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*Selected papers from the National Conference*  
*on “Women in Leadership” conducted by the*  
*Women Empowerment Cell of Kristu Jayanti*  
*College (Autonomous), Bangalore, India.*

Article 1

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## Introduction

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**Women—A Multidimensional Spectrum: National Conference on “Women in Leadership”  
conducted by the Women Empowerment Cell of Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous),  
Bangalore, India**

By Sangeetha Menon<sup>1</sup>, Rema MK<sup>2</sup> and Jisha VG<sup>3</sup>

### **Introduction**

We welcome all the readers to this special issue of the *Journal of International Women's Studies (JIWS)*. The articles presented in this special issue are topics discussed during the National Conference on “Women in Leadership” conducted by the Women's Empowerment Cell of Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous), Bangalore, India.

In today's world, organizations that are led by inclusive leadership teams make effective decisions delivering better results. The essential qualities required to lead, such as the ability to collaborate, connect, empathize and communicate are defined as feminine across many societies. Any society or organization cannot function effectively without equal contribution in leadership activities from women. Women create a competitive environment and bring collaboration to organizations and teams. The papers presented at the conference broadly reflect the Strength, Weakness, Opportunities and Challenges (SWOCs) in achieving United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5: Gender Equality. Women leaders are more transformational than men leaders. Women believe in teamwork and authentic communication as a key to success. Women's empowerment contributes to socioeconomic development of a country. The papers in this issue examine a number of topics including: whether and how education empowers women; gender differences in employee perceptions, and the measurement of organizational climate; holistic aspects of women's health, emotional wellbeing, mental health awareness and women rights in the field of business, entrepreneurship, finance, research, consultancy, engineering and technology. Also included in the issue is an action-based study on literacy and livelihoods of migrant women and their children, as well as women's startups and leadership qualities; authors have also researched the literary and entertainment sectors of Indian society in particular, although not exclusively.

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<sup>1</sup> Sangeetha Menon holds a doctorate in Microbiology and is currently an Assistant professor in the Department of Life Sciences, Kristu Jayanti College, Bangalore, India, and is a member of the Women's Empowerment Cell of the College. She holds more than 14 years of experience in teaching and research and is actively involved in the empowerment of girls and women. She believes in gender equality and equal employment opportunity to women. This Special issue was edited by Dr. Sangeetha Menon. She can be contacted at [sangeethamenon@kristujayanti.com](mailto:sangeethamenon@kristujayanti.com).

<sup>2</sup> Rema MK is a doctorate in Clinical Psychology. She has presented and published various scholarly articles in national and international journals. She is trained psychotherapist with experience in working with children, adolescents, women, elderly and life counselling, alcoholism, HIV/ AIDS, survivors of domestic violence, and people with psychiatric illnesses. She is also a research guide for IGNOU and is a certified clinical supervisor. She is currently working as Assistant Professor of Psychology at Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous), Bangalore.

<sup>3</sup> Jisha VG is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Management at Kristu Jayanti College, Bangalore. She has an overall experience of 15 years in teaching and is specialized in Accounting and Marketing. Her research interest lies in income Tax, Advanced Financial Accounting, Advanced Corporate Accounting, Advanced Management Accounting, Banking Law, Company Law and Marketing, Cost Accounting.

Although the papers discuss the problems and opportunities of Indian women predominantly, these issues truly represent many of the concerns that women face globally. We hope that this special issue fills a lacuna, by bringing women's issues of import to society, into the limelight, instilling confidence among the global audience of readers and researchers to progress in the field of women's empowerment.

**Note on the Editors**

Please refer to the footnotes.