

Tradition of Sati in Indian Culture

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Sati is a practice of self-immolation of a widow either on her husband's pyre or separately after her husband's death. Polemics against Hinduism or India, always talk about sati along with other "evils" like caste system, oppression of women and superstitious practices. Sati is portrayed as a regressive as a regressive custom which was widely prevalent throughout India.

The Sati that we know of today in our history and social studies textbooks, must be viewed in a historical context for what it is - an almost forgotten obscure custom, exceedingly rare, practiced by perhaps a handful of communities in some specific geographies, being suddenly brought into spotlight and sensationalized so as to shame, control and convert the Hindu.