

## **From Bounded Feet to Fleet-Footed: The Chinese Women's Journey towards Equality**

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### ***Abstract***

*Chinese women have made their mark on the global stage. In a relatively short time, they have left their dependent and subservient image behind them and come up as equal partners in a male-dominated society. The post-revolutionary Chinese state has enabled the Chinese women through successive constitutional and legal measures to play their due role in all spheres of their lives. The economic reforms since the 1980s have created the necessary condition for women's rise as a productive force. They are establishing themselves as self-made entrepreneurs and as successful business leaders. However, they are grossly underrepresented at the higher echelons as well as in the political field. The traditional Oriental and Confucian values with their emphasis on masculine superiority have continued to inhibit their rise in certain areas. In addition to the state sponsored initiatives, efforts need to be made at the societal level to take this wonderful journey of Chinese women forward in the right direction.*

**Key words:** Stereotypes, Confucian Values, Self-Made Female Entrepreneurs, Women Liberation