

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF MARRIED WOMEN IN
JAKHAMA VILLAGE**

**DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL
FULFILLMENT FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF
MASTERS OF ARTS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**

**SUBMITTED BY:
THUNGCHANBENI YANTHAN
REGISTRATION NO: 16010848 of 2019
ROLLNO: 19MSOC116**



**ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) JAKHAMA
KOHIMA, NAGALAND
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2021

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY,
ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), JAKHAMA
KOHIMA, NAGALAND.**

DECLARATION OF CANDIDATE

I hereby declare that the dissertation entitled Socio-economic status of married women in Jakhama village in the month of March and April 2021 has been prepared by me under the guidance of Miss Keneilhounuo Usou Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology. This study has been submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Sociology.

I have not submitted this dissertation to any other Universities or Institutions for any other purpose.

Place-

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Date-

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CERTIFICATE

Certified that the dissertation entitled "SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF MARRIED WOMEN IN JAKHAMA VILLAGE" submitted by Thungchanbeni Yanthan, Roll no 19MSOC 116 to the Department of Sociology, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) Jakhama, during the Post-Graduate in Sociology is the out of a Bonafide research work. This work has not been submitted to any other Universities or Institutions for any other purpose. I recommended that the dissertation may be placed to the examiners for consideration of award of the degree of this college.

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(Thungchanbeni Yanthan)

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL BACKGROUND

Although “socio-economic” is a term often used in discourses on public policy and social research, it is less often explicitly defined. Oftentimes it is taken as being synonymous with easily quantifiable economic and demographic characteristics of an individual or a household.

The term “ social status” defines a place within a system of social stratification, while “ socio-economic status “ is generally used to describe a place in an implied hierarchy defined in terms of one or more socio-demographic characteristic such as income, education or occupation. The ordering of different places in the hierarchy is that which is generally held to exist in the minds of the individual people who form the society.

Early studies on social stratification those associated with the “ functionalist” school of sociology (Davis, 1942 & Moore, 1945; Weber,1922) were clear that characteristics such income, education , wealth and the prestige of an individual’s occupation reflected , rather than conferred, their underlying social status. These scholars believed that social status was attained via society’s assessments of the functional importance of men’s occupations. They that what we would now regard as socio-economic characteristics, such as income and wealth, were society’s rewards for performing work thought to be valuable, rather than conferring status upon an individual by their possession alone.

In Naga society, family is the basic social institution. Naga society is both patriarchal and patrilineal and thus descent is traced from the father’s side. As a daughter, wife and mother, Naga women play a vital role with regard to family activities. They are given full responsibility regarding the domestic affairs. Men keep themselves away from the domestic affairs since they consider it below their dignity to indulge in such activities. In traditional Naga society, normally the daughters are very close to their parents, especially

to their mothers. A mother plays a very important role in the family as she performs all household chores apart from growing vegetables, educating her children the art of weaving and handicrafts. She also helps her husband is the real partner of her husband. Inequality between men and women is linked to a complex historical process and is manifested in ways and varied as social and cultural conditions of the community.

In Naga society, a woman has no share in landed properties of her father and of husband except otherwise acquired by her husband after her marriage with them. In Traditional Naga society, women are not permitted to have a share in the property even in the absence of a son. In such cases property goes to the nearest male clan of her father's clan. Naga women were considered as the sustainer and manager of the home. Today, with the coming of Christianity and education enjoy favorable position not only that but also women stand equally with men in every sphere of life. Thus Naga women are becoming wiser and more determined about the removal of the oppressive structure of the society

Angami Naga women play a very significant economic role within and outside the family where they be termed as the backbone of the society. In traditional society, women were confined to the four walls of the house. In Angami culture, no women were allowed in the decision-making process or chosen as an elder or chief. Women were excluded even from the meetings meant to select the chief or leaders. Women perform household chores, women carry out major agricultural activities collect fuels and others articles from the jungle, and carries water, looks after the children and the domestic animals. But all the communal properties were controlled by the clan elders and these clan elders were usually males and not females. There are always imbalances in giving privileges and opportunities between men and women.

A mother in every Angami Naga family is responsible so many works such as feeding the children and animals , cooking, fetching water, collecting firewood, collection of vegetables, washing, gardening, housecleaning, etc. From the traditional time men seems to have 'specific work' in the family, whereas women do not have that and thus women have to do the rest of the work. Even when it comes to cultivation labor it is always the women who work more hours than men. All the necessary equipment of the field were carried by women. The condition of women was pathetic when it comes to agricultural

work, because women are the one who does all the work. Even after a heavy work in the field once a woman got back home, she started to do all the work without the help of her husband. The men folk were the 'honor' and 'fame' seekers in the village and women were left alone to do all the work in the and at home. The male members were known to the people through their hunting skills and their art of warfare. Women were left alone with their children all by themselves to do all the household chores and the agricultural activities.

Jakhama is a large village with a total of 842 families residing. It has a population of 5216 of which 3576 are males while 1640 are females as per the population census of 2011. Agriculture is the backbone of the village economy. More than 75% of the Jakhama people are engaged in agriculture. Terrace cultivation is the most prominent form of agriculture because of its hilly terrain area and sufficient water. The villagers also practice livestock cultivation like rearing of pigs, potato, cauliflower, fruits and other cash crops as an indispensable source of income. Cultivation is considered as the main occupation among the villagers. The contribution of women is greater than men when it comes to agricultural economy. Women play an important role within their social, cultural, economic and religious ways of life in the society. When it comes to household chores and field works, women are very active and hardworking. Women are really hard working and are responsible for all the house chores and agricultural activities. Women do all the work even without the help of men.

Being in a patriarchy society, the father is the Head of the family and all authority lies within his hand. During the ancient days, women were mostly confined to household chores and child care. Some parents even deny formal education to a girl child as she cannot contribute to her family's economy after her marriage. And also they are not allow to part-take in any matters regarding about village policy or decision making. Women can only inherit movable properties due to customary practices. But during the past few decades, with the coming of Christianity and education, the status of women has drastically changed as now education is provided to both male and female child.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

In Jakhama village, people are mainly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood. Women play an important role in the household subsistence, in labor work and so on. Living in a patriarchal society, women are given less importance as compared to men. Although, women work as equally and as efficiently as men, they are often paid less. Women are the ones who work really hard and do more than half of the total agricultural work, but their work is not as valued as it should be. Therefore, low socio-economic status and its correlates such as poverty, poor health, lower educational achievements etc, ultimately affect our society. Thus, it is important to study the socio-economic conditions of women in order to uplift the social and economic status of women as women play a significant role in every aspect of the society.

1.2 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1. To study the socio-economic status of married women in Jakhama Village.
2. To examine the factors influencing the socio-economic status of women in Jakhama Village.
3. To evaluate the level of education and occupational status of married women.

1.3 AREA OF STUDY

The present study is Jakhama village which is under Kohima district of Nagaland. Jakhama is a Southern Angami Naga village located 18 km south of Kohima, the capital of Nagaland. The Jakhama has a population of 5216 of which 3576 are males while 1640 are females as per population census 2011. The village has total of 842 families residing with 5216 population. Jakhama population of children with age 0-6 is 495 which make up to 10.54% of total population of village. Average sex ratio of Jakhama village is 1040 which is higher than Nagaland state average of 931. Child sex ratio as per the census is 964, higher than Nagaland average of 943. The literacy of Jakhama village was 84.38% compared to 79.55% of Nagaland as per 2011. Male literacy stands at 89.12% while

female literacy rate was 79.87%. There are eight khels in the village namely; Pfiidia, Phema, Kulnu, Zhotso, KhatsoNatso, Naki, Sophietso, and Purtso.

1.4 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The socio-economic aspect certainly exerts a profound impact on the lives of individuals, and their socio-economic status may influence their future achievements, level of education, and degree of financial security. The results of this study will serve as a guide for those individual and institutions who are interested to know about the socio-economic status of married women in Jakhama village. This study will generate a basic information and data which might be helpful. And this study also may be helpful for the NGOs and other organization to implement appropriate policies, in order to improve the socio-economic status of married women in Jakhama village.

1.5 LIMITATIONS

This study covers only a small geographical area known as Jakhama village, under kohima district. The main focus was on the socio-economic status of married women in Jakhama village. And this study's main target group was only married women as due to certain constraints unmarried women were not included in the study. Therefore, the generalization of this study may not be applicable in other part of the nation.

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

O.P MEENA (2012) Stated that simply encouraging women to resist the wishes of men would not only fail, but would create mistrust of any goodwill attempts from “the outside” to help rural communities. Women will gain power only when both men women begin to respect and accept the contribution of women .Developing women’s capacity for income generation without threatening men is key, Education plays an important role in bringing about awareness on women’s rights. When boys and girls grow up with mutual respect and understanding of their capabilities and roles in the society, women are more likely to find their rightful place within the family and the community.

Das (2012) explained that the tribal women enjoy autonomy at their household level, especially in social aspects and at some point enjoy equal rights along with their husbands in economic matters. But due to low literacy rate and unemployment the community participation of the women is inactive and autonomy levels are very low.

Awias (2009) stated that the tribal women play a major role in the co-management of natural, social, economic resources and crop production, livestock production, horticulture and post harvest operations but they remain backward because of their traditional values, illiteracy, superstitions, indecisions making, social evils and any other cultural factors.

Krishna Bhowmik (2006) explained through his work that women even in the present age, are suffering from many disabilities and discriminations and nowhere do women enjoy equal status with men. Moreover, poverty overlaid with longstanding pattern of discrimination, create living conditions for women almost too harsh through the restrictions of their access to basic services. They are economically dependent and vulnerable, politically and legally powerless.

MeenaRazvi and Gene L. Roth (2004) without socio-economic equality for women in poor sectors of India, the impacts of efforts at development cannot become fully realized. Socio-economic development can both empower women and raise the status of the Indian

economy. Women need employment justice. The needs of women in poor sectors of India should be included in a national approach to workforce development.

Barber and Odsean (2007) also indicated gender differences in that men were more confident than women in making investment decisions, but this proved as overconfidence, leading them to trade more often than, reducing their returns. Saving provide the economic security of a safety net. By transferring resources from the present to the future, individuals are prepared to face unexpected and irregular financial circumstances. Second, saving leads to economic development accumulation of wealth that helps individuals to improve their living standard and to respond to new opportunities.

Devki Jain (2016) explained about multiple role of women and the need for social infrastructure. Women community leadership will need to be identified and included in committees for various sectors, to ensure that women are included for planning and sectors other than social development like infrastructure, employment, natural resources etc. Work in the informal economy is hidden and women remain invisible and unrecognized since their work for the community and their own family is undervalued.

Kamala (2016) in her article talks about women empowerment in the Indian context. Women must be allowed to set her own agenda and priorities instead of the male folk deciding her fate. The education should make them feel good and infused joy in them not be cumbersome and boring. Empowerment of women has to be done at all levels and in all sections. We need effective networking between those working at the micro level with those working at the macro level.

Luthra Geeta (2016) stated that women empowerment is a constant battle which cannot progress without cooperation from the society as a whole. What is required is not only a mindset because women represent half the world's population and gender inequality exists in every nation. Until women get the same opportunities as their counterpart the society cannot progress.

Ruhan (2012) talks about her neglected role in economic development where they don't get their desired respect and importance. Their natural wages are less compared to the

males since the whole system runs around the males. Her education, her likes and dislikes, her dressing, her attitude, even her marriage is decided by the males of her family. In this patriarchy society, the goals should be for both the genders, not exclusively for the males.

Bipin Kumar (2009) Stated that the women been identified as key agents of sustainable development and women's equality and empowerment are seen as central to a more holistic approach towards establishing new patterns and processes of development that are sustainable. Women should be a key aspect of all social development programmes and a number of programmes have been initiated by the Indian government for empowering women. Some of the measures which will empower women should include changes in the mobility in the social ladder changes in women's labour patterns, changes in women's access to control over resources.

Dr. Mukesh Kumar Shrivastava (2016) stated that the socio-cultural empowerment of women, particularly rural women is crucial for the development of India as well as of North East India. But the socio-cultural position, economic engagement and political participation of women in north east India are different. Due to their role in economic activities and their visibility in public spaces, women in the north east are often considered to be more empowered than their counterparts. It is worthwhile to note that at a time when women are increasingly entering the political domain through panchayats, the north east Indian women continue to be kept out of the traditional decision-making bodies like Durbars and village councils in some of the states, particularly in the sixth schedule areas.

Mohapatra PC (1988) stated that the economic role played by women is difficult to quantitate because of their lifestyle that combines domestic work and unpaid family or low- paid outside farm or cottage industry labor. Besides these tasks, women usually care for dairy animals, and carry water and firewood. Women are denied education because they are not expected to do responsible work, then they are denied employment because they are not educated. Their work is counted as worth only half that of men, and based on this assumption, they are paid less than men.

CHAPTER -3

METHODOLOGY

This study follows various sources in collecting authentic research data.

3.1. SAMPLING METHOD

This study was conducted using purposive Random sampling methods .The total number of respondents was 30 .The sample is randomly drawn from jakhama village, age group 25-75, out of which 24 were females and 6 males .This is because the main focus was on the status of married women.

3.2. DATA COLLECTION

The main source of data collection of this study has been both primary and secondary. Primary data was collected from the field through structured interview schedule. This study has also been conducted through observation and questionnaire method.

3.3 DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

After collecting data from the inter scheduled and questionnaire from various respondents, the data was analyzed in accordance with the outline laid down for the research plan. The data analysis has been collected through interpretation and suitable mathematical, statistical tool like tabulation, percentage, editing and classification.

CHAPTER-4
SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF MARRIED WOMEN IN
JAKHAMA VILLAGE

4.1 MARITAL STATUS

Only married women of age group 25-75 are the respondents of the present study. Marital status plays a significant role in determining the socio-economic status of women. Marital status change the women's status and their role. Not only that, it also increases the work load of the women. The marital status of the respondents is shown in the Table.

S.N	Marital Status	Number of Respondents	Percent
1	Married	29	96.67%
2	Widowed	1	3.33%
3	Divorced	-	-
Total		30	100

Source: field work, 2021

The above table shows that out of 30 sample households, 29 (96.67%) of them are found to be married and only 1 (3.33%) are found to be widowed. Whereas, the number of divorcees were Nil.

4.2 FAMILY STRUCTURE

In Traditional society Family act as an important agency of social control. Family play a vital role in controlling over its members as result they became good human being. But in modern days, this function of family has drastically changed. It fails to control over its

members as a result this family became disorganized. It has become more of a custodian of culture. In olden days, family plays a very important role in shaping over its members as well as the family was considered as the main centre of production. It produces almost everything. But nowadays, family remain only a consumption unit rather than centre of production. Most of its economic functions are being performed by the factory and industry, fulfilling the needs of family unit. They prefer to work in offices rather than agricultural activities, declining economic importance of family. Traditional family performs a number of educational functions for its members. Family was the first school for their children. Children learn their primary education and some occupational education from family. But at present the role of family in education has changed a lot. School, college, Universities and technical institutions has taken place of family. It has become impossible to acquire modern education from family. It has changes a lot in the functions of family. In previous times, family play a significant role in the process of socialization of the child. The child attains a full-fledged personality. But now, a lot of changes occur in the socialization functions of family. In morden era, family plays very less role in socializing it's children. Family used to protect its members against all odds. It is primary duty of family to provide security and protection to old, aged, handicapped etc. But now a days the role of family has been taken over by other agencies such as hospital, clinics, old age home etc. It has changed a lot in the protective functions of family. Because of several changes in the functions of family its importance has also reduced considerably. A well-functioning family provides financial security for everyone living in the household. Healthy families produce people who make positive contributions to the community.

Most of the jakhama people live in nuclear family but there some who still live in joint/extended family. The family structure of sample household is presented in the table below.

S.N	FAMILY TYPE	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENT
1	Nuclear	28	93.33%
2	Joint/Extended	2	6.67%
Total		30	100

Source: field work 2021

The above table shows that 93.33% households comprised nuclear family and the remaining 6.67% of the households are joint/extended family. Thus, the family structure of jakhama people are more in nuclear type than joint/extended in the study area. Thus, in the study area it is found out that the function of the family in today's society is multi-functional. It provides individual family members with the basic necessities required to have a healthy family and happy life. Similarly, it is found out that the joint/extended family provides comfort, support, shelter, and financial support for the members outside of the nuclear family.

4.3 ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE FAMILY

In the study area, it is found that the womenfolk play a vital role in the family. As compared to the olden days, the women have gained a better position in the family where she is allowed to voice out her opinions with regard to family planning and other matters concerning the family. She is the one who looks after the well-being of the family and looks after each one of the members.

In the present scenario the mother in the family are given the equal opportunity as the father in matters to various family decisions. Concerning the education of the children, she also plays a huge part just as the father does. The decision making with regard to the schooling of the children varies from one family to the other. In some families, both the

mother and the father plays equal role in deciding for the schooling of the children while in some families the father plays the major role in deciding matters of the schooling of the children. Same goes with matters regarding the purchasing of educational materials and payments of the fee, where the women aren't allowed as much as the men in deciding such matters. Such matters are mostly decided by the father in the family in most of the household. As for the purchasing and management of the uniforms of the children, the mother plays the vital role and makes decisions in this matters comparing to the father.

In the study area, with regard to the purchasing of goods and commodities for the family, the mother plays the prominent role and she is the one who looks into such matters mostly compared to the father. She is the one who looks after the needs of the family and gets the necessary items required for the family and looks after each of the members of the family. Regarding the lending or borrowing of the money, both the mother and the father makes equal decision in unison and decides whether to borrow or lend money. Both men and female plays the same role in matters such as this. Here even the women are given equal position as men to decide in this matter. Given that most of the families in the study area are into agriculture for their livelihood, in matters for selling of the agricultural products the family. Both the men and the women plays equal role in making various decisions concerning this matter. For the income pattern of the family, women are not allowed to take part in decision making as much as the men. In most of the household, it is the father who makes the decisions for the income of the family.

While in the present scenario, the women are seen rising equally to men with regard to earning for themselves. In most household, the women are seen holding equal positions as men where she is allowed to chase her dreams by pursuing higher education and getting a job and being independent. The mother in most household are seen holding a job where she plays a role equal to the father in bringing money for the family. In some household the men are seen very supportive of their wife where he encourages her and supports her in holding a job and shares equal position with his wife. There are not much household where the women are not encouraged or supported by the husband, such cases are only few and are seen mostly with the older generation. In the present times, most of the husband in the family are seen very supportive of their wife and allows her to have

equal position equivalent to him in the family. Even the daughters in the family are allowed to enjoy equal position as the son where she is not restricted to pursue further education as the son. In the present generation, there are not much restrictions of the women or the daughter seen in the family.

4.4 THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC POSITION OF MARRIED WOMEN IN JAKHAMA VILLAGE

In the study area, its main focus was only on married women age group 25-75. The age group 40-75 is found to be more illiterate. In previous times, women were confined within the four walls. They were associated with taking care of the household chores. Most of the agricultural activities were done by the women. Women were expected to be more responsible for things that men are not. From a very early age, a girl child is taught how to work in household chores and help in the fieldwork. Women carry out major agricultural activities collect firewood, carries water, and looks after the children and so on. But the communal properties controlled by the clan male elders. When it comes to agricultural activities women were given more works comparing to male. Women were the one who really works hard and does all the work. But now, the orthodox concepts and practices have been developed. As compared to olden days, the manual works has been done together. Women are given equally opportunities to excel in their own interest except in some typical family. Now, as the women have become more independent, they don't rely much on the husband and family support. Women are now self-sufficient, well aware and financially independent. They have attained immense success in every field. With the encouragement of co-education, women are now marching side by side with men , in every walk of life.

Modern education use to compel woman more and more to leave the narrow sphere of the family circle and work side by side for the betterment of the community. From keeping the home safe and clean to portraying excellent outcomes in the workplace, a woman can do it all by herself. Their capabilities must not be underestimated based on their gender,

and they should be given equal opportunity to display their talents. We can see a slow and steady rise of women in all fields of importance. Women of today are not just confined within the four walls of the house, but they are now able to step out from their comfort zones to create their own images in the outside world as well. Women are given full freedom in her own interest. Women empowerment has taken place which has opened new doors for the women to thrive and shine, they are no more confined within four walls of the house. Women are given equal opportunities economically and socially. Besides managing household works, women are also engaging themselves in the service sectors. They have started showing interest in setting up their own business. They are playing an important role in family and society. Most of the respondents are found to be engaging in various organisations such as Self-help group (SHG), Mother association, VDB council and so on. Therefore, married women in Jakhama village enjoy a favourable socio-economic position. They are equally treated and given equal opportunity in every aspect of social life.

4.5. EDUCATIONAL STATUS

Education is an important aspect that plays a huge role in the society. Women constitute almost half of the population in the world. Education plays a very important role in the overall development. Education is an important key to success. Empowering women would become more pertinent if women were well informed and educated. Women need to understand their rights so that they can walk at par with men. It not only helps in the development of half of the human resources, but in improving the quality of life at home and outside. Educated women not only tend to promote education of their girl children, but also can provide better guidance to all their children. Women play a significant role in society such as a wife, a mother, a sister, a caretaker, a nurse etc. They have a better understanding of the social structure and are more compassionate towards the need of others. An educated mother will weigh the importance of female education, the same as boys. Education is a tool that builds confident and ambitious women. Women become aware of their rights and raise their voice against exploitation, discrimination or any form of injustice. Education plays a vital weapon in eliminating many social crimes and evils against women prevailing in society. She stands up for the injustice perpetrated against women.

in the family or society against other girls or women. Education is necessary because women are first teacher of their children .A well educated mother can shape and mould the career of her child. People need a good education in order to survive in this competitive world. Education is the indicator of social status of women. Women education helps them to be more independent and empowered in their life. Education helps them to grow their mind and status. Education helps them to be well aware of their duties and rights as well as realize their responsibilities to contribute towards development of the society. Also education for women is very important because it enables them to improve their status in the community.

The educational status sample household is presented in the table below.

Educational Status	Number of Respondents	Percent
Illiterate	16	53.33%
Primary	8	26.67%
Secondary	5	16.67%
Bachelor and above	1	3.33%
Total	30	100%

Source: field work, 2021

The above table shows that out of 30 female population 53.33% are found to be illiterate, primary 26.67%, secondary, and 3.33% of them hold bachelor and above. In the study area, the female populations of age group 50-75 are found to be more illiterate than age group 25-50. Lack of proper women education may be because of various social restrictions against women. Back then, during their time, since there are male child in the family educational preferences were given most preferably to the male instead of the daughter. This also caused a huge division between the educational percentages between the two genders. The girl child was rather expected to learn the household chores including weaving, and to manage a family as a wife and a mother. But in the present

scenario, the status of women has changed drastically in the educational field as compared to the old days. Now privileges for education are provided equally to both the male child and a female child. Women are now seen pursuing higher education by studying abroad and pursuing their dream with the full support of the family. There are not many inequalities in the preferences of educating a male child instead of a female child in current context. Also the government has initiated various schemes in the form of scholarships for a female child to support her education.

4.5. OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

There has been a remarkable increase in the number of women going out of the four walls of household and workers. In some fields the number of women employ is steadily increasing. Most of the Jakhama people depend on agriculture for their income and employment. Besides agriculture they are also engaged running hostels and hotels businesses as there are many students studying in the nearby college. Along with that they also indulge in carpentry, service, wage labor, homemaker and others.

The table shows the occupational pattern of sample household which is as shown below:

Activities	Number of Respondents	Percent
Agriculture	15	50%
Service	1	3.33%
Business	2	6.67%
Wage Labor	5	16.67%
Homemaker	6	20%
Others	1	3.33%
Total	30	100

Source: field work, 2021

Out of 30 female population 50% are found to be engaged in agriculture, 3.33% in service, 6.67% in business, 16.67% in wage labor, 20% in homemaking, 3.33% in others and none of them are found to be engaged in carpentry. In previous times men dominated the society while women were secondary to them. They were confined within the four walls and do all the household chores. But nowadays, women are engage in various activities such as small business including hotels, shop and so on. Besides managing household works women are also engaging themselves in the service sector like hospitals,

schools, banks etc. Women are becoming more noticeable and prominent in the professionals as well as the public spheres. They are no longer considered as a financial liability; they have become independent and are the earning members of the family.

4.6. MAIN CAUSE/REASON BEHIND OF THEIR LOW SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF RESPONDENTS

Socio-economic affects overall human functioning including our physical and mental health. Inadequate education affect the woman achievement, perpetuating the low socio-economic status of the community. Education is an important tool that plays a huge role in the society. In olden days a girl child were not given the equal opportunity to go to schools, this is the reason why the socio-economic status of woman is very low. Therefore, an equal opportunity should be given to a women in order to develop their social prestige, self-confidence and feeling of equalities.

The respondents share some of their opinion regarding about their low socio-economic status of married women in Jakhama village which can be seen as below:

S.N	Causes	Number of Respondents	Percent
1	Lack of Education	17	56.67%
2	Patriarchy	8	26.67%
3	Culture	1	3.33%
4	Inferiority	1	3.33%
5	Lack of Awareness	3	10%
Total		30	100%

Source: Field Work, 2021.

In the study area, the higher percentage 56.67% of the respondents said that the main cause of their low socio-economic status is due to the lack of education. 26.67% of them said that patriarchy system is the main cause of this low status, 3.33% of them said that it was because of inferiority and 10% said that it was due to the lack of awareness.

Though, patriarchy system are still valid and practice into this day, unlike the ancient days, women are given more privileges and allow to excel their dreams and goals. Many women have held jobs and do an employee for their living without depending much on their husband. Instead of confining into four walls, doing household chores, they go out and explore in their own interest. Including, many groups has developed like mother association, Self Help Group(SGH), conduct seminars and gives training in specific fields. But in some families, there's still exist of domination of men. Therefore, the injustice of concepts and practices should be erased and treat women equally as the men.

Inferiority is very common in every parts of the society. And it happens especially in those families who are uneducated wife. They become voiceless and let the husband rule over the family. They become helpless and do whatever the husband decides. So, in order to tackle the superiority towards women, she should be given a good education and provides more opportunities to excel in various kinds of field. Because education is the only solution to control over the domination of men.

In the study area, it is found out that the main reason behind the low socio economic position of married women is because of the culture. In the study area, it is found out that the main reason behind the low socio economic position of married women is because of the culture. Women are pressurize to get married when it reach to an adult stage. They are often expected to be responsible for certain things that men are not. But nowadays women are more liberated and wise in their decisions making. Both men and women are given equally opportunity to excel their interest and goals. Without gender discrimination, both can compete in different kinds of fields.

Lack of awareness or lack of information is another reason for their low socio-economic position. It is necessary to create awareness among the women specially the illiterate ones

inorder to explore their inner talents through various activities. Women should be given more opportunities in giving awareness program such as vocational, skill promotion, seminars, training etc which are very necessary for the women to develop not only for themselves but also for their community.

4.7. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

1.Out of 30 respondents 96.67% of them are found to be married and only 3.33% are found to be widowed. Whereas, the number of divorces were nil.

2.Out of 30 respondents 93.33% comprised nuclear family and the remaining 6.67% of the households are joint/extended family.

3 In the study area, it is found that the womenfolk play a vital role in the family. As compared to the olden days, the women have gained a better position in the family. Both the mother and father plays equal role in deciding for the schooling of the children. Same goes with matters regarding the purchasing of educational facilities and payments of the fee, where the women aren't allowed as much as the men in deciding such matters. Such matters are mostly decided by the father in the family. As for the purchasing and management of the uniforms of the children. Both the father and the mother makes equal decision in unison and decides whether to borrow/lend money. The women are seen rising equally to men with regard to earning for themselves. In most of household, the women are seen holding equal positions as men.

4.Out of 30 respondents 50% are found to be engaged in agriculture,3.33% in service,6.67% in business, 16.67% in wage labor, 20% in homemaker,3.33% in others and none of them are found to be engaged in carpentry. In olden days, women were confined within the four walls do all the household chores. But in modern era, women are progressing. Women are becoming more noticeable in every sphere of social life. They are seen as engaging in field works and started earning for themselves. They are no longer considered as a financial liability; they have become independent and are the earning members of the family.

5. In the study area, out of 30 respondents 56.67% of them said that the main cause of their low socio-economic status is due to the lack of education. 26.67% of them said that patriarchy system is the main cause of their low status. 3.33% of them said that it was because of inferiority and 10% of them said that it was due to the lack of awareness. Unlike the olden days, women were given more privileges and allowed to excel their dreams and goals. Instead of confining into four walls, doing household chores, they go out and explore in their own interest. Including, many groups have developed like Mother Association, Self –Help Group (SHG), conduct seminars and give training in specific fields.

7. In the study area, it is found out that the main reason behind the low socio economic position of married women is because of the culture. In the study area, it is found out that the main reason behind the low socio economic position of married women is because of the culture. Women are pressurized to get married when they reach to an adult stage. They are often expected to be responsible for certain things that men are not. But nowadays women are more liberated and wise in their decisions making. Both men and women are given equally opportunity to excel their interest and goals. Without gender discrimination, both can compete in different kinds of fields.

Lack of awareness or lack of information is another reason for their low socio-economic position. It is necessary to create awareness among the women specially the illiterate ones in order to explore their inner talents through various activities. Women should be given more opportunities in giving awareness program such as vocational, skill promotion, seminars, training etc which are very necessary for the women to develop not only for themselves but also for their community.

CHAPTER-5

CONCLUSION

Thus, in conclusion we can say that the Jakhama women perform a great role and responsibilities height, and they are no longer confined within the boundaries of the walls. They are playing the roles of working woman, an efficient homemaker, and a proud mother and daughter.

In traditional societies, women were confined within the household chores and do all the work. They were considered to be caretakers of home. Women were seen only as housewives who were engaged to cook, clean and take care of their family. Women did not share position with male. They mostly engaged in agricultural activities and their contribution to society was limited and controlled by men. The man is the head of the family; he is responsible for the maintenance of the house and occupies the roles of leadership.

But in modern era, women are progressing. They are becoming more independent, more focused on herself, confident, working, professional, often a businesswoman. They are engaging in various activities like small business including hotels, shop, hostel and so on. They are also engaging in field works to explore their inner talents in order to become independent and earn for themselves. They are no longer expected to be limited to the household work and raising the kids, slowly they are grabbing the top position in all the sectors.

The position of women has changed tremendously and they are able to create a positive impact in the society. Due to the modernization and the advent of the latest technology it widened hope and opportunities for them. They have established themselves socially and economically in almost every field. Women are more focused and have a unique decision making power even at higher level, in the most optimal manner, and at times are in a better position than men. Empowering women can help the society to grow and develop at a faster place.

Therefore, education is one of the ways to spread the message of women empowerment. Education not only educates a person but also helps her realize that she is a vital part to the society. Education not only educates a woman but enables her to take decisions and accept responsibilities at her home and outer world. Education helps a woman to understand her rights to equal treatment like a man in the society...

CHAPTER-6

RECOMMENDATION

- Education is an important tool that plays huge role in the modern industrialized world. So, women's education should be encouraged. A girl child must be given equal opportunity in order to develop their social prestige, self-confident and feeling of equality.
- Women need employment justice. The Government has to create a platform in this area for a woman such as vocational training, skill improvement, etc. Opportunities for employment should be given equally to both men and women.
- The women should be given freedom in any things which interest her and should not be confined within the four walls of her room.
- People should start believing that motherhood is an option and the decision solely depends on a woman.
- Women should be given equal opportunity regarding the developmental activities of the village. The opinions of womenfolk should also be included with matters concerning the village.
- Since agriculture is the main occupation for the people of the concerned area of study, the Government should take necessary actions for the betterment or improvement of the farmers of that area. The farmers should be encouraged and also providing adequate and timely loans on easy forms and process in order to buy necessary agricultural tools and machineries. Providing other necessary and important information and awareness through radios and televisions for the farmers should also be initiated.
- Women should be given equal opportunities economically and socially.
- Women should be given equal opportunities for financial independence and personal development.

- Women should be treated equally as men in order to create feelings of equality.
- Equality with regard to the payment of work for labor for both men and women.

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Appendix

Bio-data

- 1) Name
- 2) Age
- 3) Sex
- 4) Family Type
 - a) Nuclear ()
 - b) Joint/extended ()
- 5) Marital Status:
 - a) Married ()
 - b) Widow ()
 - c) Divorce ()
- 6) Your Education:
 - a) Illiterate ()
 - b) Literate ()
 - i) Primary ()
 - ii) Secondary ()
 - iii) Bachelor and above ()
- 7) Your Occupation:
 - a) Agriculture ()
 - b) Business ()
 - c) Homemaker ()
 - d) Service ()
 - e) Wage Labor ()
 - f) Tailoring ()
 - g) Others ()

Questionnaire

1. How many children do you have?
2. Do your children go to school?
3. How many school/college going children do you have?
4. Do your son and daughter receive equal educational facilities?
5. Who makes most decisions on the choice of schools or other educational facilities such as tuition, uniforms etc?
6. Are your opinion taken into consideration while taking major family decision?
7. Was your opinions taken into account during your marriage?
8. Who is the earning member of your family?
9. Do you contribute towards the income of the family?
10. Who generally keeps the household money?
11. Who manages the finances better?
12. Does your family engage in any agricultural activities?
13. Do you lend/borrow money?
14. Are your opinions taken into consideration regarding money matters in the family?
15. Who makes most decisions about expenses for home purchase, improvement or repair?
16. Who makes most decisions in your household about how to spend money?
17. Who makes decisions in your household about how much to save?
18. As women do you face any problem/difficulty in the family /society?
19. Do you agree that a wife has the right to express her opinion when she disagrees with what her husband is saying?
20. Is the opinion of womenfolk in matters regarding village activities?
21. Who takes major decisions regarding the developmental activities of your village?
22. Are you a member of any SHG in your village?
23. What according to you is the main cause/reason behind the low socio-economic status of married women in your village?
24. Do you think married women in your village can achieve better socio-economic position?