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**The Role Of Women In Regional Development In The Dadapayu Village,  
Semanu Subdistrict, Gunungkidul Regency, Province Of Yogyakarta, Indonesia**

**Peran Perempuan dalam Pembangunan Daerah di Kalurahan Dadapayu, Kapanewon  
Semanu, Kabupaten Gunungkidul, Provinsi Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta, Indonesia**

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**Abstrak**

Penelitian ini mengulas mengenai bagaimana perkembangan peran perempuan dalam ranah publik khususnya pada pemerintahan desa di Kalurahan Dadapayu, Kapanewon Semanu, Kabupaten Gunungkidul, Provinsi Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta. Perkembangan peran Perempuan saat ini yang tidak hanya memainkan peran ganda dalam rumah dan di tempat kerja tetapi juga sudah multi peran dalam masyarakat menjadi hal yang terus berkembang dan selalu dikaitkan dengan isu-isu kesetaraan gender. Selain itu tantangan dan upaya dalam memperkuat eksistensi perempuan juga menjadi hal yang dikaji dalam penelitian. Penelitian menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif dengan penentuan sampel data dilakukan secara purposive sampling. Hasil penelitian memberikan kesimpulan terdapat perkembangan pada pemberdayaan perempuan dan perannya dalam pembangunan di ranah publik. Telah ada beberapa perempuan yang menduduki peran strategis serta ada ketentuan yang mendukung pengambilan keputusan. kesetaraan gender telah cukup diakomodasi melalui pembagian peran domestik antara suami dengan istri dalam rumah tangga pada seluruh narasumber yang ada.

**Kata Kunci** : Gender, Pembangunan, Pemberdayaan, Peran Perempuan

**Abstract**

*This research discusses the development of the role of women in the public domain, particularly in village governance in Dadapayu Village, Semanu Sub-district, Gunungkidul Regency. The current development of women's roles not only involves dual roles within the household and workplace but also encompasses multiple roles within society, which is an evolving aspect consistently linked to gender equality issues. The aim of this study is to describe the enhancement of women's roles and the development of gender equality in the roles of women. There has been a lot of research conducted that examines gender and patriarchal culture, but the relation to the role of women in the public sphere is the main*

*focus of this research. The research employs a descriptive method, with informants were selected using purposive sampling. The research findings conclude that there has been progress in empowering women and their roles in public development. Some women have held roles in leadership and village government offices, and there are provisions supporting decision-making. Gender equality has been adequately accommodated through the division of domestic roles between spouses in all the sources interviewed.*

**Keywords :** *Development, Empowerment, Gender, Women's Roles*

## INTRODUCTION

National development should not only focus on economic growth or per capita income but also on the overall well-being of its citizens. Development is a critical concern for any country, whether it is a developing country, a developed one, or even a country grappling with poverty. The active participation of women is an indispensable factor in the pursuit of sustainable development. The recognition of women's roles is enshrined in the 1945 Indonesian Constitution (Buchy and Rai Paudyal 2020), which unequivocally rejects any form of discrimination against women. The Constitution firmly upholds the principles of equal rights and responsibilities for all citizens. Indonesian government also has carried out various policies to improve gender equality. One of them is to accommodate the role of women in government through changes of Law No.2/2008 on Political Parties that at least 30% of women are nominated in the list of parliamentarians.

The importance of gender equality and the role of women in national development cannot be overstated. Women constitute a substantial portion of a country's population, and their contributions extend far beyond traditional gender roles. At the international level, women have shown a significance role in multiple area of economic development and significant contributor to society (Rachmawati et al. 2023a). In recent years, there has been a growing acknowledgment of the pivotal role that women play in various sectors of society, including politics, education, healthcare, and the economy. This recognition is not only a matter of justice but also a pragmatic necessity for achieving holistic and sustainable development. In some region of Asia, woman sometimes is being used as an unpaid labor force in the name of women's participation (Buchy and Rai Paudyal 2020). In Thailand, gender roles are recognized as significantly influential in agricultural hence the need to strengthen the function of extension workers to help build womens's capacity (Rachmawati et al. 2023a).

In the history of Indonesian society, women have often played numerous roles, including those of mothers, wives, farmers, entrepreneurs, government leaders, and more. The evolution of women's roles today extends beyond dual responsibilities within the home and the workplace; women now engage in multiple roles within society. In the context of modernity and globalization, gender inequality is still prevalent, manifesting itself in various forms, including restrictions placed on women through discrimination, exploitation, marginalization, subordination, negative stereotypes/labelling, and violence against women. In a case study in Indonesia, impact of patriarchal culture is still dominant, which hinders the development of women (Purwanti 2018). Additionally, women often shoulder heavier and longer workloads compared to men (Suryadi and Idris 2004).

This persisting gender inequality in the modern era and the age of globalization is characterized by constraints imposed upon women, manifested through discrimination, exploitation, marginalization, subordination, negative stereotypes/labeling, and violence against women, as well as the burden of heavier and longer work hours for women (Purnama, Subaheri, and Desmawan 2023). These disparities arise because masculinity is often associated with a strong drive to assert authority and power, which can lead to aggression, while femininity frequently involves the pursuit of harmony and group equality (Makhene 2022) .

Human development should ideally be carried out, directed, and targeted for the entire population, regardless of gender differences. Gender-inclusive development, or development that takes gender into account, aims to identify and rectify the disparities in development between women and men. Society is increasingly recognizing the advancement of women and their active participation in societal progress. Despite the fact that women associated with domestic duties in all societies, they are getting involved also in non-domestic and wage-earning activities (Handaragama, Rathnayake, and Uluwaduge 2013).

More women now taking up the role of income earner also and face dual function both in domestic (home) and public (work place) (Handaragama et al. 2013). Consequently, gender equality is gaining greater recognition and prevalence within society. Women's empowerment and gender equality are not only issues of social justice but also critical factors for achieving comprehensive and sustainable development. Gender mainstreaming initiatives have mostly focused on empowering women economically. It is important that women have access to and control over inputs, extension, market, and play a role in decision making process (Mutiarra, Yuerlita, and Febriamansyah 2022).

Analysis on the Gender Development Index (GDI) shows that Indonesia still experiencing gender development inequality; which means, women still experience discrimination in various aspects. Even women's participation in the economic, political, and managerial fields shows an increase, it is still not even with men's. The Human Development Index (HDI) for women still far from the HDI for men. Thus, promoting equality in gender can enhance further (Rachmawati et al. 2023a). The GDI compares the HDI for men and women for quality education, health, and economical dimensions. Value 100 of the GDI reflects that women's development achievement are equal to the men. Since 2017, Indonesian HDI has achieved relatively high status of 70,18 which continued to grow up to reaching 71,92 at 2019. However, in the ASEAN, Indonesia still rank 6<sup>th</sup>, lack behind Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Thailand, and Philippines (United Nations Development Programme 2024).

Recognizing and addressing gender inequalities is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic approach for fostering societal progress. As women increasingly demonstrate their capabilities and engage in various spheres of life, it is incumbent upon society to ensure that their contributions are valued and that they have equitable access to resources and opportunities. Through gender-inclusive development, we can strive for a more just, prosperous, and harmonious society that benefits all its citizens, irrespective of gender.

The aim of this research is to understand how women's roles have evolved in the public sphere of one of area in Yogyakarta as the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest GDI score area next to the capital city of Jakarta. It seeks to investigate the progress of gender equality in this context and its influence on women's roles in the public domain and decision-making within the community. By examining the experiences and perspectives of women in this specific locality, we seek to contribute to a better understanding of the multifaceted nature of gender inequality and, ultimately, to advocate for policies and initiatives that promote equality and empower women on a broader scale. Gender equality is not only a matter of justice but also a vital component of sustainable and inclusive development in our rapidly changing world.

## **METHOD**

This research employs a qualitative approach based on descriptive data, which includes written and oral accounts from informants, as well as observations using a descriptive approach. The data for this study were collected in the village of Dadapayu, Kapanewon Semanu, Gunungkidul Regency, in the Special Region of Yogyakarta. The

sampling technique used in this research is purposive sampling, where the characteristics or conditions of the informants are predetermined and tailored to the research objectives (Arikunto 2011). Structured interviews were conducted to directly gather the responses, opinions, and perceptions of the informants. In this case, the informants are women holding positions within the organizational structure of Dadapayu Village. The interviews aimed to gather insights into the development of women's roles in the operation of Dadapayu Village and the evolution of gender influence within this context.

The data analysis process involves several steps: data organization, data processing, data interpretation, and concluding with the formulation of conclusions (Neuman 2006). Additionally, data analysis in this study incorporates data triangulation, which means that any assumptions made in the research, whether in data sources, analysis, or methods, are neutralized when used alongside other data sources, analyses, or methods (Bungin 2017).

## **RESULT**

### **1. General Overview of Research Site**

Indonesian women's participation in politics still relatively low (Lorenza 2022). However, in government administration positions the women's role has not been very effective. In small government area such as villages, there are still relatively few women who become village heads. On the other side, female village heads could have essential role in empowerment of the women they lead because they can feel what other women feel (Risnawati 2017).

Java Island as the densest and developed island in Indonesia, consists of 6 province and based on Gender Development Index (GDI), which compares women's and men's achievements in Human Development Index (HDI), DI Yogyakarta Province is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> after the capital city of Indonesia, Jakarta. GDI value of Yogyakarta actually nearly identical to DKI Jakarta whose ranges between 93,76 and 94,63 between 2010 to 2017. One of the most success strategy is the establishment of the Women's Organization Association in the 2017-2022 periode by the Mayor of DI Yogyakarta as stated in the Mayor of Yogyakarta's Degree No. 451 of 2017. This organization has an active role in training and education activities for women in the DI Yogyakarta region.

Dadapayu Village is located in Semanu Subdistrict, Gunungkidul Regency, Special Region of Yogyakarta. The majority of the village's residents are farmers/gardeners, and the number of people pursuing education is relatively high. The proportion of men and women is balanced; as of March 2018, there were 4,292 female residents, accounting for 50.34% of the

total 8,526 residents. Nanang Arianja currently leads the village. The village government has adopted the vision of "Towards a Self-Reliant and Prosperous Dadapayu." The formulation of this vision involved all stakeholders in Dadapayu Village, including the Village Government, Village Consultative Body, Community Leaders, Religious Leaders, Village Community Institutions, and the general population. In the implementation of this vision, the village has formulated the following missions (Kalurahan Dadapayu 2013):

- ✚ Clean, transparent, and accountable government;
- ✚ Realizing a democratic life by prioritizing consensus through deliberation;
- ✚ Fulfillment of basic services in Education, Health, Infrastructure, and Facilities;
- ✚ Community-based economic development;
- ✚ Optimization of the role of Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDesa/BUM Kalurahan).

**Picture 1. Dadapayu Village Location**



*Source : Research Documentation, 2023*

The sources for this research include several female figures holding positions in the Dadapayu Village government, including the Head of Financial Affairs, 2 Staff Members in the Implementation Sector, Staff in the Welfare Sector, 2 Hamlet Heads within Dadapayu Village, and the Head of Dadapayu Village. Their insights are expected to serve as triangulation data references. Gunung Kidul Regency which still categorized as moderate GDI growth in Yogyakarta Province still need some booster to increase it's GDI score. There are several strategic policy recommendations that can increase GDI such as: the importance of education since higher education will affect income generated, professional education optimization, and also improvement of health facilities so that the life expectancy of women will be higher. Specific strategy such us training to PKK-local mother organization and

creating a community or group of women that involved in business or other professional occupation also believed to positively affect GDI (Rachmawati et al. 2023b).

## **2. Culture and The Role of Women**

### **a. Culture**

Culture is a way of life that develops and is shared by a group of people, passed down from generation to generation. It is also a comprehensive and complex way of life, abstract in nature, with many cultural aspects influencing communicative behavior. According to Koentjaraningrat (2015), regional culture is synonymous with the concept of ethnic groups. A culture cannot be separated from the patterns of community activities. Culture can be interpreted as things related to intellect and wisdom or as a complex development of intellect and power, which means the power or strength of the intellect. Culture is a complex whole that encompasses knowledge, morality, law, beliefs, arts, customs, and other capabilities and habits acquired by humans as members of society (Tripasetyo 2008). Culture can also be understood as a way of life that develops and is shared by a group of people and is passed down from one generation to the next. It includes religious systems, politics, customs, language, and art that shape culture. Culture is also a complex, abstract, and extensive pattern of life (Widyosiswoyo 2009).

Postmodernity can be described as a stage of social development that surpasses modernity with the central idea is a radical shift from the industrial era economy to a post-industrial economy centered around the consumption of culture, mass media play, and the development of information technology. This process is closely related to globalization, where political, cultural, and economic boundaries become increasingly blurred and irrelevant (Sutrisno and Putranto 2007).

### **b. Patriarchal Culture and Feminism**

When the relation between women and men remains unbalanced and one-sided in a society, with men placed in a higher position in terms of gender, it can be said that this society still adheres to a patriarchal culture (Mies 1998). Patriarchy derives from the word "patriarchate," which signifies a structure that positions men as the sole rulers, central figures, and authorities (Rokhmansyah 2016). The restrictions experienced by women often lead to their oppression and discrimination (Al-Khouja, Weinstein, and Legate 2021). The lack of legal protection for women further marginalizes their position. Friedrich Engels drawing on Marx's theory, offered a broader perspective on how the societal system marginalized women and how women without property (the proletariat) became marginalized in society (Suwada 2021). Marxist-Feminist studies fundamentally provide a deeper understanding of the system

that marginalizes women (Sani and Kibria 2023). The capitalist system, believed to empower women and counter patriarchal culture, ironically further marginalizes women.

These patriarchal cultural practices continue to persist despite ongoing calls for gender equality. These practices occur in various sectors, including the domestic, economic, political, and cultural realms. Moreover, some communities adhere to patriarchal systems and justify perpetuating this inequality with the phrase "that's just the way it is" (Jensen 2021).

Delphy explain that patriarchy and capitalism as interconnected systems that both refer to the oppression of women. Delphy discusses how the living standards of women (as homemakers) differ between peasant wives and upper-class wives (Hill and Allen 2021). For radical feminists, women not only bear a dual burden, performing paid work and unpaid domestic work, but also a "triple shift" combined with emotional labor. By combining feminism and Marxist materialist thinking, Delphy's concept suggests that women's oppression stems from the ownership of the means of production controlled by men within the patriarchal system. In the Marxist capitalist tradition, capitalism can function when there is a group that can be exploited, and in Delphy's perspective, the dominant ideology in capitalist society is patriarchy. Women are considered efficient and cheap labor.

### **c. The Role of Women**

The role and position of women in the legislative institution have increased quantitatively, but qualitatively they have not contributed significantly to improving the conditions of oppression and marginalization faced by women they represent. From the perspective of political philosophy of Hannah Arendt, the role of women in the legislative institution remains limited to forms of labor and work, without progressing towards action. In the context of women's roles in the legislative institution, it cannot yet be considered as political action, as women still lack freedom to communicate with others and there is still a lack of equality (Sania 2021).

Development is not limited to physical matters, so it is important to understand development as a perspective on the growth and advancement of a nation. The meaning of development can be translated as an effort to achieve a better life, "an increasing attainment of one's own cultural values" (Tjokrowinoto 1996). Many discussions regarding the fate and role of Indonesian women in the struggle to enhance their roles in development. Indonesian women are still governed by various formulas and uniformity, so stereotypes persist in the identity of Indonesian women. Women whose views are still constrained become hesitant and unable to develop their productivity (Murniati 1996).



The issue of the fate and role of women in Indonesia in the struggle to increase their role in development is based on the fact that many women feel happy and naturally placed in a sacrificial position with dual roles without questioning whether their roles and sacrifices actually weaken their position. The role of women in development is both a right and an obligation carried out in specific statuses or positions in development, whether in politics, economics, socio-cultural aspects, defense and security, or within the family and the broader society. In a deeper sense, the gender perspective of women's role in development means roles in accordance with the gender concept, which includes productive roles, reproductive roles, and dynamic social roles. Dynamic here means they can change or be altered to adapt to development, can be interchangeable between men and women, and can vary across cultures.

The Indonesian government has implemented policies aimed at reaching all government agencies, private sector, communities, and so on, known as gender mainstreaming. These policies and strategies are outlined in Presidential Instruction No. 9 of 2000 on Mainstreaming Gender into National Development. This is expected to eventually uphold the rights and obligations of both men and women fairly in equal opportunities, recognition, and acknowledgment within society.

### **3. Women in Development and Empowerment**

Patriarchal structures within society can profoundly influence women's roles in various aspects of life, including the realm of development (Delphy 1977). The empowerment of women is crucial as a strategy to achieve sustainable development. With improved access to resources, education, healthcare, and economic opportunities, development can become more inclusive and sustainable.

Dadapayu Village's recognition of women is evident through several strategic positions held by women, such as various hamlet leaders and employees at the Village Office, who serve as informants in this research. All the informants unanimously agree that there have been significant improvements in women's roles in Dadapayu Village. A tangible example of this enhanced role is the increased participation of women in village institutions such as *Bamuskal-Badan Permusyawaratan Kalurahan* (Village Consultative Body) and village deliberations. The establishment of specific quotas for women's representation and the obligation to include 30% of women in village deliberations demonstrate the community's commitment to ensuring women's involvement in decision-making processes. This aligns with Delphy's perspective, which advocates for the transformation of previously disadvantageous social structures for women and the creation of gender equality.

Women in Dadapayu Village have also taken on significant roles in community administration and organization. They have played a crucial part in improving administrative efficiency, participating in village event committees, becoming members of the PKK (Family Welfare Empowerment) and TPK (Family Assistance Team), as well as initiating the Women Farmers' Group, which has introduced innovations in agriculture. This illustrates that women are not only involved in decision-making but also actively engaged in village development initiatives.

The increased role of women is further exemplified by the fact that three hamlets in Dadapayu Village are led by women: Sembuku Hamlet, Mojo Hamlet, and Pokdadap Hamlet. Sembuku Hamlet, for instance, excels in providing support, nurturing the youth, and advocating for small-scale enterprises among residents. Mojo Hamlet serves as an exemplary village management committee. Pokdadap Hamlet has been instrumental in revamping village administration. Each hamlet leader, with their distinct roles and approaches, showcases the diversity in women's leadership abilities and their capacity to engage with the community. The results of discussions with the informants also indicate a shift in the community's mindset towards greater appreciation for women. Women who continue their education are held in higher regard, and they receive recognition for their roles in village development. This represents a significant change in creating an environment that supports women's empowerment. There is also a growing sense of pride in the community that women now have more prominent roles.

Equally important is the support of husbands in helping with household chores and endorsing women's roles in the domestic sphere. Husbands in Dadapayu Village have shown awareness of the need to assist and participate in domestic responsibilities. Almost all husbands among the informants are willing to get involved in domestic affairs and support their partners in taking on more active roles in the public sphere. This creates a balance between domestic tasks and responsibilities, which can enhance women's participation in various fields, including development. Women are no longer relegated to being an exploited "class" within the social structure.

Women in Dadapayu Village have undergone a transformation in their roles and contributions to village development. The necessity of changing social structures that disadvantage women, can be applied in the context of local community development. In alignment with this, Women and development are essential to emphasize local contexts and distinct dynamics such as religion, culture, and local politics. The empowerment changes in

Dadapayu Village result from structural and social changes that drive alterations in women's roles and contributions. The enhancement of women's roles and empowerment is influenced not only by economic and structural factors but also by contextual factors and broader power dynamics. This illustrates the complexity involved in understanding women's roles in development and the importance of applying holistic and diverse approaches to achieve sustainable women's empowerment. Women's empowerment and recognition of their roles are crucial elements in achieving inclusive and sustainable development.

#### **4. Local Decision-Making in the Public Sphere**

The involvement of women in local decision-making within the public sphere represents a pivotal shift in the dynamics of village governance, marking a significant step towards achieving more inclusive and equitable community development. Through in-depth interviews and conversations with various stakeholders, a compelling narrative emerges, shedding light on the positive changes that have unfolded in how women are perceived, recognized, and empowered within the intricate tapestry of decision-making at the village level.

One tangible manifestation of this transformation can be witnessed in the active participation of women in Village Consultative Meetings (Musyawarah Kalurahan). In these gatherings, women's involvement transcends the traditional role of being mere "tokens" or symbolic representatives. Instead, they are integral contributors to discussions surrounding vital community issues. Their voices carry substantial weight, not just in casting votes, but in shaping the very essence of these deliberations. Women, as dynamic participants, influence the tone, direction, and ultimate outcomes of the decisions made in these forums, with far-reaching implications for the overall welfare and progress of the entire community.

This shift towards inclusivity in decision-making reflects a deeper commitment to gender equality, where women are no longer relegated to the periphery but are actively engaged as catalysts for positive change within their villages. It signifies a departure from traditional governance structures towards a more democratic and participatory model. In this evolved paradigm, women emerge as not only stakeholders but as key agents of transformation within their communities. Their perspectives, experiences, and insights bring a richness and diversity to decision-making that was previously untapped.

Moreover, the integration of women's voices into local decision-making processes serves as a potent reminder that an inclusive approach leads to better, more holistic decisions. The recognition of the multifaceted challenges and opportunities facing the community becomes more acute when women's perspectives are genuinely considered. This newfound

inclusivity is not just a matter of principle; it is a strategic choice for more effective and sustainable development outcomes.

In essence, the evolving role of women in local decision-making represents a fundamental shift towards a more just, equitable, and forward-thinking approach to village governance. It underscores the importance of harnessing the full potential of a community by leveraging the unique strengths and perspectives of all its members, regardless of gender. The journey towards achieving gender equality and inclusive development is ongoing, but the progress witnessed in these local communities is both inspiring and a testament to the power of collective efforts in creating positive change.

The presence of regulations mandating a minimum of 30% women's participation in decision-making processes represents a pivotal milestone in the pursuit of gender equality and inclusive governance. This isn't a mere symbolic gesture; it's a concrete policy that substantially enhances the opportunities for women to actively engage in the decision-making machinery. Moreover, it underscores a commitment to rectify historical imbalances and harness the diverse perspectives and talents that women bring to the table.

Beyond the legal framework, the importance of community support for female leaders cannot be overstated. In many ways, this support serves as the linchpin for the advancement of women in decision-making roles. It goes beyond creating a conducive environment; it acts as a shield against the potential barriers and challenges that women leaders might encounter. The backing of the community is a testament to the broader social shift towards recognizing the value of women's voices and contributions in shaping the future of their villages. When we take a holistic view of the interview data, women's roles in decision-making have evolved at the village level. The specific measures taken, such as instituting participation quotas and fostering community backing for female leaders, all collectively contribute to a more inclusive, gender-sensitive, and equitable development agenda.

The diversification of women's roles in decision-making does not operate in isolation; it ripples across society, impacting numerous aspects of community life. Beyond ensuring representation, it catalyzes societal change, fosters empathy, and drives the development process towards sustainability and inclusivity. It's not just about women's rights; it's about optimizing the talents, experiences, and perspectives of half of the population to craft better, more informed, and more balanced decisions.

In essence, through the empowerment of women in decision-making, we are forging a path toward a fairer, more just society. It is a journey that recognizes the multifaceted nature

of decision-making, where various viewpoints are taken into account, and where every member of the community has a role to play. It is not just about numbers on paper; it is about reshaping the social fabric, promoting inclusivity, and building a future where gender equality is not just a policy but an intrinsic part of how communities thrive and progress.

## **5. Developing Gender Equality in Society**

Data from interviews indicate that the division of roles within households remains a challenge. Despite men's willingness to help, a completely equitable division of roles has not been fully realized. The shift in beliefs that women should also work and continue their education reflects a positive step in challenging demeaning views of women. The complexity of women's roles in social and economic contexts suggests efforts to address oppression and change the degrading perceptions of women. However, it also highlights challenges in role distribution and gender norms that continue to affect societal dynamics.

The shift in beliefs that women should also pursue education and employment indicates that traditional views are beginning to evolve. This reflects a positive step towards gender equality in education and the workforce, aligning with efforts to counter the influence of capitalism, which can hinder women's access to education and employment. Several statements emphasize the need for education and awareness to promote gender equality. Education is the key to altering existing perceptions and norms, helping to overcome demeaning views of women and fostering more positive change.

From this analysis, we can see that there are positive developments in the pursuit of gender equality, but there are still obstacles and challenges to overcome. The influences of patriarchy and capitalism are still present in the dynamics of gender equality, but there are tangible efforts to change mindsets and address these barriers. Awareness, education, and shifts in societal views of gender roles will continue to contribute to the development of a more equitable and inclusive gender equality landscape.

## **6. Factors Restricting Women's Social Advancement**

Even though there has been a lot of development in women's roles especially in development and social aspects, there are still several factors that hinder the development of women's social advancement as below:

### **a. Cultural and Religious Gender Perspectives**

Cultural and religious norms often define and restrict women's roles and opportunities. Traditional beliefs and values can limit women's access to education, employment, and leadership position.

### **b. Educational Environment**

Limited access to education, gender biases in curriculum, and lack of support for female students can hinder educational achievements and career prospects for women.

#### c. Political and Social Institutions

Political and social institutions can either facilitate or hinder women's social advancement. Even when women hold positions in government, their roles may not be fully effective.

#### d. Livelihoods from Below

Economic opportunities and livelihoods at the grassroots level impact women's social advancement. In rural areas like Dadapayu Village, where the majority of residents are farmers or gardeners, women's involvement in local economic activities is crucial.

### CONCLUSION

The evolution of women's roles represents a significant shift from traditional views that prioritized men. The increased involvement of women in various fields, including administration, committees, and local decision-making, signifies a recognition of women's potential and contributions to development. Patriarchy and capitalism have influenced the oppression of women.

Secondly, the diversification of women's roles in various aspects of development plays a crucial role in achieving gender equality. Involving women in various sectors, from the economy to politics, stimulates demand for better education and healthcare services. This diversification also allows women to bring added value and diverse perspectives to the development process, creating a more inclusive and equitable environment.

Thirdly, efforts to enhance women's participation in local decision-making reflect concrete steps toward achieving inclusive and representative participation in village governance. Through rules requiring a minimum presence of women in decision-making and community support for female leaders, the belief that women have a valuable contribution is strengthened.

The development of women's roles in development, gender equality, and local decision-making is a positive step towards a fairer and more inclusive society. This process not only affects women's roles in development but also transforms the dynamics of development as a whole. While challenges and obstacles remain, a more inclusive view of gender roles and awareness of the positive impact of women in development continue to evolve. Thus, empowering women and recognizing their contributions are key components in

achieving sustainable and gender-sensitive development. This transformation not only brings changes in social norms but also has broader implications for social, economic, and political progress.

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