

Lecture:

'Nari aur Veda-Adhyayan'

A lecture titled '*Nari aur Veda-Adhyayan*' (*Women and Vedic Society*) was organized on 8th April, 2019 by NSP, IGNCA. The speaker was Ms. Ananda Himani who is a Sanskrit enthusiast, hailing from Gothenburg, Sweden. The lecture presentation was chaired by Prof. Shashi Tiwari who is the Recipient of 'Certificate of Honour' in Sanskrit from the President of India and formerly Professor of Sanskrit, Maitreyi College, University of Delhi. Through the lecture presentation, the speaker aimed at discussing the role and status of women from ancient times, women's status in modern Indian society along with her right to education, equal rights in society, her safety etc. The lecture also intended to give an awareness and insight into the problems faced by women from generation together, and whether the scenario has changed over the years.

Ms. Ananda emphasized that the Rig Vedic mentions that Women seers enjoyed highest status in Indian society and their contribution to Vedas is of high standard. The women in India were provided with the opportunity to attain high intellectual and spiritual education. There was no sati system or early marriage in ancient Indian society. Several texts were referred by the speaker were Shatapatha Brahmanam, Harita Dharma-Sutra, Mahabharata, Brhaddevata, etc. to supplement the presenter's views. The lecture helped in educating audience about the participation of women in social, religious, economic and household matters in the ancient times.