

PATRIARCHY AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN SOUTH

ASIA: A CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

The term violence against women is not novel to us. Violence has been the analogous to human progression and growth. As civilizations moved ahead and human population surged, violence became a useful means for asserting and securing control over the restricted resources the world had to offer. The human mind has a slant towards classifying information; therefore, one finds numerous lists on everything. The professionals of the modern world call it organization. This classification has often come up as segregation of humanity; us versus them; whites and blacks; Germans and Jews and so on. All these categories cropped up because of difference, what we call diversity today to appear polite and correct. The biggest difference that humanity witnessed was being born different, what was a biological difference became a social one because men and women have different bodies and added to it that women gestate pregnancies. To man civilization is superior to nature, rational over emotional, so women were delegated to the natural sphere. Their world became the one where male domination played out. This system we call patriarchy. In South Asia the violence perpetrated against women paints a gory picture. Patriarchy is so dominant that it isn't repulsive to the minds that practice it- they even go to the extent of making women parade around naked or get women gang raped to avenge or any other pretext that they conceive as convenient.

KEYWORDS: Patriarchy, Violence, Women, South Asia, Domestic Violence, Oppression