CHAPTER - 1

Introduction........................................................................................................ 1 - 17

CHAPTER - 2

Pre- Constitutional Status of Women under different Personal Laws regarding Adoption................................. 18- 69

2.1 Introduction........................................................................................................20

2.2 Status of Hindu Women during Vedic period, Dharmashastras and Post-Smrtri period.........................................................26

2.3 Position of Women during Medieval period................................. 57
2.4 Status of Women during Buddhism and Jainism…………… 61

CHAPTER - 3

Post- Constitutional Status of Women and Law of Adoption…… 70-101

3.1 Introduction…………………………………………………………..72

3.2 Position of Hindu Women under Hindu Personal Law………79

CHAPTER - 4

Position of Hindu Women under the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956 …………………………………………………..102-127

4.1 Introduction………………………………………………………….104

4.2 Position of Women under different Personal Laws…………….108

4.3 Position of Hindu Women under the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act vis-à-vis Indian Constitution…………………119

CHAPTER - 5

Position of Women in Adoption under International Law…….. 128-219

5.1 Introduction……………………………………………………………130

5.2 Adoptive Rights of Women in United States of America……..147

-ii-
5.3 Adoption Procedures with special reference to Women’s Adoptive Rights in United Kingdom……………………….186

5.4 Adoption Laws with a special reference to Women’s Right to Adopt in Canada………………………………………………195

5.5 Women’s Adoptive Rights in Commonwealth of Australia….209

5.6 Adoption Laws with a special reference to Women’s Right to Adopt in People’s Republic of China…………………………..212

5.7 Adoptive Rights of Women in Japan……………………………... 216

CHAPTER – 6

Judicial Approach and Adoption..............................................220-235

6.1 Introduction.............................................................................222

6.2 Case Law References...............................................................225

CHAPTER – 7

Conclusion and Suggestions......................................................236- 252
Bibliography ................................................................. 253-269

APPENDICES .............................................................. 270

  Appendix - I
  Appendix - II
  Appendix- III
  Appendix - IV