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Role of Pongching Naga women in economic contribution

Submitted by- Penlung Manpen Research scholar, Dr. Elonbeni Ngullie Associate Professor department of Sociology, St. Joseph University, Virgin town, Ikishe Model Village, Chumoukedima, Nagaland 797115

Abstract

Economy has become one of the main objective for every individual in order to pull through society and without the financial assistance no person in the society can survive as such women has become a major financial support to their family since the traditional times though resources and the freedom to support was limited hence the study on Pongching Naga women in economic contribution will give an idea about the system and type of economic contribution made.

Keyword: Economy, Women, Pongching Naga, Contribution, Phom

Introduction

Like any society, Naga society is a patriarchal society since the inception therefore imperatively the father becomes the head of the family and all supreme decision is vested upon him hence women become the secondary object in the society by nature and her roles, duties legally surrounds her in the domestic domain which is the same for the Pongching Nagas as well. (Raman 2015) like all Naga women the Phom women take an important part in indoor and outdoor activities. They fetch water from the hill streams, collect firewood from forest, pound rice, cook food, look after the children and weave garments in their looms. This shows the muscle work a women had to do in the traditional days Pongching women have had the same role and duties like their Phom sisters. Agriculture being the main occupation both men and women equally shared the work in the field as it was the only means of survival during the olden days, however with time the system of economic contribution has improve where women began to support financially through different means yet the practice of agriculture for daily means of survival is still exercise.

Pongching village is located in the heard of Longleng town the hub center of the Phom Nagas located in the eastern part of Nagaland, the village is 6km away from Longleng town and all the essential commodities is taken from the town itself.

Role of Pongching women in economic contribution

An economy is a complex system of interrelated production, consumption, and exchange activities that ultimately determines how resources are allocated among all the participants. The production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services combine to fulfill the needs those living and operating within the economy¹

Economy is the main source for every individual to pull through and to survive in the society therefore today financial stability becomes the most important objective in every society, to every family and each individual, hence women equally becomes important with men to support each other for economic stability, referring to the economic contribution of Pongching naga women it was not an easy breezy road even when it came to terms of economic balance and contributions women where limited in every sources they were only seen to be a submissive women and keeper of their house most of the time however even with those limitations women still supported their men through dexterous means, it is believed that Pongching women had good hands on making ornaments like varieties of necklaces, headgears, bangles, traditional shawls with various designs, wrap around skirts made of wools having numerous designs and patterns which they sell and through that made an income to support their men and family, with the agricultural harvest that is produce Pongching women take it to Longleng town early morning by foot and sell their vegetables in the market women not only is doing that but they also carry firewood in big basket made of bamboo to Longleng town by foot early morning and sell those firewoods.

Though things are different with the advancement of society's progress but women still practice the traditional means of economy especially in the village but things are different when it comes to town and cities with the demand to have a better life style the Pongching people are moving out of village to towns and cities for better opportunities and employment and better education facilities for the children therefore through this various factors Pongching naga women also garner the possibilities to move out of the village along with men perceived to enhance their skills in various factors hence engage in different government and non-governmental sector also as entrepreneurs.

Throughout human history, traditional gender roles have often defined and limited women's activities and opportunities; many religious doctrines stipulate certain rules for women. With restrictions loosening during

¹ <https://www.investopedia.com>>

the 20th century in many societies, women have gained access to careers beyond the traditional homemaker, and the ability to pursue higher education²

Therefore the impact of the 20th century have perceived many women to break the ceiling of conservative perspective towards woman and the laws that has binded women for the longest time as such women in the 20th century is having the opportunity to create and make a room of opportunities through their caliber creating as asset to their future women, Pongching women also had the paramount impact through this where they have perceived to go beyond what is called the traditional norms and laws many of the conservative thoughts have replace however it becomes imperatively impossible to totally restructured the overall roles and duties because one can never replace the roots of customary law in the society as such Pongching women have more roles and duties to perform today yet with more windows of outer exposure where they can rightly implement and make use of their caliber in the most rightful way.

Pongching educated women are seen mostly investing their time and caliber in towns and cities where they are making the best use of their skills in earning and making a livelihood also economically supporting their families, education became the one paramount factor to change the concept of earning system among the Pongching naga it successfully changed the perspective of womanhood and their roles through the means of modern education.

Education is the milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to respond to the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their life³

Hence education has transmitted many of the valuable information of equal give and take to every society it has rightly instilled the importance of women the freedom of speech and right to education. Today there are many educated Pongching women living in towns, cities and villages who is supporting in the economic stability of their family living an independent life which was quite not the thing during the traditional days today their roles are more finer their responsibilities have double up and their status have elevated to more finer and respectable one.

Conclusion

Hence it can be concluded that today women is living more independent life, they are economically independent and financially supporting their family their caliber have elevated them to have the audacity to bring the changes in their roles and alter the structured pattern of the society. Pongching women as compared are making use of every possibility the society is providing for finer living economically and socially.

² <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki>

³ <https://www.skillary.com/read>r...>

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