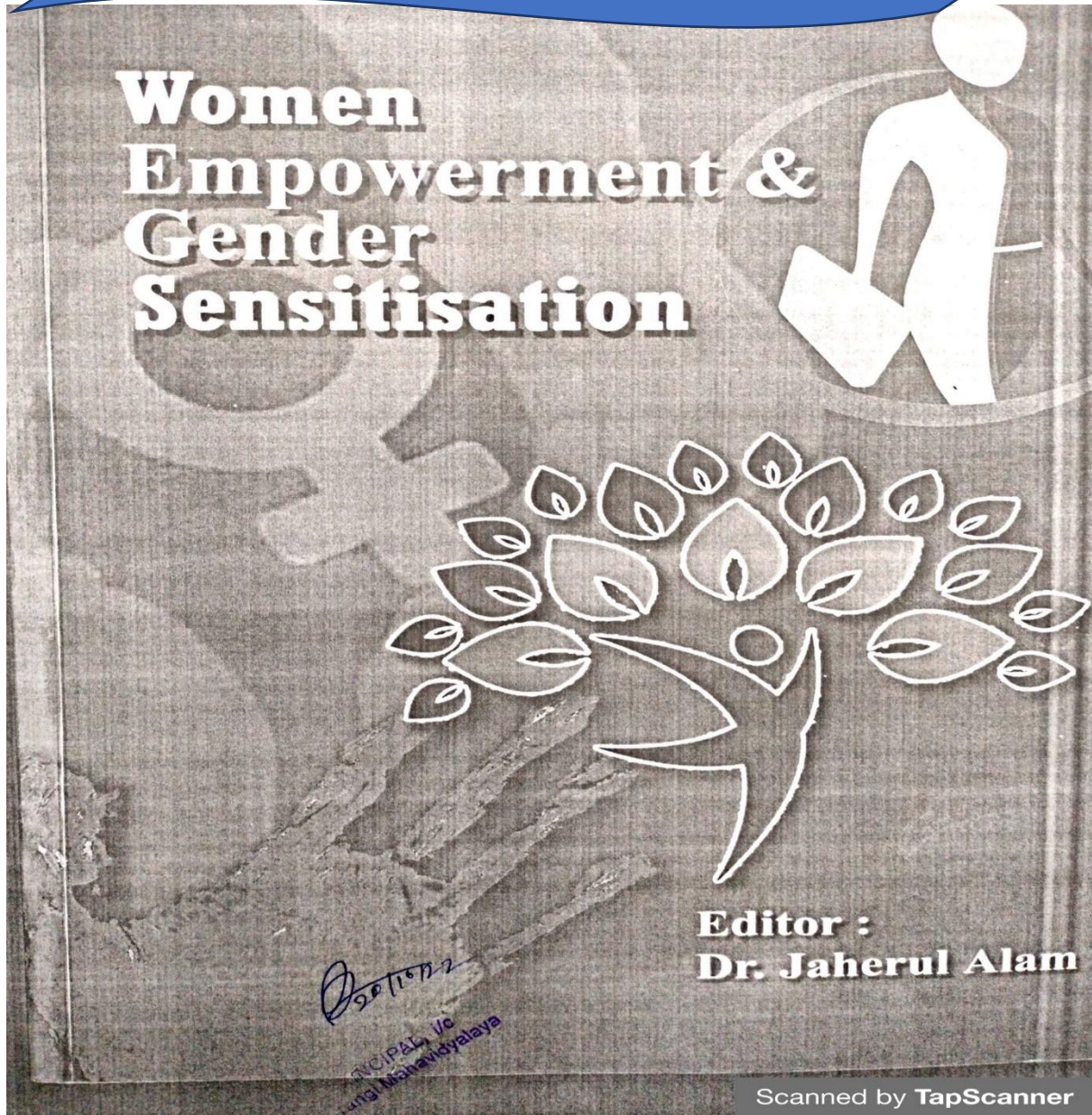


2019-20
Article published in Books

1. Dr. Daisy Rani Chutia.

Education and Women Empowerment in India



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M. Lakshmi
MARANGI MAHAVIDYALAYA

This Edited Book is a collection of research papers/articles on women empowerment and gender sensitisation in Indian context and the book is entitled as **Women Empowerment and Gender Sensitisation**, published by Knowledge Publications.

Editor : **Dr. Jaherul Alam**

Published by:

Knowledge Publications

Publishing your knowledge

Contact:

Shivam Books, Book Bazar, M. N. Road,
Panbazar, Guwahati, Assam- 781001

&

D K Enterprise, Khairabari, Barpeta Road,
PO- Barpeta Road, Dist- Barpeta, Assam
Pin- 781315

Contact No. 700214112/7002935051/9859572724

Website: www.knowledgepublications.in

E-mail: publishingyourknowledge@gmail.com

ISBN : 978-81-933014-4-9

Frist Edition : May, 2020

Price: ₹ 800.00

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Education and Women Empowerment in India

Dr. Daisy Rani Chutia

*Assistant professor, Department of Education
Marangi Mahavidyalaya (Degree), Golaghat, Assam*

Abstract:

Women comprise nearly half of the population in India as elsewhere in the world. Yet, for centuries they have been pushed aside from the path of development in the name of customs, traditions and religion. For ages, they have been denied opportunities for social, economic and political development which in its turn has contributed to the continuing underdevelopment of the country as a whole.

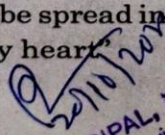
Women education in India has also been a major preoccupation of both the government and civil society as educated women can play a very important role in the development of the country. Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process. Education of women is the most powerful tool to change the position in society. Women education in India has been a need of hour, as education is a foundation stone for the empowerment of women. Education also brings a reduction in inequalities and functions as a means of improving their status within the family and develops the concept of participation.

Keywords: Education, Empowerment, Women, Equality, Society.

Introduction:

"Woman is an incarnation of 'Shakti'- the Goddess of Power. If she is bestowed with education, India's strength will double. Let the campaign of 'Kanya Kelavni' be spread in every home; let the lamp of educating daughters be lit up in every heart."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi


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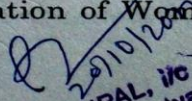
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 *Women Empowerment &
Gender Sensitisation*

Empowerment can be viewed as means of creating a social environment in which one can make decisions and make choice either individually or collectively for social transformation. The empowerment strengthens the innate ability by way of acquiring knowledge, power and experience (Hart and Schuler and Riley, 1996). Empowerment is the process of enabling and authorizing individual to think, take action and control work in an autonomous way. It is the process by which one can gain control over one's destiny and the circumstances of one's lives. Women empowerment concept was introduced at the International women Conference in 1985 at Nairobi, which defined it as redistribution of social power and control of resource in favour of women empowerment of women is empowerment of family/household and in turn development of a nation. Women constitute almost half of the population in the world. But the hegemonic masculine ideology made them suffer a lot as they were denied equal opportunities in different parts of the world. The rise of feminist ideas has, however, led to tremendous improvement of women's condition throughout the world in recent times. Access to education has been one of the most pressing demands of these women's rights movements. Women education in India plays an important role in the overall development of the country. It not only helps in the development of half of the human resources, but in improving the quality of life at home and outside. Women empowerment is not limited only for Indian society. If we deliberate the global aspect in this regard, it can be seen that women are being given equal treatment in developed nations. History also tells that women have always been given secondary position in society, but the difference between men and women created by the Nature is but natural. It is only education through which one can realize the fact. When American women realized this, they opposed this unfairness which was meted out to them by way of a huge movement, through which they asked for equal rights. For eliminating this injustice, the UNO (United Nation's Organization) framed an agreement which is called 'The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women's (CEDAW), which later led to the formation of Women's Commission. Women empowerment has no


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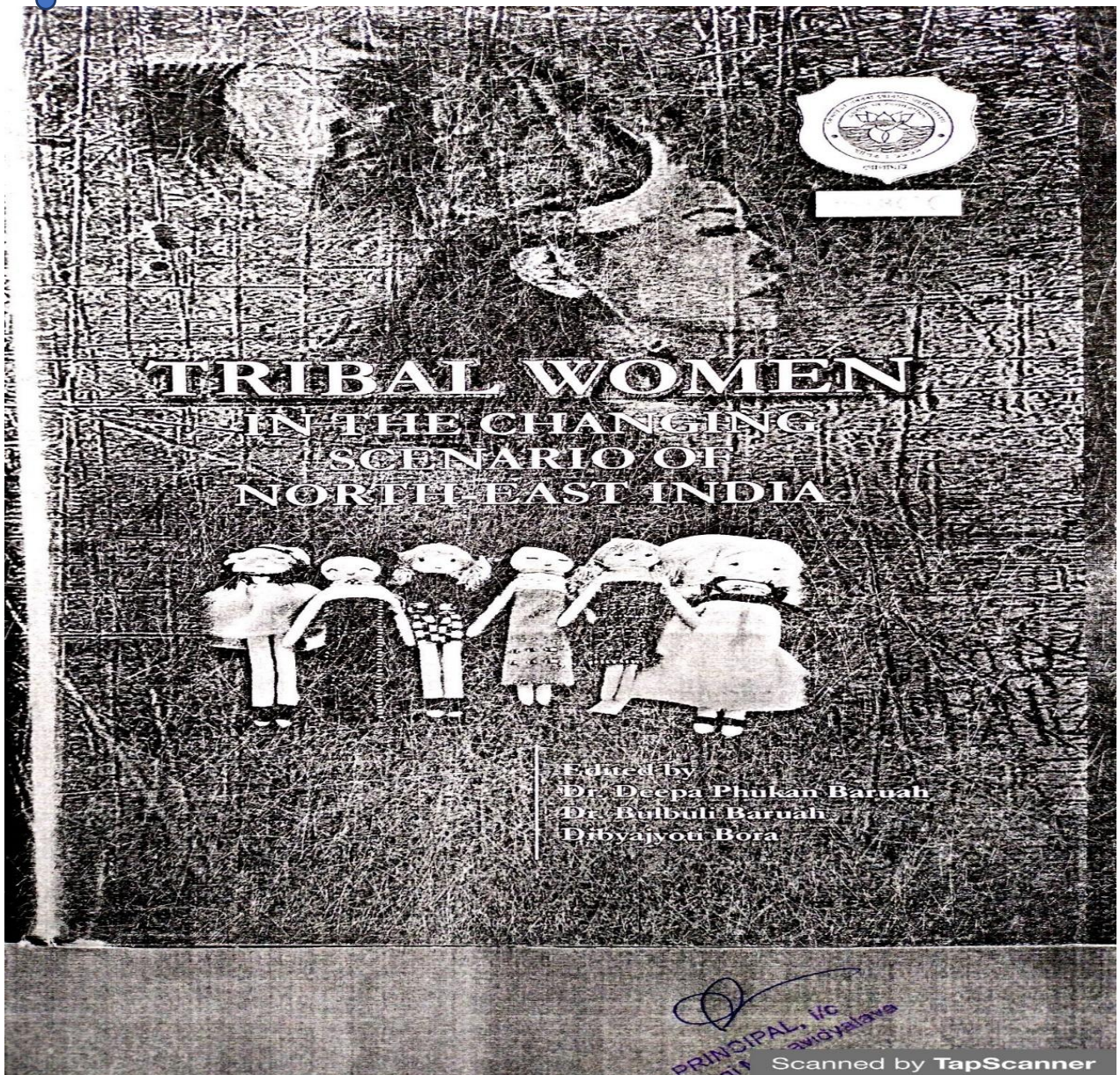

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2. Dr. Daisy Rani Chutia.

Education and Changing status of Tribal women in Rural Setting: A study on Tribal Women of Ponkagaon in Golaghat District of Assam



M. Mahanta
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Education and Changing Status of Tribal Women in Rural Setting:

A Study on Tribal Women of Ponka Gaon in Golaghat District of Assam

Dr. Daisy Rani Chutia

Introduction :

Fifty years after independence and about the same span of planned development, women's position in India is still grim. Their position has worsened considerably in almost every sphere of life with the exception of some gains for middle class women in terms of education and employment. The available literature on women in India has brought to light many negative social practices like rape, wife battering, domestic violence, dowry deaths, prostitutions and working long hours within and outside the home without recognition. All these indicate the declining value of women in almost every sphere of life. Swami Vivekananda said, "A country which don't respect women have never become great nor will ever be in future". Any nation or any country can attain its full status only when its women are treated as equal to men and have enjoy the same rights and privileges without any discrimination. 'Status' denotes position in terms of rights and obligations in society.

In other words, status refers to the relative position of a person or category of persons in terms of prestige and honour attained through birth, inheritance or acquisition of wealth, power and authority. Talcott Parsons (1951) identifies six attributes of status, which are both ascribed and achieved. They are :

- Personal qualities
- Achievements
- Possession
- Authority and
- Power

Who are tribal? In general usages the word 'tribe' is taken to denote a primary aggregate of people living in a primitive or barbarous condition under a headman or chief. Tribal women are diverse ethnically, linguistically, geographically and also historically. Majority of them are found in rural areas where they are disadvantaged in terms of education, occupation etc. It is also important to note that women in tribal societies could be considered doubly disadvantaged in the first instance as tribal and in the second as women. 'Education' is an effective tool that helps the tribal women to acquire knowledge for improving and empowering their tasks in all fields.

About the Thengal Kachari community :

The thengal Kachari is one of the sub-community of the greater kachari tribe of Assam. Historically the Thengal kachari had been part of the great Bodo group of the Mongoloid family who ruled different parts of Assam under different names and at different points of time.

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