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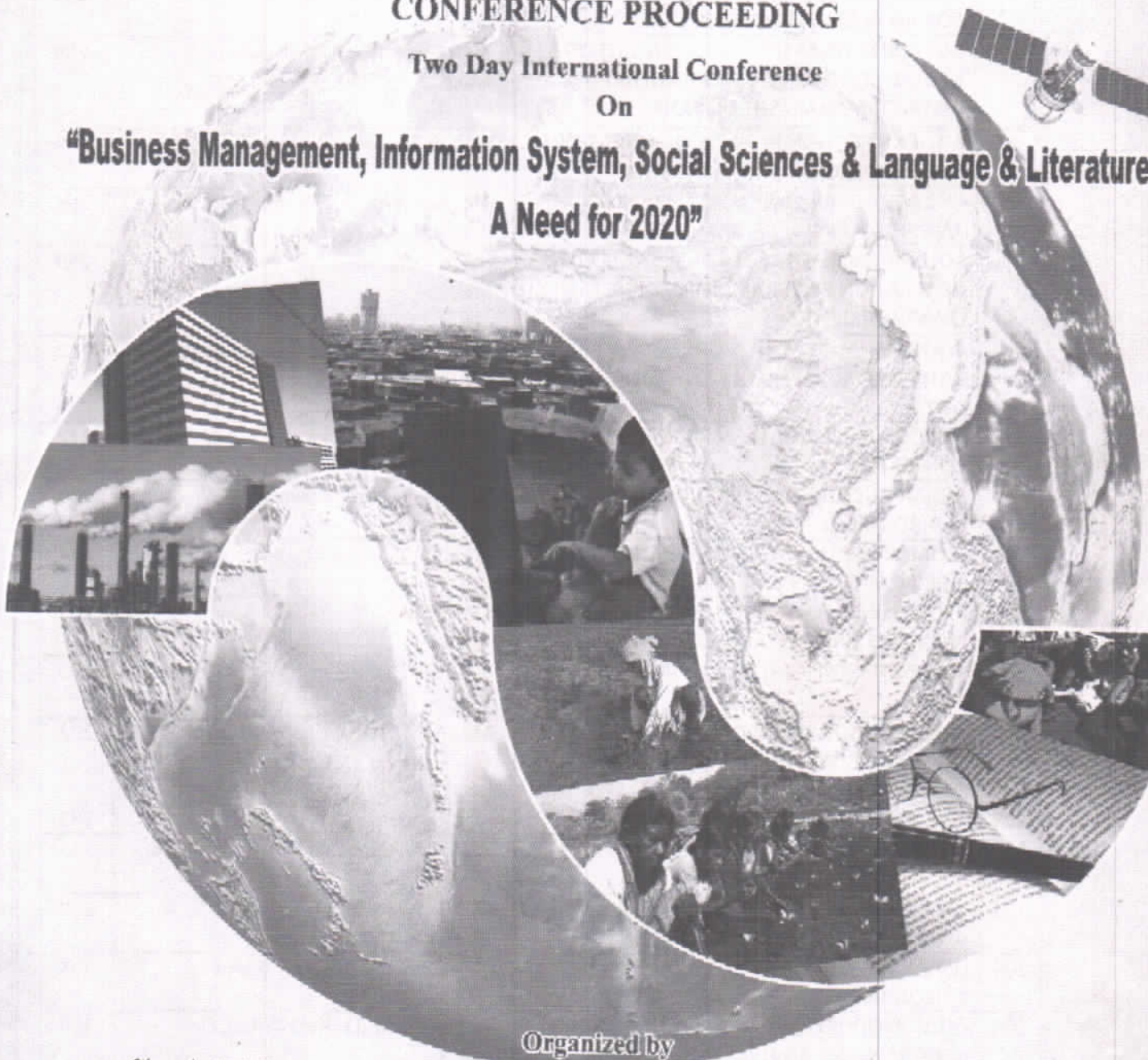
Tal. Hatkanangale, Dist. Kolhapur 416 203 M. S., India.

Re-accredited by NAAC with 'B' Grade, CGPA : 2.66

CONFERENCE PROCEEDING

Two Day International Conference
On

"Business Management, Information System, Social Sciences & Language & Literature
A Need for 2020"



Organized by

Chandrabai-Shantappa Shendure College, Hupari in Collaboration with Shivaji University
Commerce and Management Teacher's Association, Kolhapur and BVDU's Institute of
Management and Entrepreneurship Development, Pune

On 4th and 5th December, 2015

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WOMEN'S EDUCATION IN THE SANGLI STATE : A REVIEW

Dr. Khole Supriya Chandrashekhar, C.S. Shendure College, Hupari

INTRODUCTION :

The male dominated society in India had been considering women as a subordinate element. Women were restricted from education and other social rights from ancient time. This was equally important and major class of Indian society but being restricted and denied education by male dominance society, women left away from social development also. It took much time to change the condition. The British period in India was a significant and important period regarding the social changes. The doors of education were opened for every aspect in society. Western education brought the advanced and modern thought. The social-religious movement were being taken place in India and it also helped to change the social condition of women. Women education got speed. Gradually the number of educating women were improved. Undoubtedly this changes took place in British India but some of the contemporary kings also did the special efforts of women's education. They started schools for women. Provided financial help for women's education. Ultimately the particular Princely State proved to be pioneered for women's education. Sangli from South Maharashtra was one of the this kind of state, where the special efforts were made for women's education. These efforts prove very effective in further progress of society.

BRIEF HISTORY OF SANGLI STATE :

Out of the 562 Princely States in India, the Southern Maratha Country has a group of 18 states popularly known as SMC States. Sangli state was one of them¹.

The state was under the Brahminic rule of Patwardhans who were appointed by the Peshawas of Pune. First Chintamanrao Appasaheb was the founder of Sangli state. He led the foundation of development of Sangli state. There were six provinces in the state- Kucchi, Mangalwedha, Shahapur, Miraj, Teradal and Shirhatti. Total area was 1136 Km. upto merger i.e. 1948². Sangli was ruled by three rulers- Chintamanrao Appasaheb Ist (1808-1858), Dhundirao Tatyasaheb (1858- 1902), Chintamanrao Dhundirao alias Appasaheb IInd (1910-1948). In March, 1948 Sangli state merged into Indian Union. When Chintamanrao IInd was minor, the administration was represented by Political Agent, A. B. Desai from 1901 to 1905 and under the Captain Bruke, from 1905 to 1910 in which year the administration passed over to Chintamanrao IInd³.

The education was the most neglected subject in all over India. The Sangli state was not also an exception. But after the contacts with the Britishers a new kind of change took place in the educational outlook and educational policy⁴. Hind ruler Dhundirao Tatyasaheb laid down the foundation of Modern Education. First Anglo Vernacular School was established at Sangli in 1863. In 1875 first girl school was opened and it was the dawn of women education in Sangli state. First decade of twentieth century was very important period in the history of state. Between 1905 and 1910, Captain Bruke was the administrator of Sangli state. He implemented the scheme of 'Free and Compulsory education' in the state⁵. This increased the number of schools as well as pupils.

The spread of education in the state has been steady during many years. In 1910 there was one high school, five Anglo- Vernacular Schools, sixty-one second class primary schools, nine girl's schools, ten night schools, five Sanskrit schools, and five low class schools. Chintamanrao IInd carried on all these measurements. Upto 1947 there was notable educational institutions in Sangli state. Special attention was given to increase the percentage of girls in all level.

DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMARY EDUCATION :

The first Primary School for boys was started in 1864 and first separate girls school was opened on 20th July 1875 in sangli City⁶. In other parts of state separate girls schools were started by the state. Upto 1910 there were ten girls schools. Where separate school was not available, girls were attending boy's school⁷. After the implementation of Caption Bruke's Free & Compulsory education, there was notable increase in the number of girls students. In 1910, in ten girls schools 928 girl students were taking education and in 144 boys school 488 girls were taking education⁸. To increase the number of girl students Captain Bruke ordered to give two 'Annas' extra to class teacher for every girl attending the school more than 20 days⁹. He also gave order to open separate school for girls in every Taluka place as well as in big city and to appoint the lady teacher as per availability. This all helped to

promote women's education. Up to 1930-31 girls schools were 12 and 1129 girls were students and in common schools 610 girls were taking education. In this period some private schools were opened and 109 girls were learning there. Special schools were opened for backward community and 11 girls were learning from those schools¹⁰. Total 184 schools were there in the state and 1829 girls were learning there¹¹.

MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION AND HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION :

In 1910-11 there were five middle schools in the state (first standard to seventh standard). But up to that time there was not a single girl. After 1930 the situation was changed. Two separate Middle Schools were opened for girls and 117 girls were learning there. This ratio increased up to 188 girls in 1943-44¹¹.

The beginning of Western Education in Sangli state was made in 1884. The first high school was started in Sangli city in 1884 as a State High School. But in early period only boys were in the school. After 1930, situation was changed. Girls started learning there. But comparatively number of girls learning in high school was few in number. In 1914 City High School- first private high was started in Sangli city. In 1932 there were only 15 girls in that high school, the number increased up to 34 at the time of merger¹².

In 1933, Woman's Education Society started 'Mahila Vidyalaya'. This school played very important role in development of women's education¹³. The great educationalist and pioneer of SNDT Women's University Maharsih Annasaheb Karve gave inspiration to start this school. The rulers of Sangli helped a lot by all way. Donations were collected from society. The conditions were very adverse but with the backing of well wishers school run successfully¹⁴. To develop the personalities of girls so many steps were taken. Different games, drawing exams, girls guide programme, gathering as well as study room etc. were conducted by school administration¹⁵. All these things loosened restriction on the girls.

After 1940-42 there was change in social attitude. Social mind become positive towards girls education. In 1930-31 there were only 13 girls in high school but in 1942-43 this number increased up to 515. Some educated ladies like Manuati and Kamalata Padalkar devoted themselves for spread of education among women¹⁶.

DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION :

In the decade of 1930 number of girls increased in High school level so that number of girls also increased in college level. There was only College in the state that was Willingdon College, which was established in 1919 by Deccan Education Society of Pune¹⁷. Ruler Chitramanrao Hind helped a lot for the college. In 1919 there was only two girls, after 1935 there was lot of change in this picture. In 1935 seven girls, in 1949 twenty-nine girls and in 1945 eighty two girls were learning in the college. After 1935, girls were allowed to take admission in Science side¹⁸. After 1937 girls started participating in co-curricular activities e.g. Lemon- spoon race, trip writing articles in annual magazine of college etc. The college was offering Free Scholarship as well as scholarships to support the girl's education.

In 1947, Engineering College was started in Sangli. It was conducted by Maharashtra Technical Education Society, Pune and later christened as the Walchand College of Engineering¹⁹, but up to 1950 only boys were learning in the College.

THE MILE STONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN EDUCATION IN SANGLI STATE :

Jain Shrivasthram - Dakshina Bharat Jain Sabha started the hostel for woman of their religion on 9th April, 1922. The Ashram was under the control of Shrimatibai Kalantre. Abandoned widows, as well as girls were given admission in this Ashram. It was very revolutionary thing at that time. Slowly Jain families from outside of Sangli started keeping their daughters in the Ashram for education²⁰. Kanitre Akka also started pre- primary class, primary school and Kasturba Training College for girls. She got very good response from the Society. In 1934, there were 30 girls in the Ashram and 124 girls were in the school²¹.

Ladies Hostel - Girls living in the remote area of state was unable to secure education therefore with the help of Ruler Patwardhan Women's Education Society started ladies Hostel in 1937. Up to 1938-39, 16 girls were in the hostel. Books, News papers, monthly, badminton, Ring Tennis and some other facilities were available for the girls²².

The Contribution of Women's Conference (Mahila Parishad) and Rani Saraswatidevi Patavardhan : The wife of King Chitamanarao Patavardhan II Her Highness Saraswatidevi contributed a lot for women's education. She was the chief of Women's Education Board. She effected lot for the development of this institution. She established Women's Conference

(Mahila Parishad) in Sangli in 1933. The condense course was organized and availed the opportunities for women to complete there education.²³ They tried to make women self sufficient by giving them training of tailoring, hand crafting etc. She motivated the Girl-Guide movement in Sangli state. She continued her inspiration and motivation for women's education.²⁴

CONCLUSIONS:

British Policies for education affected on the Princely State of Sangli. Progressive ruler of Sangli Patwardhan accepted same policies. Conscious efforts made by them proves very helpful for the development of women's education in Sangli. The percentage of women education was very less in first phase, but it increased after some time. Efforts were taken for that. Special schools opened for girls and valuable help done by rulers was helpful for the development of positive attitude of society towards the girl's education. The rules of educational institutions were not compulsory for the girls. Many girls got chance to take education only upto marriage being done. Very few girls were taking higher education in this period. Especially higher class of the society had given chance to their daughters to take college education. In 1948 there was not a single girl learning in the Engineering College of Sangli. In primary level the percentage was more than secondary or higher level. Girls enrollment in schools and colleges remained less than those of the male students in all levels. Jain Shrivikashram (Ladies Hostels), opened the gate of education for Jain girls living in villages and remote area. By giving vocational education like tailoring, art and crafting to women it was tried to help them to become self dependent. Now a days Sangli takes a great lead in women's education and its foundation was laid during state period.

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Dr./Smt./Smt. Khole...Supriya.....
Chandrashekhar..... of C.S.S.Shendure College,
Hupari..... participated and presented paper on
Women's education in the Sangli State.....
Review..... in the International

Conference on "Business Management, Information System, Social Sciences & Language & Literature: A Need for 2020", organised by Department of Commerce, Chandrabai-Shantappa Shendure College, Hupari, Kolhapur, MS; India in collaboration with BVDU's Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development, Pune, MS; India and Shivaji University Commerce and Management Teachers Association; Kolhapur, MS; India during 4th & 5th December, 2015 at Hupari, Kolhapur, MS, India.

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