

GOVT. OF INDIA- RNI NO. UPBIL/2014/56766
UGC Approved Care Listed Journal

ISSN 2348-2397

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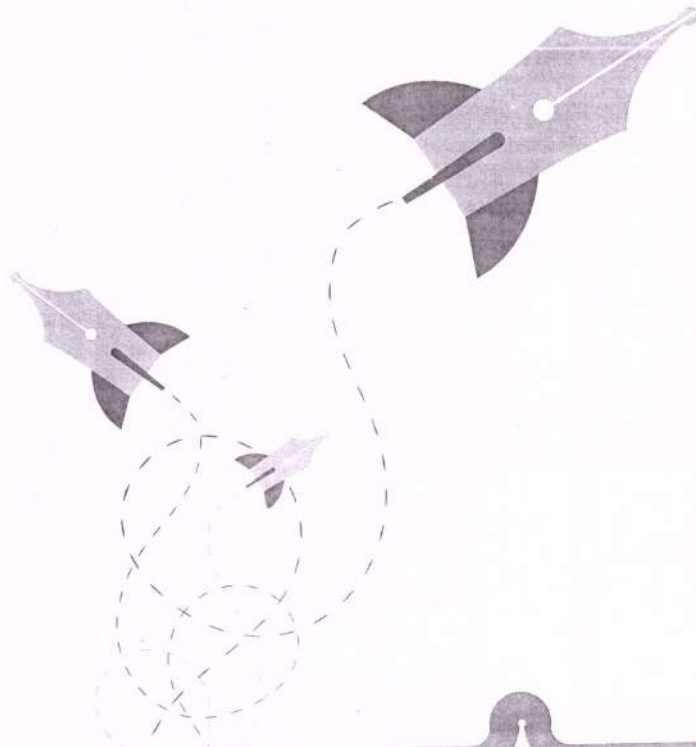
Shodh Sarita

An International Multidisciplinary Quarterly
Bilingual Peer Reviewed Refereed Research Journal

• Vol. 8

• Issue 29

• January to March 2021



Editor in Chief

Dr. Vinay Kumar Sharma

D. Litt. – Gold Medalist



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Educational & Research Foundation

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WOMEN'S ROLE IN TIRUCHIRAPALLI FREEDOM STRUGGLE

Dr. Suma S. Niral*

ABSTRACT

The history of Indian freedom struggle would be incomplete without mentioning the contribution of women. The sacrifice made by the women of India will occupy the foremost place. They fought with true spirit and undoubted courage and hand ships to earn Indian freedom. When most of the women freedom fighters were in jail the women came forward and took charge of the struggle. Women played a big part in our struggle for Independence. The entire history of the freedom movement is replete with the sag of bravery, sacrifice and political sagacity of great men and women of the country. The hundreds and Thousands of Indian women who dedicated their lives for the cause of their mother land, there were a number of noble and courageous women in Tamilnadu who made significant contribution in the national freedom movement. The sacrifice made by the women of Tamilnadu occupy the foremost place in the young minds. They fought with true spirit and faced various tortures, exploitations to get us freedom. Great women of Tamilnadu whose names have gone down in history for their everlasting devotion to the service of the nation is a long one. Tamiladu women who participated in the freedom struggle and made rich contribution in various ways for the independence.

Keywords : Freedom movement, Struggle, Significant, Participation

Introduction :

The women played a significant role in politics in India. Mass participation of women in the national movement was a unique phenomenon. The participation of women in the nationalist movement created a tradition of female involve mention politics. The involvement of women in the nationalist struggle guaranteed recognition of women's right in the past-independent India. Under the influence of great leader many brave women of India joined freedom movement several campus were organized to train them for freedom struggle. The other remarkable women freedom fighters in Tamilnadu were actively participated in the hartals, students strike and other demonstrations.

Women played vital role in Indian freedom struggle. While some went out on the streets to protect

openly, other secretly acted as messengers to convey important information to the underground movement. Many activities from the Tamilnadu province were important Gandhian leader. Many women warriors have given their lives for our independence. Tamilnadu played a vital role in the Indian freedom movement. The hundreds and Thousands of Indian women who dedicated their lives for the cause of their mother land, there were a number of noble and courageous women in Tamilnadu who made significant contribution in the national freedom movement.

The Background of the freedom movement :

The role Tiruchirappalli women in freedom struggle significant first decades of history of Indian national congress woman participation its activities was peripheral negligible. Gandhi appealed women make

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between the year 1941-1942. She participated in the Congress movement and conferences even in her young age onwards. She was a Member in the Tiruchirappalli Students Organisation. In 1942, Gandhiji and other Congress leaders launched the Qu India Movement. Procession was taken out. Several college students participated in She too wanted to participated in it. Due to the college restrictions, she climbed the college gates and jumped out and participation in the Quit India Movements.

Subbamma :

Subbamma one of the prominent women of Madras. After attending the meeting addressed by Gandhi, became politically active book led in the province. She addressed various meetings of women and exhorted them to wear khadhi and spin in their leisure time. She further wanted them to realize that they were wasting a huge amount of money on foreign cloth. She also organized pickeling in front of the foreign cloth shops appealing shopkeepers to stop dealing with foreign cloths and stock khadi only. She also formed a women's cadre of Deva Sevikas (God devoted servants). Because her active participation in the movement she was arrested and sent to jail. As a matter of fact she was the first women of the region to go to jail.

Ambujammal :

Ambujammal was also engaged in all programmes of the movement based on the principle of the non-violence. She organized various meetings, processions, etc. and also solved Khadi and picketed foreign cloth and liquor shops.

Durgabai :

Durgabai, aged twelve, was another inspired organized and a tireless worker, who worked for the cause of the freedom in such a tender aye. Gandhiji's visit to Godavari district was a turning point in her life. She donated her jewellery and went around the town selling khaddar and enlisting volunteers for the progress of the movement. She also arranged a meeting to devadasis (God devoted women) to be addressed by Gandhiji after raising fire thousand rupees. The meeting was attended by around the thousand devadasis. Inspired by Gandhi's fervent appeals these women took off their ornaments and

donated twenty thousand rupees and also took a vow to wear swadeshi hence forth.

Rukmini Lakshmipathi :

She was played very Important role in Tamil Freedom Struggle. when she took to spinning as part of the Swadeshi movement. She was one og the outstanding members of the working committee of the Indian National Congress and Deputy Speaker of madras Legislative Assembly. As she was deeply interested on political movements, she made up her mind to participate in the Individual Satyagraha, which she considered as a necessary one, took part in the agitation which broke out in the year 1940-1941. She was one of the prominent members of the Indian National Congress, she was placed in "A" class prison. She was the first women Satyagrahi in madras. when she was taken to jail, she declared that, "Let the women India follow the leadership if Mahatma Gandhi and maintain the honour and dignity of our Motherland. She Continued to play a remarkable role in the the congress politics till the end. She was participate in the quite India movement. She also went from place appealing people to participate in the movement. Like Rukmani Lakshmipathi, dhamayanthu, Janaki Ammal, Kahalakshmi, Suryavathi Ammal and others also seriously entered in the mass revolution of 1942 and they were arrested.

Prospects and Challenges of Women freedom fighters:

The women's involvement in the freedom struggle. It leads to the development of their social condition. The women freedom fighter were Encouraged inter-caste marriage and widow remarriages. Jagadambal helped the downtrodden people and she herself created awareness to the women. Women freedom fighters faced number of problems. Many of the freedom fighters put into jail. during their maternity time. Even, the women brought their children into jail consequently the health of children were also affected. Even After their release from prison continued to create the awareness through the National songs. 10 The chief officer treated the women freedom fighters gently. But some securities and wardens ill-treated the women freedom fighters. Women freedom fighters have sacrifice the life and belongings for the