

THE
STATUS OF WOMAN IN INDIA:
OR
A HAND-BOOK FOR HINDU SOCIAL REFORMERS.

BY
DAYARAM GIDUMAL, B.A., LL.B., C.S.,
FELLOW OF THE BOMBAY UNIVERSITY.

“Man is his own star; and the soul that can
Render an honest and a perfect man,
Commands all light, all influence, all fate;
Nothing to him falls early or too late.
Our acts our angels are, or good or ill,
Our fatal shadows that walk by us still.”



Bombay:

PRINTED AT THE “FORT PRINTING PRESS.”

1889.

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

[“ All history resolves itself very easily into the biography of a few stout and earnest persons.”]

DEDICATED

TO

ALL EARNEST WORKERS

IN THE CAUSE

OF

HINDU SOCIAL REFORM.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.



A Symposium of Hindu Domestic Reformers and Anti-Reformers...	1—CII
--	-------

CHAPTER I.

Facts on the Subject of Infant Marriage ...	1—61
SECTION 1.	
Madras Presidency ...	1—6
SECTION 2.	
Bombay Presidency ...	6—29
SECTION 3.	
Bengal Presidency ...	29—36
SECTION 4.	
N.-W. Provinces and Oude, the Punjab, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Coorg, Hyderabad (Deccan), &c. ...	36—49
SECTION 5.	
Extracts from opinions given to Mr. Malabari ...	49—61

CHAPTER II.

Causes of Infant Marriage ...	62—72
SECTION 1.	
Madras Presidency ...	62—65
SECTION 2.	
Bombay Presidency ...	65—69
SECTION 3.	
Bengal Presidency ...	69—70
SECTION 4.	
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh, the Punjab, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Coorg, Hyderabad (Deccan), &c. ...	70—71
SECTION 5.	
Extracts from opinions given to Mr. Malabari ...	72

CHAPTER VIII.

Remedies for Enforced Widowhood	192—208
SECTION 1.	
Madras Presidency,	192—195
SECTION 2.	
Bombay Presidency	195—203
SECTION 3.	
Bengal Presidency	203—204
SECTION 4.	
N.-W. Provinces, &c., &c.	204—205
SECTION 5.	
Extracts from opinions given to Mr. Malabari ...	205—208

CHAPTER IX.

Reasons for Non-Interference... ..	208—240
SECTION 1.	
Madras Presidency	208—211
SECTION 2.	
Bombay Presidency	211—219
SECTION 3.	
Bengal Presidency	219—222
SECTION 4.	
N.-W. Provinces, &c.	222—229
SECTION 5.	
Extracts from opinions given to Mr. Malabari ...	229—240

APPENDIX I.

The Physiological Aspect of Premature Marriage.	241—258
A Puberty and Pubescence	241—246
B Is not Early Marriage the cause of early Pubescence?	246—251
C Has the climate anything to do with the early puberty of Indian girls and boys?	252—258

APPENDIX II.

A Scheme of Social Reform on the principle of Self-help and 'on the lines of least resistance.'	259—279
---	---------

APPENDIX III.

The Indian law regarding the seduction of girls—a crying inequality	281—288
--	---------

APPENDIX IV.

Social Reform in Rajputana	288—295
-----------------------------------	---------

APPENDIX V.

Memorandum by Raja Sir T. Madava Row	295—298
---	---------

APPENDIX VI.

Shastric texts on the subject of Infant Marriage, by Rao Bahadur M. G. Ranade	
--	--

APPENDIX VII.

Vedic authorities for Widow Marriage, by Rao Bahadur M. G. Ranade	315—337
Index	I—VIII