



The Sacred Feminine

Faith, Devotion, and Power

Happy
Women's
Day

By Rajan Swami

Founder: Shree Prannath Gyanpeeth, Sarsawa, Uttar Pradesh

Goswami Tulsidas once said, "Bhavani Shankara Vande Shraddha Vishwas Rupinau," meaning, "I bow to Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, who symbolize faith and devotion." Ancient scriptures describe Lord Shiva as Ardhanarishwar, a divine being who is half-man and half-woman, symbolizing their complementary nature. Just as a man is the seed, a woman is the nurturer. Even the Creator of the Universe requires feminine energy to manifest creation.



History's greatest leaders—kings, saints, and revolutionaries—owe their existence to a mother's nurturing care. The world may bow before their greatness, yet even the most powerful ruler finds solace in his mother's embrace. It is rightly said: **"Where women are respected, the Gods dwell. Where women are dishonoured, all good actions bear no fruit."** Lord Rama himself declared, "Mother and Motherland are greater than heaven."



A woman plays multiple roles in society. As a mother, she creates life. She is a child's first teacher, shaping their destiny, just as great warriors like Maharana Pratap and Chhatrapati Shivaji were shaped by their mothers. As a wife, she is a steadfast companion. As a sister, she fills her family's life with love and care. As a daughter, she brings hope and prosperity to the household.

Yet, despite her immense contributions, society has often reduced a woman's worth to her physical appearance. For centuries, women have suffered oppression, treated as objects of pleasure, confined to harems, and denied justice in the name of tradition. Many were even forced into self-immolation to preserve their honour. Today, patriarchal systems continue to restrict women's potential. In some places, religious extremists seek to confine women behind veils and outdated customs, denying them access to sacred scriptures and higher education.



If a woman recognizes her strength, no power on Earth can stop her. The progress of a nation lies in her hands. Let us remember: O woman, you are not weak—you are the foundation of humanity. You carry the wisdom of Gargi, who fearlessly challenged sages with her intellect. You embody the strength of Draupadi, who stood against injustice to defend her dignity. You reflect the devotion of Meera, who defied societal norms in pursuit of divine love. You hold the valor of Rani Lakshmibai, who fought against oppression with unyielding courage. Within you lies both peace and power, compassion and resilience. It is time for the world to recognize and honour your true strength. It is time for society to recognize and honour the divine feminine—not as a figure of subservience, but as a force of faith, devotion, and power.





Shri Prannath Kanya Gurukul, Vadodara



≡ International Women's Day ≡

