

This book is a collection of the studies on the changing role of Indian women who have seen a vast journey from historic past to an independent India and traversing further to that of a modern Indian society. Studies related to their roles as freedom fighter and in the freedom struggle to the glimpses of Indian female activism in bringing environmental and livelihood sustainability, positioning them as the lamp-post to guide the future of the next generation of women, are some of the ingredients of this edited book. The book not only explores the glorious contributions of female scientists but also brings into light the role of some eminent women who have fiercely advocated social equality. This issue based book will be of an immense interest to the social scientists, policymakers, aid agencies, NGOs, as well as students and researchers in studying the issues and challenges that the Indian women face in the society and some possible prospects in this globalized era.

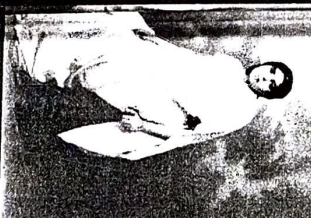
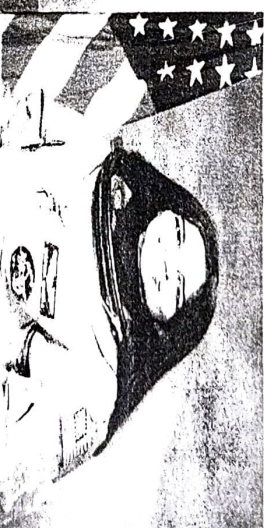
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# Women Who Changed India

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### **Acknowledgement**

This edited book is an outcome of the various studies conducted on the role of women in creating history of modern India. There has been a lot of discussions and analysis regarding the status of women and their position in the changing history of India. An insight into the contribution of Indian women in different fields, viz. social, constitutional, economic, technological, scientific, literary or sports is thought provoking. Incorporating their changing roles in a book form so as to reflect the cause of remembering their work and life becomes a matter of significance. Each paper in itself embarks upon the women as being the path finder and a lamp-post to guide the future of the next generation of women. The book thus examines the role, performance, issues and challenges in the life of Indian women in different scenarios.

Given the nature of the subject and the short time over which this book was prepared, the support of the contributors is invaluable. The editors therefore wish to express their gratitude to all the contributors of the papers which have been included in this book. Sincere thanks are extended to Sri V. N. D Singh, President, Board of Management, Sri P. N. D Singh, Secretary,

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- ❖ [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shradha\\_Sharma](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shradha_Sharma)
- ❖ <https://www.crunchbase.com/person/chitra-gurnani>
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## 16.

### Women as Spiritual Leaders of India

Dr. Anupma Singh\*

In India where women have been seen traditionally as someone's wife, mother, daughter, or sister, it becomes quite difficult to project them as powerhouse of a family. Perhaps because, deep inside every woman has a longing to be someone in her own rightfully aware of herself, confident and in control. When we talk of spiritual power, we are in fact referring to the original power of the self to be whole and independent free from the web of domination and suppression, free from the need to exist for someone else's sake.

For the last two thousand years or more, women have not fully utilized their spiritual power. Instead, aspects of the feminine have taken mainly symbolic forms from the Virgin Mary to the vestal virgins, from

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