

YOU MUST
BE
THE
CHANGE
YOU WISH TO SEE
IN THE WORLD

Gandhi

Even as the seasons change, Aseema witnesses changes - some subtle and others anticipated. Change - a sign of healthy growth.

Our children are growing up, maturing and learning really fast. Their thinking, creative and reasoning skills are evolving. They have achieved success both big and small in the classroom as well as on the playing field. We are delighted to observe these changes and applaud the efforts of our teachers who are dedicated and spared no effort in contributing to their holistic development!

This quarter, we bring you something different. Our children have shared their thoughts on Women's Day, which will be celebrated this month and we bring you evidence of the change. They have shared their thoughts so beautifully that we felt we must share their feelings with all of you. This is exactly what all of us would love to see in our world.

The boys' perspective- Standards 7 & 8 wrote:
Women's Day is a day to celebrate women. I used to always wonder why there was a day for women and not for men. I understand why.

I am aware that as a boy, I am privileged. That boys as a whole get better treatment. I know that in spite of social development, women are still discriminated against and this day sends out a message that women are equal to men.



Each day the newspapers report many stories about the girl child being killed even before she is born. In Geography I am studying about population and the sex ratio of a country. We are informed that there are only 908 girls for every 1000 boys. In my village in Uttar Pradesh, boys are allowed to study and play but the girls are made to stay home and do house work. They are not allowed to go to college. Most girls are married at the age of 13. These facts make me very uncomfortable and unhappy.



But, in my school, girls are given the same rights, privileges and opportunities as the boys. No distinction is ever made between girls or boys. In fact, in my class the girls do much better than boys in most areas. They are hardworking, very responsible and often outshine us.

The roles of women are changing and they now look for more opportunities to progress. However, they are yet to achieve full equality. There is a small percentage of courageous, brave and enterprising women, who have in spite of all the difficulties they face, made much progress and achieved success. Even so crimes against women have increased 34 percent.

I strongly feel that girls should be given as much of an opportunity to fulfil their dreams as boys and that all boys and men should support their sisters, wives and mothers in this respect.

I feel it is not only the responsibility of the government to educate the people to stop gender discrimination. I feel that if we begin with the family, we can slowly but steadily stop this in our own way by insisting that we – brothers, fathers and husbands give our sisters, daughters and wives equal opportunities to make decisions and choices in their lives. God has sent women and men to earth to share the joys and sorrows of life equally. Girls are wonderful human beings and I pledge to never accept dowry and to insist that my friends don't either and to do my bit to protect their rights.

Composed by the girls of Standards 6 & 8 -

I am proud to be born a girl child!

**I am who I am. A girl;
soon to be a woman.**

**I stand tall
And dare say I'll not fall
Some say I'm made of sugar n spice
And all things nice.
I am made of
Adventure and cheer
Brains and no fear!**

**Listen all who care to hear
I'm a creation very dear.**

**To learn and play I have a right
To make a future very bright.
The world is at my feet
Should I e're desire such a feat.
On par with all
Pilot, doctor, commander, astronaut
Emotional dependable lovable et al.**

**Listen all who care to hear
I'm a creation very dear.**

The girls of Standards 6 & 7 wrote too -



Women of the world, we are needed! Just think about it. How can the human race increase without us? My teacher tells me that the sky is my limit! At that time, I get excited and believe.

Today, in spite of all the discrimination, many women have achieved fame! Mary Kom- the first woman boxer; Kalpana Chawla- the first woman astronaut of Indian origin, Indra Nooyi- the first Indian woman CEO of a Multinational corporation, to mention only a few. These are our role models.

I know that girls are not treated equally. I see the injustice in my village. I see that girls are not allowed to study. I am aware that girls are still abused, molested, often violently treated because of dowry and that they are married off as child brides; that women are not given an equal opportunity at work or at home and that these crimes are on the rise. I salute my mother and teachers and all mothers and teachers like them who tell us are special; that we can do great things, if we believe in ourselves and persevere. It makes me determined to be the change I want to see in society. Remember Malala; her determination and bravery? A number of women have broken the boundaries to prove that women are equal to men. Girls, if they can, so can we!



But besides the ones whose success stories have spread far and wide, the unknown heroines are many; women who successfully manage home, family and employment. They perform these difficult tasks, under great pressure from society. These are the silent fighters for equality between men and women.

Girls, wake up! We are the next generation that has to make the change happen.

It is apparent that our students both the boys and girls are on the way to making positive changes in their own lives and hopefully in the future in society as well!



Madhubani set of 6 coasters



Left: Fish Drawstring Bag



Our Products Team reports:

From March 18 to 20, between 11:00am and 7:00pm we will be having an exhibition cum sale of Aseema's products which include coasters, coffee tables, trays and much more. Please do come visit us at 3, Shyam Sadan, 93 - S.V.Road, Khar

(W), Mumbai 400 052.

To order, you can contact our Product Division on: 022 26488034 or write to products@aseema.org or come visit our Products' Division. We are open: Monday to Friday: 9:00am to 6:00pm. Saturday: 9:00am to 2:00pm

A big thank you to -

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Exhibition Hosts:

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