

Women's Study Cell- Annual Report

“Paripoorti”

(A Quest Towards Completeness...)

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“Genuine equality means not treating everyone the same, but attending equally to everyone's different needs.”

- Terry Eagleton,

A Veteran British literary theorist and Distinguished Professor of English Literature

The quote mentioned above is aptly applicable to our intention behind establishment of Womens' Study Cell, named 'Paripoorti.' of our college. 'Paripoorti' simply reflects a quest towards completeness. It is named so by taking inspiration from the name of a famous literary work authored by Dr. Iravati Karve. At this juncture, I feel proud to mention that, our law college is established under the illustrious banner of Deccan Education Society and our sister concern, Fergusson College. Fergusson College has a great legacy of creating distinguished scholars and versatile personalities. One of such alumnus of Fergusson College is Dr. Iravati Karve mam.

Dr. Iravati Karve mam was a re-nound sociologist, educationist and a veteran writer in Marathi Literature. Emotionality, Sensitiveness, Courtesy and many more dimensions of Woman's nature and her personality was one of the perspectives of her writing. She did lots of research in human kin-nships and different aspects of humanity from sociological point of view. You all must be aware of her greatest contribution to the Marathi literature 'Yuganta'...for which she was honored by a Sahitya Academy Award. Another such contribution of Dr. Iravati Karve to Marathi literature is 'Paripoorti' - a short story.

Most of her literatures depict the analysis of societal behavioral pattern and status of women therein. Another aspect of her personality was that, she was a keen researcher with independent and firm opinions of her own. Her ideas about women's liberty were very clear and specific. Through her writings, research and reformist work, she used to create awareness amongst women of her time about their rights and strength. She was a great social reformer of her time and continuously endeavored for women empowerment through varied aspects of her life.

Thus, by naming our Women's Study Cell as 'Paripoorti' we wish to set her as an example before our students and it will constantly encourage all of us in achieving the objectives of the cell. Dr. Iravati Karve mam is definitely an inspiration and a role model for all of us.

Now let me explain you about the functioning of 'Paripoorti.' It was established in the last academic year. We got it inaugurated at the auspicious hands of Ms Vijava Rahatkar, Then Chairperson of State Women's Commission of Maharashtra with a great zeal on 3rd October, 2019. It was established with a vision of "**Social transformation, not merely in the context of research and teaching pedagogy but also through dedicated action.**" Accordingly, through this cell, we primarily intend to carry out interdisciplinary study in the area of Women's Rights. This cell is our endeavor to contribute and to fulfill the lacunas in the area of Rights of Women. In the light of the international human rights perspectives as well as the Constitutional norms, the cell aims to build some quality ethos for producing socio-scientific data for working further in the arena of women's rights. By doing all this we wish to add some new dimensions to the existing knowledge.

Another area of functioning of the Cell is focused on efforts for establishing a link between academicians, activists, government functionaries, NGO personnel and media persons so as to mobilize the efforts necessary to seek and ensure upliftment of women and utilizing their so far hidden potential in various domains of societal development.

Various activities of this Womens' Study Cell include conduction of training and extension activities such as workshops, seminars, symposiums...so as to sensitize students about the current developments in the legal arena. Organization of teaching and training programmes so as to integrate gender related perspectives in the mainstream disciplines. Also to establish collaborations with other institutes for facilitating our efforts in the area of gender sensitization. We are going to conduct a certificate course on 'Socio-legal issues related to Women's Health.'

In order to actualize our work, we had organized a Panel Discussion on "The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 in association with Internal Committee and the Students' Welfare Cell of the College. Eminent members from diverse fields like Judiciary, Practicing Lawyers, Police Department, NGO *etc.* were called upon as the panelists who gave insights to the students as to practical implementation of the provisions of the Act. Also made them aware about the procedure for filing complaints under the Act and the nature of punishments that could be imposed on the defaulters.

Finally, through 'Paripoorti' a Women's Study Cell of our college, we wish to put in our efforts in devising and implementing practical solutions based on existing theoretical framework in the area of women's right. Yes, for endeavoring all this we have a quest for completeness....!