



AMRIT MAHOTSAV NATIONAL SEMINAR
FORGOTTEN HISTORIES OF WOMEN IN
THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE IN RAJPUTANA STATES

21ST APRIL 2022

Organised by
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND INDIAN CULTURE
University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

In collaboration with
Academic Cell,
Rajasthan University Women's Association

Sponsored by
Indian Council of Social Science Research



cordially invites you to the
INAUGURAL FUNCTION

Chief Guest:

Mr. Rajiv Arora

Chairman, Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation, Govt. of Rajasthan

Keynote Speaker:

Prof. Meena Gaur

Retd. from Department of History, MLSU, Udaipur

Guest of Honour:

Smt. Vandana Mathur

Educationist and Social Activist

In the Chair:

Prof. Rajeev Jain

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

Date : 21st April, 2022

Time : 10:15 AM

Venue:

Seminar Hall,

Department of History & Indian Culture, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

Prof. Sangeeta Sharma
Head

Prof Damyanti Gupta
President RUWA

Dr. Neekee Chaturvedi
Seminar Convener

Ms. Jigyasa Meena
Organising Secretary



Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav National Seminar
on
**FORGOTTEN HISTORIES OF WOMEN IN THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE IN
RAJPUTANA STATES**

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About the Seminar

The seminar focuses on the role of women in the struggle for freedom in the region of Rajasthan (erstwhile Rajputana). The emergence and growth of struggle in Rajasthan can be traced in three phases. The first stirrings of popular agitation surfaced in the rural areas. The agony and deprivation of the tenants provided pathos, content and motivation to the peasant protests that took place in different Rajputana states. The second phase was marked by a shift from local and land issues to various national level issues and movements. Khadi, Harijan and tribal welfare as well as other salient facets of Gandhian constructive programme became quite widespread in the region during this period. These programmes were advocated through organizations formed by regional leaders. Subsequently, under the banner of Prajamandals that were formed in the 1930s, there ensued a struggle for a responsible form of government and integration of native states into the Indian Union.

Quite interestingly women's involvement in the protest movements dated back to the historic Bijoliya movement in Mewar that commenced in 1897, wherein they played a vital role in mobilizing women in the rural area. In the subsequent phases of the struggle, women enthusiastically participated in the Prajamandal movement as well as in constructive activities like khadi, tribal and Harijan welfare. These struggles assume importance in the context of the distinctive nature of gender construction in the region of Rajputana that had resulted in extremely protective attitudes to women. The widespread incidence of *purdah* as compared to other regions had effectively curtailed women's freedom to participate in activities outside the private space of the home. The threshold that thus lay between the private and the public sphere was much tougher for women to cross. It is indeed surprising that the struggles of these feisty and spirited women have remained unsung in history as well as in public memory. The present seminar will, therefore, highlight women's contributions as leaders and participants in the different processes of the struggles.

The broad themes of the seminar are listed below, though papers related to the main theme beyond these prompts are also welcome.

1. Women's role in the peasant movements of the erstwhile Rajputana States
2. Women in the Prajamandal movement
3. Women in the Gandhian constructive movements : Khadi, Harijan welfare and tribal upliftment
4. Social barriers and women's participation in the public sphere
5. Individual case histories of women in the freedom struggle

The seminar would be a useful academic exercise that would shine a light on the unsung saga of the women's stellar contribution to the numerous struggles in Rajputana states and would also form a tribute to the legacy of these exceptional heroines.

Kindly send your abstracts of not more than 500 words on conference.dhic@gmail.com by 5th April 2022

Registration Fee : Rs. 500/-
Date of the Seminar : 21st April 2022

Patron
Prof Rajeev Jain
Vice Chancellor
University of Rajasthan

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Head, Department of History and Indian Culture
University of Rajasthan, Jaipur
&
Convener, Academic Cell
Rajasthan University Women's Association (RUWA)

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