

UGC Sponsored National Seminar

On

Self-hood for Women: Challenge and Prospect

2nd & 3rd December, 2015

Organised by

Tufanganj Mahavidyalaya

Tufanganj Newtown:: Tufanganj:: Cooch Behar

*In collaboration with
SPAR, Cooch Behar*

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

Indian society has been affected and impacted by many forces, factors and processes like modernisation, liberalisation, globalisation and technological revolution. Yet, the core of the society tends to have remained primordial in general and patriarchal in particular. One unequivocal and almost universal instance of the abominable hierarchy is the subjugated position and status of Indian women, in generic sense. Whereas males enjoy elevated and incontrovertible authority, women are shunted to ignominious and subservient status, where males rule the roost, women languish with constricted and preordained sphere of action and autonomy. The social orthodoxy affords women

hardly any opportunity to education, employment and self-aggrandisement. They are more like 'fragrant flowers' to be nurtured and protected within fortified confines of home and hearth.

The patriarchal society perpetuates deprivation and exploitation, dehumanises and endangers the very entity of Indian women. They are either defiled as seductress - thus to be circumscribed - or deified as *devi* - out exclusively to protect her children. Attempts to find women's own calling or to unshackle themselves from the morass of archaic gender bias as by challenging or resisting regressive praxis and crossing the proverbial *laksham rekha* evoke repulsion and even violent backlash, the frequency of which is multiplying in recent years.

The pervasive prejudices, ostracism and inequalities virtually make women prisoner of gender, prevent women from actualising their human potentialities and force them to be docile and subordinate community people. All these eventually lead to what may be regarded as the dilemma and dichotomy of women-hood and self-hood.

It will be illuminating as well as instructive to locate the question of identity and status of Indian women in the broader perspective of gender based relations, to examine where women stand at the confluence of legal rights and other entitlements vi-a-vis social stigma and strangulations. The gut issue is why Indian women are yet to actualise their self-hood, despite having gender specific laws, legislations, public interventions and social upheavals.

This seminar will deliberate on few conventional and contemporary issues concerning Indian women like the followings:

- i. Patriarchy; the Ideology and impediments**
- ii. Issues of identity: class, caste and rural perspective**
- iii. Society, education, health and women**

- iv. **Child marriage, dowry, family and women**
- v. **Women and work: profile and problems**
- vi. **Women in the media**
- vii. **Customary vs. legal rights of women**
- viii. **Atrocity and violence against women: cause, nature and eradication**
- ix. **Political participation and hurdles for women**
- x. **Women's Movement: course and consequence**

DATELINE

- *Date of Seminar: 3rd & 4th December, 2015*
- *Last date of submission of Abstract: 7th September, 2015*
- *Intimation of acceptance of Abstract: 14th September, 2015*
- *Last date of submission of Full Paper: 17th October, 2015*

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

- Abstract of the proposed Full Paper must be within 300-500 words and in standard format. Softcopy of the Abstract typed in MS Word with 12 size font and 1.5 line spacing should be sent within the last date to email ID; seminartfgm@gmail.com.
- The Abstract should i) specific the Sub-theme being taken up and ii) should contain a brief resume of the author(s), email ID and contact number
- Submission of Full Paper will be compulsory for every paper contributor. The Full Paper (with reference style in APA format) should not exceed 5000 words excluding table/graph/diagram, if any, and should accompany the declaration that the paper is the original works and has not been submitted to or has been published elsewhere. The

Full Paper should be submitted in soft (mail ID- seminartfgm@gmail.com) and hard copy (to Organising Secretary).

- Both abstract and full paper should follow English form of spelling and style.
- Selected Full length Papers will be published either i) in *Journal of Rural and Community Affairs* (Journal with ISSN Number) or ii) in edited Book

REGISTRATION FEE

There will be no registration fee for the paper contributor(s).

LOGISTICS

- No TA & DA will generally be provided. However, those can be claimed from UGC.
- Accommodation for outstation participants may be arranged if required and if intimated at least one month in advance.

HOW TO REACH SEMINAR VENUE

Tufanganj, one Sub-division of Cooch Behar district, is located at North-eastern part of West Bengal, just at the threshold of Bengal-Assam border. The locale is well connected, if not directly, by rail and bus services. The nearest Railway Station is New Cooch Behar (NCB) and new Alipurduar/Alipurduar Junction. All trains and Buses going to Assam/Guwahati have their designated stoppage at Cooch Behar. From the Railway stations Tufanganj can be reached by bus/hired taxi. Buses (both public and private) to Tufanganj or Cooch Behar are readily available from Siliguri, Malda and Kolkata etc.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

President:

Dr. D. Chatterjee , Principal, Tufanganj Mahavidyalaya

Secretary:

Sanghamitra Choudhury, Assistant Professor of Political Science

Joint Secretary:

Dr. Sulekha Pandit, Associate Professor of Bengali

Dwijendra Nath Singha, Assistant Professor of Bengali

Biman Mandal, SPAR, Cooch Behar

Members:

Dr. Hari Gopal Mallick,

Sumit Ray,

Swapna Ghosh,

Dr. Sidhartha Sankar Laha ,

Papiya Sen,

Ashoke Sarkar

For further information, please contact:

■ Sanghamitra Choudhury, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Tufanganj

Mahavidyalaya, Cell No. +919832084430 ,

Email: sanghamitrachoudhury320@gmail.com

Website: www.tufanganjmahavidyalaya.in

Advertisement inserted in *Economic & Political Weekly* on May 23, 2015 (p.88)