

Vineeta Srivastava's paper, "*Gender Ageing: Concept and Approaches*" is an attempt to analyze the approaches to examine the concept of 'the aged' of "the old" from the gender perspective. The author accepts four perspectives namely biological, chronological, psychological and socio-cultural ageing. The author deals with the characteristics and problems associated with each of these perspectives. However, as the author agrees, none of the perspective is complete in itself as the aged population in general and women population in particular is heterogeneous in nature. So, for instance, we have the categories like 'young elderly' and 'old elderly'. The author falls short of explaining why women become aged at a younger age than men.

Divya Gupta in her paper, "*Roadside Dwellers: A Corollary of Urbanization and Globalization*" presents the problem in the city of Agra. Agra the city of Taj Mahal is also the city of roadside dwellers in large numbers. The survey-based paper points out the paradox of how even those who construct buildings are roofless. Further these workers are always on the move. They are victims of poor health, low income and crimes. Despite the setting up of NGOs to upgrade the slums, the problems persist, mainly poor sanitation and poor drinking water. There is urgent need to address this sort of disparity and social segregation.

In the paper, "*Becoming Dangaria: A Psych-cultural Study of Female Traditional Healers of Kumoun*", Meena Kharkwal tries to find out the process of becoming a dangaria (possessor of local gods and goddesses) in the central Himalayan town of Pithoragarh and surrounding villages. Based on her case histories, it was found that one does not choose to become a dangaria but it is rather chosen by the spirit she represents. The selected person goes through an initiatory crisis like widowhood, judiciary problems or a defaming situation. The paper discusses the concept from the perspective of experiential approach, that is, how dangaria analyse the process of becoming dangaria. Finally, a psycho-cultural analysis of data has been discussed in the perspective of sublimating the psych-somatic symptoms and gaining social power.

"*Does Expanding Frontiers of Civil Society Extend Women Development*", a paper by K.G. Dasthagir and S. Gine makes a critical appraisal of the existing literature on the role of the civil society. The authors feel that there is a manifesting hiatus between claims versus outcomes as far as NGOs' performance with regards to women development is concerned. They take up the case of urban women in Kolkata as evidence. The intensity with which fund raising is done for gender mainstreaming is not found in rendering transformative gender justice, thereby denying true women development, say the authors.

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