

regarded the civil ^{women} ~~privileges~~ ^{rights} ~~privileges~~ were
On reading Dharmasutras for ^{men} ~~men~~ ^{of men} ~~men~~
about the ^{several} ~~several~~ restrictions imposed
on woman and started writing a critique
of Brahmanical patriarchy. In her own
life she kept herself above this
patriarchy as she learned Sanskrit, studied
the Upanishads, travelled various parts
of the country and abroad.

The titles of "Pandita" and "Brahmavati"

Ranabai did not lose courage. She managed to go to England for higher studies. There she came in contact with Christian missionaries and was impressed by their progressive outlook. She decided to convert to Christianity along with her very young daughter. On her return to India she was actively engaged in social work, particularly for the rehabilitation of Hindu widows of the high caste. In this effort she received financial assistance from Christian missionaries, and became the target of criticism from Hindu Brahmins as well as Christian missionaries. Christian were angry because in her style of social work the aim of conversion was ~~not~~ ^{not} relegated to the background.

Ranabai also visited the United States where she studied the condition of American women and contrasted it with that of Indian women. In 1881

awards: one of the highest award that an Indian could receive during the British Raj. Ranabai's important writings include 'Vivec Dharma' - 'Niti' and the high caste Hindu women.

Pandita Ranabai's analysis of patriarchy is characterised by the focus on various aspects of subordination of women in Hindu society particularly among Brahmins. The only hope for her is to seek the liberation of her soul through the bondage in her worldly life through serving her husband with devotion. This implies in the first place that the life of a woman is condemned until she finds a husband and devotes herself to the service of her husband.

Ranabai found that the structure of Brahminic patriarchy is created in the

organisation design 'to secure em-
powerment of women from the oppressive
conditions of Brahminical patriarchy.
Although Sarabhai is regarded the
first Indian feminist her main