

# Bridging the Gender Gap on Wikipedia



**Poongothai Balasubramanian**

Lives in Coimbatore, where she taught maths for many years. In an interview she said "When I retired, my son was worried I would get rusty. So he introduced me to Wikipedia. He explained that anyone can contribute, and showed me how. Since then, I've created articles on quadratic functions, probability, charts, graphs and more. I've made 7,000 edits in all. As a teacher and a mother, I was always busy. But now that I'm retired and my children are grown, my time is my own — all 24 hours of it! And I spend every day on Wikipedia. increasing number of women contributing to Wikipedia, increasing number of articles on women's issues, and expanding them.

- Wikipedia terms the disparity between the sexes as "Gender gap".
- Male editors at Wikipedia outnumber female editors by a ratio of 9:1.
- Outreach, edit-a-thons and other events are aimed at bridging the Gender gap -- increasing number of women contributing to Wikipedia, increasing number of articles on women's issues, and expanding them.



**Netha Hussain**

21-year-old medical student from Kerala, India.

In an interview she said "As a medical student I study subjects like microbiology, pathology, pharmacology and forensic medicine. After class, I'd go straight to Wikipedia. I'd review the information related to the day's lecture, and add a few more facts and sources. It was a lot of work, and I always went to bed tired, but it was worth it." women contributing to Wikipedia, increasing number of articles on women's issues, and expanding them.

