

RESEARCH ARTICLE



INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
SERIAL
NUMBER
INDIA

2395-2636 (Print); 2321-3108 (online)

Marriage in Austen's Novels and Modern India: A Critical Assessment

Mostakin Sarkar

B.A. (Hons.) in English & M.A. in Linguistics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi 221005,
Uttar Pradesh, India

Email: mostakinsarkarjay@gmail.com

DOI: [10.33329/rjelal.14.3.245](https://doi.org/10.33329/rjelal.14.3.245)



MOSTAKIN SARKAR

Article info

Article Received: 23/07/2026

Article Accepted: 21/08/2026

Published online: 23/08/2026

Abstract

When two hearts find each other in life, they dream of embarking on a new journey together. The sacred bond that brings this dream to reality is marriage. It is not only a social and legal construct through which two adults gain the right to live together as husband and wife and to form a family, but it is also a universal practice and a mental attachment between two human beings where the foundations are love, trust, cooperation, and respect for each other that is prevalent in almost all societies around the world. Austen is also one of the greatest novelists in British English literature, who mostly talked about marriage across almost all her novels. Besides, she uses satire and irony to critique the 19th century British society over the perception of marriage and influence the people of the society to make better changes to their antique thoughts and practices. Austen uses marriage as a thematic device to question social norms, presenting realistic perspectives on marriage, and she explores the complex connections between marriage, money, and love, emphasizing how all these elements influence the characters' decisions. This paper examines the central theme of marriage in Jane Austen's novels and the thoughts of society in her times compared with the modern Indian perspective. In addition, it also explores how marriage can be a vehicle for societal criticism, character development, and balancing love and financial security according to all her famous novels. In this discussion paper, the above important points are presented.

Keywords: Jane Austen, Marriage, Love, Society, Financial Security, Feminism, Social Contract, Money, Romanticism, India, and Austen's Novels.

INTRODUCTION

Jane Austen was an English novelist known for her six major works that critique and comment on the English landed gentry of her time, particularly focusing on women's dependence on marriage for social standing and economic security. Most of Jane Austen's novels are written about the social system of late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century England. Her novels primarily focus on the issues faced by middle-class families in England. Wealthy men seek beautiful wives, while beautiful women without wealth seek wealthy men, because that ensures a secure future in life for women. Marriage problems in middle-class families are a major issue, and this is reiterated throughout most of her novels. For her, a true marriage meant a union of hearts, where two people are attracted to each other and complement each other's weaknesses. She was never in favor of marrying solely for money or social status but rather prioritized love and understanding. Moreover, the elite class of society is portrayed as looking down on ordinary people, which is also effectively highlighted in her novels. The male characters in her novels are depicted less prominently compared to the female characters. She does not develop her male characters as much as she does her female characters; that is completely the lively example of feminism. Jane Austen died at the very young age of 41, but within this lifetime, she contributed some timeless novels like *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility*, which explore the lives of the English gentry with wit and sharp social commentary. Her novels provided a unique appearance at common people and their lives, establishing the characteristics of the novel of manners and enduring cherished classics for their authenticity, intellect, and perceptive observations on romance, social class, and culture. The primary purpose of this research paper is to explore the theme of marriage and its social context as depicted in Jane Austen's novels, comparing it to the social context of

contemporary Indian society. Considering India's vast cultural diversity, this research paper does not follow an extensive regional analysis; instead, it examines how marriage is represented in the modern Indian social conversation, especially in rural and urban, educated middle-class settings. Besides, it aims to highlight the similarities, differences, and changes over time as well as to demonstrate how Austen's perspective continues to influence present Indian society on marriage even 200 years later.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Studies that may be found in the discussion paper are *Exploring Social Class and Gender Roles in Jane Austen's Novels*, *International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research* (Dr. Karal, L. 2024). In this article, the author has tried to give an overview of social class and gender roles in British society through Jane Austen's novels. In '*The role of marriage in Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*,' *International Journal of Research in English* (Kiran, D. 2019), the writer focused on the core theme of marriage in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* novel. The researcher emphasized the theme of love over financial security in marriage. *Gender Differences in Marital Adjustment among Love and Arranged Marriage Couples: A Literature Review*. *International Journal of Indian Psychology*, (Madan Mulchandani, C.D. 2025): In this article, the researcher discussed the societal view of arranged marriage and love marriage. *Courtship & Marriage, a guide for Indian couples*, Dr. Nagaswami, V. In this book, the author discussed various types of marriages and their social positions and challenges. It appears from the studies expressed that there is not enough study on the perspective of marriage in Austen's major novels and comparing it with the modern Indian societal view. Thus, the aim of this research work is to deal with this issue. By evaluating the available sources, the upcoming sections will provide a detailed discussion on marriage in Austen's novels and contemporary India.

Objectives

The objectives of the research are: 1. To examine the central theme of marriage in Jane Austen's novels. 2. To compare the condition of the society in Austen's times with modern India. 3. To discover the foundations of marriage. 4. To emphasize how Austen's thoughts influence contemporary Indian society. 5. To explore the role of love, compatibility, and social mobility in Austen's marital unions.

METHODOLOGY

The writing style of the discussion paper follows a historical approach that incorporates qualitative methods. As a result, the paper compiles, details, and investigates various theories, information, novels such as all the novels of Jane Austen, textbooks, historical books, documents, stories, autobiographies, archival information, various essays, English newspapers, conferences, magazines, research art books, and various self-written works translated into English.

A Concise History of Jane Austen

Jane Austen (16th December, 1775 – 18th July, 1817) was a female English novelist, primarily known for her 6 major novels and 2 unfinished novels: *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), *Mansfield Park* (1814), *Emma* (1815), *Persuasion* (published posthumously in 1817), *Northanger Abbey* (published posthumously in 1817), *The Watsons* (unfinished), and *Sanditon* (unfinished). Besides, she also wrote one epistolary novel named *Lady Susan* and a large body of juvenilia (early writings), such as *Love and Friendship*, *The History of England*, *Lesley Castle*, *The Three Sisters*, and many other short stories and parodies written between 1787–1793.¹ Her novels mainly depict the English landed gentry society of the late eighteenth century. Dependence on marriage for women to gain social standing and economic security forms the central narrative of most of Austen's novels. In reaction to the sensibility novels of the second half of the eighteenth century, her works have been

classified within the realist literary genre that emerged at the turn of the nineteenth century. Her compositions, with sharp parody as well as her sense of reality, humor, and social study, have earned her approval among pundits, researchers, and conferences and given perusers.²

The exceptional features of Austen's work are its thought, parody, and profound psychological knowledge, which have built her up as a celestial figure in British literature and researchers up as an ageless figure in writing. Her novels proceed to defend and advertise wealthy commentary on the complexity of human circumstances and social sentiment. Renowned for her intense awareness of social manners. Austen crafts intricate stories that reveal the requirements of sexual orientation and social pathways in 19th century Britain. Her novels serve as both emotional and analytical studies of the societal customs that influence an individual's destiny. Through characters like Elizabeth Bennet, Emma Woodhouse, and Fanny Price, Jane Austen studies the desires forced on ladies and the course structures that control their lives. These expositions analyze how Austen's exquisite portrayals pass on both the restrictions and the potential for judgment inside this inflexible system.³

The Brief Theme of Marriage in Jane Austen's Novels

The brief theme of marriage in some of Jane Austen's core novels, including *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Mansfield Park*, is discussed underneath:

Sense and Sensibility

In Jane Austen's timeless novel, '*Sense and Sensibility*,' marriage is not merely a personal relationship; it serves as the primary avenue for achieving socio-economic security and stability in late 18th and early 19th century English society. This multifaceted aspect of marriage is clearly demonstrated through the lives of the Dashwood sisters, especially Elinor and Marianne. The novel's main theme is about

the balance between 'Sense,' which refers to reasons or judgments, and 'Sensibility,' that refers to emotions or feelings. The role of these two basic qualities in the context of marriage is much more central to this popular novel.⁴

Economic Need vs. Romantic Love

After the disinheritance of the Dashwood sisters, marriage becomes their only means of financial resource. The importance of wealth in English society is reflected through characters like Lady Middleton, Robert Ferrars, and Mrs. Jennings, according to the novel. Here, Elinor is guided by her 'sense' and understands these socio-economic realities as well as aims to secure a stable future, even though her heart is attached to Edward Ferrars. In contrast, Marianne prioritizes her 'sensibility' and believes that marriage should only be founded upon deep, intense romantic passion. As a result, to Marianne, Willoughby's charm is the reason for her affection, not his wealth. And this emotional decision almost brings about Marianne's ruin.⁵

To Find the Right Balance

With the end of the novel, both the sisters find their soulmates, who offer a synthesis of economic safety and emotional combination. Elinor marries Edward, and Marianne marries Colonel Brandon. These marriages prove that reliance solely on emotion or solely on economic consideration is insufficient. A successful and stable marriage requires a healthy blend of reason, empathy, and realism. Through this realistic narrative, Jane Austen presents to society the idea that one should not choose between love and financial stability; both are essential to consider a marriage.⁶

Pride and Prejudice

The central theme of Jane Austen's famous novel '*Pride and Prejudice*' is marriage, along with the related social expectations and financial realities. For example:

Social Security

In the late 18th and early 19th century English society, especially for women, marriage was the only guaranteed way to become financially secure and socially stable. For the five Bennet daughters, upon their father's death, the family estate would pass to a distant male relative; thus, securing a good marriage for the girls was a matter of survival for their mother.⁷

Love vs. Wealth

The novel raises a fundamental question of whether a woman should marry only for the financial advantage or on the basis of true love, trust, and mutual respect. Charlotte Lucas marries Collins initially to improve her financial condition, which highlights the social fact of the era. On the other hand, Elizabeth Bennet primarily rejects Darcy's proposal only because she does not love him; that establishes the primacy of love.⁸

Darcy's Pride

Darcy was proud of his great social standing and money, which carried him to neglect Elizabeth's family and her social circles as beneath him, which reflects the inflexible class prejudices of Regency society.⁹

Elizabeth's Prejudice

Because of Darcy's pride, Elizabeth Bennet promptly makes a negative and wrong judgment or prejudice against Darcy, which prevents her from recognizing Darcy's true character.¹⁰

Character Transformation

Through the end of the novel, Darcy learns to lose his pride, and Elizabeth learns to overcome her prejudice. Their marriage is not just the union of love but a symbol of overcoming personal and social class misunderstandings. The novel proves that a successful marriage is possible when both parties set aside pride and prejudice as well as demonstrate rational respect for each other and sincere affection for one another.¹¹

Mansfield Park

In the novel, marriage is shown as a social and legal contract, where money, prestige in society, and ambition for a better life dominate the decisions to choose partners. 'Henry and Marry,' often called the Crawford siblings, embody this perspective, treating marriage as a game of charm and manipulation rather than a combination of values. Henry's desire to appreciate Fanny, although primarily fueled by individualism, shows how marriage can turn into merely an exhibition of desire rather than true love. In contrast, Fanny's strong decision not to compromise her principles, even when she is under pressure to accept Henry's proposal, proves Austen's core belief that true happiness in marriage must be dependent on moral integrity and stability.¹² 'Maria and Julia,' known as the Bertram sisters, further illustrate the disadvantages of marrying for self-interest or convenience, especially Maria's disastrous marriage to Mr. Rushworth, which basically she chose for Rushworth's wealth, which reveals the emptiness of a friendship built on idle motives rather than genuine affection. Austen critiques such unions by showing the way they lead to misery, scandal, and moral decline, and at the same time, she highlights through the novel that marriage is a reflection of social hierarchy, where family approval and economic considerations weigh heavily on individual choice.¹³

The History of Marriage in Regency England According to Austen's Novels

In Regency England, marriage was seen as the most important move in a young woman's life because it decided her future security and social place. Austen, through novels like *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility*, and *Emma*, shows how families worried about wealth, dowries, and property when arranging matches. Together, she also emphasizes the emotional part of marriage, where characters like 'Elizabeth Bennet' or 'Marianne Dashwood' hoped for love and

respect in marriage, not just profusion. Across her novels, such as *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Emma*, *Mansfield Park*, *Northanger Abbey*, and *Persuasion*, she explores that marriage was both a romantic expectation and a practical requirement. For women, who had very few legal rights and limited possibilities to go outside and earn income, marriage was often the only way to secure financial permanence and social respect. Austen's stories reveal the struggle between marrying for love and marrying for wealth, a serious tension that defined the history of marriage in her time.¹⁴ The concise discussion on the history of marriage in Regency England of some of Austen's novels underneath:

Pride and Prejudice

The Bennet family's situation makes this very clear. Mr. Bennet's property is entailed; that means, after the death of Mr. Bennet, the property will go to a male relative's hand rather than his daughters. This legal rule reflects the practice of the primogeniture system of patrimony in Regency England, where property usually went to men.¹⁵ Therefore, Mrs. Bennet is desperate to see her daughters married to rich men; otherwise, they risk falling into poverty. 'Elizabeth Bennet,' however, defends this pressure and refuses Mr. Collins, who offers financial security to her with no respect, and later on, she accepts Mr. Darcy, who combines love and wealth with proper respect. Jane Austen uses Elizabeth's significant decision to show that marriage should be based on mutual respect and affection, even though society repeatedly pushed women to marry for money.¹⁶

Sense and Sensibility

The Dashwood sisters face similar tensions. After their father dies, the family property goes to their half-brother, leaving them with very little income. Marianne hopes for a romantic marriage with Willoughby, but he abandons her for a richer woman. Elinor, more practical, suffers quietly when Edward Ferrars

is disinherited for choosing her over wealth. Through these sisters, Austen highlights the hurtful reality that love alone was sometimes not enough in Regency England; financial security was always the main part of the marriage equation. Jane Austen also explores how social class shaped marriage through her literary works, especially her novels.¹⁷

Emma

The heroine is wealthy enough, and she doesn't need to marry someone for money; that gives her proper freedom to consider her love and companionship more seriously, but Emma must learn that marriage is not about social games or pride, but it is about genuine respect and equality. Her ultimate alliance with Mr. Knightley proves that true marriage balances shared values, affection, and equality.¹⁸

Persuasion

Similarly, Anne Elliot is persuaded to refuse Captain Wentworth because he has not had enough fortune. Years later, when he has gained wealth and status, their love can finally be accepted. Austen here shows how society judged marriage by class and money, even when love was strong. The widespread context of Regency England explains why Austen focused on marriage. Due to the disadvantages of women not inheriting property easily, they could not vote and had very few professions open to them. Marriage was therefore the main path to financial security and social position. Austen respects the need for financial stability but insists that love and respect must also guide marriage.¹⁹

Love and Respect as Foundations of Marriage in Austen's Novels

Austen continuously emphasizes that love and respect make the real ground of marriage, challenging the common 19th century belief that marriage was mainly a means of financial security and social prosperity. In her novels, marriage is described as not only a transaction but also a moral and emotional

bond, where affection and mutual admiration are ultimate for permanent pleasure. Austen critiques unions of advantages through some characters, like Charlotte Lucas's practical acceptance of Collins in the novel *Pride and Prejudice*, by highlighting their emotional hollowness, while she celebrates the relationships that mix love with rational thought.²⁰ The eventual union of Elizabeth Bennet and Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice* exemplifies this example too; their relationship develops through self-discovery, politeness, and respect, showing that authentic love must accompany social and financial considerations. Likewise, in *Emma*, the connection between Emma Woodhouse and Knightley reflects Jane's perspective of marriage as a partnership of intellectual companionship, where love vanished with moral development and equality.²¹ Even in the novel *Persuasion*, the reunion between Captain Wentworth and Anne Elliot illustrates the enduring power of love to overcome social favor and familial opposition. Throughout her works, Jane Austen wants to emphasize that respect is as crucial as passion, for only through mutual consideration can marriage transform into a partnership of equals rather than a system of dependency.²²

Marriage in Modern India

Marriage in modern India became a subject of wide discussion because it reflects the changing values, lifestyles, and expectations of people in today's Indian society. Through marriage, a family and lineage are established, and the stability of society is maintained. In earlier times, marriage was mostly seen as a stable institution based on practice, family arrangements, and social responsibility, but nowadays it is more connected to personal choice, emotional fulfillment, and equality between husband and wife.²³

Companionship

One of the most important reasons for marriage in today's modern India is the idea of companionship; people are now getting married

not only to secure social status or financial stability but also to find a soulmate with whom they can share their everyday happinesses and struggles. Love, friendship, and mutual respect for each other are considered the roots of a successful happy marriage, and couples sometimes emphasize emotional connection over material gain.²⁴

Gender Equality

Another important theme is equality of gender, as modern marriages increasingly focus on balancing responsibilities between husband and wife. In the past, men were usually expected to be the breadwinners or the only earners in the family while women managed the household and the babies, but in these modern times, especially in Indian educated upper-class and middle-class families, both partners often share financial duties, domestic work, and decision-making. This shift reflects the growing importance of gender equality and the recognition that marriage should be a partnership of equals.²⁵

Pre-Marital Sex

There was a time when sex was permissible only for married couples, and the rules were very strict against premarital sex. But nowadays most of the Youngs are involved in premarital sex. They do not face complications, and this is one of the most significant reasons for not marrying or delaying getting married, because they think that it is normal to live together as a non-married couple, but when it comes to marriage, they feel that they have to take a lot of responsibilities; they might feel the lack of trust because of the fear of extramarital affairs,²⁶ and sometimes they feel bored doing physical relations with the same person again and again. Though these things vary depending on the places, regions, cultures, and behavior of individuals. But with the availability of premarital sex in modern India that was not so available in ancient times, people are considering marriage as a secondary need. They give priority to career and position in a society

rather than marriage.²⁷ Sometimes, the husband and wife might choose to live together before getting married. Even they can delay having children, sometimes not have more than one child, or often decide not to have children at all, and this modern society is also becoming more content to accept these choices. Marriage is not that only path that everyone must follow in the same way, but it is a personal journey shaped by the values and goals of the husband and wife.²⁸

Diversity of Marriages

India is a big country where we found a diverse culture, beliefs, and lifestyles. As India is a multi-religious country where the main religions are *Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism, and Jainism*,²⁹ we can also see the presence of some other religions. Due to the presence of various religions in society, we see some inter-religion marriages too. The believer who believes in religion follows some different rituals for each religion. They provide the honor to other religions, but most of the believers do not break the boundary of their own religious practice. In this modern India, we still see the fight between a love marriage and an arranged marriage.³⁰ Most of the families do not accept love marriages easily because of their religious practices and societal criticism. Arranged marriage is a very old practice of marriage where the family members choose partners for their son or daughter, and then they make a family. Though this practice is still very common in India, it was also present in Austen's time too. But in a love marriage, the boy and the girl choose each other as partners according to their mental satisfaction, mutual respect, and understanding.³¹ They start knowing each other, spend quality time together, and want to get married. Though some of the families accept and respect this practice, most do not. Even the Indian Constitution also gives the legal support for inter-religion or inter-caste marriage through the Special Marriage Act, 1954.³² There is a caste system belief in India also, where we see the inter-caste marriage practice; sometimes people accept it, and most do not accept the

inter-caste marriage. Besides, we see some NRI marriages too, where one partner is not a citizen of India; they come to India, and here they find their partner and get married. Often, they get the Indian citizenship also. Furthermore, we see same-sex marriage also where both of the partners belong to the same gender, though it's a very less common practice and not legally recognized in India.³³

Influence of Jane Austen's Thoughts on Modern Indian Marriage

The main thoughts of Austen's that still influence this modern Indian generation are about love, respect, and companionship. According to Jane Austen's novels, the core idea of marriage should be depending on love and respect for each other. If you truly love someone, even if he or she is poor in finance, you should marry that one.³⁴ Love is the purest happiness and the biggest thing in the world that you cannot buy with money. Attractions can be temporary, but love is permanent and celestial. Even love is above religion; when two hearts from different religions find each other and they want to get married, it becomes humanity. It crosses the religious boundary, and makes the relation universal. In this modern age, especially in India, people get married not because of fulfilling their physical or mental needs; they do marriage for love, respect, companionship, and to remove loneliness and make a permanent friendship. The central theme is the same for both societies (Austen's society and modern Indian society), where love, commitment, and respect for each other should be the foundation of marriage.³⁵ Austen wanted to emphasize that thoughts and still this modern Indian generation also influenced by the thoughts of love, companionship and respect.

CONCLUSION

Discussing some of Jane Austen's major novels from the perspective of marriage, comparing them with modern Indian marriage. This research article has also attempted to focus on love, respect for each other, and

understanding of marriage and has tried to give priority to love instead of religious practice. And most importantly, this paper emphasized the influence of Jane Austen's thoughts on modern Indian marriage. Critically analyzed the similarities and differentiations of marriage in Austen's times with modern India.

References

- [1]. Wikipedia contributors. (n.d.). *Wikipedia*.
- [2]. Karal, L. (2024). Exploring social class and gender roles in Jane Austen's novels. *International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR)*, 6(1).
- [3]. Karal, L. (2024). Exploring social class and gender roles in Jane Austen's novels. *International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (IJFMR)*, 6(1).
- [4]. Austen, J. (1994). *Sense and sensibility* (eBook No. 161). Project Gutenberg. <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/161>
- [5]. Gómez-Galisteo, M. C. (2025). Sense and sensibility rewritten: Revising love and marriage in Jane Austen and Joanna Trollope's sequel. *B.A.S.*, 31. <https://doi.org/10.35923/BAS.31.17>
- [6]. Trollope, J. (2013). *Sense & sensibility*. London: The Borough Press.
- [7]. Biswas, K. (2024). Women and their social security in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. *International Research Journal of Management Sociology & Humanity (IRJMSH)*, 15(8).
- [8]. Sheela, R. V. (2017). Social class and wealth in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. *International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews (IJRAR)*, 4(1).
- [9]. Austen, J. (1962). *Pride and prejudice*. Charles Scribner's Sons.
- [10]. Austen, J. (1962). *Pride and prejudice*. Charles Scribner's Sons.

- [11]. Deresiewicz, W. (1997). Community and cognition in *Pride and Prejudice*. *ELH*, 64(2), 503–535.
- [12]. Craik, W. A. (1977). *Mansfield Park*. In *Jane Austen: The six novels*. London: Methuen & Co Ltd.
- [13]. Austen, J. (1994). *Mansfield Park* (eBook No. 141). Project Gutenberg. <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/141>
- [14]. Kiran, D. (2019). The role of marriage in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. *International Journal of Research in English*, 1(1).
- [15]. Chaudhari, R. R. (2023). Marriage and society: A comparative analysis of matrimonial themes in *A Suitable Boy* by Vikram Seth and *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. *International Journal of Research in All Subjects in Multi Languages*, 11(7).
- [16]. Kiran, D. (2019). The role of marriage in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. *International Journal of Research in English*, 1(1).
- [17]. Sundari, S. P. G. (2015). The theme of love and marriage in Jane Austen's novels: *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility*. *Language in India*, 15(1).
- [18]. Chelliah, S. (2017). Theme of love and marriage and projection of feminine consciousness in Jane Austen's novels: A brief analysis. *Pune Research World: An International Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, 1(4).
- [19]. Ganduri, S. (2025). Jane Austen and the theme of marriage in modern times. *Literary Enigma: The International Journal of English Language, Literature and Culture*, 1(Special Issue 1).
- [20]. Muir, R. (2024). *Love and marriage in the age of Jane Austen*. Yale University Press. <https://doi.org/10.2307/jj10329826>
- [21]. Chelliah, S. (2017). Theme of love and marriage and projection of feminine consciousness in Jane Austen's novels: A brief analysis. *Pune Research World: An International Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, 1(4).
- [22]. Sumathi, R. (2017). Love and marriage in the novel of Jane Austen. *Research Journal of English Language and Literature (RJELAL)*, 5(3).
- [23]. Coontz, S. (2004). The world historical transformation of marriage. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 66(4), 974–979.
- [24]. Kelshikar, R., Kumar, P., Kedare, E., & Sattur, K. (2022). Study on perception towards marriage and companionship amongst young adults. *Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research (JETIR)*, 9(10).
- [25]. Maria, J. K., Frank, F. F., Patrick, J. C., & Laura, N. (2011). "Marriage is more than being together": The meaning of marriage for young adults. *Journal of Family Issues*, 32(7), 845–875. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0192513X10397277> (doi.org in Bing)
- [26]. Tiwari, R. K. (2025). Psychological causes of extra-marital affairs and legal consequences in matrimonial law: An analytical study. *International Journal of Novel Research and Development*, 10(12).
- [27]. Bhandari, P. (2017). Pre-marital relationships and the family in modern India. *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal*, 16.
- [28]. Majumdar, C. (2017). Attitudes towards premarital sex in India: Traditionalism and cultural change. Springer Nature.
- [29]. Wikipedia contributors. (n.d.). *Wikipedia*.
- [30]. Mulchandani, M. (2025). Gender differences in marital adjustment among love and arranged marriage couples: A literature review. *International Journal of*

- Indian Psychology*, 13(3), 1022-1025.
<https://doi.org/10.25215/1303.093>
- [31]. Verma, S., & Sukhramani, N. (2017). Interfaith marriages and negotiated spaces. *Society and Culture in South Asia*, 4(1), 16-43.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2393861717730620> (doi.org in Bing)
- [32]. Sharma, M. V. K., & Sharma, R. (2025). Interfaith marriages in India: Legal framework and social hurdles. *International Journal of Advanced Legal Research*, 5(4).
- [33]. Kalubandi, G. (2026). State, society and self: Autonomy and religion involved in marriages in India. *Indian Journal of Legal Review*, 6(1).
- [34]. Ara, S., & Zargar, A. H. (2026). Femininity in a married woman: Societal influence and norms. *International Journal of Advance Research*, 14(1).
- [35]. Purohit, S. (2026). Female community as political force in Jane Austen's novels. *International Journal of English and Studies (IJOES)*, 8(1)