati Raj
in Kerala needs to be emulated and taken inspiration
at the national level.

can open it
up a bit

Finally, it is upon both genders,
males and females to join hands together and
end the patriarchal structure of our society
that is responsible for a girl becoming a
woman in a rapid construct. As Ambedkar
famously said - "A nation cannot fly with
one of its wings clipped". ✓

Just for reflection, here it seems that
women empowerment is a way toward
development and not an end in itself.

- ① largely, you have talked about inequality & oppression -
- ② Focused more on 'how' this construction happens - This
is where you are weak - explains the problem in greater
detail -
- ③ Similarly, in way forward also, focus on how that
'deconstruction' can take place - your focus is on
institutional/structural measures

India vs Bharat: Is it still relevant?

"India lives in its villages"

— Mahatma Gandhi

Through time immemorial, there's been a debate of India vs Bharat. Even during the freedom struggle, when Congress party was devising its National Economic Plan, our forefathers struggled to see a way out. Stalwarts like Nehru and Ambedkar wanted to pursue a path of top-down development which went through India: its urban cities and towns. Ambedkar went to the extent of calling villages or Bharat as a "Den of ignorance and orthodoxy".

On the other hand, Gandhi's Ram Rajya was one where there was self-reliant

avoid hyperbole! This debate is rather new -

that's not a true / grad inference
Here, dichotomy was between centralization and decentralization of cities and

not b/c villagers - this recent gap is of a village origin

and autonomous village republics. Gandhi said that India resides in its villages, it breathes and thrives in Bharat and not India.

This debate however goes much further in history when at the time of Silk Route trade, the urban agglomerations such as Ujjain were bustling with prosperous people seeing heightened economic and social activity.

But what about villages? were they essentially impoverished?

But that was long past back, today India is fast urbanizing. According to UNDP, India's current urban population of 31% will reach 50% by 2030 and then 60% by 2050.

So is the India vs Bharat still relevant?

Let's see whether it is true that India and Bharat have started to merge and lose their individual identity!

Again, as in last essay, you have come to ask imp-questions a bit late -

The metropolitan India with population exceeding 1 million is one where there's high density of population engaged in non-agricultural employment for the major part. Rural or Bharat on the other hand, is still agriculture dominated and sparsely populated. In between the two there's rise of peri-urban areas / agglomerations which in a way is a mix of urban and rural.

is this classification only about territories and geography?

The process of rapid urbanization started with ~~the~~ industrialisation in early 19th and 20th century when hordes of workers arrived from rural pockets to towns / cities to meet the needs of factories. Globalization has further accentuated this process especially after 1990s when India saw liberalization and privatization.

can mention a few imp. sites of migration
↳ source
↳ destination

✓ The stark difference in India and Bharat is easy to notice. While urban India shows off large private schools / colleges,

✓ , super-specialty hospital chains and modern highways, the rural Bharat suffers from dilapidated physical and social infrastructure → An ill-equipped primary health centre, one teacher government schools and poor road connectivity.

if you call it 'Bharat', it's an extension of 'India' that has been failed?

While India bustles from manufacturing and service sector activity like in the IT hubs of Bengaluru, rural India / Bharat is still dominated with agrivultural fields and 'Kirona stores'.

On the social front, Ambedkar's warning of orthodox Bharat comes true to a large extent. Communal riots in Muzaffarnagar in U.P., lynchings in Thakland villages are grim reminders of this sad reality. Women are burdened with patriarchy relegated to household work while superstitions keep the rural Bharat backward in its outlook. That's classical liberal portrayal! need to be more visionary.

is Patriarchy & lynching a phenomenon of villages or towns/cities?

In the age of digital India and financialization, the rurals lag far behind. gender issue present in cities and also among diaspora to see how caste

According to Ministry of Electronics/IT reports,
while 64% of urban population uses internet,
the figure is less than 20% for rural population.
This also accentuates their financial exclusion and
access to credit.

However, the India vs Bharat difference
has also negative aspects. The forces of
consumerism and materialism with excessive focus
on individuality is wreaking havoc. There's rapid
degradation of environment via deforestation and
over-exploitation of groundwater. Delhi and 13 other
cities from India feature in the top 20 most
polluted cities across the world according to WHO.
While Bharat breathes fresh air, Delhi's air
is crippling health of its urban population. It's
equivalent to smoking 400 cigarettes per day in
winter months.

Similarly, individuality has ushered in
nuclearisation of families and burdened old
population without social support. There's loss

of values of respect for elders, discipline and
community efforts are lacking with people
busy on smartphones than for the person sitting
beside them.

India (Urban) is characterized by fast
life - fast transport, fast food and fast music.
This has produced alienation of citizens and
rising work stress related suicides according to
NCRB data. Business of citizens is also taking a
toll on political sphere where municipalities are
often disempowered whereas the gram sashes under
panchayati raj system are truly giving its citizens
real empowerment in what sense?

However, the age of globalization has
also led to space and time compression causing
parity in the lifestyle of Bharat and India. With
cheap data rates of \$0.12/GB, Bharat is
truly connected with India - families separated
by hundreds of kilometres comes face to face
via video-calls instantly.

again,
you are using
jargon! ***

CAUTION

So, whatever you
dismissed till
now were
positive aspects?

or is it fallout
of urbanization?

Modern transport systems and expanding road connectivity via "Gram Sadaks" is making the transition from India to Bharat seamless making the distinction seem irrelevant.

This is in case where you identify Bharat with rural -

Television and Ad penetration has created an "aspirational class" within rural Bharat with dreams similar to those in urban India. They also vie for new smartphones, refrigerators and cars. Similarly, with rising rural incomes, private schools and hospitals have started opening up in rural India.

Similarly, even in India there's glimpse of "Bharat". Slums, a product of unplanned urbanization, stand in stark contrast to "gated communities" which speaks volumes of the gulf between India and Bharat but within the same geography. There are orthodox practices of dowry deeply entrenched. The prosperous urban Punjab sees highest rates of sex-selective abortions. Caste discrimination is often visible where work of manual scavenging in cities is disproportionately

Here you are essentializing rural and urban, as well as India and Bharat

performed by Scheduled Castes population.

There's informalization of workforce with poor wages and social security. This has shattered the hopes and dreams of the rural population who migrated in search of better opportunity.

This India vs Bharat doesn't hold well for our ~~nation~~ country as a whole. While the gulf of inequality is accentuating urban crimes like murders and robbery, rapid migration due to push and pull factors are putting strain on urban infrastructure such as water, sanitation, transport and housing.

The under-developed rural agricultural economy threatens food security and livelihood security of farmers who have protested lately across India such as "Marathi farmers' long March" towards Mumbai. The million rusties in Bharat have taken the evil of natallism across states such as Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand etc. It is one of the biggest internal security threats to India today.

Simultaneously, the image of "Incredible India" takes a hit with simultaneous existence of rural poverty and underdevelopment. Lack of skilling and education in Bharat can jeopardise plans of "Make in India" and "Stand-up India".

Is poverty character of rural?

The government has taken multiple steps to bridge the India-Bharat gap. Programs like Rurban Mission to create clusters of areas with modern urban infrastructure and "Smartgram" initiatives are praiseworthy, and complement "Smart City" initiative. Initiatives like Swachh Bharat (Groomin), PM Groomin Kanshalya Yojana and rural BPO scheme have enhanced opportunities in rural areas. Projects like Optical fibre cable to 2.5 lakh gram panchayats under digital India will further connect Bharat to India and the world.

Is being 'Bharat' a problem?

However, we cannot rest on our laurels. There's much more to do to erase any distinction at least in terms of opportunities in Bharat and India.

There's need to expand the mandate of Right to Education, 2005 and schemes like Ayushman Bharat to provide quality education and healthcare in rural India. Differentiated banking such as India Post-Payment Banks can bring huge financial inclusion and prosperity. At the same time, urban infrastructure needs to be bolstered with "Smart City", AMRUT, HRIDAY schemes. Corporates via Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) need to chip in too in this effort. With the contribution of all stakeholders, both India and Bharat can form the two wheels of the chariot that takes India to prosperity and a major power at the world stage. For a New India, we need a New Bharat!

Listing schemes can attract occupied paragraphs; this beyond statistic perspective cultural evolution is also a very important factor

① you conflated 'urban' with 'India' and 'rural' with 'Bharat'

key aspect but not total overlap → 1st error

② In above lines, your essay flows till the end

③ way forward entirely governance - centric → 2nd error

Improvements:

① Reimagine 'Bharat' and 'India' as value systems, moral universe, cultural identities, worldviews etc -

② Role of colonialism in creating this rupture b/w India and Bharat be identified

③ see also how development narrative also reinforces and uses this binary -

* One is not born but rather becomes a woman

• Simone de Beauvoir - Mother of 2. fem. - "The Second Sex"

• Existence is prior to Essence

What she means?

Biological

• Patriarchy - diff b/w Sex & Gender (Society created)

• History of women written by men.

• Women exist only positionally - Secondary roles

• Not given opp. for transcendence

• Essential traits of woman like loving/care, soft, weak.

• Role of myths - appropriate age

• Reinforce the myth - symbol found not v. productive

• History - Anthropologically - women relegated to housework

How it impacts?

• Violence from

↳ Feticide

↳ Infanticide

↳ Neglect

↳ Ed'n / health / skills

↳ Job mkt

↳ Pink collar jobs

↳ Maternity leaves

↳ Dowry

↳ Child marriage

↳ Triple Talak

↳ Feminist of going.

↳ Globalization / Urbanization.

What? Why? How? Impact? Presc.

↳ Power over women

↳ Dominant

Prescriptions

• Explode myths

• Women need to know

• Come out of the 4 walls

• g. Protest, fight for rights

• Skillng, Ed'n + healthcare, political roles

• Job mkt

• Role of State

• Legislation

Society

↳ Patriarchy even bad for men & economy.

↳ Gender

↳ While feminist

↳ Ed'n / health

↳ Culture

↳ Legal / rule

↳ Science

↳ Patriarchy even bad for men & economy.

↳ Gender

↳ While feminist

↳ Ed'n / health

↳ Culture

↳ Legal / rule

↳ Science

↳ History

↳ Socio

↳ Eco

↳ Envt

↳ Politics

↳ Culture

↳ Legal / rule

↳ Science

↳ History

↳ Socio

↳ Eco

↳ Envt

↳ Politics

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↳ Legal / rule

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↳ Culture

India vs Bharat: Is it still relevant? — 100%

Why difference? → History

slow rates
Urbanisation / Globalization

→ Gandhi
→ Eklavya

Panchayati
Raj

cheap data
\$0.12 per GB
video calls.

RTE Act
L schools

Relevant - yes?

Urban → agriculture dominated
→ amenities (e.g.)
→ schools
→ super-specialty hospitals
→ top corporates / employment + industries
→ Social orthodoxy (Ambedkar) den of ignorance
→ Caste
→ Patriarchy entrenched
→ Communalism.

o Scientific temper vs superstition + more RnD - expenditure
o Digital divide → Speeds / Network Smartphone

o financial divide → Bank penetration Informal - 40% informal (CRBI) consumption, materialist culture.
+ves: urban fast moving, work stress, disaster prone, unplanned urbanization, Municipalities led vs P.R.s.
-ves: work stress, disaster prone, unplanned urbanization, Municipalities led vs P.R.s.

+ves

-ves

Both

Even in India, glimpses of Bharat
→ Slums vs gated communities.
→ Social ostracism
→ Dowry in urban.
→ Female foeticide in prosperous Punjab.
→ Informal labour → social security dreams shattered.

Not relevant

Globalization - Time Space Compression
→ Television / Ads / Smartphones
→ New products → Coca Cola
→ Aspirational class → Refrigerators
→ Merit, patriarchy
→ Peri-urban areas
→ Connectivity increased → Delhi Metro Flight Train

How it impacts?

→ U/D agri-rural eco, whole eco-system - food security.
→ Crimes in urban areas due to inequality.
→ Social unrest
→ India's Incredible India
→ Lack of jobs → Make in India.

What to do?

How Govt tackled to run.

What to do?

o Rurban mission

Gandhi: India lives in its villages —

new India

→ needs now Bharat too

History

Socio

Political

Eco

Env

Cultural

Legal

Intl

Science

Security

Ethics

Geography