

## Status of women in Guru Nanak Dev ji Bani

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**T**he Vedic period was the golden period for women. In this period women were greatly honorable. Ancient history describes the position of women was high status in this period. In Later Vedic, women lost their rights of attending assemblies, social evils came. Medieval India was not women degradation position religious and social movements recognized women involvements. First Sikh Guru Nanak Dev ji founder of Sikhism a liberating force was injected into Indian society. The principles of Guru ji women have the same soul as men. Sikh history also has record to role of women, portraying them as equal to men in service, devotion, sacrifice and bravery. She was recorded as structure of society. Historical backroad about the conditions and social values of women in every society and religion women is considered less intelligent, less creative, less powerful and emotional. According to the research scholars and historical women in Vedic age was much better than one would ordinarily expect in hindu society women enjoyed much freedom and women took part in public life.<sup>1</sup> Child marriage was not in vogue and the marriage of girls used to take place at the age of 16 or 17 years. Being educated and grown up, they had a voice in mate selection. Women had freedom of movement and, occasionally love marriage Gandharva vivaha and inter cast marriage took place. Matrimony was not compulsory for women and no limitation was placed on her age at marriage. In the social and religious rites women had a significant position. Women had absolute equality, an equal of men in the eye of religion necessity for both men and women. The position of women was honorable in home the practice of polygamy was continued in royal families but monogamy was the social rule. Widows were allowed to remarry so the

social custom 'sati' was unknown. Divorce was permitted.<sup>2</sup>

Position of women in general was pitiable. They had lost their high place in family as well as in society There are several references which determine the status of women has been firmly emphasized, degradation. At that time Guru Nanak Dev Ji advocated the complete emancipation of women. Guru ji women liberation that women must be respected and regarded in society as well as Hindu and Muslim

Ancient history explain the status of Women in religion:-

Hinduism:- Pets, beasts, shudra and women They all deserve to reprimanded

ਢੋਰ, ਪਸ਼ੂ ਸ਼ੁਦਰ ਅਰ ਨਾਰੀ: ਇਹ ਸਭ ਤਾੜਨ ਦੇ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀ (Tulsi Ramayan)

Christan :- women is the root all evil. She is charming mistake of God

ਸਾਰੇ ਪਾਪਾਂ ਤੇ ਗੁਨਾਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਜੜ੍ਹ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਹੈ, ਔਰਤ ਰੱਬ ਦੀ ਹਸੀਨ ਗਲਤੀ ਹੈ (St Paul).

Islam :- Women cannot be had of a family She is not allowed to give sermon in mosque

ਇਸਤਰੀ ਕਦੇ ਵੀ ਘਰ ਦੀ ਮੁਖੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਬਣ ਸਕਦੀ। ਮਸਜਦ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਦੇਸ਼ ਨਹੀਂ ਦੇ ਸਕਦੀ।

Buddhism :- Women is without Soul. She cannot be made monk.

ਔਰਤ ਵਿਚ ਰੂਹ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੁੰਦੀ। ਇਸਤਰੀ ਭਿਕਸ਼ੂ ਨਹੀਂ ਬਣ ਸਕਦੀ।

Jainism:-Women cannot get salvation. She will have to born again to get liberated

ਔਰਤ ਦੀ ਮੁਕਤੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋ ਸਕਦੀ। ਨਿਰਵਾਣ ਲਈ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੁਬਾਰਾ ਮਰਦ ਵਜੋਂ ਜਨਮ ਲੈਣਾ ਪਵੇਗਾ।

Sikhism:-How can you condemn the women who gives birth to prophets end kings.

ਮਃ ੧ ॥ ਭੰਡਿ ਜੰਮੀਐ ਭੰਡਿ ਨਿੰਮੀਐ ਭੰਡਿ ਮੰਗਣੁ ਵੀਆਹੁ ॥

ਭੰਡਹੁ ਹੋਵੈ ਦੋਸਤੀ ਭੰਡਹੁ ਚਲੈ ਰਾਹੁ ॥

ਭੰਡੁ ਮੁਆ ਭੰਡੁ ਭਾਲੀਐ ਭੰਡਿ ਹੋਵੈ ਬੰਧਾਨੁ ॥  
ਸੇ ਕਿਉ ਮੰਦਾ ਆਖੀਐ ਜਿਤੁ ਜੰਮਹਿ ਰਾਜਾਨ ॥  
ਭੰਡਹੁ ਹੀ ਭੰਡੁ ਉਪਜੈ ਭੰਡੈ ਬਾਝੁ ਨ ਕੋਇ ॥  
ਨਾਨਕ ਭੰਡੈ ਬਾਹਰਾ ਏਕੇ ਸਚਾ ਸੋਇ ॥  
ਜਿਤੁ ਮੁਖਿ ਸਦਾ ਸਾਲਾਹੀਐ ਭਾਗਾ ਰਤੀ ਚਾਰਿ ॥  
ਨਾਨਕ ਤੇ ਮੁਖ ਉਜਲੇ ਤਿਤੁ ਸਚੈ ਦਰਬਾਰਿ ॥੨॥

Man is born from women; within women. Man is conceived; to a women he is engaged and married. Women become his friend thought women. The future generation come. When his women pass away, he seeks another woman; women are born, without women there would be one at all.<sup>3</sup>

The Courage of man and women in obeying women can the philosophers, administers, Hippocrates termed women “ a damp soggy creature”<sup>4</sup>

Guru Nanak Dev ji (15April1469) celebrated worldwide as Gurupurab on katak poornmashi, October-November. Nanak said to have travelled for wide across asia and teaches people the message of Ik onkar (one God) who dwells in every one of his creation and constitutes the eternal truth. Guru Nanak and other Sikh guru emphasis Bhakti (Love, devotion or worship) Through popular tradition Nanak’s teaching is understood to be practiced to two ways. Vand Chako-Kirat Karo

This supply means to earn honestly and (Vand Chako) is an important pillar of Sikhism Guru Nanak Dev Teaching came to line lights When there were conflicts between different religious.

Equality of man kind. He was against Steever and racial dictinction and said that all the people are equal Guru ji also contributed to the upliftment of women in India Give respect to all the women and trat them equally, Man is burned to women without her this world would not exist. Guru nanak dev ji was also a poet, musician – 19 Rags Japji Sahib, Asa di Vaar Brahman Sholak Sidh Gohst and 974 Sabad are famous writing of Guru ji.

Important of equality there was significant women condition was reformed by next Guru Sahiban. Guru Amardass also reformed and uplift the position of women He preached against the custom of sati partha, pardha partha.

In the guru Granth Sahib, Guru Nank Dev ji writes in the voice of suhi Raag under the headings of Suchji and Kuchiji. Banjara Singh Bedi gives his opinion in the Punjabi Encyclopedia. ਭਾਰਤੀ ਸੰਸਕ੍ਰਿਤੀ ਤੇ ਧਰਮ ਵਿਚ ਜੀਵ ਨੂੰ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਭੂ ਨੂੰ ਪਤੀ ਮੰਨਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸੇ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਗ ਵਿਚ ਲੋਕ-ਕਾਵਿ ਤੇ ਅਧਿਆਤਮਿਕ ਕਾਵਿ ਕੁਝ ਕਾਵਿ-ਰੂਪ ਉਭਰੇ। ਇਹ ਸੰਸਾਰ ਸਾਡਾ ਪੇਕਾ ਘਰ ਹੈ ਤੇ ਅਗਲਾ ਸੰਸਾਰ ਸਹੁਰਾ ਘਰ। ਜੀਵ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਨੇ ਸੁਭ ਕਰਮਾਂ ਦਾ ਦਾਜ ਅਗਲੇ ਲੋਕ ਪਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਰਿਝਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਤਿਆਰ ਕਰਨਾ ਹੈ। ਜਿਹੜੀ ਜੀਵ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਇਸ ਲੋਕ ਵਿਚ ਆਪਣਾ ਅੱਗਾ ਸੰਵਾਰਨ ਵਿਚ ਜੁਟੀ ਰਹਿੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਉਹ ਸੁਚੱਜੀ ਹੈ, ਜੇ ਸੰਸਾਰ ਦੀ ਮੋਹ ਮਾਇਆ ਵਿਚ ਕੁੱਝੀ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਕੁਚੱਜੀ। ਲੋਕ ਗੀਤਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਇਹ ਦੋਵੇਂ ਰੂਪ ਮਿਲਦੇ ਹਨ।<sup>5</sup>

In the Guru Granth Sahib, Professor Singh says while giving his opinion. “ਕੁਚੱਜੀ ਸਿਰਲੇਖ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਪਤੀ ਪਰਮੇਸ਼ਰ ਤੋਂ ਵਿਛੜੇ ਹੋਏ ਜੀਵ ਨੂੰ ਬੁਰੇ ਆਚਾਰ ਵਾਲੀ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਕਥਨ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਪਤੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਦਿੱਤੀਆਂ ਦਾਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਭੁੱਲ ਕੇ ਪਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਵਿਸਾਰ ਦਿੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਤੇ ਗਫਲਤ ਵਿਚ ਮੁੱਤੀ ਹੋਈ ਪਤੀ ਵੱਲ ਜਾਣਾ ਹੀ ਭੁੱਲ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ਸੁਚੱਜੀ ਦੇ ਸਿਰਲੇਖ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਹਰੀ ਤੇ ਭਰੋਸਾ ਰੱਖਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਹੁਕਮੀ ਬੰਦੇ ਨੂੰ ਇਕ ਸੁਲੱਖਣੀ ਨਾਰ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਬਿਆਨ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੈ। ਤੀਜੇ ਸ਼ਬਦ ਵਿਚ ਭਾਵੇਂ ਸਿਰਲੇਖ ਗੁਣਵੰਤੀ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਦਾ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਹੈ ਪਰ ਅਸਲ ਵਿਚ ਅਲੰਕਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਛੱਡ ਕੇ ਸਿੱਧੇ ਸ਼ਬਦਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਗੁਣਵਾਨ ਸਿੱਖ ਨੂੰ ਉਸ ਦੇ ਆਪਣੇ ਮੂੰਹੋਂ ਬਿਆਨ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੈ।<sup>6</sup>

A form of a women is described in Gurbani on the basis of virtues and good qualities of conduct called gunwanti.

So Sikh women allowed to lead religious (perform Sikh Kirtan, educational, preacher) Socail and Political activities and played a glorious role in Sikh history Self Sacrifice, inspiration, devotion, bravely are examples of women found in Sikh history. As the movement progressed the traditions and support the position of her.

Sikhism present or healthy and natural view of women She is a mother, wife friend and compare a very useful part of Society His Status is equal to that of a human being but it was increased so much that his rightful place needs life of the body has always been considered to be most important part.

Guru Nanak brushed aside all obstacles that were in the way putting her in the subordinate position. Other Sikh Guru Through their gospel also levelled the status of women at par with man.

Gurbani encourages women to attain education, equality and justice where she has right to all aspects (Spiritual, religion, ethical, cultural, educational, economical, political, social, etc) of life. The most notable social improvement was the emancipation of women through the Guru's teaching.

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