Empowerment is a product of modern society which implies structural change. Normally in strong traditional societies like India total structural change are not found i.e., change of structure. However, Change in structure means continuity and change is found in our society. Further, in case of such change, continuity dominates. For changing a system or some aspects of the system people get choices and alternatives. They use such choices which represent the whole community. Further, choice has to be used with the element of responsibility; it means they are not changing the structure.

When we say structured we imply gender relations as an essential part of the social structure. Inequality persists in the structure. It may be based on income, property or power and social relationships. Most of the tribal societies are marked with patriarchy, patriliny, patrinymy and patrilocality. A tribe marked with the above four factors is said to have extreme patriarchy. It leads to violence against women and results in destitute women and women in precarious conditions. Hence, today the major efforts to bring in gender equality are found through empowerment of such women. For empowerment of tribal women various agencies, both government and non-government, are working together.
Besides this feminist ideologies have also been used, they are: feminist, liberalism: feminist essentialism; feminist socialism and feminist post-modernism.

The thesis has five chapters. Chapter I is introduction which deals with the theoretical background, review of literature, objectives of the study and field methods and experiences. The second chapter deals with the area and the people. It includes a detailed discussion of Chhattisgarh, its two districts named, Raigarh and Jashpur Nagar and the six villages namely Chhal (Village A), Miriguda (Village B), Khalbora (Village C), Tamta (Village D), Palidih (Village E) and Buldega (Village F) which have been intensively studied.

The third chapter deals with the socio economic status of the people, a total number of 300 female respondents were studied. 50 respondents from each village were taken. Chapter IV deals with the factors of empowerment like decision making, political participation, patriarchal inclination, violence against women, physical and mental torture, awareness regarding various things like development programme, Panchayat, NGO activities, SHG activities, selection of spouse etc. The final chapter is the conclusion where observations including findings are given.

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