

National Seminar
on
HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER
Saturday, 11 February 2012
Venue : Environmental Science Department, MLSU, Udaipur
Organized by
UGC Centre for women's Studies, Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, Udaipur,
Rajasthan
and
Aishwarya Education Society, Udaipur, Rajasthan

Inaugural Ceremony

UGC Centre for Women's studies, MLSU Udaipur in collaboration with Aishwarya College of Education Sansthan, Udaipur, organized a one day National Seminar on "**Human Rights and Gender**" on Saturday 11th February 2012.

The chief guest for the inaugural ceremony was Prof. B. L. Sharma, Honorable Vice Chancellor, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur(Raj.). The session was presided by Prof. I. V. Trivedi, Honorable Vice Chancellor, M L Sukhadia University, Udaipur (Rajasthan). Prof. P. C. Vyas former Director, Board of Secondary Education, was the key note speaker for the session. Other eminent members present were Prof. Renu Jatana , Director, UGC Center for Women's Studies, ML Sukhadia University and Prof.(Dr.) Vijaya Laxmi Chauhan, Dean, Aishwarya College, Udaipur. Prof. Renu Jatana in her welcome note emphasized the importance of women empowerment. She also focused on statutory status of women. Around 100 participants actively participated in the seminar and over 30 papers were presented during the technical sessions.

Prof. B. L. Sharma stressed that the theme for the conference is of high social and humanitarian significance. He advocated the law of inheritance giving female child stake in the parent's property. He proposed that in order to identify any concept, systematic thoughts, speculation and clear goals are required. He stressed that deep rooted convictions for human rights and definite body of doctrine is the need of the hour. Human rights come from the conscious and the person should have the desire and have an impartial attitude. He cited examples from John Ross's book "Theory of Justice" propounding equality in justice. He emphasized that rights pertaining to Life, Liberty, Equality and Dignity are human rights.

Prof. P. C. Vyas threw light on the era of Rajiv Gandhi which laid major milestones in the field of human rights. The Department of Women and Child Development was constituted during this era. He also focused on the IX five year plan which talked about gender budgeting. In Rajasthan there is a wide gap between the literacy rate of male and female children. He proposed that in order to reduce gender biases the girl must be treated equivalent to boy. Special provisions should be made to promote higher education for the girl child. Social transformation is the foremost requisition to reduce gender biases prevalent in the society.

Prof.(Dr.) Vijaya Laxmi Chauhan proposed the vote of thanks.

Technical Session 1

The key areas of the session were **Women and Urbanization, Women Rights and Responsibilities, Women Empowerment and Family laws**. Fifteen papers were presented in this session

Dr. Sunita Kiashta, Co-founder, Women Work and Health Initiative, was the key note speaker. Prof. Arun Chaturvedi (Hon Director, V M Open University (Kota), Udaipur), was the chairperson and Prof. Zainab Bano () acted as the co-chairperson of the first technical session. **Dr Sunita Kaistha**, proposed that the “*gender lenses*” worn by the society is the major reason behind gender discrimination. She stressed that the nation can prosper only when there is no discrimination practiced on the basis of gender. She emphasized that in the present times the economics of home can run successfully only if both the genders contribute equally.

Prof. Zainab Bano opined that human beings have rights since birth. Talking on human rights she further laid down facts showing the plight of women all over the world. She emphasized that women are not safe and secure. Violence against women is on an increase. In spite of active society, vibrant media and impartial judiciary women are not safe and their situation is not good. She advocated the importance of women empowerment in improving women’s status in the society.

Prof. Arun Chaturvedi focused on the importance of Women Education Centers. A nation can pave its way to progress only and only when the women of the country do not face any gender biases. He said that looking at the plight of women , human rights are synonymous to women rights. Women are being ignored and violence against them is increasing and therefore women empowerment is the need of the hour

Technical Session 2

The key areas of the session were **Health and well being, Women education, Labour and employment and Violence against women**. The chairpersons were Prof. Dilip Challani from Baroda and Dr. Sanjay Lodha from MLSU. Fifteen papers were presented in this session

Valedictory Programme

The Valedictory session of the one day national seminar on human rights and gender witnessed dignitaries like Dr. Sunita Kiashta, Co-founder, Women Work and Health Initiative, Prof. Zannat Bano, Prof. Renu Jatana , Director, UGC Center for Women’s Studies, ML Sukhadia University ,Prof.(Dr.) Vijaya Laxmi Chauhan , Dean , Aishwarya

College, Udaipur and Dr. Archana Golwalkar, Director, AIM & IT. Dr. Sunita Kaistha in her address insisted that the women need to have self realization of their own capacities. She said that women have to be financially independent and empowered. She insisted on the need of bringing about a change in the entire socialization process. The mindset of the society needs to be changed to reduce gender discrimination. Prof.(Dr.) Vijaya Laxmi Chauhan, proposed that women have to break the barriers herself to improve her plight. She has to raise her voice to the injustice done to her as only she can be her own savior. She also proposed the vote of thanks and congratulated the organizers for the successful closing of the seminar.

Mr. SKS Rathore emphasized that women have to be treated as a “subject” rather than a “object”. Awareness for gender equality must be created amidst the male members of the society to reduce gender discrimination.