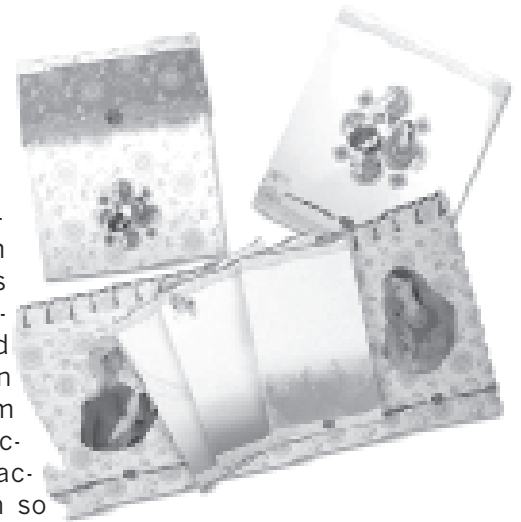


been reported. So it shows that India is still not free from the clutches of social evils. Today we owe the abolition of sati to Raja Rammohan Roy the social reformer. Just like sati our country had another social evil called child marriage. Though history tells us that child marriage was not prevalent in ancient India the custom started mainly during the medieval India as medium to safeguard the interest of the high caste people.

They practiced child marriages so that when their children grew up they don't marry in some other community or caste. So it was a kind of a weapon they used to protect the interest of their community and class. The custom was so rigid that many marriages were performed during the Middle Ages in the cradle itself. It was mainly the role of the caste hierarchy in perpetuating such a system. To stop the marriages between different caste and communities this system of child marriages was followed. Even today also in the remote villages of India the custom of child marriages is followed.

So from the broader perspective it may seem that social evils like child marriages, sati, and dowry have been eradicated from the society but actually these practices have been so deep rooted that until we ourselves take effort to eradicate it from its root it will be difficult to fight against these social menace. -Today when we see the wedding celebrations in the cities it reminds of the gloss and glamour of Bollywood movies. Even the middle class families celebrate their weddings in Bollywood style. Today just like any other commodity in the market weddings have also become commercialized.

There are people to plan your wedding you don't have to spend extra time in thinking about the menu or the venue of the wedding.



HOT SPOT OCEAN PARK

Weekend is the time to let your hair down and what better things to do than have a great splash. This week's hot spot is literally cool. We are talking about Ocean Park, the water based theme park in the outskirts of the city. Located at Gandipet, Ocean Park is one of the first theme parks started in twin-cities and continues to be a great hit especially with children. But it is not the young ones alone who enjoy, even adults can have lots of fun here. The park has a water sports section and another one for amusement games. Here you can relive your childhood or romp around with your children amid the various water bodies. If you enjoy the thrills of the games where the ships and trains make half and full circles, where tea cups juggle in the air and you are literally taken on a ride, then Ocean park is the place for you. In the kids section there is a wading pool and fountain, while the adults section has the exhilarating water slides. The most exciting in the water sports though is the 100 ft slide where you splash through water. Then there is waves and swimming pool where adults and older children can

prance together. Jet skiing is also available. The swimming pool has men's and women's section too.

If you can pull your children out of the water there is the amusement park adjacent to the water sports section. Toy train, helicopters, huge air filled balloon, video games are available for children. For the adults there is tora tora ride, single loop roller coaster and a ship that sails from side to side churning your insides out. The entrance ticket of Rs 200 includes free rides in all the games. However no food can be bought from outside. There are a couple of snack bars and a restaurant inside. Men and women can enter the water sports section in shorts or buy one inside the park. If you do not mind, swimsuits are available on hire for men, women and children. A unique amusement park for the entire family. What sets it apart are the water based fun rides and water sports in which folks of all ages can cool off in the thrilling and pleasurable pools, water slides and other innovative water rides. Enjoy exhilarating water sports in a one-of-a-kind amusement park, Ocean Park.