

# Contents

List of Tables and Figures . . . . .	xiii
Acknowledgments . . . . .	xvii
1 SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES . . . . .	1
2 APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF WOMEN . . . . .	5
The Women's Movement: Western and Third World Attitudes . . . . .	7
Implications of Sociobiology . . . . .	10
Primary Objectives of Asian Women . . . . .	12
Multiple Roles . . . . .	14
3 STATUS IN DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES . . . . .	17
Definition of Status . . . . .	17
Economic Contribution and Status . . . . .	18
Purdah . . . . .	22
Influence of Major Religions on Status . . . . .	26
Status and Performance of Religious Duties . . . . .	28
Status and the Life Cycle . . . . .	29
Marriage Negotiations and Status . . . . .	32
Status and Personality . . . . .	35
4 WOMEN'S STATUS IN PUBLIC LIFE: INDICATORS OF ADVANCEMENT . . . . .	41
Legal Protection . . . . .	41
Literacy . . . . .	43
Attitudes Towards Education . . . . .	44
Political Participation . . . . .	51
Access to Higher Positions in the Professions and Management . . . . .	60
5 MARRIAGE . . . . .	65
Responsibility and Criteria for Choice of Partner . . . . .	66
Age of Marriage . . . . .	73
Polygyny . . . . .	76
Polyandry . . . . .	77
6 QUALITY OF MARITAL RELATIONSHIP . . . . .	79
Unhappy Brides . . . . .	83

7	WIDOWHOOD AND DIVORCE . . . . .	87
	Widowhood . . . . .	87
	Divorce . . . . .	90
	PHOTOGRAPHS . . . . .	97
8	RESIDENCE AFTER MARRIAGE . . . . .	107
	Break-up of Joint Households . . . . .	110
9	NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY . . . . .	113
	Responsibility for Contraception . . . . .	115
	Willingness to Limit Family . . . . .	116
	Son Preference and Family Planning . . . . .	117
	Ideal Family Size . . . . .	120
	Education and Socio-economic Status of Mother in Relation to Family Size . . . . .	122
	Employment and Fertility . . . . .	123
	Perceived Benefits of Children . . . . .	124
	Economic Benefits of Children . . . . .	126
	Birth Control and Communication Between Spouses . . . . .	127
10	DIVISION OF LABOUR AND DECISION-MAKING . . . . .	131
	South Asia . . . . .	133
	Pakistan . . . . .	133
	India . . . . .	136
	Bangladesh . . . . .	138
	Nepal . . . . .	142
	Sri Lanka . . . . .	143
	Southeast Asia . . . . .	145
	Burma . . . . .	145
	Laos . . . . .	145
	Vietnam . . . . .	145
	Cambodia . . . . .	146
	Malaysia . . . . .	146
	Indonesia . . . . .	148
	The Philippines . . . . .	150
	Thailand . . . . .	152
	East Asia . . . . .	153
	China . . . . .	153
	Japan . . . . .	155
	Korea . . . . .	156
11	WOMEN AS A SOURCE OF FAMILY INCOME . . . . .	159
	The New Household Economics . . . . .	160
	Multiplicity of Sources of Income . . . . .	161
	Regional Variations in Female Participation in Remunerative Occupations . . . . .	170
	Inequality of Pay . . . . .	172
	Role Conflict . . . . .	175
12	WHO HOLDS THE FAMILY PURSE? . . . . .	179
13	AGRICULTURAL MODERNIZATION, TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION AND FEMALE EMPLOYMENT . . . . .	183

14	HELP FOR WORKING WOMEN . . . . .	193
15	CONCLUSIONS . . . . .	203
	Sub-regional Variation in the Status of Women . . . . .	203
	Some Measures of Improvement . . . . .	206
	Major Future Needs . . . . .	208
	Plans and Activities: National . . . . .	212
	International Activities . . . . .	215
	Changing Attitudes . . . . .	218
	 <i>APPENDICES</i>	
	Bibliography . . . . .	221
	Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations . . . . .	251
	Index of Geographical Terms . . . . .	255
	Subject Index . . . . .	257