

# The Historical and Contemporary Analysis of Women's Representation in the Indian Legal System

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**Abstract:** *The legal framework in India has seen substantial transformations throughout time, resulting in the progressive integration of women into influential positions within the legal profession. Women have achieved significant influence as lawyers, judges, and legal scholars, despite facing historical obstacles. The present study examines the historical progression of women within the Indian legal profession, encompassing the period from colonial times to the contemporary age. This text examines the barriers that impede women's participation in the legal field, evaluates their challenges, and emphasizes their significant contributions to the advancement of Indian law.*

*Despite the increased educational options for Indian women in law due to global influences and modernity in the 21st century, the gender inequality has continued to exist. The study examines the progression from the appointment of Justice Anna Chandy, the first female judge, in 1937, to the current obstacles and the lack of female representation in the judiciary. Prominent individuals such as Leila Seth and Fathima Beevi have successfully dismantled gender barriers by attaining the position of Chief Justices. However, the overall number of women in the judiciary continues to be imbalanced.*

*The research highlights the necessity for ongoing endeavors to improve gender parity within the legal field, suggesting strategies such as implementing a 33% reserve for women in the judiciary. This work makes a valuable contribution to the continuing scholarly conversation surrounding gender representation in the Indian judicial system by providing a thorough examination of historical challenges and current dynamics.*

**Keywords:** Women in Law, Indian Legal System, Gender Representation, Legal Profession, Historical Analysis, Legal Challenges, Legal Practitioner's (Women) Act, Present scenario