

VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN TAMILNADU: AN OVERVIEW

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Abstract: Human rights as a global phenomenon. Human beings are rational beings. By benefit of being humans, they possess certain essential and undeniable rights which are universally known as human rights but the protection of human rights is questionable to our human society especially Women rights. Our constitution, as well as the UN Declaration, guarantees certain essential rights for all human beings without any distinction of their gender, age, race, nationality, community, color, and etc. Violence and discrimination against women are called as gender-based violence means together or completely acts or omission committed against women. Violence against women is an appearance of historically unequal power relations between men and women. In the state of Tamilnadu, the common violence against women is rape, domestic violence, sexual harassment, reproductive coercion, female infanticide, foeticide, child abuse, parental sex selection, obstructive violence, mob violence, cyber-crimes as well as harmful customary practices such as honor killing, dowry violence, female genital mutilation, marriage by abduction, forced marriages violence by police and authoritative people, trafficking in women, forced prostitution and etc. Most often violence against women has been enclosed as a health issue, and also as violence of human and particularly women rights. In this backdrop, this present paper attempt to made an elucidates the problems and issue of human rights violation and discrimination against women in Tamilnadu as well as its needs to effective preventive mechanisms to safeguards of women. Hence, this paper would be adopted the descriptive research method and collected secondary sources from the books, journals, magazines, appropriate statistics and online sources.

Keywords: Constitution, Declaration, Harassment, Human Rights, Violence.

I. INTRODUCTION

Human rights as a global phenomenon. Human beings are rational beings. By benefit of being humans they have to possess certain essential and undeniable rights which are universally known as human rights but the protection of human rights is questionable to in our civilized society. Especially Women rights were denied both in their home and public in the medieval era. Nowadays women are empowered and almost they have equal positions compared with men in the modern era. But the protection of women rights are questionable and also the prevalence of violence and discrimination against women ever increasing in India today, particularly in TamilNadu. Human rights are basic and fundamental principles or norms that pronounced certain principles of human behaviour and are regularly protected as natural and legal rights not only at the national level but also the international legal safeguards as well as UN conventions and declarations. They are usually assumed as undisputable, fundamental rights "to which a person is inherently enabled modestly because she or he is a human being" and which are "essential in all human beings" regardless of their race, ethnic, origin, location, language, religion, nation or any other status. They are appropriate everywhere and at every time in the sense of being universal. In our ancient society, there were no written laws only they had been followed their traditional values and norms from our previous generation. The history of human rights is a people were struggling for liberty and enforcement of fundamental rights. In this occasion people achieved success manifested in such celebrated document as the Magna Carta in England in 1215. (Waghmare, 2001, pp.1-3) documentation After that, the formation of the constitution, several national legislation such as Indian Penal Code 1860, Criminal Procedure Code 1973, etc, as well as UN convention, declaration, as well as several legal instruments clearly explained about fundamental rights and duties of each and every citizen especially the women by interests.

According to Indian Constitution and UN Declaration certain guarantees to essential rights for all the human beings contain women wherever without any distinction of their gender, age, race, nationality, community, color, and etc. Violence and discrimination against women is called as gender-based violence means together or completely acts or omission committed against them. Violence against women is an appearance of historically unequal power relations between men and women. Common violence and discrimination against women are rape, domestic violence, sexual harassment, reproductive coercion, female infanticide, foeticide, child abuse, parental sex selection, obstructive violence, mob violence, cyber-crimes as well as harmful customary practices such as honor killing, dowry violence, female genital mutilation, marriage by abduction forced marriages violence by police and authoritative people, trafficking in women, forced prostitution and etc.

II. STATUS OF WOMEN IN TAMILNADU THROUGH PAST AND PRESENT SCENARIO

Tamil Nadu is a greatest renowned state in India as well as all over the world, for its great culture and belief. Women were given the greatest respected inhabitation in society from the Vedic period. When they were treated like a goddess. Greatest of the Tamil Nadu goddess is women such as Saraswathi, Lakshmi, Parvathi, Kali, etc. Clearly, utmost of the Tamil Nadu village deities of protection were women such as Petchi, Bhadra, etc, our literature, past history, and epics were given as conventional to the women. But we cannot ignore positive points for women in Tamilnadu. If we recollect us history, we found that there were some women like Rani Mangamma, Velunatchiyar to IndraNuye are the best example for positive points. It was all that what we absorbed from our vulnerable eyes, however, if we see behind the veil we can found all the crimes and discrimination against women at home, offices, workplaces, streets, and the whole society (Sasireka & Revathi Thomas, 2018).

It is found through the consideration that the reason for violence and discrimination against women is the deprived of gender-friendly atmosphere and inappropriate functional infrastructure such as consumption of alcohol and drugs in public place, inadequate lighting, unsafe public toilets, sidewalks, absence of effective police protection, lack of technical improvement, helplines, insecurity in public transports, etc, (Mehta et al. 2017). Apart from that, Girl students in the schools and colleges faced more discrimination and crimes against them by teachers, van and bus drivers, tuition masters, and vagrant boy students in the school. In various places, girl children are a sale by her parents for money due to lack of poverty. But women during Vedic period have equal status with man in all phases of life (Roy 2017). Women were educated. Women were allowed to study the Vedas. In some provinces of Tamil Nadu were administrated by women. Women were owing property in their own right and disposing of it as their choice. During the Sangam period, forty women poetesses had lived and left behind their valuable works (Regi, S 2015).

During the progress of time, so numerous attacks caused mixed culture so the condition sustained with slight alterations. Even, in the middle-class Tamil families, the birth of a girl child was normally unwelcomed; the performs of infanticides were common in that time (Saravanan, 2002). The wife was treated to be the mother of her sons only. Education rejected. Instead of, they were trained at home to become efficient housewives and mothers. Socio-economic and political rights were prohibited women contribution in all the aspects. The girls were married at their childhood stage. Child marriage was also in common practices among them. Manasmiriti as the divine code of manner and, subsequently, the status of women as depicted in the text has been understood as divine law (Mayee Sahoo 2016). Since women were not proficient of living self-sufficiently. She was to be kept under the supervision of her father's child, under her husband as a wife and under her son as a widow. It is a responsibility of all husbands to exert total control over their wives. It is not only with this sick ideology, all the ideologies; epics also enforce these categories of worse comments against women. The status of women became poorer during marriage time; dowry was demanded by husbands from the wife's parents during the marriage time in the name of sridhana (Amoolya 2015). Polygamy was practiced. They were prohibited from participating in all the propitious ceremonies. After the death of her husband, her heads were shaven were provided limited food and life. Many dancing girls were donated to temples.

III. IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The impact of Globalization since the 1990s has renovated the nature of transnational and local relations with people (Goyal 2016). It has generated awareness for human anxieties around the world, determined the distribution of global norms. The creation of awareness has spread over for status and empowerment of their socio-economic conditions and also incorporation and rights. The special effects of the mechanization of labor on women in construction highlight the economic influence of globalization. Moreover, various amendments and guidelines by the United Nations as well as numerous laws were enacted for the protection of women in parliament as well as legislature assembly in Tamilnadu.

IV. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN TAMILNADU DURING VARIOUS DECADES

The classifications of violence against women described in Tamil Nadu crime indicators are rape, dowry death, molestation, abduction, sexual harassment, and physical abuse by husband and his relatives. Throughout the period of January to July 2013, the state police registered 1,130 cases compared to 860 during the corresponding period in 2012. The number of rape cases in the state was 436 during the same period, encompassing 42 in Chennai, 32 in Villupuram and 11 in Coimbatore. The police source revealed that a decrease in the rape and abduction cases and an increase of 32 percent of cases related to cruelty by husbands and relatives. According to the crime report of Tamil Nadu Police in 2007, a total of 6,612 cases connecting to the crime against women were registered by the police, which was 39 percent over the number in 2006. Of these, cruelty by husband and relatives and molestation accounted for 53 percent of the cases. The conforming Acts under which cases were filed comprise Indecent Representation of Women Act, Child Marriage Restraint Act, Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Women (Amended) Act 2002, Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Sexual harassment of Women Act 2000, and the Dowry Prohibition Act. The several sections in Indian Penal Code related to women are IPC 376 for Rape, IPC 363 -373 related to account Kidnapping & Abduction, 302/304-B related to Homicide for Dowry related issues and Dowry Deaths or attempts, 498-A related to Violence by Partner and Families, 354 associated with Molestation, 509 related to Sexual Harassment, 366-B related to Importation of Girls up to 21 years.

In 2007, the state police had been registered 523 (7.91%) cases of rape, 718 (16.59%) connected to kidnapping and abduction, 187 (3.15%) dowry deaths, 1,247 (29.89%) related to cruelty by husbands or relatives, 1,179 (23.29%) associated with molestation, 852 (13.23%) on sexual harassment, 35 (0.38%) on the indecent representation of women and 81 (5.57%) related to dowry prohibition. Among districts, Chennai recorded a maximum of 705 cases while Nilgiris district was the lowest with 40 cases. The victims in the age group 19–30 years were determined, accounting for 62.41%, followed by age group 15–18 years at 19.36% and 11–14 years at 7.71%. (Tamil Nadu Police Crime Report, 2007).

Tamil Nadu has the most predominant rate of cruelty against women in India. The national figure is just 21.4 percent while measurements from the 1998-99 NFH Survey confirmed that 40.4 percent of women in Tamil Nadu have been beaten or physically manhandled since the age of fifteen. Female infanticide was more typical during the 1980s in the southern regions of Tamil Nadu. In Usilampatti taluk in Madurai District, around 6,000 female girls were accomplished in a range of two years amongst 1987 -88. The misconduct was distinguished in one of the motherhood homes that declared the loss of 95% female girls considered amid the period. The female babies were sustained with the noxious juice of oleander plant nearly upon the arrival of the introduction of the child. The training was accounted for amidst 1993. Other areas which had comprehensiveness were Salem, Dharmapuri, Vellore (earlier North Arcot), Erode, Dindigul and Madurai, with North Salem, South Dharmapuri, South Dindigul and West Madurai representing 70 percent everything being equal. While the training was at first observed as predominant in the lower parts of Thevar and Nadar people group, it was discovered with different stations like Gounder, Vanniyar, Pallar, and Paraiyar. The general population considered wedding the young lady later on danger by virtue of their budgetary imperatives. The then government headed by Chief Minister J. Jayalalitha focused a support infant plot in 1992 in Salem area that asked the parents to drop the girl in the supports as opposed to executing them (ShahidPerwez 2009). There were enlightening assignments forced by the tyke wellbeing and welfare bureau of the state to make mindfulness. Dharmapuri area chronicled upwards of 1,002 procured illustrations of child murder, the greatest notable in the state amid the year and it decreased to one amidst 2012. Amid the instantaneous period, the supports infant combine had 1,338 boys having 1,272 girls. The government additionally propelled alternative battle in which the parents of girls experiencing cleansing were redressed and a gold ring was displayed to the girls on her twentieth birthday celebration to facilitate her marriage costs.

V. ESTABLISHMENT OF ALL WOMEN POLICE STATION IN TAMILNADU

All Women Police Station was established by then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J. Jayalalitha during her first term of 1991- 1995. In the year 2003, Tamilnadu had nearby 188 All women police station in entire the state. The All Women Police Stations were set to deals with cases of crime against women like Domestic violence, Dowry harassment, Women and Child Trafficking, Sexual harassment, Child sexual abuse, and eve-teasing, etc. The impact of established the All Women Police Station, women is able to come out and report all the violence against them freely to the police station. The police officials of All Women Police Station also reported that they received complaints related to sexual tortures which otherwise went unreported to their Male counterparts (Sasireka & Revathi Thomas, 2018).

VI. CONCLUSION

The violence and gender-based discrimination against women is very common in the state of Tamilnadu in recent decades. The major crime identified under the Indian Penal Code i.e. Rape, Kidnapping and Abduction, Homicides for Dowry, Dowry deaths or their attempt, Torture both physical and mental, molestation, Sexual Harassment and also some other violence against women under the special laws. These types of violence and gender-based discrimination against women ever increasing in Tamilnadu. A recent incident shook the entire country which indicates that a gang involved in sexual abuse and torture against numerous women in Pollachi. Besides, an interaction, The Hindu had recently published the interview with a woman activists in the city carried out more importantly on the safety and security of women than the aspects of women consent and education. The prevalent inference was that women were not safe as there were many drawbacks on both sides – the victims and the law enforcers. Numerous women who had faced distress from strangers in the city and peripheries stayed indoors after 8 p.m. on any day, except they were compelled to move out alone during emergencies. It was not a special case of cities many tier II cities in the southern districts faced similar problems (Srikrishna L 2017). In our civilized society, an advanced epoch, technically we are in a developed state. All segments of people are influenced by mobile phones and computers. The technical enhancement also leads a women empowerment while another side women life is critical. The new kind of crimes influenced by numerous factors in society and also increased day by day in a women life. However, it is very disgraced to say about the suspicious safety of women in Tamil Nadu. Hence, the special attention towards the safety and security of women should be needed.

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