

BOOK REVIEW

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES, edited by Shikha Banerjee and Krittibas Datta. 2023. Mittal Publications. xiv+276 pp. ISBN 978-93-94569-75-1 (hbk). Price Rs. 1100.

This edited book is a collection of essays that at the core addresses various hindrances to women's empowerment and how they can be dealt with. It puts forth a multidimensional view of the notion of women empowerment touching upon the economic, social, cultural and political aspects and offers a critical analysis of the current trends and future prospects. The book has 28 papers whose contributors are from diverse backgrounds and experiences. The editors say that the book's focus on women's empowerment aligns with the NEP's vision, making it a valuable resource for policymakers, educators and anyone interested in promoting gender equality in education and society.

The first paper: "Entrepreneurship: A Direction towards Women Empowerment" by Arup Kumar Sarkar and Dev Kumar establishes a crucial link between women empowerment and entrepreneurship. It emphasizes on the education of women and the provision of safe work environments. They gave some success stories like Lijjat Papad, VLCC Group, BYJUs etc. The second paper titled "Women's Empowerment Initiatives in Contemporary India: Concerns and Challenges" by Kanai Sarkar and Abdul Awal emphasizes why women empowerment is the need of the hour and discusses the various schemes already in place as well as suggests the further steps that can be taken. The third paper on "Are the Girls Academically Empowered in India?: The Description of its Contemplations and Ambiguities" Shikha Banerjee and R. Hariharan is a significant step in understanding the state of education for women in India. It highlights the linkages between education and empowerment and highlights the multiple schemes that are in place. The rest of the papers touch upon multiple facets of what constitutes modern life and how women are situated in it vis-a-vis their agency and how they can further be empowered. The editors have curated a collection that not only addresses the socio-economic challenges faced by women but also examines the intersectionality of gender with other factors such as class, caste, and religion. This comprehensive approach adds depth and nuance to the discussions, acknowledging that empowerment is a multidimensional concept that must be understood in the context of India's diverse society. From exploring patriarchal norms to dissecting policy initiatives, the book provides a comprehensive overview of the challenges that women in India face and the strategies needed to overcome them.

However, it's important to note that a work of this nature cannot cover

every facet comprehensively, and there may be certain perspectives or issues that could warrant further exploration. Additionally, while the book delves into challenges, it could also benefit from dedicating more space to success stories, empowerment strategies, and initiatives that have yielded positive outcomes.

In a nutshell, the book stands as a commendable contribution to the ongoing discourse on gender equality and empowerment. The editors and contributing authors have collaboratively curated a volume that confronts the intricate web of challenges faced by women in India.

Research Scholar
Malaviya Centre for Peace Research
Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
Email: samprikta.ch96@gmail.com

SAMPRIKTA CHATTERJEE



This document was created with the Win2PDF "print to PDF" printer available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>

This version of Win2PDF 10 is for evaluation and non-commercial use only.

This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.

<http://www.win2pdf.com/purchase/>