

Hots (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q.1. How was learning for change or school out of bounds for girls in earlier years?

Ans. (i) It is difficult to imagine today that schooling and learning was out of bounds for many children, specially girls.

(ii) The skill of reading and writing was not known to many.

(iii) Most children learnt the work their families or elders did.

(iv) For girls, the situation was worse. In communities that taught sons to read and write, daughters were not allowed to learn the alphabet.

(v) Even in families where pottery, weaving and craft were taught, role of women was only seen as a supporter.

(vi) They collected the mud and prepared the earth for the pots but not allowed to operate the wheel.

Q.2. Give the contribution of Ramabai for women's emancipation.

Ans. (i) Ramabai (1858–1922) championed the cause of women's education.

(ii) She never went to school, but learnt to read and write from her parents.

(iii) She was called 'Pandita' as she could read and write Sanskrit when women were not allowed to learn.

(iv) She opened a mission in Khedgaon near Pune in 1898 where widows and poor women were taught to be literate and become independent by learning carpentry to running a printing press, skills still unknown today.

Q.3. In what ways have women protested or led their movement?

Ans. Women's protests or movements have taken place in the following ways:

- **Campaigning:** The best way has been to campaign against discrimination and violence. It led to enactment of a law in 2006 to give justice to women who face physical and mental violence in their homes.
- **Raising Awareness:** An important part of the women's movements' work is to raise public awareness on women's rights issues. Their message has been spread through street-plays, songs and public meetings.
- **Protesting:** The women's movements have raised it to voice when violation against women takes place or when a law or policy acts against their interests. Public rallies and demonstrations are very powerful ways of drawing attention to injustice.

- **Showing Solidarity:** Women's movement has also shown solidarity over other women and causes. Like there was a struggle all over India against frequent rapes in India, specially after the Nirbhaya case of December 2012, where all women's organisation came to protest and showed solidarity over strict anti-rape laws of the country.