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A study on psychological empowerment of women artist involve in Mithila painting

Savita Kumari, Gayatri and Mahesh Kumar

Abstract

“Women empowerment” is a very commonly used phrase in developing countries. In India issues related to women are also very emergent. Women empowerment can also be called gender empowerment. The eighth five year plan gave much emphasis to women as equal partners and participants in the development process, and thereby, the conceptual thinking shifted from development to empowerment of women. Women empowerment can be done by different way such as economical, social, psychological, political, cultural etc. The psychological empowerment is a blend of Self confidence, Courageous, Self reliance, Feeling in security in family, Career oriented, self image and it ultimately leads to wellbeing and happiness of women. In India, most of women involved in handicraft. Mithila painting is also a famous handicraft of Bihar state. Mithila painting is more than an art, hopes and aspirations to the people. Mithila painting, also known as Madhubani painting is an emblematic expression of day-to-day experiences and beliefs. The symbols that these Maithili painters use have their specific meanings, for example these paintings are most widely done in Mithila (a place in Bihar state) on walls, coated with mud and cow dung. Thus, this study was conducted in Madhubani district of Bihar, study Psychological empowerment of women artist involve in Mithila painting. For this study sixty female respondents involved in Mithila painting were purposively selected. The findings of the study showed that the majority (81.66%) of the respondents were as they able to built up ‘self image’ followed by gain ‘self confidence of psychologically empowered, among the studied variable such as Age, cast, Education, occupation, Family type and family annual income. Psychological empowerment revealed that out of six variables which were subjected to analysis, one variables i.e. Education were found to be significant contributors towards psychological empowerment of women.

Keywords: Women empowerment, psychological empowerment, mithila painting

Introduction

“Women empowerment” is a very commonly used phrase in developing countries. Issues related to women are very emergent in India. Women in developing nations are restricted from their land on the sole basis of gender. Empowerment can pound self confidence in women. It improves their status in society and they can touch the level of men. If the woman of a nation is empowered, it increases the overall productivity of nation. Women empowerment can also be called gender empowerment. The eighth five year plan gave much emphasis to women as equal partners and participants in the development process, and thereby, the conceptual thinking shifted from development to empowerment of women. Empowerment is an active process, which generates changes in one’s ideas’ perceptions and creates awareness about one’s rights and opportunities for self-development in all important spheres of life. The psychological component would include the "development of feelings that women can act upon to improve their condition. This means formation of the belief that they can succeed in change efforts" The psychological empowerment is a blend of Self confidence, Courageous, Self reliance, Feeling of insecurity in family, Career oriented, self image and it ultimately leads to wellbeing and happiness of women. A woman who is psychologically empowered has a capacity to increase self image and conquer stigma. Empowering women means enabling women to access skill and knowledge and cope with the stress and trauma of present as well as future.

Mithila painting is more than an art, hopes and aspirations to the people. Mithila painting, also known as Madhubani painting is an emblematic expression of day-to-day experiences and beliefs. As such, symbolism, simplicity and beauty hold them together in a single school of traditional art. The symbols that these Maithili painters use have their specific meanings, for example these paintings are most widely done in Mithila on walls, coated with mud and cow dung.

The handicrafts of Bihar are appreciated all over the world because of their great aesthetic value and their adherence to tradition. The exact time when Mithila art originated is not known. Far away from Indian big cities and the modern world, lies a beautiful region once known as Mithila.

Objectives

1. To assess Psychological empowerment of women involved in Mithila Panting and association between socio-economic status with Psychological empowerment of women artists.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Madhubani district of Bihar, study the empowerment of women in Psychological terms. For this purpose sixty respondents were purposively selected who were involved in Mithila painting. On the basis of preview studies and discussion with experts related to this field independent and dependent variables (Age, cast, education, occupation, family annual income and family type). Psychological empowerment revealed that out of six variables which were subjected to analysis.

Results and Discussion

Table 1: Socio economic characteristic of women artist.

S. No	Independent variables	Category	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1.	Age	18 to 35 years	30	50
2.	Caste	UR category	39	65
3.	Education	High school	18	30
4.	Occupation	Farming + Painting + Business	24	40
5.	Family type	Joint family	48	80
6.	Family annual income	Medium (Rs. 50,001 to 75,000)	50	83

The data of table 1. Results of the research investigation are Majority the respondents, (50 %) belonged to young age group, belonging to ‘Unreserved’ category (65 %), majority of the respondents were Educated in high school (30 %), engaged in to multiple enterprises of ‘farming’, ‘business’ and

‘painting’ together (40 %), Majority of the family type belonged to Joint family (80 %) and the respondents nearly 83 per cent had income ranging from Rs.50,001 to Rs.75,000 medium income group.

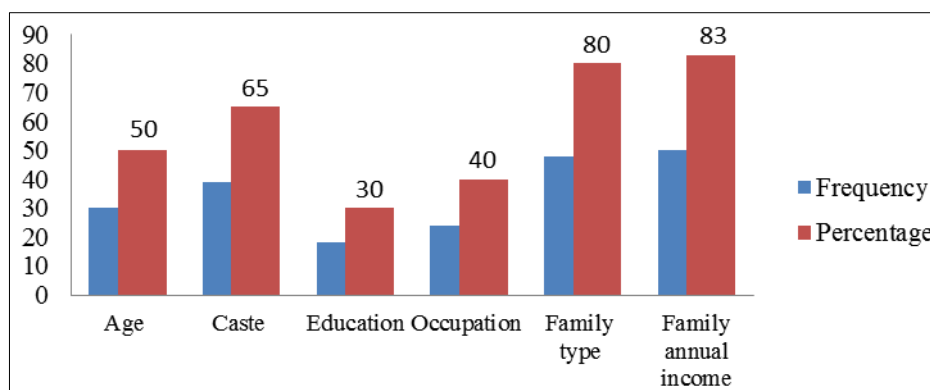


Fig 1: Socio economic characteristic of women artist.

Table 2: Psychological empowerment of women involved in Mithila painting.

S. No.	Items	Respondents (n=60)		Rank
		Frequency (f)	Percentage (p) %	
A.	Psychological empowerment	241	66.94	
1.	Self confidence	45	75	II
2.	Courageous	44	73.33	III
3.	Self reliance	38	63.33	IV
4.	Feeling of insecurity in family	37	61.66	V
5.	Career oriented	28	46.66	VI
6.	Self image	49	81.66	I

The data of table 2. Shows that majority (81.66%) of the respondents had built up ‘self image’ followed by gain in ‘self confidence’ (75%), being ‘courageous’ (73.33 %), ‘Self reliance’ (63.33 %), ‘Feeling of insecurity in family’ (61.66

%) . On an average ‘Career oriented’ 46.66 per cent of the respondents became psychologically empowered through their involvement in ‘Mithila’ painting.

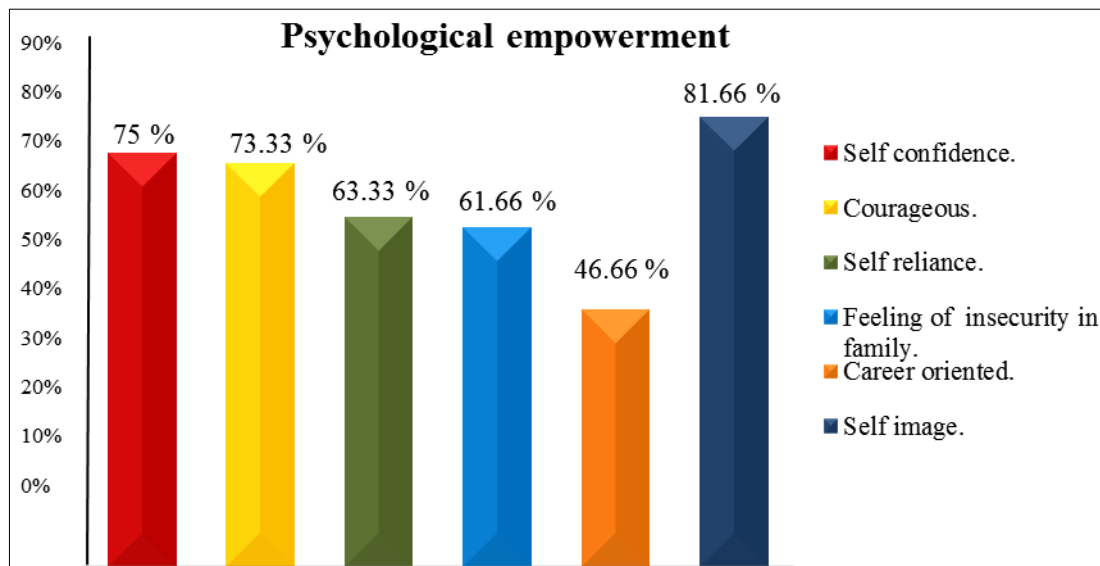


Fig 2: Psychological empowerment of women through Mithila Painting

Table 3: Relationship of selected socio-economic and personal profile and psychological empowerment of women

S. No.	Independent variables	Coe. of correlation (r)
1.	Age	-0.166 NS
2.	Caste	0.060 NS
3.	Education	0.701*
4.	Occupation	-0.176 NS
5.	Family type	0.076 NS
6.	Family annual income	0.003 NS

*: Significant at 5 % level of probability.

The result presented in table- 3. Revealed that out of the ten variable which were subjected to analysis, only one variable i.e. education was found to be significant contributors towards the psychological empowerment of women artists. It is positively correlated with psychological empowerment of the respondents. Only one variable emerged as powerful, as is indicated by high magnitude of standardized regression coefficients.

Similarly, age was found to negatively correlate with psychological empowerment. However, positively correlated to psychological empowerment cast is positively correlated to psychological empowerment. Occupation is negatively correlated to psychological empowerment and family type also positively influences the psychological empowerment. Family annual income is also positively correlated with psychological empowerment. Social participation & risk orientation negatively correlated to psychological empowerment but entrepreneurial orientation and source of information utilized is positively correlated to psychological empowerment.

Table 4: ANOVA

Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	0.415	6	0.042	7.509	0.000
Residual	0.271	49	0.006		
Total	0.686	59			

Table- 4. Showed that F-value was highly significant, therefore it can be concluded that the independent variables such as age, cast, education, occupation, family type and family annual income were influencing the work participation pattern of women artists in psychological empowerment.

Conclusion

Women empowerment can also be called gender empowerment. The eighth five year plan gave much emphasis to women as equal partners and participants in the development process, and thereby, the conceptual thinking shifted from development to empowerment of women. The psychological empowerment is a blend of Self confidence, Courageous, Self reliance, Feeling of insecurity in family, Career oriented, self image and it ultimately leads to wellbeing and happiness of women. Mithila painting is more than an art, hopes and aspirations to the people. Mithila painting, also known as Madhubani painting is an emblematic expression of day-to-day experiences and beliefs. The symbols that these Maithili painters use have their specific meanings, for example these paintings are most widely done in Mithila on walls, coated with mud and cow dung. The study was conducted in Madhubani district of Bihar, For this purpose sixty respondents were purposively selected. The findings of the study showed that the average majority (81.66%) of the respondents had built up 'self image' followed by gain in 'self confidence of the respondents become psychologically empowered, among the studied variable such as (Age, cast, Education, occupation, Family type and family annual income). Psychological empowerment revealed that out of six variables which were subjected to analysis, one variables i.e. Education were found to be significant contributors towards psychological empowerment of women.

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