

Status of Buddhist women in India

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India is very famous for its heritage and cultural diversity. People of different religions are living together from hundreds of years. The status of the women in the society varies from one religion to another. Women make the country developed because they hold the rope of the cradle. Since, India is the motherland of Lord Buddha and Buddhism was in hibernation before Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's adoption of Buddhism in 14th October 1956. It is an attempt to look into the status of Buddhist women in India as compare to the other religion women. The objective of the study is to see the levels and differentials in the status of the Buddhist women among themselves with different socio-economic and demographic characteristics. The determinants affecting the status of women are studied. For the present study the National family Health Survey-III, (Government of India, 2005-06) data have been utilized for analysis. The Women Autonomy Index has been created as well as bivariate and multivariate statistical techniques are used. The analysis revealed that the status of Buddhist women is better than the Hindu women but lower than the Christian women. The position of the Buddhist women is quite better in the society. The status of the Buddhist women among themselves is varying due to education, age, wealth, place of residence, working status, husband's occupation, and his education. The education, working status women impact on the status of the women is positive. On the other hand, decision making power of the women in household activities is higher.

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