

## **(CONCEPT NOTE WITH SUB THEMES)**

### **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS FOR GENDER JUSTICE: INDIA AND CANADA 27<sup>th</sup>–28<sup>th</sup> March, 2015, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla**

The Centre for Canadian Studies, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla are inviting paper proposals for the International academic conference on “*National and International Concerns for Gender Justice: India and Canada*”, to be held on 27–28<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in Shimla. Proposals (up to 250 words) should be submitted by 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2015.

#### **Gender Justice**

Gender justice as a process brings an additional essential element: accountability, which implies the responsibility and answerability of precisely those social institutions set up to dispense justice. The constitution of gender injustices can be read from basic contracts (formal or implicit) that shape membership in a range of social institutions—the family, the community, the market, the state, and even the institutions of establishment religion. In one way or another, these institutions are supposed to settle disputes, establish and enforce legal rules, and prevent the abuse of power. Understanding the ideological and cultural justifications for women's subordination within each arena can help identify how to challenge patterns of inequality. Gender Justice is not about any one country, culture, or organization having all the answers and helping out the benighted others. Individuals around the world need to continue developing their own views and expertise on the issue of gender justice; organizing needs to be primarily bottom-up; and joint work needs to be a partnership of equals.

In the 1990s, a landmark in the international human rights movement saw positive changes in women's rights and in human rights more broadly. The collapse of authoritarian regimes in many parts of the world gave issues of rights and democracy a major impulse. The Millennium Declaration and the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) collectively herald a vision for a more just and equal world. Social, political and economic equality for women is integral to the achievement of all Millennium Development Goals. In much of the world, however, these advances in political and legal rights were not matched by significant progress in achieving greater social justice.

#### **Gender Justice in India**

It is a harsh reality that women have been ill-treated in every society for ages and India is no exception. The irony lies in fact that in our country where women are worshipped as Shakti, the atrocities are committed against her in all sections of life. She is being looked down as commodity or as a slave, she is not robbed of her dignity and pride outside her house but she also

faces ill-treatment and other atrocities within the four walls of her house. They are considered as an object of male sexual enjoyment and reproduction of children. They are real dalits (downtrodden) of the society. They are discriminated at two levels, firstly they suffer because of their gender and secondly due to grinding poverty.

Women are deprived of economic resources and are dependent on men for their living. Women works are often confined to domestic sphere, she had to do all house hold works, which are not recognized and unpaid. In modern times many women are coming out to work but has to shoulder the double responsibility; one she has to work where she is employed and secondly she also has to do all the house hold works, moreover, she is last to be considered and first to be fired as she is considered to be less productive than her counterpart. Her general status in the family and in the society has been low and unrecognized.

### **Gender Justice in Canada**

Canada uses a rights-based, transformative approach to strengthen women and girls' capacity to mobilize their own power and that of others. In Canada, as elsewhere in the world, of patriarchy, which is a deeply embedded system of unequal power relationships? Patriarchy is a man-made system that oppresses all members of society, regardless of gender. However, in relation to men, women and girls have less power. We understand that factors such as race, age, sexual orientation, ability, economic status and family roles affect people's experiences of gender and the degree of power that they have. As the context shifts, so may the power relationships. Unequal gender relations are maintained through the social construction of gender. From childhood we have learned to expect that men and women should behave in certain ways according to their gender, but while these expectations may sometimes give us joy, they also limit and hurt us because they do not allow us to live to our full potential, to define ourselves freely and to express the real diversity of our genders.

Gender injustice is a problem that is seen all over the world. But unless there are certain attitudinal changes, women will continue to get a raw deal. They need to be educated. Educated mothers take care of their children irrespective of the boys or girls. It is well known fact that the education of a girl is the education of family continuing its impact on the future generations while the education of a boy is the education of a single person. A woman has to be treated as equal partners in decision-making and implementation rather than as beneficiaries. In these days of globalization, the global picture of women is most ignoble and inequitable. Women constitute 50 per cent of the world's population, and account for 66 per cent of the work done, but they have only a share of 10 per cent in the world's income and own one per cent of the world's property.

### **Sub Themes**

- History of Gender Justice
- Gender Justice as Human Rights
- International laws and Conventions on Gender Justice
- Women Empowerment and Gender Justice

- Legal Framework and Gender Justice
- Uniform Civil Code and Gender Justice
- Gender Justice and Backward Castes
- Gender Justice in Tribal Society
- Education and Gender Justice
- Gender Justice and Minorities
- Need for the Third Gender Justice
- Gender Justice and Millennium Development Goals

### **Call for Papers**

We cordially invite the academicians, researchers, representatives of the Civil Society and student research scholars to submit their research papers on the sub-themes to be covered in different technical sessions during the International conference on “National and International Concerns for Gender Justice: India and Canada”. Limited free accommodation during the conference is available at the university guest house. Please indicate your need for such services when submitting your paper proposal. At this time, there is no travel support available for participants.

### **Important Dates**

- Last date of submission of Abstract : **25.02.2015**
- Last date of Full Paper submission : **10-03-2015**
- No abstract or full paper shall be accepted after the last date of submission respectively.
- The participants are requested to send their abstract and/or full paper on e-mail given here: E-mail: [conferences.ccs@gmail.com](mailto:conferences.ccs@gmail.com).

### **Paper Submission**

- New Times Roman, Font Size 12, line Spacing 1.5.
- Cover page-Title Font size 16, Author’s Name and Affiliation with Email & Mobile No.
- In the First page of the Full paper, abstract must precede the main paper
- Main paper from page 2, Sub Headings-Font Size 14, Initial Capital, Name of the Subthemes
- Up to 3000-4000 (MS Word)

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