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# IDEAS

# A Journal of Multidisciplinary Thoughts

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Mintu Pathak

## Editorial—

The Department of Political Science is one of the oldest departments of Sipajhar College opening the major in 1985-86 and celebrated its Silver Jubilee a year ago, with a grand success. It has, for the first time, made a great endeavour to publish this journal named 'IDEAS: A Journal of Multidisciplinary Thoughts' annually. The journal is expected to focus on different ideas and concept of the political events concerning primarily with different aspects of the society. It carries out analytical views on several facts regarding principles of government as well as the new ideas incorporating the matters political and non-political; governmental and non-governmental and thus resolves to come forward for action, reaction and interaction.

### Rights toward Women in Democracy

The success of democracy no doubt, depends upon its proper working through the implementation of its four pillars viz. Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. But, however, of these, it is liberty which appears to have a great say over the other three. The reason why it is so cannot be irrefutable. Liberty has its synonymous words like freedom, rights etc. which are inevitable for the human beings of all classes and in all ages and spaces.

Human rights in general and women rights in particular have come to appear as a core subject of discussion in all the platforms. It is specially the woman's right which has reached its pinnacle and turns it as a controversial matter. Whatever it may be, rights are inherent and all must possess. But why are the human rights for women? To speak the truth, from the general point of view, there are two communities of human beings viz. men and women viewed from their original species. So, the rights for the women community should be special as well as separate from those of the men community although the human rights include the rights of women also.

The term, 'women rights' refers to the freedom which is inherently possessed by the women community of all ages from virginity to their old age. As the rights are mostly necessary, they need to be institutionalised so that they can be emphasized. Accordingly, the United Nations established a commission in 1946 on the status of women. Later in 1948, the United Nations issued its Universal Declaration of Human Rights which protect the equal rights of men and women and also freedom from discrimination on ground of sex and addressed both the equality and equity issues. The UN General Assembly adopted a convention on the political rights of women in 1952 and Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against women in 1979. The main purpose of these two covenants is to ensure equality between men and women. In this way, the United Nations has covered a vast area of issues of equality and development of women. Since 1975, the United Nations has been holding a series of world conferences on women's issues, starting with the World Conference of the International Women' Year in Mexico City.

On the basis of these covenants, the constitution of India has also provided a greater opportunity for the women community in order to maintain their status in the society. As a democratic country, India has become aware of keeping the women community in touch of the rights and liberty through the provision of directive principles as well as fundamental rights. Experiences reveal the fact that other than social rights, women have been able to access to political rights which are essential for the realization of democracy which follow these pillars to be worked out.

Dibakar Ch. Das