

Educational Aspirations of Muslim Girl Students: A Sociological Study with Special Reference to Shivamogga District.

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Abstract: *The present study has attempted to explore the educational aspirations of Muslim girl students. Educational aspiration means decision made by a student on her future education. Educational aspirations of Muslim girls are explored deeply in relation to their academic stream, their parent's occupational status and the types of family they belong. The study tries to discuss the status of Muslim women in relation to education and their problems in access to education. The study will reveal the aspirations of Muslim girl's students in selection of their education.*

Keywords: *Education, Aspiration, Muslim, Girl, Students.*

1. INTRODUCTION:

Today we are living in the era of technical revolution and globalization. The role of education is important in the advancement of human capital, since it is closely connected to an individual's life possibilities, income and prosperity.

The present age is the age of democracy, independent equality, and good will is the underlying pillars of this system. The hallmark of a democratic system is to provide all the essential facilities to all classes of people without discrimination. Fundamental rights and the principles of state policy in the Constitution of India also make it clear that there should be equal opportunities between men and women. That is why many programs and five year plans are implemented from time to time to give men and women equal opportunities and freedom in all areas. In the pre independence period, women were deprived of the opportunity to education.

Gender inequality is a worldwide phenomenon. In most of the societies, girls grow up with temporary membership in their birth home and are considered a reproductive machine in their husband's family. Reproductive role is restricted to family tasks. The women's status has changed constantly and is having most prominent effect in the society today. A few years prior, women's commitment to society was constrained, on the grounds that society was constrained by men. Today Women's have most elevated status and are assuming a significant role in numerous significant regions. Women's role has changed at a quicken rate and have taken part in all the regions, for example, professional, governmental issues, drug, preparing occupations, law and business. In the beginning, once in the past they were not part of any political issue, yet now they have progressed in numerous viewpoints.

Twenty first century is called as the period of women's arousing in the world. In all aspects of the world equality of gender has been guaranteed and numerous laws have been implemented to improve the status of women. Despite the fact that, in actuality notwithstanding all changes women's can't be viewed as being liberated from conventionality, the old customs and traditions determinate to the blossoming of their personalities. The social and religious attitudes towards the role of women in the family and society, which despite everything have a fortification on the minds of the individuals, are the fundamental obstacles in the method for social advancement of women's. In India, and in other societies is yet male commanded. The twofold standard of profound quality gives more social opportunity to men than the women. The significant burden of the family unit work and adjustment falls principally on the women.

1.1 Status of Muslim Girls :

The Muslims in India just as in other parts of world never separate their religious and social life. In Muslim society religion controls the holy land as well as the common practices. Muslims adhere strictly to their religion. Islam religion opposes the inventions that complement the change. The Relationship between men and women and the authority structure in the family continues to be rooted in traditional sanctions as written in the Quran for the followers of Islam even the minute details of their every day common life becomes the concern of religion.

Women's have been socially, economically, physically and mentally abused at some time in the name of religion and once in a while by the social traditions. Muslim women in India have potential impetus for development. Their liberation might be a pivotal advance in the improvement of the community. Their present status all around mirrors the strength of traditional attitude. Progress of women's present day status will not only contribute in the advancement and modernization of the community but also in the development and modernization of whole country. Many women-related protests have taken place since the turn of the 20th century, with gender equality being the main aim of this protest.

1.2 The meaning of education.

Nowadays, education plays a significant role in the future plans of student. Higher education has been attributed to a more rewarding career, higher income, and better standard of living. Especially a prestigious profession has become a trend in modern societies. A number of studies have claimed that, there are many factors that influence Muslim girl student's education and their tendencies to choose a desired profession. Student life is a critical period, in this period they have with many options where they have to make their own decision about their future. Through educational process, students gain necessary skills and competencies to decide for their educational and occupational aspirations.

The meaning of education is, indeed, very comprehensive and wide as it includes the sense, the aims, range and the significance of the sincerity. 'Education' as a term is used so broadly and so freely that it ends up hard getting any actual implications. Socrates, the best theorist and philosopher of the antiquated world set up his motto "know thyself" which in the real meaning stands 'be educated'. Generally, we use the word 'Education' to mean a wide range of intellectual knowledge or information and normally, we think of him as or her as "Educated" who has gained a lot of important bookish knowledge. Be that as it may, in real sense, this does not clear up the clear meaning of education. Since, education always bears positive meaning and simple gathering of information or gaining of knowledge is with the wider scope of education until its utilization benefits mankind.

In the words of Swami Vivekananda, "education is not the amount of information that is put into your brain and runs riots there, undigested all your life. We must have life-building, man-making and character-making assimilation of ideas."

1.3 Education of Muslim girls

Education has been given great importance in Islam since its earliest times, and its importance is particularly illustrated in Islamic religious scriptures. Yet, educationally the Muslim community is one of the most backward communities in the country. The educational status of Muslim women in India is worse compared to the educational status of Muslim men and women of other communities. They have the lowest rate of education and most of them engage themselves in the household chores.

1.4 Educational aspiration of Muslim girl students

The aspiration is not a new word. It is used by the common man, by philosophers and by thinkers in all fields. Though education is an important part of human life, it cannot help the pursuers unless they have the required amount of educational aspirations. Individuals will have educational aspirations; Development is achieved through these educational aspirations in all walks of life. Educational Aspiration refers to the level of aspiration or interest of a student to achieve education in school or colleges.

Educational aspiration reflects an individual's educational goals. It encourages and energizes the individual to achieve the goal. Students who are positive about education are more likely to feel confident about competence; they value education, and see the education achievement process as more positive and rewarding. In today's modern age, the Muslim girl students are more interested in getting education. Such an educational aspiration can be helpful in bringing about a change in their status.

2. METHODOLOGY:

The main aim of this study is to examine the educational aspirations of Muslim Girl students who are influenced by the socio-economic variables and interests and it proceeds with certain definite objectives which are formulated on the basis of Indian situation and also with the help of available research material.

2.1 Statement of the Problem

The present study is entitled as, "Educational Aspirations of Muslim Girl Students: A Sociological Study (With Special Reference to Shivamogga District)".

2.2 Objectives

The Objectives of the study are as follows

1. To find out the educational level of Muslim girl students.

2. To identify the educational aspirations of Muslim girl students.

2.3 Sample of the study

Sample for the present study was selected through Stratified random sampling technique. A sample of 50 Muslim girl students was selected randomly from 5 Under Graduate colleges of Shivamogga District.

2.4 Tools and Techniques of Data Collection

The main respondents of the present study are Muslim girl students. They are located at a wide geographical area of Shivamogga district. In this study the researcher has selected (under graduate) Muslim girl students of Shivamogga district for data collection.

The main sources of data collection of the present study are two:-

- 1. Primary sources
- 2. Secondary sources.

The data collected through field study was processed after scrutiny and editing. In course of data processing, the completeness and accuracy of data was carefully examined. Tabulation and data processing was done manually and computer aid was also involved. Data was presented by using different tables and that was analysed in a descriptive method.

- **The need for Muslim girl’s education:**

Here it is observed that, in many of the families of the respondents, there is gender inequality and females have lower status. The respondents' family members are now realising the importance of female’s education. The following table shows the need of female’s education.

Table-5.1 Need for girl’s education

Particulars	Frequency	%
Yes	50	100
No	00	00
Total	50	100

From the above table, it is emphasised that all respondents have agreed that essentially, women need education. Therefore, it is safe to assume that they know the value of gender equality and emphasise it for women's education.

- **Reasons for girls education:**

As all the respondents supported for female education at least up to graduation, it was sought from these respondents on the reasons for education. The collected primary data is tabulated below in the table.

Table-5.2 Reasons for girls education

Particulars	Frequency	%
Reading ,Writing and knowledge	09	18.0
Job	23	46.0
To get respect in family and society	07	14.0
Better marriage prospect	03	6.0
To get identity in family and society	08	16.0
Any other	00	00.0
Total	50	100

On the reasons for Muslim girls education, among the Muslim girl students studying in under graduation, 9 (18%) have mentioned that, education is needed for girl students to learn reading, writing and gaining knowledge, 23 (46.0%) have stated that, education is needed for girl students to gain good job, 7 (14.5%) have expressed that, education is needed for girl students to gain respect in family and society, 8 (16.0%) have agreed that, education is needed for girl students to get identity in family and society and 03 (6.0%) have also said that, education is needed for girl students to get better marriage prospects and 00 (0.0%) have given other purposes of education for Muslim girl students.

3. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY :

Following are the major findings from the present study.

- Findings revealed that 50 (100%) of Muslim girl students have mentioned that education is essential for all the Muslim girls.
- On the reasons for female education, among the female students studying in under graduation, 9(18.0%) have mentioned that, education is needed for females to learn reading, writing and gaining knowledge, 23 (46.0%) have stated that, education is needed for females in order to gain good job, 7 (14%) have expressed that, education is needed for females to get respect in family and society, 8 (16.0%) have agreed that, education is

needed for females to get identity in family and society and 03 (06%) have also said that, education is needed for females to get better marriage prospects and 00 (0.0%) have given other purposes of education for females.

It is highlighted that, job practice is 23(46.0%) highly emphasised by the majority of the respondents as purpose of education rather than reading and writing and gaining knowledge.

4. CONCLUSION:

The present study, as discussed above, is made to look into the educational aspirations of Muslim girl students studying at the undergraduate level. It is emphasised that, all the Muslim girl Students have agreed that education for females is essential and necessary, even they have suggested professional or higher education for girls and it shows that they have realised the need and importance of education in female's life. But, majority of these female students have stated that the purpose of education as job practice and only few of the respondents have said purpose of education as gaining knowledge.

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