

# The Necessity of Women's Awareness of Education and Health from the Perspective of *Shokufeh* Newspaper

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
<b>Article type:</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
<b>Research Article</b>	In order to gain insight into the status of women during the Qajar period, it is necessary to examine the publications of that era. Infact, women are regarded as a critical component of both the family and society. The Shokufeh newspaper is regarded as of exceptional significance for comprehending the role and status of women and for becoming aware of the general conditions at the time of publication, as it provides a relatively detailed perspective on the health situation for both the family and schools, as well as numerous references to the necessity for women to pursue science. This research is a response to the necessity of investigating the necessity of educating and raising awareness of women regarding the significance of studying science and health from the perspective of the Shokufeh newspaper. Why did the Shokufeh newspaper underscore the importance of women's awareness of the study of science and health? This is the primary inquiry of the current study. What strategies did the Shokufeh newspaper propose to motivate women to pursue science and monitoring health? The research results suggest that Shokufeh newspaper was a representative of a movement that sought to render the conventional perspective on women's education obsolete. At this juncture, the introduction of biological models of women in Western countries and the recognition of the female personality opened up new avenues for knowledge. Expand the opportunities for Iranian women in the disciplines of science and health.
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	The various dimensions of this issue have been given attention, as it is a background for schools and is a necessary and essential factor in achieving the desired result of learning science and, as a result, the growth of the country, according to the perspective of this newspaper. The significance and existential value of women in the household and society are examined in this research using the library method and descriptive-analytical method, as seen through the lens of the Shokufeh newspaper. It is also important to consider the health of the school, as girls who attended school to study science were required to spend a portion

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of the day there.

## Results

With the awakening of Iranian thought in the Qajar period, publications and newspapers played a significant role in the revival of people's thoughts. Initially, women's involvement in journalism was limited to the submission of articles to publications. However, as time progressed, some women who wrote articles or letters for publications began disseminating their own press.

Maryam Mozayen-al-Saltanah was the editor of Shokufeh, the second women's journal in Iran, from 1913 to 1916. Its publication highlighted the living conditions of women in other countries, thereby motivating Iranian women to acknowledge their worth and pursue new ideals. The newspaper emphasized the importance of education in the pursuit of national progress, promoting the development of literacy and the acquisition of skills that are essential for societal participation. Women of the constitutional era initiated the publication of works, the establishment of associations, and the promotion of comprehensive education, despite the opposition of the government and certain males. Shokufeh also supported awareness of health and education, empowering women as key contributors to society's future as mothers and educators.

The founder and director of Shokufeh publication was Maryam Amid Semnani, also known as Mozayen al-Saltanah. She married a Qajar prince at the age of 16 and was educated in reading, writing, religious sciences, photography, and French. However, she later divorced. She remarried Qavam al-Hokama, with whom she had two children. From 1913 to 1916, Shokufeh was published biweekly, with each issue comprising four pages. The newspaper emphasized the significance of education as a prerequisite for the nation's advancement and endeavored to combat superstition and ignorance. It was designed to increase the status of Iranian women by means of education, health awareness, and comparisons with the conditions of women in other countries.

## Conclusion

The Shokufeh Newspaper, one of the first independent and influential media outlets in the Iranian press, was able to take effective measures in the areas of empowering women and raising awareness. This newspaper endeavored to establish an environment in which Iranian women could disassociate themselves from superstitions and detrimental behaviors that endangered the stability of the family and society by emphasizing the importance of women's health and education. The founder of this newspaper demonstrated that investing in women's education is essential for achieving social and cultural progress by emphasizing the establishment of schools and utilizing the effective models of advanced countries. In Shokufeh newspaper articles, women were depicted as partners in the lives of males and as teachers of the future generation. These roles could only be achieved with a sufficient level of awareness and knowledge. From the viewpoint of this media outlet, educated and informed women could not only enhance their role in the family, but also be effective in bolstering the national economy and reducing reliance on foreign products by effectively managing resources and avoiding consumerist behaviors. The newspaper also emphasized the significance of women's health, as the health and cognizance of women had a direct impact on the health of the family and, ultimately, the society. The establishment of health schools and medical centers for women was among the suggestions put forward in the newspaper's articles to meet the needs of that era. Meanwhile, the cooperation of intellectual men and women played a significant role in creating educational and cultural infrastructures. They paved the way for women's active participation in a variety of life areas by endeavoring to modify social attitudes and disseminate science. These endeavors were instrumental in the transformation of society's perception of the role of women in the country's development and progress, thereby facilitating significant changes in Iran's social structure. Finally, Shokufeh

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newspaper, along with other progressive media of the era, was able to effectively fulfill its obligation to increase awareness. This media outlet was instrumental in the advancement of Iranian society toward modernity and progress by emphasizing the significance of education and health, in addition to bringing the voices of women to the attention of society. The evolution and advancement of Iranian women were facilitated by these accomplishments, which, despite the numerous obstacles, introduced a novel paradigm of an informed and participatory woman.

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