Feminism in India: An Eastern Perspective

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ABSTRACT

For centuries, Feminism has been a widely discussed subject across the globe. Yet, it faces much trouble as women are still in need of due recognition in various fields they work. The present research focuses on the condition of women in the Eastern world, especially in India with a specific reference to Indian writing in English. In a country like India with its deep-rooted tradition and culture, women play a pivotal role in the development of the society. Many women as well as feminist writers from the country like Toru Dutt, Kamala Das, Arundhati Roy, had followed their western counterparts but the 20th Century writers like Mahasweta Devi, Sarojini Sahoo, C. S. Lakshmi had carved their own niche in the field of feminism. The major problem with the Indian feminists is that they are entirely dependent on their western counterparts forgetting Indian custom and culture. When one looks at the past, great writers like Thiruvalluvar (Ancient Tamil Poet) had appreciated the qualities of women. Male domination came into existence only with the westernization of the country. Thus this reading analyses the trends in Feminism as portrayed in the scriptures, from the past till the present.

KEYWORDS: Domination, Weaker Sex, Women in Vedic period, Proto feminist, Suppression & Social acceptance

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