

VIIIth
National
Conference of
Women's
Studies

30th May to 2nd June, 1998 SNDT Women's University, Pune

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VIIIth National Conference of Women's Studies 30th May to 2nd June, 1998.

Organised by

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in collaboration with

Maharashtra Stree Abhyas Vyaspeeth

at

SNDT Women's University

Karve Road, Pune.

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Survival & Sovereignty

Challenges to Women's Studies

Fifty years of Independence have brought economic growth, expansion of markets, wider spread of democratic institutions, as well as growing violence and erosion of the fabric of political and economic institutions. The gap between the rich and the poor is widening the world over and in our country as well. We have witnessed the feminisation of poverty. With the unorganised sector constantly expanding under the New Economy Policy - now covering 92.7% of the work force - unions in this sector play an important part in defending the survival rights of marginalised peoples. Rampant land and water alienation are having critical consequences on agricultural labourers, small peasants, workers in the unorganised sector, vendors, slum-dwellers and sustainers of families.

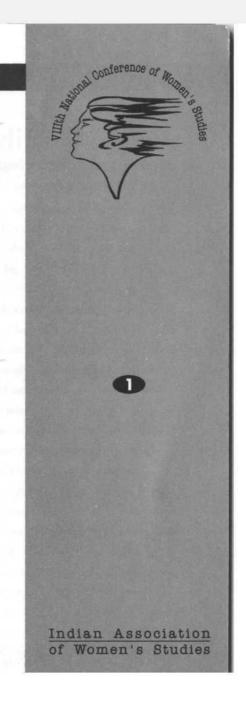
Levels of violence against women have been rising alongside an increase in communal violence. There has also been an increase in violence against dalit and tribal populations. This goes along with the cultural hegemony of global media and consumerism. We are facing the erosion of our cultural fabric – its pluralism, diversity and richness – at the hands of religious nationalism and

fundamentalism, both actively supported by an affluent diaspora with vested interests. Under such conditions, despite appreciable rise in life expectancy since Independence, the question of survival and sovereignty has once again dramatically come to the fore.

People's movements have been the primary vehicles of resistance, foregrounding problematic questions as well as encouraging alternatives. There has also been a groundswell of affirmation of cultural identities among dalits, tribals and minorities. Women have had a critical role in ensuring that these identities are not put in the service of patriarchal identity politics.

We are entering a new era in history where as women we can refuse to be victims of violence and alien decision-making, be it at the levels of the household, the local eco-region, the district or the state and even at national and international levels. We now have the opportunity to come into our own through our own movements and research infrastructures, in interaction with all progressive and democratic forces in society. For this we need to examine our own perspectives and conceptualisations and understand and enhance other conceptual, ideological approaches as well.

This conference will explore diverse issues related to survival and sovereignty at every level while also exploring alternatives thrown up by people's movements, unions in the unorganised sector, women's movements, and dalit and tribal movements.



Programme of Plenaries - I

Stable Livelihoods versus Pursuit of Profit:

Micro and Macro Issues Related to Globalisation and Food Security

SPEAKERS: Utsa Patnaik . Nalini Nayak . Bina Agarwal

Right to food is a fundamental right of all citizens. Food is first and foremost, a source of nutrition and only secondarily, an item of trade. Agriculture, aquaculture etc. should be organized in such a way that food security is ensured for all. But, the globalisation of agriculture and aquaculture is violating all components of food-related human rights. Biodiversity, land and water are the vital resources that the majority of our people depend on for their livelihood and survival. Intellectual Property Rights are emerging as an important mechanism for taking away the living resources and biodiversity from the people and converting them into corporate monopolies. Seeds, medicinal plants and plant based pesticides which have been the basis of people's livelihood in agriculture and health-care are being appropriated through new patent regimes enforced through WTO.

Food Security in South Asia has been undermined by the structures of dominance and dependence which have been strengthened in recent years through liberalisation of trade, introduction of green revolution technology and ideology,

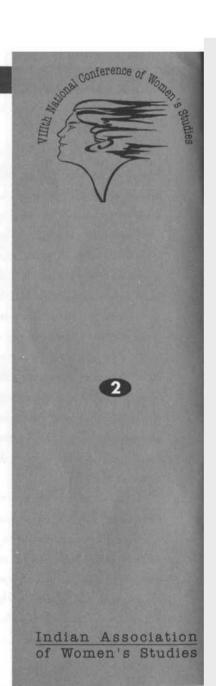
privatisation and commercialisation. The predominant cause of food insecurity for majority of people in the region is lack of access to and control over food production resources and also over production, distribution and consumption systems. The trend of corporatising agriculture, a reverse form of land reform, has led to major changes in cropping patterns.

Under the pressure of SAP, national governments have cut back on a wide variety of subsidies which have adversely impacted on the food security of the poor. Rising debt at both the individual and national levels is further increasing food insecurity. Rising food insecurity is contributing to growing violence in South Asia and to a breakdown in the socio-economic structures of rural South Asia.

Food is central to human survival, cultural identity and sustainable livelihoods. Food should not become the object of profit driven by market forces and human greed. Therefore the issue of food security or insecurity is basically an issue of basic human rights, equity and social justice. Community control over production and distribution resources and systems and the use and protection of indigenous knowledge and bio-diversity are crucial to food security.

Macro and micro aspects of these and other related issues will be presented in this Panel by three speakers. The emphasis of the presentations will be on finding solutions for the problems identified.

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Programme of Plenaries – II

Ecology & Economy

SPEAKERS: Gabriele Dietrich • M.C. Mehta • Subodh Wagle • Sharad Fernando [Sri Lanka]

Catching up with the North syndrome has led us to embark upon the fast track of industrialisation, disregarding the environmental impact as well as the impact of displacement of millions of people, men and women. The selective industrialisation of agriculture, horticulture and fisheries, is taking place rapidly, causing concentration of resources in the hands of a few, and is being used to cater to the superior purchasing power of the Northern consumers. The energy sector and lack of investment in the infrastructure sector has come under severe attack since the New Economic Policy was launched, precisely because these two sectors are the backbone of the intended fast industrialisation which will link the economy to the global markets.

Unfortunately, the craze to integrate all productive activity with the markets creates pressure to make the products competitive and, in return, earn very little for the real producers. The craze blinds businesses as well as policy makers towards the regeneration of natural resources. It involves both maintenance of primary productivity of natural resources, on one hand, and reproduction of labour power on a daily and generation basis, i.e., maintenance of nutritional and health level of all the toiling people, on the other. Markets and technology

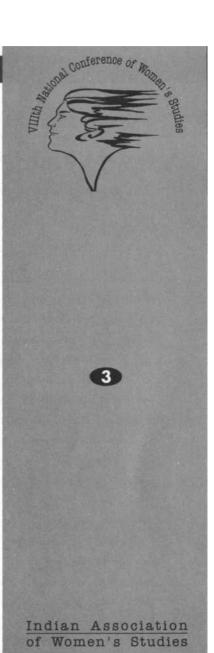
have become magical institutions and are promoted at the cost of other institution-building processes, some of which do aim at the redistribution of assets, and creating access to newly-developed assets. There are also other types of technologies and skills which are low-cost and facilitate decentralised production activities. These activities are more empowering for women and are likely to enable them to keep control over resources.

Failure of the trickle-down theory and consequent marginalisation of the poor due to encroachment of resources by industrialisation processes, can only be stopped if the state intervenes to resolve the contradiction between ecology and economy and helps different institution-building processes where livelihood needs are given priority, and for which initiatives have come from the poor, men and women. These new institution-building processes will empower poor men and women, as well as sustain the ecology and economy in the long term.

Thus while globalisation processes are inevitable to a certain extent, strengthening the poor through protecting their traditional rights over common property resources and, in return, creating their stakes in regenerating those resources, will also help build up their bargaining power vis-a-vis the mainstream economy.

The contradiction between ecology and economy will be posed in terms of four dimensions – issues related to access to land and land-use, crucial issues in the energy sector, laws and their enforcement related to impact on the environment, and contribution of environment movements towards that.

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Programme of Plenaries - III

Our Households, Ourselves:

Bodies, Subsistence & Resources

SPEAKERS: Gita Sen • Prem Chowdhry • Veena Shatrugna • Farida Akhter [Bangladesh]

Survival strategies for most households depend to a crucial extent on the controls that the latter exercise on their women over their labour, their sexuality and their reproductive capacities.

Fifty years of social and economic change have done little to alter this basic imperative of households. Nor have women been able to resist these pressures to any significant degree in spite of an apparently sympathetic state machinery as well as laws that are passed under the constitutional guarantee for equality between sexes. Demographic trends in the 80s exhibit a rather surprising outcome of these contradictions: the sex ratio of the population has fallen further although the expectation of life of Indian women has gone up faster than that of men. In other words, Indian women's chances of survival are improving faster than men's but increasingly fewer

of them are around to enjoy the privilege. This inconsistency has roots that go deep in our history and culture which need to be probed further.

Public policies vis-a-vis women are also fraught with similar contradictions; more and more, they pay lip service to ideas of women's empowerment and to policies for their total health. But at the same time, the growing national and international paranoia about an impending population explosion, specially in this part of the world, leads policy makers to continue to treat women both as the culprits creating the crisis as well as the passive conduits they can use for some drastic measure against it. In the process, women's access to information and to choices in their reproductive behaviour remains severely constrained and their perennial problems, such as high maternal mortality rates, continue to be neglected.

This panel is to discuss issues connected with women's chances of survival and their strategies for acquiring sovereignty over their own lives and functions.

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of Women's Studies

Programme of Plenaries - IV

Culture & Resistance

SPEAKERS: Mahasweta Devi • Razia Patel • Ram Bapat • Rawwida Baksh-Soodeen [Trinidad & Tobago]

The last panel will explore issues related to culture and resistance in South Asian communities, both in the subcontinent as well as in the diaspora. Central to this exploration will be an interrogation of notions of nation, nationality and community that are constantly being reconstructed within the subcontinent and comparable notions among immigrant communities abroad. It has been the experience

of those working in the UK, USA and the West Indies that much overt as well as covert violence against women is justified in the name of cultures of subservience and subordination, and a serious interrogation of these cultures is often hampered by pressure to demonstrate a concern for a greater cause of humanity.

This panel hopes to extend the scope of the debate on culture, diversity, resistance and citizenship in ways that broaden the base of collective action.

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5

Intra-household Access to Resources

We have, particularly over the last decade, a wide and diverse range of writings, attempting in their own way to grapple with the phenomenon of intrahousehold access to resources from a gender perspective. These vary from discussions - extending the concepts of entitlements and perceived notions of legitimacy that operate in the spheres of distribution of resources within the family – to analysis – exploring how the notion and the theoretical construct of patriarchy can be fruitfully employed to understand the changing yet survival capacity of inequitable social arrangements. A different but related set of studies documents the experiences of diverse organisations working at the

grassroots which have nevertheless come to a common conclusion that women's empowerment can happen only if special attention is given to women's needs, at least until such time as they are more able to hold their own within their family and community structures.

The conference provides an ideal opportunity to bring together these diverse perspectives to strengthen our understanding of the changing yet continued subordination of women at different levels – theoretical, policy formulation and action programmes.

PADMINI SWAMINATHAN

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Women's Autonomy & Reproduction: Public Policy & Private Lives

Women's low status is at the root of women's low health status. Over 50 years of India's Independence, though there have been steady improvements in several demographic indicators, the perspectives on women's health have remained largely confined to maternal health. Through a lot of lobbying at the Cairo Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Conference on Women, women's groups of the world have attempted to broaden the scope of viewing women's health by coining the terms 'reproductive health' and 'reproductive rights'.

These concepts attempt to move beyond the focus on family planning, albeit in a limited way. However, countries that adopt these terminologies, seem to not necessarily replace the agenda of

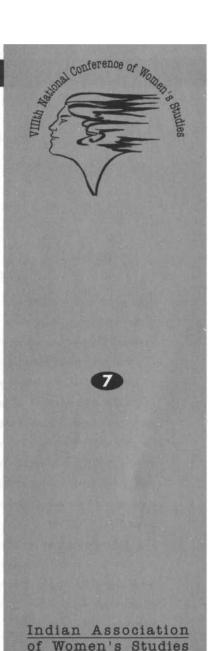
population control. India had adopted the Reproductive and Child Health Programme with a 'target-free approach' as part of the Family Welfare Programme. In the same breath it also has a Draft Population Policy and is planning to launch an aggressive one child family campaign.

The sustained campaigns against invasive contraceptives, coercive population policy and slogans such as 'control over our bodies,' 'reproductive self-determination', 'choices' and so on of the women's movement have received a setback in the recent past.

This subtheme will attempt to examine the challenges that the contemporary scenario is throwing to the women's movement and women's studies.

LAKSHMI LINGAM

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Violence Against Women

The use of violence against women is a striking aspect of the historically unequal power relations between women and men which relies on intimidation and fear to subordinate women. In our country it was the issue of violence that had galvanised the women's movement in the 70s and served to initiate a heightened awareness of gender-based inequalities, of which violence against women was such an extreme manifestation. Efforts of the women's movement over the past two decades, while identifying the range of violence and broadening the definition itself, have focused on:

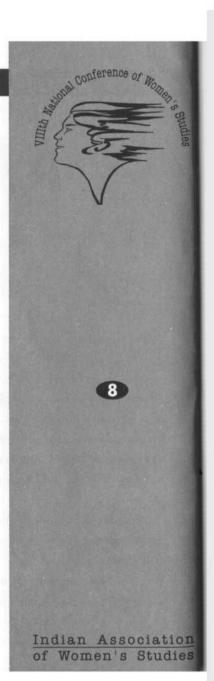
(i) understanding of violence not merely in terms of a 'generic male violence versus female victims' but in terms of how aspects of social location such as caste, class, religion and so on mediate the use of violence against women.

- (ii) the linkages between violence and processes such as economic marginalisation of women, and the aggressive response of fundamentalist forces to perceived transgression of given norms of social behaviour by women; and
- (iii) campaign for legal reform and at the same time a critical scrutiny of legal formulations that are directed against women.

While these efforts have resulted in visibility of violence as a political issue, activists and scholars have had to contend with an increasing social acceptance of violence as well as an alarming increase of violence itself. For the subtheme on violence against women, papers focusing on conceptualisation of the issue in relation to the specificities of socio-economic structures, cultural practices, and state policies, as well as on empirical research are invited.

U VINDHYA

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Water & Forest:

Equity & Sustainability Issues

Shrinking forest cover and diminishing water resources in the country are undermining people's capacity for developing sustained livelihoods. The process of globalisation unleashed in the country is continuously impinging on people's rights to natural resources on the one hand and making the same available to multinationals and local elite for creating private profit on the other. Women are the most burdened by this process. To strengthen people's movements, we need to promote not only

alternative theoretical paradigms, but alternate actions to promote local self-sufficiency leading to sustainable development.

The sub theme will provide space to explore issues of equityaccess and control of natural resources and sustainable paradigms of development.

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9

Impact of Industrialisation & Urbanisation

Land Alienation & Displacement

The major concern of all economies today is accelerated economic development within the context of globalisation. Consequently, the debate needs to be focused upon and located within the context of the current patterns of economic development and their correlation with the goals of growth and social justice.

Empirical evidence reveals that displacement leads to a process of impoverishment through eight recurrent characteristics:

Land is an inheritable livelihood-producing asset and

both incompatible with and incomparable to the

inadequate one-time cash payment principle.

(i) landlessness (ii) joblessness (iii) homelessness (iv) marginalisation (v) morbidity (vi) food insecurity (vii) loss of access to common property resources and (viii) social disarticulation.

Issues that could be restated in detail:

(i) Specific impact on women and children, though

it is quite obvious that they would be more intensely affected;

- displacement and resettlement of slum-dwellers under the guise of improving urban facilities;
- (iii) impact of displacement on child labour;
- (iv) migration from rural to urban areas, and hence an intensification of typical urban problems of 'overpopulated' cities/towns, and their impact on women;
- priorities of investment in a situation of shortage of capital/ resources, and identification of the primary needs of peopleoriented investment; and
- (vi) ideology of mega-projects, perceived from both within and outside the dominant paradigm of development.

RITU DEWAN

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Food Security & Entitlements

Achieving self-sufficiency in the production of foodgrains is certainly an important step towards attaining food security. However, the mechanism for ensuring actual access of different categories of households foodgrains is much more complex than merely attaining the targets on the production front. To a large extent, the complexity is governed by the nature of entitlements at household as well as intrahousehold levels, especially in a gender-specific context. For, as argued by A K Sen, given the aggregate supply, a person's ability to command food is primarily affected by what she/he owns, what exchange possibilities are offered, what is available free, and how much is taken away from her/him. Some of the important facets of the entitlement relationship are: (i) ownership (ii) traditional rights and access to common property resources (iii) market/ institutional support (iv) employment guarantee and (v) social security through public distribution of food.

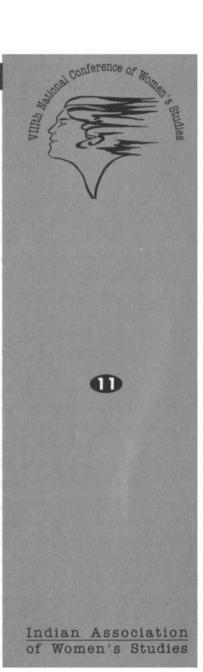
At present, per capita production of foodgrains in India is somewhere around 180 kg per annum, which is certainly higher than the officially accepted norm for minimum calorie requirements. Nevertheless, despite this achievement, a large proportion of people do not have access to the minimum requirement of foodgrains.

In a most simplistic form, the issue is being seen as primarily a problem of the public distribution system. But, viewed from a broader perspective, food security seems to have been endangered by some of the more serious entitlement constraints like declining size and quality of the 'owned' land; limited access to common property resources' inadequate market support needed at the stages of production and/or exchange of foodgrains; uncertainty of employment opportunities particularly under unfavourable weather conditions and the decline in public expenditure on social security schemes, etc.

At the intrahousehold level, the problems could be of gender discrimination, both in terms of ownership, especially of land, as well as in terms of actual food intake. It is, therefore, useful to examine the nature and magnitude of these aspects of entitlement and suggest ways to strengthen them through various interventions. Three types of analyses might be useful in this context (i) conceptual discussion and policy implications of the 'entitlement approach' (ii) interface between entitlement and food security under the changing scenario of the landholding pattern, traditional rights, market development, and the policy interventions for various social security programmes including the PDS; and (iii) empirical validation of the intrahousehold gender discrimination and implications of ownership of land by women under various contextualised situations.

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Globalisation & Culture

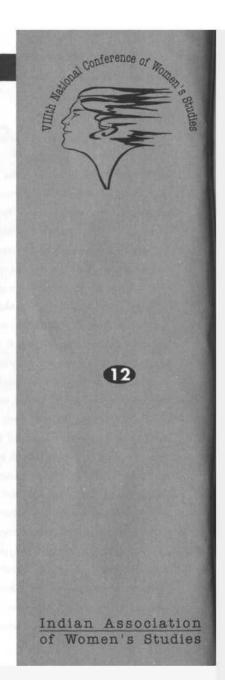
The predominant ideology of globalisation and 'open economy' challenges the goals of economic self-reliance and import-substituting industrialisation upheld by several of the newly independent nations, such as India, which experienced colonial rule. These goals were projected as one of the cornerstones of the Non-Aligned Movement and its struggle for a New International Economic Order (NIEO) by the governments of these nations. It was, however, the women's movement in the developing countries which, since the mid-70s, sought to redefine the concept of 'development' and stressed the need to make gender integral to perceptions of social transformation, within and outside national boundaries.

Today, globalisation, the 'global-village' and ideologies of the 'free market' define what is known as the NIEO, throwing the vast social and cultural terrain into turmoil. Increasingly aggressive assertions by political and social forces basing themselves on majoritarian notions of homogeneous religious 'community', strengthened by media blitz and even by state-run media, have led to the creation of more fissures in the relationship between civil society and the modern state. Disillusionment with the role of the state and promises that it held for the oppressed, have led to the marginalised sections (tribals, dalits, religious

minorities, etc) working out their own future and identities. On the other hand, powerful, propertied, upper-caste sections are tracing their 'origins' and 'traditions,' and constructing images and roles for women, using the modern technologies of the mass media. Modern technologies and feudal ideologies go hand-in-hand in constructing the 'traditional Indian woman'. Slogans of the women's movement (such as nari mukti or women's liberation) are replaced by symbols of nari shakti (female power) which assign women agency to inflict violence on the 'enemy within' – the minorities, low castes, men and women.

Globalisation's byproduct is the large middle class (200 million in India), the consumer and consumed by the 'free market.' Unbridled individualism – the one with 'merit', the 'complete man', the 'woman of substance', the 'grihalakshmi' – are images packaged, homogenised and sold through both the print and visual media even as the lives of the millions who toil, women and men, remain invisible. The free market (increasingly multinational-controlled) sets the standards, projects lifestyles, eating habits and, most of all, reinforces as well as provides public sanction to cultural codes which devalue women. The role of the media in projecting the female body to sell products, the use of dangerous reproductive technologies on poor women in the garb of 'right to choice', the growing trafficking in women and girls increasingly linked to tourism and 'selling the country abroad', all point to the violent environment to which women's lives are abandoned.

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Culture, Representations & Movements

One of the major challenges before Women's Studies is posed by the role of culture and representations in regulating the myth and reality of women's lives. After 50 years of Independence, women in India are facing the threat of being mowed down by homogenising trends coming from two directions. The first is that of majoritarian fundamentalism that tries to usurp the spaces opened up by searches for identity that help the women's movement to ally with other movements for social justice. The second is posed by globalisation that negates the internationalist edges of all democratic struggles on one hand, and the freedom, however

limited, offered by civil society and market on the other. As a result, cultural assumptions and the representations embodying these have acquired noxious prominence in the gender stereotyping that is being reproduced in the simultaneous explosion of media and information.

The sessions in this subtheme welcome analysis and demonstrations of the positive and negative ways in which culture and representations impact on the women's movement.

JASODHARA BAGCHI

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13

Women, Work & Resistance

We are gradually coming to terms with the fact that most women work and that many women, especially the poor among them, have always worked at a range of occupations. Women are sometimes rewarded for their labour but, in many cases, intangibly. They strive to meet social expectations and are promised physical and social security. The promise is often broken and women end up with too small a share of the social product.

Since it is by the reward they earn and not by the effort they expend that performers of work are valued, women remain cast as secondary workers. They are thought to work less, or less effectively and efficiently. One means of combating this stubborn fiction is to delve into the complexities of the very notion of work to understand the specific mystification around

it. What does work mean for women? Clearly, it is not only the intrinsic nature of the particular task that is significant in this regard. The conditions in which women undertake their tasks is equally crucial.

Work, then, is socially and historically constituted. Since such a constitution is the key to the process of expropriation of women's labour, the constitution is itself a central arena of contestations. Resistance – both by women and to women – is critical in shaping the processes and organisation of work. Equally, the gendered terms set on work are enforced through patterns of exclusion which in turn invoke different and gendered modes of resistance.

SAMITA SEN

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The State & Sharing of Political Space

There is an apparent creation of 'political space' for women in decision-making by the passing of the 72nd and 73rd Amendment Bills. To what extent have these 'institutional props' helped women to become more effective in their role as decision makers? The tremendous opposition to the 81st Amendment from various political parties and the let-down by the present government speaks volumes for the political will of male politicians. Are questions of caste and gender justice really opposed to each other? The appalling figures of women candidates that finally contest elections and get elected exposes the real will of political parties.

The rapidly increasing communalisation and criminalisation of politics, on the other hand, leads to a shrinking of political space created by these legislations and effective participation by elected women. What really is the nature of the state? What are going to be our survival strategies and tactics for retaining our sovereignty? These are some of the questions that we need to ask ourselves.

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B

Videodrome

'Survival and Sovereignty' has been a concern with independent film makers and media groups. The Conference will provide space for the presentation of video films related to the theme of the Conference.

The film sessions will run concurrent to the subtheme sessions for three days.

A final selection of films accepted for screening will be made after previewing all entries and the same will be communicated in the last week of April. Films than cannot be accommodated will be returned by registered post.

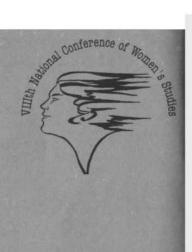
Film makers and organisations are invited to send entries
on or before 31st March, 1998 on VHS, along with a one page abstract,
by registered post/speedpost/courier to:

Radha Mishra, Department of Communication and Media for Children,
College of Home Science, SNDT Women's University,

Karve Road, Pune - 411 029.

Please also send us your complete mailing address.

IAWS cannot take any responsibility for loss of films in transit.



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Structure of the Conference

Day I: Saturday, 30th May, 1998

WELCOME SPEECH

Pushpa Bhave, President, Maharashtra Stree Abhyas Vyaspeeth Nirmala Banerjee, President, Indian Association of Women's Studies

Panel 1: Stable Livelihoods vs. Pursuit of Profit

LUNCH

Sub Themes and Video Films

Session - I

Cultural Programme: Sushama Deshpande, Neela Bhagwat

Day II: Sunday, 31st May, 1998

Feminist Walk

Panel II : Ecology and Economy

LUNCH

Subthemes and Video Films

Session - II

Cinema Screening at the Film Archives

Day III: Monday, 1st June, 1998

Panel III : Our Households, Ourselves

LUNCH

Subthemes and Films

Session - III

Annual General Body Meeting of the Indian Association of Women's Studies

Day IV: Tuesday, 2nd June, 1998

Panel IV : Culture and Resistance

LUNCH

Closing Plenary: Subtheme Reports • Vote of Thanks



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Special Events

Cultural Programme

Sushama Deshpande

Presents

VYAY ME SAVITRI

A one woman show on Savitribai Phule

A Hindustani Vocal Recital

"FEMINIST COMPOSITIONS"

by Neela Bhagwat

Feminist Walk

Morning Processions originating from four points and assembling at Savitribai Phule's House in the inner city where she started the first school for girls, with banners, "Educate Your Daughters"

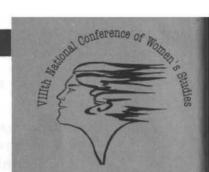
Cinema Screening at Film Archives

- 1. Woman in the Mirror: A Cuban film, interviewing a ballerina: made in the Cuban Ballet School (20 mins)
- 2. The Room: A 10 minutes dance film French
- Riddles of the Sphinx: A film by activist Laura Mulvey, whose seminal essay launched Feminist Film Studies in the Anglo-Saxon academic world (80 minutes).

Stri Vividha

The VIIIth National Conference will feature Stri Vividha, a learning resource fair.

Stri Vividha is a forum convened by the Comet Media Foundation, Mumbai, to bring together women's groups searching for sustainable alternatives in the production of information and products of different kinds. While Stri Vividha will consist of crafts and book fairs, more importantly it will provide an opportunity for interaction and dialogue between women scholars and women who are practitioners of innovative alternatives in different sectors.



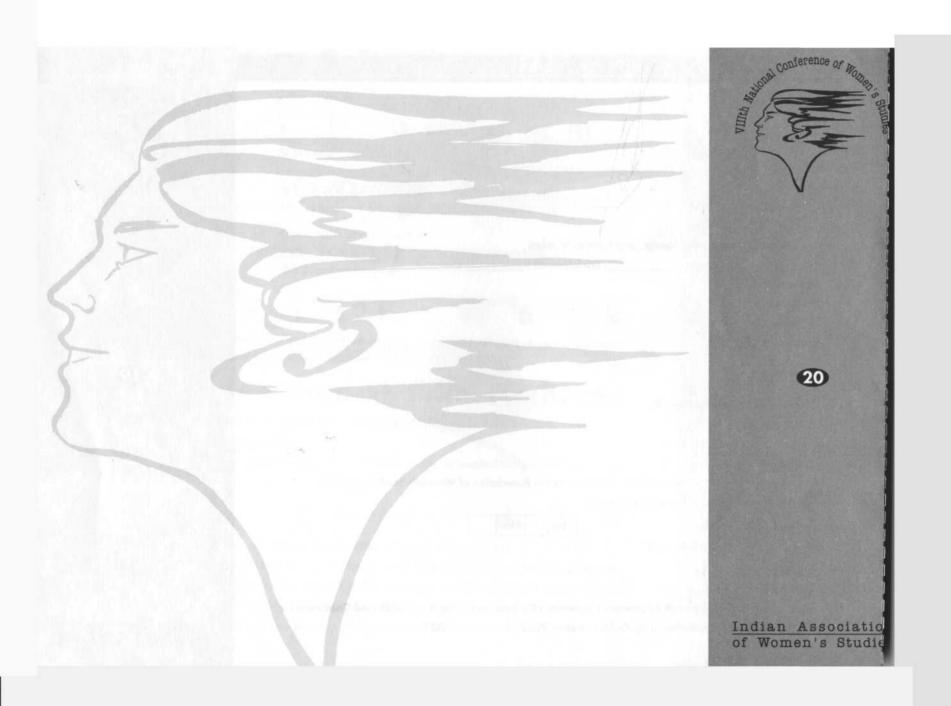
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Conference Registration Form

Please type or use cap	oitals	
Name		
Department/Institution		
Mailing Address		
Phone/Fax/e-mail		
Category of IAWS Mem	bership :	
If you have sent the acco	ompanying Members	ship Form to Mumbai
DD No	Date :	Bank/Branch :
Check Appropriate Box.		
Paper Presenter		
Participant		
Subtheme Coordina	ator	
Panel Coordinator		
Panel Speaker		
Details of Payment of Reg	istration Fees : Rs.	
Demand Draft number	:	
Date		
Drawee Bank & Branch		
Please note : Demand D	rafts to be made ou	t in favour of Indian Association of Women's Studies, payable
at Pune. No other mode		
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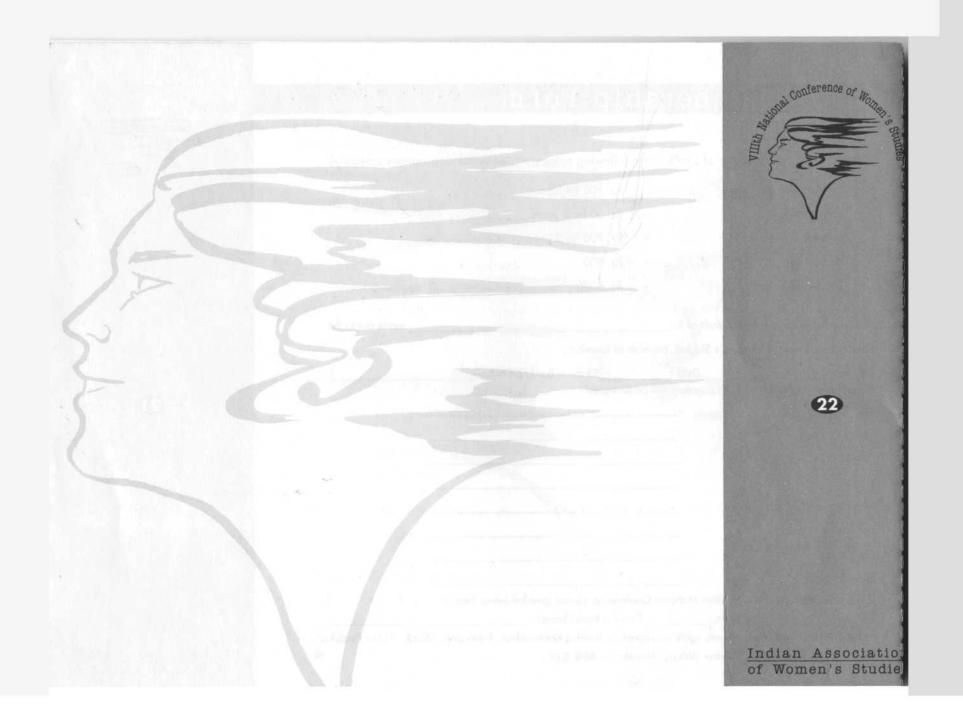


IAWS Membership Form

I would like to be a mem	ber of IAWS in the	e following calegory (please lick appro	opriate category)
Ordinary Member		Rs. 100 for 2 years	
Student Member	-	Rs. 50 for 2 years	
☐ Institutional Member	The same of	Rs. 700 for 2 years	
Life Member	Burna	Rs. 500	
Corporate Member	-	Rs. 5000	
enclose herewith a deman	d draft of Rs.		made out to the
	100		
Indian Association of Wom	en's Studies, payab	ole at Mumbai.	
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General Information

General Information

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT A PAPER at the conference, please send a one page abstract of your paper to :

- a) The relevant sub-theme coordinator (addresses can be found below each sub-theme abstract)
- b) The theme coordinator, KALPANA KANNABIRAN, Asmita Resource Centre for Women, H.No. 45, Road No. 2, West Marredpally, Secunderabad 500 026, A.P. Telefax: 040-7803745. email: kalpana@hd1.vsnl.net.in

To participate in the Conference you must become a member of IAWS if you are not already one. IAWS Membership Forms can be found in this brochure. These must be duly filled and mailed along with a demand draft drawn in favour of "Indian Association of Women's Studies" payable at Mumbai, to Rohini Gawankar (address on form).

DEADLINE FOR PAPER ABSTRACTS: 31ST MARCH, 1998.

Completed Conference Registration Forms along with demand draft drawn in favour of Indian Association of Women's Studies, payable at PUNE to be sent to, POORNIMA CHIKARMANE, Organising Secretary, VIII NCWS (address on form)

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: 1ST MAY, 1998.

Registration fee for outstation participants is Rs. 400/- • Registration fee for local participants is Rs. 200/-

Please Note: IAWS Membership to be sent to Mumbai. Conference Registration to be sent to Pune.

THE VENUE:

SNDT Women's University, Karve Road, Pune is 15 to 20 kms from the airport and less than 5 kms from the Shivaji Nagar Bus Stand and Pune Railway station. All outstation participants will stay in hostels on the university campus.

Registration Counter at the Conference site will open at 10 A.M. on 29th May, 1998.



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